



# HOOP POINTS

December 2021 Issue No. 390

## Gateball — SA President's Doubles

The fourth edition of the SA President's Gateball Doubles competition saw a couple of innovations this year. The first of these was that I was responsible for organising the tournament for the first time, which was an interesting, and ultimately rewarding experience, if somewhat nerve shredding along the way with the ever changing border restrictions – the number of pairs for the tournament varied from 4 to 9 in the lead up, and ultimately settled at 6, which allowed us to run 2 courts and hold a round-robin tournament.



Saturday morning opened to glorious Gateball weather, and the pre-tournament favourites did not disappoint with Barry and Karen on 4 wins and Philip and Ben on 3 wins but superior net gates going into the final game.

An honourable mention goes to Ros and Keith who travelled the furthest and beat the winners and lost narrowly on a shoot out to the runners up, to finish in third place – a terrific result.

On Sunday, we held our first SA State teams event. With only two teams, and a couple of players unable to compete, we ended up with two teams of 5.

The first team was the "Shanghai 6" comprising Barry J, Geoff, Peter M, Ros, and Trish. The members of this select group have all competed in the "Jinxi Cup", held just outside Shanghai. The remaining players – Ben, David, Karen, Keith and Philip – formed the "Australia 6" team, with 3 states represented.



To take advantage of a development opportunity, each game was played with a different captain. Captains were matched in terms of experience and the two most experienced captains on each team were banned from providing in-game advice.

The Shanghai 6 team stormed to a 3-0 lead, but the Australians fought back, to result in a 3-2 win for the Shanghai 6.

All games were played with great sportsmanship, in particular the team games that were not refereed (although we did have the unusual luxury of four Level 1 referees playing).

A big thank you to all our competitors but particularly our interstate competitors – Philip, Ros and Keith for making the trip, and also to Roger and David for marking the courts, and Lyn for presenting the trophy.

**Geoff Crook**

**Woodville Croquet Club**



## FANTASTIC WEEKEND AT THE KADINA CROQUET CLUB

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct, the Kadina Croquet Club welcomed coaches Murray Baum, Eileen Ferguson, Joan Kelly, Marga Podnieks and David Wise to the Copper Coast. 25 Golf Croquet players received tuition in the basic skills of using the mallet to best effect and were advised that to win they had to be 'clever'. This came as a bit of a shock to us all! 15 players were split into 2 groups for the Association Croquet coaching. The lower group were helped with their shot production, stance and grip while the higher level group were given lots of tips on how to outfox the opposition and place the ball where their adversary couldn't hit it. We had a total of 6 people from Adelaide, Victor Harbor and Kadina who took the opportunity to take the test to gain Level 1 Coaching certification.

The KCC felt very privileged to host the South Australian 'Association Croquet' State Training squad on the Sunday. The coach in charge for the day with unenviable task of keeping the mob under control was Simon Hockey. The weather lovely and it even turned hot enough that the sun screen had to be hastily found and applied. Quite a few of the participants from Saturday came to watch and were amazed at the level of skill on display. Dwayne McCormick was most generous with his time as he stayed behind afterwards and showed a few of us mere mortals how to do a triple peel. It was a fantastic weekend both weather wise and experience wise and we are very grateful to SACA for venturing out into the countryside and for choosing the Kadina Croquet Club as their venue.

Linda Kinch



Di Helier, Mark Kobelt, Virginia Arney, Robyn Short, Harley Watts, Dwayne McCormick, David Short, Sally Harper, David Wise, Shirley Howlett, Barry Jennings, Mark Senior, Roger Buddle, Greg Rowberry

## SA CROQUET ASSOCIATION 2021 PRESENTATION DAY

SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER AT NORTH ADELAIDE CROQUET CLUB - 11 am - 2.00 pm

The annual presentation of medals, trophies and pennants for Association and Golf Croquet players.

Both AC and GC State teams will be presented along with a special Legend status award.

The bar will be open for drinks and a free sausage sizzle available at the conclusion of the presentations.

Masks inside will be mandatory.

Thank you to North Adelaide for hosting this event.



ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

## Millswood win first ever Weekend Open Pennant



Millswood Croquet club has never won the Open Weekend Pennant, and in fact have only the one Open pennant win back in Autumn 2011.

The 2021 Season kicked off with a close loss to North Adelaide on 6<sup>th</sup> February. Millswood then won the next five matches, most of the matches were very close, some fortunately were won by a greater hoop count, the only exception was the 5 to 1 win over the highly credentialed and respected Hyde Park Knights on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The last match against Glenunga was delayed due to the COVID lockdown and was scheduled for November 14, this was to be the final match in the Weekend Open season. Knowing the Open Pennant standings, the mathematicians at Millswood had deliberated and concluded that we had to win only one of the six games to win the pennant. Glenunga needed to win the match 6-0 to win the pennant.

On match day, with great expectation, there were many Millswood and Glenunga supporters to watch the match unfold. The relative team handicap totals were Millswood 3, Glenunga 18, it would be fair to say that Millswood were quietly confident. But, of course, the match didn't go as expected. Glenunga won the first two doubles matches, then Millswood won three of the next four, tying the match at three games all. Millswood won the match 37 hoops to 32 and more importantly finished on top of the standings, to claim their first ever Weekend Open Pennant. Congratulations to Glenunga for providing outstanding competition on the day, and in particular to Paul Ensor who was in elite form running hoops and roqueting from great distances.

The Millswood 2021 Weekend Open squad comprised Grant Lawrence, Rob Brown, Stewart Kingsborough, Kim Millhouse, Ed Wilson, Barbara Bertram, Julianne Jago and Peter Webster. Everyone in the squad contributed to the team success over the season, and those members that weren't playing against Glenunga, were all in attendance to support the team.

The entire team gathered back at Millswood after the match and needless to say a few celebratory beverages were consumed.

Peter Webster



## Croquet in the Barossa

Robert (Bob) Smith from Nurioopta is keen to promote regular croquet being played in the Barossa. Over the past few months Bob and the owners of Chateau Tanunda have been working to encourage locals and visitors to the region to join in the fun of playing croquet on the picturesque lawn at the winery.

With the support of Chateau Tanunda and their ground staff the court surface is improving and it is rapidly reaching a standard where visitors from other clubs should come and try it out. Perhaps combine it with some wine tasting which is adjacent to the court.

Since the article above was printed in The Leader newspaper in October, they have had 14 people try the game some of whom have been playing in Adelaide and welcomed the addition of a more local venue. Of these Bob expects a 50% conversion to regular players. Their current regular session times are Monday and Thursday from 9.30 am.

Players should contact Chateau Tanunda cellar door for bookings. Bookings can be made on Chateau Tanunda's website for times other than the Monday and Thursday.



Kensington osteopathy offer a 20% discount for first visit to members of Croquet SA. <http://www.kensingtonosteopathy.com.au/>

## Alternate Stroke Handicap Doubles

This new event was held over three days, November 2 – 4, 2021. The new format was introduced mainly to provide the opportunity for a more experienced player to partner a lesser experienced player in a mentoring role. The event proved to be very popular and attracted entries from eight pairs. The first day was fairly warm but the second and third days were perfect. It took a little while for the players to get used to the alternate stroke format, with some confusion at the start of the games, but they soon got into the swing of things. Because the order of play had to be adhered to, even between turns as well as between strokes, memories were aided by the use of printed cartoons on cards, which were handed to the next partner to play after a turn ended. By the end of the three days these were not used much as most had got the hang of it by then. It was interesting to see the different styles of play – some studiously contemplating each stroke, others questioning and learning, and one pair, Jim Curtis and Lyn Parnell, playing like a well-oiled machine as though they could read each other's thoughts.

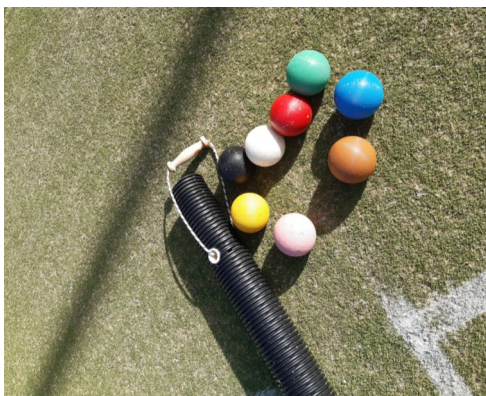
There were three pairs with five wins but Barry Jennings and Karen Magee were the winners with 65 net hoops. It was Karen's first serious foray into AC and, although she claimed she was confused most of the time, she acquitted herself very well under Barry's watchful supervision. Glen Blatchford and Peter Woodward were runners-up with 15 net hoops and Shirley Howlett and Steve Templeton were a very close third with 14 net hoops.

Roger Buddle



Fourteen of the sixteen players – Winners Barry and Karen are front left looking very pleased with themselves

## Recent Improvements at Hutt Road to Make Life Easier.



Thanks to Ansi Baumans we have a few more things at Hutt Road to make life just that bit easier.

Court divider handles making is easier to pull the long dividers into position and hooks to hang up your jackets when the weather changes.



## SA OPEN MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SINGLES – OCTOBER 23 – 24, 2021

### Women's Singles

Five women entered the event. Virginia Arney, Shirley Howlett, Sally Harper, Di Helier and Liz Mackenzie. The games were hard fought and the scoring was low, nobody managed to peg out. In the end there were three players with three wins but Virginia Arney was the winner with 25 net hoops followed by runner-up Shirley Howlett with 19 net hoops. Sally Harper had 7 net hoops.

### Men's Singles

There were eight entries. Simon Hockey, Dwayne McCormick, Murray Baum, David Short, Greg Rowberry, Barry Jennings, John Arney and David Wise. There was some excellent croquet played – Simon managed not one, but two, sextuple peels, a tp and a tpo. Dwayne had five tp's. The upset of the event was David Short beating Dwayne McCormick 26 – 9. David had an excellent tournament losing only to Simon. The winner was Simon with six wins, 106 net hoops. Runner-up was David Short, also with six wins and only five net hoops behind the winner with 101. Dwayne also had six wins with 78 net hoops.

The event manager (me) was so used to writing Dwayne's name on a certificate that he wrote his name on the runner-up certificate instead of David's. Dwayne can be seen in the photo holding up his imaginary certificate.

Roger Buddle, event manager



Dwayne McCormick, Simon Hockey (men's winner), David Short (Men's RU), Shirley Howlett (Women's RU)

## THE MASLEN BROOCH

The Maslen Brooch dates back to 1974 when Mrs. Gertie Maslen of Broadview Croquet Club decided that too many men were winning medals, so she donated funds for the provision of a gold brooch, to be awarded annually for a competition for women only. The current competition is for women with handicaps 6 or more. Some years ago, Jane Lewis donated a badge for men in the same handicap range (the Lewis Badge) and this event is held concurrently with the Maslen Brooch. This year only two men entered so the event was not held.



Di Helier (winner), Lyn Parnell, Joan Kelly (runner-up), Lynne Harris, Liz Mackenzie

This year's Maslen Brooch competition was held over two days, November 16 & 17, 2021. There were five entries – Liz Mackenzie, Di Helier, Lynne Harris, Lyn Parnell and Joan Kelly. Joan Kelly arrived on both days, almost at the crack of dawn, and had the courts set up before most players arrived. Lyn Parnell kept the players well supplied with chocolates and fruit cake. The games were played in good spirit with good weather on both days. Di Helier and Lyn Parnell each had one peg-out (Lyn should have had two). The brooch was won by Di Helier with 3 wins and 22 net hoops. Runner-up was Joan Kelly, also with 3 wins and 5 net hoops. Joan reduced her handicap to 9.

Roger Buddle, event manager

## Association Croquet Awards - 2021

### Individual Medals & Awards

Harvey Bronze Medal (14+)  
 Marryatville Silver Medal (8+)  
 Lewis Badge (Men 6+)  
 Maslen Brooch (Women 6+)  
 M E Hatwell Gold Medal (3+)  
 C B Sharp Gold Medal (-3 plus)  
 ACA Bronze Medal  
 Selector's Invitation Men  
 Selector's Invitation Women  
 President's Trophy Men

### Winner

Not contested 2021  
 Stewart Kingsborough  
 Not contested 2021  
 Di Helier  
 Shirlene McBride  
 Simon Hockey  
 Dwayne McCormick  
 Mark Senior  
 Virginia Arney  
 Dwayne McCormick

### Runner Up

Garry Speed  
 Joan Kelly  
 Terry Catling  
 Dwayne McCormick  
 Murray Baum  
 Greg Rowberry  
 Shirley Howlett  
 Simon Hockey

President's Trophy Women  
 Division 4 Singles  
 Division 3 Singles  
 Division 2 Singles  
 SA Open Men's Singles  
 SA Open Women's Singles

Virginia Arney  
 Peter Woodward  
 Garry Speed  
 Jim Curtis  
 Simon Hockey  
 Virginia Arney

Shirley Howlett  
 Colin Yeatman  
 Joan Kelly  
 Ken McHugh  
 David Short  
 Shirley Howlett

### Doubles Events

Handicap Doubles 12+  
 Alternate Stroke Doubles

Malcolm & Linda Kinch  
 Barry Jennings & Karen Magee

S. Howlett & S. Templeton  
 Glen Blatchford & Peter Woodward

### Pennants

Night Doubles

### Section

Open

### Winners

Hyde Park

### Runners Up

Norwood Puzzle

Division 2

Norwood Enigma

Norwood Puzzle

Division 3

Salisbury

North Adelaide White

Night Singles

Open

Not completed

Div 2

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Div 4

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Saturday Pennants

Open

Norwood Red

HPY

Div 2 (10+)

Norwood Blue

Norwood Red

Div 3 (32+)

Salisbury

Millswood

Div 4 (64+)

Glenbury (Glenunga/Salisbury)

Millswood

Sunday Funday

Division 2

North Adelaide

Norwood

Division 3

Salisbury

Millswood

Division 4

Millswood

Northbury

### UP COMING AC EVENTS.....

JANUARY 15/16 AC State Team

FEBRUARY 12/13 AC State Team

FEBRUARY 26 AC Pennants

FEB 27—MARCH 4 Victor Harbour Tournament All handicaps. Doubles and singles

Contact: S. Howlett 0431332194 [showlett261@gmail.com](mailto:showlett261@gmail.com)

MARCH 5 AC Pennants

MARCH 9 - 20 AC Gold Medal, National Men's & Women's Singles and Eire Cup (Sydney)

MARCH 22-24 AC Handicap Doubles 12+

MARCH 26/27 AC Pennants

### UP COMING GC EVENTS.....

JAN 22,23,26 President's Trophy SACA Hutt Road

JANUARY 24,25 President's Trophy 5+ SACA Hutt Road

MARCH 13—14 SA Bronze Medal 9+ SACA Hutt Road

MARCH 15—17 Murray Bridge Tournament

MARCH 26—27 Men's SA Championship Hyde Park [Entries via the SACA website](#)

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