



CROQUET MATTERS

JUNE 2021

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Chief Executive



Welcome to the final edition of Croquet Matters for the 2020-21 season.

2020-21 provided plenty of challenges as we emerged from the Covid-19 Lockdown which

prematurely ended the 2019-20 season. I would like to thank all the volunteers within our sport that helped make croquet possible at all levels, from club days to tournaments.

I would also like to acknowledge our sponsors and partners that help Croquet New Zealand grow and develop croquet in New Zealand. These organisations are listed later in this newsletter.

I hope everyone is keeping well during these colder months and looking forward to the start of the 2021-22 season!

Jake Inwood

CNZ Awards

A reminder that nominations for the 2020-21 Croquet New Zealand awards are due by **Wednesday, 30th June 2021**.

The award categories are;

- Contribution to Croquet
- Volunteer of the Year
- Most Improved GC Player
- Most Improved AC Player
- Player of the Year

If you know of someone who is deserving of consideration, make sure you nominate them! Nomination forms can be found on our website, [here](#).

Please send all nominations to croquet@croquet.org.nz.

New Zealand Secondary School GC Championship

As the 2020-21 year comes to a close, the 2021-22 season is right around the corner!

This year will see up to 60 pairs competing for the National Secondary Schools Title at Heretaunga Croquet Club on the 4th and 5th of September 2021.

For more information, click [here](#).



Reset and Rebuild Tour

With the support of Sport New Zealand, Croquet New Zealand embarked on our Reset and Rebuild Tour between March and May 2021.

The primary objectives were;

- Meet with clubs to identify any issues arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and how CNZ can support them.
- Promote the objectives in the CNZ Reorientation Strategy.
- Promote membership participation and growth through the Club Participation Award mechanism to encourage a vibrant club culture.

In addition to the Reset and Rebuild presentation (slides can be found [here](#)), coaching sessions were also run.

The tour by the numbers;

Activity	# Of Sessions	# Of Participants
Reset & Rebuild Presentation	25	285
Intro to AC Coaching	1	5
AC Coaching	24	172
GC Coaching	25	615

High Performance Plan

Following Croquet New Zealand's withdrawal from the current Trans-Tasman arrangements, a draft High-Performance Plan has been taking shape.

The High-Performance Plan intends to support Croquet New Zealand's strategic objectives and more NZ players in the performance space by resourcing targeted player development mechanisms through the establishment of 'campaigns' for each World Championship event.

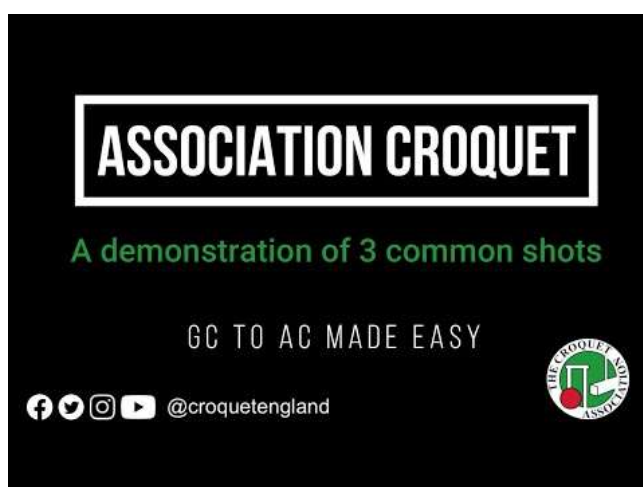
Key aspects to the Plan:

- Campaigns centred around World Championships with a Campaign Lead to help identify and address the playing group's needs.
- Self-nominated mechanism for entry, aligned to CNZ tournaments, into the campaigns making it accessible for more players.
- An incentivised mentoring programme to share knowledge and experience.
- A revamped tournament calendar to support the High-Performance Plan.

Croquet New Zealand will continue to develop the finer details of the plan through 2021-22 with the intention to introduce the campaigns from 2022-23.

Learning AC

Are you wanting to transition from GC to AC? Check out this video from the Croquet Association on the basics of AC.



Injuries in Croquet

Early in 2021, Croquet New Zealand obtained information from ACC under the Official Information Act on claims relating to croquet.

The below table illustrates the number of new claims since 1 January 2016, categorised using the two most common primary diagnoses.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Soft Tissue	70	83	119	89	88
Laceration /Puncture	23	30	25	23	25
Other	13	6	7	6	8
Total	106	119	151	118	121

Although a relatively small number in comparison to our overall membership (2020 represents 2.5% of our 2019-20 membership), it is a timely reminder that injuries can still occur in our sport!

Make sure you do everything you can to keep yourself, and your club mates, safe when enjoying your croquet.

Club News

GC Kaimai Challenge

Across three Regions (Thames Valley, Waikato - King Country & Bay of Plenty) "The Kaimai Challenge" celebrates the end of its second year with a successful season of Golf Croquet competition.

"The Kaimai Challenge" was initiated by an idea from Te Aroha Croquet Club because 2 years ago, there was a lack of 'Levels' tournaments. Over a period of months in 2019, Alan Wilkie (Te Aroha), Dave Roberts (Katikati) and Jim Peck (Tauranga) got together natted out the format and became the founding management committee. "We devised the competition on a 'Team' concept and not a 'Club' one. Like the 'Super Rugby' format. This was so that smaller clubs could participate. We also wanted to have a competition that was unique, challenging, fun and included all Divisions in Levels play" Alan Wilkie said. He went on to say: "We are thrilled with the result, the positive feedback and to see "The Kaimai Challenge" to have grown to 10 teams this past Season. The best feedback of all has been from the Primary players; they tell us how much they learn by

playing with the senior players and also amongst their own peers in Singles. Players from all the Divisions tell me it has been thoroughly enjoyable. So, that's a success in my book."

How it works: A team of six players which can be made from a mixture of clubs, are then divided into 2 Sections consisting of one Primary, one Intermediate and one Premier player. Each Section then plays 3 games each against each of their opponents 2 Sections (ie A vs A; A vs B etc). A days Match involves Doubles and Singles play for each player. Throughout the course of a Match, a player will play 2 Singles in their respective division and 4 Doubles games. For each game of Doubles, it is a different pair of players from within their Section.

Te Aroha's Sue Rope of Trinity Network Real Estate generously sponsored the whole season again with each of the 10 teams receiving an equal share of the funds. The Champion Team also received a commemorative badge and a Certificate (see photo).

The Champions for 2020-21 were: "The Tigers" from Tauranga who seemed 'super surprised' at the result as when the final points were tallied after the final match there was only 1 point difference between them at 120 and runners-up "The Panthers" at 119 who are from Katikati and led the charge for much of the season. The whole competition was so close that only 16 points made the difference between the top and bottom of the table.

Each team that enters "The Kaimai Challenge" now has a Representative on the Management Committee.



Kaimai Challenge Champions 2020-2021: (left to right) Alan Wilkie, Dave Roberts, Jim Peck, Alan Wilkie, Alan Wilkie, Alan Wilkie, Alan Wilkie, Alan Wilkie.

Sponsors and Partners

A huge thank you to all our sponsors and partners during 2020-21.

