



Cammeray Croquet Club



NEWSLETTER

April 2015

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

Results

The Cammeray Birthday Tournament

As reported earlier, we enjoyed another very successful Birthday Tournament at the beginning of March. But I have since been taken to task for a mistake in that report! It seems that as many as *five* (not four) Cammeray members – **Annette du Preez, David Surridge, Sue Nichols, Neil Hardie,** and **Ted Griffin** upheld the honour of the Club. For all that, still none of them could prevent Ron Humpherson of Mosman, winning a fascinating final 26 - 13!!

The 2015 Dixon Advisory Classic

Following the great success of last year's launch of this Cammeray initiative, the second DAC Tournament attracted probably the strongest field ever assembled in Australia. Entry was by invitation only. The top fourteen acceptors (by World Ranking) were listed automatically. The last two spots were fought over in a qualifying competition.

In the event, no less than four Cammeray Members qualified for a start - **Ken Edwards, Alan Walsh, Peter Landrebe,** and **Rosie Landrebe**. But once again the money went south, this year in the hands of Greg Fletcher, who proved a worthy and gracious winner, beating his world-champion brother in the final, 26tp - 0.



Greg (on left) and Robert Fletcher – winner and runner-up in this year's Dixon Advisory Classic.

Photo: by Chris Lavina

A highlight of the tournament came on the Sunday afternoon, with Robert playing on Lawn 1 and Greg on Lawn 2 [or vice versa!] Both won the toss, and chose to 'go in'. Both were given Blue and Black. Both played the same opening, and with the same ball. Both their opponents then played Red, and both Robert and Greg hit with their next ball. And both then proceeded to run an immaculate 'third ball Nine', mimicking and matching each other almost stroke for stroke. Twenty minutes or so later they were both setting exactly the same leave. The two lawns were identical!

The precision required for this sort of play can only be wondered at. One suspects that they practise.

As if too much excitement is never enough, we were then treated to the Australian National Championships – this year in Sydney.

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Editorial

This edition is replete with results from the much trumpeted 'Feast of Croquet' which we enjoyed throughout March. But we do eventually get down to a few items from the 'home front', under the heading of 'Club News'. So persevere!

And as a counterpoint to the bald recounting of facts and figures, this column continues on the next page with another piece of Neil Hardie's thoughtful writing.

Several members have mentioned that they no longer receive a paper copy of this Newsletter. That is easily explained by the fact that your editor is lacking a colour printer at present, and is dependent on others to provide the few 'hard copies' needed by those who do not have access to the internet. Suffice to say that the matter is in hand. [Someone else's hand.]

And yet another reminder for those who miss the old way of doing things: on the **very front page** of the Club website, you will find an item –

The next 28 days at the Club

Print it and rejoice!

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

As usual, comment on this issue, and/or contribution to the next, can be sent to ...

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The ACA National Titles

The 'Gold Medal' event – competed for by the winners of each of the six State 'Bronze Medal' events – was won by Simon Hockey of South Australia, leaving Callum Hyland [pictured] of Tasmania with the Silver Medal.

Interest then turned to the National Men's and Women's singles titles.

The Men's singles competition was won by Robert Fletcher from Victoria, with the runner-up being another Victorian, Stephen Forster.

And the Men's Plate Competition was won by yet another Vic – Josh Wilson.

The Women's singles were won this year by Alison Sharpe of Killara, who beat Alix Verge of RSGC in the final, reversing last year's result.

And the Women's Plate was won by **Annette du Preez** of Cammeray, [who has since shown it to be no fluke by winning her block at the prestigious 'Mosman Bendigo Bank Bash'!] Great stuff, Annette!



What the sartorially aware Tasmanian player is sporting these days.

The Eire Cup

This is the trophy competed for annually by the six States of Australia, in teams comprising four men and four women. Each State plays every other State in a 'round-robin' over five days.



Matches consist of one round (four games) of mixed doubles, followed by two rounds (ie eight games) of men's singles and two rounds (eight games) of women's singles, making a total of twenty games in each match. It is not unknown for matches to be tied at ten games-all, and for elaborate countbacks to be invoked, in order to settle the matter.

Happily, this year's event required no such stretching of the intellect. Indeed it is our pleasant duty to record that the NSW team with Cammeray members **Peter Landrebe**, **Rosie Landrebe**, and **Alan Walsh**, won all five of their matches, and reclaimed the trophy which had been held by Victoria for the past couple of years. Well done team NSW!!

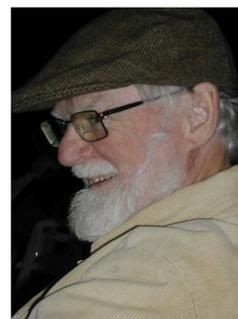
Club News

From the recent Committee Meeting ...

- Congratulations were accorded to **David Stanton** and **Steve Miles** for their superb management of recent tournaments at Cammeray, with David scoring additional thanks for his provision of the new equipment boxes on each lawn – a little lateral thinking applied to the problem of the old trolleys!
- There are now **two** money tins on the entry table – one for green fees and one for everything else for which you want to pay cash (apart from refreshments, for which tins are still in the kitchen).
- **Sandra Colqhoun** has very kindly taken over Mallet Hire and Club Clothing. If you want to try a mallet before you buy one, have a look at some of the mallets which the Club has for hire.
- For Club clothing, an order form has been posted on the website, with copies in the Clubhouse. Or you can speak to Sandra on 0452 638 625. The closing date for the next order is 20th April, but a reasonable number of buyers will be needed.

Croquet Etiquette

[Another in a series of articles by **Neil Hardie**, and derived from the Oxford website.]



Having Shots Watched

Where a shot may result in an error, or where the result of the shot may be unclear, a player or opponent is required to ask that the next shot be watched.

This includes 'hampered' shots and hoop-running shots from a very short distance (especially from an angle). Errors which can occur include pushing and bevelling (for hampered shots), or crushing and double-tapping (when running hoops).

The most common shot where the outcome may be unclear is when a player tries to roquet a ball in or near a hoop. The striker's ball can bounce off the hoop, and there is often doubt whether a hit was actually made, or whether the ball moved because the hoop moved but was not actually roqueted.

If your opponent is about to play such a shot, and has not asked for it to be watched, you should stop play and ask that it be watched. If your opponent is asked to have someone watch the shot, and does not, the balls should be replaced, and the shot replayed.

If you do not ask for an opponent's shot to be watched, and your opponent claims that the shot was fair, or that a roquet was made, then you have no remedy. Your opponent was closer to the shot than you, and their word should be taken.

Sometimes a shot is not one that need be watched, but may still give rise to dispute. Your opponent may claim that a roquet has been made, but you think not; or you may think your opponent left a 'still ball', but your opponent claims otherwise. The first time this happens, you can query it, but you take the opponent's word for it. If it happens again, you can ask to watch (or have the shot watched) whenever such an instance recurs.

Under no circumstances do you accuse your opponent of cheating! If your opponent seems to be behaving dubiously in social games, you avoid playing against them in future. If your opponent seems to be breaking the rules in a competition, you get a referee or umpire to watch them.