



CROQUET MATTERS

OCTOBER 2021

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Chief Executive



Welcome to the next edition of Croquet Matters.

In October we held our 2021 Annual General Meeting where we were able to recognise individuals' achievements and contribution to croquet. More on this can be found later.

Croquet New Zealand has continued to actively work with Sport NZ to interpret the current Covid-19 Alert Level restrictions to enable everyone to get back on the lawns, particularly for those regions in Alert Level 3. We also saw the announcement of the new “traffic-light” system and the launch of the

vaccination certificates concept. We are working through these announcements and awaiting further guidance from Sport New Zealand around how these should be interpreted and applied to the sport sector. This will result in updated guidance being sent to Associations, and the Tournament Guidelines being updated. We will communicate any changes as soon as possible via our website.

Jake Inwood

CNZ Life Membership



At the 2021 Annual General Meeting, Don Reyland was made a life member of Croquet New Zealand.

Having begun his croquet career more than 3 decades ago, Don was instrumental in supporting the development and growth of Golf Croquet when it was first introduced in New Zealand.

For more information on Don’s achievements, click [here](#). Congratulations Don!

2020-21 Annual Awards

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 Alert Levels at the time, we were unable to invite the award winners to the AGM to receive their awards in person.

Nevertheless, their achievements were still celebrated and the 2020-21 winners are listed below.

Presidents Trophy (Highest Percentage of New to Croquet members)

Leith Croquet Club (Otago)

Huon Pine Bowl (Largest number of New to Croquet members)

Matamata Croquet Club

Club Participation Award

Paraparaumu Croquet Club

Volunteer of the Year

Joan Jenkin (Thames Valley)

Contribution to Croquet

Michael Hardman (Manawatu-Wanganui)

Most Improved AC Player

Logan McCorkindale (South Canterbury)

Most Improved GC Player

Te Kiri King (South Taranaki)

Player of the Year

Duncan Dixon (Canterbury) & Logan McCorkindale (South Canterbury)

To read about their achievements, click [here](#).

Congratulations to all winners!

NZ Open Postponed

Due to the current Covid-19 Alert Levels around New Zealand, all CNZ tournaments to date have been cancelled or postponed.

With the NZ Open less than a month away, it looks extremely unlikely that New Zealand will be in the right Alert Level for it to proceed.

The NZ Open will be postponed until February 2022 and will now be held from the **12th to 18th of February 2022**. South Taranaki remains the host.

As there will be a reduction in playing days, this will result in a reduction of entry fees. These will be published on our website in the coming days.

Audika Partnership



In August, Croquet New Zealand announced our partnership with Audika.

You can now look after your hearing while supporting croquet!

As part of this partnership, individuals can call 0800-632-971 to book a **free** hearing test using the code "Croquet New Zealand". For every completed test using this code, Audika will donate \$30 to Croquet New Zealand.

Full terms and conditions can be found [here](#).

WCF Newsletter

The WCF November newsletter is now available on their website and can be found [here](#).

Club News

Honda Cars Manawatu GC Tournament



Josh Smith - Rose Gardens CC

Golf Croquet players from Taranaki, South Taranaki, Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa and Wellington, together with those from local Manawatu-Wanganui clubs (Feilding, Marton, Rangatira and Rose Gardens), converged on the Rose Gardens

lawns at the weekend for the Honda Cars Manawatu GC Tournament.

Covid safety outside was assisted by the Palmerston North wind, particularly on Saturday, as well as the need for players to stand at least a metre apart to avoid being whacked by their opponent's mallet. For tea and lunch breaks the club organised

separate tables in the pavilion for the various club groups.

25 players entered, one more than the nominal capacity of the lawns. The bye in the Open event (11 entries) allowed everyone else to be on the lawns in the same rounds, a simple plan. There were 8 players in Event 2 (handicaps 4 and over) and 6 in Event 3 (8 and over).

Event 3 was won by Amy Gust, a teenager from Marton club who was in her first Singles tournament and won 9 of her 10 games. Elwi El Beshlawi of Rose Gardens was second on countback from Marilyn Vallance, also Marton club.

Tina Duley from Marewa club in Napier won Event 2 from Ethan McDonald from Park club in Hawera, another young player.

The Open event was very close and the top positions were in doubt until the last round. Josh Smith beat Joel Steele, a new member to Rose Gardens after transferring from Park club, 7-6 in their final game. Josh and Helen Reeves from Heretaunga club in Hawkes Bay both had 8 wins from 10 games, but Josh had a better points difference and took the title, with Joel a close third. If Joel had **won** 7-6 he would have won the event on countback from Helen with Josh third.

[Increasing participation in the Don Reyland Stars competition](#)

By Vilna Gough-Jones

Fendalton Park has devised a competition in which potentially 90% of the members will participate in the Don Reyland Stars Competition this season.

Eight blocks of 8 players will compete in a knock out Don Reyland Stars Handicap Singles competition over three rounds. A single 13-point handicap singles game is played in their own time, outside of club days. The lists were posted on the notice board on opening day at the beginning of September after our Club Captain had put names down in alphabetical order (with a few exceptions) as the competition is handicap.

A round is to be completed each month from September through to November until a winner for each block is found. The winners from each block will participate in a Round Robin competition in the

second week of December to determine the representative from Fendalton Croquet Club to play in the Canterbury Croquet Association (CCA) Don Reyland Stars Tournament. This tournament will then determine the representative from CCA for the National tournament.

Fendalton Croquet Club designed this format of the Don Reyland Stars competition to assist in improving the number of players participating in this event which makes up part of the CNZ Club Participation Award criteria.

Clubs with smaller numbers could also work with blocks of 8, or blocks of 4, and determine their own form of final competition. The message and purpose is club member participation in the Don Reyland Stars.

A lovely spin-off from this competition has been the positive uptake from club members, and in particular among those who don't always enter competitions, or even play singles. They come along to club days and enjoy the social doubles play, but have found that playing both balls with handicap extra turns has been fun. "I have really enjoyed this game" was a comment I heard from someone, who had 8 extra turns against another player, even though they lost at the last hoop.

Many more now know what the flags and white pegs on a dressed lawn look like. There have been very few who have defaulted, and those that have are mostly due to ill health or unforeseen factors (like getting caught up in lockdown in Auckland).

We are considering something similar for Arthur Ross and AC.

Feel free to contact me if you would like to talk through how your club could increase participation.