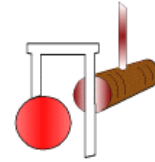


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# CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB

Email: [info@cornwall-croquet.org.uk](mailto:info@cornwall-croquet.org.uk)

Net: [cornwall-croquet.org.uk](http://cornwall-croquet.org.uk)



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## Newsletter No. 48 March 2009

### Chairman's Corner

By the time that you read this, the new season will be upon us, the sun will be shining and we shall all be out on the lawns enjoying ourselves. The season opens on the **4<sup>th</sup> April** with a Club Association afternoon. Club afternoons will now start at 2.00 pm. Unfortunately, the lawns will not be available for the club afternoon on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April**, as there is a training course taking place on the **14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**. This is a course for those wanting to act as coaches (for both codes). There will be 13 members of the club on it, so we shall have plenty of help with the coaching in the coming year. There is also a course running on the morning of the **16<sup>th</sup>**, but should be completed before the club afternoon starts. However, if the course does run over, please be patient. Don't panic, if you see a camper van parked beside the pavilion, it will be Cliff Jones's, one of the persons running the course. He'll be there for three nights from the Monday. Matches and training do sometimes close the lawns for both ordinary days and club days, so please check your fixture list before you arrange to play.

The booking forms will normally have the match days shown, even if they are not on the fixture list – matches and other events sometimes have to be re-arranged, and these cannot be on the fixture list. When booking, please indicate which game you are playing, ie G or A.

The wet autumn and winter have encouraged a lot of moss to grow on lawn 1. This is partly due the fact that vertidrainage has not been possible until two weeks ago. The lawn has been treated and is improving, but we need to keep off it as much as possible until the end of April at least. Therefore, please do not use the lawn 1 except for League matches and coaching sessions, if required. For club days in April, lawn 2 will be laid out as two half lawns. Thank you to those who have been working on the lawns during March. Lawn 2 is in very good condition, following treatment to eliminate the worst of the hollows way back in October. Thanks also to two Tonys and Colin for getting the lawns ready.

We have been donated a mobile phone for use at the club. It will not permit outgoing calls, but will receive calls and be useful to have when visiting clubs are delayed, or lost, and wish to alert us to their plight. The number is **07974 622820** and can be given to contacts by team managers when arranging match times etc. We'll find a place to keep it, where it is not on display to anybody looking through the windows; probably in one of the cupboards. Somebody needs to remember to switch it on and off on match days, tournament days etc. I suggest that the number is also put onto our web site.

David had a hip replacement last week: he is back home and all is well. We look forward to your return to the fray, David. He was also a joint winner (sorry for that pun) of the winter short-lawn competition, so what's he going to be like when he isn't hampered by his hip? Strangely enough the other joint winner was also seen to be limping, but modesty forbids that I mention the name: you'll have to read Richard's report below.

The first of the Golf League matches will be at Porthpean on Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup>, when Cornwall will host the team from Porthpean. If you are slightly confused, we are fielding two teams this year; one called Cornwall and the other Porthpean. This has to be the first match of the season, so that there is no danger of one team throwing the match, later in the season, to benefit the other team!! There will be no club afternoon that day, but the lawns should be free from about 4.30 pm if anybody wants to play. You are welcome to come and watch beforehand, as you will be for any of the home league games of either persuasion. We normally provide a tea for visiting clubs after league matches. It is usual for team members to bring a contribution, and for somebody to volunteer to set it out and to serve it. If you would be prepared to do a tea duty, please let Joyce know so that she can make a rota. There will be lists going up on the notice boards to indicate those available to play in the various league matches. If you wish to be considered, and are available for specific dates, then please add your name. You are not expected to be available for every match in your particular league, but you are expected to be available for some of the away games as well as home ones. It is interesting to see how other clubs fare, and to play on un-familiar lawns. It is also good experience, and enjoyable, to play members of other clubs. See the two team groups on page 3.

If you haven't handed your handicap card(s) in for inspection, please do so ASAP. Those who have should find their cards in the box in the clubhouse

We have lost a few members from last season, but hope to enrol some more from the two Open Days and other events. Last year the Open Days went very well, as there were lots of members there to help and to make visitors welcome. I hope that we can repeat the recipe on May 4<sup>th</sup>, which is the first. Anybody, who can place a poster somewhere, please take one when they are ready. It is good to welcome Tony Jennings back into the playing membership, and we also welcome yet another Tony (Allkins) and his wife Yvonne (Social Member). Tony A did the Basic coaching course last year, but was unable to join the club at the time.

Have a good season

Ron.

## IMPROVER COACHING 2009 STARTS ON TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL

The uptake for improver coaching this year has been encouraging, with 25 members applying, some for more than one session, so there are 38 person-sessions booked. The coaching programme starts with Level 1 on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April. The list of participants is displayed in the clubhouse. All those who have applied have been accepted, and all those applying for sessions scheduled for April have been informed by telephone or email.

All sessions run from 10:30 am to 1:00pm, with lawns booked for the afternoon for coached/observed games to consolidate the coaching topics. The subsequent sessions are: Tuesday 21st April, Level 2; Thursday 23rd April, Golf Croquet; Monday 27th April, Level 4; Tuesday 14th July, Level 3; Friday 4th September, Level 5.

The pool of members giving coaching will shortly be enhanced, as several members will be attending a course for coaches on 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> April, and we will be wanting to involve them as soon as possible in the coaching programme.

Richard.

## David and Ron win the SHORT CROQUET WINTER COMPETITION

Congratulations to David Edwards and Ron George, who are joint winners of the Short Croquet competition that has been played over the winter period. At its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March the committee accepted this recommendation from me, after I had analysed the accumulated results sheets that were left in the noticeboard file. The committee also decided to use this competition as the basis for the award of the Edwards Cup, which accordingly goes jointly to David and Ron.

Back in November I put on the noticeboard a scheme for scoring, along with a table to allocate players according to letters drawn from a bag. The participation has been very good, with a total of 18 players competing on 11 occasions, with as many as 11 players on one afternoon. Of the 18 participants, there were 7 who had played sufficient games for a fair comparison to be made, and of these David and Ron were jointly the best.

Short Croquet is a distinct version of Association Croquet, its special features being set out in Appendix 7 of the Laws. These features are likely to result in a more interactive game, for the following reasons:

- as the lawn is smaller you are generally more likely to hit-in
- more wiring lifts arise because the wiring law is more restrictive in that it applies only to partner balls, not to all balls
- as compared with the normal 14-point game you get fewer bisques (about 1/3 fewer), but the game is played full-bisque, which means there is usually more opportunity to take the innings and perform a useful break than if you

played just to bisque-difference or to a base greater than scratch

- players with Association Croquet handicaps better than 1.5 are required to do a specified minimum number of peels of partner ball (up to 3), making the game more challenging for them.

Richard.

Visit the club web sites

**[www.Cornwall-Croquet.org.uk](http://www.Cornwall-Croquet.org.uk)**

for links to other clubs, the CA and SW Federation, and archived club information.

There is also a link to the new club site, or go directly to see all the latest club news of matches, club tournaments, pictures and much more at

**[www.freewebs.com/porthcroquet](http://www.freewebs.com/porthcroquet)**

If you have something to put onto the site, send it to **Paul Schofield** at

**[mellcroq@googlemail.com](mailto:mellcroq@googlemail.com)**

If you have something to go into future newsletters, please send it to Ron by e-mail to

**[ronpam.george@Tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ronpam.george@Tiscali.co.uk)**

Or by any other means.

**YOUR NEW COMMITTEE**, established at the recent AGM is

President	Howard Rosevear
Chairman	Ron George
Vice Chairman	Richard Griffiths
Treasurer	Paul Lewis
Secretary	Lynda Everett
Tournament Secretary	Colin Hadley
Member	Jenny Burrows
Member (Publicity Secretary)	Tony Dyson
Member	David Edwards
Member (Social Co-ordinator)	Joyce Wilson
Member	To be co-opted

At the first meeting since the AGM, the committee decided to have membership running from 1<sup>st</sup> April to the 31<sup>st</sup> March, rather than from 1<sup>st</sup> January. This overcomes the confusing practice of ratifying new subscription rates in retrospect, and will have no affect on the general finances. It was also decided that new members, who have not been in the club over the previous five years, will pay a subscription on a monthly-pro-rata bases. This eliminates the arbitrary cut-off date of the end of June, after which a new member has paid a half subscription, whereas a member joining in May paid a full subscription.

After some deliberations the following two lists have been compiled for the two teams for the SW Federation Golf Croquet League. We have tried to keep friends together and husbands with wives, but if you have any objections to the groups, please let the team managers know, or Ron. We have to submit the groups to the Federation early in April. If anybody would like to be added to the lists, please let us know. The lists will not necessarily be closed after they have been submitted, so that members may play the odd game for one or other team. Nobody can play for both teams in the same season.

The groups are

**Cornwall** – Managers Margaret Read & Barry Edwards

Margaret Read	Stephen Read	Barry Edwards
David Edwards	Jenny Burrows	Paul Schofield
Des Honey	Liz Honey	Elizabeth Schofield
Pam George	Leslie Stewart	Marjorie Stewart
Ron George		

**Porthpean** – Manager Joyce Wilson

Joyce Wilson	Lynda Everett	Kathleen Moorshead
Kathryn Smith	Pat Hack	Dorianne Forsdick
Tony Jennings	Linda Lang	Trevor Bainbridge
Russell Moore		Howard Rosevear

A team, for a match, consists of a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8, playing a mixture of doubles and singles. There is a maximum number of games that any player can play in the match, but no minimum number. Each game is 45 minutes, or first to 7. Double-banked games get an extra 5 minutes to allow for delays. The fixture list shows all the games, but they are also shown in a table in the South West Area Newsletter (Swan), a copy of which you can collect at the club (free).

There is a similar list on the noticeboard for the Association 'B' League matches. Please do Colin a favour and fill in the dates for which you are available. Anybody with a handicap of 16 and over can play in this League. Teams are normally of 3 or 4, and the match consists of one double and a few singles, depending upon the number taking part.

#### **Transition to Association**

The course dates have now been arranged; so, if you fancy adding Association to your croquet experience, make a note of the following dates. The course is towards the end of the season to enable new members to be involved. The dates are Tuesdays 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August from 5.30 to 7.30 pm.

#### **Short-Lawn Croquet Tournament at Nailsea.**

Good luck to the team members who are representing the club this year. We haven't done too well in the past two years, having been relegated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> League. The tournament is at Nailsea on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **Subscriptions**

If you haven't yet paid your subscriptions, they are now overdue. Please send them to Paul Lewis at 3 Clinton Drive, St Austell, PL25 5JT Tel 01726 63668

