



July 2014

***** Newsflash*****

Croquet Matters Editor Pamela George has had a fall and broken both her fibula and tibia. She is resting up in Wellington Hospital.

This month

A shortened edition this month with Pamela out of action and the Executive Director and Sport Development Officer immersed in getting a number of projects ready for next season. In saying that there is another terrific article from Greg Bryant on goal-setting which will be very useful.

An important article to consider is Baubre Murray's financial assessment of Croquet NZ in the future. Your contributions to assist with this issue will be welcomed.

From the Executive

The Executive met on the 27th July.

Annie Henry and the Organisation Development Committee have made some progress on a publicity plan for Croquet New Zealand (see advertisement for Information Officer later in this issue). Draft updates have been made to grievance procedures and some further issues will be considered to improve the final document. Greg will be issuing some information shortly about meeting with Association Committees regarding planning and alignment with Croquet NZ targets during his national coaching series.

Phillip Drew (Player Development Committee) has been considering changes to the selection policies of Croquet NZ. This is because the WCF has changed the method by which players are allocated places in WCF Championships. Most of our top players will be allocated "ranking places" and the selectors will need to have more discretion in choosing players for New Zealand's allocated places and those we put forward for wildcard places.

The Tournament Committee is in the process of considering changes to the host reimbursement system for Croquet NZ tournaments. As Croquet NZ looks to keep the fiscal position neutral from any increase in host reimbursement costs, there will be increases in entry fees for the 2014/15 season. There is also a remit from Canterbury to the Croquet NZ AGM that addresses host reimbursement.

The Laws Committee is considering increasing the responsibilities of AC Umpires. Initially this was planned to focus around hoop-setting, however this was expanded to include all errors, not just faults.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee recommended the 2013/14 Financial Accounts be sent to audit. A loss of \$18k was recorded for the year. Baubre Murray also spoke to the Executive about future finances (see next article)

Financial Sustainability of Croquet NZ

Croquet NZ is facing a potential financial crisis. We are likely to lose at least \$35,000 of our operating income from the 2015/16 financial year with no clear means of replacing it.

Already in 2013/4 we received around \$20,000 less in charitable trust grants than in prior years and we only have one more year left of our community sport investment of \$35,000/year from Sport NZ.

As with many similar not for profit organizations we have relied on funding from charitable and other trusts, sometimes for special activities such as production of the lawn maintenance manual , for tournament manager courses, or to help send our Sport Development Officer (Greg Bryant) around the country to coach players, or for more basic help with office salaries. As you will be well aware from your club and association experiences, this funding has become considerably more difficult to secure over the last few years. In 2012 we received \$69,000 in charitable donations but only \$26,500 in 2014. For at least the last 10 years since I have been involved we have also received community sport investment from Sport NZ (previously SPARC) – at around \$35,000 a year. Since we are not an Olympic sport and because Sport NZ itself has limited funding and embarking on a new strategy focused primarily on youth activities, indications are that we are unlikely to receive any community sport investment from Sport NZ for the 2015/16 year onwards.

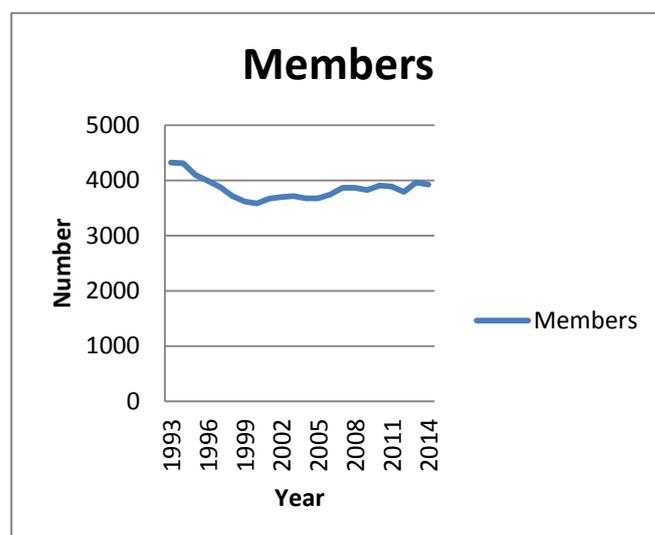
Given that charitable donations and the NZ Sport funding have made up around a third of our funding we are losing a significant funding base. Where to find the shortfall?

There are two main ways to improve financially: increase income (either by increasing the levy and/ or number of players or raise funds from other external sources) and/ or reduce costs.

To increase revenue we have approached a number of potential corporate sponsors in the last 2-3 years but none have been convinced of the value proposition of supporting Croquet New Zealand. We have found that sponsorship is more targeted at a local or regional level, which is difficult for us.

Sponsorship for CNZ tournaments is difficult to justify for local sponsors as tournament entry numbers are typically small (especially when compared to fun runs and the like) and many of the competitors come from out of town (unlikely to purchase the sponsor's product).

Reliance on a major corporate sponsor can also have a drastic impact when that funding is removed. Increasing membership would help and individual clubs and associations as well as Croquet NZ have major huge efforts in this area but the attached graph shows that, despite the increase in members due to golf croquet, our total membership base has been relatively constant over the last 20 years.



In terms of reducing costs the national office operation is already a lean organisation and there are limited opportunities to save more than a few dollars there without significantly reducing the services provided.

Over the last few years we have streamlined the office operations bringing in Xero for the accounting system, internet banking to reduce cheque writing and signing, and online tournament management etc. The result was the replacement of our half time administrative support person with the Sport Development Officer, which has been met with unanimous approval around the sport. We do not want to return to the days when the national office was run off a "shoestring" relying on intermittent voluntary input. Much good work has been coming out of national office recently including development opportunities for all players in both golf and association croquet as well as support for individual clubs and associations.

At the moment levy income supports running the national office, mainly the 1.5 salaries and the minimal office space, plus some administration costs. The next 2 major costs are the costs of the international tournaments and the AGM. Reducing the minimal support for international competitions will do little to provide opportunities for players to progress or to increase the profile of our sport. Similarly we are reluctant to ask associations to pay for delegates to attend the AGM as this is a player organization and we do not want to make it difficult for those travelling from distant regions to attend. On the income side we are continuing to apply for grants but, having looked externally for further income via corporate sponsorship without success, we are now turning to players for more financial support. We welcome bequests or donations. In the meantime though we need to be prepared for the loss of significant funding and we are reaching out to players to fund the breach.

The loss of the Sport NZ funding of \$35,000 alone is a per player cost of \$8.75 per year. With a \$4 increase in the national levy for each of the next two years for our 3,925 players we will be able to raise an extra \$15,700 per year. Over 2 years this will total \$31,400 so still less than the \$35,000 a year currently received from Sport NZ and will not make up for any reduction in charitable donations and grants.

At this stage a remit will be going to the AGM from the Executive requesting an increase in the Croquet NZ levy of \$4 per player for the 2015/16 season. The purpose of this article is to alert Associations, Clubs and players to the situation and to seek feedback on this proposal. We would definitely welcome suggestions for increasing our income.

Please provide feedback to the Executive Director by 31 August 2014.

Baubre Murray
Convenor Finance, Audit and Risk
Committee

INFORMATION OFFICER WANTED

Volunteer wanted to liaise with media and tournament managers to promote Croquet NZ tournaments and results.

Develop relationships with TV, radio and print to gain more coverage for the sport.

Promote "angles" and interest in the sport.

For more information about what is proposed please contact Annie Henry (annie58@ihug.co.nz) or the Executive Director

Tournaments

Paddy Chapman at the British Open

New Zealand MacRobertson Shield player Paddy Chapman has been resident in the UK for several years now.

Paddy was a finalist in the British Open Doubles (where he was partnered by David Maugham), losing to the combination of Reg Bamford (S.A.) and Ben Rothman (USA). He was a semi-finalist in the Singles being knocked out by Robert Fulford (who went on to win for the tenth time, equalling the record held by Reg Bamford and the legendary John Solomon!)

A feature of this event was that it was played using "Super-Advanced Rules" (The super-advanced rules can be found in the Croquet NZ Yearbook 2013/14) and the number of sextuples that were completed.



Super-Advanced Play

I have been asked to comment on the use of Super-Advanced Rules in NZ. Some of you will be aware that these rules are now used for the majority of top-class play in the UK, although hardly ever outside the CA domain. So, firstly, what are super-advanced rules?

1. Hoop 4 is a lift hoop. This means that if you run both hoop 4 and 1-b on your first break, you will give a contact away. The idea is to give the outplayer more chances and reduce the number of 26-0 no croquet games.
2. If you run 4, 1-b and 4-b with your first ball in one turn, you give a "lift to position". This allows your opponent to lift one of their balls and place it anywhere on the lawn - even within the corner area to effectively give themselves a rush on any ball. The lift to position does not apply if a ball is pegged out that turn.

Full details can be found at

<https://www.croquet.org.uk/tournament/regulations.html#L3>

Additionally, there is a change to the rules about openings. The first ball played into the game must either leave the court, hit a hoop/peg or pass through a hoop. If it does not, the opponent may request that it is placed on a baulk line. The idea behind this rule is to reduce the use of supershot openings which had become the main opening line in the Northern hemisphere. So, are the above law changes a "good thing"? In my opinion, in most lawn conditions, the answer is yes. Initially my thoughts were that it was only beneficial for the top 20 or 30 players in the world, however, the more I have seen it in action, it does seem to generate more interesting games and tactical choices at all levels. If you are a handicap 2 to -3 and aren't sold on the idea, ask yourself the following question - would you rather play advanced with lifts at 1-b and 4-b or level with no lifts. Most players I know would opt for advanced over level play because it has more variety and tactical interest. Adding the extra lift at hoop 4, simply takes it one step further.

Having said that, because super-advanced generates more interaction and opportunities for both sides, this will inevitably mean that the better player is more likely to win. The chance for a weaker player to occasionally notch up a 26-0 against a very strong player will be diminished and some players may dislike that aspect. Additionally, with more lifts, games may become scrappier and take longer. However, overall, I believe that super-advanced is a positive advance to the game.

Super-advanced in NZ

To date, there has not been a super-advanced tournament in NZ. My opinion is that change should be driven by player demand rather than enforced. In the UK, players were forced to play super-advanced a few years ago, which I wasn't keen on. I would like to see the option given to NZ players to play super-advanced if both players agree and I would also welcome an unranked super-advanced tournament to allow players of all standards to learn the new rules and experiment with different tactics.

Why not have a few friendly games at your local club and write in with your opinion?

Chris Clarke

Regional News

We apologise in advance if any articles sent to Pamela are not included in this issue.

Croquet Nelson

Croquet Richmond runs an annual winter doubles golf croquet tournament called the Snowball. One day a month for three months, 16 entries on their 4 lawns, double banked. This competition is always fully booked, and the trophy keenly contested.

Play is handicapped, but each game was fiercely competitive, no one giving an inch. The first Snowball was held in 2004, and won by Richmond for the first five years. In 2009 it was won by Nelson Hinemoa club members, and for

the next four years by Richmond Club members.

This year Nelson Hinemoa Club members, Marion Prentice and Carl Horn, were the winners.

Croquet Richmond was runner up, and third place getters were Annie Henry and Mike Milstein of Nelson Hinemoa. At the final countup, there were six teams within 5 points of the winners!

The Richmond club is well known for its friendly hosting which provides great food for morning and afternoon teas, and soup and a roll for lunch, all included in the entry fee. This year they even arranged fine weather for each day of play.

Everyone had a great time and we are already cueing up for next year



Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui

The growing popularity of croquet is forcing Horowhenua's only croquet club to find bigger premises to accommodate its increasing membership.

Levin Croquet Club members turned out in force this week to say goodbye to the two croquet lawns in Weraroa Rd, the scene of thousands of mallet stokes over the past 93 years.

The club is moving to Western Park where a new clubroom and four new croquet lawns will be established, more than doubling the club's size from 1911 square metres to approximately 4155 square metres.

Levin Croquet Club Lois Molloy said club committee made the decision to sell the lawns and clubroom about 18 months ago, as membership almost doubled due to the popularity of twilight croquet introduced that year, attracting new players.

"We now have 33 members which may not sound a lot but with just two lawns the maximum number of players at any one time is 16," said Mrs Molloy. "Games take from 45 minutes for golf croquet, up to more than two hours for association croquet, which means a lot of waiting around for those not in the first draw."

She said there was definitely some sadness at saying goodbye to the old lawns. "They've been our home for a long time. We've had a lot of laughs here and there's probably a few stories we could tell."

The Levin club, first formed in March 1915, moved to Werarora Rd in 1921, and was one of the few croquet clubs in the country to own its own lawns. The land was sold to a private individual who Mrs Molloy believes would be moving a house onto the property.

She said the money from the sale of the club's property would be barely enough to cover the cost of a new clubroom, and that the club would need to fundraise for the balance of the estimated \$350,000 total cost. "It's a nice problem to have, but it will be a challenge with fundraising and applying for grants."

The new clubhouse and lawns are planned to be ready for the start of the 2015 season next September. The four new lawns would mean the club could cater for up to 60 members.

In the meantime, club members will be starting off this year's season in September playing on two temporary lawns in the middle of Western Park. "The park lawns are pretty rough by comparison," said Mrs Molloy. "They're not up to standard but they'll keep the club going until the new lawns are ready. Everyone is just keen to keep playing."

The club is part of the Manawatu-Wanganui Association. Its members have seen success in the past, most recently winning the Association Croquet Interclub competition and came third in Golf Croquet Interclub this

season. Members have also represented Manawatu in regional and national competitions.

The Levin Croquet Club will be celebrating its centenary next year.



Left to right : Bob Eyles, Ian Bannister, Zola Bannister, Jean Reid, Haydn Barrett, Pam Adams, Stella Austing, Maureen Kerins, Jan Smellie, Daniel Hunter, Brena Inglis, Fay Leach, Jean Parkin (Life Member), Lois Molloy (President) Joyce Rodden (Life Member), Margaret Tait, Norma Hunter (obscured), Judith Hunt, Margaret Troup, Betty Anderson, Wally Richards, Joy Sparks, Ted Anderson.

Ricochet For AC

Four years ago, Ricochet was introduced at Plimmerton Club, primarily with the aim of introducing aspects of AC to GC players and encouraging them to learn AC. From 2 or 3 players playing occasionally we now have 8 to 12 regular players during two shared club sessions each week.

The game has many similarities to AC: balls are yarded in, you remain on the lawn until you miss the hoop or roquet, you finish the game by pegging out, you have 3 live balls at the beginning of your turn, the game is over when both your balls have been pegged out. The main difference is that you never have a ball in hand.

With your first shot you must either score the correct hoop or roquet another ball. Failure = end of turn. If you roquet a ball you have two strokes to roquet another live ball or go through the correct hoop. The first stroke is used to position yourself, the second to run the hoop or to hit the next ball to a better position whilst ricocheting the struck ball to the position you want it to be in e.g just in front of the correct hoop. After scoring the hoop you have one shot to roquet any of the 3 live balls.

Roquets, splits, weight, and hooping are all crucial skills. Because there are no takeoffs, or rolls it is hard to maintain a long break so less time is spent sitting in the shed! Our players tend to be GC players looking for a bit more challenge but not quite ready to start AC, or AC players who are looking for a social game with less bending and crouching.

Last season we had both a handicap and a levels competition complete with trophies. We use the same rules as in Queensland, have copied their handicap cards and devised our own AC or GC handicap conversions. The main problem is time! Playing both GC and AC semi-seriously fills in most of the week. Ricochet as well is almost impossible.

Coaching (by Greg Bryant)

Coaching Article: Goal Setting (Part 1)

In recent coaching articles I have often referred to goal setting as strategy for developing and improving your game. In his two-part article, we will discuss *what* goals are, *why* goals are important and *how* we can set personal goals to help us achieve what we *want* to achieve.

Part 1 discusses some principles of goal setting, identifies the common *types* of goals that players set, what role they play, and how these might affect your progress.

Part 2 explains how you can personally set and apply S.M.A.R.T goals to help you achieve a specific outcome. (Next month)

Hit and miss?

Most, if not all of us want to improve as players. We want to reduce our handicaps, win a competition or just win more often, reduce our anxiety and enjoy our experiences more, or to have greater respect as a player amongst our peers. These are very common responses that I hear from croquet players when asked what they want to achieve. When asked what they are doing about it, I'm often told "well, I practice more" or "I just try harder" or "I sort of knew what I wanted to achieve but it didn't happen"

These are reasonable and encouraging responses that indicate a player's desire to improve. What is missing however, is sufficient understanding of the principles of goal setting and how to apply them. In all cases, the player's objective is not sufficiently researched, too vague and void of a plan to achieve their goal. In other words, their objectives could be more appropriately described as a *wish* and not yet a *goal* per se.

What are Goals then?

Goal setting is a psychological technique that was pioneered by Dr's Locke and Latham in the 1960's.

Their research found that goal setting effects performance in 4 ways:

- Focuses attention
- Mobilises effort in proportion to the demands of the task
- Enhances persistence
- Encourages individuals to develop strategies for achieving their goals.

Goal setting is not just about identifying what you want to achieve but also how you will achieve it. When challenging goals are broken down into realistic steps and then systemically achieved motivation, commitment and self-confidence will improve.

Improving your chances of success

Is simply identifying something we would like to achieve enough? In a word, No. Identifying what we want to achieve is just the starting point in setting a goal. Until that *dream* or *want* or *desire* is supported by a plan to achieve it, it remains a wish. That's not to say wishes can't come true - they can eventually if it's meaningful enough, but with a greater understanding of how that comes about, we can simplify the process and expect a greater chance of success if we plot a course of action to achieve it. That requires a bit more detail than pinning an affirmation to the fridge door and hoping for the best.

For example, this writer spent over 20 years *trying* and *hoping* to win the NZ Open. At least I gained some knowledge of the standard of play required but it still remained a wish that all the stars would one day align and presto! I'd play to that standard and win the Open. It never happened.

That is, until I became tired of not achieving what I thought I should be able to achieve. (See para. 1) I finally resorted to a plan and less than 2 years later, won the NZ Open, successfully repeating it twice since. (Note - planning also took practice) I am now convinced that Bob Jackson didn't win 14 Opens on a wish. Luck? - Some, maybe. Applied focus on the right things? - Definitely

Types of Goals

For those that are inclined, there is a plethora of information and opinions in the world of sport psychology concerning achievement goal theory and psychometric measurements. In summary however, goal setting techniques are generally categorised into three domains; Outcome goals, Performance goals and Process goals. The most effective goal setting techniques will include aspects of each and it is very useful to understand their roles.

Outcome Goals:

Outcome goals describe the end result - the thing that you really want to achieve. For example:

- A Bronze, Silver or Gold merit award
- A specific Handicap level.
- Selection for a CNZ Invitation event
- Winning an Open Championship
- Selection for a national team

Outcome goals can be highly motivating long term goals but as they are not under your individual control and are affected by how others perform, they are limited without related process and performance goals.

Performance Goals:

Performance goals specify a standard to be achieved. Often referred to as *Key Performance Indicators (KPI)*, performance goals are

stepping stones that measure our progress toward the outcome goal. Setting performance goals may take a bit of research; what standard is required? What are the skills that I need to develop? To plot progress, practice and match results can be referred to. For example:

- A specific number of bisques required to complete a break of 10 hoops, or an increasing number of points in a break without bisques.
- A systematic programme of events to plot an index increase, thus reducing your handicap level.
- Recording the results of practice routines that will contribute to the standard you need to achieve.

Unlike outcome goals, performance goals are controlled entirely by the individual. They encourage the development of mastery and can make a participant feel satisfied with a performance, even if they don't win. Performance goals measure the achievement of process goals.

Process Goals:

Process goals, over which the individual has complete control, deal with the techniques and strategies necessary to perform well. Process goals are to do with the activity itself – physically doing the things that will advance us toward achieving our performance goals. For example:

- Improving the mechanics of swinging the mallet and striking the centre of the ball more consistently
- Specific shot techniques – hoop approaches or hoop running, roquets or croquet strokes etc.
- Psychological routines – visualization and focus techniques
- Developing effective habits and muscle memories etc.

- Improving tactical knowledge (for example, effective use of bisques)

Process goals help focus attention and are very effective in helping to control anxiety. In a competitive environment, focusing on our process goals allows us to develop 'flow' (see Croquet Matters, May and June 2014)

Summary

The first step in using goal setting techniques is to set an outcome goal. Let your ego run rampant (privately please!) and identify what excites you, what you dare to achieve, what *might* be possible?

Goal setting is not just about identifying what you want to achieve but also how you will achieve it (process goals) and measure that achievement (performance goals). When challenging goals are broken down into realistic steps and then systemically achieved, motivation, commitment and self-confidence will grow.

Consider your current situation too; your age, stage of development, confidence, ability and motivation. As a Beginner, you may require very short term easily achieved goals to boost your self-confidence whereas the experienced individual may need more challenging yet realistic goals.

In next month's Croquet Matters, we will look at how a plan to achieve an outcome goal using S.M.A.R.T. goal setting methods, just in time for the season!

References:

1. LOCKE, E. (1968) Toward a Theory of Task Motivation and Incentives. *Organ. Behav. Hum. Perform*, 3, p. 157-189
2. MACKENZIE, B. (2007) *Goal Setting* [WWW] Available from: <http://www.brianmac.co.uk/goals.htm>



BRONZE, SILVER & GOLD DEVELOPMENT SQUADS

Croquet NZ has extended the Player Development Programme for the 2014/15 season with the addition of three new self-nominated player development squads: Bronze, Silver and Gold.

Based on the CNZ Merit Awards, the Bronze, Silver and Gold Development Squads provide all CNZ affiliated players with an integrated pathway for achievement through squad specific coaching, individual goal setting, and tournament participation.

Contact the convenor, Greg Bryant, to register and participate in a 2014/15 Gold, Silver or Bronze Development Squad.

(See conditions attached)

admin@croquet.org.nz

(Club Secretaries: Please print these Development Squad pages and place on your notice boards. *Bronze Squad entries close 26 September)

This information supersedes Development Squad information in the 2014/15 Yearbook

CNZ BRONZE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

2014/15 Coaching Session

To be held in Auckland (Club TBA)

On 17 October 2014 from 8.45 am

The CNZ BRONZE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD coaching session is an open invitation for CNZ affiliated players to register and participate in the CNZ Player Development programme. This Bronze Development Squad coaching session will target the objective of all self-nominated members of this squad: To achieve a CNZ Bronze Merit Award;

Completion of a break of 10 hoops or more with or without bisques in a tournament game that is won.

Coaching session topics from the CNZ coaching programme:

1. Shot selection and technique
2. Bisques for breaks
3. Goal setting and reviewing.

Conditions:

1. A participant must be a member of a Croquet Club in New Zealand and an affiliated member of CNZ.
2. Entry is open to any CNZ affiliated player who has not previously achieved a CNZ Merit Award. Their Association Croquet Handicap should be in the range of 24 to 16 and they should possess an understanding of association croquet shot sequences and basic break play concepts.
3. Bronze Development Squad members are expected to;
 - a) Participate in the Bronze Development Squad coaching session.
 - b) Participate in their CNZ Arthur Ross competitions and at least 1 other CNZ AC Tier 3 event in the current season (Defined in Tournament Regulations Appendix 4(2) Tiered Events.
 - c) Participate in email communications with the squad convenor and/or their coach.

Entry:

- 1 Participants that meet the criteria above are self-nominated. Please register your entry with Croquet NZ at admin@croquet.org.nz before **26 September 2014**, including Name, AC Handicap, present Index, the club you are a member of, and a brief playing history.
- 2 A Club-house fee of \$5 per day, including light refreshments is payable to the host venue. Tournament entry fees or any other costs associated with participating in development squad activities are payable by the participant.

CNZ SILVER DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

2014/15 Coaching Session

To be held at the Marton Croquet Club

On 1 & 2 December 2014 from 8.45 am

The CNZ SILVER DEVELOPMENT SQUAD coaching session is an open invitation for CNZ affiliated players to register and participate in the CNZ Player Development programme.

This Silver Development Squad coaching session will target the objective of all self-nominated members of this squad: To achieve a CNZ Silver Merit Award;

Completion of a break of 12 hoops or more without bisques in a tournament game that is won.

Coaching session topics from the CNZ coaching programme:

1. Shot selection and technique
2. Moving pivot 4 ball break hygiene
3. Goal setting and reviewing.

Conditions:

1. A participant must be a member of a Croquet Club in New Zealand and an affiliated member of CNZ.
2. Entry is open to any CNZ affiliated player who has not previously achieved a CNZ Silver Merit Award. Their Association Handicap should be in the range of 4 to 16 and they should have achieved a Bronze Merit Award or be capable of demonstrating the playing requirements of a Bronze award.
3. Silver Development Squad members are expected to:
 - a) Participate in the Silver Development Squad coaching session.
 - b) Participate in their CNZ Arthur Ross competitions and at least one other CNZ AC Tier 2 or 3 event in the current season (Defined in Tournament Regulations Appendix 4(2) Tiered Events.
 - c) Participate in email communications with the squad convenor and/or their coach.

Entry:

1. Participants that meet the criteria above are self-nominated. Please register your entry with Croquet NZ at admin@croquet.org.nz before **14 November 2014**, including Name, AC Handicap, present Index, the club you are a member of, and a brief playing history.
2. A Club-house fee of \$5 per day, including light refreshments is payable to the host venue. Tournament entry fees or any other costs associated with participating in development squad activities are payable by the participant.

CNZ GOLD DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

2014/15 Coaching Session

To be held at Leith Croquet Club

On 23 & 24 February 2015 from 8.45 am

The CNZ GOLD DEVELOPMENT SQUAD coaching session is an open invitation for CNZ affiliated players to register and participate in the CNZ Player Development programme.

This Gold Development Squad coaching session will target the objective of all self-nominated members of this squad: To achieve a CNZ Gold Merit Award;

Completion of a triple peel in a tournament game that is won.

Coaching session topics from the CNZ coaching programme:

1. Peeling shot selection and technique
2. Triple Peel Break Hygiene
3. Goal setting and reviewing.

Conditions:

1. A participant must be a member of a Croquet Club in New Zealand and an affiliated member of CNZ.
2. Entry is open to any CNZ affiliated player who has not previously achieved a CNZ Gold Merit Award. Their Association Croquet Handicap should be in the range 4 to -2 and should be able to demonstrate a good understanding and ability of 3 and 4 ball break play.
3. Gold Development Squad members are expected to:
 - d) Participate in the Gold Development Squad coaching session.
 - e) Participate in their CNZ Arthur Ross competitions and at least two other CNZ AC Tier 2 or 1 events in the current season (Defined in Tournament Regulations Appendix 4(2) Tiered Events.
 - f) Participate in email communications with the squad convenor and/or their coach.

Entry:

1. Participants that meet the criteria above are self-nominated. Please register your entry with Croquet NZ at admin@croquet.org.nz before **31 January 2015**, including Name, AC Handicap, present Index, the club you are a member of, and a brief playing history.
2. A Club-house fee of \$5 per day, including light refreshments is payable to the host venue. Tournament entry fees or any other costs associated with participating in development squad activities are payable by the participant.