



CROQUET MATTERS

NOVEMBER 2023

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Chief Executive

Welcome to our November newsletter.

We will provide an update on the new Incorporated Societies Act and the work ahead for CNZ, associations and clubs.

On the tournament front, November has been a very busy month with five CNZ events being held, at times in difficult conditions. Congratulations to all the winners.

We have also announced the initial squad for the defence of the Openshaw Shield in 2025. Well done to our players selected.

We will also cover news about the Inclusion Programme with the launch in Hawkes Bay and the College Sport Wellington tournament in its second year.

In club news we celebrate a 100th birthday and the great youth work done in Te Aroha.

Enjoy!

Stefan Horrer

Incorporated Societies Act 2022

The new Incorporated Societies Act was approved last year with the relating regulations finalised and approved a couple of months ago. Incorporated societies will have to re-register under the new Act, and have until April 2026 to do so.

Sport NZ have done a lot of work on the subject including sample trials involving sports organisations with a national body, a regional body and a club. The feedback and strong recommendation from Sport NZ are that the implementation of new constitutions and re-registration should be done in a top-down approach with the national organisation completed first followed by regional organisations and ultimately clubs.

CNZ have commenced this work with the Board establishing a committee to work through the changes and drafting a new constitution. This will involve communication with our members to seek input before finalising the constitution and have it ready

for approval at the next AGM. Once the CNZ constitution is in a progressed state, we are looking to work with associations on their draft constitutions and finally the clubs, which will likely include providing templates.

The work should progress so that new constitutions for clubs and associations should be ready for approval at their AGMs in mid-2025. Should there be any delay for individual clubs or associations, there will still be plenty of time to approve the constitutions before April 2026. This may however require a Special General Meeting.

While work will not commence immediately for clubs and associations, we encourage all association and club committees to think about individuals they would like involved in this process. If your associations or clubs have any members with legal experience, governance experience etc. you may want to get them involved. Associations may also want to think about how expertise in their associations might be able to be shared with clubs, especially where smaller clubs do not have the resources.

Openshaw Shield Team 2025

CNZ and the GC Selection Committee are pleased to announce the squad for the GC World Team Championship:

Jenny Clarke, Duncan Dixon, Edmund Fordyce, Levi Franks (all Canterbury), Josh Freeth (Auckland), Logan McCorkindale (South Canterbury), Felix Webby (Hawkes Bay) and Josh Winter (Canterbury). Congratulations!

The final team of four players is expected to be selected from these eight.

The event will be held from 17-23 February 2025 in Tasmania.

You can watch the team reveal graphic on Facebook [here](#).

CNZ Tournaments

North Island AC Results



The North Island AC Championship started a busy month for CNZ tournaments, held at Epsom Remuera CC in Auckland.

John Christie (Thames Valley) and **Nelson Morrow** (Auckland) (both pictured) won the doubles on a sunny Thursday.

In the singles, **John Christie** completed the double, beating Paddy Chapman (Thames Valley) in a thriller 26TP-9, 0-26TP, 26-21.

Jarrod Coutts (South Canterbury) won the Plate, Luke Rive (Auckland) won the 0+, and Mike Stuckey (Auckland) won the 4+.

Full report [here](#).

Women's AC Invitation Results

Bonnie Johnstone (South Taranaki) won her first Women's AC Invitation and third piece of CNZ silverware at Waikanae.

Bonnie won a crucial match against 2nd placed Alison Robinson, which was both player's final match of the Invitation. Recent Baker Family Plate recipient, Carolyn Fordyce (South Canterbury), finished 3rd.

Full report [here](#).

GC Invitation Results

The GC Invitation Events were played at Rose Gardens CC and Takapuna CC over the third weekend of November.

In the Top 10, **Paul Kaiser** (Canterbury) returned to his former club to take the Yvonne Yeates President's Trophy ahead of Nathan Bullen (Wellington) and Jessica Bullen (Wellington).

Mark Thornton (Counties Manukau) won the Second Ten, winning 8 matches and only losing to 2nd placed Nicola Clement (South Taranaki). Nicholas Flood (Manawatu-Wanganui) finished third.

In the rain affected Third 16, **Geoff Price** (Canterbury) won the Gordon Smith Tankard ahead of Bill Morrison (Auckland) and Neal Henderson (Counties Manukau).

You can read the full reports of the three events [here](#).

You can also see photos of all our November tournaments on our [Facebook page](#).

Upcoming Tournaments



Our premier AC and GC Events, the NZ Open and GC Nationals, and the GC 3+ will all be held in January.

Entries close for the GC Nationals, to be played in Bay of Plenty, on **14 December**.

The CNZ GC 3+ Championship will be held in Thames Valley from 12-14 January. Registrations close on **21 December**.

Registrations for the NZ Open in Christchurch close on **28 December**.

You can enter CNZ events [here](#).

Inclusion Project

Hawkes Bay Disability & Inclusion Event



CNZ's first inclusion event in Hawkes Bay took place on 12 November at Heretaunga CC.

Thirteen young people with disabilities and their family members were introduced to the sport, and most went on to play GC matches in perfect sunny conditions.

After interest from many individuals, the club will look to facilitate regular sessions.

Thank you to Heretaunga and all the enthusiastic volunteers who helped to make this a special event.



College Sport AWD Tournament

Waimarie Hutt Valley played host to the 2nd annual College Sport Wellington Athletes with Disabilities event. 5 schools returned from last year and three new schools were introduced to croquet.

Heretaunga College, Upper Hutt College and Wainuiomata High School entered 14 pairs into the tournament element. A further 46 students were present to learn the basics and play informal matches.

Schools have been encouraged to enter teams to the Wellington Schools Tournament in March next year.

CNZ would like to thank Waimarie HV for its continued support, and in particular, Ross Bisley and Glenys Rogers.

International News

90 Years of Golf Croquet

12 December will mark the 90th anniversary of Golf Croquet. While GC gained mainstream popularity in New Zealand in the 90s, the first rules for Golf Croquet were approved by the CA in 1933.

It is now played by over 20 000 people across over 40 countries, including more than 4,200 in New Zealand.

You can read the full press release from Croquet England [here](#).

Club News

Morrinsville AC Singles Tournament

10 of New Zealand's Top 23 AC players formed part of the field of 16 for this year's Morrinsville Open AC Singles Tournament, played on 11 & 12 November.

Toby Garrison (Wellington) won the tournament ahead of Felix Webby (Hawkes Bay) in 2nd and Aaron Westerby (Auckland) in 3rd.

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

Te Aroha Schools Tournament

The 3rd annual Te Aroha District Schools GC Tournament was held on 23 November and was played by over 40 students aged 10-14.

Te Aroha Primary School won their first title, while the winners of the first two editions, St Josephs, finished in second place.

The programme has done great work in the region, causing three schools to develop half size croquet lawns within their school grounds.



The winning Te Aroha Primary team with Mayor Wilcox

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

Paraparaumu CC celebrate Neville Sandiford's 100th Birthday

He is probably the oldest active croquet player in the country, if not the world. Neville Sandiford, who turned 100 in November, still regularly plays both AC and GC and only 18 months ago earned his CNZ Bronze Merit Award. Congratulations Neville!



Neville cutting the birthday cake.

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](#).

2degrees Advertorial

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