



# Cammeray Croquet Club

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

## January Newsletter

### Club News

Our lawns re-opened on 12<sup>th</sup> January after a thorough maintenance and a laser levelling. The balls are travelling in a much better straight line now. Due to the sand, it has not been possible to mow very closely, and the rain has kept the lawns damp, so they have been fairly slow – but this will improve soon.

We are very grateful to Mosman Croquet Club, who allowed us to play on their lawns while ours were out of action – and provided us with tea and snacks as well!

### Cammeray Volunteers

We owe a great deal to all the Cammeray members who provide services at no cost to our club. Two notable examples of late have been Peter Landrebe, who painted the inside of the clubhouse, and Fred Adams who has been repairing various items of equipment and furniture around the club. Many thanks to these two.



Peter Landrebe



Fred Adams

### Cammeray Annual General Meeting

Our club's AGM will be on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. We encourage members to come along to this, to hear the reports on how the club has been faring over the past year, and to elect a new committee. There will be coffee and snacks provided.

These meetings are usually very efficient and last less than an hour.

## Upcoming tournaments:

Cammeray Summertime Tournament 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February

NSW 3 & under singles – 27<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March (James Carlisle & Alison Sharpe)

NSW 5 and under doubles – 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March

Mosman Bash 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> March

And later in the year – the annual ‘Jamberoo Open’ 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October (with several Cammeray members already entered.)

## The Future of AC Pennants

Participation in the CNSW AC Pennants Tournament has fallen off in recent years as many clubs have found difficulty in recruiting the four members required to constitute a team. Cammeray (and Killara) member, Peter Montague, was asked to canvass ideas on how the popularity of the event could be restored. He consulted widely and comprehensively in the latter part of last year, and early this month sent out a draft proposal. Your committee considered the proposal at its last meeting, and endorsed it in principle, with the following specific recommendations, and a suggestion that there be a review after the first year.

***Teams for any match should be just two people (a ‘pair’) drawn from a pool of four nominated by the club.***

And a match between clubs would consist of a doubles game in the morning, followed by two double-banked singles in the afternoon. Lunch would be taken in between. This means only one lawn would be needed and, by putting the doubles game in the morning, the afternoon singles games would always be needed to determine the overall winner of the match. There would be no ‘dead rubber’.

***Competitions should be run in the traditional Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum divisions, although some variation may be necessary to accommodate numbers.***

A club could have multiple teams drawn from (non-overlapping) pools in each division.

***Games would be ‘level play’ in all divisions. (No bisques.)***

***There should be a maximum of 6 games – preferably 3 home and 3 away.***

Some divisions might need splitting into blocks of four to achieve this. And the time and place of each match should be organised by agreement between the teams involved, working within a prescribed 3-month window.

The final format will be decided by the CNSW Tournament Committee. Once it is known the Club will seek expressions of interest from members for inclusion in one of the division pools.

## Jamberoo is back!

**Tues 13, Wed 14, and Thurs 15 October 2026**

It may seem like a long way away, but dates in the croquet calendar are always closer than you think! And we are assured that the annual Jamberoo open tournament (or ‘Escape to Jamberoo’) is already

heavily subscribed – after last year’s unfortunate cancellation. And this year’s flier, which can be found in the clubhouse, boldly asserts: “This event will be conducted. Absolutely guaranteed”

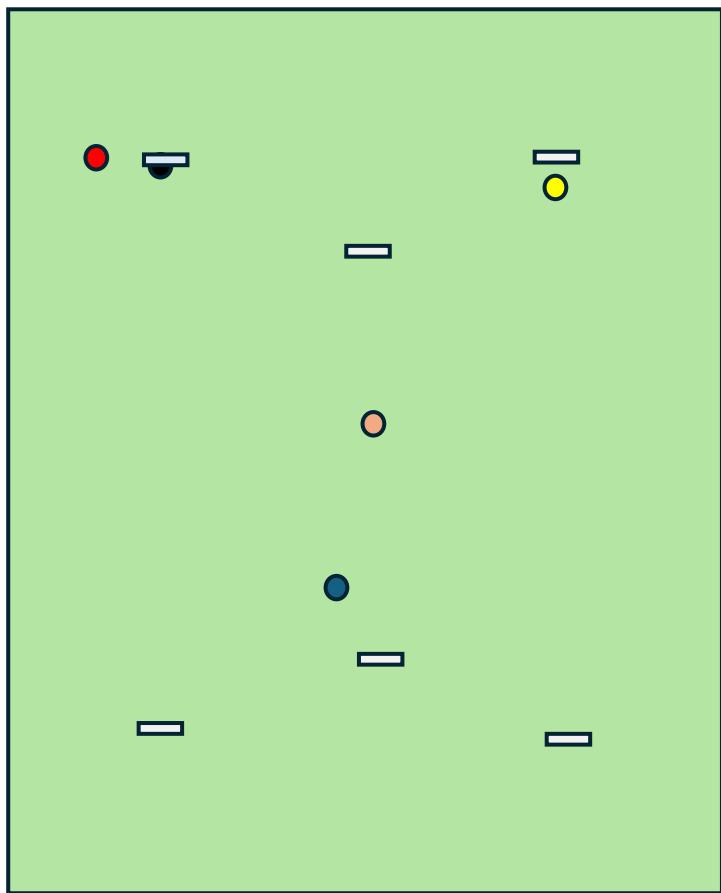
This is an event which regularly attracts a good contingent of Cammeray players, and has usually been held at the end of summer in March. In past years’ Newsletters, we find comments such as:

“This really is one of the most delightful settings for croquet, with three lawns, a modern clubhouse and amenities, ample parking, the sound of cattle lowing in the paddock next door, and a pub just across the road offering both refreshment and accommodation.”

In recent years, the date the date has been moved from autumn to spring, and that time of year has been adopted again this year.

Contact Stewart Johnston [istewartj@gmail.com](mailto:istewartj@gmail.com) or phone 0481 360 510.

## How would you play?



Red has started a break, made hoop 1, then accidentally croqueted the black ball into hoop 2 on his approach. He tried to jump over black but hit the hoop and landed beside hoop 2, unable to hit black.

Black and blue are for hoop 1.

Let me know your thoughts on how black and blue should continue—my preferred sequence will be in the next newsletter (but in croquet there is never a single solution to any problem!).

## Croquet at the Paris Olympics 1900

Croquet has only been played once at the Olympics, in 1900m in Paris. It was not a howling success – only one ticket was sold for the entire event, and all the medals were won by Frenchmen. Presumably the top players from England and Ireland did not bother to go. One of the competitions was an unusual one-ball event.

The medal table was as follows:

**Doubles** - Georges John & Gaston Aumotte

(only the gold medal was awarded)

**1 ball singles** – gold Gaston Aumotte, silver

Georges John, bronze Chretien Waydelich

**2-ball singles** – gold Waydelich, silver Maurice

Vignerot bronze Jacques Sautereau

I have no photos of the actual Olympics, but there is a photo from the time of C.L O'Callaghan playing – it is good to see that he was wearing a suit and a tie.



C. L. O'Callaghan

