



CROQUET MATTERS

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The inclusion project is now in full swing, with the first sessions run in Wellington and Palmerston North. More on this later in this edition.

I hope everyone is taking care of themselves, and their loved ones.

Jake Inwood

CNZ Tournaments

February was a busy month with both the NZ Open and Women’s GC being held after being postponed from earlier in the season due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Paddy Chapman, the current world number 4 ranked AC player, enjoyed a successful NZ Open. Playing in South Taranaki, Chapman won his first NZ Open Doubles title with playing partner Greg Bryant. Before going on to win his second NZ Open Singles title, defeating the defending champion, Felix Webby, 26tp-2, 26tp-0, 26-14 in the final.

To read more about the NZ Open, click [here](#).

The weekend following the NZ Open saw the Women’s GC contested in Bay of Plenty. Local player, Dallas Cooke, won the 2021-22 event after beating Jean Kent 7-5, 6-7, 7-3 in the final.

To read more about the Women’s GC Tournament, click [here](#).

Chief Executive



It is crazy to think how quickly this season is going by. Despite the challenges once again presented by Covid-19, we have achieved so much

this year and have much more in our sights before the season is over.

In February we saw two CNZ tournaments successfully run under the Red setting of the Covid Protection Framework. Thanks to the guidelines put in place and participants and volunteers ensuring they are followed; tournaments will be able to continue in March and April to complete the 2021-22 season.

Upcoming Tournaments

[Women's AC Invitation](#)

4th – 6th March 2022 – Masterton Croquet Club

[Arthur Ross Memorial Event Final](#)

11th – 13th March 2022 – Rangatira Croquet Club

[CNZ Top 8 AC Invitation](#)

17th – 20th March 2022 – Rose Gardens Croquet Club

[CNZ Second 8 AC Invitation](#)

17th – 20th March 2022 – Rose Gardens Croquet Club

[CNZ Third 8 AC Invitation](#)

17th – 20th March 2022 – Feilding Croquet Club

AC Invitations

Croquet New Zealand is pleased to announce the players selected to compete in the 2021-22 AC Invitation events. A full list of these players can be found, [here](#).

Due to the availability of players, some of the events have been changed for 2022. This includes the Second and Third AC Invitations now being competed as 6's and reduced to 4-days. While the 0-3.5 and 4+ Invitations have been combined.

You can follow the scores throughout the events on [Croquet Scores](#).

Meet the new GC Nationals Champion

Following his win at the GC Nationals, Josh Winter sat down with Cheryl Morrall, CCA Newsletter Editor, to talk about the experience of winning the GC Nationals and his future ambitions.

You can read the full interview on page 7 of the CCA January newsletter, [here](#).

Inclusion Projects Get Underway

CNZ has launched its two first inclusion programmes in the Wellington and Manawatu regions in February.

In conjunction with [Ignite Sport](#), a six-week project was started at Waimarie Hutt Valley CC, which will include matches with club members and giving each of the students a GC handicap. The young athletes picked up hitting and running hoops quickly, and are keen to begin playing matches.



Members from Ignite Sport celebrate a successful first session

At Rose Gardens CC, [Parafed Manawatu](#) began their programme. Participants with various physical disabilities were given one-on-one coaching to learn the basics of the sport and will also play full matches.



Lining up a shot during the first session with Parafed Manawatu

CNZ would like to thank both clubs for their support so far and we look forward to making the sport more accessible across the rest of the country in the coming months.

Club News

Manawatu-Wanganui Exchange

The annual Manawatu-Wanganui versus Wellington Exchange was held on Sunday 20 February, another wet weekend day in the Lower North Island this summer.

This fixture consists of a GC half, this year hosted by Wellington, and an AC half, hosted by M-W. The latter was set down for Feilding but a downpour, just after the players arrived and when only one of 4 morning games had started, stopped play there. Even croquet players can't cope with water like this!

No chance of play for a few hours. A quick call to a couple of Rose Gardens members who live near those lawns indicated play would be possible on some lawns there, so players and manager all moved across and play finally started about 11am. Paraparaumu got the

rain earlier and it finished earlier so the GC play there had less of a delay.

Eventually all the scheduled rounds were completed in reasonable weather. The teams tied the GC component 14 games each, leaving the combined result waiting for the AC to finish. About 5pm we had the result, M-W won 9 games to 3 giving them the overall win and retaining the trophy donated by Pahiatua Croquet Club when it folded in its Centenary year.

