

HOOP POINTS

GC OPEN DOUBLES TOURNAMENT 2024 AUGUST 20/21/22.

The teams were; Barry Haydon-Virginia Arney, Kate Logan-Stephen Condous, Ansi Baumanis-Gayle Searle, Barry Jennings-Laura Eden, John Arney-Annie Millhouse, Paul Ensor-Peter Webster and Karen Magee-David Magee.

We had marvellous weather and play was at a high standard. There was fierce competition and excellent sportsmanship.

Thank you to Bob Neil, Graeme Thomas, Geoff Creek, David Stumm and Kevin Le Poidevin for Refereeing over the 3 days.

Norwood CC managed the event with thanks to Bob Neil, Colleen Baumanis and Kevin.

Clear winners were Barry and Virginia and Kate and Stephen were runners-up. Congratulations.

Kevin LePoidevin





J F HARVEY BRONZE MEDAL 2024

The 2024 J F Harvey Bronze Medal event was played at SACA headquarters lawns on Hutt Rd., Adelaide on the 30th and 31st of July and 1st August in very pleasant weather. This Association Croquet level play round-robin singles event for players with a handicap of 14 or greater was contested in a spirit of very friendly rivalry. There were seven entrants this year, including players from Tumby Bay and Moonta, as well as city clubs Millswood, Coromandel Valley and Norwood.

After three days of keen competition Jeff Zweck (Coromandel Valley) was the victor with five wins, closely followed by Julie Barry (Millswood) and Karyn Speed (Tumby Bay), each with four wins. As nominal manager of the event, I take this opportunity to thank Joan Kelly, our AC Events Co-ordinator, for all her hard work in organising it. Thanks also to my fellow Glenunga players who came along to help me, and to the entrants who made the competition possible.

I encourage all AC players of that calibre to enter next time; if you'd really like to improve your game this is a great way to do it.
Tony Knight

Australian GC Gold Medal

Hosted by the Headland Buderim Croquet Club 28 - 30 Aug

The Gold Medal event is a highly prestigious event where the top seeded players from around Australia compete in a round-robin where each game is best of three. Edward Wilson from Millswood represented South Australia. There were five other players including Jack Williams (Vic), Gary Phipps (WA), Ross Rillie (Qld), Jamie Gumbrell (NSW) and Ben King (Tas).

A strong contingent of SA supporters were there to watch Edward take out the honour of being the Australian Gold Medalist.

Congratulations Ed!!

We are very proud of you.



Edward playing the winning shot



South Australian supporters



Mount Gambier Players Take a Trip to Portland

Inclement weather has prevented us from getting a result playing for our Laslett Cup in July. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us in August.

Our members have recently had a trip to Portland to play against other Victorian teams in social games. We had two wins and a couple more close ones. The members had a great day and enjoyed the hospitality of the Portland Club.

Jan Vitagliano

New Life Member at the Kadina Croquet Club

The Kadina Croquet Club held its AGM on 8th August and at the end of the proceedings, there was a big surprise for Malcolm Kinch. The club's secretary, Kathy Snodgrass announced that Malcolm was being awarded Life Membership of the KCC. It was a total surprise for Malcolm who was quite overcome with emotion.

The Club is very lucky to benefit from Malcolm's many talents. He is both club captain and captain of the winning Pennant team. Malcolm is a level 1 coach in Association Croquet but helps everyone at the club improve their technique as well as tactics. However, there is hardly a day that goes past when he is not at the club either in his capacity as head groundsman or tinkering around in the shed, making different gadgets to help him with all his 'jobs'. The beautiful lawns were greatly admired during the 2022 and 2023 Masters Games and they compare very favourably with the top croquet clubs in Adelaide.

He emigrated to Australia in 2007 and had never played croquet in the UK. He has been a member and tireless worker of the club for over 10 years and thoroughly enjoys the friendships that he has found there and feels very comfortable with the members.

As Malcolm said 'I don't come from Australia but now I really feel at home in Kadina and this Life Membership means everything to me.'

Many Congratulations on your very well-deserved Award.
Kadina Croquet Club

Life Member Malcolm Kinch with Kathy Snodgrass,
Kadina CC secretary



Do you have enough club members?

Croquet is a well-kept secret, but it would be great if more people understood and played the game.

There are lots of factors that impinge on the number of people who play. The health of a club, the membership numbers, the atmosphere, the politics, the personalities, the costs, the weather etc

Does this concern you?

Are you worried because your membership is dropping?

Do you want your club to grow?

Have you had “come and tries” but no new members as a result?

You’ve tried everything and nothing works!

If your answer’s Yes, believe it or not there is a solution. We can grow the membership of clubs and people who enjoy this intriguing game.

Publicising and promoting croquet successfully is a process.

Understanding the process will mean greater success.

So, consider this, I bet you’ve tried lots of events/activities and not got the new members you want. They’ve had fun and acquired some new skills but don’t want to join.

Firstly, study what motivated current members to join and play:

1. Were they introduced to the sport by a friend?
2. Were they a croquet widow/widower and joined?
3. Did they have an experience years before and put it on their bucket list?
4. Was their curiosity roused when out walking the dog?
5. Did they look over the fence and wonder what was going on?
6. Did they get a flyer in their letterbox?

These are real examples of current player’s drive, impetus or inspiration to join and play.

The key word is that they have become aware of the sport – creating awareness is the first step.

Think about the people who came to your ‘come and try’s’, corporate and social events, birthday parties etc. Your goal was to create an atmosphere, an experience, where your guests had fun and a positive experience of the game. They were laughing, competing with one another, whooping with joy when they made a hoop etc

It’s really satisfying to watch strangers having fun hitting balls through hoops and competing with one another.

What has happened is with all those people you’ve created a positive awareness of the sport.

The next step is to capitalise on this awareness.

Sally Harper
Norwood CC

Sally will pursue this idea of “capitalising on the awareness” in future issues of Hoop Points.

BRIGHTON ARMSTRONG CHALLENGE 2024

The Brighton Armstrong Challenge, Women's and Men's, was held from the 1st to the 4th of August. This tournament has now been running for more than a decade and is a regular on the SACA calendar.

Both events were very exciting with some incredibly close and challenging games.

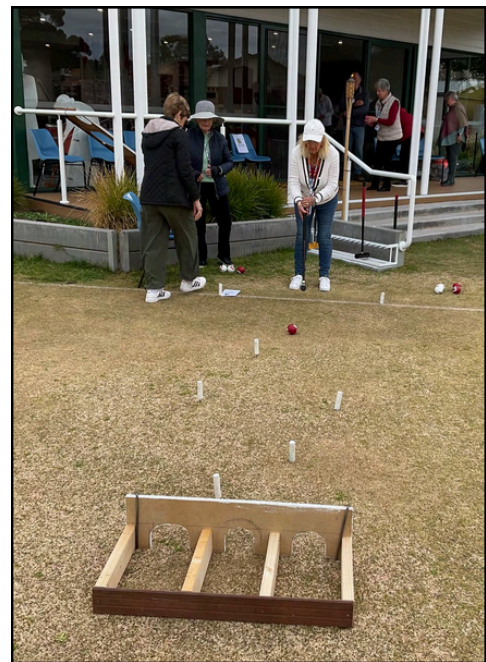
In the Women's, one outstanding player was Laura Eden who rose from 5th ranked player to 2nd after the round robin. The top four were Karen Magee (Brighton), Laura Eden (Tea Tree Gully), Virginia Arney (Norwood) and Anne Woodhouse (Brighton). After the Semi-Finals, Virginia and Anne played the Grand Final with Anne Woodhouse the eventual winner after winning both games of the two-game match.

For the Men's, one outstanding player was David Magee rising from 9th ranked player to 6th after the round robin. The top four were Dwayne McCormick (Norwood), Steve Condous (Hyde Park), Barry Jennings (Hyde Park) and Mark Senior (Hyde Park). Steve and Mark played the Grand Final after winning their respective Semi-Finals. The match was as close as it could possibly get with Steve needing to keep Mark to 3 hoops or less in order to win. The final score was 7-3!

Congratulations to both Anne Woodhouse and Steve Condous, the new Armstrong title holders.

Anne Woodhouse
Event Manager





Millswood Olympics

Plenty of action last month as players competed at the Millswood Olympics. Grant Lawrence set the opening scene with his torch then the games began. Selected country representatives rotated through the various games keeping their score sheets. No rest for Robert Brown who juggled duties as CEO and chief referee. After a delicious French themed lunch and a Quiz Session (for extra points) presentations were made. The hard working organiser group were presented with their medals prior to the games winners.

Multi skilled Julie Barry was Bronze Winner. Grant Lawrence the torch bearer was the Silver Medallist.

The coveted Gold Medal went to Gary Taylor.

Enthusiasm for the contested events and appreciation for the work that went into the day was evident. Players resting now before back to training for 2028.



Claire Wilson



Hard working organisers from left: Jenny Lucas, Robert and Virginia Brown, Kym Hill, Barbara Bertram and Jane Lewis.



Medal Winners
Grant Lawrence-silver, Gary Taylor- gold
and Julie Barry - bronze

UPCOMING EVENTS.....

Association Croquet

- 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 [Contact Karyn Speed at speedgk@bigpond.com](#)
OCT 16 - 21 Tumby Bay Tournament [Contact Karyn Speed at speedgk@bigpond.com](#)
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](#)
NOV 9 - 10 North Adelaide Games [By Invitation](#)
NOV 13 - 15 North Adelaide Swiss Games [Contact Roger Harris at roger.harris@unisa.edu.au](#)
NOV 16, 23,24 Weekend Pennants

Golf Croquet

- SEPT 8,21,28 Weekend Pennants
SEPT 9 Victor Harbor Gala Day [Contact janisjenkins22@gmail.com](#)
SEPT 9 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
SEPT 10 &17 5+ Spring Singles [Entries have closed](#)
SEPT 12 & 19 9+ Spring Singles [Entries have closed](#)
SEPT 16, 23 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
SEPT 30 Murray Bridge Gala Day [RSVP by 23rd Sept kkiel94@outlook.com](#)
OCT 4 Norwood Gala Day [RSVP by 20th Sept suelepoidevin54@gmail.com](#)
OCT 12 - 13 Brighton Dawson Challenge
OCT 14 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
OCT 16 North Adelaide Gala Day [RSVP by 13th Oct gearle@senet.com.au](#)
OCT 16,23 12+ Spring Singles
OCT 19,20 Weekend Pennants
OCT 21 Mt Barker Gala Day [RSVP by 19th Oct suzziiq2000@yahoo.com](#)
OCT 21 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
OCT 25 Glenunga Gala Day [Contact gregsyv@bigpond.net.au](#)
OCT 28 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
NOV 1 Holdfast Bay Gala Day
NOV 4,11 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
NOV 6 Tea Tree Gully Gala Day [RSVP by 25th Oct foxyaysh@bigpond.com](#)
NOV 7-8 Women's Open Spring Singles
NOV 9 -10 Men's Open Spring Singles
NOV 17 Weekend Pennants
NOV 18,25 Aggregate 24+ Pennants

Gateball

- NOV 29-30 SA President's Trophy

COLIN PICKERING NORTH ADELAIDE GAMES 2024
AC Swiss Handicap Singles
PRE-DRAWN SWISS SINGLES (All handicaps welcome)

Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 November 2024
(and perhaps Friday 15 Nov depending on numbers)



Likely commencement times: 9.00am, 11.40am and 2.20pm (For those who cannot play during the daytime, alternative arrangements may be negotiated.)

2½ hour matches – time after the bell. 4 games to be played.

Cost \$35 Preferred payment: North Adelaide Croquet Club Inc. BSB: 105068 Account:
041359040 Reference: your surname and ID number

Light refreshments will be provided (no meals).

Please notify any playing restrictions, and we will try to accommodate them.

Prizes given (value depending on the number of entries) to the Winner and Runner-up.

Please return the Application Form (attached): by Wednesday 30 October 2024 to:
roger.harris@unisa.edu.au

COLIN PICKERING
NORTH ADELAIDE GAMES 2024

APPLICATION FORM: PRE-DRAWN SWISS HANDICAP SINGLES
Entries close Wednesday 30 October 2024

1. Name:
2. Club:
3. Phone:
4. Email:
5. ID number:
6. Handicap:
7. Index:

8. Restrictions when you cannot play – dates and times:

Please return
by: Wednesday 30 October 2024
to: roger.harris@unisa.edu.au

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