

HOOP POINTS

SA AC Division 3 Singles 24 to 26 September 2024

The AC Division 3 Singles was played in very good conditions and in a very sociable way. The four players enjoyed playing two games a day and with no double banking on the courts. Steve Templeton was the winner with four matches and a margin of 11 hoops over Phil Bateman, who also had four wins that included twice pegging out. Due to the small field each player played each other twice. Hopefully this event will attract more players next year. Hyde Park were managers.
Philip Hadley



Mark Goldsmith, Steve Templeton (winner), Phil Bateman (runner up), Kevin Le Poidevin.



Vale Nancy Wittingham

Nancy was a physical education teacher and a skilled softball player and administrator, representing Australia on 33 occasions, prior to taking up croquet.

Nancy joined West Lakes Club and set about developing her croquet skills, becoming a very capable association player. Nancy was President of Croquet SA from 1997 to 2001 and was subsequently made a Life Member for her contribution to SACA in many areas. She was always an advocate for croquet's involvement in the Master's Games and put in many hours to ensure that a Calendar Of Events was collated, printed and distributed to clubs annually.

While Nancy had been unable to contribute to croquet for a number of years due to ill health her skills as a player and administrator ensure that her contributions to the croquet community will be greatly missed by those who knew her.





L=> R Alex Wilson, Peter Crook, Charlie and Oscar Tilbrook



Above Alex Wilson Runner up and Winner Peter Crook

Under 21 State Championships

The future is looking great for South Australian croquet. We held the ACA Bronze Medal for the under 21's at Hutt Road. We had four applicants. Peter Crook from Woodville, Alex Wilson, Charlie and Oscar Tilbrook from Brighton.

Peter Crook was the eventual winner and as such will represent South Australia in the under 21 championships next January.

Running this event was a joy. The lads were very enthusiastic and delightful to deal with. All players won at least one game and the final result was not assured until the last game.

Thank you Ansi for stepping up and helping to referee the tournament.

Ann and Kim Millhouse

Is it easier for country towns to have successful membership drives?

Doesn't everyone know everyone in the country?

Tell a few people, who like to talk, put a notice in the paper, flyers in the supermarket and you're away – tell me this isn't true?

It's the Christmas break for regular sports, the children are getting bored in the holidays, time for a Croquet Promotion.

What about:

- Twilight slot, BBQ when the light fades.
- Value your time, charge \$50 per couple – they'll want to get their monies worth, offer a concession.
- Suggest parent and child/ husband and wife.
- A 4-week program Aussie, golf keep them interested.
- Near then end when you can see they want more make an offer.
- Something like \$50 for 4 more lessons which will come off their membership when they join.
- Or a 4 week competition between your sponsors or a few of the businesses in town. ' Anytown summer croquet competition'. Teams of 2 or 4 having a hit/fun in the paper etc etc

For city clubs it'll have to be a Facebook promotion, letterbox drop etc.

Let me know what you think – am I barking up the wrong tree?? sponsorship@sacroquet.com.au

Sally Harper

SACA AC Open Women's Singles

The SACA AC Open Women's Singles event was played at Hutt Road on October 6th and 7th. Players from the Crystal Brook, Hyde Park, Victor Harbor and Norwood clubs took to the lawns in fine spirit and good weather to contest the event. Shirley Howlett won the day with three wins including two excellent peg-outs. Shirlene McBride, not having played competitively since the Eire Cup in March, was second also with three wins. Two players were on two wins, with Joan Kelly narrowly edging out Tracey Sincock for third place.



Winner Shirley Howlett



I encourage all women players to enter these events regardless of handicap. It was fun, the lower handicapped players were very encouraging, and I learnt a lot!

Joan Kelly, AC Events Coordinator.

Runner up Shirlene McBride gives us the thumbs up

Welcome Jess, the new Administrative Officer for SACA

I would like to welcome Jessica Pulford to Croquet SA as our new Administrative Officer.

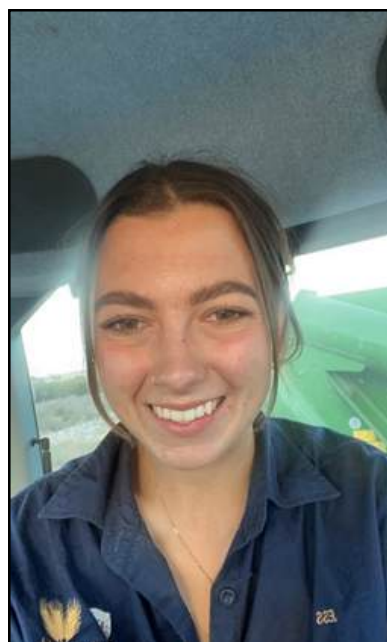
While Jess knows very little about croquet she is rapidly learning.

Jess is a very capable university student. She will be working 20 hours per week for us and will spend a significant portion of that time in the office at Hutt Rd. She will also be helping out, replacing Lorraine Smith as our bookkeeper and will work closely with our Treasurer, Tracey Sincock. I hope she also will progressively take over the membership management role.

Please bear with her as she learns the ropes.

If she is in the office at Hutt Rd, please feel free to drop in and introduce yourself and tell her a little about your club.

Graeme Thomas





Simon Hockey



Dwayne McCormick

SA AC Open Men's Singles

This tournament displayed some very fine Association Croquet by the five contestants with 19 of the 20 games played being pegged out. It also included a master class by Simon Hockey in how to peel your way to finish the game with 2 TPs and a QP. Referee James Temlett was kept quite busy watching hampered shots and wiring determinations over the two days. The weather was near ideal for top croquet. Players in finishing order were; S.Hockey (winner), D.McCormick (runner up), D.Short, M.Senior & G.Blatchford. Hyde Park managed the event.



Winner Simon Hockey and Runner up Dwayne McCormick

Philip Hadley



Glen Blatchford, David Short and Referee James Temlett



Mark Senior

Book Club Members Playing Croquet

Recently members of a book club who also enjoy croquet, took off on a trip to the Copper Coast to see some sights and to play croquet. The first two days were spent at the Kadina Croquet lawns where we were warmly greeted by Sandy and Jackie. Several competitive games were played where Kadina members paired up with visiting players. All the games were played in a friendly manner.

We learned about the wonderful initiatives being undertaken at Kadina where special needs students and primary aged students are playing croquet and how this experience is such a benefit to them.

On our way home we called in at The Salisbury club where we played some fun and friendly croquet games including Robbers and Pirates. We want to express our sincere gratitude to these clubs for hosting us and encourage others to do the same.



Annie and Jill Millhouse



Horsham 3-day Croquet Tournament

30th Oct -1st November 2024

A small group of enthusiastic South Australians travelled to Horsham Victoria on the banks of the Wimmera River to participate in this event. Horsham club is delightful with 4 lawns and 4 more on the tennis courts for use at tournament times.

Day 1 High/low level play, which was great fun ,5 games with new partners each time. We got to meet players from all over Victoria.

Day 2 was more serious, singles play in your handicap range, some of us opted out for a bit of shopping instead!!

Day 3 Handicap doubles, where we had to learn the best time to play your free shots.

Jill and Annie Millhouse did this well saving one for the 13th hoop, beating Rob & I

We South Australians acquitted ourselves well, with Ansi, Annie, and Jill Millhouse taking home prize money.

We had beautiful weather. The tournament was well run under the leadership of Ray Hill which include an organised dinner at the White Horse Inn and an evening meal at the clubhouse. Accommodation was easy with the Caravan Park with Cabins all within walking distance.

Great time was had by all and if you are looking for a tournament next year, we can fully recommend Horsham.

Virginia Brown

BRIGHTON DAWSON CHALLENGE 2024

The Dawson was held on the weekend of the 12th to 13th October.

Unfortunately, due to different situations, we had a small field of six. This, however, did not detract from the tournament at all and spectators were provided with an exhibition of some excellent croquet.

Hans Hiller and Anne Woodhouse (both from Brighton) were leading the tournament up to the very end but Laura Eden (Tea Tree Gully) was determined to catch the leaders. In the end she won the tournament by just two net hoops, a great achievement, with Anne Woodhouse runner up and Hans Hiller 3rd. All three won 7 out of 10 games.

Anne Woodhouse
Event Manager



Howard Wood and Anne Woodhouse



Howard Wood with tournament winner Laura Eden

UPCOMING EVENTS.....

Association Croquet

- 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

- 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](mailto:foxyaysh@bigpond.com)
- NOV 7-8 Women's Open Spring Singles [enter via SACA website](#)
- NOV 9 -10 Men's Open Spring Singles [enter via SACA website](#)
- NOV 10 Mt Gambier Gala Day
- NOV 17 Weekend Pennants
- NOV 18,25 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
- DEC 2 Aggregate 24+ Pennants
- DEC 7-8 19 Point Hoop Tournament [enter via SACA website](#)

Gateball

- NOV 29-30 SA President's Trophy



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EVENTS	Joan Kelly	0418851665 acevents@sacroquet.com.au
HANDICAPPING	Vacant	
REFEREEING	James Temlett	0400740333 acrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au
SELECTION	Dwayne McCormick	acselection@sacroquet.com.au
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COACHING	Laura Eden	0439890559 gccoaching@sacroquet.com.au
TEAM EVENTS	Karen Magee	0404174177 gcevents@sacroquet.com.au
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS	Ann Millhouse	0448460375 Annmillhouse19@gmail.com
HANDICAPPING SCORER	Sue Davel / Anne Woodhouse	0404727258 gchandicap@sacroquet.com.au 0417010048 gcscorer@sacroquet.com.au
REFEREEING	John Arney	0433015440 gcrefereeing@sacroquet.com.au
SELECTION	Mick Reidy	0413298301 gcselection@sacroquet.com.au
SECRETARY	Maryanne Maycock	0408081002 gcsecretary@sacroquet.com.au
GATEBALL		
STATE GATEBALL COORDINATOR	Geoff Crook	0444 549 976 gateball@sacroquet.com.au
OTHER OFFICEHOLDERS		
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Jess Pulford	info@sacroquet.com.au
REGISTRATIONS OFFICER	Warwick O'Brien	membership@sacroquet.com.au
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Vacant	website@sacroquet.com.au
HOOP POINTS EDITOR	Jill Millhouse	0439088704 newsletter@sacroquet.com.au
SPONSORSHIP COORDINATOR	Sally Harper	0400294455 sponsorship@sacroquet.com.au
ARCHIVIST	Vacant	
MEMBER PROTECTION INFORMATION OFFICER	Ansi Baumanis	0421289844 welfare@sacroquet.com.au
CALENDAR COORDINATOR	Peter Martynuik	0408277689 calendar@sacroquet.com.au
GRANTS OFFICER	Graeme Thomas	0408843526 grants@sacroquet.com.au
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