



Cammeray Croquet Club



October 2020

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

Selectors invitation – 1 – Elliot, Hughes 2 – Stanton

A report from Mike Hughes

Cammeray was well represented at the selectors invitation weekend, held at Cooks River on the 10th & 11th of October. The events are both fields of 7, so 6 games plus a bye over two days. The winner of the first 7 is promoted to the Bronze medal (joining the top 7 ranked players in NSW) while the second 7 are playing for glory, and perhaps to catch the eye of the selectors for 2021.

In the second 7 Cammeray were represented by our **President** Steve Miles, and our handyman David Stanton. Conditions were not easy. It was hot, the Cooks River lawns were in excellent condition (ie pretty quick) and the hoops were tight and hard in the ground. The top 4 seeds had 3 games on day 1, and the bottom 3 had 4. Many games went to time, so after an 8am start the lawns were packed up around 7 pm, apart from David's late game. In this game, when the bell went at 5 past 7, his opponent had just got in trailing David by 14 hoops, playing his ball from hoop 3. To win the match he needed to go to the peg and peel his hoop 4 ball through four hoops. Most unlikely to happen, but he kept at it until 7.30, when he failed to make 4-back, leaving David ahead by 7.

Off to sleep, perchance to dream (of missed roquets). At that point Ron Buist of Killara and David were unbeaten with 3 wins, ahead of Steve with 2 wins out of 3. Sunday was, thank goodness, a bit cooler. Now those of you who have played David know that he is the second unluckiest player in the club when it comes to just missing roquets (your scribe is the unluckiest). But his judgement in close games cannot be questioned. On Sunday he played his last 3 games and won all of them, ALL BY ONE POINT as time expired! So he won the second 7 with a clean sheet of 6 wins, a fine accomplishment in a pretty even field. Steve ended with 4 wins, and third on net hoop countback from Peter Freer of Canberra

The 1st 7 had 4 Cammeray representatives in Rob Elliott (top seed) Alan Walsh (3rd) Rosie Landrebe (4th) and Mike Hughes (5th). In the second 7, day 1 had gone to plan, with most of the top seeds winning. The opposite was true in the 1st 7, with half the games upsets, and Mike & Kerri-Ann Organ from Canberra led the field with 3 wins out of 4, Rob and Rosie in with a chance with 2 wins out of their 3. On Sunday Kerri-Ann beat John Bartrop and Mike lost to him, while Rob beat Rosie and his other opponent, so going in to the last round Rob (with superior net hoops) had to beat Alan, and have Mike beat Kerri-Ann for Rob to win. If Kerri-Ann beat me she was the winner, while I had to beat her by about 10 hoops to be in with a chance. I won by enough to edge past Kerri-Ann, and we gathered to watch the end of Rob's game with Alan. Behind with not long to go, Rob ran a ball to the peg to get one hoop in front. Alan took the lift shot and Missed! Rob in control with less than 5 minutes to go gave Alan a couple of 30 yard shots before pegging a ball out as time expired, to win by 2, and to win the event (4 wins out of 6, superior net hoops over me and Kerri-Ann, not as convincing as David's effort in the second 7).

Congratulations to Rob who will now progress to the Bronze medal in a month or so. Did the selectors gain anything from the event? Well the 3 of us came first and second in the first 7, and first in the second 7 Pity we can't select ourselves!!

(Note: Rob Elliott is also a member of Cammeray)



Rob Elliott



Mike Hughes



David Stanton

Beginner Training Course by Ian Lucas

An AC training course for beginners has just been completed, with a surprising thirteen applicants since the last course late last year. Most of these were new to croquet while a couple had not fully completed the previous course. Another two were Golf Croquet players from Mosman Croquet Club who wanted to learn Association Croquet from Cammeray.

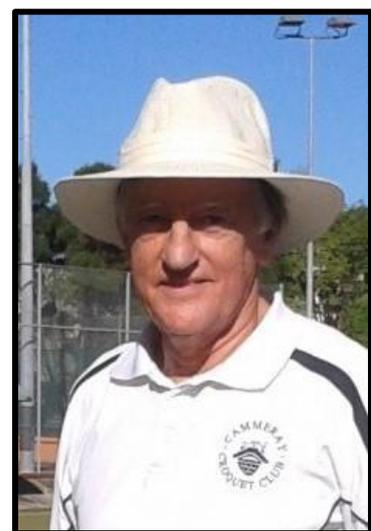
The six-week course started early in February but only a part of the course was completed before all croquet stopped due to Covid-19. The course re-started in late May and, after the formal course was completed, mentored games were held.

This was followed by a successful beginners' tournament with 8 of the beginners taking part. The winners of the two blocks, Joanne Brown and her brother Peter Brown played in the final with Peter emerging as the winner. Our congratulations to Peter and also to the other participants – it can be quite an ordeal.

While all these participants applied to join the course prior to the Covid-19 restrictions, the applications have dried up since. Only recently has a couple of applications been received. So, if you know anyone who may be interested, please point them to the club website to make an application.



The end of the Beginners' Final – Joanne Brown, runner up; Michael Strickland who trained the beginners and refereed; Sandra Colquhoun who organised the tournament; and Peter Brown who won



Ian Lucas, who trained the beginners

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Ian Lucas and Michael Strickland have done a splendid job running the beginner courses and the mentoring programs. Their dedication and skills are much appreciated.

Other Tournaments

The club championship final was played at last, with Alan Walsh winning against Mike Hughes.

In the club platinum championship final Steve Miles defeated Neil Hardie comfortably in the end, having been behind with fifteen minutes left.

The club bronze tournament had six entries, including four of the recent beginners, who acquitted themselves very well. In the semi-finals Chris Brown beat Kristin Kool-Clarke, and Peter Brown beat Warren Yates – so the final on Monday 1st November is between two brothers, both graduates of the recent beginner classes.

The club silver championship had seven entries, with Margaret O'Brien beating Georgie Ofner 15-10.



Margaret O'Brien



Georgie Ofner

The Sydney Premier League has been played at Cammeray on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, with an impressive field. Alison Sharpe won all her block games, but lost to Ted Salter in the semi-final; Rob Elliott beat Peter Landrebe in the other semi-final, and Ted won the final.

There have been a large number of club tournaments lately, and we are very grateful for the efforts of Sandra Colquhoun in organising them all, getting lots of entries, and bringing them to successful conclusions.



Sandra Colquhoun

Monday evenings

On Monday evenings we are having twilight games, shortened hi-lo doubles starting at 4.45 and 5.45 p.m., with lifts after hoops 3 and 5. These are great fun, and if you are going in for the Summertime Tournament this is a good chance to get familiar with the rules.

Summertime Tournament

Don't forget the Summertime Tournament which will be held at Cammeray 7th and 8th November – there should be some entertaining play!