



HOOP POINTS

A Monthly Newsletter from Croquet SA

February 2014 Issue No 312

2014 ASSOCIATION CROQUET STATE TEAM

Best wishes to our players

EIRE CUP 12—23 MARCH, BRISBANE



Back row - John Arney, Greg Rowberry (Captain), David Wise, (absent - Harley Watts)
Front row - Paula Gardiner, Barbara Hooper, Kay Seeary (Vice Captain), Di Helier

Playing Schedule:

Gold Medal 12—14 March
East Brisbane CC

Mens Singles 15—18 March
Wynnum CC, Stephens CC, Graceville CC

Womens Singles 15—18 March Toombul CC,
Windsor CC, McIlwraith CC

Eire Cup (inc. Mixed doubles) 19—23
March Toombul CC, Windsor CC, Stephens CC

Congratulations to John Arney, Graham Whiteway, Virginia Arney and Bernie Pfitzner; all of whom have been awarded a place to play in the **ACA Golf Croquet Presidents Eights** at Cairnlee on 7—9 February 2014. Very best of luck to all.

The **Moonta Memorial Croquet Club** recently celebrated its' 90th Birthday with a luncheon at the Port Hughes Tavern.



Maree Skinner, President of Croquet SA,
presented Barbara with her life membership.

The Croquet Club was formed on the 27th November 1923, and its unbroken longevity since then, is in itself, a tribute to the achievement of the members who, over the years, have kept the club going through the good as well as the doubtless bad times.

Special guests were the Copper Coast Mayor and his wife and Maree Skinner, President of Croquet SA.

It was a time for past and present players to get together and reminisce over old times. Past member, Dot Hunt added a degree of humour to the day by displaying drawings of humorous croquet shots.

Betty Promnitz, a life member of the Club, gave a talk on its' history and the changes she has seen in the 'game' since she commenced playing. She called upon all other life members to stand with her during her presentation.

The Mayor, Paul Thomas, addressed the guests with a speech in which he wished the Club a Happy Birthday and many more years of activity.

A very significant highlight of the day was the presentation of a Life Membership to Barbara Bagshaw who started playing 30 years ago. It was obvious from the camaraderie and friendship and by the smiles on all the faces, that all those in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the birthday celebrations.

FACEBOOK We are now on Facebook! Please feel free to use www.facebook.com/SACroquet to post details of events that are open to the general community. This is a great opportunity to publicise your fundraising events and connect with the outside world! Make the most of it! And don't forget to Like our page!

Is there an evening at your club where beginners can come to try croquet? There are a lot of people waiting to play at the Royal Croquet Club. Post something on our above facebook page! If you include #Royalcroquetclub in your post, it will be shared to a wide audience. E.g. "Want some practice for the #royalcroquetclub? Come on down to" Make your post appealing, short and to the point. What are you waiting for?? Just a note of caution - it is not appropriate to post our events on the royal croquet club page.

**UPCOMING EVENTS 2014
FEBRUARY**

- 8 **SACA AC Saturday pennants** commence. Div 1: -3 to 20; Div 2: 10.5, 2.5 to 20; Div 3: 32+, 8 to 20; Div 4 4+, 16 to 20 entries to sacacentries@hotmail.com
- 9 AC Victor Harbor Gala day doubles—Cuppa @ 9am for 9.30 start. Cost \$15 includes lunch
Contact Beth Young, 8552 2348 bethyoung@bigpond.com
- 15 FEB - Royal Croquet Club Victoria Square - Adelaide Fringe.
- 10 MAR
- 18—20 AC Hatwell Gold Medal 3+ - 18th - 20th February Entry Fee: \$30.00 Entries close: Monday, 3rd February entries to sacacentries@hotmail.com

MARCH

- 14, 21 & 28 Hammer Time Hutt Road Pilot program 6 for 6.30pm start to 9-30pm. To assist contact Cathy Leske.
- 19—23 AC ACA Eire Cup, Brisbane Q.
- 28—1 April AC Whyalla Tournament. Doubles and singles. Cost \$40. Contact Eldyne Smith 8645 8280
- 29—31 GC Victor Harbor tournament—contact details not yet available

APRIL

- 4 Hammer Time Hutt Road Pilot program 6 for 6.30pm start to 9,30pm
- 7 AC Moonta Gala day. Cost \$12 includes lunch and afternoon tea.. Contact Judy Elverd, 8825 3363
judrops@bigpond.com. Entries close 31 March
- 14 GC Kadina gala, 9.30 for 10am start Closing date 10 April, contact Linda Kinch iindakinch2010@hotmail.com

MAY

- 4—8 AC Naracoorte Annual Tournament. Doubles and singles. Contact Eugene Dunstan 8762 3703
enjordan@bigpond.com
- 3-4 GC Port Pirie "Not the Masters Games") Contact Vicki Walters 0412 400 090; 08 8633 0950
- 5-9 AC Port Pirie "Not the Masters Games")
- 15—19 AC Tumby Bay tournament—details later
- 26—30 Country Week (inc. the Whitelaw Cup)

AC Night Doubles: Please note that it is not necessary to play these games double banked if sufficient lawns are available.

REGISTRATION FEES for all Croquet SA players for 9 months 1 January to 30 September 2014
City \$66.00 Country \$47.50 Juniors under 18 yrs as at 1/7/13 Nil Club affiliation \$15

The MACROBERTSON SHIELD played in New Zealand was won by New Zealand
1. New Zealand; 2. England; 3. Australia; 4. USA

RESULTS—2013

Correction NORTH ADELAIDE GAMES Golf Croquet 1. Sue Huddy (North Adelaide) 2. Norma Greig (North Adelaide)

**AC SATURDAY
PENNANTS - DIV 3**

1. Tea Tree Gully
2. Salisbury
3. Coromandel Valley
4. Norwood
5. North Adelaide Red
6. Collingrove
7. Aldinga Bay
8. Millswood
9. Glenunga
10. West Lakes
11. North Adelaide Gold

**AC NIGHT SINGLES
OPEN**

1. South Terrace
2. Norwood
3. Untouchables
4. North Adelaide

DIV 2

1. Brighton
2. Norwood
3. South Terrace
4. Hyde Park

DIV 4

1. Millswood
2. Norwood
3. West Lakes
4. North Adelaide
5. Tea Tree Gully

**GC SATURDAY
PENNANTS—OPEN**

1. Hyde Park
2. Millswood
3. Norwood
4. Brighton
5. South Terrace
6. Glenunga
7. Victor Harbor
8. West Lakes

**GC SATURDAY
PENNANTS—8+**

- Millswood Pines
1. Brighton Emus
 2. Norwood Blue
 3. Brighton Roos
 4. West Lakes
 5. Glenunga Blue
 6. North Adelaide
 7. Hyde Park
 8. Millswood Oaks
 9. South Terrace
 10. Glenunga Gold
 11. Norwood Red
 12. Woodville

ROYAL CROQUET CLUB www.facebook.com/royalcroquetclub

Now has a dedicated website www.royalcroquetclub.com.au

The Royal Croquet Club at the Adelaide Fringe is a fantastic opportunity where we will be able to make an incredible impact on the community in South Australia. Several clubs have stepped up to man the croquet field in what will certainly be the biggest come n try area ever, not to mention in the new Victoria Square!

This is the start of the introduction of a new generation to our sport, these are very exciting times.

It is expected that that *thousands of people* will try our fabulous sport that people find intriguing, mainly because they have never tried it and never really heard much about it.

The full size croquet lawn will be open every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 4-8pm, and every Saturday and Sunday from 12-6pm, weather permitting.

If you are from a club who has agreed to man the lawns during this time - Congratulations, you know how successful, how fabulous this event will be! Clubs participating will be asking for a gold coin donation from patrons to participate. That's incentive, considering how many people will be at this venue!

We are also organising some high profile events to be at the RCC, so stay tuned to Googlegroups.

Are you going to a Fringe event? Be sure to drop into the Royal Croquet Club, at the southern end of Victoria Square and support the helpers at this event.

PROMOTION AND CLUB DEVELOPMENT

This year is going to be busy and exciting, the board is working hard to raise croquet's profile in the community. We had wonderful exposure at the end of last year and now have the Royal Croquet club at the Fringe and pilot event Hammer Time at SACA straight afterwards.

I'm sure you've noticed that everyone who has a hit enjoys themselves, and, it's reported school kids prefer croquet to bowls - it's more exciting!

Research has shown the bowls community that 10,000 people consider themselves bowls player, but there are only 5,000-registered club members. In many ways croquet is the same – consider the number of people who enjoy a hit at various non-club events, but the likelihood of them becoming club members is slim. Wouldn't it be great if we could capture these people? Within their ranks are the potential club members/champions, as well as their enthusiasm acting as a marketing tool. Our current club structures meet the needs and lifestyle of those who are retired or free during the daytime. We're an intelligent lot, couldn't we develop and present croquet to these others in a packages to meet their lifestyle and needs?

Some of the hard work has been done already, the ASC (Australian Sports Commission) published an article last year 'Market Segmentation for Sports Participation' where they examined the barriers to the 3.8 million Australians (Yes, really, 3.8 million - we only want a couple of thousand) who are interested in joining a club - Australians want different things from their sporting clubs than they did 30 years ago.

I propose over the next few months to examine these groups and attempt to relate them to croquet- I would really be interested in your thoughts and reactions to these ideas to help plan the future.

Initially there are 2 groups that we don't have to worry about: – 'Sports Atheists', they wouldn't play any sport in a month of Sundays and 'Sports Indifferent', who can't see any benefit, these amount to about 25% of the 14-65 yr olds.

'Sports Ponderers' make up about 20% of this age group – Often busy married with children, who value physical activity and enjoy strong personal satisfaction and achievement from participation. They need to be convinced that joining won't mean neglecting other commitments.

We would need to present this group with flexible family membership, a range of activities and levels. How about family croquet on a Sunday afternoon with a BBQ – they would be spending fun quality time with their children, escape from the routine, doing something positive for themselves and their families. They'd be taught several codes of croquet and offered coaching to improve their skills– develop club based family competition, interclub family competitions and more.

Let me know what you think?

A new year resolution: do a little spring cleaning of your club information

- Check that your club details on the web site are up to date
- If you have a phone—is the message OK?
- Do you have someone allocated to check the messages regularly?
- Is there a member who will act on those message?
- Do you have a welcome process?
- Since we could very well have some 'workers' who will want to try—do you have evening times for beginners?

Sally Harper

CLUB NEWS

PORT PIRIE CROQUET CLUB

Port Pirie Croquet Club has been out and about in the City letting everyone know where we are and handing out brochures. Our Produce Stall at the Smelters Picnic (a highlight of the Port Pirie calendar) featuring a selection of home made goods, was popular and Vicki Walters handed out brochures to interested people. Members of the public were also able to try their luck at croquet which proved very popular. The club was also involved in the flower show with a display created by Coral Ellis, a long time member.

Vicki Walters—Secretary

SCHOOL CROQUET HITS THE TV SCREEN

BTN, that's Behind the News, is an ABC television programme aimed at the teen and young teen market. They will be filming the students from Walford School who have been playing under the capable guidance of Hyde Park club.

Association Croquet Selectors sub-committee

Applications are invited for the Association Croquet Selectors sub-committee. Refer to the document "AC Selection Sub-committee Appointment and Duties" in the Management Documents section of the Associations website. All applications via email to the AC Director markprater@gmail.com. 0419 301 339

BILLETING REGISTER

Thanks to a very pro-active SACA Board, 2014 will be a very exciting time for croquet.

With promotions, tournaments and hosting Championships, the year ahead is shaping up to be an extremely busy one.

In order to give an opportunity for greater country participation, I have volunteered to investigate the possibility of establishing a billeting register to enable more country members to take part. Hopefully this would help relieve the financial constraints that prohibit many country croquet players from greater involvement in Adelaide organised croquet..

If you are able to provide accommodation and would like to assist in this venture I ask that you contact me by phone or email so that I can gauge the interest.

Helen Anstey 8277 7735 lello@internode.on.net

GOLF CROQUET—NEW RULES

As of 1 January 2014 the Australian Croquet Association (ACA) adopted the WCF GC Rules 2013

The new GC rules are available on the ACA website www.croquet-australia.com.au/laws

SIMPLIFIED CHART VERSION Rules: 1(f) & (h), 6(e), 7(e), 9(j) 11 and 14(a)(8)

(this chart is available on the SACA website on Play the Game, How to play page)

To assist **PLAYERS** in understanding the new Rules the following hierarchy charts have been developed to provide an easier and perhaps simplified way to view the Rules. Not all the new/changed Rules have been addressed, only a select few which have been identified by GC Referees as Rules that may be more important to players in the short term.

IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that players read the Rules if possible to help understand the full intention and meanings of the Rules

Beraniece (Bernie) Pfitzner, GC Co-ordinator Refereeing, berniepfitzner@adam.com.au 8554 3356

Judy Stewart who is the SACA Handicapping Coordinator has been very involved with the changes to the Handicapping process.

The SACA Golf Croquet committee would like to take this opportunity to thank both Bernie and Judy for the considerable time they spent over the holiday period addressing the changes.

VALE

It is with regret we advise the passing in January of the following and send condolences to their families:

JEAN ARMSTRONG (Brighton CC) Life member; Croquet Hall of Fame - "Jean died, as she wished, peacefully at home. Her last week was spent in reminiscences and laughter, surrounded by family, friends and carers." Her life was celebrated at the Brighton CC on 23 January.

ZOE WISE (South Terrace CC) was a long serving member of South Terrace CC—her funeral was conducted on 21 January.

NAN BIRDSEY (South Tce CC) a longstanding member and life member of South Tce CC.

Hammer Time sunset croquet

What *is* Hammer Time?

You may remember several memos to clubs and googlegroups last year about the need to promote croquet to our communities, and the need to create an instantly recognisable name for our product so that people immediately know that it relates to croquet. Well this is Hammer Time. This is the pilot program for a possible state-wide croquet program that this state has needed for nearly 100 years. We have applied for funding for this state-wide program and the outcome will be known in early April. Meanwhile we are holding this pilot program (a pre-requisite for any state wide sport program), to learn, find out what works, what doesn't and learn from it. This is why we want you to be involved!

We have identified through marketing companies that the 30-45 year old age group are very keen to play croquet. It is a new activity that most have never tried before. People are bored with the same old things. Our program will introduce this new generation to croquet!

The name Hammer Time relates to this younger age group in particular (but also is relevant to other age groups). It is modern, catchy and unique. It is distinctive! This is why we have used this name.

With all the croquet promotion going on at the Fringe, it seemed like the opportune time to hold this pilot, so it is scheduled for straight after the Fringe, for four Fridays, 14, 21 and 28 March and 4 April from 6.30pm - 9.30pm. The flyer being developed to promote the program will be mailed by Aust Post to all residents in the City of Adelaide (there are a massive 4000 of them). We will also give out 4000 flyers at the Fringe. We will produce posters and a banner to put on Hutt Road. We will be engaging with social media, newspaper and through the City of Adelaide channels.

So that we can gauge how many people will come, people will register via our website and new Facebook page; www.facebook.com/hammertimecroquet. This page is for the public to read about the Hammer Time program and what is being scheduled there, for us to post photos etc. It is not designed for general croquet news. Any news of this type can be posted on our sacroquet facebook page (see page 1 of this newsletter). If the state wide program comes to fruition, any club will be able to post information about their own Hammer Time program. Thus opening the door for excellent exposure through social media.

We are working very hard to promote croquet as you can see. It takes even more effort to do this as an association without support from our parent body. This is exciting stuff, we are the first state in Australia to open our doors to social media and to initiate these goals to take croquet to the next level!

Does your club need more members?

Does your club need more younger members to carry on?

Does your club need help to hold a promotional program that is great?

Join with us to experience Hammer Time, welcome new patrons to the whole new world of croquet, and to have fun while doing so.

Register your interest by email or phone as soon as possible to croquetsa@bigpond.com

The below photos are fun times at the Royal Croquet Club The Ashes - thanks again to all involved.



Cathy Leske

VACANCIES

HQ Director and/or Housekeeper/Bar Manager. The Board will consider any contribution a member could make to help. This does not have to be a board position! Enquiries Cathy croquetsa@bigpond.com

Other vacancies

AC coaching coordinator; ACA Magazine correspondent.

Delegates are required for Tumby Bay and Kadina

SACA OFFICERS

| | | | | |
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SACA COMMITTEES**ASSOCIATION CROQUET Coordinators**

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------|
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| Events | Di Helier | sacaacentries@hotmail.com | 8338 3087 |
| Selection | Barbara Hooper | hoops2@westnet.com.au | 8278 5253 |
| Handicapping changes | Chris Birdsey | cbirdsey@bigpond.com | 8267 4567 |
| Secretary | Vacant | | |

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| | | | | |
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| Coaching | Phil Wise | pewise@bigpond.com | 8340 0731 | 0402 109816 |
| Selection | John Arney | vjarney@gmail.com | 8277 2082 | |
| Handicapping | Judy Stewart | judydystewart99@gmail.com | 0401 931 461 | |
| Secretary | Vacant | | | |

JUNIOR SPORT Shirlene McBride skmcbride04@gmail.com 0427259750

ACA MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT **Vacant**

ACA CONTACTS

Croquet Australia Website www.croquet-australia.com.au

ACA office, PO Box 254, Dickson, ACT 2602: 02) 6257 0880

Susan Linge - Administrative Officer, admin@croquet-australia.com.au

See Croquet Australia website for upcoming events

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Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation and Sport

