



CROQUET MATTERS

MARCH 2023

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Chief Executive

The end of another croquet season is fast approaching, and all club and association secretaries will be working on the End of

Season Returns. Please remember Association Returns are due by 10 April, therefore Club Returns need to be submitted before the 10th.

March is as usual an incredibly busy month with multiple CNZ tournaments being held. We will be covering the first ever Women’s GC Invitation Event, the two national handicap tournaments (Arthur Ross and Don Reyland Stars) as well as the AC Invitation Events. And players took the opportunity to earn a number of Merit Awards. Congratulations to all our winners!

For the final CNZ Tournament of the season, we were hoping to be able to stream the event. Unfortunately, we were not able to attract enough volunteers to make the streaming of the Terminator Mallets U21 GC Championship possible. While disappointing, the timing over the Easter Weekend was not ideal.

And our Inclusion Officer Oliver has been busy on both the South and the North Island with two more regions kick-starting the Inclusion Programme. And April will see the Programme coming to Auckland.

Stefan Horrer

CNZ Tournaments

Women’s GC Invitation Results

Ashley Cooke (Bay of Plenty) won the first ever Women’s GC Invitation, played at Morrinsville CC.

Ashley only lost one match on her way to the title and finished ahead of Dallas Cooke (Bay

of Plenty) and Moya Lewis (Taranaki) in 2nd and 3rd.

Full report and results [here](#).

Arthur Ross Final Results

Luke Rive (Auckland) won the Arthur Ross AC Handicap Singles at Pukekohe CC.

Luke finished ahead of Eric Scott (South Canterbury) and Donald McClumpha (Thames Valley) on net hoops, with all three winning 7 of their 9 matches.

Full report and results [here](#).

Don Reyland Stars Results

Canterbury's Patrick Conolly became the youngest ever winner of the Don Reyland Stars GC Handicap played at Rangatira CC in Dannevirke.

16 players played in the Final, and Patrick only lost one game all weekend. Doug Cowie (Auckland) won the Silver Star, while Mark Huttley (Wellington) finished 3rd.

Full report and results [here](#).

AC Invitations Results

The three AC Invitation Events were played over the last week of March in Auckland and Palmerston North.

Top 8: **Paddy Chapman** (Thames Valley)

Second 8: **Vincent Commarieu** (Auckland)

Third 16: **Callum McKinnon** (Manawatu-Wanganui)

Congratulations to all the Invitation winners. You can read the full report [here](#).

U21 GC Champs Preview

The 7th Terminator Mallets U21 GC Championship will be held in South Canterbury from 7-11 April.

This is the final tournament of the season in the CNZ Calendar and is a huge pathway for our young players. The only four winners of

the Singles are Josh Freeth, Edmund Fordyce, Logan McCorkindale and Josh Winter.

26 players will compete for the singles title and 10 pairs for the doubles.

You can follow scores for the Championship [here](#).

Inclusion Project

Parafed Otago & Parafed Waikato

Tainui CC hosted five members from Parafed Otago on 11 March. The group included young adults who played full GC matches after learning the basics.



Parafed Otago looks forward to future opportunities in the sport.

In Cambridge, Parafed Waikato's members got a first experience at the sport at Leamington CC on 25 March. A group of almost 40 players joined the Have-a-Go Day, with participants traveling from as far as Taupō and Morrinsville for the event.



17 players with a disability had the chance to try out adapted equipment and play in competitive matches.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers from both clubs who made the days fun and memorable.

Halberg National Games

CNZ, with the help of clubs from Auckland and Counties-Manukau, will have an area set up at the Halberg National Games at Kings College on Saturday 15 April.

Croquet will be part of a festival space with other sports on the athletics turf.

If you would like to volunteer for the event, please contact our Inclusion Officer, Oliver, [here](#).

World Croquet Federation

Women's GC WC Placings

Three more players will represent New Zealand at the Sussex CCC in August.

Helen Reeves (Hawkes Bay) and Ashley Cooke (Bay of Plenty) were awarded Membership Places, while Dallas Cooke (Bay of Plenty) received a Replacement Ranking Place.

They will join Jenny Clarke, Jess Bullen and Ellie Ross at the World Championships.

AC WC Membership Placings

New Zealand was awarded two Member Places to join Jenny Clarke and Logan McCorkindale at the World Championships in London in July.

Congratulations to Dennis Bulloch (Manawatu-Wanganui) and Peter Filbee (South Taranaki).

GC Over 50s World Championship

Three New Zealand players have been awarded ranking places for the Championship to be played in Western Australia in October.

Congratulations to Jenny Clarke (Canterbury), Brian Bullen (Wellington) and John Christie (Thames Valley) who will be representing their country.

Club News

Merit Award Winners

March was a big month for merit award winners, with no fewer than 8 being awarded.

The newly crowned NZ Open Champion Logan McCorkindale earned a Platinum Merit Award for completing a Sextuple Peel during the Waireka AC Club Championship.

Canterbury's Josh Winter received a Gold Merit Award for his first Triple Peel during the CCA AC Open.

Matthew Spooner (Wellington) and Luke Rive (Auckland) received Silver Merit Awards for making 12 hoops with no bisques during the Arthur Ross Final.

Also during the Arthur Ross, Warren Steadman (Counties Manukau) achieved a Bronze Merit Award for making 12 hoops with bisques.

Bronze Merits were also awarded to Samuel Robinson (Marlborough) and Donald McClumpha (Thames Valley) for making 11 hoops with no bisques, and Rupert Morrish (Auckland) for 11 hoops with bisques.

Congratulations to all our recent Award winners.

Thames CC Open Tournament

36 players from the Upper North Island region competed in this year's Thames CC Open Tournament.

The tournament was divided into three divisions. The winners were:

Premier: Pam Fisher & John Wood

Intermediate: Chris Lewenden & Alan Butchardt

Primary: Brian & Vanessa Morrison

Full report and photos [here](#).

Rose Gardens Double

Rose Gardens club member Josh Smith won Singles and Doubles titles at the club's GC tournament at the end of February. Players were from Whakatane, Hawkes Bay, Wellington and local Manawatu-Wanganui clubs.

He won the Doubles playing with Amy Gust, and beat Helen Reeves in the Singles final to complete an impressive weekend.

Sunshiny Balls at Levin CC

The new CQ-16 Championship approved balls were recently purchased by Levin CC through the help of a grant from the One Foundation.

The Sunshiny balls were first used in the Speldhurst Lifestyle Tournament on 18 February, with 32 players from the Lower North Island.

Levin CC President, Noel Ennis, and club Treasurer, Anne Lowrie, won the tournament with the new balls which received positive reviews.

Geraldine CC's Inspirational Member

Geraldine CC's Jack Elery won the recent South Island GC Graded Singles, two months short of his 90th birthday.

Jack has been playing croquet for 20 years, and became the first member from his club to win the tournament.

You can read the full report with more on Jack and the Geraldine Club [here](#).

Orewa CC 2 Stroke Tournament

Orewa Croquet Club is the home club of the latest winner of the Arthur Ross, Luke Rive. The trophy was first presented in the same year that Luke was born.

The club also recently hosted a 2 Stroke GC Tournament, which brings in both codes' tactics. This inaugural event was won by Bill Morrison and Elizabeth Bridges.

You can read more about the club and the tournament [here](#).

South Island Teams Championship

Marlborough won the 2023 South Island Teams in Ashburton this month.

5 regions competed in teams of four, with a representative from Premier, Senior Intermediate and Primary grades.

Represented by Brian Goodwin, Leah Thomson, Joy Hayes & David Grigg, Marlborough edged out Canterbury's team by 141 to 139 hoops.

You can read the full report [here](#).

Waikanae vs Paraparaumu

The two Kāpiti clubs contested two trophies this month.

The AC Jubilee Shield, which took place on a glorious sunny day, ended in a draw.

Waikanae were declared the winners on a hoop count, +30 to -26.



In GC, the Beth Jessop Trophy was also a close competition, with Paraparaumu ultimately winning 9-7.



If you or your club has any unique news that you would like to see in *Croquet Matters*, please send your articles and photos to us [here](#).