

HOOP POINTS



South Australia's AC State team at a Reception held at Government House. Photographed here with SA's Governor, Frances Adamson and Eileen Ferguson SACA past President and Life Member.

2025 AC Events held in Adelaide

During March several Adelaide clubs hosted Association Croquet events where Australia's top players came together. It started with Gold and Silver Medal (3 days), followed by the Men's and Women's Singles which lasted for four days and finally the Eire Cup, where state teams play off over 5 days.

Most of the South Australian state team players took part in the Men's and Women's Singles event before the Eire Cup.

This year Victoria won the Eire Cup, followed by NSW, Qld and SA came in fourth. Victoria had a couple of close matches but were ultimately victorious in all and went through the tournament undefeated. Both the men and women from Victoria were strong players and they were ably led by their female captain, Claire Bassett.

Next year these events will be held in Perth.



Simon Hockey – Winner of Gold and Silver Medal Event

This event attracts six players from each State who are the winners of their respective state's Bronze Medal event. As state Bronze Medal winners they compete in the "Gold Medal Event" which is played over three days prior to the Men's and Women's Singles and the Eire Cup.

Adelaide hosted the Croquet Australia Association Croquet Championships this year. Simon Hockey represented South Australia in the Gold and Silver Medal event and had an outstanding tournament, winning 9 of his 10 matches against the five other state bronze medallists.

Simon has won this event 5 times, first winning in 2014. Stephen Pearce from NSW won the Silver Medal.

Lyn Parnell



Simon Hockey in action



Lyn Parnell and Mary Marsland - Two of the many organisers of the SA AC events held in Adelaide during March.

Croquet Australia - 2025 AC Championships - Men's and Women's Singles

The Men's and Women's Singles AC Championships attracted 30 of Australia's top male and 31 female AC croquet players. Matches were played at North Adelaide, Glenunga, Millswood and Hyde Park Croquet Clubs with the finals being played at Norwood Croquet Club. All matches were the best of three games with the semi finals and final being best of 5 games.

Each best of three games had a cumulative time limit of 7.5 hours with individual game time limits of 2.75, 2.5 and 2.25 hours. Each best of five games had a cumulative time limit of 12 hours with individual game time limits of 2.75, 2.5, 2.25, 2.25 and 2.25 hours. Time not used in games was added to subsequent games. The winners of the first round proceeded to a knockout event and then consolation events and the first round losers proceeded to a Plate event.



Winner of the Men's Singles
Dwayne McCormick

Each venue had a designated Venue Manager/s and many volunteers from the clubs assisted over the four day period with court preparation, organising food and drinks and generally helping to keep the players hydrated and cool as the temperature each day was in the high 30's ! Everyone involved did a wonderful job and all the players were very appreciative that they were so well cared for by each club.

The men's final was between two of our top local players, Simon Hockey and Dwayne McCormick. It was an epic match going to five games commencing at 8.00 am and not finishing until after 5.00 pm. Dwayne won the first two games but Simon came back to win the next two taking it to a five game decider. In the end Dwayne won in what was a thrilling nail biting match. This is the third time Dwayne has won this prestigious event – congratulations Dwayne on a great tournament.

Six South Australian women entered the women's competition and whilst not as successful as the men managed to create a few upsets against higher ranked players. Virginia Arney was the best performing woman and finished in the top 8 with Shirley Howlett winning the play off W event.

Lyn Parnell
Singles Tournament Manager

Competitors at NACC in the AC National Championships Mar 5- 16

Competitors were treated to fantastic hospitality at North Adelaide Croquet Club during the AC National Championships March 5-16th 2025.

The lawns were in absolutely TOP shape, the hoop setters were out pre-dawn and on hand all day. The club rooms were cool and inviting with grazing food (home-baked goodies, lollies, refreshing fruits and drinks) as well as great sandwiches and salad plates for lunches and tea or coffee on demand. Many competitors expressed their grateful appreciation of all that was on offer.

A HUGE thanks to all club members who assisted during the competitions and also the rest of the members who sacrificed their club and forfeited their own playing times for the duration of the competition.

Robin Golding



Women's Singles winner Yuni Rowell
from Coolongatte Qld



Roger Harris entering data into Croquet Scores



Referee Mary Marsland
carefully inspectingthe
shot or the shoes??



Pre-dawn hoop setting with William
Pennino



The AC Women's Championship through One Club's Eyes

Millwood Croquet Club was one of six metropolitan croquet clubs to be a host venue for the recent National AC Championships, with women from all over Aussie and several Kiwis paying a visit.

How does all this happen? Months and months (literally) of preparation. Then the whole thing rushes in like the juggernauting tram at daybreak. (Pardon the mis-quote). At Millswood the 6.30am hoop setting team started working under lights, the magpies corralled their annoyance and the kookaburras started to laugh.

By 7.15am on Saturday March 8, our three lawns were looking regimental and pristine and our guests began arriving and in spectacular Aussie fashion, so did the heat! High 30's by lunchtime each day and then to cap it all off 38.2° by early afternoon on Tuesday.

Our first play day (Saturday, March 8) we had the women in a best of three singles round and except for one match, which dragged on all day (those two women are made of strong stuff!) we were able to get started with our Plate singles with 8 players. Two pairs having to wait a little longer to start due to the late match the day before.

Our top women left us for Hyde Park and we welcomed a cohort back from Hyde Park in return. Huge thanks to Peter Martyniuk for his tireless work in sorting out all this too-ing and fro-ing. And that was only a piece of his work. What a champion.

Everything would have been ok, except the temperature really soared the next day. 38.2°. At Millswood, we gave the players the choice of finishing, returning that evening or picking up again the following morning. The latter is what they did.

The wonderful Millswood members who happily filled all our helping rosters and my Assistant Venue Manager and Facility Manager (who put in 12-hour days), I can-not thank enough. Same for the Tournament and Assistant Manager. Work and more work to get the tournament started and then running it in true South Aussie style.

Were we glad when it was over? Yes!

Was it all worth it? Hell yes!



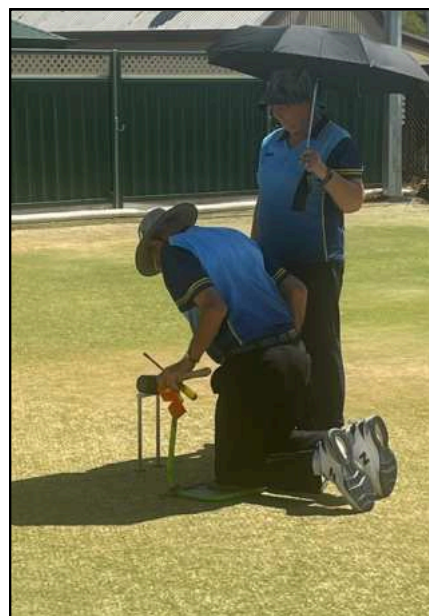
Millswood event

Coordinator Jane Lewis

Jane Lewis OAM.



Some of the helpers from Millswood - Tim Lewis,
Ron Symons and Grant Lawrence



Grant checking hoops in shade
provided by Julie Barry



Pennant Winners-Lorraine Smith (Captain) Ron Mc Bride, Erica Young, Shirlene Mc Bride, Wilma Hendry



Malcolm Kinch (Captain) Linda Kinch, Sandy Rodsted, John Lydeamore, Neville Hibbard (partly hidden)

Northern Yorke Peninsula Croquet Association - Association Croquet Pennants 2024/25

Many congratulations to the Crystal Brook AC Team who have won the 2024/25 Pennants Competition. It was a close run thing with Kadina being the Runners Up. The final scores were as follows:

CRYSTAL BROOK: 23 Match Points/ 44 Game Points/ 515 Hoops

KADINA: 23 Match Points/ 41 Game Points/ 464 Hoops

MOONTA: 18 Match Points/ 34 Game Points/ 293 Hoops

PORT PIRIE: 9 Match Points/ 23 Game Points/ 372 Hoops

WALLAROO: 7 Match Points/ 14 Game Points/ 235 Hoops.

As you can see, there is quite a lot of travel involved during the Pennant Season but having Pt Pirie and Crystal Brook join the NYPCA last season has really brought the competition alive for everyone and the distances covered have not been an issue for most of our players.

All the matches were played in great spirit and sportsmanship and we all enjoy our chat afterwards when we eat our lunches together. The players encompass a large range of handicaps and the general consensus is that the newer players learn a lot from looking at and playing against the more experienced players who are very generous with their help and advice.

We all want AC to continue and hopefully grow and the only way is to get out there, have a go and to give praise when due and encouragement when needed to all the participants.

Thank you to Neville Hibbard for recording all the scores and to Jenny Lydeamore who checked everything for us!

After our last match on 26th March, we met up for a very enjoyable lunch at the Wombat Hotel in Kadina and all commented on how quickly the season had come and gone!

Once again, well done to Crystal Brook and thank you to all the teams who took part and for making it a very enjoyable season of croquet.

Linda Kinch



GC Autumn Singles - 5+

The 5+ Autumn singles was played with 10 entrants including two from Interstate. It was played as a single round robin over 2 days with five games on the Tuesday 25th and the remaining four games on Thursday 27th .

It was very even competition with the final outcome not determined until the finish of the last game. Only 2 hoops separated 1st from second with Susan Dunsby winning from Philip Colebatch 16 net hoops to 14 net hoops.

The 5+ was played in a very friendly and convivial atmosphere, a credit to all participants.

Many thanks to the referees and Millswood members for a smooth running, enjoyable tournament.

Kim Millhouse



5+ Autumn Singles Winner Susan Dunsby and Runner up, Philip Colebatch

GOLF CROQUET IN SA – a fairy tale by Jane Lewis (nee Fairey) OAM

Once upon a time in a land far away, they started to play a game called Croquet.
It was played by the elite at the court of King James, mallets and balls in the mall by the Thames.
But the un-noble masses wished to play it too, fun men and their lasses, what were they to do?
They changed the sport into a game of fun. Golf Croquet was invented its journey begun.

Both forms of Croquet spread across the sea, the toffy game remained but Golf Croquet flew free.
Far and wide it went where the English landed, the new fun game was welcomed and expanded.
From Egypt, Israel and China it was played. South Africa and India, Golf Croquet it stayed.
In Canada, US, Kiwi and more. Who could have seen what was in store?

In Angaston, the settlers, with land by the mile, tried to keep it a sport for those of style.
But alas the attitudes of old England were changing and the fashions of the motherland were re-arranging.
Then in the late sixties, the Armstrongs of fame took Golf Croquet to school, this wonderful game.
To use it as a lure for students to play and maybe when hooked into croquet would stray.
It was a visionary idea and it worked really well and wise clubs saw it as a sport ripe to sell.

Golf Croquet once started from corner one which everyone knows hoop one can be run.
Not fair, too easy the better players lamented. So pretty soon a new starting rule was invented.
GC now started from a quadrant in C4, see how you handle that now was the roar.
It matters not, for we play how it is, a little serious with a little bit of fizz.
Golf Croquet is great we sing from the rafter, a sport to live on, happily ever after.

THE END.



UPCOMING EVENTS.....

Golf Croquet

APRIL 2 - 6 Victor Harbor Tournament
APRIL 5 Weekend Pennants **Hutt Road**
APRIL 7 Aggregate 24+ **Hutt Road**
APRIL 13 Weekend Pennants **Hutt Road**
APRIL 14 Aggregate 24+ **Hutt Road**
APRIL 15 & 17 Doubles Combined 15+ **Entries have closed**
APRIL 19 (Easter Sat) Brighton Bash 1 Singles 8+ Tournament
Contact Karen Magee kmagee@gmail.com Entries close Wed 9th April
APRIL 18 - 21 Crystal Brook Easter Tournament
APRIL 25 - 28 Gold Medal **Enter via SACA website Entries close April 10**
MAY 3,4,11&31 Weekend Pennant **Hutt Road**
MAY 13 & 20 Autumn Singles 9+ **Enter via SACA website Entries close April 28 (Not open yet)**
MAY 17 - 18 Silver Medal 6+ **Enter via SACA website Entries close May 2 (Not open yet)**
MAY 22 - 23 Women's SA Championship **Enter via SACA website Entries close May 7 (Not open yet)**
MAY 24 - 25 Men's SA Championship **Enter via SACA website Entries close May 9 (Not open yet)**
JUNE 7 - 9 Doubles Combined 8+
JUNE 21 Weekend Pennants
JUNE 25 - 26 Doubles Combined 12+
JULY 5, 12 & 20 Weekend Pennants
JULY 22 - 24 Singles 3+



Association Croquet

APRIL 8 - 10 Hatwell Gold Medal **Entries have closed**
APRIL 12 Pennants
APRIL 22 - 24 Marryatville Silver Medal **Enter via SACA website, close April 8**
MAY 6 - 8 Harvey Bronze Medal **Enter via SACA website, close April 22**
MAY 10 Pennants
JUNE 14 Pennants
JUNE 17 - 20 Maslen Brooch and Lewis Badge 6+ **Enter via SACA website, close June 17**
JULY 1 - 3 Division 2 Singles
JULY 4 - 6 Hyde Park Invitational **By Invitation**
JULY 13 Pennants
JULY 19 Pennants
JULY 26 - 27 Selector's Invitational **By Invitation**

Gala Days

MAY 19 Mt Barker Gala Day **Register by 17th May suzziiq2000@yahoo.com or 0417809264**
MAY 26 Murray Bridge Gala Day **Register by 19th May murraybridgacroquetclub@gmail.com or 0494189695**
MAY 27 Brighton Gala Day **Contact Wendy Williamson wendywilliamson33@gmail.com or 0412730177**

MANAGEMENT BOARD		
PRESIDENT	Kevin LePoidevin	0403836954 kevinlepoidevin@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT		0400294455 vicepresident@sacroquet.com.au
TREASURER	Tracey Sincok	0410456720 finance@sacroquet.com.au
DIRECTOR AC	Shirley Howlett	acdiretor@sacroquet.com.au
DIRECTOR	Kim Millhouse	0414318497 kimjmillhouse@gmail.com
DIRECTOR	Paul Ensor	0449019505 pensor47@gmail.com
DIRECTOR	Jim Carter	0411445122 wendyandjimcarter@gmail.com
ASSOCIATION CROQUET COMMITTEE MEMBERS		
COACHING	Vacant	accoaching@sacroquet.com.au
EVENTS	Joan Kelly	acevents@sacroquet.com.au
HANDICAPPING	Vacant	
REFEREEING	James Temlett	0400740333 acrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au
SELECTION	Vacant	0421982473 acselection@sacroquet.com.au
SECRETARY	Sally Harper	0400294455 sallykharper47@gmail.com
GOLF CROQUET COMMITTEE MEMBERS		
GC COORDINATOR	Ansi Baumanis	0421289844
COACHING	Laura Eden	0439890559 gccoaching@sacroquet.com.au
TEAM EVENTS	Karen Magee	0404174177 gcevents@sacroquet.com.au
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS	Kim Millhouse	0414318497 kimjmillhouse@gmail.com
HANDICAPPING SCORER	Sue Davel Anne Woodhouse	0404727258 gchandicap@sacroquet.com.au 0417010048 gcscorer@sacroquet.com.au
REFEREEING	John Arney	0433015440 gcrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au
SELECTION	Kim Millhouse	0414318497 gcselection@sacroquet.com.au
SECRETARY	Ann Millhouse	0448460375 gcsecretary@sacroquet.com.au
GATEBALL		
STATE GATEBALL COORDINATOR	Geoff Crook	0444 549 976 gateball@sacroquet.com.au
OTHER OFFICEHOLDERS		
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Jessica Pullford	0419217062 info@sacroquet.com.au
REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	Jessica Pullford	0419217062 membership@sacroquet.com.au
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Peter Martynuik	0408277689 website@sacroquet.com.au
HOOP POINTS EDITOR	Jill Millhouse	0439088704 newsletter@sacroquet.com.au
SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR/ SPORTS DEVELOPMENT	Sally Harper	0400294455 sportdevelopment@sacroquet.com.au
ARCHIVIST	Vacant	
GC COORDINATOR FACILITIES MANAGER - HUTT ROAD	Ansi Baumanis	0421289844 welfare@sacroquet.com.au
CALENDAR COORDINATOR	Peter Martynuik	0408277689 calendar@sacroquet.com.au
GRANTS OFFICER	Vacant	grants@sacroquet.com.au
PUBLIC OFFICER	Philip Hadley	0434976026 pdhadley44@gmail.com
CHAIR, APPEALS & DISPUTES	Vacant	