



Cammeray Croquet Club

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

February Newsletter

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the club was held on St Valentine's Day, 14th February. As usual the business was accomplished with great efficiency and the meeting ended in half an hour.

A good turnout of members attended, and a new committee was appointed (there being fewer nominations than positions).



The President directing proceedings



The members listening attentively

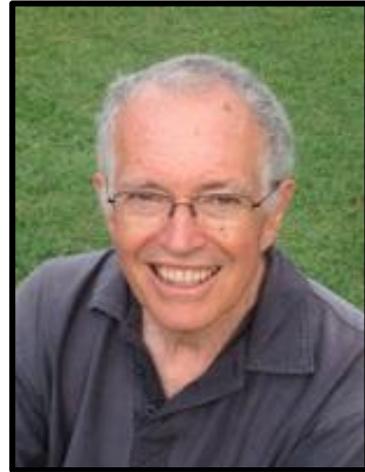


The new committee – Rob Barrie, Michael Strickland (president), Warren Yates, Mary Goldsack, Mike Hughes (treasurer) Sue Nicholas (secretary), Steve Miles
Also on the committee are Margaret O'Brien and Ian Lucas

Departures

There have been several notable departures from positions, from the committee, and from the club.

Warren Yates: Warren Yates: Warren has been the secretary of the club for fourteen years. He is stepping down from that position but remaining on the committee and will handle corporate hires and be the first point of contact for potential new members. He has been a remarkable secretary, dealing with all the issues and problems calmly and sensibly. He was responsible for our splendid website (specified by him and designed by another retired engineer, Ron Wiebe). He also arranged the solar panel installation and wrote the applications for the government grants that funded our new kitchen and shade umbrellas. In more recent times he set up the on-line booking system for the Club and a method for using attendances to generate the lawn fee invoices. We owe a large debt to Warren.



Alan Walsh: has been the lawns manager for at least fifteen years. When he took over the lawns were not very good; but Alan set himself to learn about grass and drainage, and developed a close relationship with the Council Caretakers, which led to our lawns becoming probably the best in Sydney. He and Barbara McDonald also laid out the lawns and set the hoops after any maintenance, including putting in the hoop holes. We are very grateful to Alan for his excellent service over such a long period.



Chris Brown will take over the management of the lawns, but will not be on the committee.

Gail Parrott: Gail is stepping down from the committee after several years. She has been active in catering and managing orders for clothing.

Joanne Brown: has resigned from the club as she is making a new life for herself in Wagga Wagga. She is an outstanding player, a member of the NSW team; and she was the Games Captain for Cammeray for a couple of years.

Several long-term members have resigned from the club this year, notably Sue Eldridge-Smith, Bev Westwood and Sue Nichols

Arrivals: We welcome new members - Max Crossley, Steve Darwell and his son Nicholas Darwell.

New Members Morning

On Sunday 31st May there will be a New Members Morning, with golf croquet and/or Pirates, and some refreshments. Do come along to this!

Upcoming Tournaments

27 February – 1st March: CNSW 3 and under - Alison Sharpe, James Carlisle, Mike Hughes, Rob Elliott

12-19 March: Beryl Chambers North Metro Qualifying – David Stanton, Evelyn Estcourt (Chatswood)

13-15 March: CNSW 5 and under doubles – Liz Montagu/James Carlisle (Eastwood)

11-14 April: Australian Men's and Women's Singles (Western Australia)

15-19 April : Eire Cup (Western Australia)

Cammeray Summertime Tournament

This was played in hot weather on 21st and 22nd February. Players came from all over to compete – Andrew Wooton and Roger Turney from Melbourne, Cathy Sheehan from Canberra and Tim Woolford-Smith from Port Macquarie. It was an unusual format – 1 ½ hour games, 14 points. The scores were low as the lawns were rather slow, but it all went well. Andrew Stark of Cammeray beat Fidy Westgarth of Mosman in the final 7-4. In the plate, Roberta Flint of Marrickville beat Lance Howes, also of Marrickville 8-3.



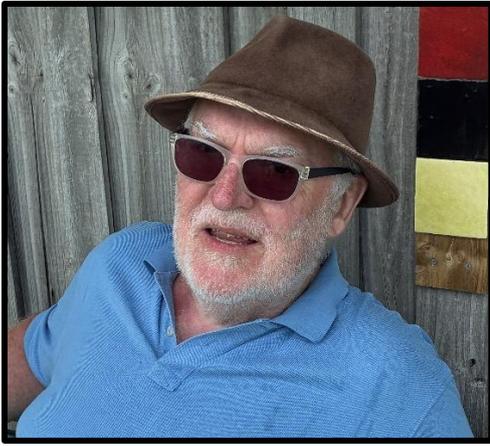
Andrew Stark receiving the trophy from Michael Strickland (thanks to Rob Barrie for the photos)



Runner-up Fidy Westgarth



Plate winner Roberta Flint (R) and runner-up Lance Howes



Roger Turney



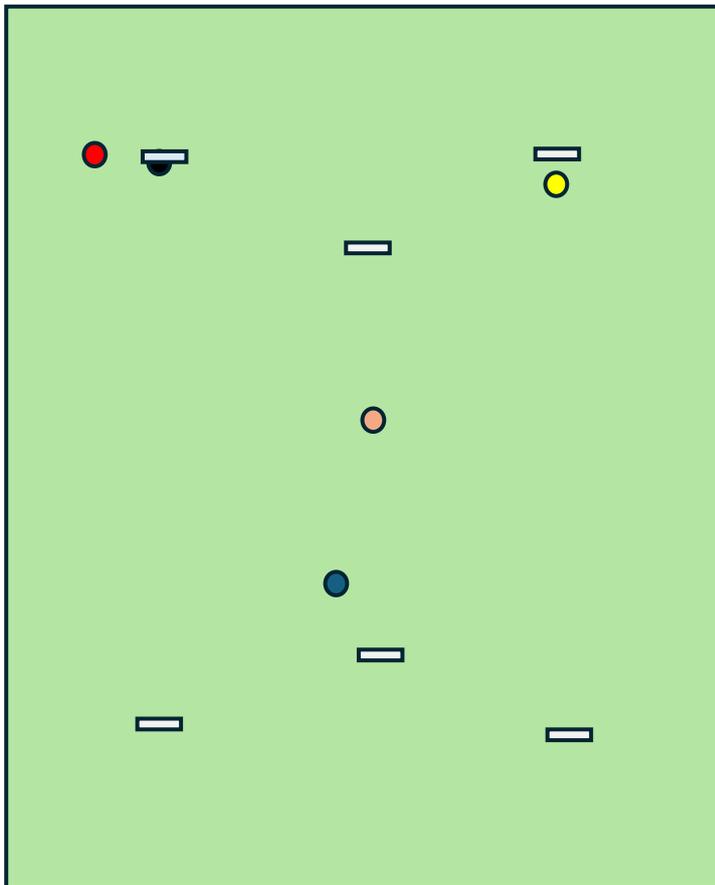
Andrew Wootton



David Surridge

How would you play? A discussion on the position given last month.

I was pleased to get a couple of replies to this puzzle, which opened up new possibilities.



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.

There are various options depending on your skill. A notable factor is that black is entitled to a wiring lift, as it has been placed in a hoop by the opponent. The simplest option is to play blue to a position close to A-baulk – then red would then play a shot – probably down to corner 4. You then take the wiring lift for black, and place it on A-baulk with a dolly-rush to hoop 1. You do not have a pioneer at hoop 2, but a good player when approaching hoop 1 with black would place blue beyond hoop m1 on the right, and after running the hoop you should get a rush to either yellow or to red. It is then easy to rush yellow to hoop 2 and continue the break.

If you are confident with your roquets, and would prefer a well-set break, then an option is to try to roquet yellow with blue. If you hit, you take off to red then rush black down to hoop 1. If you miss yellow, you are safe on the north boundary because you will be wired from yellow, and next turn you can use black's wiring lift to place it on B-baulk and rush blue to somewhere useful.

Note that it would be a mistake to try and roquet red with blue – if you miss, blue lands in corner 2 and gives red an easy roquet to continue the break.

We have assumed that yellow has been placed in its position by R/Y. If yellow was put there by B/Bk, then the play becomes more difficult. There is no point in putting blue near A-baulk, as yellow can take a wiring lift and use it to make hoop 1 with an easy break to follow. It is also an error to try and roquet yellow with blue – blue will finish on B-baulk, and yellow can take the wiring lift and roquet blue. The best option is to take the wiring lift for black, and try to roquet blue from A-baulk, finishing near the peg. If you hit, the situation is not too bad; if you miss, yellow does not have a direct shot on anything, and if it takes its wiring lift, you have at least not left any balls close to baulk lines.

Croquet in the Olympics

Rob Barrie has sent in this photo which is probably one of the French players in the 1900 Olympics.

This style would be very effective at getting distance on slow lawns, but might not be the most accurate.

