



From the Editors - Barry Elsey & Gayle Searle

As a moderate summer slips away, the best time of year quietly enters with hints of mellow fruitfulness and showers as autumn grows around us and club members gear up to Pennant competitions. The courts of SACA are ablaze with our red tops. Old friendships are pleasantly renewed with members of other clubs. The spirit of Pennant competition is usually a friendly battle, but always keenly played, whether we win or lose. The club is fielding several teams and the question keeps arising whether we stretch our playing talents too thinly in a commendable effort to give everyone a fair go. I'm on the side of 'fair go' to anyone wanting to play competition. But maybe it is not the best strategy for winning Pennants. Please make your thoughts known about this matter, going forward. The management committee will take the matter seriously.

There is no lack of action in the NACC with various GC and AC competitions, our involvement with the Australian Master's Games, scheduled for October, our Gala Day, an important event and fund raiser, after which we take on Norwood in our annual Northwood Friendlies encounter. Who could forget the washout of last year? We won however so let's do it again.

A very important feature of the club is the care and attention given to those members needing medical care and recovery. We all know about the wonderful memory of Glenda in remembering anniversaries. It has been observed before, and well worth repeating, that the club is attentive to the needs of members that are put out of action after surgery and health care treatments. However, we could possibly do more to ensure that no club member feels isolated during the often-slow road to playing croquet again. We must also remember those members experiencing the grieving process after losing loved ones. The management committee are always open to 'room for improvement' suggestions about keeping tabs on our health conditions, after-care practices and personal support during difficult times. Please let us know what you think about this important aspect of our club culture.

We start 'wine downs' after the summer break and will continue with different offerings presented by Lynn and Karen. We are always budget conscious, while seeking new recipes. Please remember to also support the twice monthly social Sundays, which is a nice way to introduce newcomers to playing croquet. I have found from past experience genuine interest in the game by otherwise busy people, as an enjoyable way to relax on an occasional Sunday.

Finally, quiet steps are being taken to engage with neighbourhood business and commercial outlets and invite them to the club for social croquet and team bonding activity. A similar approach is being made to Prospect Council and our State MP to visit the club to play with members. The simple strategy is to get us better known as a valuable community-building resource, as well invite them to support our more ambitious projects (such as the Australian Master's Games). There is no harm in reaching out.

Association Croquet News – Roger Harris

Night Doubles

These matches were played between 16 January and 6 March 2023 on Monday evenings.

North Adelaide entered three of the seven teams in Division 3 (the others being Norwood two, Hyde Park one and Salisbury one):

- NA White: Kevin Le Poidevin (Captain) and Norma Greig – came 2nd, with 5 wins
- NA Red: Roger Harris (Captain) and Janet Willshire – came 3rd, with 3 wins
- NA Blue: Barbara Stanley (Captain) and Lyn Booth – came 6th, with 2 wins

Norwood Bushrangers (Joan “Ned” Kelly and Liz Mackenzie) won with 6 wins.

Weekend Pennants

Weekend Pennants commenced on Saturday 25 February and will continue to 18 November.

North Adelaide has entered one Division 2 team and this year two Division 3 teams (our one team won the flag last season):

- Division 2: Captain – Kevin Le Poidevin
- Division 3 NA White: Captain – Kevin Le Poidevin
- Division 3 NA Red: Captain – Roger Harris

So far, only two matches have been played.

Norwood AC Tournament

The Norwood AC Tournament was held on Wednesday 15 February (Doubles) and Thursday 16 to Sunday 19 February (Singles). Those playing doubles were pre-paired by the Tournament Director (Greg Rowberry, Norwood). The weather was hot, and so was the croquet! “Thirty four croquet enthusiasts from all around the State braved heatwave conditions”, proclaimed *Hoop Points!*

In the **Block 4 Doubles** (4 pairs), **Roger Harris (NACC)** and Kate Logan (Victor Harbor) came 1st with 2 wins and +4 net hoops, from second placegetters Karyn Speed (Tumby Bay) and Julianne Jago (South Terrace) with 2 wins and 2 net hoops.

Norma Greig (NACC) and Karen Magee (Brighton) came 3rd with one win (0 net hoops)

In the **Block 4 Singles** (8 players), Kate Logan won with 6 wins (+14 net hoops) and **Roger Harris** came second with 5 wins (+29 net hoops).

Norma Greig (5th) played extremely well considering she is still learning AC, winning 4 games (0 net hoops).

AC Handicap Doubles (12+ combined)

The 12+ Handicap Doubles tournament is being held from 21-23 March 2023 at Hutt Road. The following pairs will be playing: Russell Kopp / Janet Willshire, Kevin Le Poidevin / Roger Harris, and Norma Greig / Roger Buddle.

Colin Pickering North Adelaide Games 2023

A reminder that these Games have been booked for the following dates:

- **Invitation Singles:** Friday night 10/11, Saturday 11/11 and Sunday 12/11.
- **Swiss Singles:** Wednesday 15/11, Thursday 16/11 and Friday 17/11.

Roger Harris

AC Captain, North Adelaide Croquet Club

Golf Croquet News – Sue LePoidevin

We are off to a very busy start with Golf Croquet. Of the 63 club members that we have 33 of them are playing in Golf Pennant Competitions which is excellent. There are a range of different competitions including: -

- **Weekend Pennants** played at Hutt Road (Open, 2x 5+ Teams and 2x 9+ Teams)
- **Autumn Pennants** played at Home/Away venues (Open, 5+, 2 x 9+)
- **24+** played at Hutt Road (3 x teams - North Adelaide White, Blue and Red)
- **12+** - this is the first time this competition has been played and we have entered a team.



Our inaugural **12+** team is pictured above. **Wendy Carter** is the Captain, with team members Phil Burford, Ronald Donato, Eleanor Barnard, Pam Miller and Elizabeth Freda, combining to give it their best shot. They are showing a lot of promise

By being inclusive, and encouraging as many people to play who want to give it a go, we have a healthy list of players to draw from. I am very appreciative of the team **Captains - Kevin, Marianne, Jon, Gayle, Karen and Wendy** for their excellent organisational skills. It certainly makes my job easier.

While winning Pennants is a good outcome I strongly believe that encouraging as many people to play as possible should be our aim. Getting out in the fresh air, exercising, using the grey matter to determine what shots to play and having fun in a social setting is so beneficial to all of us. Donning the red and white uniform and being part of a team is a great experience and makes us all feel proud.

Another way of developing that feeling of club pride is to support our club on **Gala Day**. As a major fundraiser for the club I am asking that every member contributes in some way. Whether it is to

- bake or provide some food for the players from other clubs who are paying \$25 for a 3-course lunch
- help to set up for the meal and work in the kitchen
- set up the lawns and be a Marshall for the day
- Pack it all away so the weary who have been there all day can go home!
- Donate prizes for the **Raffle**- wine, chocolates, toiletries, beer, nuts, vouchers (do you know a business owner who could donate a voucher?), hand towels etc or
- donate an amount of cash so that we can purchase Quiches and sandwiches which will increase the profit for the club. Thank You to the 7 members who have generously already done this.

Every contribution will benefit all of our members. Please contact Sue if you can help in any way.

Please name all of your belongings, especially your mallet, when playing at Hutt Rd. It is very easy to lose items when people take them mistakenly.

Congratulations to Laura Eden, Jim Carter and Robin Golding who recently represented our club in the Silver Medal event at Hutt Rd. 6x 1-hour Singles games a day, over 3 days, is not an easy task. They did very well with Laura coming 2nd and Jim third overall. Thank You to all members who attended the games and supported them so well. They really appreciated your support.

The little things really do count. Have you noticed that there are often cakes or some nice Morning Tea item ready for us at break time? More often than not these items have been brought along, freshly baked, by **Elizabeth. Thank You Elizabeth!**

The **Trading Table** is desperately in need of donations to refresh the stock and keep people interested. Household items, clothes, books, fresh produce like jams and marmalades (**THANK YOU Barbara**), garden vegies and fruit are all useful. All profits go to the club. Please place in the blue hamper near the Trading Table for Sue to price and display.

Many, many hours of study go in to getting qualified as a **Referee**. Our club is very fortunate to have 2 excellent Referees in **David Stumm and Kevin Le Poidevin**. They are constantly sought out as Referees for events at Hutt Road. Kevin has been volunteering at 12+ games which is very important in giving newer players an opportunity to learn the rules correctly. David has done many hours of volunteering too (often after he has already played 3 Open games) and they are long days. They have regular meetings with all of the other Referees and are constantly training. It has come to my attention, after complaints from some of our club members, that our Club Referees are not being respected by a small group of NACC players. This is extremely disappointing. If you are in a game and you request the help of Kevin or David you should appreciate their advice, not abuse it. In a formal game you may be penalised, so Club play should be no different. Please everyone **treat our referees with respect**.

Our beautiful **Rose Garden** is in desperate need of some light pruning, dead heading and weeding. Can anyone spare half an hour to tidy it up please?

Sue Le Poidevin
Golf Croquet Captain

North Adelaide Club GC Gala Day

We will be holding our **Golf Croquet Gala Day on Friday 21/4/23** from 9:30am-3pm.

There will be 4 games, 3 before lunch and 1 after lunch.

For a **cost of \$25** you will receive Morning Tea, Afternoon Tea and a delicious 3 course lunch.

The Bar will be open from Lunch time onwards. There will be prizes for the 1st and 2nd players and a Raffle.

We can host **32 players**. We will keep a list of reserves in case of cancellations.

Please SMS either Sue Le Poidevin (0411134161) Kevin Le Poidevin (0403836954) or email

Please provide us with your name, croquet club, Handicap and phone contact details.

We are looking forward to hosting you for a fun filled day of Croquet.



Notes from the Badger and Mallet

Dear All, the Badger and Mallet is the place to be seen at for your next Birthday party and Robyn is doing an excellent job of bringing in functions for the end of the year, so if you are thinking about having a party please check with the Social Activities Group to assist in any deconfliction.



For the Wine drinkers - we have just got in some seriously delicious yet nutritious Grant Burge Shiraz (limited amount - so get in early) at our normal ridiculous price.

Please don't forget our other special Grant Burge Pinot Noir is still available.

According to the BMI chart in my Doctors office - I'm too short!

Cheers Dan

from The Badger and Mallet, your club, your bar.

Come & Try Croquet

Five members of U3A Inner North (formerly U3A Prospect) have begun 4 sessions of Come & Try Croquet on Tuesdays 1.00 – 3.00pm. They are being organised by Gayle and sessions will be occurring on March 21 & 28 and April 4 & 11. This is a way to introduce newcomers to our Club with the hope that they might be interested in continuing to play. As a member of U3A, I have offered to share this opportunity for others to learn about and enjoy our fun social game.

Our Sunday afternoon sessions also provide an opportunity for other Club members to bring along friends to have a try in a relaxed setting. Barry has on many occasions, taken this opportunity with the result that a couple of new members have joined our Club.

Maintaining our Club and its membership is up to us all, so please consider how you might assist in introducing the game we all love playing to some of your friends. Tuesday and Saturday mornings are a little challenging initially for newcomers but to have a more relaxed and individual instruction time allows for more successful come & try outcomes. Let's all work together on encouraging more people to Come & Try Croquet.

Gayle Searle

XIX Australian Masters Games 2023

Robin Golding has put her hand up this year to Coordinate the GC Croquet events for this years Australian Masters Games. Recently there was an official venue reveal for the Games village and social programs. Robin went along to the event and can be seen here with Jane Woodlands-Thompson (CEO of Masters Games) and Mike Smithson (Channel 7)



Robin has been working hard already with many of the early administrative requirements prior to the October Games. There is a Newsletter – Monthly Masters if anyone is interested in keeping up with all the latest news. To register go to amg.admin@unisport.com.au

We will be hearing more from Robin over the next few months as organisation revs up closer to the event.



Enjoy precious times with family, friends and neighbours. Find some happiness in every day.

Gayle Searle

