

NSW Open AC Handicap 2019

The Beryl Chambers Trophy



Association Croquet players across NSW &ACT are invited to participate in the 2019 NSW Open AC Handicap for the Beryl Chambers Memorial Trophy. As a handicap event, players at all levels have an even chance of success. Winners and runners up in the last few years have had handicaps ranging from 18 to 4 so all entrants are in the running to progress to the finals of this special event.

In 2018 championship hopefuls' handicaps ranged from 20 to 2, which resulted in different challenges for all! In the end 12 people were entered into the final round held on the very fast lawns of the Tempe Croquet Centre. Highlights for players were that the handicap event allowed for higher handicapped player to pit themselves those on lower handicaps and learn more about the challenges of the game beyond mere execution. How to strategically employ bisques to their best advantage to form and maintain breaks was the objective of the higher handicapped. Lower handicapped players were equally challenged having to generally come from behind to "hunt" their opponent.

All players reported this event as a positive experience with playing against new faces refreshing and catching up with some more familiar faces equally enjoyable. The final was an exciting tussle between Steve Miles and Sue Eldridge-Smith, both from Cammeray, with Steve emerging victorious 26-18.

In 2019 qualifying events will be held in up to 9 locations throughout NSW to encourage broad participation, with the local winners eligible to play in the State Final from Friday 7 to Sunday 10 June 2019, at CNSW HQ at Tempe.

First round qualifying block matches will be arranged and played locally to accommodate maximum participation and need to be completed by about May 30.

Players who qualify for the finals will be eligible for a subsidy from Croquet NSW to assist with travel & accommodation costs.

Entry fees:

- \$20 per player to cover the initial block round
- Plus an additional \$15 for the final series qualifiers

Part of the entry fees go toward a pool for travel/accommodation subsidy for county players who make it to the final.

Each event manager is responsible for deciding the exact times of play and the venues to be used. Times and venues will where possible take into account the availability of each entrant.

Each qualifying event is being set up on [CNSW website](#) as details are finalised, and can be accessed by clicking on the "Register" button for the appropriate event.