



Cammeray Croquet Club

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

April Newsletter

Cammeray Social Day

On Sunday March 30, our club hosted the first of what will become a regular series of '5th Sunday' social events. Despite a very unfavourable weather forecast 26 of us, including 8 new members, gathered in the clubhouse for morning tea and buns followed by a briefing given by David Surridge on DRABCD and how to use our defibrillator. While this was happening a team consisting of Rob and Marg Barrie, Suzy Flowers, Ian Lucas and Warren Yates set to work with the Super-Sopper, buckets and bins to clear the surface water from the lawns. After we had a very enjoyable sandwich lunch, the lawns were then able to support games of Pirates during an unexpected lengthy bout of sunshine. A fine time was had by all. A special thanks to Mary Goldsack and Kristin Kool-Clarke who did the catering. – **Warren Yates**



A happy group of around thirty members crowded into the clubhouse enjoying coffee and buns while the weather gods continued to sprinkle the lawns which already had pools on them. Members crowded around David Surridge as he firstly gave a demonstration of CPR on a dummy and then showed us how our defibrillator works. After David's presentation we were all given the chance to practice our CPR technique on the dummy. Meanwhile the weather was starting to clear and the super sopper was deployed and very quickly enough water was soaked up from lawn one and it was deemed playable even if still a little damp. Everyone wolfed down the delicious sandwiches that so that we could then play Pirates. Our president Michael Strickland explained the rules and clips were drawn for ball colours and with some doubling up ten players were at it. David McGrane

was steadily building up a Treasure Chest by running several hoops but as David found out it was easy come, easy go as first one player then another would roquet his ball and steal his treasure and send him off the lawn. It was great fun with a mix of players who do not often play together. Some clarification of the rules may be needed before we play it again. Just on 2:00pm Pluvius intervened, and the first Social Day of 2025 ended.

Many thanks to David Surridge for his presentation on CPR and the Defibrillator. A very Special Thanks to our Social Committee of Mary Goldsack, Kristen Kool-Clark and Marg O'Brien for the delicious morning tea and lunch that they provided.

We can now look forward to our next Social Day which is planned for Sunday June 29. **Rob Barrie**

Cammeray Beginner Tournament

This is an excellent opportunity for beginners to learn tournament tactics and etiquette. Each game is provided with an experienced mentor who can give advice and referee the game. We had a good entry of six players; the final results was a win for Suzy Flowers, who won all her games, and runner-up was Evelyn Estcourt.



Winner, Suzy Flowers



Competitors Evelyn Estcourt, Ann Gray, Fred Adam, Suzy Flowers and Carolyn Shrimpton, with Ian Lucas who was one of the mentors

Many thanks to the mentors who were David Stanton, David Surridge, Neil Hardie, Ian Lucas, Mike Hughes, Jo Brown and Sandra Colquhoun

NSW GC Open

Peter Landrebe won this, while Rosie Landrebe reached the quarter finals.

Croquet Simulation

A croquet simulation which may be of interest to players assessing tactics is available on the web at

<https://croquet.wyliepuzzles.fun/>

Advice for high-handicap players (2) by Neil Hardie

RUSHES

The rush is possibly the most important stroke in croquet. If you can rush well, you rarely need to hit long roquets or play long rolls; so a player is best advised to practice rushes rather than long roquets or rolls. The key sequence in croquet to make hoops is to rush a ball as close as possible to the hoop, then use a hoop approach to make the hoop. The closer you are to the hoop when you do the hoop approach, the more likely you are to make the hoop.

Every time you have a possible roquet, you should be assessing where you can use the roquet to put the croquet ball where it will be more use to you. Can you rush it near to your next hoop? Can you rush it to be a pioneer at the hoop plus one? Can you put it near another ball so you can set up a rush on that ball?

To play a rush well, there are two stages – you have to set up the rush well, and you have to play the shot well.

Setting up a rush consists – ideally - of placing your striker ball between one and three feet from the target ball in line with the intended rush. This is much easier if you play the shot to set up the rush from a position in line with the rush (this is known as ‘rush-line theory’).

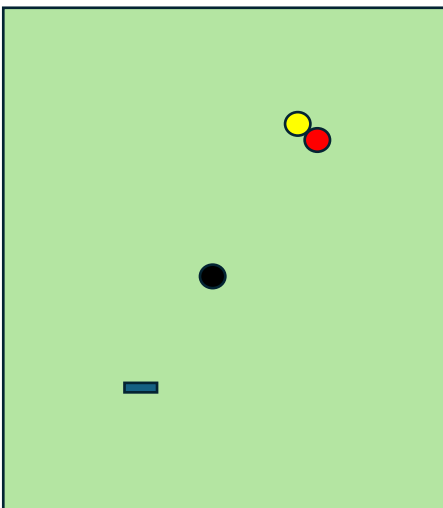


Fig 1

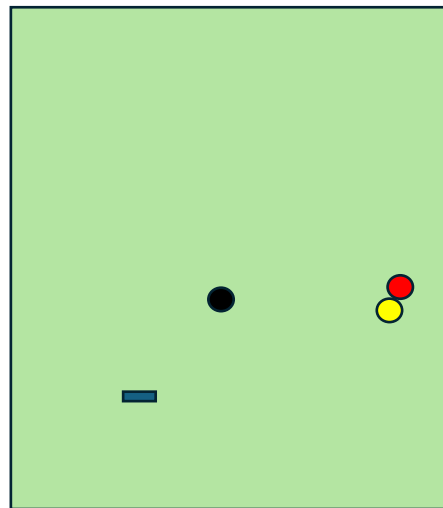


Fig 2

In Fig 1 yellow is taking off from red to get a rush on black to the hoop. Because the take-off point is in line with the direction of the rush, if the take-off distance is too short or too long (provided you don't go past the black ball!) you still get a reasonable rush.

In Fig 2, you are taking off from a point which is not in line with the rush. If your shot is too long or too short, you finish up with a nasty cut rush to get to the hoop, which is much more difficult.

A lot of the skill in doing rushes is organizing your shots so that you place the croquet ball (from which you play your setting-up shot) along the rush line.

Once you have set up for a rush, you need to play the shot well. The rules are to keep your head still, avoid trying to hit hard, and swing smoothly. There is always a great temptation to look up quickly to see what has happened to the roqueted ball – this must be resisted! Also, a smooth swing will send the ball just as far as a violent poke. And avoid trying to cut the ball more than around 15 degrees – you are likely to miss the ball completely.

Peter Landrebe Appointed to Coaching Position

Peter Landrebe, who is our most illustrious member, has been appointed as the AC High Performance manager by Croquet Australia. This involves coaching the top players in Australia. Peter is regarded as the best coach in the country, and we have been very privileged in the past to have Peter and Rosie (also an outstanding coach) providing lessons for our own club members.

