



CROQUET MATTERS

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Croquet New Zealand Tournaments

Next week will see the first Croquet New Zealand tournaments of the 2020-21 season contested. The North Island and South Island GC Championships will commence on the 5th of November in Wellington and South Canterbury respectively.

If you are in the regions, make sure you get down to check out the action! If you can't make it to watch, you can keep tabs from afar on [Croquet Scores](#).

Tournament Registration

Upcoming Tournaments:

18th – 22nd November 2020

[CNZ New Zealand Men's and Women's Championships](#)

Entries close 3rd November 2020.

9th – 13th December 2020

[CNZ 97th North Island AC Championships](#)

Entries close 24th November 2020.

9th – 13th December 2020

[CNZ 86th South Island AC Championships](#)

Entries close 24th November 2020.

To register for any of the Croquet New Zealand tournaments, click [here](#).

AGM Update

The 2020 Croquet New Zealand AGM was held at the Brentwood Hotel on the 10th of October. Due to the impacts of Covid-19, the AGM was reduced to a single day event.

The AGM was an extremely productive day with Dennis Bulloch (Manawatu-Wanganui) being elected as a new Councillor. It also saw Phyllis Young (Thames Valley) and Annie Henry (Nelson) step down from their roles on the Executive. The contribution each have made over their tenures on the Executive is greatly appreciated.

The most exciting part of the AGM was that after several years of planning, consultations and hard

work, the new CNZ Constitution was approved unanimously. The constitution can be found [here](#). A huge thank you to the Constitution Re-Write Committee (Grant Poulton, Graeme Roberts, Phyllis Young, Geoff Young, Kathie Grant and Jake Inwood) for all their work on this enormous project.

2019-20 Annual Awards

Due to the change in format of the AGM, there was no annual awards dinner in 2020. Instead, the 2019-20 annual awards were presented before lunch at the 2020 AGM.

Congratulations to all of the winners, they are very well deserved. More information on each of the award winners can be found [here](#).

Presidents Trophy

Barry Memorial Croquet Club (Hawkes Bay)

Huon Pine Bowl

Waikanae Croquet Club (Wellington)

Club Participation Award

Cashmere Croquet Club (Canterbury)

Baker Trophy – Most Improved AC Player

Ali'i Posimani (Wellington)

Most Improved GC Player

Levi Franks (Canterbury)

Volunteer of the Year

Kevin McGlinchy (South Canterbury)

Contribution to Croquet

Barbara Ward (Otago)

Player of the Year

Edmund Fordyce (Canterbury)

2020 Hall of Fame Inductees

2020 saw two more players inducted into the Croquet New Zealand Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to Chris Clarke and Greg Bryant.

Greg has been a stalwart on the New Zealand scene for a number of decades now. Over this time, Greg has won numerous New Zealand titles including 5 NZ Open singles titles and 4 NZ Open doubles titles. To read more about Greg's achievements, click [here](#).

Chris began his international career playing for England, medalling in four AC World Championships including winning twice (1995 and 2008). Chris

represented England until 2012 before representing New Zealand, helping win the 2014 MacRobertson Shield and 2016 Openshaw Trophy. To read more about Chris' achievements, click [here](#).

GC Rules Question

An interesting question was raised recently, what happens when all players deem their ball to have been played?

This is called an impasse. An impasse exists when neither side appears willing to play a stroke that will significantly alter the tactical situation. The players or a referee may agree that this has happened. The best way for play to continue is to use a Penalty Area Continuation (Rule 18.2). This is justified by the overriding rule (Rule 15.3). This was the method used at the 2019 Women's GC World Championships. It is anticipated that this will be covered in the next edition of the Rules.

CNZ Handicap Committee

To assist Croquet New Zealand with ensuring our handicap system is fit for purpose, a new Handicap Committee is being established.

This committee will be responsible for overseeing the handicapping system for both AC and GC. This will include overseeing the design of the AHS cards, overseeing the manual reduction and extensions of handicaps, reviewing and considering suggestions received and advising CNZ on questions raised by Associations when necessary.

CNZ would like 3-5 people to sit on this committee. Ideal candidates will be individuals that have an interest in giving back to the sport, have a good understanding of the current handicap system(s) and are regularly involved in tournament play involving the use of AHS cards (either playing, managing or as handicapper).

If you are interested, please email croquet@croquet.org.nz with a brief outline as to why you believe you would be a valuable addition to this committee.

Club News

Whakatane Croquet Club

Whakatane's Nicholson's Tournament which is advertised on page 59 of the yearbook will now be a Level Doubles event due to popular requests. This has previously been advertised as handicap doubles.

Rose Gardens Croquet Club



Isobelle-Alan Ward, winner of The President's Cup for 4+ players

It's sometimes heard that, "Golf croquet is a game for old people." however, at the recent Honda Cars Manawatu Golf Croquet Levels Tournament at Rose Gardens Croquet Club, in The Esplanade, Palmerston North, this couldn't be said to be the case. Over half the entrants were under 30, several being teenagers, with the latter showing the way, winning all three events.

In the Open event, despite finishing only fourth on a count back in the preliminary round, teenager, Paul Kaiser of Rose Gardens made no race in the top four playoff, being unbeaten to win the Gordon Smith Salver. Past winner and top seed, Brian Bullen of Paraparaumu was runner up, and his son, Nathan,



Josh Smith of Rose Gardens Croquet Club

third. Local player, Josh Smith, was unbeaten in the consolation event, for those not having qualified for the top four.

Teenagers took the top three places in the 4+ event, for The President's Cup. Izzy Ward won, being unbeaten in the top four playoff. Runner up was Jessica Bullen of Paraparaumu, and local, Logan McKinnon came third.

A good performance by Callum McKinnon, winning all ten of his games, most by substantial margins, won him the Rose Gardens Cup for players, with handicaps of eight and over. Elwi El Beshlawi of Rose Gardens, played well to win eight games and come runner up.

It was a successful, well managed tournament, played in pretty good weather, and in which local members played well, to carry off all the trophies.



Max Charlton (Rose Gardens) winner of the Suzuki Trophy for Association Croquet Players with handicap of at least 10.

On Sunday, 04 October, the annual Association Croquet tournament for players with a handicap of at least 10, the Suzuki Trophy was played at Rose Gardens Croquet Club. Max Charlton won all his games to win, with Neil Stantiall as runner up. Both play out of the host club.

Riwaka Croquet Club

After 32 years playing croquet for Riwaka, 93-year-old Life Member Keith Faulkner has donated his mallet to the club.



Keith Faulkner donates his mallet to Club President Eileen Wilkins

Not only does Keith have a long-playing history, one highlight winning the C grade championship in Nelson, but his mallet has had its own adventures.

Keith's mallet initially belonged to Arthur Ross who was inducted into the World Croquet Federation Hall of Fame in 2006, having been a Life Member of the NZ Croquet Council since 1952.

Arthur's playing career and mallet included winning the NZ Open Championship Singles 11 times, NZ Men's title 6 times, the British Open in 1954 and captaining the first NZ winning team in 1950.

However, Keith's 32 years of first playing Association, then Golf croquet against the local clubs of Nelson, Hinemoa, Richmond and Brightwater meant he enjoyed many years of competition. His best handicap being a 7. Keith was also Club treasurer for an impressive 31 years, a task he has only recently relinquished.

Back to the mallet of Arthur Ross. His sister donated the mallet to the Riwaka Club in 1988, the same year Keith joined and took possession of it, after a career at sea.

There was an unfortunate incident when executing a jump shot the handle broke.

Fortunately, Pat Rudolf another NZ representative player at the club arranged a repair.

So here we have a mallet head from Arthur and handle from Pat a truly historic piece of equipment that is back in the safe keeping of the Riwaka Club.