



## February 2016

### From the Executive

Planning is underway for the next Executive meeting which will be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March. There will be focus on updating Croquet New Zealand's strategic direction. If you have any suggestions to make for consideration by the Executive, please let the Executive Director know.

The day before (19<sup>th</sup> March) the Tournament Committee will be meeting. There will be a review of the Croquet NZ tournaments held this year and also confirmation of the national tournament programme for the next two years. Again, if there is anything you would like the Tournament Committee to consider please let the Executive Director know so it can be added to the Agenda.

### From the President

February has been a full month of CNZ tournaments starting with the Golf Croquet Invitations held in the Bay of Plenty, followed by the Men's and Women's Championships at Dannevirke, the Women's AC invitation held in Wairarapa and the inaugural Women's Golf Croquet Tournament held in Hawkes Bay completes the list.

Congratulations to all the winners! And, we can't thank the clubs and associations who host these events enough. THANK YOU!

What is very exciting is to also have a coaching day prior to the Women's GC tournament. The intent is to increase the competitive edge of the women

players. In addition we have been fortunate to have some incentive prize money to reach that goal. This money has been donated to CNZ for this purpose over the next three years

My first association to visit was Croquet Nelson's Committee meeting this month. I spoke with them about the direction CNZ is heading and our plans for the year. More important, I listened to their ideas and concerns. With their very full agenda I had insights into the course they're heading and what resources (time, people, and money) are needed to reach the goals they set in their strategic plan. Learning what other associations are doing makes connections to what we want to do at CNZ. I hope other associations will also invite me to one of their meetings.

An area that came up when I was at a tournament recently was about players following the Code of Conduct. That conversation prompted me to think about how we learn about it. Croquet's Code of Conduct is learned in various ways. Some people have learned about it through experience at the club level: fellow club members reminding the person about acceptable conduct. Others may have read about it in the Yearbook, while others have played other sports and became aware of the code and the importance it holds. The Code sets the boundaries for acceptable behaviour. When everyone involved in the sport stays within those boundaries, it makes the game and experience better for everyone. This is essential during intense games. I appreciate those who stay within those boundaries and keep our sport in good repute.

Play well and have fun!

Warm regards,  
Annie

*Please send all contributions for future  
Croquet Matters editions to the  
Executive Director  
([croquet@croquet.org.nz](mailto:croquet@croquet.org.nz))*

## **Merit Awards**

Nairn Smith (Otago) - Gold  
Kathryn Cherry (Southland) - Bronze  
Noni Crowe (Southland) - Silver

## **Qualifications**



February is an Intro-Croquet month for schools in the regions with fledging secondary school programmes. Nelson and Waikato-King Country regions now have croquet included on their RST's school sports calendars and are hosting their inaugural Secondary Schools Regional Championships this season. A second season programme in Northland is gaining some good momentum with several new schools in the region attending Intro-Croquet sessions. The Northland Secondary Schools Championship in Whangarei will include both Secondary and Intermediate Grades this season. With the purpose of increasing youth participation and school representation in croquet, our goal is to develop and support RST sanctioned competition for secondary school students in every region in NZ, and to have every region represented at the NZSSSC National Secondary School Championships held at the end of term 1 each year.

This year's national Secondary Schools Championship will be hosted by Croquet Nelson, 2-3 April. Each Association is entitled to enter up to 4 doubles teams if a regional competition has been held to determine qualifiers (2 pairs if not). Additional teams may apply for a wild card entry, space pending.



*Northland region Intermediate and Secondary students attending Intro-Croquet sessions this month.*

Details and conditions are available in the CNZ Yearbook and entries close with Croquet NZ on the 25<sup>th</sup> March.



With the increasing number of regions teaming up with their Regional Sports Trusts to deliver school age croquet events comes a need for Associations to develop an infrastructure that supports youth participation and ongoing development. Club personnel to develop and maintain RST and school sport coordinator relationships, and provide suitable access to facilities, organise regional competition and coaching are all key aspects of a successful programme. Regions with an intent to maintain youth development may benefit by nominating a youth croquet coordinator alongside other roles at your AGM.

CNZ provides resources and support for the promotion of youth participation in croquet. Contact CNZ for additional information.

[admin@croquet.org.nz](mailto:admin@croquet.org.nz)



## More GC Nationals Coverage

Report for the NZ Golf Croquet Limited Nationals held in Morrinsville. The 2015/16 tournament hosted by the Morrinsville Croquet Club ran very smoothly and according to remarks all entrants enjoyed it (apart from the torrential rain on our penultimate day which caused the last game to be deferred and necessitated an early start on Saturday!)

The only part of the tournament I heard any grumbles about was the fact that after playing a round robin and having an outright winner the players still had to contest a final. I personally would like to see the final play-off in the Limited section regulations deleted especially if the draw is a round robin.

The Morrinsville Croquet Club excelled on the catering side as there was always plenty of tasty fresh food available for players and visitors. A barbecue was arranged for the Friday night which went down very well in spite of the weather. Our Hawke's Bay visitors put on a delightful little number on the people and happenings at the tournament which everyone really enjoyed. So much so that they had to do a repeat performance before the prize giving for those who didn't come to the barbecue.

The grounds committee had the lawns in very good condition and made sure everything was in order. Overall the tournament was a great success

Joan Jenkin  
Assistant Manager

***We'd like to thank all the clubs (Hamilton East, Claudelands and Morrinsville) and volunteers (especially Geoff Young, Joan Jenkins and Jean Brooker and their teams) involved with the GC Nationals. They did a fantastic job of organising the tournament over multiple locations.***



Helen Reeves (winner Limited Singles) and runner-up Mark Adams



Frances Mouat & Jan Ward (Mt Maunganui) runners-up in Limited Doubles with Mother and Son winning combination - Helen Reeves & Jez Reeves (Heretaunga)



Name these colourful characters from the Hawkes Bay....

# Gordon Smith GC Invitation

A few photos from the Gordon Smith GC  
Invitation:



Mopping the lawns after heavy rain the night  
before the tournament started



Zoe Petterson in action



A 60+ year age gap between oldest and  
youngest



Youth squad member Grace Mohi with Angus  
Coulter (winner)

# Upcoming Tournaments

## Croquet New Zealand tournaments

### **CNZ Arthur Ross Finals**

4-6 March

Wellington Association at Waikanae

### **CNZ Gold & Silver Stars**

12-13 March

Auckland Association - NOW AT  
TAKAPUNA, not Orewa

### **CNZ AC Invitations**

CA Silver Tray, Edwina Thompson (16-20  
March)

At Nelson-Hinemoa

Roger Murfitt (16-20 March)

At Richmond

RA Clarke Copper Tray (18-20 March)

At Takapuna

Gold Cup (18-20 March)

At New Plymouth

### **NZ Secondary Schools Croquet**

2-3 April

Nelson-Hinemoa



Register for  
[www.croquet.org.nz](http://www.croquet.org.nz)

# Preparation Match for the NZ team going to the WCF GC World Team Championship

Croquet New Zealand has organised a practise match for the NZ team going to the WCF GCWTC in May.

Our NZ team of Chris Clarke (c), Duncan Dixon, Phillip Drew and Jenny Clarke will play against a team of our up and coming U21 players.

The Under 21 team comprises Felix Webby (c), George Coulter, World U21 GC Champion Josh Freeth and Yvonne Yeates GC Invitation winner Hemi McLaren.

The match will be played at United Croquet Club in Christchurch on 2-3 April.

Results will be on [croquetscores.com](http://croquetscores.com)

## From the Regions

### Palmerston North Combined Clubs Triton Hearing Tournament 9-13 January

Played for the last 27 years at Rose Gardens and Takaro Croquet Clubs, this Association Croquet Tournament is a large one of seven events over six days at two venues. It continues to draw good entries, with this year's 106 entries from 68 individuals being in line with recent years, some participants coming back year after year. The quality of the fields for the Open and Scratch and Over events was excellent, with strong support coming from Wellington players.

This year, the weather was variable, with rain, wind, and fine weather showing up. The wind was a challenge and even Wellington players were heard muttering about it. However, the quality of the play overall was excellent. Doubles events occupied the first two days. Last year's winners, Dick Smith and Nina Mayard-Husson again won the open doubles, on a countback from local players, Josh Smith & André Murray of Rose Gardens. Last year's runners-up, Kevin Fellows and teenage grandson, Seth Garrison of Wellington comfortably won the Handicap Doubles, with local players, Daryl Flood (Takaro) and Max Charlton (Rose Gardens) in second place. Three singles events on the Monday and Tuesday saw double banking on all nine lawns throughout. The open Singles was won by David Wickham, with André Murray runner-up. Don Reyland of Hawkes Bay won the Scratch & over Singles from Terry Price of Wairarapa. This was a fitting reward for Don, who has supported this tournament over many years. Max Charlton of Rose Gardens won the Handicap Singles event from former winner, Susan Leuchars of Wellington. The final two days were quieter and saw Evan Rait of Wellington win the 4 and over singles from Vince Neall of Rose Gardens. Bob Eyles (Levin) won the 10 and over from Melva Jones (Rose Gardens).

Quality management saw this tournament run smoothly and to time. The morning and afternoon teas were of their usual high standard, thanks to the generosity of the members of the host clubs, and the generous sponsorship from Triton Hearing allowed for prizes to be given to place getters. Planning can now go ahead for the 2017 Tournament.







## **Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui**

### **Singles Competition Day**

**31 January 2016**

This is an annual event, at which players compete for a number of brooches or badges, that they may retain and wear for twelve months. The Association Croquet brooches/badges have been played for over many years and some of them are quite valuable. In recent years, badges have been obtained for the Golf Croquet events. This year, there was a reasonable turnout from 4 of the 7 clubs in the Association

In the Association Croquet events, Annabel Neall of Rose Gardens won the Corbridge Star for the 7-12 bisque Championship with Monica Huisman of Rose Gardens as Runner-up. Hadyn Barrett of Levin beat Warren Hawke of Rose Gardens in the 14+ event to gain the NCC Mallet.

In the GC events, André Murray pipped John Wall in the 0-4 Levels Singles for a Snelling Tiki. Both players are from Rose Gardens. Ian Power of Rangatira won a

Snelling Tiki for the 5-8 Levels Singles with Margaret Snelling Of Rose Gardens in second place. Rex Oliver of Rose Gardens won The Feilding Badge for the 9+ event, with Margaret Hewett of Feilding as Runner-up.

Of note was the participation in the Golf Croquet events of the three young players from Levin; Connell & Declan Leahy and Max de Vré. Connell & Declan finished 3rd and 4th in the 0-4 event and Max 5th in the 5-8 event, with Connell inflicting on André his only defeat of the day. Declan and Max are, of course, the reigning New Zealand Secondary Schools' Champions.

The opportunity was taken to play the CMW final for The Arthur Ross Memorial Event, in which Josh Smith of Rose Gardens was too good for Hadyn Barrett of Levin. It will be Josh's second appearance in the final as he won this prestigious event in 2011.

It was a glorious day to play croquet, it was just a pity that a better representation of clubs was not available.

Rex Oliver

Publicity Officer

Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui



Rex Oliver (l) with Vince Neall (r)



Ian Power with Vince Neall



Andre Murray with Vince Neall

### **Rose Gardens Croquet Club**

### **Golf Croquet Handicap Singles for the June Johns Goblets**

A total of twenty-four players turned out for this one-day event, a feature being the large number of inexperienced players participating. With a joint handicap minimum of 8, some of the senior players

were looking for higher handicap partners. Again, the weather proved favourable.

The twelve pairs were divided into two sections of six, giving a total of five section games for each pair with a playoff for places to follow. In section 1, Michael Hardman & Jean Corbin Thomas took first place, on a countback from Max Charlton & Dennis Quinn and Vince Neall & Pam Green. In Section 2, Micki Tyler & Warren Hawke were first, on a countback from André Murray & Neil Coates. In the Final, Michael & Jean bt Micki & Warren 7-6 to win the June Johns Goblets. The Trophy will be presented to the winners at the Club's AGM in June, along with the presentation of all other Club internal trophies.

Veronica Oliver

Publicity officer

Rose Gardens Croquet Club

Palmerston North



Jean Corbin-Thomas and Michael Hardman  
(winners)

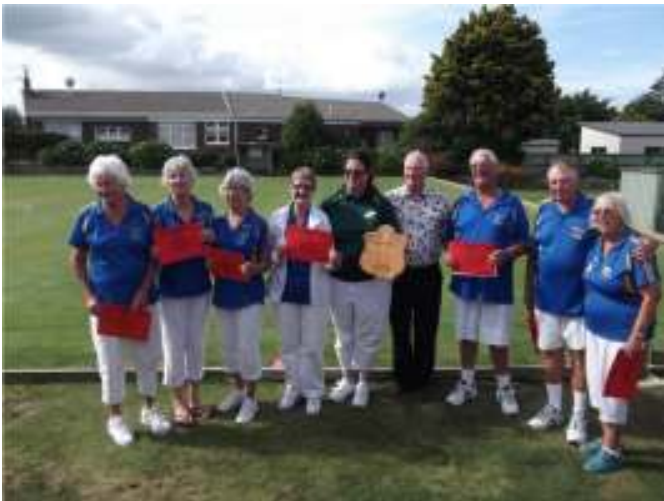


This photo was taken at the Te Awamutu AC  
Tournament on 1 February during the lunch break.  
It shows Ross Sutton (Thames) mentoring his pre-  
school grandson, Ben Bainbridge, the art of croquet.  
Ross's daughter took the picture, labeling it  
'Croquet player in the making.'

## From Carol Piercy



Heavy rain on the Pukekohe lawns



The winning BOP team

I attach photos of the winning Bay of Plenty Team and congratulate them all. They won by a 6 game margin from Auckland. Dave Roberts was the top Premier Player and Elva Corbin-Peters with Jill King the top Primary Doubles pair. Results were: BOP 46; AK 40; TV 38; WKC 38; CM 36; NTH 27.

I would like to congratulate Cynthia Bates on a well-run Event and also the four main referees: Ngaire Newdick, Alex Begg, Pat Anderton and Noeline Posselt. Counties-Manukau hosted the

event extremely well and we all look forward to next year's event hosted by the Auckland Association. I would also like to thank Zyelette Shepherd for all her work with the fund-raising for the team.

### Dates for the March 2016 issue of Croquet Matters

- Please provide articles by 20 March 2016
- publication targeted for 28 March 2016

Please send articles to  
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