



CROQUET MATTERS

Spring 2024

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Chief Executive

Welcome to our Spring newsletter!

The new season is already in full swing with three tournaments already held, including the first Secondary Schools National Final in four years.

Internationally we just saw one World Championship finishing with two more coming up later in the season.

In early October CNZ held its Annual General Meeting and recognised clubs and individuals through the CNZ Awards.

Unfortunately, the new season did not all start as hoped with our Inclusion Officer Oliver Field deciding to leave CNZ and take on a new challenge in Westport. Oliver has been instrumental in getting our Inclusion Programme off the ground. We wish him all the best for his next chapter.

Enjoy!

Stefan Horrer

CNZ Tournaments

The CNZ tournament calendar can be found [here](#). Registrations are open on the portal.

School Sport NZ GC Competition

After a 4-year hiatus the Secondary Schools GC Event was held at Epsom/Remuera Croquet Club on 2-3 September. It was very well attended by players from all over NZ.

Winners: **Gus Buhler and Morghan Meldrum of Francis Douglas Memorial College.**

Full report [here](#).

The streaming can be watched on [Whakaata Maori Youtube Channel](#).

North Island GC Championships

The championships were held in Waikanae and Paraparaumu on 10-13 October and saw **Levi Franks** (Canterbury) win the Singles event and **Callum McKinnon & Paul Kaiser** (Wellington and Canterbury) win the Doubles.

Full report [here](#).

Women's GC Championships

Nicola Clement (South Taranaki) won the Women's GC Championship held Takapuna Croquet Club on 19/20 October.

Finalist **Melba Scott** (Auckland) took out the 3+ Award for the best player on a handicap of 3 or higher.

Full report [here](#).

Upcoming Tournaments

The **Women's AC** as well as the three **GC Invitations** will be held mid to late November. Congratulations to all the players selected!

The **South Island AC Championships** will be hosted by Canterbury on 4-8 December, followed by the **U21 GC Championships** hosted by Manawatu-Wanganui on 11-15 December.

CNZ AGM

The CNZ AGM was held on 5 October in Wellington, which saw **Darla Blake** (Northland) re-elected unopposed as Board Member.

CNZ Awards

Congratulations to all our 2023-24 winners!

Presidents Trophy:

Courage Croquet Club (Canterbury)



Huon Pine Bowl:

Masterton Croquet Club (Wairarapa)

Club Participation Award:

- 1) **Park Croquet Club** (South Taranaki)
- 2) Levin Croquet Club (Manawatu-Wanganui)
- 3) Rose Gardens CC (Manawatu-Wanganui)

Most Improved AC Player:

Levi Franks (Cashmere - Canterbury)

Most Improved GC Player:

Nicola Clement (Park – South Taranaki)

Volunteer of the Year:

Prue Holley-Fagg (Orewa - Auckland)

Contribution to Croquet:

Duncan Adair (Masterton - Wairarapa)

Player of the Year:

Logan McCorkindale (Waireka - South Canterbury)

Inclusion

As most of you know, Oliver Field has left his role of Inclusion Officer at CNZ to pursue a new opportunity on the West Coast.

Oliver has been instrumental in the launch of the Inclusion Programme working with our associations and clubs and various disability organisations to create opportunities for people with disabilities to access croquet. Oliver has also been the CNZ Safeguarding Officer. We are wishing Oliver the best of success in all future endeavours.

Until these roles are filled, please contact Stefan on croquet@croquet.org.nz for any Inclusion or Safeguarding support.

Coaching Videos

Our Sport Development Officer Greg Bryant has created a video explaining how to keep score in Advantage GC. The video can be found [here](#).

Watch this space as more coaching videos will be made available.



World Croquet Federation

GC World Championship

The GC World Championship was held from 18-26 October in Virginia, USA. New Zealand was represented by five players with **Jenny Clarke** (Canterbury), **Edmund Fordyce** (Thames Valley) and **Felix Webby** (Hawkes Bay) reaching the knockout stage.

While they did not compete for the medals Edmund went on to win the Shield event. Jenny reached the semi-finals of the Bowl event.

Nathan Bullen (Wellington) and Te Kiri King (South Taranaki) reached the quarter-finals of the Plate knockout.

The World Championship final saw 18-year-old **Blake Fields** (USA) upsetting the World number one and favourite **Robert Fletcher** (Australia). Congratulations Blake!

Openshaw Shield

The New Zealand Team to defend the Openshaw Shield was announced on 1 November with **Edmund Fordyce** and **Felix Webby** once again in the team. They are joined by **Levi Franks** and **Logan McCorkindale** (both Canterbury). **Jenny Clarke** has been named as reserve, while **Nelson Morrow** will be the Team Manager.

The announcement can be found on our [website](#) and on [Facebook](#).

Under 21 GC World Championship

Levi Franks received a Ranking Place for and will be competing in the Under 21 GC World Championship to be held in Sarasota, Florida in April 2025.

Full report [here](#).

Association & Club News

Canterbury Association

Canterbury has seen a busy start to the season with tournaments under way, aspiring coaches attending courses and James Duggan sharing insights into some research he has done as part of

his Sports Science studies. The full article can be found [here](#).

Wellington Association

The Wellington Croquet Association ("WCA") is holding its 100th Open AC Singles Championship from 27 – 30 December 2024. The competition was first held in 1920 and has only been interrupted by war. This year the event will again be hosted by the Wellington and Kelburn clubs.

The WCA would be particularly delighted to welcome past participants and new entrants. If there is sufficient interest a shorter event will be held alongside the main competition for players who would love to play, but not necessarily for 4 days. Or just come for the company and the BBQ.

For more information contact the manager Susan Leuchars email: seleuchars@gmail.com.

Mallets for Sale

Several mallets of the late Peter Couch are for sale.



Mallets range in length from 32 inch - 42 inch and weight from 2lb -2oz to 3lb - 2oz. If interested, please contact Karen by email karen.couch@xtra.co.nz or by phone 021 069 0498/03 352 6112.

We would love to hear from you! Has your club got a great story they would like to share with our croquet community? Please send your articles and photos to us [here](#).

Our Partners

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