



CROQUET MATTERS

APRIL 2023

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Chief Executive

Another playing season is coming to an end, with the last CNZ tournament held over the Easter Weekend at the Waireka Croquet Club in Ashburton.

We have seen some uptick in tournament participation this year after three seasons impacted by Covid but unfortunately, we still had a few tournaments cancelled and more work is required to bring us back on track. One of the key objectives for next season will be the re-launch of our Secondary Schools Programme.

For our clubs this time of the year means lawn maintenance and giving the lawns some rest before the start of the new season. It also

means end of financial year, annual general meetings and electing new officers.

As you all know clubs and associations rely heavily on volunteers dedicating their time to drive the organisations forward. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers, be it committee members, club captains, tournament managers, referees, handicappers, groundkeepers and all other volunteers. Without our volunteers we could not run our sport. And if you are currently not involved within your club or association why not put up your hand. Now is a good time.

And there is not only lawn maintenance happening, our team mascot Mr Kiwi was worse for wear after his return from the MacRobertson Shield in Australia. He clearly lost some feathers in the two agonisingly close losses against Australia and England and after his return he got some special care. A special thank you to Janet Boutel for taking care of him!

Stefan Horrer

CNZ Tournaments

U21 Results



The Terminator Mallets U21 GC Championship was held at Waireka CC in Ashburton over the Easter weekend.

Doubles Champions: **Levi Franks** (Canterbury) and **Joel Steele** (Hawkes Bay).

Singles Champion: **Levi Franks** (Canterbury).

Levi defeated doubles partner Joel in the singles final, to claim his fourth piece of CNZ silverware for the season.

Full report and results [here](#).

Season Results

17 CNZ Tournaments took place in the 2022/23 season around the country.

Multiple winners included U21 Champion **Levi Franks**, NZ Open Champion **Logan McCorkindale** (South Canterbury) and Top 8 AC Invitation Winner **Paddy Chapman** (Thames Valley).

Congratulations to all the winners and competitors this season. You can see the list of champions [here](#).

We would like to thank our tournament managers and volunteers who put in countless hours to ensure that croquet remains competitive in New Zealand and produces some of the best players globally.

Inclusion Project

Halberg Games



Following some successful sessions at the Halberg Regional Games last year, CNZ was invited to be part of the Halberg National

Games at King's College in Auckland on 15 April.

More than 50 people came onto the hockey astroturf to play matches or have a hit, with many returning families from earlier projects in Otago, Manawatu, Taranaki and other regions enjoying the sport again.

We plan to have croquet as a permanent event in the Halberg Games schedule in the future.

A big thank you to all the volunteers from Howick, Manurewa, Carlton and Point Chevalier who assisted us on the day.

Disability Sport Auckland



Following the exposure at the Halberg Games, a session with Disability Sport Auckland will be held at Mount Albert CC on Sunday 7 May, starting at 10am.

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

Kiwi the Mascot

Our official mascot, Kiwi, who is a vital part of our international team competitions, came back from the MacRob in need of some care.



Fortunately, thanks to Janet Boutel and a visit to *Boutel's Boutique*, Kiwi is looking better than ever.



Kiwi has been travelling around the globe since the 1990s, and with the work from Janet, promises to continue to be a member of our teams in years to come.



From entry fees, raffles and a donation bucket, \$1,000 was raised on the day for this worthy cause.

You can read the full report and access the results of the competition [here](#).

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](#).

World Croquet Federation

AC & GC Rankings

The latest Country Rankings were released by the WCF on 31 March.

In AC, New Zealand remains in 3rd place, but has closed the gap to Australia in 2nd from 24 points at the start of the year to just 11 points.

In GC, Egypt, England and the USA remain at the top with New Zealand in 4th, 14 points behind 3rd.

Club News

New Plymouth CC Centenary

This was the 100th season of croquet on the Te Henui Reserve in New Plymouth.

In late 1922, the pavilion and the flagpole were erected. On 27 March 1923, a whirlwind “tore off the veranda, snapped the flagpole and injured the rest of the building putting the club to the expense of £10 for the repair costs”. Membership in 1922-23 was 39 playing members and 25 honorary members.

New Plymouth CC currently has 76 members., and looks forward to the next century.

Morrinsville CC Cyclone Fundraiser

On 29 April, the Morrinsville Club held its annual fundraiser tournament, with all proceeds this year going to Cyclone Gabrielle Relief.