



HOOP POINTS

May 2023

Issue No.407

2023 Aus GC SA Gold Medal Tournament April 22nd – 25th

As one of the significant tournaments on the SA Croquet Calendar for identifying State Team members, this event brought together sixteen highly skilled and experienced players who battled through a very challenging competition. Each player's skill, determination and stamina was tested over four days of solid competition playing fifteen one hour games over three days before the Finals and Knockout rounds on the fourth day.

With an abundance of entries, there was the need for a qualifying day prior to the commencement of the Tournament. Five players were contesting two positions resulting in Norma Greig (North Adelaide) and Ansi Baumanis (Norwood) claiming the two positions. Well done to them, but that did mean five consecutive days of play as they entered the tournament, so extra acknowledgement for their achievement.

Management of the event was excellently undertaken by North Adelaide Croquet Club with Kevin & Sue LePoidevin maintaining a very efficient and well organised tournament assisted by many of the North Adelaide Croquet Club members. They even organised the best possible weather conditions for the players and many spectators who were treated to observing some outstanding croquet matches.

Finals Day proved to be a spectacular display of exceptional GC play evidenced with many amazing strategic positioning shots, together with incredible cross court clearances, jump shots and tactical manoeuvres as would be expected at this level of competition.

Semi Finals and Consolation Finals were no exception with Mark Senior and Kate Logan finishing third and fourth respectively. The Grand Final was a very tightly contested and thrilling match between Barry Hayden and Ron McBride who had both only lost 4 games each prior to the final match. The scores in this match were equally balanced with Barry winning 7- 2 then Ron 7-2 and the third game going to 13th hoop when, after some incredible tactical moves, Barry won 7-6 to clinch the match and win the tournament.

The final of the Plate Knockout was closely contested by Barry Jennings and Stephen Condous, with Barry Jennings winning 7-4.

An excellent tournament with congratulations to all winners.

Gayle Searle
North Adelaide CC

Barry Hayden, tournament winner plays his turn in front of a substantial crowd at Hutt Road.



Liz Chidlow Retires After a Long Career

Glenunga Croquet Club held a rather special afternoon tea recently, to celebrate Liz Chidlow, a long-time member who has recently retired from the game.

Liz was presented with a printed and laminated copy of a history of her croquet sporting life, and a certificate of appreciation from her fellow players for everything she had done in her long career to foster the game and our club.

Liz has played croquet, mostly the Association Croquet code but Golf Croquet as well, for over 30 years. She was a skilful player who enjoyed playing in as many tournaments as she could, far and wide, and became known as the player who *has mallet, will travel*.

In November 1997 Liz played in the WA City of Bunbury Pre-World Championship and was runner-up in her block. She was a member of Kings Ridge Croquet Club, which in September 1992 moved to Glenunga to occupy the premises previously the home of the Glenunga Bowling Club, and which then became the Glenunga Croquet Club.

Liz was : President of the club 1997-1999

Club Captain 2004-2007

SACA Match Committee member from 2004

SACA proxy for country clubs

She organised and managed the annual Glenunga Games, a fortnight-long event open to all SA Association players. She introduced the Glenunga Gold competition for Division 3 AC players, and implemented and managed the Friendly Challenge Games for Div.3 and Div.4, a fortnightly singles event open to all SA clubs.

Liz played in some Golf Croquet Pennants in the early years after its introduction to Glenunga, and in Association Croquet Pennants until 2023.

She was made a Life Member of the Glenunga Croquet Club in 2011

Some other of her achievements are :

1995 : Won Whyalla Champion singles and doubles

2000 : Won SACA Women's Championship

2001 : With Jim Brewster won South Tce Club's Arab Steed Championship Doubles Div.3

2002 : Won Mt Gambier Div. 3 Championship

2003 : With Ray Lakeman won Marion Club's Lawton Cup

Won Mt Gambier Div. 3 Championship again

With Chris Tinkler won South Tce Club's Arab Steed Championship Doubles Div.3 again

2004 : Won Tumby Bay Championship Div.3

With Chris Tinkler again won South Tce Club's Arab Steed Championship Doubles Div.3

2005 : Won Naracoorte Championship Div.3

2006 : Won SACA Not-For-Handicaps Championship Div.3

2010 : Won SACA T.N.Stephens Golf Croquet Bronze Medal

2011 : Won SACA Maslen Silver Brooch

Played in many tournaments as far apart as Tumby Bay SA, Bunbury WA and Rich River NSW

Played in the Masters Games in both Adelaide and Victor Harbor.

Liz also greatly enjoyed Friday Bridge at the club, and was renowned for her cheese scones .

Liz has taught many of us a lot over the years. We are all very grateful for her dedication and guidance, and we still marvel at her ability to always place her balls just where she wanted them. We wish Liz well in her retirement .

Tony Knight

A.C Captain



Meet The SACA Board Members—

Mark Senior

I started playing croquet back in 1985, having my very first group of lessons with the legendary Tom Armstrong at the Marion Croquet Club.

After the first couple of lessons he said to me in his croaky voice (no pun intended) “you will play in the State Team!” I did end up playing for the State but Tom use to say this to all of his students I have been told.

I soon found myself in Bendigo Victoria working my very first job as an Architect.

I joined the Bendigo Croquet Club, which happened to be across the road, against advice from others. When I turned up to the club on that first Saturday morning I discovered that I was the only male in a club with 60 members! I was also the youngest member at age 25. I did not mind though as I did get pampered and enjoyed, during my time there, some excellent scones and cream.

In 1987 I travelled through the USA with croquet as one of my themes. I played croquet in many places but not only AC. I played American Rules Croquet, Kentucky Croquet (where short mallets are used and tiny hoops) and Roque (which is a type of croquet that uses mallets with a hard end and a rubber end to allow different types of strokes to be played with ease). In the USA you toss the coin twice, the first toss is to determine if you play American Rules or International Rules. Once the game has been decided you toss for play or colours.

Once through America I arrived in the UK and ended up living in London for 3 years. I joining the Harrow Oak Croquet Club in North London. Weekend tournaments were plentiful in the summer months and this gave me the opportunity to play croquet (while working) and see many parts of the UK and Ireland that I may not have seen and to meet many new people and interesting characters.

Upon returning to Adelaide I jointed the Brighton Croquet Club and remained a member there for 12 years. I was asked by Colin Need to design the new club house when the Brighton CC moved to Stopford Road, which I did.

I first played in the State Team in 1991 and we won the Eire Cup that year. I did make the SA Team in other years through the 1990s but not every year as my attention was mainly focused on raising my two small sons at that time of my life so practising croquet took a back seat.

I also had a turn at being editor of the Australia Croquet Gazette after Carolyn Spooner retired from the position in the mid 1990s.

I retired from croquet in 2005 after 20 years but I didn't stay retired for long as I re-joined Brighton CC in 2010-11. I then took another break from the game and played golf (very badly).

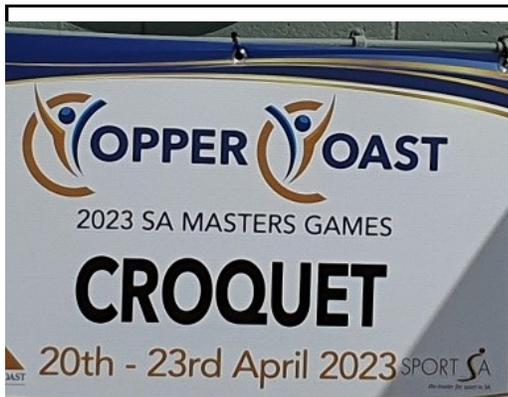
In 2015 I returned to croquet due to shoulder surgery that prevented me from playing golf for a time and I have not stopped playing croquet since.

I joined the Norwood Club, which was close to my work place, and enjoyed my time there.

When I changed jobs and no longer worked in Norwood, for convenience sake I searched for a new club that was located closer to home. I chose Hyde Park CC and I am very glad that I did as it is the perfect fit for me, good lawns, good people, strong at all forms of mallet sports and cheap glasses of red at the bar if you don't mind drinking wine that comes out of a cardboard box.

This year I was elected to the SACA board and this gives me a chance to give back something to croquet as I have not contributed my time in the past in areas of coaching or refereeing, as many around me have, due to me still being a working man. Perhaps in retirement I can contribute further to a game that has given me so much.





Copper Coast Masters Games April 20th to 23rd
WOW! What an amazing four days of Croquet at the Copper Coast Masters Games.

Both Moonta and Kadina venues were fantastic and the weather was absolutely fabulous for playing croquet. With record entries and players travelling from as far away as Mildura and all over SA, the games started on 20th April.

This year the Association competition was held solely at Moonta and all the Golf was played at Kadina. A total of 7 modified lawns were available for use, which enabled the 50 GC and 12 AC competitors to be accommodated.

Over the 4 days of competition 236 games of GC and 30 games of AC were played. Kadina hosted a pizza and ice cream meal as well as a BBQ, both of which were well attended. A strong contingent of players attended the welcome ceremony which incorporated the Athletes March. The Medal presentation ceremony was held at Kadina, with medals being presented by Copper Coast Mayor, Rosslyn Talbot.

Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals were awarded for each of the 6 GC and 2 AC competitions and the results are listed below. Medals were also awarded for both AC & GC to men, women and doubles pairs for the age groups under 60, 61-70, 71 -79 and 80+.

Many thanks to the players participating and providing exciting croquet and friendly competitiveness and to the volunteers from both Moonta and Kadina clubs for hosting a friendly and well-run tournament. Old friendships were renewed and new ones formed and many players say they look forward to the 2024 Masters Games which will be on the Copper Coast again from 11th to 14th April 2024.

Golf Croquet Singles:

Medal	Event 1 Yellow	Event 2 Blue	Event 3 Orange
Gold	Dean Rodda	Helen Rodda	Jean Thompson
Silver	Martin Kennett	Lorraine Powell	Julie Arthur
Bronze	Hilary Thomas	Heather Martin	Laurence Winter

Golf Croquet Doubles

Medal	Event 1 Green	Event 2 Pink	Event 3 White
Gold	Helen and Dean Rodda	Colleen Kennett & Lyn Best	Julie Arthur & Margie Davies
Silver	Jill Millhouse & Annie Millhouse	Anne Hesse & Joan Thompson	Pam Bussenschutt & Helen Crosby
Bronze	Rosie Douglas & Hilary Thomas	Chrissy Bing & Heather Martin	Rosemary and Michael Vincent

Association Croquet

	Association Singles	Association Doubles
Medal	Event 1 Yellow	Event 1 Pink
Gold	Rhonda Habner	John Lydeamore & Barry Hutchinson
Silver	Robert Habner	Wilma Hendry & Robert Habner
Bronze	Debbie McPharlin	Lynne Thompson & Debbie McPharlin

Eileen Ferguson
 Masters Games Croquet Co-ordinator

Golf Croquet 12+ Pennants



Golf Croquet 12+ Pennants, played Wednesdays at Hutt Road was introduced this year, thanks to a requesting submission from Marianne Maycock to the GC Committee.

She saw the need for higher handicap players to play together in a structured competition before jumping into the 9+ Weekend Pennants. Clubs were approached and 7 teams entered. Each team is required to be accompanied by an experienced pennant player who can assist with filling in the score sheet, checking handicaps and indexes are recorded correctly and managing the teams to swiftly transition from one game to the next. They also take on the role of managing the clocks for the games and teaching the newer players the duties of opening and closing at Hutt Road.

Referees are sought by the opening club, to date 2 and often 3 referees have been on hand to ensure rules are observed and then explained after a potential fault shot is executed.

The success of this competition was the experienced mentor from the clubs, the referees and of course the participating players. The competition concludes on May 3rd after a single round robin event.

Karen Magee
SA GC Team Event Coordinator.

Feedback from the mentors as follows.

“I think it has been a great success, introducing new and previously non-competitive players to Pennant competition.”

David Rowe HPCC

“A great opportunity for new and not so new GC players to test themselves competitively.” Geoff Webber TTGCC

“An opportunity for high handicap players to enhance their croquet enjoyment by gaining experience of tournament play.” Paul Ensor STCC

“My team members love it and I have seen a lot of growth in skills and confidence. I sincerely hope that it continues in its present form. It is terrific that each team has a Manager and the Referees have been very patient and instructive.” Sue LePoidevin NACC

“An excellent opportunity for new players to enter a competitive environment with little or no stress.” Kim Millhouse MC

Northern Yorke Peninsula Croquet Association AC Pennants Season 2022-23

The NYPCA AC Pennant Competition was won by Kadina (Capt. Malcolm Kinch) and the runners up were Moonta Navy (Capt. Lynne Thompson) Congratulations to both teams. The season started on 5 th Oct and finished on 12th April with a break over the Christmas and New Year period.

There were 5 teams competing: Kadina, Moonta Navy, Moonta Red, Wallaroo Blue and Wallaroo White. Moonta and Wallaroo did very well to field 2 teams and we all helped each other out when 'subs' were required. Moonta has done really well to introduce and bring on several new AC players, they are very fortunate to have experienced players to guide them on technique and tactics as well as partnering them in the matches. We only lost 1 game to the heat and all the matches, although competitive, were played in great spirit with friendliness and encouragement shown to the new players.

A big Thank You to Wallaroo who have been in charge for the last 2 years and have done a good job. After the last match, we all gathered at the Wallaroo Community Club for a delicious lunch prepared by the ladies from the Golf Club.

The Kadina Croquet Club wants to thank Judy and Trevor Lipsett for their many years of playing for the club. They are moving away from Thompson Beach and heading back to live in Adelaide, they will both be greatly missed. With everyone getting older, we're hoping that we will have enough players for the 2023-24 season, as we all enjoy our Wednesday mornings, battling it out on the croquet lawns followed by a good old natter and a catch up on what's happening around the 3 Copper Triangle Towns and also on the rest of the Yorke Peninsula.

Linda Kinch



Back: Sandy Rodsted, Malcolm Kinch
Front: Trevor Lipsett, Judy Lipsett, Linda Kinch, John Lydeamore

Funday at Norwood 26th March 2023

It was a drizzly day in Adelaide when 25 + intrepid croquet players invaded the lawns at Norwood. I was unsure who would come; what players would be attracted to a day trying to learn a new game, different to the game they usually played. However, after 2 flyers on Google groups 20 + people had registered, and a couple more turned up on the day.

Lawns were allocated for Ricochet, Aussie, Gateball and Pirates. An hour to each code x 4 over the day. The response was very, very positive.

Players enjoyed learning something new with different players from other clubs; learning in this environment can be a bonding experience! There was the opportunity to share understandings and experiences during the play and over lunch.

The coaches rose to the challenge of teaching players who ranked from virtual beginners to low bisquing players - thanks.

My goal was to encourage players to think outside the code they played and to realise that the 'dark' side was enjoyable and easy to learn.

Hopefully we'll do it again in Springtime.

Sally Harper



AC Marryatville Silver Medal

The garden at the SACA gate was in full bloom to welcome players to the Marryatville Silver Medal competition on April 11th and 12th.

The weather was acceptable with only a few showers, so all was set for a good competition. Illness and misadventure in the days before the event reduced the number of participants, but not the spirit and comradery of those who remained. Play was tight, with many close matches, and **Liz Mackenzie** shone winning the AC Marryatville Silver Medal for 2023 without dropping a game.

Thanks to the Glenunga Croquet Club for their willingness to manage the event.

Joan Kelly



Garden



Liz Mackenzie



GC 15+ Combined Doubles

The 15+ combined doubles was played over 2 days. Starting on Tuesday 4th April with a break on Wednesday finishing on Thursday 6th Seven couples joined together to play a very successful, very friendly, highly competitive competition. It was played as a seven player round robin, with the top four teams progressing through to a final series consisting of semi-finals and a grand final.

This was one of the most even competitions in recent memory. The highest combined handicap was 18, the lowest combined handicap 15. All teams were evenly matched. At the end of the round robin five of the seven teams had won three out their six games. The standout leaders at the end of the round robin were Geoff Houghton and Ibrahim Farran.

The semis were spectacularly close. Both semis had 5 – 4 results. Great croquet played by all teams. As with all competitions like this, there can only be one winner. Jenny Haydon and Ann Millhouse were successful over worthy runners up Robin Golding and Jim Carter.

The event was managed by members of the Millswood Croquet Club with assistance from referees Barry Haydon, John Arney, David Stumm and Karen Magee. Thanks to all involved for a very successful and enjoyable tournament.

Kim Millhouse

Millswood CC

L=> R Robin Golding, Ann Millhouse,
Jenny Haydon. Jim Carter



North Adelaide Gala Day (from a participant)

Friday 21st April 2023 and North Adelaide Croquet Club held their Gala Day for 2023. There were 32 players who nominated and all played.

Members of the Club did a marvellous job of planning organising and conducting the day. Other members assisted with the meals and coffee breaks.

Three games were conducted in the morning session followed by lunch.

Lunch was sumptuous with too much to choose from. Soup followed by Quiche, salads, sandwiches pies and pasties and cheese and salami. Colin, Susan, Gloria and Roger from Club Holdfast attended.

The raffle was drawn prior to sweets and Roger Zeuner won a prize in the raffle. Dessert followed and once again too much to choose from, but all looked and tasted delicious.

After a couple of wines, I thought that I could play better. The final round was then held and scores recorded. There were players from ten croquet clubs in attendance. The weather was clear with blue skies and their four greens were picture perfect. You could not have had a better day weather wise. All present were full of praise for the day and the day set a high bar for future Gala Days to better.

After the final game the winner and runner up were presented with their prizes. Susan Dunsby from Club Holdfast was the winner, with Roger Zeuner from Club Holdfast runner up and on a close count back. Congratulations to Susan and Roger.

Well Done to all organisers and players.

Roger Zeuner.

Reporter Holdfast Bay Croquet Club.



Holdfast Bay Croquet Club -Jackpot Joker Dinner



Sixty members of the Club Holdfast Croquet and Bowling Club enjoyed a sumptuous meal at the Club on Friday Night 14th April. Thanks to the Croquet members who worked all day to provide us with beef and chicken casseroles followed by Bread and Butter Pudding, cream and custard. Delicious.

The main event for the evening was the Jackpot Joker Raffle. The Joker Jackpot has not been won for over twelve months and it was down to about five cards. The winner of the raffle gets to pick a card. The Joker Jackpot had reached over \$4000. Clem and Janice from the Croquet Club won the raffle. Clem stepped up to the board and after considerable deliberation, I think the cards were talking to him, he then selected the card that he was drawn to and was secured with a red pin. Then there was a thunderous roar as the Joker was revealed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JANICE AND CLEM.

Well deserved for all their contributions around the Club. The remainder of the raffles were drawn, but really an anticlimax after the Joker.

All Croquet Club members then assisted with the clean up and washing the dishes. A special acknowledgement to Club members, Margaret, Helen, Janice, Clem, Paul, Colin, Val and Gloria for making the Jackpot Joker Dinner a great success.

Roger Zeuner.
Holdfast Croquet Club



Victor Harbor Croquet Club

I must say that there is a tremendous amount of 'déjà vu' when attending the Victor Harbor AC Tournament! However this year, the club and grounds were looking especially well tended as the 100th Anniversary celebrations had only taken place about 3 weeks earlier. There is nothing like a special occasion to muster all the troops and get 'busy beeing'.

The membership of this very active club is growing steadily, with new players usually starting off with Aussie then GC. The skills required for these 2 codes of the game certainly prepare players for AC and I do believe it's totally beneficial both for completeness of technique and for personal mental health that players enjoy all Mallet Sports and don't get too obsessed with results and Index Points- Life is way too short!!

The Victor Harbor CC has secured quite a number of new sponsors and it was interesting to hear about the feedback they require from the club. They want to get more customers and members are encouraged to patronise these businesses as much as possible and to thank them for their interest in the Croquet Club. You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours is the general idea.

The new signage on 3 sides of the lawns, capturing everyone's attention who walks past, gives a great impression of a modern and welcoming sports club which certainly would encourage me to join if I were new to the town and looking for a different interest and activity.

Congratulations on reaching 100 years old, you look all set up for the next 100!



UP COMING EVENTS.....

Association Croquet

MAY	1—4	Naracoorte Tournament Entries have closed
MAY	13	Weekend Pennants Feb to Nov, 2023.
MAY	22	Victor Harbor Gala Day
JUNE	3	Pennants
JUNE	13—15	Maslen Brooch (6+) enter via SACA website Lewis Badge (6+) enter via SACA website
JUNE	24	Pennants

Golf Croquet

MAY	6	Weekend Pennants
MAY	15	Aggregate 24+
MAY	16	5+ Singles Enter via SACA Website
MAY	20	Weekend Pennants
MAY	22	Aggregate 24+
MAY	23	5+ Singles
MAY	25 & 26	SA Women's Championship Enter via SACA Website
MAY	27 & 28	SA Men's Championship Enter via SACA Website
MAY	29	Mt Barker Gala Day
JUNE	2	Northwood Trophy
JUNE	7&8	Doubles Individual 9+
JUNE	10—12	ACA SA Bronze Medal Expressions of interest will be sought, winner represents SA in Australian Gold Medal held in WA in September.
JUNE	17	Weekend Pennants
JUNE	20-22	Doubles Combined 8+
JUNE	25	Weekend Pennants

State GC Squad

To help fund our State Team to bring home the interstate shield this September.

Saturday 20th May

Unley Park Sports Club - Kidman Room

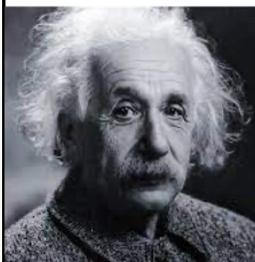
6.30 for 7.00 pm start



Albert knows

Do you?

Find out on the night.



Tickets \$10.00 per person. Bar Open. No BYO.

Bring some nibbles for your table.



**Enter a tables of 6 to 8 or
We can place you in a table.
For more info or book a table.**

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