
NORTH ADELAIDE CROQUET CLUB NEWSLETTER

Menzies Crescent, Prospect 5082

CHRISTMAS EDITION



No matter how you view it, the Festive Season really is the most wonderful time of the year! Here at the Club, we love it! Whether, it's donning that daggy Christmas jumper, curling up with a glass of eggnog or VB or watching a Christmas movie where it's snowing, it's impossible to deny, it's the season to be merry! So why not put on your daggiest red or green outfit and join us on 8 December for a fun filled and exciting Christmas Lunch. Start the day with a rollicking game of croquet before enjoying a drink at the Badger & Mallet prior to a delicious lunch provided by Annie's Kitchen, commencing at 12.30 pm.



Club Closure

Important Notice - The final games of the year will be held on Tuesday, 11 December (Golf Croquet) and Thursday, 13 December (Association Croquet). William has advised:

"The Greensman is scarifying the courts on Wednesday, 12 December - but it's ok to play after 6.30 pm. However, after that he has free rein on the courts - to do coring and dressing etc. Playing on courts after dressing depends on how quickly the lawns grows through the sand and that will depend on sand thickness (ie how deep are the sunken areas), rain, heat etc. He estimates it will take till the 7 January, but there are a few unknowns there. We cannot play on it until he starts mowing again".

Games will start again the week commencing 7 January 2019 unless advised otherwise.

Club Highlights

2018 has been a busy year and some of the highlights this year included: the Club purchased a set of Quadway hoops in March, which allowed members to practice on hoops used in competitions at other clubs. Our lights were upgraded to new LED lights, thanks to grants received from the City of Prospect and the Marshall Government. We replace our solar inverter, serviced our solar panels and the electrical switchboard was upgraded. The City of Prospect provided a new first aid kit, which has been installed next to the defibrillator in the kitchen.

It was a busy year for our Association Croquet members, as the *69th Association Croquet Interstate Carnival* was held in March at a number of clubs across the metro area, including our Club and the *North Adelaide Games* were held in November/December. During the Carnival, it was the first opportunity we had to use our new hoops and lights in a competitive setting. I must point out members from both codes supported these events and I would like to thank all those members for their participation, regardless of their role. However, special thanks should go out to the Event Organisers, Janet, Kay & Alf.

The Golf Croquet members were also busy this year with more members participating in competitions at home and away. The *NorthWood* competition was held in May with Norwood hosting this event. Even though we were unable to bring the cup back, the members who participated enjoyed this event and as usual, Norwood was a great host. The Club's GC Ladder Challenge is still ongoing and will finish prior to the AGM in July 2019.

The AGM saw a changing of the guard with a new President, new Club Captains, and Floor Members joining the Committee. The Minutes of these meetings are displayed on the notice board for members and relevant information is published in the Newsletter.

Raising funds for the Club is important in order to keep our subscriptions low and to keep the Club running, and I would like to thank Jocelyn for organising the *People's Choice Community Lottery*; Sue and Shuana for organising the trading table, and of course those members who have brought in goods to put on the trading table.

The Committee approved an extra days play in October with members playing singles on Friday afternoons from 3.30-5.30 pm. Even though this was suspended during November due to the North Adelaide Games, the initial weeks leading up to the games were well supported. Sunday sessions were also introduced late in the year, with members enjoying a social game on the first and fourth Sundays of the month. This is an excellent time to come out, have a fun game of croquet and a social drink and/or bar snacks with members.

Normally I wouldn't give my thanks to one member of the Club because so many participate, but I would like to thank William, our Groundsman for all the work he and his team have done during the year. This includes: supporting the events mentioned above; normal play days; a number of working bees; and of course managing the installation of the new LED lights; and the general maintenance of the Club. Thanks should also go out to Colin, Shuna and Sandra for the maintenance of the rose garden, which is looking wonderful. I also can't forget Janice & Jocelyn for housekeeping support; Dan for his support to the Badger and Mallet, the Club's bar; the Club Captains for organising games at home and away; and finally all the members who support the Club throughout the year.

Notes from the President

Next year North Adelaide will run the following events at our grounds: 9+, 6+ and Open competitions; a Gala Day; and the NorthWood Sunday event. We will also manage three Golf Croquet events and some Association Events at SACA, dates are yet to be confirmed. These events and the dates will be published in the Newsletter in the new year.

We are clearly an efficient club which contains friendly people who compete in the right spirit. We are also a very social club with many social events catering for friendships and well being. You can feel most proud of your club.

Committee Information

New Floor Member - Due to Sue Huddy's resignation from the position of floor member, this position was advertised and two members put their names forward. It was agreed at the Committee meeting held on Monday, 3 December that Annette Clark will be appointed as Sue's replacement. Annette is an

Association croquet member and also our Bookings Officer, so if you have a complaint or would like to raise an issue with the Committee, please speak to either Annette or Gayle Searle.

Club Wheelchair - The Club has now purchased a wheelchair to assist members getting off the courts, if required. A second hand, but good quality wheelchair can be found in the equipment room. If a member of the Club requires assistance, this wheelchair can be used, however it is to remain at the Club at all times.

Club's Constitution & By-Laws - Copies of the Club's *Constitution* and *By-Laws* will soon be available on our Website.

Club Maintenance - Please be aware that over the Christmas break, the floors in the main Clubroom will be cleaned and polished. Our cleaning contractor has also changed and we now welcome Annie, who is scheduled to clean the Club on Sunday evenings.

Club Events for 2019 - A program of events has been scheduled by the Committee. These events have now been submitted to SACA and can be found on the SACA Calendar.

Event Organiser Vacancy - Following Sue Huddy's resignation, this position is now vacant. The duties of this position, include:

- In consultation with the Club Captains and Vice Captains organise club croquet events.
- Arrange, prepare and devise paperwork for running of event.
- Organise and record information of participants, their achievements and awards.
- Report to the Committee through appropriate Club Captain.

If you are interested in filling this position, please send your nomination to the Secretary.

Club Diary - If you place an entry in the diary, please print your name and the date after the entry.

Notes from the Secretary

Club bookings - It's been a busy time since the last newsletter and my sincere thanks go out to all those members who supported events held at our Club this year. This is a way of raising money for the Club, but we need members to support these event, either at the bar, in the kitchen or on the courts. Recent visitors to the Club include the Member for Adelaide electorate office; Barry's PhD group; and the Kiwanis Club of Prospect. The President of the Kiwanis asked me to thank all the members who volunteer their time to make their Christmas Party an enjoyable evening. They learnt a lot about croquet and would like to return in the future.

Share the Dignity - Each year *Share the Dignity* collects handbags filled with personal care products. These Christmas gifts are then distributed to homeless, at-risk and women experiencing domestic violence. Firstly, thank you to Sue for organising this collection on behalf of the Club. Sue advised that she was able to fill eight handbags to the hilt with the items provided by members, so thank you to all those members who contributed. To learn more about this initiative, go to the Bunnings website at <https://www.bunnings.com.au/its-in-the-bag>.

Sponsor's Challenge - We have invited our Sponsors to participate in a mini tournament on Friday, 18 January 2019, commencing at 6 pm. We will require members to participate in this event and I will send out an email in the new year if this event goes ahead. A light supper will be supplied and you are all welcome - this event will give members an opportunity meet our sponsors.

Club Pens - We have purchased some club pens, which are red and have the North Adelaide Croquet Club name and phone number on them in white ink. These pens have a stylus at the end, which can be used on your eDevices. The cost is \$3 each. If you would like to purchase a pen, head to the Badger and Mallet and speak to Dan who will be selling these at the bar.

Notes from the AC Captain

Janet reported that November and December has been extremely busy with the *North Adelaide Games Swiss Singles* and the *Invitational* event. Shirlene McBride and Dwayne McCormick were joint winners of the Swiss Singles Championship with Ron McBride and Tony Hickinbottom winning the sectional prizes. Annette Clark won the Swiss Handicap and Kevin Le Poidevin was runner-up. The invitation singles for men was once again won by Dwayne McCormick, making it the fifth consecutive win; and the women's event winner was Robyn Short, this is the third time she has won this event. Runners-up were Harley Watts (Mens) and Virginia Arney (Womens). David O'Loughlin, Mayor of the City of Prospect and Eileen Fergusson, President of Croquet SA presented the prizes at the presentation dinner. Thank you to all those members who helped to make this a successful event.

Notes from the GC Captain

The Spring Pennants concluded on Wednesday, 5 December and Thursday, 6 December and it has been an enjoyable time for all players involved. While final positions are not in yet, congratulations must be given to the 6+ team who, at last count, were placed third. Since then, they have beaten the top team, Brighton, so we will wait with bated breath!!! Well done Lynn Hughes, Barry Elsey, Peter Swalling, Monika Curtis, Joe Driver, David Stumm and Roger Harris. One of our two 9+ teams is also sitting third. Well done to Carlyne Fraser, William Pennino, Sandra Rawlings, Shuna Pickering, Jane Moore, Jean Solly and Sue LePoidevin. Finally, well done to the Open and the second 9+ teams. They were competitive each week and represented the club well. We are all especially grateful to Joan Cahill and Ann Gill who filled in due to illness of team players.



Notes from the Bar Member

The Badger and Mallet (BAM), your Bar, your Club. The BAM is going from strength to strength with *Mallet Swinging Sessions* on Fridays and *Sunday Sessions* growing in numbers - take the time to relax and enjoy your bar. Drink of the month *Aperol Spritz* - **Step 1.** Add crushed ice in a designer glass; **Step 2.** add a BAM sized nip of Aperol; **Step 3.** add equal quantity of Prosecco; **Step 4.** add soda water to taste; **Step 5.** garnish with orange slices. Your old favourites are still there, relax with a *G & T* as the sun beats down; or even a refreshing *Stone's Green Wine and Soda*. Note, *Porter* is a delightful drink that can be consumed during the summer months - not too heavy, not too light - like an angle crying on your tongue.

The staff of the BAM wish each and every one of you a wonderful Christmas and look forward to serving you in the new year.

It's all about the Game

GC Handicap Doubles - What a great turn out from members of the Club. It was a fantastic competition with many people getting used to using their free shots and it was good to see people working together in teams. Winners were Kevin & Sue LePoidevin, runners up were David Stumm & Judy Bailey.



It was great to see one of our members being selected for the Golf Croquet State team - congratulations Norma! Norma also competed in the Championships held in Cairnlea, Victoria; and was the winner of the GC Spring Singles 5+.

Congratulations to Carolyn Fraser for being runner-up of the GC Spring Singles 9+.



For the full stories about these wins, go to the SACA website at <https://www.croquetsa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Hoop-Points-November-2018.pdf>.

Congratulations to Peter Swalling on becoming a5. Next year he will compete in the open team. Well done, well earned.

New Rules for GC Information Session - SACA is holding an information session on Friday, 14 December from 10 am to 12 noon at Hutt Road; or if there are too many registrations they will hold another session on Thursday, 13 December from 1.30 - 3.30 pm. These new rules are coming into force in Australia on the 1 January 2019. This seminar is open to all members and SACA is recommending that two members of each club attend. Registrations are a must and members should RSVP by 10 December to annewoodhouse4@gmail.com.

Introduction to Croquet "Come & Try" - This event was run in April and continuously throughout the later part of the year. A sign is now placed at the front of the Club inviting people to come in and have a go. A big thanks to Lynn for organising this initiative and mentoring members of the public who have shown their interest. Remember, if you know of anyone who might be interested, suggest they drop in and have a go.

Barry's PhD Group - During the year, Barry has been an ambassador to the game by inviting his international students to experience this wonderful game. This culminated with their Christmas get together, with a friendly game of croquet and a meal before the students returned home overseas. Thank you Barry for not only promoting the game of croquet, but also our Club and our great State.



SACA Presentation Day 2018 - It's almost the end of the year and Presentation Day is fast approaching. On behalf of the SACA Board they invite all members to attend, especially those who have been fortunate to win an event during the year. This event will be held at Hutt Road on Saturday, 15 December commencing at 11 am followed by a shared lunch - please bring a plate and the bar will be open.

Social Events in the Club

2018 Overview - We had a number of successful events during the year with a Square Dancing evening in May; a Musical and Afternoon Tea in October; a number of members celebrated their birthdays at the Club, and it was wonderful to see both Elsie & Patrick celebrate their 99th birthdays; and Trevor celebrate his 70th birthday. The last function of the year will be the Christmas lunch, scheduled for this Saturday. Just be aware there is the *Prospect Christmas Eco Market* at the RSL Hall from 9 am - 1 pm on the 8 December, so parking may be a premium. However, you might want to pick up a last minute Christmas present before the lunch, so that could be a positive thing.

A big thanks to Lynn and her team of willing helpers in the kitchen; and Dan and his team in the bar.

Wine Down - There will be no Wine Down in December and the first one for 2019 will be held on the 18 January 2019. This event has been very successful throughout the year and is well supported by members and Friends of the Club.

Sunday Sessions - If you have a few hours free (from 3 pm to 5pm) on the 1st and 4th Sunday of the month, come along and enjoy a game or two (both codes) - the *Badger & Mallet* will be open with light bar snacks.

Trading Table - We are always looking for quality pre-loved clothing, books, jigsaw puzzles and household goods for the Trading Table. Items can be left in the named box near the table for Sue to price and display. All money raised goes towards keeping our great club operating well.

Social Lunch - These social get-togethers are held on the first Tuesday of each month. The next lunch will be held on Tuesday, 5 February at 12 noon at a nearby hotel (determined the week prior to the lunch).

Thank you to Lynn and Libby for organising these lunches. Libby is now the point of contact, so put your name on the list and enjoy the company of club members. If for any reason you cannot attend once you have indicated you will do so, please give Libby a ring so she can amend her numbers.

Sausage Sizzle - The next sausage sizzle will be held on Saturday, 30 March, so put your name on the list if you would like to attend. PS. Don't forget to put the onions on first.

Websites of Interest

NACC Website - Alf is currently updating our web page - I will advise you of the link when it has been published.

Croquet SA, Hoop Points Newsletter, the latest version is November 2018 - <https://www.croquetsa.com.au/newsletters/>.

The Senior Newspaper - you can view this paper online at <https://www.thesenior.com.au> or subscribe to the latest news by clicking on links in the upper right of the page and enter your email address.

Newsletters

A reminder that this Newsletter is a collaborate effort from members of the club. If you have something to add, please email it to Tamara or place any articles for inclusion in her pigeon hole. If you have not received your newsletter electronically and you have an email address, please update your details or send your details to tamara.rebbeck@bigpond.com. A small number of copies will be printed off in hardcopy for those members who do not use computers or electronic devices. Note, a copy will also be uploaded to our web page.

Sponsors

The North Adelaide Croquet Club is proudly sponsored by *Alfred James Funeral Homes; Harris Real Estate; the Member for Adelaide; and the City of Prospect Council.*



Quote of the Month

“Once she remembered trying to box her own ears for having cheated herself in a game of croquet she was playing against herself, for this curious child was very fond of pretending to be two people.”
— Lewis Carroll