

HOOP POINTS

Murray Bridge GC Coaching Clinic for Members

Some of the GC State squad went to Murray Bridge Croquet Club on 18th July to run a coaching clinic for 14 of its club members.

The session was run by Laura Eden with assistance from Kim Millhouse, Karen Magee and Ros Rhode, a newly accredited level 1 GC coach from Murray Bridge.



Refresher Training for Accredited GC Coaches

Continuous learning and improvement are so important in coaching so on 17th July Barry Haydon ran a three-hour refresher training session for GC coaches at Hutt Road, with assistance from Bernie Pfitzner and admin support from Laura Eden.

The session was a mixture of classroom discussions and reviewing a selection of videos from the Croquet Australia Academy website, drills on the lawn, along with role playing exercises for coaches to coach a “difficult member”. I must say that some coaches should take up acting lessons, as they played the role very convincingly.

The coaches really enjoyed the session and requested another session to be held early in 2025.

Laura Eden

SA GC Coaching Coordinator

AC Division 2 Singles

Matches were played in very cold but dry conditions from 2-4 July with 10 competitors.

The winner was Virginia Arney of Norwood CC who was unbeaten in her 9 matches, Virginia had 2 close wins on the last day with the game against Garry Speed determined on golden hoop then coming from behind with a late break against Jim Curtis.

Runner up was decided in the last match with Garry Speed of Tumby Bay CC taking it with 6 wins then 4 players finished on 5 wins.

Thanks to the players as all matches were played in good spirits. Tournament was managed by Millswood Croquet Club with thanks to their members who assisted over the tournament.

Julie Barry



Division 2 singles participants



Winner Virginia Arney with Julie Barry



Julie Barry with Gary Speed



Vale Thelma Roach and Helen Williamson

Two Life Members of the Kadina Croquet Club

The Kadina Croquet Club members have been very saddened by the passing of 2 stalwarts of the club. Thelma who joined the club in 1996 slept away peacefully at the age of 96 on 10th June and Helen who joined in 1995 passed away on 5th July after some difficult months, at the age of 91.

The KCC had celebrated each of their respective silver anniversaries with a beautiful cake and members enjoyed hearing reminiscences of the older past players. Thelma was a member of the AC Pennants team for many years and only stopped when she was 90! She also was responsible for introducing and teaching the game to many of our pennant players, myself included. She had the patience of a saint and even when not actively playing, made sure we were all well hydrated by bringing us watermelon when we were 'resting' between shots. She loved her garden and would decorate the clubhouse beautifully with her floral decorations. Thelma was a very special person and is sadly missed.

Helen didn't play in the pennant team but that didn't mean she wasn't competitive! She was there every Thursday well and truly ready for a bit of Aussie Croquet combat. During the pandemic, she took it upon herself to be the 'Marshal on Duty' meeting and greeting everyone with the words "Have you Sanitized and Signed In and Use a Different Pen" Woe betide you if you'd forgotten! Helen was President of the Club from 2005-2007 and I am reliably informed that she did an excellent job and was very amenable to work with. Helen was a character and certainly made her mark in the club and is also sadly missed.

In many ways, Thelma and Helen's croquet journey was different but their individual contribution to the Kadina Croquet Club was outstanding and laid the foundations for the club of today. Rest in Peace Thelma and Helen and thank you for your service.

Linda Kinch

Laslett Cup Update

Mount Gambier Croquet Club is well into the year with our members continuing to compete on Thursdays for the Laslett Cup. There has been some great competition since the Competition play started earlier this year, and over the last few months we have had a different member win each month. In June Graham Paschke won after a hit off with Shirley Laslett.

Our courts are looking a picture after weeks of hard work from our grounds committee. We now have all four courts in play. It was great to welcome a new member in June, Sue Jordan has joined our merry group and has shown she will be a force to reckon with.

If anyone is coming down our way all would be very welcome to come and join us for a game. We play on Tuesdays and Thursdays or please call Judy Brodie on 0434003463 for further information.

Janice Vitagliano



Photo L to R : Sue Jordan, Graham Paschke, Shirley Laslett



SACA GC Silver Medal

This competition was held from Sunday the 7th to Monday the 8th of July. I must thank the Millswood club for managing on Sunday, as our club had the AC Centenary Invitational competition at Hyde Park.

By the end of the first day's play, two clear leaders were on Croquet Scores. Hyde Park managed on the Monday. When we got there, the morning was quite frosty, but the sun came out early, and players had perfect weather. By lunchtime, the field had closed quite considerably. By the end of the day, the first two positions would be decided by the outcome of the day's last match. The top 3 players had six wins and four losses; Jeff Zweck (Coromandel Valley) was the winner with ten net hoops, and Mark Stevens (Hyde Park) was the runner-up with five net hoops. Ann Millhouse (Millswood) just missed out with two net hoops.

Thanks always to the GC referees who came out to referee for this competition.

Peter Martyniuk



State Training held in Victor Harbor

With the tight schedule at Hutt Road, due to the number of events that are being held this year, it has been necessary for our hard-working state squad to visit other clubs for training.

On Sunday the 28th of July, the state squad travelled to Victor Harbor to train on their lawns. It was a lovely sunny day and all in attendance appreciated the true running Victor lawns.

After a gruelling 6 hours of training, a group of State Team members joined with members of the Victor Harbour Croquet Club for a well-received training session. Managed by Laura Eden, GC coaching coordinator and Barry Hayden, Start Team Captain. State Team members helped members of the Victor Harbour croquet club to hone their skills.



Hyde Park AC Centenary Invitational

5-7 July 2024

With unexpected but much appreciated warm weather in the middle of July, elite players came to play from NSW, VIC and SA at Hyde Park. 9 of those players had handicaps ranging from -0.5 to -2. As expected, the standard of play was extremely high with players appreciating the challenges presented such as 20 yard roquets, cross wiring and running very tight hoops. If this was not enough Lachlan Berryman from MCC, VIC, hit his ball from the A boundary across the court, down a slope, ending up on a side street exciting 2 dogs who were tied to the tennis fence wagging their tails looking very pleased as the ball went flying past them!! Spectators were not disappointed with the skills and tactics presented by the players.



Winner Tim O'Leary

An informal welcome dinner was held on the first night with the President (Philip Hadley) of the Unley Park Sports Club having the honours of cutting the Centenary cake.

With a field of 10 players playing over 3 days, a round robin was played with the following results:

Third placing - Dwayne McCormick (Norwood, SA)

Runner up - Trevor Bassett (Cooks Rvr NSW)

Winner - Tim O'Leary (Coobowie, SA)

Running this event required the assistance of many helpers (caterers, lawn management, hoop setters, bar management and referees) who volunteered their time to ensure the success of this event - thank you to everybody who contributed and for the support of this tournament.

Heather Bajcarz



- Back row: Dwayne McCormick, Trevor Bassett, Jim Nichols, Steve Forster, David Short
- Front: Barry Jennings, Kerri-Ann Organ, Tim O'Leary, Mark Senior, Lachlan Berryman

A Saturated Saturday

I'm a Wednesday morning friendly club player. I accepted with some hesitation a pressing invitation to fill a vacancy on a Saturday event at Hutt Road.

I arrived some hours before dawn to be confronted by hail, high winds and a chill factor off the charts. Arctic explorers confronting such conditions would have high-tailed it for home. Nevertheless, seasoned players took to the lawns, pausing only now and again to put on another layer of clothing. My companion, Jenny, and I ventured out along with pleasant opponents from Millswood. Jenny, being well-prepared, ended up wearing several pairs of waterproof leggings.

At the end of an hour or so the difficult became impossible as water lay on lawn number two to a depth, I estimate, of about two fathoms. The next part was comedy as volunteers confronted the floods with squeegees and an absorbent roller. They were as effective as Lewis Carroll's seven maids with seven mops who swept for half a year.

We were invited to transfer to lawn number one but were deterred by reports that a player had drowned there half-an-hour before. I understood she was quite short.

Then most players resorted to the club house where abandonment was proposed – and, incredibly, opposed by some. We sought out The Manager. Thankfully she decided play should stop. I gratefully went home to deal with my hypothermia.

(Dr) Alan Reddrop
Salisbury Croquet Club

Footnote: The day in question was Saturday 20th July and the game was scheduled to start at 8-45. Salisbury Club was very thankful that Alan took up the "invitation" to play in that game. Without him we would have had no team. It is good to see that he is able to make light of the awful weather and playing conditions on that day.

*Eileen Ferguson
Salisbury Club President.*



GC 3+ Singles

23 - 25 July



Tournament participants with Referees and Tournament Manager Kate Logan

The GC 3+ Singles competition was played recently with a small but enthusiastic group of players. The weather was kind except for strong winds on one day. A good roster of referees made themselves available for each game and as a manager, I thank them for their assistance.

The double round robin on days 1 and 2 had many close games with several reverse outcomes on day 2. A final Best of 3 series was played day 3 with Robert Brown winning over Laura Eden in the final.

Kate Logan, event manager for Victor Harbor CC



Laura Eden (Runner up) and
Robert Brown (Winner)

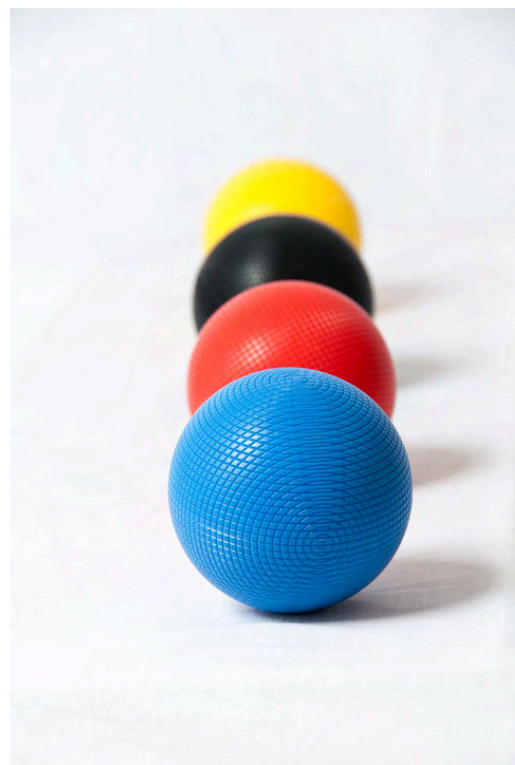
UP COMING EVENTS.....

Association Croquet

AUG 3,24	Weekend Pennants
AUG 17—18	President's Trophy By Invitation
SEPT 2	Port Pirie Gala Day
SEPT 7, 22	Weekend Pennants
SEPT 14- 15	Div 4 Singles(14+) enter via SACA website
SEPT 24—26	Div 3 Singles (8+) enter via SACA website
OCT 5	Weekend Pennants
OCT 6—7	Women's Open Singles enter via SACA website
OCT 12—13	Men's Open Singles enter via SACA website
OCT 13	Tumby Bay Gala Day - Come and Try, Centenary celebration
OCT 16 - 21	Tumby Bay Tournament
OCT 26-27	CB Sharp Gold Medal enter via SACA website
OCT 29—31	Alternate Stroke Handicap Doubles enter via SACA website
NOV 3 —4	ACA SA Bronze Medal By Invitation

Golf Croquet

AUG 1—4	Brighton Armstrong Challenge
AUG 10,25,31	Weekend Pennants
AUG 13 &15	Combined Doubles 20+ Entries have closed
AUG 20—22	Open Doubles enter via SACA website. Closing date 5th Aug
SEPT 8,21,28	Weekend Pennants
SEPT 9	Victor Harbor Gala Day
SEPT 9	Aggregate 24+ Pennants
SEPT 10 &17	5+ Spring Singles
SEPT 12 & 19	9+ Spring Singles
SEPT 16	Aggregate 24+ Pennants
SEPT 23	Aggregate 24+ Pennants
SEPT 30	Murray Bridge Gala Day
OCT 14	Aggregate 24+ Pennants
OCT 16,23	Spring Singles 12+
OCT 19,20	Weekend Pennants
OCT 21	Mt Barker Gala Day
OCT 21	Aggregate 24+ Pennants
OCT 25	Glenunga Gala Day
OCT 28	Aggregate 24+ Pennants



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