



CROQUET MATTERS

AUTUMN 2024

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Chief Executive

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter, which will wrap up our CNZ tournaments for the 2023-24 season, report on our Inclusion Programme’s participation at the Halberg Games and give you an update on upcoming World Championships.

The CNZ Tournament Committee has also just released the first document to support our tournament managers.

The newsletter includes some news from clubs around the country, the achievement of a Gold Merit Award by Callum McKinnon and the qualification of new coaches in South Taranaki, highlighting the great work our Sports Development Officer Greg Bryant and the two Coach Tutors Jean Kent and Pixie Jones are doing.

I would also like to update you on the Board appointment process. The CNZ Board at its last meeting has appointed Bonnie Johnstone to the CNZ Board following a recommendation from the CNZ Appointment Panel. The Panel will continue to look for a suitable candidate to fill the second vacancy. Congratulations Bonnie!

Enjoy.

Stefan Horrer

CNZ Tournament Results

Don Reyland Stars



Ricardo Pintor (South Taranaki) became just the second multiple winner of the Don Reyland Gold Star, ahead of Max Philpott

(Southland) who won the Silver Star and Chris Magner (Wellington) in third

This year's edition of the GC Handicap Finals was played at Forbury Park CC in Dunedin.

The full report of the Don Reyland Stars can be found [here](#).

AC Invitations

The Top 8 and Second 8 events were played at Nelson-Hinemoa from 16-20 March, while the Third 16 took place over the weekend of 15-17 March in Paraparaumu.

Paddy Chapman (Thames Valley) won his 5th CA Silver Tray, defending his titles from 2022 and 2023. Greg Bryant (Nelson) was the runner-up with Toby Garrison (Wellington) in third.

The Miss Edwina Thompson Silver Tray was won by **Luke Rive** (Auckland), who beat Dennis Bulloch (Manawatu-Wanganui) and Graeme Fisher (Wellington) on net hoops.

Nicholas Flood (Manawatu-Wanganui) was undefeated in the Third 16 and took the Roger Murfitt Trophy ahead of Baubre Murray (Wellington). Mark Huttley (Wellington) finished third.

Full report of the AC Invitations [here](#).

Arthur Ross Memorial



The AC Handicap Finals were played in Blenheim between 10 Association champions.

Nikhil Taduka (Wellington) won his first national tournament with 7 wins and 110 net

hoops, ahead of Greg Bryant in second and Frank Robinson (Auckland) in third.

Full report of the Arthur Ross [here](#).

Terminator Mallets U21 GC



Levi Franks (Canterbury) etched his name into the history books, with a ruthless display to become the first player to defend the singles and doubles titles of the U21 GC Championship.

His doubles partner, **James Duggan** (Canterbury), also made history by becoming the 4th multiple winner of the title. Josh Winter (Canterbury) and Jessica Bullen (Wellington) finished second in the doubles.

Levi won the singles with rounds to spare, while Josh Winter took the runner-up spot ahead of James Duggan in third.

Three of the tournament days were live streamed through [Whakaata Māori's YouTube Channel](#) and all twelve players had their games streamed.

Full report and links to the Whakaata Māori streams can be found [here](#).

Tournament Manager Support

The CNZ Tournament Committee has been working on documentation to support tournament managers. We will be releasing those over the next few months in time for next season.

The first document available is useful guide for managers on how to use and make the most of Croquet Scores. You can find the guide [here](#).

Inclusion Programme

Halberg Games



Croquet was part of the Halberg National Games for the 2nd time, over the weekend of 20 & 21 April at Kings College in Auckland.

The Saturday afternoon weather meant that the session had to be moved to Sunday morning, resulting in a slight clash with other sports. Nevertheless, around forty people were able to play croquet, around half of which had played in previous CNZ events.

The Games were also an opportunity to trial Doug van Belle's adapted wheelchair mallets, which received great feedback.

CNZ would like to thank the volunteers who were flexible in changing schedules on the weekend. We look forward to more national events in the future.

World Croquet Federation

2024 GC World Championship Places

Seven players from New Zealand have been awarded places for the GC World Championship to be played in Virginia, USA in October.

Jenny Clarke (Canterbury), Edmund Fordyce (Thames Valley), Josh Freeth (Auckland), Logan McCorkindale (South Canterbury) and Felix Webby (Hawkes Bay) were awarded ranking places, while Te Kiri King (South Taranaki) and Nathan Bullen (Wellington) received member places. Unfortunately, McCorkindale had to subsequently withdraw.

Our representatives will be on the hunt for a first NZ win in the tournament.

NZ Openshaw Squad Update

Te Kiri King has also earned a spot in the GC World Team Championship NZ squad with Duncan Dixon being unavailable for the event.

The Openshaw Shield will be played in Tasmania in February 2025.

2025 U21 GC World Championship

The 2025 edition of the U21 GC Worlds will be held at the Sarasota Croquet Club in Florida, USA from 14-18 April.

There will be 24 competitors in the tournament.

CNZ will be opening expressions of interest in the coming months, so keep an eye on our communications for more details.

Club News

Bupa Autumn GC Tournament

Competitors from Mt Maunganui, Hawera, Napier, Dannevirke, Feilding, Levin, Paraparaumu and host club Rose Gardens took part in the Bupa Autumn GC Tournament in March.

Andre Murray (Manawatu-Wanganui) won the Open Singles, while Mark Zentveld (Manawatu-Wanganui) won the Handicap event.

You read the full report from the Manawatu Standard [here](#).

Callum McKinnon Gold Merit

The youngest player at the Second 8 AC Invitation, Kelburn member Callum McKinnon, achieved a Gold Merit award when he completed his first ever triple peel during the event against Vincent Commarieu (Nelson).

TSSSA Have-a-Go Day

The Taranaki Secondary School Sports Association's GC Have-a-Go Day was open to all 13 Secondary Schools in the region on 13 March at Park CC in Hawera.

Students from the Endeavour Centre, Te Paepae o Aotea's Special Needs Unit, took part in mini challenges on the lawns in the morning.

In the afternoon, 40 students from Te Paepae o Aotea, Francis Douglas Memorial College and Stratford High School played friendly, yet highly competitive, 20 minute games.

Morrinsville Fundraising Tournament



40 players took part in the Morrinsville Fundraising Tournament on 13 April. \$1,000 was raised to be donated to the Morrinsville St Johns' Ambulance Building Fund.

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

Park CC Coaching Coaches Workshops



Hawera's Park CC was the recent venue for a Coaching Coaches Workshop led by CNZ's Greg Bryant, which centres around Teaching Games for Understanding (TGfU) and a player-centred approach.

Ricardo Pintor, one of the attendees (and the recent Don Reyland Stars champion), has compiled a full report of the sessions and the benefits that have come as a result in the South Taranaki region.

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

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