



September 2014

## This month

*Welcome to the new playing season. We wish you lots of fun and good games and some special success as well.*

*The bionic editor has been released from hospital with a plate and 3 screws in her ankle just to upset the security people at airports. My special thanks for all the good wishes which you sent to me. When one is incarcerated for 6 weeks in hospital such messages and cards as well as visitors are wonderful to receive and help to focus on a world outside the confines of a bed and a ward. Pamela George*

## From the Exec

The Executive congratulates all the players who have been given places in the Golf Croquet World Championships and the Under 21 GC World Championships. There are 18 New Zealanders to line up in the GC Worlds and 22 (from a total field size of 28!) in the Under 21s.

It is a real credit to our Youth Development programmes (and all the local coaches) that we have so many young players in the sport. We look forward to watching the results of the Worlds in February.

The players selected can be found on the WCF website at:

<http://wfcroquet.org/joomla/index.php/2015-golf-croquet-world-championship>

<http://wfcroquet.org/joomla/index.php/2015-under-21-gc-world-championship>

## Golf Croquet referees

### Requalified

Dale Majurey, Whakatane.

### New Referees

Martin Bond - Whakatane

Sally Hura - Rotorua

Alistair Hunter - Rotorua

Janet Carey - Pukekohe

Pat Lester - Pukekohe

Jeff France - Pukekohe

## Sport Development Officer

### Re: CNZ Coaching

Could you please distribute the attached poster with the CNZ Coaching programme dates and venues to your clubs to advise of this season's coaching events.

These coaching events were very popular last time and I am sure that this series will be just as well received. All players at all levels will find something useful from this season's programme.

If you are close to receiving more numbers than you think the host club can accommodate (inside on a wet day) please contact Murray at the CNZ office, or me on the mobile phone number below to discuss.

I have noted on the poster that host clubs may charge a \$5 fee for light refreshments and clubhouse use.

The 1<sup>st</sup> session at each venue begins at 8.30am so access to set up will be required at 8.00 am.

Please retain a list of registered participants – they may pay on the day, where we can check them off, provide name tags & programmes etc.

Also, please remember to have the Bronze, Silver and Gold Development Squad notices from the Croquet Matters pages displayed on your notice boards. A selection process is not required for these squads. They are self-nominated, so if you feel anyone within your region who would benefit from a programme to achieve a Bronze, Silver or Gold Merit Award please encourage their registration with the CNZ Office.

Kind Regards,  
Greg Bryant

## Tournaments

*The first tournaments are already been planned even though some of us have not lifted a mallet yet.*

### CNZ Events

#### NZ Gold & Silver Mallets

Wairarapa Association  
18 & 19 October 2014      Yearbook page 281  
Association Croquet Ranking Tournament

*This event was not played last season –please support such a long standing event this one*

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### Canterbury Association

#### MAGAK Sponsored Open Championship Singles

*This season the event will be held in Christchurch after 2 successful tournaments in Wellington*

**Saturday 25 to Monday 27 October 2014  
(Labour Weekend)**

*See page 335 of yearbook for entry details*

The event is a Swiss event with NO gender separation. There's just the ONE event. There will be prizes for the winner and runner up, and the best player of handicap 0 and above and potentially other prizes. The 0+ players will be mixed in with the minus players - just one event.

The event will be hosted entirely at United Croquet Club.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

#### Expert Coaching for Competitors

Other interested players on handicaps -2.5 to 10 are also welcome \$20 for the day

The coaches for this year's event are Jenny and Chris Clarke.

Coaching will also incorporate Game Sense elements - players wanting to know what that means are welcome to do some research or come along and learn something new :)

*See Comment below under Coaching*

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### Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui

#### Open Championship Singles

Marton Croquet Club  
4 & 5 October 2014

#### AC Weekend

#### Takaro Croquet Club

#### Suzuki Sponsored Tournament

Saturday 4 October    10 bisques and over

Sunday 5 October    Championship Doubles

#### Wanganui-Marton 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Tournament

Saturday 25 October

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## **Croquet Auckland**

Senior event – Ranking Tournament  
18-19 October 2014  
110<sup>th</sup> AC Annual Tournament

Open, 10-16 and 18-24 Championship Singles  
Carlton Croquet Club

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## **Croquet Hawkes Bay**

Princess Alexandra Open AC Singles  
4 & 5 October 2014 Ranking Tournament

Princess Alexandra GC Tournament  
25, 26 & 27 October

Marewa Croquet Club

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## **Other Golf Croquet tournaments in October 2014**

West Coast Saturday 4 Oct

Rose Gardens – Spring GC Tournament  
Saturday 11 October

Morrinsville 9<sup>th</sup> GC Annual Tournament  
Friday 17 October

Rotorua Annual GC tournament  
Saturday 18 October

Croquet Nelson GC Handicap Tournament  
Saturday 25 October

## **Association Croquet tournaments in October 2014**

Morrinsville Annual Tournament  
Saturday 11 October

Canterbury Handicap Singles  
Saturday 18 October

Bay of Plenty 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament  
Monday 20 October

South Canterbury Handicap Tournament  
Saturday 25 October

Croquet Taranaki 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament

31 October

## **Wellington Croquet Association**

### **Waikanae Open Association Singles**

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> and Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014

First 20 entries accepted

Entry Fee \$25

Lunches available if ordered before play

Law 53 (b) will apply

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## **Coaching**

Game Sense" uses games as a learning tool to:

- increase motivation of players
- develop tactical and strategic thinking
- improve skills

This approach is "game" rather than "technique" centred. Traditionally, we've taught techniques in isolation, eg repetitions of a particular stroke. While the technique is important, there is limited value in practising it without taking into account other factors involved in executing the skill. By making a modified game the focus of the session, players are challenged to think about what they are doing and why. The players must first have a clear understanding (model) of what the game is about. The technique follows the game when the need for it is established.

## **Regional News**

### *Tournament Managers Course*

A highly successful course for budding Tournament Managers was held on 6<sup>th</sup> September at the Marton Croquet Club.

The course was taught jointly by Michael Hardman and John Wall, both from Rose Gardens, Palmerston North, ably assisted by Vince Neall on the computer. It attracted

people from as far afield as New Plymouth, Wanganui, Levin and Wellington.

The intensive one-day course gave participants with a good insight on how a tournament should be set up and managed, including pre-tournament procedures, how to select the best type of draw for the number of entries and the number of days available, and managing the draw as the tournament progresses. It became clear that planning for all contingencies, including the weather, is an essential skill! We now have a much better understanding of setting up blocks for section play, how to work out the subsequent rounds and even how to cope with the formidable "Swiss" format.

The course was very informative and enlightening. Participants came away with a lot of valuable information as well as samples of self-calculating spreadsheets. Just fill in the numbers!

Many thanks to Michael and John for a very well organised informative and successful course.

*Janet Boutel, Secretary Wellington Croquet Association*

## **Croquet Nelson**

### **CROQUET - A GAME FOR LIFE**

**Richmond Croquet Club recently celebrated their oldest member's 91<sup>st</sup> birthday in style.**

**Guest of honour and ex-school dental nurse, Dorreen Eyles, cut the cake after a congratulatory speech by club President Athol Henry.**

**A splendiferous cake was made especially for the occasion by Club Captain Betty Winterburn's grand-daughter Amber.**



**Dorreen joined Richmond Club in 1994 and has played consistently ever since.**

**"I love the social contact - the friendships and the challenge of croquet.**

**I don't plan to give up, and while I can still hold a mallet I'll keep playing."**

**There are few sports that offer play to such a wide range of age groups.**

**Richmond Club has 60 members ranging from as young as 14 to 91.**

*Fred McKee*

## **Bay of Plenty Association**

### **Whakatane Croquet Club**

Welcome to WHAKATANE CROQUET CLUB  
Cnr Francis and Short Streets

Contact Secretary Rose Langley 07 3088971 or  
President Steve Clarke 07 3070639

We have 5 lawns, one reconstructed and a membership of 70. We play 3 codes :

Monday afternoon . AC

Wednesday GC morning AC afternoon .

Thursday GC (singles)

Friday morning Ricochet

Saturday afternoon AC

Sunday afternoon GC

Normal start times 9.30am and 1 pm

Names need to be put in 10mins prior

New members and visiting players from other clubs are most welcome.

We have celebrated our Centennial Year with a few activities. Our Centennial Book is a great read and if anyone wants a copy contact our Club and we will sort it out for you.

The Club is very strong with 70 members playing three codes. We have a strong group of Association players with more joining from time to time having started playing Golf Croquet. A few members also play Ricochet once a week. We are very fortunate to have a few members dedicated to coaching all members on Saturday and Sunday mornings when possible.

We recently attended the Bay of Plenty Association Opening Day hosted by the Katikati Club which was a fun day mixing with the other clubs. We held our Opening Day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 11.00am with social hour followed by lunch, a few fun games then we played GC and AC. The weather held off for the day which made it a very enjoyable day.



Some of our members at our opening day 6<sup>th</sup> September 2014

The Club is presently gearing up to be part of the WCF Golf Croquet World Championships Event which is to be held in the BOP from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015. We will be hosting playoffs over a few days and all members are in

the spirit and looking forward to some top player performances.

Our youngest player George Coulter has been selected for the 2014 U21 Development Squad and also nominated for the Golf Croquet U21 World Championship Singles.

Many members over the past few years have worked very hard to upgrade our lawns and facilities and will continue to do so as well as enjoy the game of Croquet, after all that is what we all want to do.

If other Croquet players are visiting this area please call in and have a game.

(Group who travelled to Katikati for the BOP opening) *Denis James, Dale Majurey, Zyelette Shepherd, Mike Shepherd, Mabel James, Rose Langley, Cindy Clarke and Steve Clarke.*



## Wellington Croquet Association

### Paraparaumu Club

Levin players and Paraparaumu players competed at a GC tournament on Sunday 7 September, organised by Paraparaumu Club as a fundraiser for Levin's proposed new lawns. It was a great day of friendship and fun. \$390.00 was raised.



## Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui

### Levin Club

The Horowhenua Chronicle published this photo and article in the 4 September issue of the 2 Levin boys selected for the Youth Development GC Squad. The Chronicle has kindly given us permission to reproduce both in Croquet Matters

**Caption:** LEVIN brothers Declan and Connell Leahy have been selected for golf croquet's National Youth Development Squad, just two months after picking up their first **croquet** mallet.



Natural raw talent with a mallet has seen Levin brothers Declan and Connell Leahy selected for golf croquet's National Youth Development Squad, just two months after first learning to play the sport. The brothers started playing socially at Levin Croquet Club's golf croquet twilight sessions, which ran

for six weeks at the start of the year, and their high scores soon came to the attention of club coach Ted Anderson.

"I made it my business to go have a look at them and chatted to them about playing in the Secondary Schools regional golf croquet tournament in March."

Anderson coached the pair for an hour a day, up to four days a week, over three weeks to get them match ready. Representing Waiopahu College, where both are students, the brothers exceeded their expectations of getting into the top three, by beating the eight other schools to come first. Selected to compete in the National Secondary Schools tournament, which ran two weeks later, the brothers came ninth out of 24, playing against more experienced teams, and caught the eye of the National Youth Development Officer and current National Association Croquet champion Greg Bryant.

The brothers are just two of 15 players nationwide selected for the Golf Croquet National Youth Development Squad.

Connell, 17, said playing in the nationals introduced them to a whole new level of skills. "We were pretty happy with our placing but really excited about being selected for the development squad."

They will head off to Dannevirke in December for a four day training session where they will be mentored by the top players in the country. The development squad marks the first step on the pathway for potential selection into the national team to represent New Zealand.

While Declan, 13, reckons big brother is the better player, Connell was quick to respond. "We both bring different strengths to the game. In a head to head match it would be quite even."

Anderson said the brothers have natural aptitude. "There is a lot to learn in the game's strategies and etiquette. We've done the best we can for them and now they've got the chance to go to the top, for them the sky's the limit."



*Greg Bryant has also given this photo of Connell and Declan at the Secondary Schools Final*

## Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui Golf Croquet Interclub Competition Round 1

It was a flying start to the season for Feilding with a 7-1 victory, away to Levin. The other two matches were tight draws.

**Levin 1, Feilding 7**  
**Rose Gardens 4, Tararua 4**  
**Wanganui 4, Marton 4**

**Week 1 Table:** Feilding 7 (+14), Rose Gardens 4 (+4), Marton 4 (0), Wanganui 4 (0), Tararua 4 (-4), Levin 1 (-14).

## Counties Manukau

*I have been asked to publish these photos again as the ones in the August CM were blurred and the players not identified.*



*Back: Owen Knapman; (hidden, Jeff France); Pat Lester; Carroll Sandford; Pat Anderton; Cynthia Bates; Gale Rubick; Anne Searle; Ray Howlett; Jill Hill; Danny Tan; Trevor Stretton; Paul Anderton*  
*Front: Bev Fleetwood; Alex Begg; Noeline Posselt; Warren Newcombe; Raymond Yin.*

**'SMYTH TRAY'** - an annual challenge between Croquet Auckland and Counties Manukau CA - was played at Howick and Pakuranga clubs on the only really good day in August!  
Both teams met for afternoon tea and presentation of the tray.

Counties-Manukau were winners on the day: 29 wins to 22. Steve Wardle from Auckland spoke and handed over the tray.

## Otago Croquet Association

### OCA ANNUAL MEETING

The 85th Annual Meeting of the Association was held on 24 May 2014. Ann Sharp opened the meeting and welcomed a really good attendance of members from all clubs. After the meeting the elections were held which resulted as follows:  
President: Ann Sharp  
Vice President: Nairn Smith  
Secretary: Daphne Hannagan  
Treasurer: Lynley Browne (reluctantly). If anyone would like to fill this position Lynley would be pleased to hear from you. She has been Secretary of the Association, as well as Treasurer for a period, for a long time and probably deserves a spell.  
District Referee: Nairn Smith  
Assistant Referee: Pamela Harris  
Handicapper: David Jackson  
Assistant H/Capper Ngaire McKenzie  
Committee: Gaye McGee, Kathleen West, Kathy Woodrow, Anthony Ritchie

## Retiring Executive Members



Richard Bone has retired from the Executive after serving as a Committee member since 2001 and Treasurer since 2002. He has been a member of the Match Committee and Coach for the

Association for a long time as well. We thank Richard for all his hard work and huge contribution to croquet in Otago. We wish you well and hope that we'll see you out on the lawn again to enjoy your favourite game.

June McDougall has also retired after her third term on the Executive. June has been a hard worker for croquet and during this last term has encouraged a number of players to sit their umpire examinations. She can be very persuasive! However, this was a job well done as we really needed more umpires. June has also coached and encouraged many new players over the years. Thank you June and enjoy your year off. We'll hope to see you again before long.



*Now which ball am I playing ?*



*Ngarie (our organizer) looking a bit worried, and Ron*

### WINTER CROQUET AT FORBURY

Some keen players from Oamaru with the help of Stephen from Forbury



### OCA OPENING DAY

The official OCA Opening Day was held on Saturday 6 September 2014 at Punga at 10.00am. Anthony Ritchie of Punga welcomed a good representation of players from all Dunedin clubs and invited them to stay for a game of Golf Croquet after the morning tea. Ann Sharp, our President of OCA, opened the season and Richard Bone ran the first hoop.



## OPENING AT LEITH

Daphne welcomed an almost full complement of members as well as some new people. The day was a little chilly but the sun shone and we all enjoyed some fun games of speed croquet to get us moving and then moved onto golf croquet. After a couple of games we adjourned to the clubrooms for afternoon tea and a chat. Most of us were happy to then 'call it a day', however, one of our new keen members wanted another game of golf croquet and we couldn't say "No" to that. That's the sort of enthusiasm we want to see.

*Nairn Smith running the 1st hoop but, where is the ball?  
Might need a better photographer!*



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*An Australian Travel Company, **Go See Touring** arranged for a tour of croquet players to Norfolk Island and below is the report on the successful tour. The company has a -similar - croquet tour (for Australians) planned for 2015/16 season around the south island and several clubs will be involved*

## **Norfolk Islands Inaugural Convicts Cup - an outstanding success!**

A mammoth event with 64 players! If you know Norfolk Island you might be familiar with the Football oval at the convicts' settlement in Kingston. After several months of regular grooming these two football ovals were transformed into 8 croquet courts.

For many Australians seeing green grass after months of drought was a sight to behold. Regular rain most evenings and sunny days (all but one) ensured us of pleasant playing conditions.

Four games of golf croquet were played in pairs each morning, matched up by the tournament director and referees so there were good players playing with the not so good players which allowed everyone regardless of experience a fair chance at being a winning team.

The courts were slow compared to back home so a little more power was needed in the shots. The only wet day during the week provided a welcome break for shopping and exploring. Accommodation was provided at various levels depending on budget and availability but the evenings were spent together with the whole group enjoying wonderful dinners and entertainment such as the Islands famous Progressive Dinner, Fish Fry (wet weather arrangements meant we still enjoyed a hearty feed of the local fish but from the comfort of the hotel instead of battling the elements).

The finale was the Night as a Convict show and dinner where the winners were announced. This was a fun evening run by the Convict Settlements Commandant and his Privates keeping us all in line.



**Winners** of the Convicts Cup were Gordon Giles - Wynnum Croquet Club Queensland and Nanette

Meredith - Leongatha Croquet Club Victoria. Gordon and Nanette each received a trophy to take home and had their names engraved on the perpetual trophy which remains on Norfolk Island.



The presentation night was full of surprises when 2 lucky tickets were drawn out for a free return trip to Norfolk Island for the 2015 Convicts Cup. Well done to Anne SomersVine from Buderim/ Alexander Croquet Club and Suzzane Hoskings of Bendigo Croquet Club.

*The 2015 Norfolk Island Convicts Cup will be in June 2015 and is already booking fast. 'We welcome members from all New Zealand clubs to join in the fun for next year's Convicts Cup' said Paul Hollingdale from Go See Touring (organisers of the Convicts Cup). 'We have been very pleased with the inaugural Convicts Cup and everything has gone to plan' he said.*

For further information about the 2015 Convicts Cup please email [info@goseetouring.com](mailto:info@goseetouring.com) or phone +61 7 3868 4760. [www.goseetouring.com](http://www.goseetouring.com)

## Miscellaneous

I've just been looking through the Yearbook at Fixtures using an app I downloaded from iTunes. We have a Mac computer and iPads, and using the Goodreader app(lication) makes reading and negotiating thru the book a breeze. It's possible to bookmark pages and make your own annotations, etc. I am not on their payroll, but thought others might find it a handy app to have, and you can of course save any other documents to it as well. Unfortunately it is not available on android devices.

Best regards, Marion Prentice

*"An elderly gentleman...had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, 'Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.' The gentleman replied, 'Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!'"*

**"Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves." – James M. Barrie**

*Punga Club gave us a fresh approach to wiring tests when we visited last April – such pretty toadstools*  
Pamela George



## ***Reminder Notice***

### **Croquet New Zealand**

#### **Annual General Meeting**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

Commencing 10am

Kauri Room, Brentwood Hotel

Kemp Street, Kilbirnie

Wellington

#### **Awards Dinner**

Saturday 11 October 2014

7.00pm Brentwood Hotel

### **Remit and Recommendation Schedule**

#### **Part A: Remits forwarded by the CNZ Executive**

##### **Remit 1: Executive: Increase in Levies**

###### **Remit:**

The Annual levy for the 2015/16 season be increased as follows:

Existing member	+\$4	\$42.00
Return to Croquet	+\$4	\$42.00
New to Croquet	+\$2	\$21.00
Junior 13-18	-\$8	\$10.00
Junior 0-12	-\$4.50	\$5.00

###### **Reason:**

- Increase in CPI
- Likely loss of SportNZ Community Sport Investment from 1/7/2015

Reduction in Youth levies to encourage club membership.

#### **PART B: Remits forwarded by member Associations**

##### **Remit 1: Canterbury: Change to Host Reimbursements**

###### **Remit:**

For CNZ tournaments, with immediate effect, CNZ will reimburse clubs at \$30 / lawn / day which includes the use of other club equipment such as hoops and balls

###### **Reason:**

The current commercial cost of maintaining each lawn in round figures, is \$3,500 per annum. At current rates, the reimbursement for many tournaments is less than \$15.00 per day per lawn.

##### **Remit 2: Canterbury: Change to AC Handicap Range**

###### **Remit:**

For Association Croquet, the minus end of the h/cap scale is to be open-ended to give a level of differentiation for premier players.

###### **Reasons:**

This is in line with international standards and gives an incentive for minus players to maintain a handicap card.

##### **Remit 3: Canterbury: Change to GC Handicap Range**

###### **Remit:**

For Golf Croquet, the minus end of the h/cap scale is to be open-ended to give a level of differentiation for premier players.

###### **Reason:**

It is internationally accepted that the current handicap system gives an advantage to low handicap players and too little differential between the best players.

##### **Remit 4: Auckland: Conversion Tables**

###### **Recommendation**

That the AC Handicapping regulations are amended as follows:

Guidelines: "Players New to Association Croquet but with a Golf Croquet handicap to have their starting handicap based on the following table:

<b>GC Handicap</b>	<b>New AC Handicap</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>

A club or association handicapper has the discretion to deviate from this schedule when determining an initial AC handicap based upon any relevant factor including AC coaching received and the player's AC skills.

**Explanation:**

There is a table for players with an AC handicap to set their GC handicap but no vice-versa.

**Remit 5: Auckland: GC Handicapping Regulations**

**Recommendation**

That the Golf Croquet CNZ Handicapping Regulations be amended to incorporate the following clauses from the AC handicapping regulations.

**Clause 1 "Definitions"** Be added with the following amendments:

Cl 1.3 Changing "Association Croquet players" to " Golf Croquet players"

Cl 1.5 Change "9-16" to "9-12"  
 Cl1.6 Change "Laws of Association Croquet " to "The WCF Golf Croquet Rules"  
 Cl 1.8 Change "bisques" to "extra turns" and delete "(Laws 37 and 46)"

**Clause 5 "Players Shall:"** Be added after deleting the words "singles" in C5.1, 5.2 and in the last sentence replace the word "singles" with "competitive".

**Explanation:**

Presently there is no requirement for a player to use their AHS card in the Golf Croquet Handicap Regulations and these amendments will ensure cards are used when competitions are held.

*PART C: Recommendations forwarded by member Associations*

**Recommendation 1: Counties-Manukau**

**Recommendation**

To re-introduce all associations receiving copies of national executive meeting minutes.

**Recommendation 2: Hawkes Bay**

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that any croquet team representing New Zealand be known as the "Black Mallets"

*Croquet Matters was prepared by the Executive Director, the Sport Development Officer and Pamela George*