



November 2014

This month

We are in the scramble season where we are all trying to get club matches played before Christmas and make appropriate arrangements for the major CNZ tournaments. In true early season form the weather has been most unkind but we trust you have enjoyed the games played and are preparing well for competition in the New Year.



Congratulations to Jenny Clarke on her great achievements at the World Women's Golf Croquet Championships in Cairo. Jenny was runner-up to Judy Hanekom of South Africa.



From the Exec

The Executive hasn't met since the AGM, - primarily due to playing commitments - Annie Henry and Dallas Cooke have been away playing at the Women's GC Worlds, with Sue Roberts, Phillip Drew and new Executive members Murray Goldfinch all playing in various tournaments. The next meeting is planned for the 13th December

However, there are a number of things being worked on by the Executive, the Executive Director and Sport Development Officer. The selection policy for international events and teams is almost complete and Phillip Drew intends having this signed off at the December Executive meeting.

The Executive Director has been working with the Retirement Village Association on a number of joint projects and he recently presented at the RVA Design & Build conference. Information

about Croquet has gone out in newsletters to RVA members and we will continue to promote croquet to this group.

The Sport Development Officer has been travelling around the country coaching (which appears to have been a huge success again this year!) but also meeting with association committees to discuss planning for the future within their associations. It is vital that associations plan for the future and help develop their member clubs so that all players and visitors throughout the country get a great experience and want to come back. More feedback will occur in the Jan and Feb issues of Croquet Matters (we need to let Greg recover and play some tournaments!)

The Secondary School programme continues to go from strength to strength. In Kaitia over 80 secondary school students came to the sessions and the club now has links into the school and will be getting many of the students back again in the future. Students from Bay of Island College and Whangarei Girls are also playing and an interschool competition within Northland looks imminent.

We believe that there will be teams competing in the school finals in March from more than half the associations. That is a huge step forward for croquet and we thank all those volunteers who have - and continue to - work with this group of potential future members. We are really looking forward to having too many teams to handle with the secondary school competition... it might not be that long away!

Murray Taylor Executive Director

CNZ Awards & Qualifications:

Silver merit award

Felix Webby (Taranaki)

Bronze Merit Award

Anne McKenzie (Plimmerton)

Dale Majurey (Whakatane)

It is with sadness that I am unable to help Greg Bryant with management of this tournament. I have only just been liberated from a moon boot after 18 weeks and have to relearn to walk properly before I go many places with steps and stairs. Pamela

Other Golf Croquet tournaments in December 2014

Saturday 6 December 2014

Orewa croquet club 5th annual tournament

Sunday 7 December 2014

Canterbury Association GC handicap doubles Tournament

Waimarie Croquet club (Wellington) Golf Croquet Open Singles

Friday 19 December 2014

Croquet Mt Maunganui Annual GC tournament

H/c doubles on Friday, Singles on Sat/Sun, Atkins hoops

Good lead-up tournament prior to GC Worlds

Association Croquet Tournaments in December 2014

Wellington Croquet Association Open Championship Singles 27 December 2014

91st Annual North Island Championships Wednesday 3 December to Sun 7 December

Hosted by Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui at Wanganui & Marton

Men's and Women's Championships Wednesday 10 December to Sun 14 December

Hosted by Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui at Rangatira CC, Dannevirke

Sport Development Officer

Greg is out and about again giving coaching and helping clubs with their management.

Once again his skills are being employed practically in the field and he is unable to give us written material for the newsletter. Greg is also to manage the CNZ Men's and Women's Championships in Dannevirke.

He tells us he has lot of material from his visits to the regions which will form part of future articles in 2015.

"Northland Croquet Association wish to thank CNZ for having a travelling Coach such as Greg Bryant. Our players found the Coaching – which was delivered in an easy-to-understand format – has been of great help.

We are pleased with the response from the Schools & hope that it continues – Greg was able to keep their interest the whole time. We wish he lived a little closer!

Please convey our sincere thanks.

Yours faithfully,

Kathleen Laybourn

Croquet New Zealand Tournaments

91st Annual North Island Championships Wednesday 3 December to Sun 7 December

Hosted by Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui at Wanganui & Marton

Men's and Women's Championships Wednesday 10 December to Sun 14 December

Hosted by Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui at Rangatira CC, Dannevirke

Wellington Croquet Association

WAIMARIE RELOCATION TOURNAMENT

AC & GC "One-ball" Tournament

Friday 28 November 9.30am to 4.00pm

am & pm teas provided

please bring your own lunch

First 24 entries accepted

At Waimarie CC

Entry Fee \$20

Register by Nov 23 with Marion McInnes

04 479 5710

4 Kenya St Ngaio Wellington

marion4kenya@clear.net.nz

waimarietroquetclub.weebly.com

Choose AC or GC

A fund raiser for our shift to Taita

We realise the timing is a bit tight and we may not get the information about the tournament published before Croquet Matters comes out. As this is a very important fund raiser for Waimarie we have included it here. Good fortune to Waimarie and congratulations on progress with the massive fund raising task you have. Ed,

World Women's Golf Croquet Championships

Cairo Egypt 16 - 21 November 2014

Results from www.Croquetscores.com

Championship Knock-out

Winner: Judith Hanekom South Africa

Runner-up Jenny Clarke New Zealand

Comment from World Croquet Federation
website <http://www.wcfcroquet.org>

Judith Hanekom only just made it into the knock-out, coming 4th in Block C with only one win, but then defeated four top Egyptian women players to reach the final and face New Zealand's Jenny Clarke, the 2011 runner-up to

Rachel Rowe of England. Judith made a great start to the best-of-five final by taking the first game 7-3 but Jenny fought back to win the next two 7-4, 7-5. Judith led 6-4 in the fourth, was pulled back to 6-6 but made no mistake at 13 to square the match at 2-2. The deciding game was nip-and-tuck all the way to 5-5 but, after a short duel at 11, Jenny had the misfortune to peel Judith to give her a 6-5 lead. Judith took this unexpected gift with both hands and wrapped up the match 7-5.

Many congratulations to Judith for a hard fought campaign and a superb victory and commiserations to Jenny who played very well throughout the event.

The Shield

Nihal Ahmed and Shadin Oukasha of Egypt played for the Shield which is for competitors knocked out after the first round. (Winner not known)

The Bowl--for the 16 players eliminated in the first round of the knockout, was won in three games by Soha Moustafa over Marvat El Shazi.

The Plate block--for the players who failed to qualify for the knockout--was taken by Margaret Cowman of England, who tied with Kiwi Annie Henry with five wins from six games, but scored the most net points.

A full comment and analysis of the tournament by Chris Clarke can be found on the website <http://www.croquetworld.com>

Results & Regional News:

Wellington Croquet Association

Waikanae Open Singles 1-2 November 2014

Winner: Aiken Hakes

Runner-up: Paul Skinley

Block A Winner	Paul Skinley
Block B Winner	Aiken Hakes
Block C Winner	Steve Jones
Post block	
Section 1 Winner	Aiken Hakes
Section 2 Winner	
Section 3 Winner	Harps Tahurangi
Section 4 Winner	Dick Smith
Section 6 Winner	Graeme Fisher

Central Regional Premier Silver Badge 15-16 November 2014

Winner: Greg Bryant (Wellington)
 Runner-up Michael Wright (Wellington)

Khandallah Croquet Club Centenary 16 November 2014

The Khandallah Croquet Club held its centenary celebration function on 16 November and Wellington blessed the club with a lovely fine day.

We have some great photos and the President's speech which we will put into the December 18th newsletter

Auckland Croquet Association

Northern Premier Silver Badge

Vincent Commariieu wins the tournament and the Silver Badge unbeaten with five wins, Kathie Grant was second with four wins and +49 points and Jim Wardle third with four wins and +3 points.

Maida Beetson Manager

Golf Croquet Grade Championships 1-2 November 2014

Premier Grade

Winner: Bob Jackson (Howick)
 Runner-up: Hemi Mellars (Morrinsville)

Intermediate Grade:

Winner: Les Wakley Epsom Remuera
 Runner-up: John Wood Pakuranga
 Les made a clean sweep with 14 wins in 14 matches. *Congratulations on a great effort, Les. Ed*

The NI Golf Croquet Grade Championships Counties-Manukau Association at Pukekohe and Manurewa

Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 November 2014

Premier Grade:

Winner: Phillip Drew (Epsom/Remuera)
 Runner-up: Geoff Young (Kereone)

Manurewa Croquet Club

On the weekend of the 8th and 9th of November, Manurewa Croquet Club hosted the **Intermediate (4-7 Handicap) Section of the N.Z. Croquet Golf Croquet North Island Grades Championships**. This grade made up the overflow from the Pukekohe Croquet Club who were the host Counties-Manukau Club for the Premier Section - 0 - 3 Handicaps. The Intermediate section attracted 9 entrants, so a round robin of all players was played each day. The sun was kind enough to shine on both days but the wind was bitterly cold on the Saturday. All players were happy with the format, lawn conditions and the play was of a very high standard. The results of most games were often not predictable and the final outcome was literally decided on the last round. Three players had identical numbers of wins so it came down to differential. With all three on 11 wins, Noeline Posselt of Manurewa proved to be the winner with a differential of 35, runner-up was Jim Dickson of Howick with a nett of 22 and Don Laughton of Papakura with 14.





Carlton had 3 pair participating. Two of our Associate Members from Pakuranga and Pt Chevalier were the eventual winners after 5 x 45 minute games. What a terrific day it was & well done to Rob who managed his first tournament.
Chris Binns (Club Captain - AC)

We were pleased to welcome the Spring tournaments' players to our clubrooms that are now sporting new squabs on the fixed seats that line each side of building. These were kindly obtained through a grant from Pub Charities Ltd.
Karen Yates (Secretary)



St Heliers Croquet Club



On Saturday 22nd November 2014 St Heliers croquet club held its annual Scarbro Construction tournament for croquet players with limited competition experience & a handicap of 9 or over. A full field of 32 had a great day .

First prize went to Alan Bell & Ian Halliday of Takapuna on a count back from Jean Draffin & Maureen Duffield of St Heliers.
Tony Sullivan -captain SHCC

Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui

**Croquet New Zealand
 Central Region New Zealand Veterans
 Championships
 Golf Croquet Handicap Doubles**

Winners: Tony Stephens (Hawkes Bay) & Ian Power (Manawatu-Wanganui). **Runners-up:** Bill Elsmore & Joan Cook (Hawkes Bay).
**Croquet New Zealand
 Central Region New Zealand Veterans
 Championships Feilding 3-4 November**

Finally, as the Manager of this section of the Championship, I would like to thank those who helped with the setting up of the lawns, the refereeing and the record keepers who all did a great job. Also those members of the Howick Club who took care of the catering on the Saturday and our own Manurewa people who took care of it all on the Sunday.
 Well done everyone.
 Gary Ludlam - Manager

Carlton Croquet Club

On Saturday 8 November Carlton's Annual AC Junior Handicap Singles took place but, instead of a 2 day tournament, it was decided to have a GC Tournament on the Sunday. There were only 12 participants including 4 players from Carlton. The winner was from Epsom/Remuera, the Runner Up from Warkworth & Alice Millen from Carlton came 3rd. Well done everyone!!

On Sunday 9 November the GC Championship Doubles took place; 12 pairs from 9 clubs, some as far away as Thames (2 pair) & Claudelands.

Association Croquet Championship Singles Division 1

Winner: Marion McInnes (Waimarie)

Runner-up: John McInnes (Waimarie)

Division 2

Winner: David Winmill (Marton)

Runner-up: Graeme Fisher (Plimmerton)

Association Croquet Handicap Singles

Winner: Ken Managh (MW)

Runner-up: Melva Jones (MW)

Feilding Croquet Club

The 27th Annual Tournament at Feilding Croquet Club

Association Croquet Championship Singles Division 1

Winner: Marion McInnes (Wellington) 5 wins,

Runner-up: Murray McNae

Division 2

Winner: David Winmill (Marton) 5 wins,

Runner-up: Graeme McIntyre (Marton) 3 wins+20, **Third:** Carissa Price (Wairarapa) 3 wins+15.

Division 3

Winner: Stewart Pye (Wairarapa) 3 wins+40,

Runner-up: Haig Thomson (Takaro) 3 wins+11,

Third: Monica Huisman (Rose Gardens) 3 wins+6.

Golf Croquet Handicap Singles (9+)

Winner: Rob Barry 6 wins, **Runner-up:** Ken Dowling 5 wins

Palmerston North Golf Croquet Twilight Challenge 2014-2015

Round 1

The first round of the season's Golf Croquet Twilight Challenge was a tight affair with the teams ending tied, on three games each. Rose Gardens has a slight countback lead, having scored 33 hoops to Takaro's 32.

Rose Gardens 3, Takaro 3

Association Croquet Handicap Doubles

Winners: Michael Hardman & Max Charlton (Rose Gardens) 4 wins+28, **Runners-up:** Mike

Lings & Annette Rowland (Masterton) 4 wins+20.

Golf Croquet Handicap Doubles



Winners: Max Charlton & Margaret Snelling (Rose Gardens), **Runners-up:** Annabel & Vince Neall (Rose Gardens).

Ten pairs competed in the

Golf Croquet Handicap Doubles event.

The finalists were Vince & Annabel Neall (left of photo) and Margaret Snelling and Max Charlton both of Rose Gardens club (Palmerston North).

Margaret and Max emerged as winners by 7-5 after a closely fought battle.

Golf Croquet Levels Doubles

Fine warm weather and a good turnout resulted in a successful and enjoyable time for participants in the Croquet-Manawatu Golf Croquet Levels Doubles event. Players were paired on a High/Low Handicap basis to even out the teams with, as far as possible, players having a partner from a different club. In a close finish, André Murray and John Gardner were the winners on a countback of net hoops from Ken Managh and Jeremy Neild in second place and third-placed Mike Bell and Rex Oliver. It was disappointing that players from only Feilding and Rose Gardens of Croquet-Manawatu's six clubs chose to enter the event.

Winners: André Murray & John Gardner (Rose Gardens), **Runners-up:** Ken Managh (Feilding) & Jeremy Neild (Rose Gardens).

Croquet Manawatu-Wanganui

Association Croquet Interclub Competition

There were contrasting results in this first round 1 with a 3-0 win to Tararua over Marton and a tight 2-1 win to Levin over Rose Gardens.

Levin 2, Rose Gardens 1

Tararua 3, Marton 0

Feilding - Bye.

Round 2

At this early stage of the competition, Levin have made a strong statement. It remains to be seen which clubs will challenge them over the rest of the Competition.

Feilding 2 Levin 1.

Rose Gardens 1, Tararua 2.

Marton - Bye.

Points to date (net hoops in brackets): Tararua 5 (+48), Levin 3 (+2), Feilding 2 (-1), Rose Gardens 2 (-16), Marton 0 (-33). Feilding and Marton have each had a bye.

Northland Croquet Association

Student revelation on Matthews Ave

9:55 AM Thursday Oct 30, 2014



BIG HOOP-LA: Kaitaia College students tried their hand at croquet at their local club earlier this month.

Although the changeable weather has been playing havoc with the opening events of the new croquet season, a large number of students from Kaitaia College enjoyed a marvellous day at a local club earlier this month.

Over 80 students attended an introductory course at the Kaitaia Croquet Club on the day. The course was taken by Greg Bryant from Wellington, a New Zealand representative and the Croquet NZ development officer. Many of the students said they were amazed at the skill required, but still thought the tactical game was fun and expressed the desire to play again which they hoped will take place sooner rather than later.

Bryant was also reportedly very pleased to see how quickly the students picked up the

fundamentals. He hoped that there would be enough interest to develop a team to represent Kaitaia College at the secondary school championships in the future.

Kaitaia Croquet Club captain Clyde Wood said the students' keenness to progress further in the sport would be well worth following up on: "One class said they wanted to come here for their end-of-year break up."

-Article originally printed in the [Northland Age](#) Permission to reproduce has been sought. Ed

Thames Valley Croquet Association

Te Aroha

Winners of The Oak Lane Morrinsville Competition held at the Te Aroha Club were Hemi McLaren and his Grandmother from Morrinsville Croquet Club. Lance Barker who ran the Levels Doubles Tournament was impressed with the number of entries from all over the Waikato.



Croquet Hawkes Bay

A YUMMY GOLF CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Te Mata Croquet Club held a very successful inaugural Golf Croquet Open Singles on 15/16 November which was sponsored by the YUMMY Fruit Co. There were 26 entries - one from Auckland, 3 from Waikato, 7 from

Marewa and 15 from Te Mata Croquet Clubs. Players were divided into sections according to their handicaps which ranged from 0 – 10. Division 1 played 19 point games and divisions 2 and 3 played 13 point games. A total of 156 games were played.

Equal Block winners were John Christie (Thames Valley) and Tony Stephens (Hawkes Bay)

Overall Winner: Tony Stephens 10/7



From back row: Assistant Manager – Colin Hirst: winner division 3 - Janeen Kenny (Marewa): r/up division 1 – John Christie (Waikato): r/up division 3 – Diane Charteris (Marewa): r/up division 2 – Chris Carver (Marewa): Front row: Manager and winner division 1 – Tony Stephens (Te Mata): winner division 2 – Ian Brown (Te Mata)

Colleen Stephens

Croquet Taranaki

Taranaki Open Golf Croquet level singles

Winner: John Christie (Thames Valley)
Runner-up Bill Heaphy (Taranaki)
16 players participated

Bay of Plenty Croquet Association

WHAKATANE CROQUET CLUB (INC)

Bronze Merit Award - 10th November 2014

An exciting achievement

Players: Event – Arthur Ross Club play-off

Dale Majurey +6 v Steve Clarke -3

Situation – Dale Majurey = one ball on Rover, one ball on hoop 2

Steve Clarke = both balls on hoop 1

Dale used a continuance shot to set up a rush on his partner ball towards hoop 2. He then used a bisque to begin a new turn. He then put his ball through hoops 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1 back, 2 back, 3 back, 4 back, penultimate, peeled his partner ball through Rover then put his striker ball through Rover and then pegged out his partner ball and striker ball. A total of 14 hoop points.

Dale won the game 26 – 0

This should qualify him for a bronze merit award. *Well done Dale Ed.*

Tauranga Open Singles 16 November 2014

Super Section

Winner: Dave Roberts (KatiKati)

Runner-up: Andrew Dixon (CMM)

Consolation Section:

Winner: John McKenzie Tauranga

Runner –up: Steve Sykes Papakura

Canterbury Croquet Association

AC Open Championship 13-16 November 2014

Winner: Richard Kimberley

Runner-up: Peter Westaway

Just for the record:

Photo from the United AC Spring Tournament in early September



L to R: Kent Caddick, Edmund Fordyce, Michael Wright, Jenny Clarke

Open: Michael Wright 1st Jenny Clarke 2nd
Handicap: Edmund Fordyce 1st Kent Caddick 2nd

**BARRINGTON PARK CROQUET CLUB
INDOOR CROQUET TOURNAMENT**

Golf Croquet Winner
Alan Beckett (left)



Association Croquet Winner
Hugh Thomson



Summer Holiday Tournaments, Orewa

Visiting Auckland or the Hibiscus Coast this summer? The Orewa Croquet Club is holding two popular tournaments over the summer holiday period. They are:

- Sat 06 Dec: Evelyn Page Retirement Village GC Doubles tournament
- Sun 07 Dec: Evelyn Page Retirement Village GC Singles tournament
- Sat 17 & Sun 18 Jan: Maygrove Village Orewa AC Doubles tournament
- Mon 19 & Tue 20 Jan: Maygrove Village Orewa AC Singles tournament
 - Registrations are Open

A fun time can be assured so check your Club noticeboard for more details or contact the Club at 09 426 6285 or see 'Club Events' on the website

www.sportsground.co.nz/orewacroquet

You can also enjoy a game on Club days, which are:

- Report before 9:10am for a 9:30am start on each day
- AC - Tue, Thu and Sat
- GC - Mon, Wed, Fri (singles) and Sat (NB. Sat afternoon also available: report 12:40pm for 1pm start)
- Call the Club on 09 426 3506 to leave a message to register
- Lawn fee is \$5.00 per person

The Club is also hosting the 110th ACA AC Championship Singles 0-3, 4-9 Sat 28 & Sun 29 March 2015.

Miscellaneous

You will recall that earlier this year we published an article about croquet tours from GoSee touring. We add another here to whet your appetite for international non-traditional croquet.

Social croquet tournament in Chiang Mai Thailand – November 2015

Chiang Mai is the largest and most culturally significant city in northern Thailand. In recent years, Chiang Mai has become an increasingly modern city. It has attracted over 5 million visitors each year, of which 1.4–2 million are foreign tourists

Chiang Mai has positioned itself to become a creative city and is one of two tourist destinations in Thailand on Trip Advisors list of 25 best destinations in the world where it stands at number 24.

Go See Touring – organisers of the Convicts Cup on Norfolk Island are preparing an even larger social tournament in Chiang Mai in November 2015. Exact dates are yet to be confirmed however, several locations are in mind to host the event which will feature between 10 and 12 lawns making this one of the largest social Golf Croquet events in the Asia Pacific region.

Weather in Chiang Mai in November is comfortable with an average 28 degrees daytime and around 18 degrees in the evening – This is the beginning of winter in the region and the lawns should be green and lush after the wet season that finishes in October.

Apart from the croquet there will be a host of other activities on offer including the famous Maesa Elephant Camp, fantastic markets and local area tours.



Mr Song Flowers



White Temple

At this stage we are seeking expressions of interest from all players (experienced or beginners) who like the idea of travelling to an exotic destination and combining some fun croquet – just like the Convicts Cup on Norfolk Island back in August.

To register your interest - please contact Murray Taylor at Croquet New Zealand on ph (04) 916 0258.

A fully inclusive flyer with prices and optional touring will be out shortly so please register your interest early with Murray.



Funding for Future Programmes

YOUR VIEWS ARE SOUGHT

Croquet NZ is looking to run a lottery to fund future coaching programmes for players and coaches, and - if we are able to sell the full complement of tickets - be able to make grants to clubs.

The lottery would open in January with the draw in March/April. The major prizes would be a brand new car (make tbc - possibly a Suzuki Swift, Toyota Yaris or similar), an international travel package and a 40inch TV. There would be a number of minor prizes also.

However, we will need the help of clubs and players to sell tickets. We would be looking to sell 20,000 tickets at \$5 each - with 4,000 members that is an average of just 5 tickets per club member. **We are not asking each of you to buy 5 tickets each** (but you might want to with the prizes on offer!) but **rather commit to selling 5 tickets on average per club member**

Before we go ahead with this project (and especially before we incur any cost), we need to know if the croquet community will get behind this initiative. **Please let the Executive Director know if this is something that you would support.**

Joan Robertson from Punga Club has given this snippet.

Southland Croquet

In the early 1940s - during wartime - there were few cars around and even fewer women drivers. Players used public transport to get to interclub matches. Waihopai players cycled- Polly (Ada) Croad pushing the pedals with Marty Alabaster on the back carrying both mallets. Other players travelled by tram.

Question and Answer Column

We have been asked if we would be interested in a column (200-300 words) on a croquet matter - sometimes critical or questioning the status quo?

We are always happy to receive articles for inclusion in Croquet Matters provided they are not directed personally at any player or official. The editor reserves the right to ask for a counter comment from the Executive of Croquet NZ and to publish both article and response.

From the Archives