

HOOP POINTS



Crystal Brook Croquet Club AC Easter Tournament 2025

Like most of our country towns CBCC has a rich history in Association Croquet. In 2024 Ron and Shirlene McBride introduced Golf Croquet to the club and to their delight the AC players took it on board as a complementary game to their AC and a window to encourage new members to the club which is quite a challenge for a small country town.

With the Masters Games not including Croquet this year the CBCC management committee decided to hold a Golf Croquet Tournament. A large amount of work was required to bring the courts up to par and Erica found us some wonderful sponsors for the event. It was truly a delight to see our courts covered in GC players, many of which had never played in a singles event or used a HC card before. We had two 82-year old's playing in our tournament and they were a testament to the benefits of GC for the older players health and wellbeing.

Doubles winners were - Dean Rodda (Kadina) and Terry Trudgen (Pt Lincoln)

Runners up – Linda Kinch (Kadina) and Anne Wedding (PtLincoln)

Div 1 singles winner Malcolm Kinch (Kadina) and runner up Dean Rodda (Kadina)

Div 2 singles winner Martin Kennet (Pt Lincoln) and Terry Trudgen (Pt Lincoln)

Shirlene McBride



Autumn Aggregate Handicap 24+ Golf Croquet Final

The final of the GC Autumn 24+ was held at Hutt Road on a sunny although a little windy Monday 5th May. Hyde Park White and Millswood both presented teams of combined handicaps totalling 24.

After the first round of doubles, scores were even. A game a piece and tied on hoops.

The second round of doubles, saw Hyde Park ahead by 1 hoop, but game score still even, 2 each.

It was the final round that determined the winners, Hyde Park getting up in both games. Final score Hyde Park 4 games to 2, with a hoop advantage of 5.

Thanks to all the teams that entered this competition and the referees who support our competitions.

Spring Aggregate 24+ will have a few changes. No session clock and stop on the 45-minute timer. Draws will be accepted. The GC Committee is hoping that this will ensure all games get 45 minutes of play.

Karen Magee

Volunteer GC Team Events Coordinator.



Meet the Committee Shirley Howlett

I decided to put my hand up for the position of AC Director on the SACA Board because I love AC croquet and want it to flourish once again.

I began croquet just after retiring and moving to Victor Harbor. It all came about because John and Virginia Arney were playing in the VH Tournament, and off I went to catch up. Way back in the old days we taught together in Pt Pirie. David and Ruth Wise were also there. Of course it wasn't long before I'd signed up for coaching.

I was soon hooked, and like many others wished I'd started playing much sooner. My first love is AC but I enjoy GC at our club as well. Sport has always been a big part of my life. Softball and netball in the main. My parents were both teachers and we moved from one country town to another.

For most of my teaching life I was a Student Counsellor, a position I loved.

I hope to bring to the Board a common-sense approach based on team work and communication skills.



From the SACA Management Board.....

Drainage and Hutt Road.

Work has begun on redirecting drainage from the roof away from the courts to the rear of the club-house to be released through a soakage pit at the back of the Clubhouse. This will help tremendously but not solve the drainage problem of our courts completely. It's great news that the council are at last addressing the drainage problem that has swamped us during the winter months. The excess water will be piped to a sump behind the club house.

Dying Hedge

Some of the hedge at Hutt Road is dead. The problem seems to be progressing on both sides and other sections seem to be suffering. Ansi Baumanis (Site & Facilities Manager) has been in contact with Adelaide City Council. In the first instance the response was that it was a lack of water causing the problem. We are unclear about the cause because the hedge has been watered for several weeks. The Council have promised to investigate the problem further. It could become a security issue.

Come and try Public Liability

North Adelaide Croquet Club posed the question the if a club has Public Liability then they are automatically covered by Public Liability Insurance.

But Not So. It pays to follow our current insurance rules. Come and try people are only properly covered 6 times and only if it is correctly documented. Events are only covered if proper documentation is followed for 6 events per person.

Following is the answer to the question from our Croquet Australia CEO.

Hi Kevin

There is a misconception that Public Liability covers all. It doesn't.

It will only cover a non member if the club was negligent in some way and a accident or injury occurred as a result of that negligence.

For example, if a non-member injured themselves going down some stairs because the wooden handrail that was rotten and collapsed, that's Public Liability.

If the same person was going down the stairs that were in perfectly good condition but tripped over their own feet, that's not Public Liability.

That's why the Temporary Player policy was developed so this non insured cohort could have some protection.

If they are not signed in, there is no evidence they were even at the club at the time of the incident.

Hope that makes sense.

Regards

Sue Gliddon

Chief Executive Officer

Croquet Australia



From the SACA Management Board (cont.)

North Adelaide

Committee Members have attended various meetings with the Prospect City Council and written many letters. There is excellent community support as 90 people have joined the club as social members. Croquet SA has also written many letters. A decision regarding the possible loss of one or even all three courts is due in late May. This could badly affect the North Adelaide Club and the future running of National, Interstate and various Tournament events. Work to save courts, the club, national and state events will progress after a decision is made by the Council. We're all hoping for a positive response.

Bar Management

We discussed the Current management of the bar at Hutt Road.

We realize that we don't have a manager to ensure that we are compliant and the rules are followed. Ansi Baumanis has volunteered to be the Manager. He will appreciate help from Board Members and other people. Thank you Ansi.

Sponsorship

There are 3 equipment makers working to develop their signage already. Sally still needs help from our Croquet Community with contact information of contact with local business.

Rev.Sport Progress

The Board will meet with Graeme Thomas and David Magee on May 23 to be updated with progress so far and to make some necessary decisions which are required by Rev.Sport.

Hot weather policy review is still to be completed

Safety The board is concerned about the tripping risk associated with the fixed halfway marker pegs. An alternative if magnetic attachment to a base.

4th Court We are still pursuing the matter with the Adelaide City Council. We have had a healthy discussion and are optimistic for the future.

Kevin, President and Jim, Karen, Kim, Paul, Sally, Shirley, Tracey



GC Women's Championship

The 2025 SA GC Women's Championships was highlighted by the number and diversity of entrants. It was rewarding to see so many new faces in the Women's Championship. There were 12 entrants and everyone played each other once. This meant all 3 lawns were fully occupied all the time.



Being the Championships, games were one hour long. After 6 games on day one, all players, referees and helpers were justifiably tired.

Many members of the SA State Squad played and their battles against each other were epic. A number of players proved that next year, they should be considered for the state squad. Karen Magee and Susan Davel led after day 1. Day 2 saw Karen Tierney making moves on the leader board. Laura Eden was true to her word that she would challenge the leaders.

There were also notable performances from Liz Mackenzie in her first major GC tournament, Hilary Thomas Linda Stone and Ann Millhouse.

At the end of two long tough days, Karen Magee emerged as winner from Karen Tierney by just 2 hoops. The result was up in the air until the final round. Susan Davel was one game away in third place with Laura Eden fourth.

Played in great spirit and obvious camaraderie within the group, these Women's Championships foretell a promising future for croquet in SA.

Thanks to all players for the spirit in which the games were played. Thanks to the referees, Ansi, Geoff, Kevin David and Kim. Thanks to the Millswood members for their assistance, including Robert, Virginia, Annie and Jill.

Kim Millhouse

Winner of the GC
Women's
Championship Karen
Magee and Runner up
Karen Tierney



South Australian GC Open Men's Tournament

Recently Norwood Croquet Club managed the South Australian Open Men's Tournament. It was a high standard competition played in good spirit. Eleven one hour matches were played over two days. It was amazing to see such stamina and endless concentration in wonderful matches.

It featured Edward Wilson -4, Greg Fletcher -4, Dwayne McCormick -2 and David Maunder -1. Also playing were Charles Seja, Manoli Flouras, John Arney, Mark Senior, Ansi Baumanis, Paul Ensor, Barry Jennings and Ibrahim Farran.

Congratulations to Charles, Manoli and Ibrahim for entering. They performed very well considering handicap differences.

One of the last matches was between Ed and Greg the two favourites. Both players won all of their previous games. It was a tight, exciting, high-standard match. Greg eventually won the match and the competition and Ed was runner up. Thank you both, and to all competitors, for putting on such high standard exhibition matches for the spectators.

The following people contributed to managing the event; Bob Neil, Jeff Baker, Virginia Arney, Russell Agardi and Kevin Le Poidevin and the following people refereed; Kim Millhouse, Geoff Creek, Bob Neil, Kevin Le Poidevin and David Wise.

What a wonderful tournament , well done to all involved.

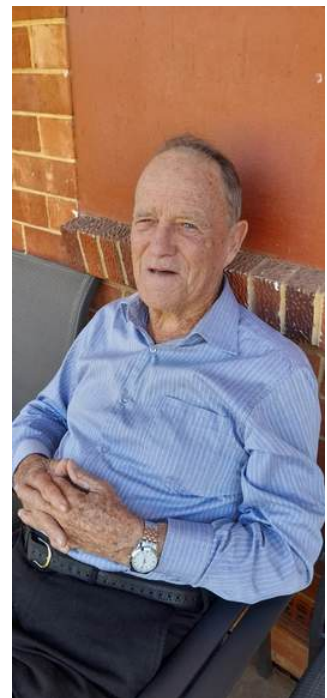
Kevin LePoidevin

Hatwell Gold Medal

The Hatwell Gold Medal, an event for AC players with a handicap of 3 and above, was played in fine spirit in April. The field included three players who had not entered this event previously, and it was a pleasure to welcome Steve Templeton (Victor Harbor), Jeff Zweck (Coromandel Valley), and Bill Kidd (Mount Barker). After results on day one that were close to ranking predictions, day two produced a number of "boil overs", ensuring a tight battle on the final day. Jim Curtis (Aldinga Bay) won five games to claim the Medal. Steve Templeton and Geoffrey Wheaton (Norwood) each won four games, with Steve the runner- up on nett hoops. Things were looking good for Shirley Howlett (Victor Harbor), but injury on day two ended her tournament; we wish her well.

Thanks to the entrants, and to the Norwood members who managed the competition.

Joan Kelly, AC Events.



Winner Jim Curtis looking relaxed!

SACA ASSOCIATION CROQUET COACHING PROGRAM

The South Australian Croquet Association (SACA) Association Croquet Committee (AC Committee) recently met to discuss the status of AC Coaching in South Australia. While we have approximately 30 qualified AC coaches in the State it was felt that there is a need for a more structured program to train, accredit and develop coaches and to ensure that the skills of both qualified coaches and other talented and experienced players are better utilised to develop new and improving players and to encourage those with exceptional ability to achieve excellence.

The diagram on the next page shows an outline of how the AC Committee aims to achieve this over the next few years.

The heart and soul of croquet is the Club. There are more than 30 clubs scattered throughout South Australia and, for most newcomers to the sport, their first coach will be a club member with a sound knowledge of the game (this may be either Association Croquet, Golf Croquet, or both). It is consequently highly desirable that EVERY club have a designated CLUB COACH, preferably with appropriate training in coaching. Where there is significant demand and availability of coaches, SACA will supplement the skills of Club Coaches (and their delegates/fellow club members) by offering special coaching sessions at the club, suburban or regional level. PLEASE CONTACT THE SA COACHING COORDINATOR (Greg Rowberry, Rowberry.greg@gmail.com, ph. 0401990665) IF YOUR CLUB WOULD LIKE TO PURSUE THIS.

At the elite end of the spectrum of South Australian AC players are those that seek to represent the State at the apex of Australian croquet competitions – the interstate teams event – the Eire Cup. Traditionally, the State Selectors choose a squad of up to 10 men and 10 women who go through a coaching/training program from mid-June until the Eire Cup in March/April the following year. Next year's event will be held in Perth, Western Australia. The recently appointed 2025/26 SACA AC Selection Committee (Lyn Parnell, Mark Senior and Mary Marsland) is currently going through a process to choose this year's squad members and advertisements have been placed seeking nominations for an AC State Team coach. It is disappointing that in recent years there has been no-one available, or prepared, to take on this position and the squad has been essentially self-coaching. While several of our talented players have stepped up to run coaching sessions this situation is less than ideal. It may well be the case again this year.

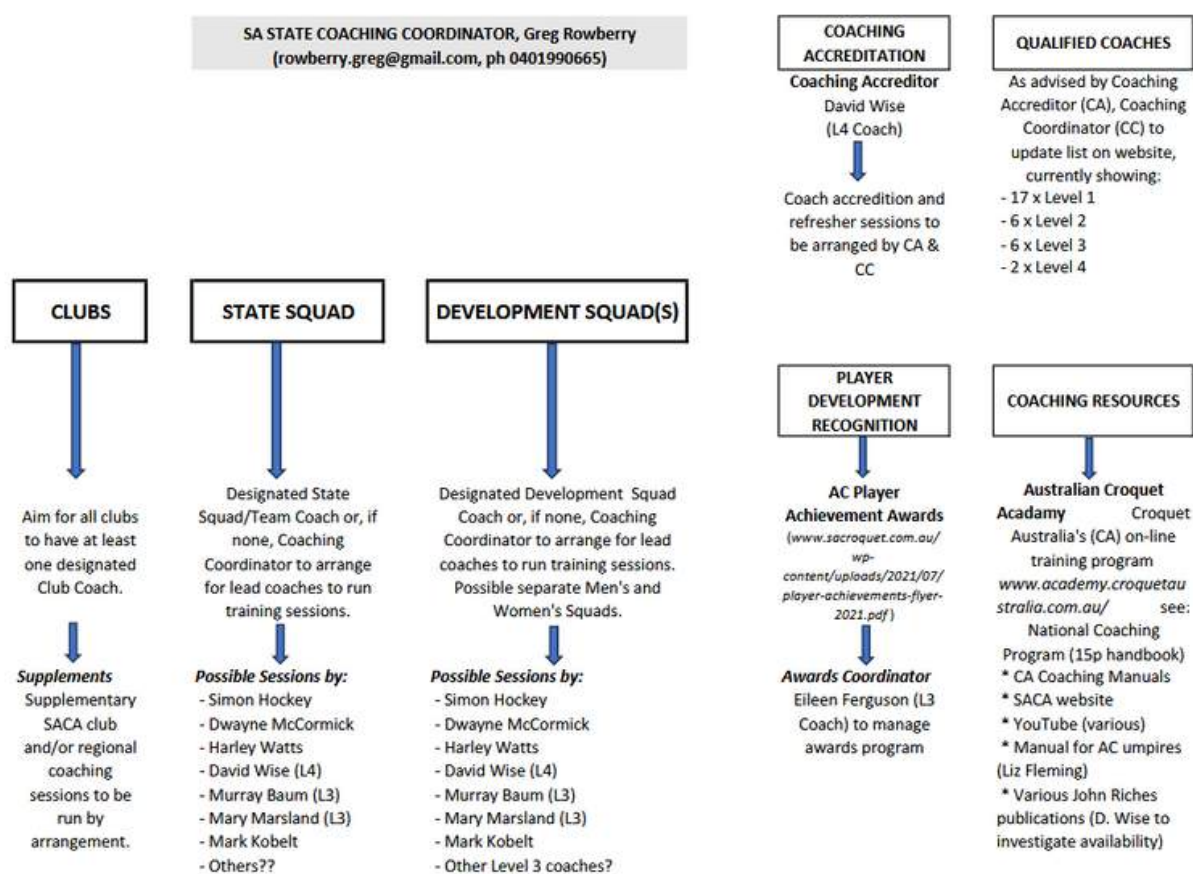
At the intermediate level, the AC Committee is keen to establish one or two squads (perhaps separate men's and women's) of developing players who are considered to have potential to become State AC players. Membership of this/these squad(s) will be chosen by the AC Committee in consultation with the AC Selection Committee. Coaching will be provided either by a Development Squad coach or by a small group of qualified coaches who share the responsibility.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ARE INVITED FROM PLAYERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A MEMBER OF AN AC DEVELOPMENT SQUAD.

Nominations will be welcomed from players who have shown dedication to the game and have exhibited significant improvement in their level of play. Advanced level GC players who wish to diversify their skills will also be particularly welcome.

In the first instance, if you are interested in being a member of the AC Development Squad, please contact Greg Rowberry for further information. Expressions of interest will close on Friday 11 July.

SACA COACHING MODEL



Interested in becoming an Association Croquet Referee or Umpire?

The process to become an Association Croquet Umpire or Referee, is a Nation-wide one. It is overseen by Croquet Australia and Croquet NSW. There are two levels for Association Croquet An Umpire who assess the results of strokes on the lawn, whilst the Referee does that aspect plus interprets and rules on the laws of the game.

This Saturday Laws 7 review (each 2 years), is also mandatory for ALL qualified AC Referees, who wish to continue being CA Registered. Some SA Referees may also want to be Tournament Referee Education Program (TREP) registered.

Date: 9th (Saturday) and Sunday 10th August 2025
 Time: 15h00- 1700 AC Laws V7, review with Lawn examples.
 Sunday 09h00 to 12h00 Lawn-craft assessment.
 Venue: Norwood CC, Portrush Road, Norwood, Adelaide.

Please contact James Temlett
 CSA Referee Director/Coordinator

E: james2temlett@gmail.com
 M: 0400 740 333



SA GC Silver Medal

The SA Silver Medal had it all. It was held on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th May at Hutt Road with 12 participants. This meant all 3 courts were doubled banked for the 11 games played.

Saturday gave the players the opportunity to test out their wet weather gear, for the first time this year and on Sunday their thermals in the morning. The clear skies that led to a beautiful sunny day meant a cold start.

The competition was a single round robin, with each player playing every other player during the 2 days. At the end of day 1, Nic McNicol (South Terrace) and Geoff Crook (Woodville) were in the lead on 5 wins from 6 games played. Frank Markus (Victor Harbor) and Colleen Baumanis (Norwood) were not far behind on 4 wins.

Day 2 saw a change in fortunes for many, Karen Tierney and Manoli Flouris (North Adelaide) started to charge up the leaderboard, finishing in 4th and 5th place. They were a part of the strong contingent from North Adelaide, 5 players in all.

Frank Markus from Victor Harbor who didn't lose any games on Sunday was the over winner, Nic Mc Nicol of South Terrace in second place and then Geoff Crook from Woodville in third.

Brighton Croquet Club and the GC Committee shared the management of this tournament and would like to thank the referees: Anne Woodhouse, Kim Millhouse, Ansi Baumanis and Karen Magee, along with Ann Millhouse and Julie Grindrod on Saturday for their assistance.

Karen Magee



Nic McNicol and Frank Markus





Left - Autumn Singles participants
Right - Grand finalists, Bill Chapman and Denis Ragenovich



Autumn Singles 9+ Tournament

The Autumn Singles Tournament for 9+ players was played at Hutt Road over two Tuesdays – Tuesday 13 and Tuesday 20 May 2025. The tournament was managed by the North Adelaide Croquet Club and consisted of 13 players from the Millswood, North Adelaide, Brighton, Norwood, Hyde Park, Victor Harbor, South Terrace, Aldinga Bay and Coromandel Valley Clubs.

The tournament was a showcase of both veteran and emerging talent playing in perfect sunny weather. The tournament not only highlighted the emerging talent within the croquet community but also showcased a promising future for the game as new players begin to participate in tournaments. Overall, the tournament was an outstanding success leaving all players confident to play another tournament. At the end of the two blocks of round robin, eight players – Deb Parsons, Helen Shaw, Miles Barrett, Bill Chapman, Denis Ragenovich, Desley Watson-Raston, Ann Millhouse and Julian Hafner proceeded to the semi-finals.

After hard fought wins in the semi-finals, Bill Chapman and Denis Ragenovich proceeded to the grand-final with Bill Chapman (Aldinga Bay) winning over Denis Ragenovich (Coromandel Valley). Well done to both grand finalists and to all players who represented their clubs in good spirits.

A big thank you to all the referees (Kevin Le Poidevin, Ansi Baumanis, Kim Millhouse, John Arney and Geoff Creek) who volunteered their time to ensure the success of the event. A thank you also to Kim Millhouse for his pre-tournament work and guidance and to the North Adelaide Croquet Club members (Gayle Searle, Jon Kirwan, Robin Golding and Marianne Maycock) who volunteered their time and skills to ensure that the tournament ran smoothly.

Jim Carter – Event Manager, North Adelaide Croquet Club

Event manager Jim Carter with winner Bill Chapman





Year 4 Croquet at Kadina Croquet Club

Kadina Croquet Club recently ran a 4 week introduction to croquet course for 3 Year 3 and 4 classes from Kadina Memorial School. The school abuts the croquet fields. Jacqui Story and Sandy Shorne ran the sessions, supported by Debbie Terrett and Judy van Galen who did the liaising with the school. An additional 6 club members volunteered their time so the children were able to be supported in small groups. The club also runs sessions for the children in the disability unit at the school. The article below written by the children tells the story the enjoyment of the children and the lessons learned.

Croquet reflection!

When we were younger, we used to look over the school fence and wonder what the people were playing. As we went into Year 4, we learnt that it's called... croquet! The past four weeks we have been learning how to play.

For those who don't know, croquet is simple. You have a mallet, which is like a big hammer, and you have to hit your coloured ball through the hoop.

The first week of lessons we talked about the rules and then we split into smaller groups and played mini-games, such as Finska and a target game. After the lesson all we could hear was "can we do that again?" In Weeks 2 and 3, we learned some rules and strategies for how to play croquet, such as hitting someone else's ball away, promoting your teammate and blocking people's balls.

In Week 4, for our last week, we got to invite someone special to come and play with us. Some parents played a game of croquet, and others enjoyed watching.

Overall, we all learnt a lot about croquet and how to be patient and persistent! We want to say a big thank you the Kadina Croquet Club volunteers for giving up their time to teach us how to play croquet.

Written by students from 4 HC, 4 CD and 4 KJ

The parents have given permission for photos of the children to be published. The children presented the club with a basket of goodies and a delightful hand made card.

Kathy Snodgrass
Kadina Croquet Club



UPCOMING EVENTS.....

GOLF CROQUET

JUNE 7 - 9	Doubles Combined 8+ Entries have closed
JUNE 21	Weekend Pennants
JUNE 25 - 26	Doubles Combined 12+ Entries close 10th June
JULY 5, 12 & 20	Weekend Pennants
JULY 22 - 24	Singles 3+ Enter Via SACA website Entries close 7 July
AUG 9, 17, 30	Weekend pennants
AUG 12	Doubles Combined 20+
AUG 14 - 17	Brighton Armstrong Challenge
AUG 19 - 21	Open Doubles

ASSOCIATION CROQUET

JUNE 14	Pennants
JUNE 17 - 20	Maslen Brooch and Lewis Badge 6+ Enter via SACA website, close June 3
JULY 1 - 3	Division 2 Singles (2.5+) Enter via SACA website close June 17
JULY 4 - 6	Hyde Park Invitational By Invitation
JULY 13	Pennants
JULY 19	Pennants
JULY 26 - 27	Selector's Invitational By Invitation
AUG 2	Pennants
AUG 16	Pennants
AUG 23 - 24	President's trophy

Are you wanting to pass on the skills you have learnt to other and become a Qualified Golf Croquet Coach?

If so, the next Golf Croquet Level 1 Coach's course is being offered and will be held on Wednesday 6th August at Hutt Road from 12.30pm to 3.30pm

To obtain further information, please contact me and I will provide information on what requirements you need to complete prior to coming to the course.

Laura Eden

SA GC Coaching Coordinator

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