

*This page has for some time been dedicated to the very useful coaching tips supplied by Betty Brown. As mentioned in the last Newsletter, Betty has moved on to other ventures, but she sent us details of this course available through the Department of Sport and Recreation. The course may be of interest to some members.*

## Coaching Course available

The National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) is a progressive coach education program. It offers opportunities for coaches to improve their knowledge so they can continue developing our sporting talent.

### Intermediate general principles of coaching – by correspondence

An Intermediate general principles of coaching lecture course is also available in Sydney.

Coaches must have their level one or equivalent accreditation with at least 12 months coaching experience.

The Intermediate general principles of coaching course complements the sports-specific component provided by your national sporting organisation. The coaching principles component combined with the sport specific component will give the coach level two accreditation within the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme.

#### Topics covered

- \* Planning
- \* Risk management
- \* The essence of coaching
- \* Principles of training
- \* Functional anatomy and physiology
- \* Biomechanics
- \* Development and maturation
- \* Nutrition
- \* Sports psychology
- \* Sports medicine
- \* Skill acquisition
- \* Communication
- \* Drugs in sport.

This program is a joint initiative of NSW Sport and Recreation and the Australian Sports Commission.

### Competency-based course

The course will continue throughout 2008/09. You can start and finish the course in your own time within the year 2008 but the course must be completed by 30 June, 2009.

Cost includes course guidelines, assessment marking and course texts - *Better Coaching Manual* and *Better Coaching Workbook*.

- **Dates:** The course will continue throughout 2008/09. You can start and finish the course in your own time within the year 2008 but the course must be completed by 30 June, 2009. [how to enrol](#)
- **Venue:** N/A. By correspondence only.
- **Cost:** \$200 - includes course guidelines, assessment marking and course texts - *Better Coaching Manual* and *Better Coaching Workbook*

**How to enrol:** You can enrol into our programs by phone, fax, mail or in person. Please ensure you have read our [booking terms and conditions](#).

- **By phone:** Call (02) 9006 3763 and have your credit card details ready (Visa, Mastercard). For deaf, hearing and speech impaired people only, TTY (02) 9006 3701
- **By fax:** Complete the enrolment form, include your credit card details and fax to (02) 9006 3884
- **By mail:** Complete the enrolment form include your credit card details, a cheque or money order and mail it to: NSW Sport and Recreation, Client Service Centre, Locked Bag 1422 Silverwater NSW 2128.
- **In person:** Visit 6 Figtree Drive, Homebush Bay NSW 2127 or your [closest office](#).

For more information call  
(02) 9006 3827  
[www.dsr.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au)



# Newsletter

Croquet NSW Inc  
Mackey Park, Tempe.  
Postal Address:  
P.O Box 5096  
Marrickville 1475  
mail@croquet-nsw.com

Official Publication of Croquet NSW Inc

ISSN 1035-5766

June 2008

## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF CROQUET

Sixty four players from 17 nations participated at these world championships in Cape Town. Australia had 5 representatives: Kevin Beard [Vic], Owen Edwards [Vic], Tony Hall [ACT], John Levick [NSW], & Ron Johnstone [NSW].



At the opening ceremony all players were introduced as they paraded behind their nation's flags. Kevin Beard, the current Australian champion, was our flag bearer. After registration, opening ceremony and entertainment, we were treated to a South African braai, equivalent to our Aussie BBQ.



Ahmed Nasr from Egypt won the Championship and Reg Bamford from South Africa was runner up. The Egyptians have won all 8 world championships and their shots have to be seen to be believed. In my meeting with an Egyptian player Sharif Nafee I lost 3 hoops from jump shots executed from half way. These jump shots included jumping over my two balls which were blocking the hoop. After the third occurrence I realized they weren't flukes. It did not matter how well I blocked his passage to the hoops or how far I knocked his balls away I was always in trouble. 10 yard jump shots or 10 yard 45 degree angle hoop shots were a piece of cake to him.

The championships were played at 4 venues and the South Africans at all venues made the participants feel very welcome.

The championship commenced as a round robin of 8 blocks of 8 players. The first 4 in each block went through to the knock out section of the championship and the remaining 4 in each block were relegated to the plate event, which was run as a Swiss round robin. The first 16 losers in the knock out then joined the plate event.

Kevin Beard, Owen Edwards & Tony Hall reached the knock out section of the championship and Kevin made it through to the final 16. Owen and Tony joined the plate event. The 8 players in the plate event with the most wins played in the quarter final knock out.

However it did not work out quite that simply, 8 players came equal 6<sup>th</sup> in the Swiss event, so these eight had to vie for the remaining 3 positions in a knockout playoff. Tony Hall, John Levick & myself were included in the eight and all 3 of us won our first round matches of the playoff. Tony Hall beat me in the second round and John Levick lost his second round. This meant that John & I had to play off for the remaining 8<sup>th</sup> position which John won in fading light. John went on to reach the semi finals of the plate event.



Ahmed Nasr, 2008 World Champion, in action

The sportsmanship and camaraderie between the international players was fantastic and I felt very honoured to have the chance to play in an international event.

Yours in croquet

**Ron Johnstone**



Official Group Photo

Kevin Beard (Victoria)  
John Levick (National Park)  
Owen Edwards (Victoria)  
Tony Hall (Canberra)  
Ron Johnstone (Sutherland)

## From the President

This is a rare weekend at home for me. Since the beginning of March we seem to have spent more time in the caravan than in our own bed. Geof and I have visited Hunters Hill, Jamberoo, Nowra, Lismore, Sawtell, Southern Highlands and Cowra clubs. These visits involved coaching, discussion on tournament management and general promotion of Croquet New South Wales together with clubs having difficulties in combining Association and Golf croquet. We also attended the wedding of Claire Gorton and Trevor Bassett in Kyabram. Claire was a valuable member of the NSW state team before moving to Victoria and now represents that state.

We have just returned from three days in Goulburn where we were involved in the Sports and Culture Expo (S.P.A.C.E.). This involves students from every primary school in the district and assistance from the High School. Each student is exposed to six different activities during the day and these may include such diverse activities as cricket, soccer, lacrosse, wheelchair sports, fire brigade, pipe bands, police, chess and of course croquet. With the amount of interest shown I am hopeful that there could be a club in Goulburn in the future.

The Australian Championships were held in Brisbane at the end of March. Congratulations to Peter Landrebe who won the Gold Medal and to our state team who performed well, finishing in third place in the Eire Cup.

Whilst in Brisbane I attended the AGM of Croquet Australia. The office bearers for this year are as follows:-

<b>President</b>	Max Murray	NSW
<b>Snr Vice President</b>	Stephen Meatheringham	NSW
<b>Jnr Vice President</b>	Bruce Fleming	QLD
<b>Secretary</b>	Maree Skinner	SA
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tony Hall	NSW

Organisation for the 2009 Australian Championships is well under way thanks to Ken Edwards and his committee. Clubs have been contacted with regard to the use of their lawns and I trust their replies will be positive.

So far this year the tournaments conducted by New South Wales have, in the main, been well supported.

Congratulations to all those who have competed and extra congratulations to the winners. My heartfelt thanks to those members who have refereed, managed and generally helped run our tournaments, thus making them the success that they are. However, I am concerned that so few members are prepared to be involved with the management and refereeing of tournaments conducted by CNSW. This has been a long term and ongoing problem and I am not sure how to overcome this problem and would welcome suggestions.

*Jacky McDonald*

## Editorial

The World Golf Croquet Championship takes pride of place in this issue of the Newsletter. The Champion for 2008 is an Egyptian player, Ahmed Nasr, with Reg Bamford of South Africa runner-up. We congratulate these two players on their success. We also congratulate our representatives, Kevin Beard, John Levick, Owen Edwards, Tony Hall and Ron Johnstone for their participation in this event.

One club sent in a message of appreciation for the members of their club who regularly appear to measure out lawns, set hoops, etc. Reading through our Newsletter it is interesting to see how often the manager of CNSW events is Rita Johnson. I am sure that Rita would be delighted to have other members offering to manage an event. Likewise, the band of helpers very often has Mary Fernance at the top of the list. These two stalwarts deserve recognition.

Association players will be interested in the articles continuing debate regarding the use of bisques. How will this issue be resolved?

The article on helping possible stroke victims is worth reading. A member from Sydney Club was involved in a nasty car accident recently, and this leads to passing on a police recommendation. In your mobile or address book make an entry for **ICE** (*In case of emergency*) with a contact number. More than one ICE can be entered, numbered ICE 1, etc. This helps those attending someone in difficulties to avoid delay in contacting appropriate next of kin.

Stay well and enjoy your croquet!

*John Hanscomb &  
Wendy Fothergill*

**FREE:**



### **COMPUTER NO LONGER REQUIRED AT CROQUET NSW HEADQUARTERS**

We recently replaced our outdated computer. This latter is now offered free to the first person to contact me at the number indicated below and who is prepared to collect it from our office at Tempe.

The computer is loaded with Windows 98. It has a hard disc with a limited capacity of 4gigabytes and a CD drive but no burner. There is no USB connection but could be connected to a printer using a parallel cable.

Could be suitable for club use or for a beginner to computing.

Contact John Hanscomb 9316 9029

## Let's throw bisques away

*In the June 2007 issue of this Newsletter, I advised that I had entered into a protracted discussion with the English members of the Nottingham Email Group in which I gave my view that the use of Bisques led to a very artificial game and that I did not find it popular in this country. This raised quite a storm as it appears that handicap games in which bisques are used are more common than levels games in England. Richard Dickson, a top English player, offered to write an article supporting the use of bisques and this was presented in the June 2007 issue of our Newsletter.*

*Now, to my surprise, I discovered the following article from the latest issue, February, 2008, of the Croquet Gazette (UK) in which some of the sentiments I had expressed are stated, including that of allowing the weaker player to promote one or more of his clips to hoops in advance, and not then give any bisques at all.*

*I hope this may encourage some further discussion.*

*John Hanscomb*

### —Extract from the Croquet Gazette

“Three cheers to you for your editorial in the December issue, “let individuality reign”. Your suggestion was an example of thinking ‘outside of the box’. I have been doing something similar, so here goes. Let's throw the entire bisque handicap system out of the window and substitute a simple hoop start system.

Having come to croquet late in life and never been lower than 14, I am expecting the wrath of my betterers to descend in frightening fashion. But why on earth do we give weaker player one or more free turns when it would be much simpler, and in my view fairer, to allow the weaker player to place his clips at the beginning of a game, however many hoops ahead that represents the handicap difference, and then play proper Association Croquet - no bisques.

This cannot possibly be a new idea, but in the five years I have been playing the game I have never heard it discussed or even mentioned. So I have decided to put my head above the proverbial parapet and suggest it.

The big advantage is that we would all be playing genuine Association Croquet and not what is referred to in the laws as an ‘other form of play’ i.e. bisque handicap play. Since handicap play must constitute the overwhelming proportion of play here and presumable everywhere else in the world, why do we play predominately a variation of the game and not the real McCoy.

It must surely be a good idea to have a handicap system which endeavours to allow two players of different ability to have a roughly equal chance of winning and several other sports do it. Golf allows the weaker player a stroke on prescribed holes. Polo is a team

game, but they allow the weaker team a goal or goals on the board at the start.

Having played at Winchester and having discussed the idea with some of my friends there, it seems that the start concept would work with high bisquers or where the handicaps are close. But having generally been on the receiving end of the bisques I have always known that if I make a hash of a particular line of play I can escape “by taking a bisque”; this knowledge distorts tactics, and likewise for the giver of the bisques.

No handicap system can ever really equalise two players who are widely different in ability, but even then I think the start system would be better. A good friend in Winchester plays off 0.5 so I get 13.5 bisques whenever we meet! —that's not proper croquet, but a wide distortion of the game. But if I put one of my clips on 1-back and the other on 2-back at the beginning he would have to play his socks off to win, and so would I—and no false strategies—better I think.

Winchester may well give the starter handicap idea a chance during some of our Monday mix-ins, so I will let you know what happens. So how's that for thinking out of the box?”

*John Baker*

### **Comment from the Editor of the Croquet Gazette:**

***I like the idea. I like the idea of using all the relevant bisques to pin down the Aunt Emmas of this world too. Or is that going too far?***

### **Another Point to consider**

Do you think it makes sense for our Association and also some clubs to advertise events as Open events with handicap ranges as high as -3 to 24? Surely if a handicap system means anything its aim is to enable players to compete on an approximately equal basis and it is certainly not equal if someone with a handicap of 24 plays against someone with a handicap of -3 or even against a player with a much higher handicap!

**JH**



*A formidable array of bisques!*

## News from Marrickville

### *Anyone for Water-Croquet?*



These were the unbelievable scenes after a downpour on Tuesday February 26. We've seen the 'waterfall' from Lawson Avenue before, but nothing like this. Fortunately President Martin Rees who lives nearby was able to open up the club house once the storm had passed, and sweep out



several inches of water. At the time of writing there does not seem to be any major damage. Mosman, do you need another venue for your 'Whale of a Day'? Just a thought!



Night croquet games have been very popular during the summer. Perhaps some hardy souls will continue when Daylight Saving ends.



## Eastwood Croquet Club

The hoops at Eastwood Croquet Club were being repainted and some old ones were set out while the paint dried and hardened. At our Saturday morning game, during which high and low bisque players are teamed together, this was the result of the hoops not being measured before play. Who says black balls don't swell in the sun? Is this tight enough for a platinum player?



ECC member Brian Smith, one of our top players, was the unlucky non-hoop scorer and there was great discussion (and hilarity!) about the rules and regulations in Association Croquet regarding such an occurrence.

*Shirley McLachlan*  
Secretary

## Coogee Club joins in local Arts Festival

*Extract from "Village Voice Eastern Beaches":*  
Shakespeare, short films, world music and even a few games of croquet will be hosted on the sandy stages of Coogee and Clovelly Beaches throughout February as part of the 2008 Coogee Arts Festival..

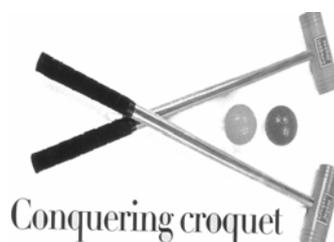
"Perhaps the most unusual event this year is Croquet by the Sea, an attempt to demystify a game that many have heard of, but few have played."

*Extract from "The Beast" Feb 2008*  
*Croquet by the Sea*

"Bisque, Booby, Scatter Shot" - a night on leave with the French Foreign Legion? No- it's the fabulous exciting world of croquet! The Arts Festival is giving you the opportunity to discover a great fun day out on the green and the finest croquet establishment in Sydney - The Coogee Croquet Club.

*John Hanscomb*

*Fun for all on the day—elation at scoring a hoop!*



# Autumn Carnival at Bundanoon Croquet Club

**29 February - 5 March 2008**

**A** most successful fifth annual croquet carnival has recently been held by the Bundanoon Croquet Club. The event was held over five days with participants from as far afield as Taree and Queensland. For the first time Bundanoon players entered the carnival and acquitted themselves very well.

Things commenced with a drinks and finger food evening on Friday 29 February. A convivial dinner was held at the Bundanoon Club on the Sunday evening and the carnival concluded with the presentation of prizes and a barbeque lunch on Wednesday 5 March. Although the northern visitors found the weather a little chilly for the first couple of days the weather warmed up as we progressed with only one short shower over the entire five days.

A high standard of play was evident particularly in Blocks A and B with several players achieving the maximum score of 26 in some games. Many visitors commented favourably on the venue, the organization and the hospitality.

Congratulations to all members of the organizing committee who each contributed to the various aspects that made the carnival a success. Special thanks is due to the Referee in Charge, Jan Sage of Taree, who ensured a referee was on hand for each game.

It was pleasing to see some interested local spectators, some of whom were keen to take up the game.

Successful players were:

<b>Block</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
<b>A (Ash)</b>	<b>David Archer</b> Bundanoon	<b>Fred Harvey</b> Maitland
<b>B (Birch)</b>	<b>Pam Gentle</b> Wollongong	<b>Wendy Harvey</b> Maitland
<b>C (Chestnut)</b>	<b>Kurt Beck</b> Toronto	<b>Margaret Sawers</b> Nowra
<b>D (Dogwood)</b>	<b>Margaret Leese</b> Urunga	<b>Sheila Topham</b> Bundanoon
<b>E (Elm)</b>	<b>Dulcie Lill</b> Taree	<b>Pat Glandian</b> Killara

**Best Shot of the Carnival: Shirley Hansen** from Southern Highlands Club

**Best Club Score: Wollongong/Young** with 193 hoops

All winners received prizes or trophies, and lots of wine, courtesy of the major sponsor, Pernod Ricard Australia.

If you have not been to Bundanoon in the beautiful Southern Highlands then you may like to consider it for 2009, but you will have to get in early as the carnival can only accept 30 players. Autumn Carnival flyers will be out in October 2008.



*Best Club Trophy (Wollongong/Young) received by Pam Gentle & Carol Turner*



*Pat Glandian, Margaret Craig, Fay Simpson & Bev Kasmarik*



*Ben & Pam Durie with Kurt Beck*

**VISIT THE CNSW  
WEB SITE @  
<http://www.croquet-nsw.com>**

## Young Croquet Club Autumn Golf Croquet Carnival.

Thirty-six players from Rich River at Moama, Orange, Forster, Canberra, Deniliquin, Blue Mountains, Southern Highlands, Maitland, Toronto, Wollongong and Port Macquarie played in the Young Croquet Club Autumn Carnival from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of March.

Two referees came from Victoria, Jim Clement from Sarsfield as Tournament Referee, Graham Howie from Paynesville and Margaret Sawers from Bomaderry were referees for the event. Other qualified referees both playing and others stood in at various times to give them a much-needed break as conditions were very hot.

A carnival atmosphere was evident with members of the different clubs wearing their uniforms of varying colours, bright umbrellas carried by the referees, and blue shade shelters off court added to the colourful scene.

It was run as a handicap event and proved most interesting as the games progressed. It was a keenly contested competition with three blocks of six pairs playing doubles on the first day and six blocks of singles vying to win their blocks on Saturday and Sunday.

### Doubles

Block A—John Coates from Forster and his partner Michael Speak from the Blue Mountains won with Bernie McAlary from Wollongong and his partner Shirley Page from Toronto runners-up.

Block B was won by Kerry Loane (Southern Highlands) and her partner Jill Tainsh (Deniliquin) with Yvonne Grattan (Canberra) and Bill Howe (Deniliquin) runners-up.

Block C was won by Jan Vaughan (Blue Mountains) and Isabell Howe (Deniliquin) whilst Silvia Andrews (Port Macquarie) and partner Carol Hayes (Wollongong) were runners-up.

### Singles

The singles blocks started playing their matches on Saturday morning. The weather was very hot but the contestants were anxious to continue play and litres of water and other drinks were consumed.

Block A was won by John Coates from Forster; runner-up - Garry Fensom from Wollongong.

Block B—Kerry Loane from Southern Highlands; runner-up - Sylvia Andrews from Port Macquarie.

Block C— Bill Simon from Rich River, Moama; runner-up - Murray Loane from Southern Highlands.

Block D— Bill Howe from Deniliquin; runner-up - Lenora Everton from Wollongong.

Block E— Robyn Compton from Maitland; runner-up -

Shirley Page from Toronto.

Block F—John Grattan from Canberra; runner up was Nan Saint John from Southern Highlands.

Many complimentary remarks were made about the running of the Carnival with players wishing to return next year to participate again. I must say I had a wonderful tournament committee and a team of hard working and dedicated members to help. Without them it could not have been the success it was.

*Gillian Powell*  
*Tournament Manager*

## EDSACC GOLF CROQUET TOURNAMENT

EDSACC held their first tournament for a couple of years, on 9–10 May 2008, playing golf croquet singles on the first day and doubles on the second day. We were blessed with beautiful weather on both days of our tournament and the players enjoyed their games. Players came from as far away as Jamberoo, Wollongong, Young, Sydney Club, Toronto, Maitland, Muswellbrook and of course EDSACC joined in the games.

There were four blocks of singles with results as follows:

**Block A: Robyn Wallace** (Maitland) was a clear winner, winning all of her games. The runner-up on a count back was Bernie McAlary (Wollongong).

**Block B: Bill Newberry** (Toronto), was the winner winning all of his games and the runner-up was Margie Long (Jamberoo) on a countback.

**Block C: Margaret Pedemont** (Toronto) was the winner winning all of her games and the runner-up was Shirley Page (Toronto).

**Block D:** We had a three way tie for the first place with **Brenda Evans** (Jamberoo) being the winner on a countback and runner-up Jack Cohen (Sydney).

All of these games were played as a 19 point game and most were very close scores.

For the doubles:

**Block A: Bernie McAlary and Carol Hayes** (Wollongong) won from Robyn Wallace and Steve Dilley (Maitland)

**Block B: Steve Dilley Jnr and Edsina Dilley** (Maitland) won from Kevin and Shirley Page (Toronto)

**Block C: Ingrid and Jack Cohen** (Sydney) were the winners with runners-up on count back Brenda Evans (Jamberoo) and Marlene McDonald (Maitland.).

These games were also played on 19 point games and were enjoyed by all, as it was a little different from the norm, these scores were also very close as in the singles Congratulations to all the winners and the runners-up. We hope to see you all next year.

Thanks were given to the referees who were on their feet all day, to the many helpers in the kitchen who kept us all with food and drinks also to our scorer Betty Brown and the Handicapper Robyn Abrams.

*Josephine McGrath (Manager)*  
*EDSACC*



Front of Clubhouse



In the Shop



Clubhouse from lawn side

Newsletter readers may be interested in a trip I made recently to Florida, U.S.A., where I visited the National Croquet Centre. The centre has around 12 of the most beautifully manicured lawns. The lawns were the nicest than I seen, even here or even on a bowling green! At the time of our visit, I went with my husband, there was an Association Rules Singles Championship taking place on 3 of the lawns. The rest were open to general play and as a visitor I could have played for small fee. Small by U.S. standards but high by ours -US\$24!!! Annual fees are US\$1500 for singles or \$2100 for couples!

We did watch some of the play which was, as far as we could see, of a very high standard. I was quite taken by the way the borders of the lawn were marked out. They were done with a fine string fastened down at each corner into the grass. This way it is easy for the greenkeeper to move the lawns north or south, or east or west. One could see that this must take place a fairly frequent intervals by the marking on the lawns next to the hoops.

The club's facilities are quite superb. The 2 storey club house is a really lovely old building. Inside it has very well appointed offices and change rooms as well as a lovely dining room and club/lounge room. There is also a shop selling all that a croquet player may require and more!

*Madeline Goodman (Sydney Club)*



Competition in progress



Club Lounge Room



Another view of the lawns



## Are these the most important workers in your Club?

I have to hand out all kudos to the ones who do these jobs to make sure the Tournaments adhere to all rules.

The photo shows Margaret Mitchell (L) and Shirley Fredericks setting the hoops in preparation for the ongoing Pennants competition presently underway between Murwillumbah Croquet Club, Tweed Heads, Southport and Burleigh Heads/Palm Beach. Even though at times we could swear the hoops are too tight when for some reason we fail to get through, they are guaranteed to be just right after the attention from our 'moles'.

These workers will be hard at work wrapped in winter gear (yes, it does get cold up here!) at six o'clock in the morning (under lights) when our forthcoming Gold Coast Regional Handicap Tournament starts on the 5th of July to the 18th, and when the players arrive at 8 o'clock all will be in order and the proverbial red carpet will be laid out..

Our Club will be host for seven days out of the thirteen to present several of the events in this prestigious Tournament. In past years we have had the pleasure of many players from Clubs in NSW, Victoria, Tasmania, Queensland & New Zealand looking forward to coming up this way again, not only for play but to meet again with friends made on their past visits to our beautiful Northern NSW part of the Gold Coast. We hope you will be one of them this year.

**Marj Kersey [tomandmarj@tadaust.org.au](mailto:tomandmarj@tadaust.org.au)  
Murwillumbah Croquet Club**

**Killara Croquet Club Inc.**  
**REGIMENTAL PARK**  
**Cnr. Pacific Highway & Lorne Ave**  
**Killara NSW**  
**ABN 28 542 622 194**

**TELEPHONE AT CLUBHOUSE**                    **9498 6662**  
**PRESIDENT**            **Mr. John Madgwick**            **9488 9605**  
**Hon. Secretary**       **Mrs Fay Simpson**            **9488 7538**  
**EMAIL**    [fay@cskk.homeip.net](mailto:fay@cskk.homeip.net)

**CORRESPONDENCE TO**  
**PO Box 221**  
**Killara NSW 2071**

24 February 2008

The Newsletter Editors  
 Croquet NSW Inc.,  
 PO. Box 5096,  
 Marrickville NSW 1475.

*Dear Wendy and John*

**MAKING CROQUET A SPECTATOR SPORT**

I have written before about the lack of spectators at croquet events, big and small, and I have wondered why that is.

I have decided that there is not enough emotion shown by croquet players with their ups and downs in a match, so that the spectator is left feeling unconnected with the players. Watching tennis and golf on the TV we are treated to the players' tension, their happiness when THAT SHOT comes off and their despair when it doesn't.

Team sports build the same rapport with the spectators. One man scores a goal or takes a wicket and the whole team erupts with joy. Heaven help the umpire who makes a wrong call! The team gathers round to look aggrieved and angry – particularly when one of their number is given a yellow card!

Croquet spectators are missing out and are showing their displeasure with their feet – to other sports venues where life can be more exciting.

So I would like to suggest to croquet players, on the lawn at club level or playing in the Nationals, that emotion is the name of the game. The following photos and captions might help the game back to being a true spectator sport.

Yours sincerely

**Fay Simpson**  
**Killara Croquet Club**



*Made Hoop 1 with the first ball*



*.. and now Hoop 1 with my second!*



*My play and there's one of my balls at each of his hoops..*



*Umpires can play their part. Tell the player to mark in the ball with his bottom into the court!*



*I pegged out!*



*"Daddy won!"*

*(Bring in the family aspect)*

**And after looking at all these photos, maybe we need a change of uniform too!**

## Forster Club—Golf Croquet Carnival

**O**n a lovely Sunday afternoon in March, Golf Croquet players from 16 clubs began to arrive to register for the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Forster Golf Croquet Carnival to be run from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March. It was great to greet new faces who were competing for the first time at Forster, including the eight-strong contingent from Jamberoo joining us for the first time. It was equally pleasing to renew friendships with many others who have regularly enjoyed the event.

The Tournament Manager, Shirley Fliedner, also Club President, and her assistant Yvonne Gregory were helped by many Club members including Penny Jude, Tournament Referee, Dennis Spiers and Anita Campbell, Handicappers, Jean Knowles, Kitchen Supremo, and the many others who set up the courts almost before dawn, staffed the kitchen and the gallant band of Referees from both Forster and the visiting clubs, who supervised 120 singles matches and 36 doubles matches.

The weather continued fine, in fact a little too fine, maximum temperatures for the three days being 26, 26.5 and 27 degrees Celsius respectively. In previous years the Carnival has been held in May and it was fairly unanimously agreed that the cooler weather was preferred and hopefully, we will be able to oblige for next year.

After two days of solid playing, a welcome respite came in the form of dinner at the Golf Club. The proprietors, David and Sharon of Bennett's restaurant, provided us with a baked dinner of beef and ham with baked vegetables and greens followed by fresh fruit crepes at a very reasonable cost. Among the guests were two people with special dietary needs for which the chefs provided individual meals. As we ate early so that everyone could prepare for the final day's play, we gathered for the meal in the daylight, thus enabling us to enjoy the view over immaculate fairways and greens together with glimpses of the nearby sea at One-Mile Beach.

We trialled the new requirements as listed in Croquet NSW's "Information for Tournament Managers" as regards reporting the event; and tried to do it within the 48 hours recommended; and via computer so that the results could be emailed. It was a bit hectic transferring all the paper records. What it made us realise was just how valuable a computer on site would be, enabling all results to be entered as they came in, together with photographs from all those digitally aware people like Brenda and Roger Evans from Jamberoo who downloaded masses of photos of various aspects of the event for us. Thanks Brenda and Roger!

It was a very successful carnival and the Club enjoyed having all of you who came. Thank you for participating. Please come again.

*Carol Armstrong*



*Some of the winners pictured here (photos courtesy Roger & Brenda Evans):*

*Tony Jones & Denise Nolan;*

*Barbara Piggott & Lyn Dimech;*

*Bridget Earle & Steve Dilley;*

*Elsine Dilley & Lindsay Thompson;*

*Pat Moroney & Tony Earle*





## *A Whale of a Day At Mosman*

A Perfect Day. The skies were blue, the weather mild, the greenkeeper had just cut the lawns and the Mosman cuisine was in full swing. To top it all Mal

Russell did his usual magic on the lawns. No major competition or event at Mosman is complete without Mal's touch. Some of the players were so impressed that they insisted on being photographed with it (see above).



The club welcomed players from clubs as far as the Blue Mountains and it was a delight to see Margaret Graham actually playing instead of being called as a referee. Four and a half lawns were set out and players were encouraged to participate non-stop until 1pm. Thanks go to Lindsay Thompson and David Brook who organised the short Association Croquet games on Lawns 3 and 4, Phil Hercus with Golf Croquet on Lawn 2, and the rest of the troops helping out with the Gala Day Games on Lawn 1 and the Half Lawn alongside the club. It was a great opportunity for croquet players to spread out and keep trying their skills at the various games. It was also great to see brother and sister Pat Goldrick (Killara) and Kevin Burges (Mosman) "fighting it out" at hoop 5 in Golf Croquet



*Pat & Kevin in competition*

After 3 hours of fun most of us had developed a healthy thirst and John Fransen summoned us all for drinks on the verandah. Our thanks to members who donated the brie, the champagne, the rosé, the white wine, the red wine and the beer (the orange juice came from the housekeeper). This was soon followed by a sumptuous lunch cooked by our Doug Baxter (on the barbecue) and delicious salads, cakes and slices prepared by the ladies.



I must mention Lesley Fransen's cup cakes with the cherries on top which deserved a place at the Easter Show.

After lunch, our president John Fransen distributed prizes before we all headed back to the lawns for games of Association and Golf Croquet, and, of course, afternoon tea. To those of you who hold shares in David Jones Limited we would like you to know that Marjorie Lehmann (purchasing goodies for the raffle) has significantly added to the increase in profitability of that company.

You might ask "Whale"? The whale is the symbol of Mosman as Mosman was a whaling station.

*Mary Gibson  
Secretary  
Mosman Croquet Club*



Earlier this year Croquet Australia decided to introduce an award for the most improved player and asked each state to send their nominations. Prior to the commencement of play at the recent Golf Croquet Doubles Championship it was with much pleasure that I was able to present David Moody with his award.

David appeared on the competitive scene early in 2007 when he won the Rookies and Novices tournament. At that stage he was on a handicap of 20 for Association and, I think, 9 for Golf Croquet.



During the year David won the Bronze Singles, the Bronze Brooch and, with his wife Bev, the Golf Croquet Handicap Doubles. He was runner up in the Silver Handicap Singles and the Division 2 Golf Croquet Singles.

David's handicaps are now 9 for Association and 4 for Golf Croquet and I feel sure that these are only temporary.

Well done David!!

*Jacky McDonald  
President CNSW*

## Some Timely Advice

(forwarded by Geoff Davison, Hurstville CC)

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke ..**totally**. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed and then getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which is tough.

### RECOGNIZING A STROKE

**Thank God for the sense to remember the “3” steps, STR.**

**Read and Learn!**

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

**S** \* Ask the individual to **SMILE**

**T** \* Ask the person to **TALK**, to **SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE** (Coherently: It is sunny out today.)

**R** \* Ask him or her to **RAISE BOTH ARMS**.

(NOTE: Another ‘sign’ of a stroke is this: Ask the person to ‘stick’ out their tongue... if the tongue is ‘crooked’, if it goes to one side or the other that is also an indication of a stroke.)

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call for an ambulance immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

A cardiologist says if everyone who gets this message sends it to 10 people, you can bet that at least one life will be saved.



## ASSOCIATION LAWS 2008

**- Do we know and understand the changes?**

A re-accreditation workshop led Wendy Woolfe assisted by Pam Durie was held at Toronto Croquet Club on Saturday, 26th April 2008. Members of the Toronto Club welcomed members from Nelson Bay, Edsacc and Maitland Clubs who joined them for this challenging day – a total of 14 participants. Toronto Club provided morning tea and participants had been invited to bring their own lunches.

Wendy worked through the summary prepared by Max Hooper, referring to both the new ORLC as well as the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Laws. Practical exercises presented by Pam, had to be done on a ‘model’ croquet lawn as, despite the beautiful sunshine outside, the croquet lawns were still soggy from the recent interminable rains.



The time passed quickly with much laughter, discussion and at times disagreement with understanding what a law was saying. In particular there was lengthy discussion around errors followed by end of turn event (Law 27) and law 13(b) with cries of “that’s not fair!”

Concern was expressed about the legality of some rolls – particularly “pass rolls” in light of changes to Laws 28(a) 7 and 8. The role of ‘referees’ evoked comment, particularly in light of Law 48(d) 4 and the differences between Referee in Change, Supervising Referee and Referee on Request were discussed

Thanks must go to Wendy and Pam for their preparation for this enjoyable workshop which helped each participant to grasp the general focus of the changes even though we all felt a little ‘befuddled’ at times. Great fellowship was enjoyed by all and I, for one, know I need to do some more study

*Jill Manton*  
Toronto Croquet Club





Sawtell Croquet Club will celebrate its 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday in September and other clubs are invited to participate in the celebrations.

Contact Jenny Arnold by phone on 66511034 or email [randja@optusnet.com.au](mailto:randja@optusnet.com.au).

## **60th Birthday** **1948 - 2008**

60 years and 6 days of  
Croquet  
Come and help us celebrate

SEPTEMBER 12, 13 and 14  
3 days of GOLF CROQUET

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 15 – Party Day  
with lunch at 1 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 16, 17 and 18  
3 days of ASSOCIATION CROQUET.

Association – Advanced Handicap play.  
Block Play. International Balls. Entry Fee  
\$15 per player.

Golf Croquet – Block Play. Handicap  
Play. International Balls. Cost \$15 per  
player

Morning Tea and Luncheon available.

ENTER NOW – Entries Close 29<sup>th</sup> August  
2008

### Kevin Beard tells of the South Africa experience

World Golf Croquet Championships start on Saturday in Cape Town and today we had our final preparation in Johannesburg in the form of an "Australia versus South Africa Test Match".

The match was organised at the Country Club Joh'burg followed by a couple of hours play under lights with local members and members from neighbouring croquet clubs. The evening was completed with a dinner in the club rooms in honour of the players going to the championships. It was a very impressive level of support from the Country Club and the local croquet-playing community.

The South African Team was Victor Dladla and Mike Corcoran who are playing in the World Championship, Meshack Mazibuko who was offered a wild card but couldn't take it up and John Hedding. Australia defeated South Africa 9 games to 3 games

All the visiting players are indebted to the organisational skills of Esther Jones and Chris Bennett. We were given unlimited court time, met lots of local players, were entertained at dinner each night, and were taken on a guided tour of downtown Johannesburg, Soweto, Pretoria and the Voortrekker Monument. Today was the culmination with the serious match practice followed by the dinner. Thank you Esther and Chris.

If you are ever in South Africa and looking for a game of croquet don't miss the Country Club in Johannesburg

...  
Day 6 Knockout round of 16

My tournament came to an end today. Chris Clarke had better touch and cleared more accurately in the first game to beat me 7-2. The second game we both cleared very well. However, in the end my inexperience let me down as Chris was able to run hoop 12 with black and get to hoop 13 first by stymieing my yellow ball. The Egyptians have continued their dominance of the sport with only 2 non-Egyptians reaching the 8 quarterfinal places.

### Valé

**Kit Sheridan**, loved member of Dubbo Croquet Club.



**Prim Simpson**, long time member of Wollongong Croquet Club, both at Woonona and Towradgi, died 12 March 2008, aged 91.



**Dr Ian S. Reid**, former member of National Park CC and active member of CNSW and chair of the Laws Committee in the 90's.



***Our sympathy is extended to the families and friends of each of the above.***

## Croquet Club Embraces Special Members



**NSW  
Officials  
Visit Nowra**

*This article, written by Katrina dal Molin, appeared in the South Coast Register on 19 September, 2007.*

A special group of people has embraced the unique sport of croquet and they're proving they have what it takes to play with the best.

FOCAS Shoalhaven is a community-based group offering support for people with disabilities, and they recently teamed up with the Nowra Croquet Club. Twice a week for the past six weeks, a group of people with disabilities has spent an hour with members of the club, learning the finer points of the game.

Under the supervision of program facilitators Cameron Stewart and Andrew Skinner, the men and women have learnt how to play the sport. And they absolutely love it, Mr Stewart said.

FOCAS Shoalhaven was always looking for new things to keep their consumers' minds stimulated, he said, and so far the group had shown growing interest in the sport.

"They're eager to come now, and they talk about it all week," he said. "They definitely have taken to it like a duck to water."

Not only are they given the chance to have some fun and socialise, but Mr Stewart said it has taught them patience and sportsmanship. Margaret Sayers, of Nowra Croquet Club, said the group got involved because they thought it would be a really good thing.

"Many of those involved have shown exceptional talent," she said. "One girl in particular has already been described as a budding champion."

The club also hopes the collaboration will raise the profile of the sport in the community, and encourage new members to join.

*From the South Coast Register, Wednesday 12 March 2008.,*

The Nowra Croquet Club has been kept busy with a number of visiting players from across the South Coast and Highlands regions coming to learn some tips from croquet NSW's top couple.

Jacky and Geof McDonald, the President of Croquet NSW and the State Director of Coaching respectively, travelled from Maitland to instruct and coach in both the playing of the game as well as tournament management.

Players travelled from Nowra, Milton/Ulladulla, Southern Highlands and Jamberoo to pick up some tips. The croquet couple have been to Nowra on a professional basis once before and believed the playing was on a par with anywhere they had been.

"In terms of players, the amount of interest I see in the desire to improve their game is really great," Mrs McDonald said. "Golf croquet is a game that anyone can play, from age nine to ninety nine. You can either play it on a competitive level or a social level so it suits people of all abilities," Mr McDonald said.

The Nowra Croquet Club has been on the same site, just within the Nowra Showground gates, for the past 70 years this coming May, but may soon be moving to a new site near the Bomaderry Aquatic Centre, depending on funding.

"Our club is just growing at such a rate that we need more space," Margaret Sayers from the Nowra Club said.

If you are interested in playing croquet, feel free to head along to the Croquet Club on Saturday mornings between 9am and 12 and Wednesday afternoons between 1pm and 4pm.

"There aren't many people who can't play it," Mr McDonald said.

**Newsletter  
is sponsored by  
the NSW  
Department  
of Sport and  
Recreation**



### ON THE GREENS:

*Jacky and Geof  
pictured with  
Nowra Club  
members during  
their recent visit to  
the area.*

## Australia Day 2008 Celebrations at EDSACC

Saturday 26th January saw the members of EDSACC Croquet Club, at beautiful Bateau day, celebrate in fine style. The weather was perfect and our resident birdlife was singing happily-

Novelty games were the order of the day, and we had great fun testing our mallet skills (and luck), at zig-zag, ladder, obstacle course, nearest the centre peg, and lots more. Little prizes were won all round before we all gathered for a lunch of damper, cocky's joy and lamingtons, washed down with billy tea.

Then our Australian flag was proudly unfurled and we all gathered round to give a hearty rendition of our National Anthem (which probably alarmed the birds no end).

All in all a great day: fresh air, fun and friendship - what more could one ask?

*Betty Siegman  
Secretary*



### SENIOR CITIZENS EVENT 7 -10 APRIL

Only 8 clubs were represented at the Senior Citizens event. This was a handicap event with a base handicap of 5. The players with high handicaps posed a challenge to the lower handicap players and had some very good wins, some results being 26 - 0.

Bob Gingold from Canberra Club played exceptionally well having breaks of 11 and 12 in 1 match without using bisques, resulting in a win of 26 - 0.

Valerie Vickers representing Cheltenham Club, playing in her first CNSW competition, enjoyed the experience and is keen to compete in further CNSW events. Valerie has obviously studied the Laws Book and was able to challenge the Referee on a point of law and the Referee agreed that she was correct - if only players new or old were as knowledgeable of the laws as she is after only 6 months play.

The overall winner was Mike Hughes from Cammeray Club and the runner-up was Bob Gingold from Canberra Club.

Thanks again to Mary Fernance and her band of merry workers [referees] who all did a splendid job.

*Rita Johnson  
Manager*

### PREMIER PENNANT 27 April

The teams vying for the Premier Pennant were Mosman United (Ken Edwards, Martyn Prins & Alison Sharpe) and Southern Stars (John Eddes, Ron Johnstone & Alix Verge).

Results were as follows:

#### **Doubles**

K. Edwards & A. Sharpe def J. Eddes & R. Johnstone (26-8)  
J. Eddes & A. Verge def A. Sharpe & M. Prins (17-15)  
R. Johnstone & A. Verge def A. Sharpe & M. Prins (26 TP [AV]-10)

#### **Singles:**

A. Verge def M. Prins (18-11)  
R. Johnstone def A. Sharpe (26-25)  
K. Edwards def J. Eddes (26-9)

#### **Overall Result:**

**Southern Stars** with 4 wins defeated Mosman United with 2 wins.

*Martyn Prins*

## Lithgow Club on the move

There has been and now is much excitement due to the changes taking place at this club that is over 50 years old. School competition for the first time ever and the development of the club house is underway.



An historic event took place on 15 December 2007 with the first school championship to be held at this club. The 14 chosen students from La Salle Academy, under the referee Bill Haines from the Blue Mountains branch, battled it out for the championship medal, with Josh Elliott as the grand champion. A medal ceremony was held at the conclusion of the day.

The team was to attend the interschool competition held at Tempe in November, but as they were unable to attend the entire competition, they decided to defer until the next time.



Students coming to the coaching on Tuesdays are becoming more keen to be included in the team. Acceptance of sport is gaining ground at the school. All our hard work is paying off. It has become the club's only form of fundraising.

The second cause of excitement is the work that is well underway with the club house.



After achieving a grant from the Dept of Sport & Recreation, the Lithgow City Council has official plans drawn up and enlargement of the club room will take place, with the disabled ramp, access and toilet close to completion within the month. The building was looking decidedly shabby and after 50 years much needed to be done. The local member for Bathurst gave the Lithgow Council the final shove. A smarter club building might attract membership as a bonus!

*Lynne Nelson-Jones  
Club Secretary*

## More About the World Golf Croquet Championship (Croquet Gazette, UK)

### Jottings on the WCF Laidlaw World Golf Croquet Championship

8th - 16th March 2008

Report by Tim King

#### The results

By now, many readers will know that Ahmed Nasr of Egypt won the final in four games against Reg Bamford of South Africa. Reg faced destiny: a proud South African who would have reinforced legendary status with his home fans had he managed to succeed. In his semi-final against Mohammed Nasr (brother of Ahmed and top seed), Reg was impressive in his sang-froid; he seemed to have no sense of pressure. But he never quite reached the same heights in the final.

Under perfect blue skies, the wind blew relentlessly for the semi-finals. Reg stood firm and Mohammed never found his best distance or accuracy. Ahmed also suffered much angst as the strong gusts distracted his preparations for big shots. However, he had just enough composure to take himself past Chris Clarke of England, winning on the final hoop of the third game. The winning shot took an age as Ahmed addressed the ball several times, on each occasion withdrawing because he was unsettled by the next blast of wind.

In the final, the lack of wind seemed to ease Ahmed. He ably demonstrated one of the fundamentals of Golf Croquet: consistent, accurate approach shots to hoops provide the bread-and-butter pressure on the opponent. Reg was that fraction off the same level and he was always playing catch up. He did manage to find some great form in game three: a series of excellent jump shots gave him a great win. However, Ahmed rose to the challenge and shut the door in game four.

Egypt had ten players at the Championship and all qualified for the main knockout.

#### Location, location, location



*Court at Kelvin Grove—with Table Mountain in the background*

Cape Town is a great destination for travel. The drama of the mountains combines with that of the sea and provides an inspiring backdrop. The weather was always interesting and we only suffered one rainy morning during the Championship. Many of the players took advantage of the various sight-seeing highlights. Wine was a firm favourite; the tournament dinner was at one of the local wineries and the evening was highly enjoyable.

# From the Nottingham Email group

Whilst browsing the French version of ebay (as you do) I came across this old postcard which features a game of croquet in progress at the golf club in Vichy (which is still in existence today) (the club, not the town) (or rather, the club as well as the town):

[http://cgi.ebay.fr/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=140213418986&ru=http%3A%2F%2Fsearch.ebay.fr%3A80%2Fsearch%2Fsearch.dll%3Ffrom%3DR40%26\\_trksid%3Dm37%26satitle%3D140213418986%26vi%3D1](http://cgi.ebay.fr/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=140213418986&ru=http%3A%2F%2Fsearch.ebay.fr%3A80%2Fsearch%2Fsearch.dll%3Ffrom%3DR40%26_trksid%3Dm37%26satitle%3D140213418986%26vi%3D1)

You can get an enlarged view of the card by scrolling down the page. We assume from the postmark that the card dates from 1913.

I am intrigued by the layout of the court. There appear to be ten hoops in use; I am assuming that the white post at the extreme right is either the finishing or the turning peg, and the arrangement of a peg and two hoops is mirrored at the other end of the court, partially hidden by the lady dressed (rather futuristically) in white. There are a further two hoops on the left hand edge of the court as we look at it, one of which we can see mirrored on the other side, and so we assume that the other is also mirrored. That gives eight hoops, so what of the other two? These I believe are set up criss-crossed in the centre of the court in an arrangement similar to the "cage" (with a bell) used in earlier versions of the English game (and still in use in the remoter areas of Essex!). [I based my idea of ten hoops from French croquet sets on offer elsewhere on ebay].



I think the gentlemen players of today have a lot to learn, sartorially, from the young blades in play in this photograph. No nonsense, either, about sitting down during breaks. Or is this an early version of golf croquet? There are, after all, five players (I dismiss as unlikely the idea that one is a referee in charge), and the sets for sale do include up to eight balls.

You may be tempted to log on to [www.ebay.fr](http://www.ebay.fr) and have a search yourself (you don't need to log on, and you need only rudimentary French). Some of the things you will find are intriguing, not least some of the meanings for "croquet" which are completely unknown not only to my wife (a teacher of French for 30-odd years) but also to her dictionary.

*Below is the advertisement from Mon eBay for the card pictured above.*

<b>03 VICHY RARE LE GOLF UNE PARTIE DE CROQUET 1913</b>	Numéro de l'objet : 140213418986
<b>Etes-vous le vendeur de cet objet ou un enchérisseur ?</b> <a href="#">Ouvrez une session</a> pour connaître votre statut	<a href="#">Suivre cet objet</a> dans Mon eBay
	<b>Cet objet a été ajouté dans mon eBay pour les visiteurs.</b> En tant que visiteur, vous pouvez : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Suivre jusqu'à dix objets sur cet ordinateur dans <a href="#">Mon eBay</a></li> <li>■ <a href="#">Recevoir un e-mail de rappel</a> pour cet objet quelques heures avant la fin de la vente</li> </ul>
Enchère en cours :	<b>20,00 EUR</b>
Votre enchère maximum :	<input type="text"/> <b>EUR</b> (Saisissez 20,50 EUR ou plus)
Fin :	<b>21 heures 36 m</b> (13-Mar-08 20:57:50 Paris)
Frais de Livraison :	<b>0,55 EUR</b> Lettre Service vers : <a href="#">France métropolitaine</a> ( <a href="#">plus de services</a> )
Livraison :	Monde entier
Lieu où se trouve l'objet :	Paris, France métropolitaine
Historique :	<a href="#">5 enchères</a>
Meilleur enchérisseur :	<a href="#">allostarconne</a> ( 0 )

# Croquet fans have a ball with mallet

Olga Gerloff



Several club members play croquet well into their 80s and it's such an exciting game for seniors

CROQUET is a big hit among seniors at Cammeray.

- Cammeray croquet Club president Neil Hardie

So if you've never tried the popular game, head to the Cammeray Croquet Club for morning tea this Friday.

The tea is being held to celebrate Seniors Week.

The club is the second largest in Sydney with a membership of 75 including some of Australia's top bridge players, former opera singers, several authors, and even a Buddhist monk.

Club president Neil Hardie said the club's committee had transformed Cammeray Croquet into a vibrant club with lots of players and events.

"We run a few wine and cheese evenings and have started a croquet tournament in NSW," Mr Hardie said. "The club has also started a coaching program where top players train our members."

The club started at Warringah Hall Croquet Club in 1909 and moved to Cammeray in 1930.

"The club tries to make a contribution to the community by

involving disadvantaged people and we have seven players with physical or mental disabilities," Mr Hardie said.

The Cammeray Croquet Club is supported by North Sydney Council and has run a seniors event for nine of the past ten years. Mr Hardie said one member, Inez Muir, played croquet until she was 101!

"Several club members play croquet well into their 80s and it's such an exciting game for seniors," Mr Hardie said. "It provides a mental challenge because you are thinking through tactics and croquet is a good form of exercise."

The club's success can be demonstrated by the myriad community awards it has won. These include being the winner of the Mosman/North Sydney outstanding recreation organisation and the Australian Government Sports Achievement Award for service to the aged and disabled.

"The Seniors week event on Friday will be an opportunity for our coaches to show new members how to play simplified golf croquet. One year at Senior Day a woman came with a walking stick to watch and we changed it for a mallet. She discovered she would play croquet and had a fantastic time."



Neil Hardie and friends will be having a great time at the Cammeray Croquet Club tomorrow (Friday) to celebrate Seniors Week.

*The article above appeared in the Mosman Daily at the time of Seniors Week and was sent in by Mila Kotala, Secretary Cammeray Croquet Club.*

## Thinking of Taking a Break?

### Stop over for a game in "The Missing piece of Paradise" - Woolgoolga.

Woolgoolga Croquet Club is situated in the heart of this picturesque seaside town, 20 minutes north of Coffs Harbour.

With Club membership at 60, it is a very active Croquet Club catering for both Golf and Association players. We boast excellent greens, friendly personnel, ample parking and all this within 2 minutes walk to shops, licenced clubs, accommodation and one of the safest beaches in NSW. Call in for a game next time you are holidaying - you are assured of a warm welcome.

For further information contact: Ted Vardy (Pres) on Ph: 02-6654 1706 or email [edward.vardy@bigpond.com](mailto:edward.vardy@bigpond.com)





## REPORTS

### ROOKIES & NOVICES 2008 26—28 February

There were 5 entrants in this competition – 2 of these players – D Simonds [Hunters Hill] and Gayle Adams [Marrickville] playing in their first CNSW event.

All players entered into the true spirit of the game and said they enjoyed playing in the competition and the companionship of their opponents. As the competition progressed you could see improvement in their games.

Congratulations must go to all the players especially the winner: John Campey [Epping] and the runner-up: Warren Yates [Camberay].

*Rita Johnson*  
Manager



### SILVER SINGLES 2008

The Silver Singles was held at Tempe on 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> March. Only six entries and I was the only female. Me with five blokes!! What a pity we weren't a LOT younger! The clubs represented were Chatswood, Coogee, Sutherland, Milton Ulladulla and National Park (well actually take your pick).

The croquet was scratchy with only two peg outs in the three days but everyone seemed to have at least one good game that they were pleased with. I think we all walked away with the realisation that we have skills that need to be practised

Everyone won at least one game and the results were as follows:-

- |                   |        |                       |
|-------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 1. Jacky McDonald | 5 wins | Handicap reduced to 8 |
| 2. David Moody    | 3 wins |                       |
| 3. Alfred James   | 2 wins |                       |
| 4. Ron Humpherson | 2 wins |                       |
| 5. Harry Taylor   | 2 wins |                       |
| 6. Jim Elston     | 1 win  |                       |

We were lucky with the weather as the forecasters got it wrong and it was hot and sticky. The courts were well grassed but ran true. Some comments were made that they were slow but I think that with the recent drought we have become used to much faster lawns.

Many thanks to Margot, Kath, Patricia and John for refereeing.

*Jacky McDonald*



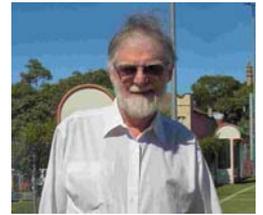
## FRANSTED TROPHY

There were 16 entries in this handicap competition - played in 2 blocks of 8. It was pleasing to see players on high handicaps using their bisques wisely and consequently having some very close matches.

Each block was very tightly contested with many games being won by only 1 point. All players enjoyed the tournament and the camaraderie of all participants.

Block A		Block B	
<b>Winner</b>	John Fransen	<b>Winner</b>	Neil Hardie
<b>Runner-up</b>	Lorraine Le Blang	<b>Runner-up</b>	John Eddes

The final between Neil Hardie and John Fransen was very well played with 4 long breaks. Neil (pictured) eventually outplayed his worthy opponent and won the match 26-22. Congratulations Neil!



Thanks to the Tournament Referee – Mary Fernance – and the referees who gave willingly of their time on this holiday weekend to help make this event so successful.

*Rita Johnson*  
Manager



## NSW GOLF CROQUET SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

14-17 April

The numbers in the golf croquet competitions are steadily improving as well as the standard of play. After 12 pairs in the NSW Doubles we had 22 enter the Singles. Competitors were from Coogee, Mosman, Manly, Cammeray, Forster, Canberra (1), Taree, Wollongong (2), Maitland, Sutherland and National Park (4).

Competitors were divided into two blocks. The games were untimed and all went very smoothly so much so that instead of taking three days to finish the blocks all 110 games were completed in two days. First and second from each block went through to the semi finals on Thursday and those results were as follows:-

Semi Finals	Tony Hall	defeated	John Levick
		7/6, 6/7, 7/4	
	Peter Landrebe	defeated	Barry Wells
		7/5, 4/7, 7/2	
Final	Peter Landrebe	defeated	Tony Hall
		7/5, 5/7, 7/4	

The weather was variable and we all had plenty of practice taking wet weather gear on and off. Congratulations to all players for the spirit in which all games were played.

Many thanks to Lyn Dooley for managing the competition, to John Eddes for manipulating the draw, to Martyn Prins for his computer assistance and to Bill Haines for refereeing.



**Jacky McDonald**  
*(a not so successful competitor)*

## 2008 EIRE CUP REPORT

NSW finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 2008 Eire Cup held in Brisbane from 2-6 April 2008.

After the excitement of winning the 2007 event in Perth the team travelled to Brisbane with the objective of securing back-to-back wins. Unfortunately, we came up a little short of the mark recording solid victories against Tasmania (18 games to 2 games), WA (15-5) and SA (14-6) but losing to the runners-up Queensland (8-12) in a very closely fought encounter that finished after dark and being thoroughly outplayed by 2008 Eire Cup winners, Victoria (4-16). Detailed results are available on the ACA website.

This year's team comprised Chloe Aberley (Bathurst), Mike Jenner, Peter Landrebe (Cammeray), Tim Murphy (Canberra), Alison Sharpe (Chatswood & Killara), Nerida Taylor (Canberra), Alix Verge (Royal Sydney) and myself (Canberra). The non-travelling reserves were Tony Hall (Canberra) and Lorraine Le Blang (Cheltenham). Rosie Graham (Blue Mountains), who was selected in the original side, was forced to withdraw for personal reasons and her place was taken by Alix Verge.

I would like to acknowledge the commitment, playing prowess, support, friendship and camaraderie of all team members and our Team Assistant, Dick Smith (Lismore), in preparing for and competing to the best of their ability in Brisbane. While the team came up a little short this year its members proudly represented NSW and we look forward to better things for the NSW team in 2009 when Sydney hosts the Eire Cup.



**Stephen Richards**  
*Captain*

## BRONZE SINGLES

Five entrants from five different clubs entered this year. Wal Fernance from Sutherland Club was the winner having won all four of his matches. Peg Jones from Manly club was runner-up. Other players were from Hurstville, Jamberoo and Chatswood clubs.

All players enjoyed their games which were played in a very good spirit. Many thanks to Mary Fernance, Tournament Referee, and the other referees who officiated in the Competition.

**Katherine Love & Rita Johnson**  
*Managers.*

## GOLF CROQUET OPEN DOUBLES

12 – 14 April  
a NSW Golf Croquet Championship Event

There were 11 couples in this event which was played at headquarters at Tempe in very pleasant weather. The lawns were good but there were some complaints regarding the lack of mowing. Rita Johnson was the manager and Mary Fernance assisted with the refereeing.

The Maitland and National Parks clubs were well represented with 3 couples from each and there were players from Canberra and Wollongong in addition to the Sydney players from Coogee, Sutherland and Hurstville.



*The semi-finalists*

The results showed a mixture of wins and it was not a run away event for any couple. However Christine Pont and Max Wiltshire finally emerged as the winners with runners-up John Levick and Ian Bailey.



**John Hanscomb**  
*(a player in this event)*

## GOLD SINGLES

This was the first competition played under the new Laws of Croquet.

There were 7 entrants only in this competition. Where were the rest of the Gold players? The Tournament Committee is anxiously awaiting your entries for the forthcoming competitions – check the dates in “pink pages” in the Year Book .

This competition was played in the true spirit of the game – good sportsmanship, friendship and cooperation. Jean Pack's consistently good play gave her a deserved win being the only player to win all 6 matches. Jean played consistently well throughout the competition. Also Pam Gentle won 4 of 6 matches to become the runner-up. Congratulations to these players and also to all other participants.

Thanks must go to Sylvia Shipp – Tournament Referee - and also to referees: Patricia Goldrick, Heather Smallbone, Fay Simpson and Dennis Faggotter for their valuable assistance.



**Rita Johnson**  
*Manager*

*More results on p. 8*