



# Cammeray Croquet Club



**November 2024**

<http://www.cammeray-croquet.org.au>

## Club News

The new umbrella is now in place and provides excellent shade for our players.



**Umbrella closed**



**Members enjoying the shade**

The new shed has also been erected, and stores the chairs that were in the clubhouse – providing more space in the clubhouse



**The new shed**

## Repairs

For over a year the Committee has been chasing North Sydney Council to address various issues around the structure of the clubhouse and surrounds. These include the leaking roof, staining and water damage to the ceiling, the timber fascia and guttering, repainting of the clubhouse and the undermining of the tennis courts on our northern boundary. We have been met with a wall of silence, inaction and obfuscation. Now we know the reason why. The Council is close to insolvent due to the haemorrhaging of money into the pool project. They have a backlog on works of \$69m and have a deficit of \$3.6m this financial year. They are considering raising rates between 65% and 111%. Until Council have restored their financial situation to something sustainable, it is unlikely that the remediation of the clubhouse will be addressed. The committee will, however, continue to pursue all avenues open to us to bring a resolution to this matter. - Malcolm Sheldon

## New member

We welcome Evelyn Estcourt as a new member.

## **Don't Forget**

The Christmas party is on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m , drinks and nibbles, cost \$25.

The lawns will be closed from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December for at least two weeks for annual maintenance.

## **Tournaments**

### **Club Championship**

The final of the Cammeray Club Championship was between Chris Brown and Alan Walsh; Chris won the best-of-three final 26-21 and 20-11.

### **Cammeray Platinum Championship**

Jo Brown has won this, winning all her games.

### **Cammeray Handicap Tournament**

Rob Barrie won this ahead of David Surridge

### **Cammeray Silver Championship**

David Gibson was first, with Margaret O'Brien second

### **CNSW Champion of Champions Tournament**

Mike Hughes won this, winning all his games. Rob Elliott came second.

### **Australian Open Singles**

Dwayne McCormick beat Callum Hyland in the final.

## **Escape to Jamberoo by Jo Brown**

The annual Escape to Jamberoo AC Event was held over three days from Friday 8<sup>th</sup> of November. Two blocks of seven and a block of six played single round robins of advanced handicap games. Our Club was very well represented with half of the overall field of 20 being members of Cammeray, and five of the seven in the top block being Cammeray members.

The setting, scenery and weather did not disappoint. If you ever get a chance to play at Jamberoo, you should take it. It is a beautiful part of NSW and such an easy drive from Sydney. And the hospitality provided by the Jamberoo Club members was excellent.

The croquet wasn't bad either, with many tightly fought games, as you might expect in a handicap tournament.

The Green block was won by our very own Marg Barrie, taking the win from Linda Nickels of Queanbeyan by just two net hoops. Both Marg and Linda won four of their five games. Well done Marg, all that hard work you put in is clearly paying off.

The Blue block was won by Janelle Wilson from Canberra, who won five of her six games. Many of you will know Janelle as she has played in a number of tournaments hosted by Cammeray in the last couple of years and is rapidly improving her game. She is one to watch in future.

Another one to watch is Ben Bowen from Nowra who placed second in the Blue block. At just 14 years of age, Ben played with the enthusiasm of youth and the skill of a seasoned player ... a deadly combination. Ben won

four of his six games, losing only to two of the three Cammeray members in the Blue block, David Surrige and David McGrane.

The Brown block was, as it turned out, a battle of the Browns. Chris and Joanne played each other in their last game of the tournament, both undefeated to that point having won all of their five previous games. In a tight finish that could have gone either way, Joanne came out on top, taking the Brown block win with Chris as runner-up.



**Joanne and Chris Brown who came 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Brown Block**



**Margaret Barrie getting the prize for the Green Block**

All in all, it was a very enjoyable tournament, one that should be supported in future years. Special thanks to Stewart Johnston, who expertly organised and managed the whole affair and well played to all our members who took part.



**Ben Bowen, 14, runner-up in the blue block, with Janelle Wilson, the winner**

## **The Laws of Croquet – bisques after time**

At Jamberoo an interesting situation arose regarding the laws. With time about to be called, a player hit a shot and called out for a half-bisque before the ball had stopped. Time then went. Law 61.2.1 says that a bisque may not be taken after time has been called. However, the definition of when a bisque is taken is not when the player indicates the intention to take a bisque, but when the first stroke of the turn using the bisque is played (Law 61.2.2). So, if time goes before the player has played the first shot using the bisque, then the bisque cannot be taken, and the turn ends.