



Joe Hogan

Joe came to croquet along with a group of teenagers in the Gisborne area in the 1970s. The group was tutored and encouraged in the sport by Mr and Mrs R A Clarke, parents of Richard and Judith, who all played at the Barry Club. The entire group became good players but for personal reasons they did not pursue the sport in adulthood – that is with the major exception of Joe Hogan. Joe, Judith and Richard Clarke reached the dizzy standards asked for being a member of the MacRobertson Shield team. Richard played for New Zealand in 1982 but has since been lost to the game.

During the late 1970s and 1980s Joe was a major force to be reckoned with on the lawn and vied with Bob Jackson, in 1986 and 1988 and then with Robert Fulford in 1990 to win his three Open Singles titles. On the other side of the world, he won the British Open Singles, beating Bob Jackson for the title in 1986 and Mark Avery in 1989, the year he also won the British Open doubles partnering Bob Jackson. In February 1990, he held the World Croquet Federation Championships singles, the British and New Zealand Open Singles, and the British and New Zealand Open Doubles titles (both of the latter with Bob Jackson). At the same time, he held the NZ Men's and Mixed Doubles titles. He partnered Bob to win 9 NZ Doubles Championships between 1979 and 1990 and also won the title with Aaron Westerby in 1991.

Joe chose to concentrate on his family in the 1990s, but he does come forward at times with little practice but much success. When the WCF AC World Championships were held in New Zealand for the first time, in Wellington in 2002, Joe entered the qualification tournament and was successful in gaining entry to the Championship. He then qualified from his block, and defeated the World number 3 in straight games in the knock-out before losing in the last 16 to Ronan McInerney of Ireland. Joe qualified for consideration for the MacRobertson Shield team in 2010. He won the Heenan Plate in 2013 on the occasion of the centenary of the Open Championships in Christchurch, the only time since he began competing in 1978 that he had qualified to play in the Plate.

Joe wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the many people who have influenced his game over the years. Two in particular stand out for him: first, the ever-consistent Bob Jackson, who he had to either get past or partner to achieve title successes. Secondly, in terms of the attitude and tactics to be

Achievements:

- *NZ Open Champion*
(1990, 1988, 1986)
- *NZ Open Doubles*
(1991, 1990, 1988, 1987, 1986, 1985, 1982, 1981, 1980, 1979)
- *MacRobertson Shield Team*
(2018, 1990, **1986**, 1983, **1979**)
- *AC World Champion*
(1990)
- *Men's AC Champion*
(2024, 1991, 1990, 1989, 1981)
- *AC Mixed Doubles*
(1991)
- *North Island AC Champion*
(1983, 1982, 1977)
- *North Island AC Doubles*
(1982)

<p>- <i>South Island AC Champion</i> (1986, 1985)</p> <p>- <i>South Island AC Doubles</i> (1986, 1985)</p> <p>Representative Matches:</p> <p>- <i>vs England</i> (1986)</p> <p>Other international honours:</p> <p>- <i>CA Open Champion</i> (1990, 1987)</p> <p>- <i>CA Open Doubles</i> (1990)</p>	<p>used in Test Matches, Roger Murfitt of Christchurch. Roger and Joe successfully held the number 3 test doubles combination for NZ in the 1979, '82, '86 and the beginning of the 1990 MacRobertson Test series. Joe considers Roger has one of the best tactical minds for Test croquet.</p> <p>Joe has an interesting marionette style of walking around the lawns to develop his concentration but his croquet stokes are a great fluid contrast. He is a precision player – a skill which has not deserted him despite years of non-competitive play.</p>
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