



## Croquet Matters – April/May/June 2018

Kia ora,

What a fantastic season croquet has had at all levels. Hopefully you have had great fun playing at your club level, interclub, teams' events, nationals and international competitions. It has been a full calendar with many successes.

The last challenge was the **Association Croquet Trans-Tasman Test Series** that was held in Brisbane. The best of Australia met the best of New Zealand in this six-day event. Our team fought hard but had a tough test series against the Australians. One of the highlights is that **Jenny Clarke** won all of her matches during the entire test series. Well done **Jenny!**

**Ray and Beryl Atkins** have produced the Quadway Hoops for a number of years and they continue to grow in popularity not only in New Zealand but overseas. There was one even sold to a player from Latvia at the AC Worlds Championship. Ray and Beryl have been an integral part of the croquet world and now we are welcoming **Mike McClure** as the new owner. Please read more about what he is doing in the article. Thanks Ray and Beryl and congratulations to Mike.

An important part of what our sport does is to hold Annual General Meetings (AGM), where officers and management committees are elected for the regions (association level) and the clubs. During my visits to regions this year, it has been refreshing to hear how presidents and committee members feel honoured to hold these positions. It is an honour to take a leadership role in your club and region. The thanks come primarily from when a Committee sees the positive changes happen.

At the national level there have been significant changes happening this year with the CNZ Executive and our committees. The work will be reported at the 2018 AGM that will be held 13 – 14 October in Wellington. We

also heard Council members (Delegates, life members and Executive) ask for the reports to be received in advance. Currently the committees are preparing their reports and they will be distributed in Croquet Matters and to the association secretaries. If you know of anyone who is serving on a CNZ committee, please be sure to thank them for the work they have done. They continue to make a difference.

This edition includes:

- Oops!
- AC Trans-Tasman highlights
- AGM information
- CNZ Awards
- New Quadway Hoops Owner
- Welcome new Croquet Matters Editor
- Player Feedback Results and AC and GC Refereeing & Umpires Training Sessions
- 2018–2019 Tournament Calendar
- Tournament Committee Update
- AC Handicap Changes
- GC Index Changes for Level Doubles Change
- Club app
- GC Rules Update
- Thanks

Warm regards,

*Annie*

D. Annie Henry

### OOPS!

It is wonderful to know that people are reading *Croquet Matters*. Thanks for letting me know that I had reported in the March edition that Stephen Mulliner and Reg Bamford were completing sextuple peels. What should have been reported was that Stephen and Reg were completing the sextuple peels simultaneously, but Reg was the only one to complete it. Stephen broke down and Paddy resumed play and won the game.

## Association Croquet Trans-Tasman Test Series: Australia vs New Zealand

Every four years the best of Australia play the best of New Zealand in a three-test series, six-day event. Australia hosted this year's test series. The last one was held in Nelson at Nelson Hinemoa Croquet Club four years ago.

Each test series has different combination of games played. Singles and mixed doubles are played over two days. Each test has a total of 12 matches. Whomever wins the most tests wins the test series. If there is an equal number of tests won, then it is decided by number of matches. The test series was held in Brisbane at the Wynnum Club.



The Trans-Tasman Team is (left to right): Josh Freeth (Auckland), Nina Mayard-Husson (Wellington), Greg Bryant, Captain (West Coast), Pam Fisher (Waikato-King Country), Aiken Hakes (Wellington), Alison Robinson (Wellington), Chris Shilling (Otago), Jenny Clarke (Christchurch) and Steve Wardle, Manager (Auckland)

The first Test Series had a slow start with NZ only winning 3 matches. The highlights were that Jenny Clarke beat Rosemary Landrebe 1–26, 26–3 and 26TP–0. Pam Fisher beat Alison Sharpe 25–17 and 26–1. Jenny Clarke and Josh Freeth beat Claire Bassett and Greg Fletcher 22–24, 26TP (C)–1, 26 TP (C)–1. Our team won 9 of the 29 games.

The second Test Series had much better results with Greg Bryant and Pam Fisher beating Claire Bassett and Greg Fletcher 26–13, 1–26TP (F), 26 TP (B)–0. Jenny Clarke and Josh Freeth beat Rosemary Landrebe and Stephen Forster 26–1 and 26–10. Chris Shilling and Nina Mayard-Husson beat Alix Verge and Edward Wilson 24–23 OQP (W)

and 17–15. Pam Fisher beat Rosemary Landrebe 16–17, 19–12 and 22–14. Jenny Clarke beat Alison Sharpe 26–0 and 26–5. Our team won 5 matches and AU won 7 matches. We won 13 games and AU won 16 games. A very close test.

The third test saw Greg Bryant and Pam Fisher beat Alison Sharpe and Malcolm Fletcher 18–26, 23–22, 12–10. Jenny Clarke and Josh Freeth beat Alix Verge and Edward Wilson 26–9 and 26–17. Jenny Clarke beat Claire Bassett 26–16 and 16–3. Nina Mayard-Husson beat Rosemary Landrebe 19–9 and 21–16. We won 4 to AU's 7 matches with games won 13 vs 16.

It is not only the skills of the individuals that are brought to the test series but also how well the pairs perform, and the team works together. If you followed on croquet scores you would have seen that many of the games were very close. Jenny Clarke was the only player who won all her singles and doubles matches. Well done Jenny! We also take our hats off to Steve Wardle for managing the Trans-Tasman Team. He did an excellent job and we give him a huge THANK YOU!

With having the World's and a very full tournament schedule, the team had limited time to prepare. We are appreciative of the commitment that the team had in this test series. We are proud of them. The next Trans-Tasman will be Golf Croquet in 2019! Watch this space!

## Croquet New Zealand AGM 13–14 October 2018

The 2018 Croquet New Zealand AGM will be held the 13<sup>th</sup> of October at the Brentwood Hotel in Wellington. The AGM information, deadlines and forms were sent to Association Secretaries and Life Members on 7<sup>th</sup> of May. If you haven't received these please contact the CNZ Office as soon as possible. Information will be in the editions of Croquet Matters leading up to the AGM. Please ensure to complete the Council Delegate form and return it to the National Office.

It is important to know the deadlines outlined in the Constitution. Key dates are:

## June

- Life Membership nominations received at National Office by 30 June.
- Written notice of AGM date, time and place to Council Members by 30 June.
- On or before 30 June, National Office will call for nominations for the vacant Executive positions. This year there are 3:
  - Two Vice-Presidents (Kathie Grant was co-opted this year.)
  - Councillor (George Coulter was co-opted this year.)

## July

- National Office to circulate Life Membership nominations by 31 July.
- Notices of remits and recommendations submitted by Council Delegates must reach the National Office 90 days prior to the AGM: by 12 July.
- Executive nominations are received in the National Office by 31 July.
- CNZ Awards nominations are due in the National Office by 31 July.

## August

- By 12 August Executive nominations will be circulated to Council Delegates.

## September

- By 1 September Associations notify the National Office whether Life Member nominations are supported.
- By 12 September AGM Agenda and reports will be received by the Council Delegates.
- By 12 September the AGM the financial balance sheet and annual accounts will be received by the Council Delegates.

## October

- AGM: Voting strength is based on membership at 31 March that year.

Committee reports will be sent in July to Association Secretaries, Life Member and the Executive. These reports will be the full version. The Annual Report that is presented at the AGM will include key indicators for the CNZ Strategic Plan achievements. The annual reporting will focus on achievements set forth in the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan can be viewed on the CNZ website.

## CNZ Awards

Celebration is an important part of what we do. One of the ways in which we celebrate is to honour those who have been outstanding. The Croquet New Zealand Awards celebrate the achievements in our sport. There are 9 awards. They are listed in the CNZ Yearbook.

The President's Trophy and Huon Pine Bowl awards are based on the greatest club membership increase during the season and the largest number of new members. These two awards are based on the information in the CNZ database.

The Club Participation Award is calculated using a formula that awards participation in five categories: Arthur Ross Memorial competition, Don Reyland Stars competition, CNZ Merit Awards, CNZ Qualifications and CNZ Secondary Schools Championships. Each category is 20%. There is \$1500 awarded to the club that scores the highest. This is the third year for the award.

Financial members may nominate members for any of the five awards listed below. Nomination forms that includes the criteria were sent to the Association Secretary. They are:

- Player of the Year
- Most Improved AC Player – the Baker Trophy
- Most Improved GC Player
- Volunteer of the Year Award
- Contribution to Croquet Award (NEW)

For more information and to download a nomination form, go to [croquet.org.nz/croquet-new-zealand-awards](http://croquet.org.nz/croquet-new-zealand-awards)

**Nominations are due by 31 July.**



## Quadways Meets Terminator!

“Breaking news about the best piece of croquet equipment in the world,” says Mike McClure.



**Terminator mallets** owner is now the owner of **Quadway Hoops**. Mike McClure (Mr Terminator) says that he was impressed by the Atkins **Quadways** from the first time he saw them at the World's AC in Christchurch. He says that Ray had been talking to Rodger Lane about the pain of setting hoops to different sizes for different events. Ray had an “AH Huh” moment then he did a wonderful job of designing and developing the hoops so that the legs could be rotated. That rotation allowed the hoops to change from 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>” to less than 3<sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub>” for competition AND the hoops still went into the SAME hoop holes. Amazing. The change in size was achieved by the hoop legs being off-centre in the crown AND in the carrots. Very clever. Chris Clarke played a major support role with encouragement and underwriting the process. The hoops went on to be used in the Worlds, then they were approved by WCF – the rest is history.

Apart from the design, Mike was impressed by the selection of materials. Special stainless steel for the legs and the crown. Stainless costs heaps but there is no need to sandblast and repaint every couple of years. It is a cost savings to the club. He says the square carrots are not stainless steel (the cost would make an accountant cry) and are made from medium tensile steel that is zinc plated before assembly.

“**A Good Fit**” is how Mike describes the **Quadways** in his Terminator business. He is used to sending mallets all over the world. The **Quadways** are a bit different though because

the parcels are heavy, and most orders attract a Customs **value trigger**. He says, “It is all part of the learning curve.”

## Croquet Matters New Editor:

### Jackie Tye



I am pleased to announce Jackie Tye has accepted the position as editor of Croquet Matters starting with the July 2018 issue.

Jackie, member at Nelson Hinemoa, has a rich background in HR for large corporations, and more recently has been

working with the New Zealand Red Cross. She loves writing and connecting with people, which will fit well with the position. Jackie started playing croquet after taking her daughter, who is now 16, around to tournaments, and decided that rather than watching she might as well have a go herself. Jackie is the Publicity Officer for Croquet Nelson and enjoys playing and helping out at the croquet club.

If you have ideas for Croquet Matters, please contact Jackie at [jackietye1@gmail.com](mailto:jackietye1@gmail.com).

## Player Feedback

For years players have been completing the Player Feedback forms. The feedback is reviewed by the Tournament Committee and, where appropriate, actions are taken. Last year we started sending the feedback questionnaire to individuals using Survey Monkey. This year the feedback from every CNZ tournament has been collated and reported quantitatively and qualitatively. Comments made receive a reply that outlines the action that will be taken or explains why action will not be taken. The Tournament Committee approves all feedback before it is sent to the players and manager of every tournament. The reports are on the CNZ website at [www.croquet.org.nz](http://www.croquet.org.nz).

This year there has been 1,492 responses from players. Actions are grouped into AC and GC responses. AC actions focus on format, location of tournament, lawn conditions, hoop setting, train referees, purchase a trophy, and suggestions for the invitations. The GC centered around purchase of a trophy, information in adverts that would be helpful,

location, procedure for cancelling an event, add coaching to the Women's Tournament, suggestions for the U21, encourage billets, format, conduct manager's training, lawn conditions, and suggestions for invitations.

From these we are scheduling training weekends for AC and GC umpires and referees. It is tentatively set for July but it might be changed if the new GC Rules are approved. If we receive funding, two manager's courses

will be delivered: one in the North Island and one in the South Island in September. We will know by the first of August if the managers' courses will be delivered this year. If not, they will be scheduled for next year.

The Tournament Committee, with the assistance of the Executive Director, is updating the Player Feedback Questionnaire for next season. Thanks for all your feedback and suggestions. We do listen.

## Tournament Calendar

A special thanks to Greg Bryant and Nelson Morrow for putting together the three-year calendar once again. It's been several years since we had one and it is great to have it back. It took a great deal of time and there is still some follow up for the next two years. The calendar will be on the CNZ website and in the Yearbook.

A comment was made to me that CNZ continues to add more tournaments to the schedule. Please note that CNZ has 6 fewer tournaments than previously, and that includes

the one new tournament: Women's GC. The changes took place over the past several years. The Tournament Committee also moved some of the tournaments a bit later so associations would have more times to fit in their tournaments. There is also a consideration of regions hosting events and ensuring as many associations have an opportunity to host a CNZ event if possible. After every detail of this year's calendar is completed, the Executive Director will be following up with all associations to confirm the next two years hosting and specific venues.

25–26 Aug 2018	U21 v NZ Select GC	Epsom-Remuera
8–9 Sep 2018	NZ Secondary School GC Finals	Wellington
29–30 Sept 2018	Women's GC	Bay of Plenty
1 Oct 2018	Coaching	Bay of Plenty
4–7 Oct 2018	NI GC	
13–14 Oct 2018	CNZ AGM - Wellington	
18–22 Oct 2018	U21 GC Champs / Youth Squads	Waikato-King Country
8–11 Nov 2018	SI GC	Nelson
17–25 Nov 2018	Australian Open	Australia
28 Nov–2 Dec 2018	NI AC Champs	Manawatu-Wanganui
12–16 Dec 2018	SI AC Champs	Canterbury
5–13 Jan 2019	NZ Open	Bay of Plenty
19–25 Jan 2019	GC Nationals	Nelson
30–31 Jan 2019	Women's GC Worlds Qualifying Event	Rangatira
2–9 Feb 2019	Women's GC Worlds	Hawkes Bay
20–24 Feb 2019	Men's & Women's AC	Rangatira
8–10 Mar 2019	Women's AC Invitation	Wairarapa
15–17 Mar 2019	Arthur Ross AC	Wellington
21–24 Mar 2019	AC Invitations – Silver Tray	Canterbury
20–24 Mar 2019	AC Invitations – Miss Edwina Thompson	Canterbury
20–24 Mar 2019	AC Invitations – Roger Muffitt	Canterbury
22–24 Mar 2019	AC Invitations – R.A. Clarke	Wellington
22–24 Mar 2019	AC Invitations – Gold Cup	Wairarapa
30–31 Mar 2019	Don Reyland Gold & Silver Stars	Thames Valley
5–7 Apr 2019	GC Invitations – Yvonne Yeates	Auckland
5–7 Apr 2019	GC Invitations – Duncan Dixon	Auckland
5–7 Apr 2019	GC Invitations – Geoff Young	Counties Manukau
5–7 Apr 2019	GC Invitations – Gordon Smith	Counties Manukau
15 Apr 2019	GC Trans-Tasman dates TBA	Australia

## Tournament Committee Update

The Tournament Committee (TC) has had a very productive year. This is a summary of the work that has been done.

1. **Terms of Reference:** Each CNZ Committee was asked to write a Terms of Reference that outlines how the committee operates and the scope of work.
2. **Expression of interest to host the 2020 or 2024 AC Women's Championship.**
3. **Hosting World Event Process:** A brochure that highlights the benefits for associations to host a world event and a details handbook is being developed. These documents are actions that the TC took in response to requests made to review the process for determining who hosts world events and what is involved. Thanks to Chris Clarke and Jake Inwood for developing these documents.
4. **GC AHS card revision:** The GC AHS card has received complaints since it was redesigned a few years ago. The TC has a revised card that will allow for the relevant information to be included on the card and allow more space for games played. When new GC AHS cards are needed, it will be the redesigned one.
5. **Three-year calendar:** The membership has asked for a three-year calendar. Once in the past 8 years a three-year calendar has been created. This year's one is created thanks to Greg Bryant and Nelson Morrow.
6. **Tournament Regulations Revisions:** The Tournament Regulations are in the third consultation feedback loop. There is more work to be done and the revisions will be completed by next season. Thanks to Chris Clarke for leading this task.
7. **Player Feedback Communications:** This is the first-year feedback is given to the players for every CNZ tournament. CNZ has committed to taking action where noted.
8. **Global AC Handicapping:** NZ will be part of the global handicapping system for 2018–19.
9. **Trophies:** Over four years ago the Executive required those receiving trophies to return them after the tournament and the winner receives a badge. The TC has changed the system to allowing the winner (within the country) to keep the trophy until the Executive Director has notified when it is to be returned. The winner will receive a badge to keep.

10. **Adverts:** The TC is now responsible for changing the adverts for the CNZ events.
11. **Tournament Regulations Appendix 4:** It has been updated in the Yearbook.
12. **Managers' Training Manual:** Graeme Roberts has kindly agreed to update the manual originally written by Gordon Smith. It is scheduled to be finished by August.
13. **Managers' Training:** Two sessions are scheduled to be held in September 2018, provided funding is available. Associations will be notified in August if funding is received.
14. **Tournament Director:** The first role description for a Tournament Director has been written.
15. **Meeting with Managers:** This is the second year that preparatory meetings with managers of CNZ tournaments are held with great success.

## Association Handicap Changes

The Tournament Committee made a recommendation this year to pursue bringing New Zealand in alignment with the AC handicap system used in the UK and AU, and the Executive approved it. This is an opportunity to have a global handicapping system for AC, similar to GC. We've been out of step for a while and with the help of the association and club handicappers, all AC AHS cards will be adjusted before the 2018–2019 season begins. There has been consultation with Brian Boutel, chair of the Laws Committee, UK and AU national representatives, and Graeme Roberts about the process before it was approved by the Executive. It will be reviewed in two years.

Brian Boutel and Graeme Roberts have been working on the conversion charts and instructions. The AC Handicappers will have the conversion charts and instructions by August. It will be a similar process that was used to make the conversion for the GC handicaps. Most handicaps will move back one or two steps, but the grades should stay the same. There will be a gain of index points, but the trigger points will be different.

The good news is that when you play in Australia, the UK or elsewhere your handicap will not be adjusted. We thank the handicappers who will change their club members' cards for their assistance.

## Golf Croquet Index Changes for Level Doubles

A detailed analysis was completed to determine the fairness for all level of players who played doubles. It was found that there were inadequacies. A proposal was submitted by Chris Clarke to the Tournament Committee for review, which was done. It was then sent to Brian Boutel, Chair of the Laws Committee, for review, and he recommended that the proposal be sent to the UK and AU for comment, which was done. The UK does not have a doubles levels chart, but they were so impressed that they are now considering it. The AU has been using the one that CNZ created and were delighted to see the changes. After these consultations the Tournament Committee recommended to the Executive the proposed index changes for Level Doubles chart and it was approved. The chart will appear in the Yearbook and appear on the next printing of the GC AHS cards. It will be effective August 1<sup>st</sup> when information is sent to the Association Secretaries.

Handicap Difference	Smaller combined handicaps win	Larger combined handicaps win
0	5	5
1 to 3	4	6
4 to 6	3	7
7 to 9	2	8
10+	1	9

## Club App

Want to have access to the latest CNZ news and links to your favourite CNZ tournaments on your phone? Now you can! CNZ is pleased to introduce the Croquet New Zealand app in partnership with Club App.

CNZ is taking the next step in modernizing the way we interact with our members. This new

app will have direct feeds from our Facebook page as well as links directly to your favourite CNZ events. There will be no more searching through the long list of tournaments on Croquet Scores.

To download, go to the Play Store or Apple App Store and search for *club app*. Download the app (it's free) and search for Croquet New Zealand. How cool is that?

## THANKS!!

A special thank you to all who have generously given to the Givealittle page for our Sport Development Officer, Greg Bryant. The money is helpful but showing that you care means a lot through your gifts. Greg has given a great deal of time, expertise and energy that is well above what is expected of him as the SDO. The page will be closing in a couple of months.

## Thanks Some More!

I would like to thank all who have given me feedback over the past year plus that I've been writing Croquet Matters. With putting together the newsletter it is exciting to see all the members' accomplishments. Our croquet members continue to punch above their weight on the international stage and celebrating them is the least we can do. We've listened to what you want in a newsletter (for those who gave us feedback) and shaped the newsletter around it.

A new editor will take over and hopefully improve what we have been doing. My goal was to keep the Croquet Matters alive and well. I welcome Jackie Tye into the editorship. Please let her know when you like something—or when you have an idea for a different approach. She is a willing listener—and like all of us, she is a volunteer. Please be kind.