



# HOOP POINTS

October 2023 Issue No.412

## GC Interstate Shield 2023, Perth

The Interstate Shield is a grueling golf croquet event. For 5 days players and officials are getting up at 5:00am, playing all day and then getting home after 6.00 pm.

The games themselves are extremely challenging. There is no let-up. You are playing Australia's top players and there are no easy games.

It was very pleasing to see the new and younger faces in the competing states' teams. They certainly bought with them extra skills and vigour. Something we should aim to replicate soon.



The first test was against Queensland. It was a very close affair and while we dominated in the doubles, the singles were a different story. Anne Woodhouse deservedly won the award for the best singles player, winning all her games and her doubles pairing won the award for best doubles players.

Our second test against Tasmania was particularly close. We had a greater hoop total than Tasmania and as a result, won the test.

With a much more positive attitude, we defeated Western Australia on day 3. On paper, the team favoured to win the ISS. We won 3 of the 8 doubles games and were more successful in the singles winning 18 of the 32 singles. Unfortunately, we lost Anne Woodhouse to injury. She was unable to play again in the event.

Playing against New South Wales. We lost 23 games to 17 games. We need to work on winning a greater percentage of Hoop 13's.

On the final day we were significantly defeated by Victoria. The day did bring some highlights with Barry Jennings winning all his singles. There was also a race to catch the two little dogs who wanted to play with the colourful balls at Hoop 11, that were in strategic positions.



Report continues on page 3....

[ISS Team Captains](#)

## SACA AC Division 3 Singles

This four-day event was running along like clockwork for the first two days and after an absence of 14 years from competitive croquet, it was pleasing to see Robert Fenwick Elliott back on the lawns at Hutt Road. Then on the night of the second day the wind and rain resulted in heavy flooding in corner 4 of Lawn 1 and several very wet patches on Lawns 2 and 3. This delayed the morning start, and as there was only time for two games each, this meant it forced more games on to day four than had been scheduled. Undaunted by these wild conditions, Philip Bateman played very steadily on his way to winning the event. He lost only one game, to the runner up Lyn Parnell who won that game by pegging out. Hyde Park CC were the Event Managers.

Philip Hadley



L=>R: Robert Fenwick Elliott, Kevin Le Poidevin, Lyn Parnell, Geoffrey Wheaton, Greg Wilson, Marga Podnieks, Joan Kelly and Philip Bateman.



Left=> Robert Fenwick Elliott with Joan Kelly lining up  
Above=> Philip Bateman in full flight  
Below=> Lyn Parnell with a powerful shot



## SA GC Interstate Shield 2023, Perth (cont)

As usual Sam and Samson (SA team mascots) came to the ISS and supported the team along with travelling partners, which the team really appreciated. Paul Ensor as our newest team member was given the responsibility of caring for them and it must be noted that he was the most successful member of our team in Singles play.



Above=> Barry Haydon and Anne Woodhouse with Sam and Samson watching croquet

Left=> Winners of Player of the Day Awards in the Interstate Shield. Barry Jennings won it twice, Paul Ensor, Karen Magee, Anne Woodhouse.

## 2023 GC Gold Medal

Barry Jennings represented South Australia in this prestigious event in Perth as our ACA Bronze Medal winner, Paul Ensor, was unavailable. The eventual winner was Gary Phipps from WA with Jamie Gumbrell (2023 Women's World Champion) of NSW runner-up. Barry came 4<sup>th</sup> after starting in 6<sup>th</sup> ranked position and taking one game off each of the final place getters.

## 2023 Women's and Men's Championships

These events are played before the ISS and after the Gold Medal, with no programmed rest days.

In the Women's, Virginia Arney came runner up to Jamie Gumbrell. An outstanding achievement. Kate Logan made it deep into the event, finishing in the top 8. It was also a great pleasure to see Lorraine Smith and Ann Millhouse enter in the Plate and have some success against top players.

Our men did very well, with **all** of them winning enough games in their Block play to make it into the first round of the Championship Knockout. To find out where everyone finally came requires a specific degree in investigative sequencing. (Or check out the Croquet Scores website). Briefly Stephen Condous, Barry Jennings and Barry Haydon performed extremely well.

Kim Millhouse (Manager) Karen Magee (Vice-Captain) Barry Haydon (Captain/Coach)

[Virginia Arney and Jamie Gumbrell \(NSW\)](#)





## Australian Gateball Championships 2023

The 2023 Australian Gateball Championships were held from September 7th to 10<sup>th</sup> at Wodonga, Victoria. Teams from India, Japan, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, A.C.T. and South Australia participated. For the SA participants, it was planes, trains and automobiles. Some even added buses to the list as well. 2 of our teammates, Karen and David Magee arrived on Wednesday but, due to a family issue back home, decided to return home on Thursday. At least it was a pleasant 3-day car trip.

Wodonga is a medium-sized town 320 kilometres from Melbourne and 760 kilometres from Adelaide, located on the river Murray in north-east Victoria. The weather tends to be cooler than in Adelaide, with about the same average rainfall. Over these four days, there was only one really inclement weather day – Friday, Sept. 8th – both icy cold and with prolonged periods of fine rain and drizzle. Otherwise, the weather was good for most of the competition.

The Doubles section of the event comprised thirty-two teams programmed in a similar way to the F.I.F.A. soccer format. Eight groups of four teams play a 'round-robin' series of matches. The top two competitors from each group then move on to a sixteen-team knock-out competition. The Grand Final was won by Sakai Kono and Yoshihiko Karaue of Japan, defeating Glen and Kristina Whitehead of Canberra 11 - 10 in an exciting game.

The S.A. Doubles team players were -  
Barry Jennings (Hyde Park) and Geoff Crook (Woodville)  
Trish Fazackerley (Woodville) and  
Lorraine Smith (Millswood)  
Peter Martyniuk (Hyde Park) and Peter  
Woodward (Brighton)

Unfortunately, all three doubles groups of S.A. players did not make the final knock-out competition – scores can be found on the Gateball Scores 2023 website.



## Aust Gateball Championship (cont)

The teams' event (five a side) was played with eighteen teams. Two blocks of nine teams played a round-robin series, with the top two from each group playing semi-final matches. The SA team played under Hyde Park colours and finished a close fourth in our group. We won five of our eight games and beat the third team in our group.

After play on Saturday, players went home to get ready for the event dinner at the Commercial Club in Albury. This was not a standard event dinner but one to celebrate Gateball Australia's 20th anniversary of membership in the World Gateball Union. Past ACA President Peter Tavender, Keith McLeod, the first appointed Gateball Australia Co-ordinator and Keiichi Imagawa, President of the World Gateball Union, spoke about our path to becoming a World Gateball Union member. During the night, Peter, Keith and Keiichi cut into a celebration chocolate cake, and Keiichi was presented with a gift from Australia by ACA Board Gateball Representative Barbara Northcott. The cake was a special treat for the competitors the next day with afternoon tea.



Getting ready to spark

The Grand Finalists were Kew White (one of the two teams from Kew, Victoria) and Rockhampton. At the end of the match, both teams had identical scores, 11 all. The title was decided by a 'gate one shoot-out' (similar to the Soccer shoot-out format), and Kew White won 5 to 4.

This event was a great four-day event – well managed, great venue, fantastic competitors and an event enjoyed by all. So, if you would like to be a part of the next team at the 2025 Gateball Championships, come out and learn how to play contact Peter W at Brighton or Peter M at Hyde Park for session times. The next Australian Gateball Championships will be held at the all-new Toronto Croquet Club NSW, 16-20 October 2025.

Peter Woodward - Brighton C.C.

Peter Martyniuk – Hyde Park C.C.



Our team:

Back : Geoff Crook, Peter Martyniuk,  
Barry Jennings

Seated: Peter Woodward, Trish  
Fazackerley, Lorraine Smith



## SACA Division 4 Singles

The weather was superb, the camaraderie friendly, the competition spirited! The 14+ Singles event hit off on the weekend of 16-17 September 2023. Often this event does not receive sufficient entries to run, but Joan Kelly wisely positioned the event on a weekend (for those working), encouragingly mustered enough participants and cunningly arranged the group of 8 into two groups of four (so only two games needed to be played on each day). You guessed it – the two groups were red and blue! Thank you, Joan, for your thoughtful organisation.

The final was tight and tense. Jeff Brigham (Norwood) eventually won 9 hoops to 8 by the Runner-up, David Sincock (Hyde Park). Congratulations to Jeff and David.

Two other significant milestones were achieved during play. Fiona Hockey (Crystal Brook, handicap 18) made a wonderful break of 10 hoops in her final match, and David Sincock moved from handicap 14 to 12. Well done to you both.

Well played to all eight who participated to make the tournament a great success. My grateful thanks also to our small team of North Adelaide AC players who all helped out at various times during the weekend for 'many hands to make light work'.

Roger Harris  
North Adelaide Croquet Club  
Tournament Manager

Above: Division 4 Singles Tournament: Winner Jeff Brigham (Norwood), Runner-up David Sincock (Hyde Park), with Tournament Manager, Roger Harris (North Adelaide)



Division 4 Singles Tournament: Fiona Hockey being congratulated by Tournament Manager Roger Harris for her break of 10 hoops

Division 4 Singles Tournament: The 8 participants: Gillian Roberts, Fiona Hockey, Murray Roberts, Hanne Damgaard, Jeff Brigham, David Sincock, Graeme Drewett and Peter Woodward



## Meningie Croquet Stalwarts celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary

Des and Corinthia Kuchel celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary last Sunday. This event was organised by their family with over 100 attending afternoon tea to celebrate the occasion at the Meningie Bowling Club located beside Lake Albert. Guests came from as far afield as Western Australia and Victoria to join with them in this wonderful day.

Both are dedicated croquet players with Corinthia playing since 1990 and Des since 2001. Corinthia was President of the Meningie Croquet Club for 13 straight years from 2006/7 and Des was Club Captain for 5 years from 2012.

Both contribute significantly to the Croquet Club as well as volunteer at other organisations around town, and are much loved by all who know them.

Congratulations Corinthia and Des on this wonderful milestone.

Photos and commentary submitted by Miriam Smith



## BRIGHTON DAWSON CHALLENGE 2023

This year the Brighton Dawson Challenge was held in beautiful weather. As usual the tournament was played with great sportsmanship and camaraderie. Unfortunately two people had to pull out because of injury but the remaining 8 players provided some great contests which the spectators enjoyed.

Throughout the competition it looked like the final would be between David Maunder and Hans Hiller, both from Brighton. They were very close in the round robin with David beating Hans on the 13th hoop.

However Laura Eden (North Adelaide) was determined to make it to the final and beat Hans to make it there. The final

was a very good match but David had not lost a game all tournament and continued on his winning way.

- 1<sup>st</sup>: David Maunder (Brighton)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Laura Eden (North Adelaide)

**Anne Woodhouse**



## Some of Sam and Samson's Adventures



GC State team women along with Sam and Samson had their nails done in preparation for the ISS



↑  
??!!



At Adelaide airport



## *Golf Croquet Christmas Raffle*

Drawn SACA Presentation Day  
16th December 2023

Cost: \$5 per ticket from State Squad

Prizes: Include  
Gingerbread House and Baskets of goodies



# COLIN PICKERING NORTH ADELAIDE GAMES 2023

## AC Swiss Handicap Singles

**PRE-DRAWN SWISS SINGLES (All handicaps welcome)**

**Wed. 15, Thurs. 16 and Fri. 17 November 2023**

Likely commencement times: 9.00am, 11.40am and 2.20pm  
(For those who cannot play during the daytime,  
alternative arrangements can be negotiated.)

2½ hour matches – time after the bell.  
4 games to be played.



Cost \$35

Preferred payment:

North Adelaide Croquet Club Inc.

BSB: 105068 Account: 041359040

Reference: your surname and ID number

Light refreshments will be provided (no meals).

Please notify any playing restrictions, and we will try to accommodate them.  
Prizes given (value depending on number of entries) for Winner and Runner-up.

**Please return the Application Form (attached) by:**

**Friday 6 October 2023 to:** [roger.harris@unisa.edu.au](mailto:roger.harris@unisa.edu.au)

or

**after that date to Wed. 1 November to:** [kevinlepoidevin@gmail.com](mailto:kevinlepoidevin@gmail.com)

## Mallets making a mark on inclusivity

Will Hunter  
REPORT BY

MEMBERS of Kadina Croquet Club have recently developed an inclusive pilot program for Kadina Memorial School's Kapyong students.

The five-week program aims to introduce the non-contact sport to the secondary-school aged teenagers with the hopes of promoting inclusivity and community values to those who require extra support.

More than 20 students are currently involved in a weekly lesson with volunteer croquet teachers who are passionate about promoting the long-term benefits the sport can have on social, physical and cognitive development.

KMS Kapyong teacher Sandra Hawes, a self-proclaimed croquet apprentice, said her students had engaged well in the pilot program and were keen to get out onto the greens each week.

"The Kadina Croquet Club teachers have helped everyone to participate at differing levels," Ms Hawes said.

"It has taught the students game skills, such as turn taking and being good winners or losers, control of hits and co-ordination, along with how to respect other players and equipment."

The program is supported by

the Rotary Club of Northern Yorke Peninsula which has allocated future funds to ensure the pilot can progress to include a broader audience.

"I hope over time the program grows to include other students from Kadina Memorial School and also schools further afield," Kadina Croquet Club president Dean Rodda said.

Rotary club president Andrew Woolford said it was a project the organisation was passionate to support.

"Our community service arm of Rotary is always trying to find ways to improve the quality of life and serve the public interest for people in our community," Mr Woolford said.

"This program fits really well within those criteria — the people teaching these students are enthusiastic about the program, they are the real heroes of this whole scheme and are doing a great job."

Rotary Club of NYP president-elect Sue Liebelt said it was important everyone was given an opportunity to be involved in sport.

"Traditional sports aren't necessarily suited to everyone — the ability to get involved with something like croquet where all can participate and feel accepted is something Rotary certainly supports."

**CROQUET...** Right: Kadina Memorial School students Chad Rawson and James Lane take notes from Kadina Croquet Club member and mentor Jacqui Story. Below: NYP Rotary Club representatives Neville Andrews and Sue Liebelt with Kadina Memorial School students Tyson Gates and Caitlin Iveson, and teacher Sandra Hawes.



## **UP COMING EVENTS.....**

### **Golf Croquet**

OCT	7-14	Australian Masters Games
OCT	9/16/23/30	Aggregate 24+ Pennants
OCT	25	Spring Singles 12+
NOV	6	Aggregate 24+ Pennants
NOV	9—10	Women's Open Spring Singles <b>Enter via SACA Website</b> } These events are state
NOV	11—12	Men's Open Spring Singles <b>Enter via SACA Website</b> } team qualifying events
NOV	19	Weekend Pennants
DEC	2—3	Millswood Blue and Gold <b>By invitation</b>
DEC	9-10	19 Hoop Tournament

### **Association Croquet**

OCT	18—23	Tumby Bay Tournament <b>contact Karyn and Garry Speed</b> <a href="mailto:speedgk@bigpond.com">speedgk@bigpond.com</a> .
OCT	21	Pennants
OCT	28	CB Sharp Gold Medal <b>Enter via SACA Website</b>
OCT	31—NOV 2	Alternate Stroke Handicap Doubles <b>Enter via SACA Website</b>
NOV	4 - 5	ACA SA Bronze Medal <b>by invitation</b>
NOV	10—12	North Adelaide Invitation Singles
NOV	15—17	Nth Adel Swiss Singles <b>contact Kevin Le Poidevin</b> <a href="mailto:kevinlepoidevin@gmail.com">kevinlepoidevin@gmail.com</a>
NOV	18	Pennants
NOV	26	Pennants

### **Gateball**

DEC	1—3	President's Trophy
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## **Gala Days and Coaching Days**

### **Golf Croquet**

OCT	16	Coromandel Valley
OCT	20	Glenunga
OCT	24	Mount Barker
NOV	1	Tea Tree Gully
NOV	3	Holdfast Bay
NOV	20	Hyde Park Centenary

### **Association Croquet**

NOV	12	Div 3 and 4 coaching at Norwood
NOV	19	Victor Harbor Gala Day



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