



# HOOP POINTS

May 2024

Issue No.417

## AC Hatwell Gold Medal

The South Australian Association Croquet Hatwell Gold Medal for handicap 3+ players was held at Hutt Road under perfect playing conditions on Tuesday 2nd to Thursday 4th April 2024.

A good field of 9 player took part, 5 from the Norwood Croquet Club which also had responsibility for event management. It was pleasing to have representatives from some of our more remote clubs – Jim Curtis from Aldinga Bay, Shirley Howlett from Victor Harbor, Geoffrey Wheaton from Murray Bridge and Garry Speed from Tumby Bay.

The event was won convincingly by North Adelaide's Russell Kopp who proved to be a class above the remainder of the group, winning all 8 of his matches by an average margin of 10 hoops. Norwood stalwart, Virginia Arney, was runner-up with 6 wins.

Thanks to Joan Kelly for event documentation and to John Arney for refereeing.  
Greg Rowberry



Greg Rowberry, Virginia Arney (Runner up) and Russell Kopp (winner)

## GC 9+ Autumn Singles

The 2 day Autumn Singles Tournament for 9+ handicaps was held at Hutt Road on 12th and 14th March. A small field of 6 competitors from different clubs were enthusiastic participants.

Day one saw an early start to avoid the worst of hot conditions with a tussle for top spot. The day ended with Denis Radenovich just ahead of Chris Dawson by 1 point with both players having won 4 of their 5 games.

Day two was much cooler which must have suited Denis as he won all of his games to emerge as a clear winner for the tournament with Chris Dawson keeping ahead of Sandra Rawlings to take the runner up position

Congratulations to Denis who also reduced his handicap from 10 to 9 in the process.

The tournament was well managed by members of South Terrace and played in extremely good spirit by all competitors.

Sincere thanks to Julianne Jago, Geoff Crook, Barry Jennings, David Stumm and Kevin Le Poidevin for volunteering to referee this tournament.

Paul Ensor



Denis (right) and Chris (left) together with Ted Farley from South Terrace

## 2024 Norwood Association Croquet Open Tournament

The Norwood Croquet Club hosted an open AC tournament on 17th – 21st April. This was the second year that the club has followed the format of a doubles round (in 3 ranked blocks of 4 doubles pairs) and then each player playing 7 matches of 2.5 hours over the following 4 days, again in 4 ranked blocks of 8 players.

The club magnanimously, perhaps recklessly, offered to run a flexible event to accommodate workers and other commitments/constraints of entrants. This proved to be a nightmare for event scheduling and numerous drafts of the event program were circulated, some with players playing multiple games at the same time! Eventually, thanks to compromises and less than ideal scheduling such as an 8:00am start (7:00 am for Murray Baum who took responsibility for hoop setting) and a 9:30pm finish, all 18 games of doubles and 112 games of singles were completed.

The week included a social night at the Marryatville Hotel on Thursday night - which happened to coincide with Mark Goldsmith's 70th birthday and hence all attendees were treated with an extra dessert of birthday cake. The club hosted a BBQ on Saturday evening with entertainment provided by David Wise in the form of a quiz with a difference.

A lot of people contributed to the running of the event, notably:

- Murray Baum for moving hoops before the event and re-setting early each morning,
- President Phil Bateman and Secretary Sally Harper for numerous tasks before and during the event,
- Janet Richards and her helpers for managing the kitchen and keeping up the supply of tea/coffee cakes & biscuits as well as making sandwiches to order,
- Club Treasurer, Beth Stevens for managing the finances (somewhat akin to 'herding the chooks' given the flexible entry arrangements),
- Norwood's GC Captain Helen Cook for quality control and gap-filling,
- James Temlett, John Arney, Barry Jennings and others for refereeing,
- David Wise for organising the quiz, and
- Numerous others who donated time, goods and funds.

The Doubles matches were closely fought out with David Short and Garry Speed proving too strong in Block 1 with Murray Baum and Glen Blatchford second. Block 2 was won by Mary Marsland and Liz Mackenzie from James Temlett and Phil Bateman. Block 3 saw some good results from the 'GC Converts' with Lorraine Smith partnering with Lynn Parnell to take out victory from Marga Podnieks and Kate Logan. Block 4 of the singles saw a 3-way battle between the 'GC Converts', the 'Rising Stars' and the 'Experienced Campaigners'. So they shared it around – GC State player Kate Logan first, Naracoorte re-doubtable Carole Mulraney second and Crystal Brook big improver Fiona Hockey third.

Consistency was the name of the game in Block 3 with, arguably under-ranked NSW State Player Helena Panasewycz narrowly taking out victory from Murray Bridge's Geoffrey Wheaton and Norwood's Joan Kelly.

Similarly, Virginia Arney's experience and consistency enabled her to win Block 2 with Barry Jennings second and James Temlett third.

Many of the highlights of the tournament came from the matches involving the top-ranked players in Block 1 which included 3 former Australian Team representative (Simon Hockey, Tim O'Leary and Dwayne McCormick) as well as New Zealand visitor Graeme Fisher.

Simon completed 3 triple peels. Tim did a triple peel on opponent (TPO) against Murray Baum and a two-ball break of 6 to win 24-22 against Greg Rowberry after being down 18-22 when the bell went. Dwayne McCormick set for a sextuple (SXP) against Simon Hockey with Simon's balls cross-wired at Hoop 1 and Dwayne's balls in Corner 3 – only to be a hit with a 37-yard roquet. The overall honours went to local player David Short who went through undefeated to win from Simon Hockey (6 wins) and Dwayne McCormick (4 wins).

Greg Rowberry

## Victor Harbor GC Tournament April 6th—10th

The 2024 Victor Harbor CC Golf Croquet tournament was contested by players from 10 clubs- 5 for Victoria and 5 from SA. It was a good mix of players from all levels.

The winners in the Singles were Penny Morrison-McGill (Morwell CC) over Stephen Davel (Brighton CC) by the barest of margins, Virginia Wheeler (Wonthaggi CC) over Sue Davel (Brighton CC) and Liz Mackenzie (Norwood CC) over Liz Huxley (Norwood CC).

The Home and Away Doubles was won by Virginia Wheeler with John Blight (VHCC-pm) and Rhonda Westcott (VHCC – am).

The Open Doubles in the Blue block was won by Sue Davel and Stephen Davel over Peter Webster (Millswood) and Barry Haydon (Hyde Park). The Red block was won by Kevin Young (Morwell CC) and Lynda Quayle (Drouin CC) over Penny Morrison-McGill and Bob Quayle.

The VHCC would like to thank Morgan Stanley Wealth Management for donating the money for the prizes.

Kate Logan  
Tournament Manager

Participants in the Victor Harbor GC doubles tournament.



## HOME AND AWAY – 8 April 2024



Winners: Virginia Wheeler & John Blight  
Runners-Up: Penny Morris-McGill & Heather Martin

## DOUBLES – 9 and 10 April 2024



### BLOCK BLUE

Winners: Sue Davel & Stephen Davel  
Runners-Up: Peter Webster & Barry Haydon



### BLOCK RED

Winner: Kevin Young & Lynda Quayle  
Runners-Up: Penny Morrison-McGill & Bob Quayle



## NZ Masters Games in Dunedin in February

What a thoroughly enjoyable experience I had in Dunedin at the New Zealand Masters Games. I was hosted by Brigid, who is a very active contributor in Tanui Croquet Club, one of the 4 clubs in Dunedin that were hosting the Masters Games.

There were 94 in GC Singles (12 blocks of 7 or 8 players in evenly grouped handicaps) and 47 pairs in GC Doubles. AC and Ricochet comps followed the GC comps. More than 50% of participants were from outside of Dunedin. Each game was 35 minutes and started and finished on the bell. The number of hoops scored determined the placing. So, despite winning all my singles games, my hoops total was 1 less than the best and so I won a Silver Medal.

In doubles my partner was Rob from Wellington. We captured the Gold Medal in our division. Jeff Zweck also competed in GC croquet and Cornhole in NZMG. No handicap cards are used in Masters Games. The camaraderie among participants is just great! At the Australian MG that I convened in October 2023 at NACC there were only 18 in GC singles and 12 (6 pairs) in GC doubles and insufficient entries for an AC comp! The Kiwis certainly do it better!

I encourage everyone to join Masters Games.

Robin Golding (NACC)



## Exciting New Developments at Norwood Croquet Club

If you've played at Norwood, you'll know that accessing the toilets is only for the able bodied. The council had money left over from the tennis court redevelopment and we managed to persuade them that we needed accessible toilet facilities. Many alternatives were suggested, eventually they come up with a plan, that unfortunately impinged on the China Painters studio area, but gave us an accessible toilet and an office as well.

The toilet is modern and spacious, and the office is something we've never had! We're now in the process of rethinking the functions and plan for the club room, office equipment room etc.

The other activity we've recently completed was an introduction to croquet through the WEA. We've been trying for years to get access to this institution to teach the sport, and eventually had success. We declined the educators fee, so the charge was \$99 for 4 x 2-hour lessons.

21 booked, 18 turned up on the first lesson and 16 finished the course. A nice group of people who are keen, so we offered them another 4 x 2-hour lessons for \$50. Nine have taken up the offer, the \$50 will be deducted from their membership if they decide to join.

We hope that after 8 lessons they should be hooked!

The intention was to provide them with a broad experience, so they have been taught golf, ricochet and aussie and in the last lesson introduced take-offs.

\$99 is a lot to pay, but they must be committed and really interested to enrol.

Although the cost appears high it's better value for money for both those who teach and those who are learning.

Sally Harper  
Norwood CC Secretary



## Hyde Park's Canberra Trip

What do the Croquet Clubs of Boort, Howlong, Canberra, Young, Wagga Wagga, Deniliquin and Mildura have in common? Answer they hosted a number of players from Hyde Park during the Club's recent self-drive tour to Canberra and back.

A group of 17 players from Hyde Park headed off on 13th March for a 12-day croquet drive. The playing formula was similar at each club – a series of social games (usually with doubles matches / mixed (a member from each club) teams and not too worried about the score. Each club provided a delicious morning or afternoon tea (or lunch) and usually some members joined us for an evening meal. Being in our own cars meant that people could drop in / out of the tour as we approached a particular region.

First stop was Boort 'wheresthat' or Boort for short. A great start to the tour with an evening of Wine and Cheese tasting (along with Kombucha and coke). Next morning we met the Boort members for croquet on their picturesque lawns on the banks of Lake Boort. After an afternoon trip to Spanner Man Museum (well worth a visit if you ever find Boort!) we joined a few of their croquet players at a local restaurant that was relatively new and opened especially for us.

Next day, on to Howlong (about 3 hours) for croquet in the afternoon followed by dinner at the neighbouring golf club and on to Albury for the night. It was a fairly noisy night as the town was celebrating 'Chryslers-on-Murray' that weekend!

On Saturday most of the group sailed up the Hume Freeway to Canberra. Some chose instead, 43 km of rough, rocky road from Tumut across the mountains. Great fun! Canberra provided the only rainy play of the trip but also some of the best steak and Italian food we've eaten. There was also High Tea at the Hyatt for half of the group. An enjoyable (once only), if somewhat extravagant experience. Again, the host club looked after us well providing some competitive games and a BBQ lunch (we provided morning tea, but it was hard to find a convenient bakery).

You would expect that with over 200 person days of travel that someone would get sick along the way. Yes, this was evident in Canberra where one couple swore they were on their death bed so, unfortunately they were absent for all of the Canberra activities.

Young was our next stop to meet some very friendly hosts for croquet and dinner together at the club adjoining our motel. Here a newly created 'museum' was opened just for us – the owner had collected almost everything he came into contact with along life's journey and decided to put it on display. It was impressive, especially the wall of Grange wine and the miniature train and station showing Young in the 60s.

Then everyone hotfooted it down to Wagga, most missing the spiral railway lookout, quite a spectacular feat of engineering (from what I understand of engineering). At Wagga (we only visited half of it) more social croquet followed by dinner with some of our host club, a good night's sleep, and off to Deniliquin. Deniliquin is a prosperous Riverina town with access to six croquet lawns shared with the tennis club. They seem to have access, also, to a ready supply of members, being adjacent to a retirement village, as Mick Underdown delicately pointed out during his vote of thanks to the club.

Finally, with a light glowing at the end of the tunnel, the stayers of the group headed for Mildura (for a variety of reasons we were down to 10 players at this stage). An easy trip except for the Billings who had a disagreement with Siri! A long detour but a better choice of roads than we took from Tumult to Canberra. Mildura provided a very hospitable host club

and a delicious BBQ and salad lunch. Lots of croquet and a bit of time for some coaching—there's one woman at Mildura who can now play a jump shot, courtesy of patient coaching from Steve.

In summary, it was a wonderful trip, thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was "full on" staying at a different town most nights. Three nights in Canberra provided a chance to relax in the middle of it all. I'm fairly confident that any future similar trip will be enthusiastically partaken.

Thanks are due to Barry Haydon for his choice and arrangement of the visited clubs, not easy for a group of 17 players. Here's to the next trip!

Written by David Rowe (Club Captain and tour organiser).

## The Jim Grindrod Cup

Aldinga Bay recently held its annual Golf Croquet Club Handicap Championship (The Grindrod Cup) over two Fridays.

A good field entered and competition was fierce. By the second Friday the field was down to 8 players and the prospect of some good games awaited. Unfortunately one game was forfeited but the others went ahead. First K Lane took on K Taylor but despite Kay's best efforts ( and she DID play well) the wily Ken triumphed. Hazel Taylor overcame Rocky to proceed to the semi final where Brenda Pentland eliminated her. David Catherwood beat Carole Englehardt only to be edged out in the semi by none other than Ken.

The final was a best of two sets between Ken and Brenda and at the ping of the timeclock the winner was Brenda. Well done to Brenda (the first lady winner).

I must say a big thank you to all participants and save the biggest thank yous to Sara for an excellent job of organization and to Ann Woodrough for officiating.

Carolyn Cooper



## Aldinga Bay Opening of Lights Celebration

On March 16 the Aldinga Bay Club held a celebration to mark the installation of their lights. The lights were a long time dream of the Club first mentioned by Jim Grindrod about 8 years ago.

Many attempts had been made to acquire them over the years when lo and behold the Onkaparinga Council included them in their redevelopment of our Sports Park.

The evening was balmy and about 40 people from all over the area and beyond turned up to share. Food was plentiful and the good old country hospitality was in evidence. Bar was open and enjoyed A new



teams competition was tried. The first round was a tad confusing and therefore muddled but after a break the players got into the swing of it and the Shark team won by a good margin.

Aldinga would like to thank all those who joined in and wish you well.

Carolyn Cooper

## UP COMING EVENTS.....

### Golf Croquet

MAY	4 & 18	Weekend Pennants
MAY	6, 13 & 20	Aggregate 24+
MAY	14 & 21	Autumn Singles 5+ <a href="#">entries close today</a>
MAY	23—24	SA Women's Championship <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 10th May</a>
MAY	25—26	SA Men's Championship <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 10th May</a>
JUNE	5—6	Doubles Individual 9+ <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 21st May</a>
JUNE	8—10	Doubles Combined 8+ <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 24th May</a>
JUNE	15—16	ACA SA Bronze Medal <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 31st May</a>
JUNE	23	Weekend Pennants
JULY	6,13,21	Weekend Pennants
JULY	7—9	Silver Medal <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 22nd June</a>
JULY	23—25	3+ Singles <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 8th July</a>
AUG	1—4	Brighton Armstrong Challenge
AUG	10,25,31	Weekend Pennants
AUG	13 & 15	Combined Doubles 20+ <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 29th July</a>
AUG	20—22	Open Doubles <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 5th Aug</a>

### Association Croquet

MAY	5	Pennants
MAY	11	Pennants
JUNE	1	Pennants
JUNE	11—13	Maslen Brooch Women's 6+ <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 28th May</a>
JUNE	11—13	Lewis Badge Men's 6+ <a href="#">enter via SACA website. Closing date 28th May</a>
JUNE	22	Pennants
JULY	2—4	Div 2 Singles 2.5+
JULY	5—7	Hyde Park Challenge
JULY	20	Pennants
JULY	27—28	Selector's Invitation
AUG	3,24	Weekend Pennants
AUG	6—8	JF Harvey Bronze Medal (14+)

### Golf Croquet Gala Days

MAY 20 Murray Bridge

[Contact Lorraine Bell](#)

MAY 27 Brighton

[Contact Lorraine McIntyre](#)

### Association Croquet Gala Days

MAY 26 Victor Harbor

[Contact Shirley Howlett](#)





<b>MANAGEMENT BOARD</b>		
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Graeme Thomas	0408 843 526 <a href="mailto:president@sacroquet.com.au">president@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Vacant	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@sacroquet.com.au">vicepresident@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>TREASURER</b>	Tracey Sincock	0410 456 720 <a href="mailto:finance@sacroquet.com.au">finance@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>ASSOCIATION CROQUET DIRECTOR</b>	Dwayne Mc Cormick	0421 982 473 <a href="mailto:acdiretor@sacroquet.com.au">acdiretor@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>GOLF CROQUET DIRECTOR</b>	Ansi Baumanis	0421 289 844 <a href="mailto:gcdirector@sacroquet.com.au">gcdirector@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Kevin LePoidevin Ann Woodhouse	0403 836 954 0417 010 048
<b>ASSOCIATION CROQUET COMMITTEE – COORDINATORS</b>		
<b>REFEREEING</b>	James Temlett	0400 740 333 <a href="mailto:acrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au">acrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>COACHING</b>	Vacant	<a href="mailto:accoaching@sacroquet.com.au">accoaching@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>EVENTS</b>	Joan Kelly	0418 851 665 <a href="mailto:acevents@sacroquet.com.au">acevents@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>SELECTION</b>	Dwayne McCormick	0423 377 562 <a href="mailto:acselecion@sacroquet.com.au">acselecion@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>HANDICAPPING</b>	Roger Buddle	0409 846 344 <a href="mailto:achandicap@sacroquet.com.au">achandicap@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Sally Harper	0400 294 455 <a href="mailto:acsecretary@sacroquet.com.au">acsecretary@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>GOLF CROQUET COMMITTEE – COORDINATORS</b>		
<b>REFEREEING</b>	John Arney	0404 174 177 <a href="mailto:gcrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au">gcrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>COACHING</b>	Vacant	<a href="mailto:gccoaching@sacroquet.com.au">gccoaching@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>DOUBLES EVENTS</b>	Karen Magee	0404 174 177 <a href="mailto:gcevents@sacroquet.com.au">gcevents@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>INDIVIDUAL EVENTS</b>	Ann Millhouse	0448 460 375 <a href="mailto:Annmillhouse19@gmail.com">Annmillhouse19@gmail.com</a>
<b>SELECTION</b>	Vacant	<a href="mailto:gcselecion@sacroquet.com.au">gcselecion@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>HANDICAPPING SCORER</b>	Sue Davel Anne Woodhouse	0404 727 258 <a href="mailto:gchandicap@sacroquet.com.au">gchandicap@sacroquet.com.au</a> 0417 010 048 <a href="mailto:gcscorer@sacroquet.com.au">gcscorer@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Marianne Maycock	<a href="mailto:gcsecretary@sacroquet.com.au">gcsecretary@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>GATEBALL</b>		
<b>STATE GATEBALL COORDINATOR</b>	Geoff Crook	0444 549 976 <a href="mailto:gateball@sacroquet.com.au">gateball@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>OTHER OFFICEHOLDERS</b>		
<b>ADMINISTRATION OFFICER</b>	Trish Fazackerley	0434 281 042 <a href="mailto:info@sacroquet.com.au">info@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>REGISTRATIONS OFFICER</b>	Trish Fazackerley	0434 281 042 <a href="mailto:membership@sacroquet.com.au">membership@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>WEBSITE COORDINATOR</b>	Roger Buddle	0409 846 344 <a href="mailto:website@sacroquet.com.au">website@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>HOOP POINTS EDITOR</b>	Jill Millhouse	0439 088 704 <a href="mailto:jillmillhouse105@gmail.com">jillmillhouse105@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:newsletter@sacroquet.com.au">newsletter@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR</b>	Sally Harper	0400 294 455 <a href="mailto:sponsorship@sacroquet.com.au">sponsorship@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>ARCHIVIST</b>	Vacant	-
<b>MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER</b>	Vacant	<a href="mailto:welfare@sacroquet.com.au">welfare@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>PUBLIC OFFICER</b>	Philip Hadley	0434 976 026 <a href="mailto:ptheadley@internode.on.net">ptheadley@internode.on.net</a>
<b>CALENDAR</b>	Peter Martyniuk	0408 277 689 <a href="mailto:calendar@sacroquet.com.au">calendar@sacroquet.com.au</a>
<b>CHAIR, APPEALS &amp; DISPUTES</b>	Robert Fenwick Elliott	
<b>GRANTS OFFICER</b>	Graeme Thomas	0408 843 526 <a href="mailto:grants@sacroquet.com.au">grants@sacroquet.com.au</a>

**South Australian Croquet Association**  
**Inc**  
**PO Box 7084**  
**Halifax St Adelaide SA 5000**  
**Ph/Fax 08 8271 6586**