



HOOP POINTS

February 2024 Issue No.414

A New Look for Croquet in Australia

During 2023 the Australian Croquet Association has been working with contractors to create a new image for croquet. A key element of this “rebranding” has been the creation of a new national logo and the intent is for each state to have a logo based on the ACA logo.

This new logo creation process is nearing completion. The ACA Board will be approving the change at their next meeting. The Croquet SA Board has already approved the adoption of the SA version as recommended by ACA.

The national logo now will look like this -



The SA logo will be –



Note the similarities and the Southern Cross stars (a bit of imagination here). My first thoughts were the stars were “pain” as my ball crashed into the hoop – and probably bounced out!!!!

There will be various versions of the logo with the text appearing below the logo on our new state team shirts. You may have noticed the new logo is now on the home page of our website.

Eventually clubs will be able and encouraged to adopt a version of the above logo incorporating their club colours and club name as text in lieu of South Australia in the above logo. Clubs wishing to take this step should contact ACA in the first instance. There will be a small charge for the new logo to be created.

State Team shirts

With the adoption of the new logo it has been decided to provide our State teams with new polo shirts. Early in 2023 Shirlene McBride conducted a competition to design a new state shirt. The competition was won by Ros Rohde with the design shown below. The state emblem of the Piping Shrike is depicted in the design.

New shirts have been ordered for our AC state team. Our GC team will get theirs for the ISS in September. The final design is shown here–



Graeme Thomas
SACA President

President's Trophy

Following a Wednesday with 40C and then 35mm of rain on Thursday, luckily play started on Friday, Australia Day, in perfect conditions, which remained stable for all three days.

With Glenunga managing the event, Carolyn Shanahan produced a cake for morning tea each day - apricot on Friday, Picnic cake on Saturday and banana cake and jam tarts on Sunday. (Barry Jennings suggested this should be compulsory for all managing teams.)

As usual, each day was very demanding starting at 9am and finishing close to 5pm, with an initial doubles game followed by five singles for each player. Competition in the singles competition was fierce and after two days Stephen Condous was in the lead with 9 wins and only one loss. But, hot on his heels were a chasing pack of Barry Jennings, Ansi Baumanis, Virginia Arney, and Barry Haydon, all with 8 wins and one loss and separated only by hoop difference.

On the final day Barry J. continued to trail Stephen by one hoop until they met late in competition with Barry winning. So, while equal on games won, Barry took the overall win on the basis of 30 net hoops to Stephen's 22.

The doubles competition was won by Virginia Arney and Stephen Davel with three wins from their three games.

Congratulations to all winners

Unfortunately, two players had to drop out on Sunday, one due to illness and the other to illness in the family.

A spectacular moment on Sunday was Robert Brown's successful jump shot from the boundary on hoop 11.

Many thanks to all the referees who did a sterling job sorting out problems across the three days - Graeme Thomas, Kevin Le Poidevin, Kim Millhouse, and Karen Magee.

And my thanks to Rose Ainslie and, especially, Joan Glastonbury for taking over much of the event management.

Chris Dawson, Glenunga CC



L=> R Steve Condous (runner up), Barry Jennings (singles winner), Virginia Arney and Stephen Davel (doubles winners)



16 President's Trophy participants.

Under 21 Gold and Silver Tournament

Peter Crook recently represented South Australia at the U21 Gold and Silver Medal tournament and the U21s Singles.

The winner of the Gold Medal was Ethan Gumbrell (+2 handicap), the silver medal was won by Addison Matthews (-1 handicap) and Peter Crook came in third (+8 handicap).

The U21 Singles was won by Addison Matthews in a best of three games against Ethan Gumbrell.



Participants in The Under 21 Australian Championships held in Maitland, NSW.



The Doubles was won by Ethan Gumbrell and Jamie Fleming.

All participants and family members attending had a great time and our hosts at Maitland were very generous. It was mentioned at the end of the tournament that the referees had little to do and the standard of play was excellent.

Trish Fazackerley

Addison Matthews and Peter Crook

Work Colleagues Enjoy an Evening of Croquet Together

Members of the Playford Council discovered the joy of playing croquet together at Hutt Road early in December. The following comments reflect their experience.

"Thank you for the time on Friday, the team were a bit sceptical about playing croquet! However we now have converted them all and they all provided great feedback!"

It was great we were able to have a laugh and have some fun with the game, so we really appreciate it.

The team will be back!"





2024 S.A G.C Director's Trophy Tournament

This event was held over three days from Friday January 19th to Sunday January 21st.

Competitors from many clubs - Hyde Park, North Adelaide, Norwood, Millswood, West Lakes Brighton met at the Hutt Road courts in the South Park Lands to test their skills.

The weather was a little challenging with a warm humid day on Friday testing the resilience of the players. On Saturday the temperature was estimated to be 35 degrees. Accordingly, play was started early and called at approximately 11 AM, in keeping with S.A.C.A. Weather Policy and general player safety concerns. Play was recom-

menced on Sunday. The competition was divided into a doubles section and singles.

The Doubles

This section is an important part of this Tournament. While essentially a singles event with singles match play scores (only) determining the winner, doubles are still considered to be an important part of this competition with separate scoring and recognition.

Doubles pairs are chosen based on handicap differences in order to produce a fairly even group of pairs. Games are played at the start of each day. The combination of Susan Dunsby (Brighton) and Warwick O'Brien (Hyde Park) stood out as clear winners in front of strong group of pairs, with Geoff Houghton and Karen Tierney finishing second.



G.C Director's Trophy – Singles

There were initially eleven players in the field competing on the first day and several players stood out – Mick Underdown, Dougie Francis , Karen Tierney and Susan Dunsby.

Warwick O'Brien (Hyde Park), after a slow start stormed home on the leader board to finish fourth with a very fine six wins from nine games.

Susan Dunsby (Brighton) played well and was nudged into third position on seven wins, by hoop difference. Karen Tierney (North Adelaide) played well and took second place, also on seven wins.

Dougie Francis remained undefeated through the event and claimed top spot with nine wins and a healthy net hoops score of 27.

Congratulations to Dougie Francis and congratulations to all the players for making him work hard producing a great three day event with many fine shots and entertaining match play for the spectators.



I would like to thank S.A.C.A. and the groundsman – the courts were in very good condition.

A big thank you to all of the referees who volunteered their time to help us – Ansi Baumanis, Julianne Jago, Barry Jennings, Bob Neil, Barry Haydon, Kim Millhouse, Anne Woodhouse and Graeme Thomas.

Thank you to the Brighton team for managing this event – Karen Magee (who also kept a close eye on the handicap book and index point movements), David Magee and Kevin Nunan (also overseeing scoring & court allocation).

It was a great event, played in good spirits and a wonderful showcase for croquet.

Peter Woodward
Brighton Croquet Club.

S.A. Gateball Championships 2023

This event was held at the S.A.C.A courts on Hutt Road over Friday December 1st to Sunday December 3rd. Players converged from Queensland, N.S.W., A.C.T., and Victoria to compete alongside local players at this annual event.

The weather was mild, warm, at times slightly humid with the very occasional short intervals of light sprinkling rain on Saturday. The courts were in very good condition, as usual.

The competition consists two sections – the Teams event and the Doubles event known as the S.A Presidents Trophy.



The Teams Event

Five teams were entered in this event – Brighton and Hyde Park from S.A, Kew (Victoria), Canberra/ N.S.W. and composite team comprising Woodville (S.A.) players, Queensland players and N.S.W. Players (called **New South WalesRockWood**).

The photograph shown on the next page is from the Brighton team match against NewRockWood – Brighton was assisted by Glen Devison (South Tce. C.C.).

Initially, Brighton had a slow start finding form during the day, and then went on to defeat Hyde Park and Kew – the eventual winner. The team finished equal third on games – 2 wins and 2 losses – but was pushed into fourth spot on 'gate difference'.

Geoff Crook and Trish Fazackerly playing in the NewRockWood side scored three wins but were pushed into second spot on 'gate difference'.

Hyde Park secured an honourable mention forcing opponents to fight hard to score 'gates' in every game. All players played well.

Brighton had a very exciting moment in the game against Kew when Kew's last player amassed a great score after the full-time buzzer, achieving a tied game – 12 all. A 'tiebreaker' was played to determine the winner.

Gateball tiebreakers follow the same format as a soccer 'shoot-out'. Brighton won 4-3.

NewRockWood beat both Brighton (13-9) and Hyde Park (14-8).

Brighton had a tight defensive challenging game against Hyde Park and after getting ahead were able to hang on and win 10-9.

S.A. Gateball Championships 2023 (cont.)

S.A Presidents Trophy – the Doubles Event

There were eleven teams entered in this event with the programming involving a full round robin roster. This was played over Friday, Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

With one round to play there were three teams sitting in front of the rest with seven wins from eight games. The eventual winners were Cheryl and Steve Kele from Rockhampton with eight wins and a very large healthy gate difference.

There were four doubles team entries from S.A. clubs.

Barry Teague and David Magee (Brighton C.C.) were a formidable duo and their notable scalp was the second placed team.

Glen Devison (South Tce C.C.) and Peter Woodward (Brighton) combined well and their notable scalp was the third placed team.

Geoff Crook and Trish Fazackerly (Woodville C.C.) teamed well as did Peter Martyniuk and Barry Haydon (Hyde Park C.C.), each scoring many wins.

This was a fantastic tournament, held in a great venue with great competition and competitors, with near perfect weather conditions and brilliant scheduling and management from Chief Tournament Director and Tournament Referee, Geoff Crook.

Peter Woodward
Brighton Croquet Club

NewRockWood (left)
verses Brighton.





GC Improvement Day

17th January was set aside by many of the GC State squad to help improve the game of SACA members. Players ranged from the quite experienced (with low handicaps) to some who were completely new to the game and didn't yet have a handicap.

The idea was that participants would, for a small fee, receive 30 minutes coaching from one of our qualified coaches (thanks to Barry Haydon, Steve Condous, Kate Logan, Kim Millhouse & Barry Jennings) and then put that into practice by playing a 45 min game against a

state squad member (in addition to the coaches, thanks to Paul Ensor, Anne Woodhouse, Laura Eden & Annie Millhouse). Karen (bad knee) Magee oversaw the day and ensured everything ran on time. Advice is that the State Squad won most (but not all) of their games.

Without exception, the sessions were declared a success with all of the 20 SACA members singing the praises of the idea and offering to recommend the program to members of their club. The participants were from 7 metropolitan clubs plus 1 from Kadina.

Unfortunately, 20 was the maximum that could be catered for on the first day and at least 10 who wanted to partake couldn't. These 10 have been offered an opportunity to have a session on 31 January. It is likely that another session will be provided around the same time next year (perhaps earlier if demand warrants) so if you want to make sure you are included in this please let Barry Haydon know and he will add you to the list. bandjhaydon@gmail.com.

Spot the Coach!

Can you see your Club's GC coach in this photo? The photo shows most of SA's qualified GC coaches as they recently attended a coaching refresher session. It was held on January 10th at SACA and was run by Barry Haydon with Laura Eden's assistance.

The session included a mix of classroom learning and paired group exercises on the lawns. Those present agreed that it was successful and informative.

Special congratulations to Robert Hamshere (Coromandel Valley), Peter Webster (Millswood) and Peter Woodward (Brighton) who received their GC Level 2 certification. They should be proud of their hard work and dedication and are keen to continue to inspire others to achieve their goals.



Perhaps you can't spot your coach? If this is because you don't have one, then contact Barry Haydon (bandjhaydon@gmail.com) or Laura Eden (sydlau.le@gmail.com) who will work with you to rectify the situation. Similarly, if your Club would like to hold a coaching clinic for members then contact Barry as he will facilitate a session tailored for your needs.

Barry Haydon

Vale Noreen May Hatcher
Member of the Moonta Croquet
Club

4th April 1942 – 28th September 2023

Noreen joined the Moonta Croquet Club in 1994 with her good friend Pam Bennett and achieved a great deal in her croquet career which spanned nearly thirty years.

In 1999 Noreen & Pam represented Moonta at Yorketown in the Singles competition and Noreen also won the “Memorial Heddle Trophy” for Moonta (which is no longer contested) when she partnered Betty Promnitz.

Noreen served as Moonta President for a total of five years, Northern Yorke Peninsula Croquet Association President for two years and was awarded a well deserved Life Membership in 2021.

Noreen was visually impaired because of Macular Degeneration but even with her limited vision Noreen still played an impressive Association Pennant game. In the last couple of years Noreen played Golf Croquet.

Noreen gave her time freely to coach and encourage new members of the club to play Aussie, Golf or Association, as she was keen to pass on her extensive knowledge of croquet rules, techniques and strategy. Noreen’s love of croquet often took her to Gala Days and tournaments that were played all over the state and she would often take a new player with her making sure they were comfortable when playing at

“It’s a collector’s item”



“Thank you for being part of my life”

“Far out- I’ve pegged out”

GC Raffle results

This year, Presentation Day had a different edge to it as the much sort after prizes from the State team Christmas hamper raffle was drawn. There were 5 prizes of roughly equal value with first prize being a magnificent Gingerbread House, lovingly made by Karen Magee.

A big thank you to all who helped with donations for prizes, for selling tickets and most importantly for the generosity of those who bought tickets. Also thank you to Kate Logan for turning the donations into Christmas hampers!



Prize winners were spread amongst different Clubs:
Phil Wise (Norwood)
Janet Wiltshire (North Adelaide)
Margie (JJ’s neighbour, South Terrace)
Geoff Webber (Hyde Park)
Kate Logan (Victor Harbor)

By Barry Haydon, 2023 team Captain

UP COMING EVENTS.....

Association Croquet

FEB	25—MAR 1	Victor Harbor Tournament Contact Shirley Howlett - showlett261@gmail.com
MAR	19—21	Handicap Doubles 12+ Combined
MAR	23	Pennants
APR	2—4	Hatwell Gold Medal (3+)
APR	6	Pennants
APR	15	Millswood Gala Day
APR	17—21	Norwood Tournament
APR	23—25	Marryatville Silver Medal

Golf Croquet

FEB	3,24,25	Weekend Pennants
FEB	5, 19, 26	Aggregate 24+
FEB	10-12	SA Bronze Medal Handicap 9+ Entries have closed
MAR	2, 3, 16	Weekend Pennants
MAR	4, 25	Aggregate 24+
MAR	9—11	Silver Medal
MAR	12 &14	Autumn Singles 9+
APR	6—10	Victor Harbor Tournament contact Kate Logan kate.logan@adam.com.au
APR	13, 20	Weekend Pennants
APR	15	Mt Barker Gala Day
APR	16 &18	Doubles Combined 15+
APR	22	Aggregate 24+
APR	27—30	Gold Medal

Raffle Win Brings Joy to the Wise Family

The SA GC State Squad ran a Christmas Raffle drawn on Presentation Day.

Phil Wise won the Gingerbread House.

It certainly looks as if his family enjoyed it.



MANAGEMENT BOARD		
PRESIDENT	Graeme Thomas	0408 843 526 president@sacroquet.com.au
VICE PRESIDENT		vicepresident@sacroquet.com.au
TREASURER	Lorraine Smith	finance@sacroquet.com.au
ASSOCIATION CROQUET DIRECTOR		acdiretor@sacroquet.com.au
GOLF CROQUET DIRECTOR	Ansi Baumanis	0421 289 844 gcdiretor@sacroquet.com.au
DIRECTORS	Kevin LePoidevin	
ASSOCIATION CROQUET COMMITTEE – COORDINATORS		
REFEREEING	James Temlett	acrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au
COACHING		accoaching@sacroquet.com.au
EVENTS	Joan Kelly	0418 851 665 acevents@sacroquet.com.au
SELECTION	Dwayne McCormick	0423 377 562 acselection@sacroquet.com.au
HANDICAPPING	Roger Buddle	0409 846 344 achandicap@sacroquet.com.au
SECRETARY	Sally Harper	acsecretary@sacroquet.com.au
GOLF CROQUET COMMITTEE – COORDINATORS		
REFEREEING	John Arney	gcrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au
COACHING		gccoaching@sacroquet.com.au
DOUBLES EVENTS	Karen Magee	0404 174 177 gcevents@sacroquet.com.au
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS	Ann Millhouse	0448460375 Annmillhouse19@gmail.com
SELECTION		gcselection@sacroquet.com.au
HANDICAPPING	Sue Davel	0404727258 gchandicap@sacroquet.com.au
SCORER	Anne Woodhouse	0417010048 gcscorer@sacroquet.com.au
SECRETARY	Marianne Maycock	gcsecretary@sacroquet.com.au
GATEBALL		
STATE GATEBALL COORDINATOR	Geoff Crook	0444 549 976 gateball@sacroquet.com.au
OTHER OFFICEHOLDERS		
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER	Trish Fazackerley	0434 281 042 info@sacroquet.com.au
REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	Ken McHugh	0474 784 039 membership@sacroquet.com.au
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Roger Buddle	0409 846 344 website@sacroquet.com.au
HOOP POINTS EDITOR	Jill Millhouse	0439 088 704 newsletter@sacroquet.com.au
ARCHIVIST	Vacant	-
MEMBER PROTECTION INFO.		0421 289 844 welfare@sacroquet.com.au
PUBLIC OFFICER	Philip Hadley	0434 976 026 pdhadley@internode.on.net
CALENDAR	Peter Martyniuk	0408 277 689 calendar@sacroquet.com.au
FACILITY HIRE	Administrator	08 8271 6586 info@sacroquet.com.au
GRANTS OFFICER		

South Australian Croquet Association
Inc
PO Box 7084
Halifax St Adelaide SA 5000
Ph/Fax 08 8271 6586
Email: info@sacroquet.com.au