

AUCKLAND NORTHLAND INTERCLUB TEAMS ONLINE



Important Information for Team Participation

Please Note: Players on each team should be from the same club.

1. The competition will be conducted online over nine Friday evenings throughout 2026 via RealBridge, organized by the Auckland Bridge Club.
2. C-Point Masterpoints will be awarded for individual matches, but not for overall final rankings.
3. There will be three groups based on players' grades at the start of 2026: Junior, Intermediate, and Open. Players are allowed to compete at a higher level than their current ranking. Clubs may enter multiple teams in any grade and are not required to participate in all three grades.
4. There are no fixed partnerships or team compositions. We encourage maximum participation, meaning that a "team of four" may include many players (from the same club) throughout the year.
5. Systems must align with NZB guidelines at each level. While system cards are not mandatory, pre-alerting, announcing, and alerting partner's bids are expected. It is advisable to include a brief description of your system at the beginning of a match in the chat, for example, "1NT=12-14, 1C=4+, 4CM, high encourage."
6. A fee of \$9 per session will be charged to cover running costs, Masterpoint fees to NZB, RealBridge levies, and the Directors' expenses. This fee will be deducted from players' AKBC HelloClub Accounts.
7. Youth players can pre-register for eligibility to pay a reduced table fee of \$1 per session by selecting the "Youth Player" option.
8. The competition will proceed subject to a minimum of 30 entries from all clubs.

Late withdrawals and/or defaults can create significant challenges on RealBridge. We kindly ask clubs to take measures to avoid such situations. If necessary, a player from another club may be permitted as a substitute.

PRACTICE SESSION

Practice Session for New RealBridge Players

A practice session for those new to RealBridge will take place on Friday, March 13th, at 7:15pm

- The link to join will be available on AKBC's RealBridge page.
- If you can't make it to this session or desire additional practice, you can book a "Taster" session on the RealBridge website for a time slot in the New Zealand time zone.

The staff at RealBridge are fantastic and will help ensure you feel comfortable playing online. However, please be aware that there are only a limited number of time slots available. It's also recommended that players read all the information on the RealBridge page and conduct the camera and microphone tests beforehand.

Note: This session is free, features only a few boards, and does not award masterpoints.

CONTACT
US

09 524-5562
WWW.AKBC.CO.NZ

2026 DATES (Friday evenings 7:15 pm start, please be seated by 7pm)

March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 24, August 21, September 18, October 2, November 27

ENTRIES CLOSE 5pm, 13 March 2025

TEAM CAPTAINS - HOW TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM

- a) entries on NZB Website (see March 20) with just the team "captain" name appearing. The team members may vary throughout the year.
- b) clubs outside of our region may enter
- c) all players must be from the same club (exception for one- night emergencies as defaults should be avoided).

FORMAT

Entry Guidelines and Auckland Bridge Club Support Notes

The number of entries will determine the specific format.

1. Matches will utilise IMP scoring. NZB Masterpoints will be awarded for each successful match.
2. The goal is for all four groups to play the same boards, facilitating future discussions within your club. RealBridge allows players to review hands at their convenience.
3. Players should be seated by 7pm. A link will be available on the AKBC website. This is the sole access point for each session, and the links are updated monthly.
4. It's crucial that players log in using the same name and number for each session. Ensure that the spelling matches exactly with your name on NZ Bridge.

Auckland Bridge Club Support Notes

The links for each Interclub evening will be displayed on the Auckland Bridge Club's RealBridge page. Players need to scroll down to find the purple links and select the appropriate link for their Interclub grade. The links will become active at 6:45 PM, and we encourage players to log in early to help us identify any missing participants. Once logged in, players do not need to stay in front of their computers until the session starts; we simply need to confirm their presence.

Players must sit at the table that corresponds with their team number, facing their partner, upon logging into RealBridge. They will be moved from that position once play commences.

The fee is \$9 per evening, or \$1 for Youth (to qualify as a youth player, one must have been born in 1999 or later). Payments will be processed through Auckland Bridge Club's HelloClub system, which recognises each player by their NZB number and automatically charges the appropriate amount.

For players without an Auckland Bridge Club HelloClub account, they must create one. Please visit the www.akbc.co.nz website, click on the Visitors tab, and select "Join as Casual Player (online play only)." Youth players should choose the "Join as Youth Player (online play only)" option.

If you require assistance with setting up an account, feel free to email or call the club at 09 524-5562. The office is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Players can monitor their transactions anytime by logging into their HelloClub account and navigating to the Finance section. Once your account balance reaches zero, an automated reminder to replenish funds will be sent to you via email.



Wine prizes
awarded to the
top team in
each grade