



CROQUET MATTERS

JANUARY 2022

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Chief Executive



Welcome to 2022. I hope everyone was able to enjoy some quality time with friends and family over the Christmas and New Year period. I certainly

enjoyed some time with friends and family in the beautiful weather and exploring more of New Zealand.

Although January started off well with the NZ Select vs U21 GC Match and GC Nationals, we now find the entire country in the Red setting of the Covid Protection Framework following the detection of Omicron in the community. A move that raises many questions for everyone around its impact on croquet.

As we have done throughout the pandemic, Croquet New Zealand will continue to work with Sport New Zealand to understand the new guidelines and provide advice to Associations as soon as we can.

We are also in the process of ensuring we can hold CNZ tournaments safely under the Red settings. Keep an eye on our website for these updates.

All the best for 2022.

Jake Inwood

Croquet New Zealand Board Vacancies

Croquet New Zealand is seeking two experienced independent Board members to join the CNZ Board.

For more information on what the role entails, the skills CNZ is looking for and how to apply, click [here](#).

CNZ Tournaments

GC Nationals

The GC Nationals were successfully held at Waireka Croquet Club earlier in January, with the Cashmere Croquet Club (Canterbury) securing all of the silverware.

Josh Winter and Levi Franks combined once again to defend their CNZ GC Nationals Doubles title. Beating Joel Steele and Paul Kaiser 7-5, 7-4, 7-3 in the final.

Winter then went on to reverse the outcome of the 2020-21 Singles Final as he beat Duncan Dixon 4-7, 7-4, 5-7, 7-5, 7-6. The final couple of hoops will not be forgotten easily with a number of clutch shots from both players.

Read more, [here](#).

Watch the GC Nationals Singles Final, [here](#).

GC 3+ Championships

Cashmere Croquet Club's dominance on the National GC scene continued as Melanie Stevenson won the 2021-22 CNZ GC 3+ Championship. After advancing through block play with 8 wins from 10 games, Stevenson then won 4 of 5 games in the super-section to claim the title.

Read more, [here](#).

Upcoming Tournaments

12th to 18th February 2022

[CNZ New Zealand Open Championships](#)

19th & 20th February 2022

[CNZ Women's GC Tournament](#)

4th to 6th March 2022

[CNZ Women's AC Invitation](#)

GC U21 v NZ Select Match



Myles & James Duggan on the commentary desk

The GC U21 v NZ Select match on the 8th and 9th of January marked the first event CNZ had streamed live with "in-house" production. Following some early technical difficulties, the singles of the first Test and all of the second Test were streamed live.

We were even lucky enough to have the experienced Lesley Murdoch come along and help out with the commentary on day one with Myles and James Duggan.

CNZ is extremely proud of being able to bring you the NZ Select Teams 2-0 victory and we look forward to bring you more events in the future.

Read more about the event, [here](#).

Missed the action? Head over to our [YouTube channel](#) to catch up.

Senior GC Referee

The Laws Committee began the enormous task of creating the Senior GC Referee

qualification in late 2020. From the 1st of January 2022 the qualification became official.

To read more, and learn who the Senior GC Examining Referees are, click [here](#).

WCF News

Document Updates

The WCF have busily been working to update some of their statutes and regulations to reflect current requirements. The updates include:

[WCF Event Regulations](#)

[WCF Statutes](#)

[WCF Ranking Regulations](#)

2022 GC World Championships

The 2022 Golf Croquet World Championships will be held at Sussex County Croquet Club from 30th July to 7th August 2022.

Any players wishing to participate should notify croquet@croquet.org.nz before 5pm on the 23rd February 2022.

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

December 2021 Country Rankings

New Zealand finished the 2021 calendar year ranked 3rd in both the AC and GC country rankings. For the full list of country rankings, click on the links below.

[AC Country Rankings – as at 31 December 2021](#)

[GC Country Rankings – as at 31 December 2021](#)

Club News

Playing into your 90's

Age is just a number and that's what three nonagenarians at Paraparaumu Croquet Club prove regularly.

Reg Hurley, Neville Sandiford and Sunny Amey are all in their 90s but still regularly play croquet (AC and GC).

Crediting the sport for helping keep them active and alert. Not only does croquet continue to provide physical benefits, the social aspects of the warm, inviting Paraparaumu Croquet Club make croquet enjoyable and provides many fond memories.



Neville & Sunny

Reg

Wanganui Croquet Club turns 100



The Wanganui Croquet Club celebrated its centenary on 4th & 5th December 2021.

The inaugural meeting was held in the old YMCA building on 26th September 1921 when it was decided to form the Wanganui Croquet Club. Bylaws were adopted at a meeting on

2nd December 1921 with Opening Day on the 8th December.

The Club celebrated its centenary by having a lunch at The Kingsgate Hotel on the Saturday, attended by 66 members, ex members and guests. The centennial cake was cut by a long-standing Association Croquet player, Irene Back and Val Grant, who was instrumental in starting up golf croquet at the Club.

On the Sunday we held a BBQ lunch at the Clubrooms, attended by 85, and members and ex members had the chance to play golf croquet or just have a few hits on the greens.

Photo boards were on display, with photos from throughout the 100 years. We were also fortunate to have an early model vintage Ford car on display outside the Kingsgate on the Saturday, courtesy of a member of the Wanganui Vintage Car Club.

Triton Hearing AC Tournament

Rose Gardens Croquet Club's annual Triton Hearing Association Croquet tournament ran from Tuesday 11 to Sunday 16 January.

This is probably one of the biggest AC tournaments in the country, with 53 players across two Doubles events and five Singles events for players of all handicaps. Players in the tournament came from most areas of the North Island, from Warkworth and Whakatane to Wellington, as well as several local players.

For once the weather was fine throughout, apart from brief light drizzle the first morning.

The tournament commenced on Tuesday and Wednesday with three Singles events for higher handicap players, the top two of which were won by players under 30.

The event for handicaps 4 and over was won by Shaun Theobald from Waimarie Hutt Valley club in a final group of four also containing Janet Boutel from Wellington, Malcolm

Hutchins from Wanganui and Robin Brasell from Wairarapa.

Local 17-year-old Callum McKinnon from Rose Gardens won all his games in the event for handicaps 9 and over, beating host club President Pam Green in the final 24-11. He is so far unbeaten in his first 9 competition games in AC after 2 years playing GC.

The third event for handicaps 14 and over was won by Susan Burgess from New Plymouth on count back from host club player Neil Stantiall.

Two Doubles events were on Thursday and Friday. Local Rose Gardens pair André Murray and Josh Smith repeated their triumphs of 2017 and 2018 in the Open Doubles, with John Christie from Morrinsville and Nelson Morrow from Warkworth second. The Handicap Doubles was won by another local pair Callum McKinnon and Neil Stantiall, in good form after their performances in the Singles earlier in the week.

The tournament climaxed on the weekend with the Open Singles and an event for those on handicaps 0 to 3.5. The latter was won by Hawkes Bay visitor Sonya Sedgwick (Heretaunga club) with Doug Van Belle from Levin runner-up. Last year's Open Singles winner Dennis Bulloch from Rose Gardens club defended his title in a tense final against Josh Smith (18-14).



Dennis Bulloch in action