



CROQUET MATTERS

Summer 2025

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Chief Executive

Welcome to our latest newsletter!

We have seen strong participation in tournaments across the country especially AC tournaments. It has been a very positive season so far and we are looking forward to seeing what the rest of the

season holds with the AC Invitations and Handicap Tournaments still to come.

While we have seen great results in domestic tournaments, our national team faced a tough challenge at the Openshaw Shield in Tasmania. Unfortunately, we couldn't defend our title, and after an impressive 8-year reign, we relinquished the trophy to the USA team.

A highlight of this summer has been the introduction of the GC Umpire qualification which was launched in January and the first qualification issued in February. We're thrilled to see our members embracing this new qualification and look forward to continuing to support the growth and development of our sport.

Off the lawns we have moved to the next step in the re-registration of our incorporated societies, with associations now preparing their new constitutions. This step will also see the amalgamation of some of the smaller associations.

With the season-end approaching it is also time again to complete the end of season levy returns. Clubs and Associations will need to complete their returns in early April. Club and associations treasurers please make sure you update the member database in advance of the deadline.

Enjoy!

Stefan Horrer

CNZ Tournaments

GC Open Championships

The GC Open championships were held in Nelson from 6-11 January. **Logan McCorkindale** (Canterbury) winning the Singles. **Josh Winter**

(Canterbury) won the Bowl section, **Angus Coulter** the Shield, and the Singles Plate was won by **Paul Kaiser** (Canterbury). **Logan & Reece McCorkindale** (Canterbury) won the GC Open Doubles while the Doubles Plate was won by **Angus Coulter** (Bay of Plenty) & **Josh Freeth** (Auckland).

Full report [here](#).

AC Open Championships

The AC Open Championships were held in Bay of Plenty from 18-25 January and saw **Jenny Clarke** (Canterbury) win the AC Open Singles, while **Paddy Chapman** (Thames Valley) & **Logan McCorkindale** (Canterbury) won the AC Open Doubles.



Jenny Clarke is the first woman to win the NZ Open Singles title in 59 years with the great Jean Jarden being the last female winner in January 1966 in Wanganui.

Full report [here](#).

3+ GC Championship

The 3+ GC Championship were successfully hosted by the Brooklyn Croquet Club and the Marlborough Croquet Association from 31 January to 2 February. **Mei Williams** (Auckland) won the tournament on impeccable lawns.

Full report [here](#).

Men's & Women's Championships

The Men's & Women's Championships were held on 12-16 February at the Rangatira Croquet Club in Manawatu-Wanganui. **Miranda Chapman** and **Joe Hogan** both successfully defended their titles, while the Mixed Doubles saw **Carissa Price**

(Wairarapa) & **Peter Filbee** (South Taranaki) win their first title.

Full report [here](#).

Article in the Gisborne Herald [here](#).

Women's GC Invitation

Jenny Clarke (Canterbury) won the event by winning all her matches in straight games. It was Jenny's first win in the Women's GC Invitation. The Runner-up was Helen Reeves (Hawkes Bay). The Invitation was hosted by the St Martins Croquet Club and the Canterbury Association.

Full report [here](#).

Upcoming Tournaments

The **AC Invitations** will be held mid-March in Wellington and Southland.

The two CNZ handicap tournaments, the **Don Reyland Memorial Stars Event** and **Arthur Ross Memorial Event** will also both be held in March in Matamata and Mount Maunganui respectively.

World Croquet Federation

WCF GC World Team Championship

The so called Openshaw Shield was held in Launceston, Tasmania on 17-23 February 2025. New Zealand were the defending champions, having won the last two editions, but were unable to make it three in a row. Our team lost 9:4 to the USA in the semifinal, while the **USA** went on to win the final 7:0 and taking the Openshaw Shield home for the first time. A milestone for American croquet, with the USA securing its first-ever World Teams Championship in either GC or AC. Congratulations USA!

Silver Medal: **Egypt**

Bronze Medal: **Australia**

Under 21 GC World Championship

The next World Championship event will be held in Florida, USA between 14-18 April 2025, being the Under 21 GC World Championship. As previously announced CNZ will be sending 5 players, including Openshaw team member Levi Franks (Canterbury).

The other players are Jessica Bullen (Wellington,) Callum McKinnon (Wellington), Luke Francis (Manawatu-Wanganui) and Mattie Clarkson (Counties Manukau).

2025 AC World Championship

Expressions of interest are now closed. The announcement of Ranking and Wild Card Places from the WCF is expected on 28 March.

CNZ Operational Matters

GC Umpire Qualification

Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui has been very proactive in promoting the GC Umpire Qualification seeing **Hamish Anderson** becoming the very first GC Umpire.



Anyone interested in becoming a GC Umpire please contact your club or association.

Associations Re-registration

Associations have received the constitution template and guidelines and are now working towards re-registering under the new Incorporated Societies Act. The new governance structure will also see some of the smaller associations joining forces to form larger associations.

Association & Club News

A champion in the making

Oliver Chapman, 11 years old, is part of Morrinsville Croquet Club. He recently won all his

games in his very first AC handicap doubles tournament.

Congratulations Oliver!



Read the full article [here](#).

Lower North Island Teams Event (LNITE)

Congratulations to Wellington Croquet Association for winning both Lower North Island Team Events this season.

Full report [here](#).

Upper North Island Teams Event (UNITE)

Congratulations to Bay of Plenty for their clear win with clean sweep of all their matches! Auckland and Northland each won 3 matches each, with Auckland edging out Northland on countback.



Full report [here](#).

Annual Triton AC tournament

Was held by Manawatu-Wanganui at Rose Gardens Croquet Club. Congratulations to Rose Gardens members Dennis Bulloch and Nicholas Flood for retaining the Open Doubles title! And to Nicholas Flood for winning his first Triton Singles title.

Full report [here](#).

Northern Premier AC Silver Badge

The Northern Premier AC Silver Badge competition was held at Hamilton East Croquet Club on 1/2 March 2025. The tournament had four entries played as a double round robin. The winner was John Christie (Morrinsville) with Andrew Stuckey (Orewa) being runner-up.



Luke Rive (Left), John Christie (Right) relaxing on the sideline.

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](#).

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