## November 2015

#### From the Executive

A reminder to all clubs who might be interested in hosting Croquet NZ events in the next two seasons. Please would you let the Executive Director know before 20 December.

The first Golf Croquet Trans Tasman is upon us (starts Monday 30 November in Nelson!). New Zealand has a strong team but the Australians always make it a good contest. The results will be on <u>www.croquetscores.com</u> so keep up with the action and support our team.

Paul Skinley has agreed to spend some time working in the office updating the history of all the trophies, and helping with some of the admin and sending out paperwork, handicap cards, balls, etc. He is normally in the office on a Tuesday.

There have been a few queries about what to do about social members with respect to levies. The Croquet NZ constitution says that all players who make a financial contribution to their club (ie paying a subscription) and play regularly should pay a levy to Croquet NZ. Social members meet this criteria so all clubs should be paying a levy for all financial players. Social members may well not be playing competitively but they still generate enjoyment and benefit from playing the sport, so should be contributing to the development of the sport through a levy.

#### **Croquet Matters**

After recent discussions about lost balls, We have negotiated with Dawsons in Australia to provide us with a set of single colour balls (we have a set of yellow in stock). If you are missing a yellow ball from a set, we can sell you one - four available, first in first served. We may get another set of single colour balls once this set is sold. So let the Executive Director know what balls you have missing.

We welcome Don Reyland to his first meeting of the Executive on Sun 6<sup>th</sup> December. Many of you will know Don through meeting him at tournaments. Don has previously been on the Golf Croquet Selection panel and he was also one of people heavily involved in the formation of the Te Mata Croquet Club in the Hawkes Bay. Needless to say he has a wealth of experience at ground roots level to contribute to the work of the Executive.

At the next Executive meeting (and the following meeting in March next year), we will be going over the notes of the Strategy session from the October AGM and revisiting the strategic direction of Croquet New Zealand (the notes from the session were included with the last issue of Croquet Matters and have been sent to all associations and the delegates who were present). If you have any additional thoughts for the Executive to consider, we would be pleased to hear them.

Please send all contributions for future Croquet Matters editions to the Executive Director (<u>croquet@croquet.org.nz</u>)

## **Merit Awards**

Jim Gilligan - Bronze

## Qualifications

Lesley Dallimore (Orewa) – GC Referee Caroll Sanford – GC Referee Cynthia Bates – GC Referee

#### Correction

In a previous Croquet Matters we advised that Paddy Chapman had won the Prestigous CA Presidents Cup and that he was the 12<sup>th</sup> Kiwi to do so.

Paddy is in fact the first KIWI WINNER for this event.

We have investigated the NZ Honours Board and found that the other Kiwis on the list for the President's Cup had in fact only been invited and played in the event. Being invited to this event is a major honour in itself.

Paddy... you're a champ!!!!

#### \*\*\* Important\*\*\*

If anyone is thinking of entering the Women's GC event in February 2016, please think about booking accommodation now, as the Mission Estate has announced a concert on for the same weekend, meaning accommodation will be at a premium.

## **Sport Development Officer**

#### **CNZ** Coaching for Coaches

Croquet NZ has recently updated its Coaching Policy and Coaching for Coaches programmes. The first edition of the CNZ Level 1 AC and GC Coaching programme has been released and workshops for those wanting to learn about coaching have been held by request around the country. The CNZ Coaching programme has adopted the Sport NZ CoachApproach to coaching. Through a style of coaching that promotes learning through athlete ownership, awareness and responsibility the NZ CoachApproach describes a way of coaching that encourages coaches to increase the awareness and responsibility of the athlete by asking questions as opposed to giving instructions. It is founded in the belief that people are best at finding their own way and that this will lead to higher levels of performance.

#### Why?

It has become clear that the method of instructing (i.e. telling an athlete what to do) is not the most effective way of supporting athlete learning and development. Coaches often report that they have to tell athletes over and over again the same things, and then under pressure of competition players go back to their old habits. Coaching sessions are frequently focused primarily on the knowledge the coach has. This way of coaching can stifle the athletes' own potential, thinking, decision making and creativity and limit these to the extent of the imagination and experience of the coach. While an instructional approach may have seemed reasonable in the past, the limitations of an instructional approach are especially prevalent when it comes to new young players coming into the sport. As a coach, would you have commenced an instructional programme that advises the young player to achieve a Bronze Merit Award in the first season? -A break of 10 using bisques. Is that unreasonable? Does that put too much 'pressure' on a young person learning a game? What then, do you do when that young player picks up a mallet and completes the task in the first session and immediately appears to be a better player than other club members that have been receiving 'instruction' for years? - It happens, more often as the secondary schools programme gains momentum. Have you felt a time when you have made a significant discovery about your own playing technique or experienced a 'tactical revelation' of some sort in a game? Have those experiences stayed with you and improved your ability and enjoyment of the game? Most of us can probably recall a few of those instances that have meant much more to us than something we were told about at some point. The

coaching techniques of the CNZ Coaching Programme aim to break down those barriers to learning and to support a player's own experiences in the game. At times I have heard people describe croquet as an art form of sorts and those that have experienced the completion of a goal, a break or a triple peel will appreciate that description. The more we can encourage and support an environment of personal discoveries within the game, the more enjoyable a player's experiences will be. These experiences will have a significant bearing on whether or not a new player will stay in the game and if it's healthy growing clubs that we want, then the CoachApproach philosophies of the CNZ Coaching Programme become a significant contributor.

CNZ Level 1 Coaching for Coaches workshops are delivered at the request of any Association. As a refresher for existing coaches or for those that wish to proceed to attaining a CNZ Level 1 Coaches Qualification, the qualification criteria is set out on the following page. For further information and a closer look at the CNZ Programme, please refer to the Level 1 Folder held by your Association.

# Croquet Matters

#### LEVEL 1 AC & GC COACH QUALIFICATION

WORKSHOP	21	WORKSHOP 2	WORKSHOP 3	WORKSHOP 4		
What is Coac	hing?	Designing Great	Games	Skill Learning		
		Coaching	Approach			
		Sessions				
Deli			other CNZ approve	d facilitators		
<ul> <li>Coach Found</li> </ul>			<ul> <li>Design a Game</li> </ul>	Coaching skills		
Stones		Plan a coaching	(TGfU)	checklist		
• Leader skills, styles,		session		Reflecting on your		
experiences.				experience		
• What Do I Value?						
SPORT -SPE	CIFIC SESS	SIONS				
Technical and	d tactical					
]	Delivered by	Coach Tutors or oth	ner CNZ approved p	ersonnel		
Association						
Croquet	the Level 1 Coaches Toolkit and/or					
Level 1			eaks comprising 24 hoop			
		; out using bisques equal to their handicap (or less) from any starting				
	position	e of participation in competition at Association level or above.				
Golf		A	8 or less, based on sing			
Croquet						
Level 1	• Comprehend, describe and demonstrate the technical and tactical content of the Level 1 Coaches Toolkit					
<ul> <li>Evidence of participation in competition at Association level or above.</li> </ul>				n level or above.		
THE COACH						
A and sighting Co	J		CNZ approved Mente			
Association Cr	oquet Level I	*	ce 6 written session			
• Golf Croquet Level 1		beginners or for the players they intend to coach as part of the practical requirements listed below. At least 4 of these				
		sessions must be delivered and reflections carried out as				
			Level 1 Coaches Journal.			
		• 10 hours of face	-to-face coaching of pl	avers at a beginner		
			level (AC above 16 /	5		
		produce a log	book detailing this.	A minimum of 4		
			a deligenced to supreme			
		sessions must be	e delivered to groups	of at least 4 players		

	(this acknowledges the additional skills in management and inclusion required to coach groups of players).
•	Using a set format, the Tutor or other assessor appointed by the local Association then undertakes an assessment of the practical coaching skills of the trainees.



## The CNZ Gold & Silver Stars

New Zealand's most prestigious Golf Croquet handicap singles event, the Gold & Silver Stars will be an event that every GC player in the country can play in – at your own club!

Based on the AC equivalent Arthur Ross Memorial, GC players can enter their Gold & Silver Stars club competition with winners progressing to Association and National competitions to determine the national titles.

As a handicap singles event, this truly is an event for all players – from the social 'never played in anything' club member to the most seasoned international campaigner.

The CNZ Tournament Committee has confirmed the continuance of the GC handicap trial for this event to establish competition that participation encouraged at all levels, particularly those that play within their own club but have never ventured beyond their club draw, or are unable to travel to enter in CNZ events. With a majority of club players now playing GC, it is important that an accessible event, such as the Arthur Ross for AC, is available to the GC croquet community.

- Golf Croquet Handicap Singles Competition
- Club competition open to all CNZ Affiliated players.
- Association playoff for club event winners
- National Final for Association event winners

#### Handicap adjustments for the CNZ Gold and Silver Stars competition

Actual Handicap (Or named player)	'Effective Handicap' for calculation of extra turns 2014/15 Gold & Silver Stars
C Clarke	
D Dixon	
P Drew	-6
T Stephens	
J Clarke	

J Christie	
P Chapman	
H McIntosh	
J Keeman	-5
D Bulloch	
R. V. Jackson	
M Crashley	

0	-4
1	-2
2	0
3	2
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
	6

6

## Golf Croquet Tips for Handicap games

**Playing off a handicap of -6 last season,** Chris Clarke won the National Finals of the CNZ Gold & Silver Stars competition. Chris outlines some tactics that will give everyone else a better chance of beating him this year...

- Get your ball to the hoop first every time you run a hoop, think about taking an extra turn immediately to get down to the next one. And if you're not in front of it, think about taking another extra turn to get in front of it. This includes at hoop 1!
- Look to take extra turns to be first to your hoop at odd-numbered hoops - because, e.g. you can run hoop 1 up to hoop 2, hoop 3 down to hoop 4, etc.
- 3. Consider taking extra turns to get into the jaws of hoops but be careful you don't run the hoop! so it's safer to do this if you're coming in from an angle. But don't take them if your opponent can jump hoops and is in good position to do this.
- 4. Only **ever** use an extra turn to clear your opponent if:

(1) Your partner ball is in front of the hoop, or

(2) You can get sufficiently close to play a20-yard stop-clearance to stay infront - the latter being generally out of theability range of most players

 Be prepared to let your opponent win a hoop - particularly those even-numbered hoops - keep your extra turns for **you** to win hoops. If you just use them to knock your opponent away what will happen? - your opponent will just come back in front of the hoop - *wasted extra turn.* 

If you really need a golden role for using extra turns, **don't use them to clear the opponent** - it's a good starter. If you want to use them, check point 4 and only **ever** use them to clear if you can satisfy one of the reasons in point 4 above. Otherwise keep them in your pocket and wait for a better opportunity!



CNZ Gold & Silver Stars Champion Chris Clarke playing off a GC handicap of -6

#### GOLF CROQUET TEST SERIES VERSUS AUSTRALIA

On the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015, New Zealand again takes on Australia for Trans Tasman supremacy in Croquet.

The teams play three two-day test matches in the idyllic Rutherford Park, Nelson.

Each national team consists of four men and four women who will each play two best of three singles matches, one best of three doubles match, and one best of three mixed doubles match during each test match.

The New Zealand team is:

Phillip Drew (c), Chris Clarke, Duncan Dixon, Jared Keeman, Jenny Clarke, Dallas Cooke, Erica Stephens and Phyllis Young.

The Australians will field a strong team of: Peter Landrebe, Kevin Beard, Chris McWhirter, John van der Touw, Anne Quinn, Wendy Dixon, Rosemary Landrebe and Alison Sharpe.

This is the first Trans Tasman Series to be played in Golf Croquet.

All previous series have been played under Association Croquet rules. Australia won the last series played in 2013.

Results will be available real-time on www.croquetscores.com

### **Upcoming Tournaments**

**Croquet New Zealand tournaments** 

#### **CNZ Northern Premier Silver Badge** 12-13 December Auckland – Epsom/Remuera

**CNZ Central Premier Silver Badge** 12-13 December Manawatu-Wangaui – Marton

**CNZ Southern Premier Silver Badge** 12-13 December West Coast – Rangimare

**CNZ Under 21 GC Championship** 19-20 December Canterbury - United



Register for www.croquet.org.nz

#### **Regional tournaments**

#### **Whakatane GC Tournament** 5-6 December Whakatane

**Canterbury GC Handicap Doubles** 6 December Fendalton

Waimarie GC Open Singles 6 December Waimarie

**Wellington AC Open Championship Singles** 27-30 December Wellington Municipal

## From the Regions

#### Orewa Croquet tournament a success

To play or not to play that was the question. Rain early Saturday morning and thunderstorms overnight on Sunday morning didn't stop the competitors in the 6th Annual Evelyn Page Golf Croquet Tournament held at the Orewa Croquet Club over the weekend.

The competition saw 36 players from all around the Auckland Region take part. On Saturday the Handicap Doubles competition was split into two sections. Brian and Vanessa Morrison Warkworth) prevailed in Section one with Jan Watson and Pam Crowhen (Orewa) runners up. In Section two Sally Cole and Susan McKessar (Carlton) had a clean sweep with five wins and Julie Parry and Lesley Dallimore (Orewa) finishing second.

On Sunday the Handicap Singles competition saw Julie Parry (Orewa) win on a count back over Susan McKessar (Carlton) in the 2-6 handicap division and Vanessa Morrison (Warkworth) the outright winner with five wins followed by Anne Mortimer (Takapuna) in second place, in the 8 – 10 handicap division.



Club President Lesley Dallimore with Brian & Vanessa Morrison



Lesley with Julia Parry



Lesley with Sally Colle and Susan McKessar



Lesley with Vanessa Morrison

#### Three long time members of the Matamata Croquet Club Inc namely, Betty and Adrian Vanmil and June Tarry when they were made Life Members in recognition of their contributions to the Matamata Croquet Club Inc over many years.

Regards Miriam Tregaskis Secretary Matamata Croquet Club Inc

#### HAWKES BAY

#### Golf Croquet in Hawkes Bay Schools

Diane Charteris and Colleen Stephens, along with a team of 14 assistant coaches have been busy taking Golf Croquet to school, introducing students to the game with weekly lunchtime and after school sessions in the Napier and Hastings regions. With the support of a Sport Hawkes Bay KiwiSport grant, Diane and her team have engaged students from 4 High Schools, 3 Intermediate and 1 primary school, building the numbers by targeting one new school per term. A new school coming into the programme facilitates a regular weekly session.

Diane explains that by introducing students to Golf Croquet through regular sessions at school, some of the identified barriers to youth participation in the sport could be overcome and that Golf Croquet could become an acceptable and popular sport within schools. An expected outcome would be the development of a core group of junior players that would support the growth of croquet in the region. "Once young people try the sport the "old people's game" attitude quickly disappears. "This is fun" is the new catch cry. Juniors are now starting to move into clubs"

#### Matamata



"Usually two coaches work in a school session. Students are taught basic skills of the game and key strategies through three levels. Certificates are presented at each level. Towards the end of each term, an inter-school competition enables players to meet other players from across the district and compare their own abilities. Students involved in the program are encouraged to attend local junior club sessions and join clubs if they wish to take their skills to a higher level. High School students are encouraged to enter the Hawkes Bay Secondary Schools Competition – the qualifier for the CNZ National Secondary Schools tournament. "

The Hawkes Bay Kiwi Golf Croquet in Schools Project is a significant investment of time and effort. Throughout the project 329 individual participants have been engaged in Golf Croquet (there are several more whose names were not recorded) including 18 Primary, 88 Intermediate and 223 Secondary students. End of term competitions are attracting between 8 and 16 entrants. 3 local students have now become National Junior Development Squad members and also played in the National Secondary School Champs. 2 have played in the National U21 and 2 in the World U21 GC Championship. At least one school is offering Croquet as a sport option in 2016 and it is intended that others will follow in time.

Diane says that once the decision was made to run a program in schools it required time to develop a good rapport with school sport coordinators but has found that support is growing on the back of the secondary schools programme. Funding has always been an issue but with support from Sport Hawkes Bay and the KiwiSport grant, equipment providers and coaches costs have been subsidised. "As more schools come on board we will be able to look at students paying part or all the term fee. As we grow numerically we should be able to create funds of our own and gain sponsorship as well. Croquet is a worthwhile sport suitable to all ages and fitness levels and is suitable for people with minor disabilities unable to participate in other sports.





#### Wellington

WCA 18+AC/GC Matchplay Tournament The Wellington Croquet Association, in an endeavor to encourage new AC players to participate in competition has introduced a novel approach. A tournament where the players play both AC and GC games in the same competition.

WCA Tournament Convenor, Tom Berryman, says that in recent years the traditional 18+AC only tournament had been poorly supported and last season had been deleted from the programme.

Players now largely come to AC with a GC background and are naturally nervous about getting into competitive AC. This new tournament has been devised to help new players get over this fear. If they don't fare so well with their AC play, they may play well with their GC games and perhaps win the competition as a consequence. How does it work? AC games are levels, 2 hours plus Reg 8, GC games are 13 point, handicap, 30 minutes, play next hoop if tied. The games are played as a match. Win both games earn two match points, win a game each - earn one match point each. The winner is found by the highest number of match points. If tied then who won the match between the players. If still tied then who has the best net points.

The first tournament, managed by Anne McKenzie, was held 19/20 November 2015 at Plimmerton Croquet Club with six participants. AC handicaps ranged from 20-24, GC handicaps ranged from 7-10. Play started at 8.30am on day one with AC, a short break for paperwork, and then GC to complete the first match. Two and a half matches were completed by 5pm on day one. The GC leg of match three was first up at 8.30am next morning. Match four took us to a midday lunch break with match five being completed by 3.30pm.

The tournament was convincingly won by Caroline Townsend-Green with 9 matchpoints out of a possible 10. Second was Mary Stevens with 7 matchpoints.

The players were quite enthusiastic about the format and looked forward to its continuance next season.

If anybody would like further information, sample tournament charts, etc please contact Tom Berryman e-mail

tom.berryman@xtra.co.nz.



Rear L to R Sue White, Mary Stevens, John Stevens, Ross Bisley.

Front L to R Manager Anne McKenzie, Caroline Townsend-Green, Glenda West, Bob McKenzie (honorary sandwich maker), Tom Berryman Tournament Referee.



Manager Anne McKenzie presenting winner's trophy to Caroline Townsend-Green

Two keen 12 year old competitors from Nelson Hinemoa, Vienna van Heeswyck and Mikey Lauer were playing in their first tournament. They played admirably and both won games in the doubles, Mikey also entered the singles winning two games.

Doubles winners were Doug Nottage and Nick Ferrier and the singles winner was Jace Hobbs.



#### <u>30th Southern Regional Veterans'</u> Championship being played at Nelson Hinemoa

Croquet Club from 4th – 8th November.

Players from Wellington, Richmond, Christchurch, Nelson Hinemoa, Riwaka, Blenheim and Perth (Australia) enjoyed five days of keen competition and good weather.

In the AC Championship Singles matches, Mike McClure of Richmond was the winner having 4

#### Nelson

#### <u>Croquet Nelson Labour Weekend</u> <u>Tournament</u> was hosted by Nelson Hinemoa Croquet Club

Twenty eight entries for the doubles and sixteen for the singles was a larger entry than in recent years and produced some keen competition. Good weather and excellent lawn conditions made for an enjoyable tournament. wins and +50 net hoops. Runner up was lan Campbell of the Barrington Park Club in Christchurch with 4 wins and +13 net hoops.

The AC Handicap Singles was an all local affair, Tom Carpenter the winner with 4 wins and +25 net hoops, runner up was Sue Bowater also with 4 wins and +5 net hoops, both players from Nelson Hinemoa Club.

Lance Barker (Richmond) and Tom Carpenter were the winners of the AC Handicap Doubles by one hoop over Annie Henry and Neil Seagar (Hinemoa). In this competition Mike McClure achieved a Quadruple Triple Peel.

GC Handicap Doubles was won by Wayne Wooff and Mike Speak of the Riwaka Club, beating Ken Hume and Alan Winwood 5 matches to 3.

GC Championship Singles was won by Jace Hobbs who won all 5 of his matches, four of them won in two games. Marion Prentice, with 4 matches was runner up. Jace now has a 0 handicap.

Three of the Association players improved their handicaps . Ian Campbell 2 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , Alan Winwood 16 to 14, and Mike McClure  $-1\frac{1}{2}$  to -2.

Three Presidents played – Annie Henry , President of Croquet New Zealand, Dick Smith of Wellington and Mike McClure of Richmond.

Trophies were presented by Annie Henry



Annie Henry, Mike McClure, Ian Campbell.



Annie Henry, Tom Carpenter, Sue Bowater



Annie Henry, Mike Speak, Wayne Wooff



Annie Henry, Lance Barker, Tom Carpenter



Annie Henry, Jace Hobbs, Marion Prentice

#### Dates for the December issue of Croquet Matters

- Please provide articles by 15 December 2015
- publication on 20 December2015

Please send articles to croquet@croquet.org.nz

## Notifications

#### Papakura Croquet Club

New Secretary Sue Fitzpatrick, 26 Erceg Way, Papakura Phone 298 4518. Email: <u>petesuefitz@gmail.com</u>

Previous secretary Ron Kilpin has moved to Te Puke

#### Pt Chevalier

Secretary has now changed as Sheila Le Masurier is no longer in Auckland, the new Secretary is Owen Frewin <u>ow.frewin@xtra.co.nz</u>

#### **Auckland Secretary**

Unfortunately Alison Moss is experiencing ill health. All queries that would normally go to the Auckland Secretary please send to Maida Beetson maidabeetson@gmail.com

## Change to 87<sup>th</sup> Annual tournament for South Canterbury

On page 361 the ad for our 87th Tournament, Event #5 should not be there. This event has been removed from the Tournament and a Flier will be sent out in December with the Open details. We apologise for this over sight. Regards Jenny Macnab

New Association Secretary for Northland Gaye Fletcher, 9 Governor's Lane, Oakridge Villas, Kerikeri. 0230. email - <u>myqwerty@xtra.co.nz</u> Phone - 09 401 7121

New email address for Whangamata Croquet Club whangamatacroquet@gmail.com

#### EQUIPMENT WANTED/ SURPLUS

Let us know what equipment you need or what and it will be posted here in future editions





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Note - The above blends can be custom made to suit all management levels, wear, renovation programmes, irrigation availability & climates, the advice on custom blending to suit a clubs region and soil type & quality is free of charge.

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CONTACT DETAILS - BAZ WOODCOCK (021) 757223 - EMAIL <u>NZSEEDBROKERS@INSPIRE.NET.NZ</u> OR <u>BAZWOODCOCK@GMAIL.COM</u>



Wood Mallets Ltd "The Park" 280 Tod Road, R D 2 Otane, Hawkes Bay 4277

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## photos & stories from the edge

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