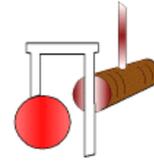


CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB

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Newsletter No. 55 June 2010

Chairman's Corner

The season is well underway and, despite the recent weather, the lawns have been well used. Golf club days continue to attract up to 25 members, and the Association numbers are encouraging. The short-lawn competition is proving to be very popular, with several of those new to the game attending regularly. This can only be good for the individuals, and I would recommend it to others who started last year or have some knowledge of the game: you will not be left to flounder on your own, as opponents are always happy to advise on the possible choices available to you – it is then up to you, of course, to make the choice and the shot.

Our club teams have been in action, with varying success. Unfortunately, we were knocked out of the Secretary's Shield, but only by 1 game. This was our first entry into a national competition, having won the SW Federation Shield last year. The Association Federation team lost the first match, and the Intermediate team lost the one game played to date, but the 'B' League team has won both games. The Porthpean Golf team has won one of its four games whilst the Cornwall Golf team has won 3 and drawn 1 of the 4 games played. Match reports and pictures can be seen on the freewebs site shown at the top of this page, along with other club information. Win or lose all the matches have been enjoyable, though sometimes tough on the finger nails!

Our Open Day, in May, did not attract vast numbers as the weather was not particularly good. However, we have attracted several new members who braved the overcast and cold conditions. We welcome Diana and Jeremy Snowden to the club, who have done the primary coaching, and John Dearman, who has joined us from the Broadwas Club (Worcester). We also welcome Gill and Graham Clark, who have been playing with us through the winter. Two others from the Open

Day (June and George Amy) are currently doing a coaching course before deciding whether or not to join the club. Also welcome to Derek Blow, a new Far-Country member. As our numbers are getting towards saturation point for the two lawns, the Open Day booked for 27th June has been cancelled and will be available for normal play. My thanks to those who turned up to help on Open Day.

Whilst on the subject of new members, I will write a few words about the forthcoming 'Faith, Hoop and Hilarity' day on Saturday July 24th. This was specifically designed, a few years ago, to get new members integrated into the club, and to give them a taste of light-hearted competition. I will pair everybody so as to get a more-experienced player with a player of less experience, and may give special handicaps for some games, if I think there is imbalance. There are also various other side competitions to keep you busy when not playing. So, don't be shy; come and enjoy a day of Golf Croquet and other activities. There is also a Golf-Croquet competition, for new members, on the 19th September—don't miss it.

There are several club competitions coming up shortly, starting with the Wilson Salvors this coming weekend. A list of last entry dates is given at the end of this letter; or look on your fixture list. It is usual for competitors to wear white, when playing in competitions and club matches, but near-white can be accepted for some.

The weather has had a big effect on the lawns, but some maintenance work and a wet spell have made a marked improvement; our thanks should go to those who have turned up to help with the maintenance, and who cut the grass and do the lines. The electric mower is back in operation, and making a difference to the run of the balls on the lawns. I do have one moan about the lawns – when I started to put out the hoops last week, it became apparent that they had been mixed up between lawns. There were

mixed carrot and star hoops in the same trolley, and on the racks in the shed. Fortunately, this was noticed before forcing hoops into the wrong type of holes in the lawn. Please take care to get the hoops correct; especially when half lawns have been used. Errors are likely to occur when changing from half to full lawns – so be vigilant. If you are not sure, read the diagram above the rack in the shed.

Nigel Grant has decided not to renew his membership this season. He has been much involved with the club from the start and has been responsible for a lot of the coaching in both disciplines, apart from having been secretary of the club and Chairman of the Technical Committee. We wish him well, and hope that he will return to the club at some time in the future.

Congratulations go to various members who have done well in outside tournaments this season. Six members entered the Budleigh High-Bisquers Tournament – Jenny Burrows got to the final and Des Honey won the Competition for those knocked out in the earlier stages. Also at Budleigh, Richard got to the final of the ‘A’ Class competition, and Rosemary won the Handicap Doubles. Richard has also had success in the Jersey Open Championships; winning the Doubles and beating the world No 8 in the singles. He is also selected to play for Jersey in the World Team Championships in August, at Hurlingham, where he may have to play against Reg Bamford – a several-times world champion. We wish him luck.

A reminder for those who have drinks at the club: there is a charge for this and rates are displayed in the clubhouse. In future, to help the Treasurer keep his books in order, please do not take money from the drinks box, but apply to the Treasurer for any expenses that you need to be paid. If you put any money in the box, for reasons other than to cover drinks/biscuits, then please note what it is for. The box is emptied regularly, so there is never more than a few pounds in it; but please don't leave any large amount in there.

We were sorry to hear that Brian Jepson was admitted to the Hospice recently. There is no news of his progress as his wife has asked that there should be no visitors or correspondence. Please respect that request.

There have been three social gatherings recently: two theatre visits to the Arts Centre in St Austell, and a visit to the brewery. Thanks to Joyce for organising them. Any ideas for social occasions will be welcomed.

We have had a visitor session with the St Austell Lions Club, which was much enjoyed, and have an evening with the Soroptomists this week. Thanks to those who helped at these events –they not only bring in valuable funds, but a lot of good will and publicity for the game, and possible new members. Unfortunately, the school that comes each year has cancelled its visit in July: we don't make a charge, but apparently there is no money to support other activities and so all have been cancelled.

Don't forget that there will be a Transition to Association course in August: I hope that some of our newer members (and older ones) will take advantage of it to add to the enjoyment of croquet.

Ron.

FIXTURE CHANGES

July 5th Revised Federation v Exeter at **Home**
July 6th Probable revised 'B'League at **Home**

LAST DATES FOR ENTRY TO

<u>GOLF DOUBLES</u>	<u>25 JUNE</u>
<u>READ TROPHY</u>	<u>1 JULY</u>
<u>FAITH, HOOP & HILARITY</u>	<u>16 JULY</u>
<u>JENNINGS TROPHY</u>	<u>1 AUG</u>
<u>PRESIDENT'S CUPS</u>	<u>18 AUG</u>
<u>GOLF SINGLES</u>	<u>18 AUG</u>

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir - I have noticed several times lately that the fault of a moving ball hitting a golf player has been ignored. On one occasion this was during a league match, when the person hit failed to own up, whilst, on a club day, the person's partner merely pushed the offending ball on a bit. Your readers should know that the penalty for such a fault is to lose the team's next turn, and that players should own up, as with any other fault. See Law 12c(2)
Yours disgustedly, NS

Editor's note - The match culprit was not from CCC.