



June 2016

From the President

Congratulations to **Paddy Chapman** for a fantastic win in the East Midlands Championship in the UK. Paddy had 6 sextuples peels. He won both finals with a 26 sxp for a decisive win. Well done!

Congratulations also in order to the newly elected officers of Auckland Croquet Association. I was pleased to be invited by **Maida Beetson**, President of Auckland Croquet Association, and attend their AGM. One of the exciting parts was the addition of a new position: Coordinator for Croquet in Schools. The role was introduced, a motion was carried, and **Kathie Grant** from Epsom Remuera Croquet Club was named during the General Business.

Regions that involve youth in croquet have found it to be extremely rewarding in both the positive energy the youth bring to the game and to the club. It takes a dedicated person to pursue and convince Sports Directors of the schools to add another sport to the 42 they currently coordinate. It is a tough job to encourage schools to give croquet a go and Kathie is the best person to make it happen in Auckland's region. CNZ fully supports the efforts of clubs and regions in developing a youth programme.

Auckland Croquet Association asked me to speak about Croquet in Schools, which was a timely topic. The Youth Development programme was started by **Greg Bryant**, CNZ's Sport Development Officer. Greg has been a powerful force behind this initiative and the results tell the story.

More specifically I talked about the Croquet In Schools programme that I've been involved in my region. Hearing stories about what others have found to be successful and why are important because the stories share the richness of the experience, the passion of the people involved and the excitement of the results of having youth start to play croquet. I would encourage associations in your area to contact other regions to talk about what worked well and why. We can leave a powerful legacy for future generations by creating a youth development programme. If you haven't started one I encourage you to do so.

The second area I addressed was the vision, mission and strategic goals that CNZ is currently drafting. CNZ's focus will be in four areas: increase participation, excel in croquet, develop best governance practices, and ensure financial sustainability. At the AGM in October these areas will be part of the discussion.

Thank you Auckland Croquet Association for inviting me to your meeting. I look forward to visiting other associations.

Warm regards,
Annie

From the Executive

Strategic Plan

The draft of Croquet NZ's new Strategic Plan is attached. We would be pleased to have feedback on it. Please send any feedback to the Executive Director.

GC Handicapping System

New GC Handicap cards will be available in the first half of August.

Sport Development

By Greg Bryant

CNZ SECONDARY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME



Jack Greenlaw & Jason Hodgett, Timaru Boys High 2016.

Photo Pete Monk www.petemonk.com

The CNZ Tournament Committee recently announced date changes to the National Secondary Schools Finals and Regional qualifying competitions.

From 2017, croquet associations and RST's will be encouraged to hold their regional school age GC championships during NZSSSC Tournament Week (week starting Monday 27 March 2017). Qualifying teams can then contest the National Secondary Schools Championship which will be held in late September each year, after winter sports tournament week and before the end of term 3 – the next being 23 & 24 September 2017.

For most, the initiative provides several advantages over the current programme;

- Croquet is presented as a genuine sport option alongside mainstream sports in schools through the inclusion of regional championships during tournament week. Communications with school coordinators is simplified and more effective.
- Regional qualifiers and the National Finals will both be held in the same school year.
- The window of time for the delivery of CNZ Intro-Croquet sessions is extended and the focus on regional participation and competition enhanced.
- Lead-in time for regional qualifiers attending the National Finals event is also extended by 5 to 6 months (as opposed to 1 to 2 months for new regions hosting CNZ Intro-Croquet sessions) allowing time for fundraising and potentially a reduction of costs. Several schools contribute to their student's attendance but face budget constraints.
- Lead-in time for CNZ youth development squad invitations is reduced, and will now occur in the same croquet season. This facilitates the transition from school participation to youth club memberships early in the season.

- Supports the NZ Under 21 Championship held 10-12 weeks after the National Secondary Schools event. The CNZ Under 21 Champs (termed 'the undies' by the kids) now includes a doubles title as well.
- The season-to-season link for student participation is strengthened with the National Finals event now being in the same calendar year but in the next croquet season.
- School age regional competitions can be held on a school day! No need to compete for valuable weekend dates.
- With more consistent regional timing, CNZ is able to promote regional participation to more RST's more effectively.

What happens next?

- ✚ Determine a suitable date and venue for your Regional Secondary Schools Championship, preferably during tournament week Monday 27 to Friday 31 March 2017.
- ✚ Contact the secondary school sports coordinator at your Regional Sports Trust to confirm your dates. Sanctioning of regional school competitions with your RST for 2017 will be due in about September each year.
A directory of Regional Sports Coordinators is available here:
<http://www.nzssc.org.nz/contact/school-sports-contacts>

- ✚ Advise Croquet NZ of your Regional Championship details to have them included in the 2016-17 Secondary Schools Programme distributed to coordinators, schools & clubs (please advise details before the end of JULY 2016 please)



Email: admin@croquet.org.nz

- ✚ RST's and clubs that are included in the programme also receive posters and website material from CNZ to help promote their Regional Championships.



PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TAKING TO MALLETS



Some regions are experiencing an increase of year 7 & 8 (Intermediate) students wanting to play croquet and participate in local competitions. This is being encouraged by a number of Regional Sport Directors and it has also been noted in club and association responses to the CNZ review of the Secondary Schools Programme. At least three associations included a Primary Division in their regional competition last season.

While year 7 & 8 students are not eligible to participate in the NZSSSC sanctioned National Secondary Schools competition, inclusion of a Primary Division is encouraged. If you don't currently have a Regional Secondary Schools competition, contact Greg Bryant to discuss CNZ support to establish regional youth participation in croquet



Secondary School Programme 2016-17

The CNZ Secondary Schools programme will be produced 1st week of August 2016. The programme is distributed to RST's, school coordinators and participating clubs.

For inclusion in the 2016-17 CNZ Secondary Schools Programme, please submit:

1

Regional Secondary School Competition date & Venue

Preferably in school tournament week Mon
27 March – Friday 31 March 2017

2

Any school age Intro-croquet or have-a-go session dates and venues.

Talk to Greg at CNZ if assistance is
required

3

Contact name, email & phone number.

DETAILS MUST BE RECEIVED AT

admin@croquet.org.nz

**BEFORE FRIDAY 29 JULY
2016**

U21 GC Worlds

The GC Selection Panel have until 25 September to determine the players to be put forward to the WCF for Ranking and Wildcard places.

If you would like to have your name put forward for a place (Ranking Place or Member Place) please would you let the Executive Director know by 18 September, along with completing the following:

- signing a copy of the [code of conduct](#)
- confirming you will be a financial member of a croquet club until at least the end of the 2016/17 season
- providing detail on what you plan to do to prepare to play at your best during the Championship

Associations please make sure your u21 players are aware of these details

WCF GC Worlds in Melbourne (Feb 2017)

The GC Selection Panel will meet on the 27th July to determine the players to be put forward to the WCF for Ranking and Wildcard places.

If you would like to have your name put forward for a place (Ranking Place, Member Place or Wildcard place) please would you let the Executive Director know, along with completing the following:

- signing a copy of the [code of conduct](#)

- confirming you will be a financial member of a croquet club until at least the end of the 2016/17 season
- providing detail on what you plan to do to prepare to play at your best during the Championship

REMINDER

Associations – We have not received many nominations for the Croquet NZ Awards as yet. Please would you send in your nominations by 31 July

Time Limits in GC

There will be an update in the Yearbook regarding time limits in GC as previously regulation 8 only covered AC

Happy Hoopers Have a Ball

The Term Two Interschool Golf Croquet Tournament at the Heretaunga Croquet Club was heralded with a perfect day paired and excellent turf. After the rough surface of school grounds, new players were enabled to test themselves against the more experienced while enjoying what a good turf offers. Several players excelled themselves with very focussed and determined efforts. Josh Douglas and Cameron Brewster set themselves up with a challenge to outdo each other with many well judged shots, and are keenly looking forward to their next meeting. With five regular players unable to enter and a last minute pull out, Georgia Anderson, Tam Int, stood in and with a few lessons first, showed very good potential. Ben

Thoresen of Taradale High School again proved himself the top player at 26 points, winning both the Secondary School and the overall championship. However this was not without a close challenge from runner up, new Taradale Intermediate player Thomas Mooney, being only 3 points behind on 23. Thomas also won the Intermediate grade. Shot of the day was a long hoop jump by Cameron Brewster having learnt to jump only a week earlier. Jakob Holm Tara HS, earned 19 points to come 3 rd overall and 2 nd in the Secondary event. Claudia Anderson of Napier GHS, another new player, was 3 rd in the Secondary School event with 15pts, 5 th= overall, and Sarah Forster, also NGHS 4 th SS and 7 th= overall, 10pts. The Intermediate grade runner up was Josh Douglas, 18pts, after some very determined challenges from Georgia Anderson, Tam Int, 15pts, and Cameron Brewster Tama Int 4 th 12pts. Georgia Anderson, Tam Int was 5 th = overall and Cameron Brewster Tam Int 6th. The next Interschool Tournament will be held Sept 25 th at Marewa Croquet Club. The players went home at the end of the day with certificates in hand and smiles on their faces.



Happy Hoopers:
Back- Ben Thoresen, Sarah Forster, Georgia Andersen

Front: Cameron Brewster, Shot of the Day, Thomas Mooney 1st Intermediate, 2nd overall, , Josh Douglas, Jakob Holm, Claudia Andersen.

Dates for the July 2016 issue of Croquet Matters

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

Please send articles to
croquet@croquet.org.nz

From the Regions

Thames Valley Waikato King Country Midlands League

The Midlands League competition contested between clubs in the Thames Valley and Waikato-King Country has finished for the season. The competition has 24 teams from Claudelands, Hamilton East, Leamington, Te Awamutu, Matamata, Morrinsville, Te Aroha, Paeroa, Thames, Waihi and Whangamata entered in four sections and is played over five months.

The semi finals were played in Morrinsville between Kereone Sheep (Geoff Young, Dallas Cooke, Kathy van Goes, and Dave Hooker) and Te Aroha Steamers (Alan and Cath Wilkie, Lou Conning and Flora Cameron) and Kereone Leaders Phyllis Young, Richard

Braithwaite, Barry and Joan Jenkin) and Matamata Owls Betty van Mil, Ray Kitchener, Dan Weatherly and Nigel Grondin). A great day was had with supporters from all clubs cheering on their teams. Te Aroha Steamers beat Kereone Sheep six games to four. The final was also played in Morrinsville as it was a central and neutral venue. Again Matamata and Te Aroha supporters arrived along with Morrinsville members to watch the games. After some very close games played in great spirit, the Steamers emerged the winners by seven games to three over the Owls. The Te Aroha Steamers have played extremely well this year and went through the whole season without a loss.



From left to right (Te Aroha have the black shirts)
Cath Wilkie, Flora Cameron, Alan Wilkie, Lou Conning (holding the Midlands Shield), Ray Kitchener, Dan Weatherly, Betty van Mil, Nigel Grondin.

You're Never Too Old To Change

With almost a hundred years of history behind it Matamata Croquet Club Inc., is making a huge change.

At an August 21 2015 special general meeting of the club, the membership agreed to the idea of moving the grounds to another venue.

After many discussions with Matamata/Piako District Council an agreement was struck and the offer of grounds at Pohlen Park was taken up. With the Peria Rd property sold, this allows the club to build six international sized greens, a new club house and storage shed at the new venue.

Work has already begun on the project with 40 square metres of a special soil mix being spread and the ground over and under sown.

The time frame for opening is around Labour Week-End 2016 and the invitations to the opening will be going out

Watch this space!!!



Publicity Officers

Would all (Association and club) publicity officers please provide their contact details to the Executive Director.

Please don't be shy to send in articles for inclusion in Croquet Matters. This newsletter is a place to highlight your achievements large or small.

Notifications

None this month

EQUIPMENT WANTED/ SURPLUS

None this month

Merit Awards

None this month

Qualifications

Joe Beattie (Matamata) - GC Ref

Ann Cory (Waihi) - GC Ref

Faye Mulligan (Waihi) - GC Ref

Chris Bird (Paeroa) - GC Ref

Jo Johnstone (Te Aroha) - GC Ref (re-qual)

