



# Cammeray Croquet Club

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

## January Newsletter

### Annual General Meeting

Come to the AGM on Saturday February 6<sup>th</sup>. There is tea and coffee and biscuits from 9.30 to 10 a.m., then the meeting. Our committee is very efficient in conducting the business, and the meeting rarely lasts as long as an hour. It is important that members come as we need a quorum to pass the required motions for election of officers and approval of reports.

### Twilight Croquet

Twilight Croquet is on Monday evenings from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. followed by drinks and snacks. It is a very pleasant way to play croquet, especially in hot weather. We generally play hi-lo doubles alternate strokes, which is a good opportunity for lower-grade players to improve their game, and a chance for better players to practice their coaching skills.



Enjoying a glass after the game

### Free Mulch

Liz Nash has let us know that there is some excess mulch at the southern end of the tennis garden, and members are invited to take any that they want.

## New Members

We welcome the following players who have joined the club recently:

Fred Adam, Ann Gray, Julianne Crosby, Evelyn Estcourt, Jane Jones, Veronica Marshan, James Carlisle. Chris Gingell has rejoined.

James Carlisle is an interesting addition to the club; he played croquet at the famous Hurlingham Club in England twenty years ago, off a scratch handicap. He has just taken the game up again after a long break, and is rapidly regaining his skills. He has entered the CNSW 3 and under competition to be held in early February.



## New Examining Referees

The administration of AC refereeing in recent years has not been effective, but with a new State Director of refereeing appointed – John Cook of Bathurst – some progress is being made to improve the situation. New examining referees have been appointed, including Michael Strickland and Steve Miles of Cammeray.

## Upcoming Tournaments

The Mosman Bash – 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March, closing date for entries 28<sup>th</sup> February.

CNSW 3 and under 1-2 February (Jo Brown, Mike Hughes, James Carlisle, Alison Sharpe)

CNSW 5 and under mixed doubles 22-23 February – Peter and Rosie Landrebe

Australian Women's Singles 8-11 March – Jo Brown

Eire Cup 12-16 March



## Forestalling (Law 23)

Forestalling is when an opponent, umpire or referee calls out to a player not to play their next shot. There are times when a player should be forestalled, and times when forestalling is forbidden by the laws of croquet. It is important for all players to know when to forestall and when not to forestall.

If a player is about to play a shot that incurs a penalty of end of turn – such as playing a wrong ball – the opponent is forbidden to forestall. They must keep quiet until the shot is played, and then tell the player that their turn has ended. This law was introduced so that kindly players (who would be keen to warn opponents) are not disadvantaged against more competitive players (who would allow the playing of the shot).

Note that a doubles partner *can* warn the player not to play such a shot; however, if a spectator calls out that a shot in error is about to be played, the law says that the player is deemed to have played the shot if it

was obvious that they would have played the shot without the warning (e.g. if the player had taken their stance and was about to swing the mallet). Note that spectators are forbidden to offer advice.

If a player is about to play a shot that does not incur a penalty of end of turn – such as failing to take croquet after a roquet – then the opponent should forestall, as this avoids the complications of putting the balls back where they were for play to continue.

If a player is about to play a 'questionable shot' i.e. one in which a fault may be committed, or the outcome of the shot may be unclear (e.g. aiming to roquet a ball in a hoop), the player should be forestalled so that the shot can be watched. Opponents – especially at the lower levels – seem too reluctant to invoke this, so in bronze games many dubious shots go unchecked. Even if an umpire or referee is present, the opponent should forestall if necessary – the umpire may be watching several games, and can easily miss the need for a forestall.

If a player is forestalled but still continues to play then all shots after the forestalling are cancelled and the balls replaced to their position at the time of the forestalling (Law 26.5).

To forestall a player you call the player's name loudly, and when their attention is attracted, you explain why the play was forestalled. If the player is hard of hearing you may need to get into their line of vision to attract their attention, but the law says that calling out in a way that a reasonable person hears is enough for a forestall.

Times when you should forestall:

- Your opponent is about to play a shot that could incur a fault (so it needs to be watched)
- Your opponent is planning a shot where the outcome is not clear – e.g. aiming at a ball in a hoop
- Your opponent is about to play an improper shot which does not incur a penalty – e.g. failing to take croquet after a roquet, or taking croquet from a wrong (live) ball
- Your opponent has committed a fault or error and is playing on
- Your opponent lifts a ball under the wrong impression that they are entitled to a lift

Times when you must not forestall:

- Your opponent is about to play a shot in error that results in end of turn e.g. playing a wrong ball, or taking croquet from a wrong (dead) ball
- Your opponent is about to run the wrong hoop, or run a hoop after taking a half-bisque