



Cammeray Croquet Club



NEWSLETTER

March 2015

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

Results

Golf Croquet

We have not yet reported that in January, Cammeray Member **Peter Landrebe**, playing in the ACA President's Eights, emerged the winner of the First Eight.

And he followed this up in February with a trip over to the GC World Championships in NZ, where he was the best-performed Australian player, and fought his way through to the round of sixteen, succumbing to the eventual winner, Hamy Erian, one of the legion of Egyptians who dominate the game at this level. A great start to 2015, Peter!

Beginners' Competition

During January and February, Bev Westwood organised a tournament for beginning players (those with no competition experience) and attracted five club members who played a round-robin and a finals series. **Jen Holt, Jeff**



Burgess, Jenny Hodges, Pam Cameron-Smith, and Ian Lucas played off over several weeks, producing a final between Jen and Ian. Congratulations to Ian who won the final 12-8, and thanks to all who made it possible.

CNSW Bronze Championship



Then, in February, three Cammeray members, **Sue Eldridge-Smith, Marg O'Brien, and Warren Yates**, took part in the State Bronze competition, held this year at Strathfield. This is open to anyone with a handicap from 14 to 24, and played in the same format as Bronze Pennants - 18pt games (go to peg after 2-back) level play (no bisques!) and no lifts.

Marg O'Brien was the best-performed Cammeray player, coming third in her block, but the overall winner was Charles Britton of Strathfield CC.

Cammeray Birthday Tournament

And already this month, we have enjoyed the annual Birthday Tournament – a very popular handicap event. Four Cammeray members – **Annette du Preez, David Surridge, Sue Nichols, and Ted Griffin** upheld the honour of the Club in great style, the last-mentioned making it to the final.

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The feast continues ...

- Dixon Advisory Classic
- ACA National Titles
- The Eire Cup

Club News

- AGM – Saturday 21st Feb

Editorial

It was mentioned last month that the multi-coloured monthly program of club events which used to follow this Newsletter has been discontinued.

And I drew attention to the wonderful 'rolling' four-week programme which can be found on the Club's website.

This elicited some 'interesting' responses!

Now I can add that our Secretary and IT supremo, Warren Yates, has surpassed himself in making life even easier for you. On the **very front page** of the Club website, you will find an item –

The next 28 days at the Club.

All you could ever hope for!

Have a look at

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

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

Michael Strickland

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The weather gave us all four seasons over the course of a wonderfully enjoyable weekend. Sunday swung from 35deg heat to a southerly buster which brought out the storm gear!

Organisation of this competition just gets better and better, David Stanton and Steve Miles are to be congratulated, along with Jan Thomas, Marg O'Brien and Sue Eldridge-Smith, who kept us all very well fed and watered.



The final on Monday 2nd March was fought out between **Ted Griffin** and **Ron Humpherson** of Mosman, with Ron holding on to win in a fascinating contest 26-13.

And the generous prize money was once again very kindly donated by **Maureen Cope**. Thank you, Maureen. It was lovely to see you back at the Club.

The feast of croquet continues!!

Now we play host to the real heavies of Australian croquet.

First up is a one-day qualifying event this **Thursday 5th March** to determine the last two places in this year's **Dixon Advisory Classic** tournament.

Cammeray members **Ken Edwards** and **Mike Hughes** will be competing against Anne Quinn from Victoria and Ted Salter of Hunters Hill for the final two spots.

Then the weekend, from **Saturday 7th** through **Monday 9th March**, offers the richest prize in world croquet [I am not making this up!] which has attracted perhaps the strongest field of AC players ever assembled in Australia.

The following week brings the **ACA National Singles Titles**. Cammeray will host games in the **Women's Singles Plate** competition on **Sunday 15th** and **Monday 16th March**.

And from **Wednesday 18th** through **Sunday 22nd March**, you will have the opportunity to watch the NSW State Team in action in the "**Eire Cup**", with matches being played at Mosman, Chatswood, Killara, and RSGC.



This is a once-in-six-years opportunity!

Club News

Annual General Meeting

The Club's AGM was held at the Clubhouse on Saturday 21st February, and some 25 souls enjoyed a morning tea interspersed with a little Club business.



The burden of high office ... **David Stanton** continues as President; **Warren Yates** as Secretary; **Mike Hughes** as Treasurer.

Copies of Reports presented to the Meeting and Minutes of the meeting itself can be found on the Club's website.

Coaching Notes



*The following piece is extracted from notes compiled by **Jarrold Coutts** a young New Zealander who has been making a name for himself in recent years, not least as Manager of the 2014 winning MacRob Shield team.*

Getting things going ...

Things to consider when it is the start of your turn (assuming you have a simple first shot, and there is no question of which ball to play):

1. Am I really likely to make more than two hoops in my turn?
2. How can I use the opposition balls to the best of my ability?

If the answer to Point 1 is 'No', then I believe you are better off resetting the court so that in your next turn, your percentage of making more than two hoops the following turn is a lot higher.

Things to consider when resetting the court:

1. Am I setting a rush either to my hoop, or to the ball I think they are least likely to shift?
2. Have I got all the balls away from boundaries/out of corners?
3. Have I placed the opposition balls in useful positions? *eg* at my next hoop(s)
4. Am I in a position that, if my opposition shoots at me and misses, it will be easy for me to use their ball? (*eg* laying up near a boundary rather than in-lawn).
5. Am I leaving myself an easy first shot!

Sometimes it is not easy to generate all of this at once, so don't be afraid to take two turns or sometimes even more to reset. And remember that if you want to play with R, and you are going to reset the lawn, it doesn't mean you have to do so with R. If it is easier to reset using Y (while setting up for R), this is fine!

If you are able to reset the court, and have both the opposition balls in-lawn, with a rush to the ball you think they are not going to shift, you should just about always have a simple pick up (for a 3-ball break) and then with a little bit of work getting the 4th ball in play, you have your 4-ball break, and ... !!