



Cammeray Croquet Club



Newsletter

April 2019

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

The 'Mosman Bash' AC Tournament

This year's tournament was another great weekend, with no less than nine Cammeray players entered, and three of them bringing home a few dollars for their trouble (none of them shown below).



Sadly, both **Sue Nichols** and **Georgie Ofner** were late scratchings. But **Werner Kos** continued his winning form to top the Yellow Block. **Peter Colquhoun** topped the Green Block, and **Steve Miles** managed five pegged-out games to win his Block. Pretty impressive. Well done all!



And in the course of Sunday morning's play, an interesting situation arose, which you may like to ponder, *before checking the answer on the next page ...*

What do you think?

The opening four turns were as follows:

- 1 Owner of Black & Blue plays Blue to the Eastern boundary.
- 2 Owner of Red & Yellow plays Yellow to Corner IV.
- 3 BaB then plays Red to the Western boundary.
"Wrong ball" called. BaB takes Black to B-Baulk, and places it in Corner III. (See Law 26(2))
- 4 RaY plays Yellow from Corner IV, aiming at Red, which has been left on the Western boundary.
"Wrong ball" called. Referee called.

CNSW Events

This is a last chance to remind you that we have the annual **Beryl Chambers NSW Handicap** Competition coming up, with the Northern Sydney region qualifying rounds being played **at Cammeray** from Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th May.

In this issue ...

- The annual 'Mosman Bash'
- Refereeing conundrum
- Oxbridge Day
- CNSW events
- Cammeray events

Editorial

Here we are, heading towards the end of April, enjoying a magnificent spell of dry warm weather. The lawns are in great shape, the grass having almost stopped growing. We have some splendid new lawn-dividers – thank you David Stanton – and things are looking very promising for the Birthday Tournament next week.

With the sun on one's back and the scent of new-mown grass in his nostrils, this is just the sort of time when a chap becomes hopelessly introspective, and starts to reflect on his extraordinary good fortune in being able to play a game which is so absorbing and rewarding, in surroundings which are constantly improving, and in the company of people for whom the word congenial is utterly inadequate.

So it was that your editor got to thinking how things could possibly get better. Was this peak contentment! Was it all downhill from here!

Then it dawned on him. Next month, if he made it, would bring up his sixtieth edition of this publication. Handing over the editorial reins would not only rejuvenate his weary muse, and prolong 'peak contentment', but would give readers an opportunity to enjoy the writing of someone a little less pedantic and self-obsessed.

So step forward, one of you! Do your bit for everyone's sanity at Cammeray!

Comment (and job applications) can be sent to the editor, Michael Strickland:

stricko@ozemail.com.au

Cammeray Events

The annual Club Handicap Competition is in full swing, and last month's prediction of 'fun and games has proved correct.



The laws of handicap play restrict a player from 'pegging off' any ball before both of that player's balls have run Rover.

That did not deter one player, who should have known better, from carefully counting the hoops needed to take the game to a 'golden point', and pegging off one ball to draw level, after leaving his other ball in front of its hoop. While filling in their cards, his less experienced opponent casually asked: 'What is all this business about pegging out in handicap games. And how does it work?' *Shock, horror ... weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth.*

And another player, who shall remain equally nameless, having only shortly before been talking about the earlier incident, still attempted to peg off a ball off in breach of the rules. Happily his opponent was alert to the error, and Law 30 was applied.

With all round-robin games completed (on time!) a 'best of three' final will be played between **Peter Colquhoun** and your editor on **Friday morning 26th April**. The latter starts with a much-needed one-game advantage, having beaten Peter in the round-robin.

The result will be reported next month (or not, as the case may be!)

Answer to puzzle on previous page

The Referee, Ron Humpherson, ruled that, in playing Yellow, RaY had played a wrong ball in Turn 4. Red had still not been played in, and was simply an 'outside agency', cluttering up the lawn on the western side. RaY should have removed it from the lawn, to complete the rectification of the 'wrong ball' play by BaB in Turn 3.

And Turn 4 should have been RaY playing Red into the game. Instead, RaY was obliged, under Law 26(2), to place Red "on any unoccupied point on either baulk-line" – the same penalty that applied to BaB in Turn 3. Yellow was returned to Corner III, and BaB was entitled to play – with all four balls now on the lawn.

This is a view which, after some discussion, has found favour with both the immediate past State Director of Refereeing, Neil Hardie, and the present holder of that office, Bob Green, (as well as a few of us lesser lights who take an interest in these things)

Cammeray Birthday Tournament



As noted last month (and elsewhere), this year's annual Birthday Tournament is rapidly approaching, and will run over three days next week, from **Thursday 2nd to Saturday 4th May**. If you are not playing, come along and enjoy the fun. If you *are* playing, then of course you are the fun!

Oxford v Cambridge ...

*... now well established in the Cammeray calendar, this year's event attracted nineteen (GC) players, who were guided by **Alix Verge, Alan Walsh, and Ian Lucas**, in glorious autumn sunshine on Sunday 31st March..*

Your editor, who was sadly busy elsewhere, has been given a splendidly full report by Robin Mills (Oxon).



'This is where I want you to put it.'

The Cambridge pair at the final hoop.

After a morning's practice (with coaching from the aforementioned gurus) twelve participants were involved in the 'Blues' contest in the afternoon.

David Goodman and Chris Bertram won through to represent Oxford in the final, beating last year's champions Robert Laurie and Robin Mills in a semi-final.

Martin Maynard and Andrew Fulton represented Cambridge, after defeating Elizabeth Glasson and Zheng Wang in their semi-final.

The final saw Oxford take the lead three times, and at 3-2, they were on the verge of winning, before a match-saving shot from Andrew removed an Oxford ball from the jaws of the hoop, and Martin promptly struck the equalising hoop shot.

Buoyed by this success, the Cambridge pair went on to win the final hoop, and secure a 4-3 victory (although not before some deep tactical discussion pictured above).

For those who may have forgotten, Robin reminds us of the debt owed to **Juan Roberson**, whom he dubs the 'thought leader' in creating the event, and who of course ran it for the first six years (before his withdrawal to the Blue Mountains).

And thanks were also expressed to the ubiquitous Julian Todd who yet again presented the prizes ...

 **BACKVINTAGE**
Hand Selected Regional Wines Delivered Direct
<https://www.backvintage.com.au>