



# Cammeray Croquet Club

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

## September Newsletter

### Twilight Croquet Resumes

For many years our Club has run a Twilight Croquet session during the Summer months from 5 pm to 7 pm on Monday evenings. The 2025-26 series will commence on Monday 13 October and continue until the end of daylight saving .

These sessions are very special in that all members are welcome from the newest beginner to our top level Platinum players. By consensus among the attendees on any particular Monday the games may be Hi-Lo doubles or handicap singles games between players of similar level, or a combination of both.

Whatever the format, they are fun games followed by BYO wine and nibbles for those who want to stay on. A great way to meet and play against people who play regularly but on different days of the week to you, There is a limit of 16 per session. Bookings for the entire season will open on October 6.

### Working Bee

Sunday October 26 from 9 am: A working bee to paint the seats around the lawns

### Other Dates

Sunday November 30 from 4 pm: Christmas Party

December: The Club is likely to be closed for at least 3 weeks for lawn maintenance

### CNSW Coaching Webinars

CNSW is running a series of webinars - primarily for coaches but anyone can attend. The next is on 27<sup>th</sup> October. Click [here to see the schedule and reserve a place by registering](#),

# Tournaments

## Australian Golf Croquet Women's Singles

Alison Sharpe won this event, winning all 16 of her games.

## GC Interstate Shield

NSW won this, with Alison Sharpe and Rosie Landrebe playing a major role. Alison won 6 out of 8 of her singles games and drew the other 2.

## NSW AC Open singles

Peter Landrebe and James Carlisle reached the semi-finals of a very strong tournament. Peter lost to Mike Gidding who won the tournament, James lost narrowly to Stephen Richards. In the play-off for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, Peter beat James two games to one.

## Cammeray Championships

This is still in progress, with the top four – Rob Elliott, Alan Walsh, James Carlisle and Mike Hughes winning all their matches, while the bottom four have lost all their games.

## Cammeray Handicap

This is ongoing – James Carlisle currently leads Michael Strickland.

# Improving Your Break Play by Neil Hardie

## For mid-level handicap players

The main difference between top players and moderate players is that when a good player sets up a break they can usually go around until they decide to stop (at 4-back or rover or the peg), while moderate players usually break down after a few hoops. If they can avoid these breakdowns, their play will improve.

Many players are not aware of where their game needs to improve to avoid breakdowns. A good way to identify this is to keep records of why your break ends. It is often not the last shot that was the problem. You may fail a hoop, but if the hoop shot was from four feet at a sharp angle, the problem was not hoop-running, but the previous shot or shots. Your break may end when you miss a ten-yard roquet, but the problem here is not your roqueting ability, but the earlier shots that required you to attempt such a roquet.

If you blob a hoop, check back to see where the problem occurred: if you failed from one foot directly in front, then your hoop-running was the fault. If you were trying to run the hoop from a long way out or a difficult angle, then the hoop approach may have been the problem; if you were approaching the hoop from within three yards. If you had to approach the hoop from ten yards away, then earlier shots were the cause of the breakdown – a poor pioneer, or a miscued rush towards the hoop – or both.

If your turn ends because you miss a roquet, then if the roquet was four yards or less, the roquet was the problem – you probably did not take enough care over an 'easy' shot. If you missed a fifteen yard roquet, then you must analyse why you needed a fifteen yard roquet. Did you misjudge the previous croquet shot? Did you fail to set up a suitable receiver ball after the hoop? Did you run the hoop a long way past the receiver ball?

A useful aid is to have a sheet of paper with possible causes of failure on it, and when you sit down at the end of your turn you mark on it reason for failure. The headings would be:

Hoop run; hoop approach; rush; croquet shot; poor pioneer; hampered shot; missed short roquet.

Each time you list the reasons for the breakdown – there are often more than one – and at the end of several games you have a clear indication of where you need to practice for improvement.