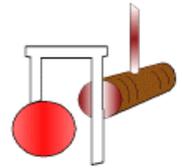


CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB

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Newsletter No. 78, September 2015

Now, here's a thing. At the end of the Jennings Short-Croquet Association Tournament I'm walking towards the gates a short way behind our Chairman when he suddenly turned round, looks at me and said "do you want a job?" Somewhat guardedly I asked what he wanted and as you may have worked out by now, he asked if I would take on the club's Newsletter.

So here we are. I would not, and certainly could not, try to emulate our dear friend David's style but I will try to keep you up to date with what's going on in your club.

Unfortunately the season has suffered somewhat from poor weather conditions - either cold winds or rain - which have deterred some from playing as much as they would have liked. However, through the hard work of a small band of members who mow and care for the grounds throughout the season, the lawns are still looking and playing very well. I am sure we have all noticed and appreciated the improvement in lawn three and changes to the banks surrounding it which were necessary to fit the dimensions of the lawn in more easily.

The powder coating of the hoops has proved successful and they are still looking very good with just one or two minor surface scuffs which, no doubt, will be cleaned off during the winter 'clean-up'. Only one hoop is showing signs of the coating cracking and this appears to be as a result of too much coating being applied on the top of the hoop. Again, this will be dealt with over the winter and, hopefully, under warranty.

And, finally, our little furry friends in the

form of moles and rabbits seem to have gone away to find somebody else to annoy.

The clubhouse has also had some attention over the season and through the much appreciated efforts of Howard and Trevor we now have two toilets at the club - both 'unisex' - so hopefully the queues will be shorter during busy tournament days.

Before leaving this section on lawns and premises I will just remind you that the club is always looking for volunteers to help with regular jobs such as mowing, strimming, white-lining, etc. If you would like to find out more about what's involved please speak to any of the club's Officers.

League Matches

Our teams have experienced varying fortunes in league matches this season:-
In Intermediate League South (AC), Cornwall finished 3rd with 3 wins out of 5.
In Golf Croquet Level Play South, Cornwall finished 6th winning just 1 game out of 6..
In Golf Croquet Handicap South we have two teams - Rosevear and Porthpean. This year Rosevear finished 3rd with 4 wins out of 6 and Porthpean finished 4th with 3 wins out of 6.

I have left the following two teams to last in the hope that the results will stay in your minds and you may find time to go up to club to give them your support. They are:-
In Federation League South (AC) our team has won 4 of their 5 games and will take part in a semi-final, at home, this coming Sunday, 13th September.

In B League South (AC) our team has won 3 of their 4 matches and also takes part in a semi-final. This will be at home this Friday 11th September.

Club Matches

At the time of writing we are well into our internal matches and less than three weeks away from 'Finals Weekend'. The winners of tournaments so far are:-

Plymouth Cup (AC) - Tony Jennings

Wilson Salvors (AC) - Russell Moore and Paul Schofield

Charity One-Ball (AC) - Tony Backhouse

Golf Doubles - Linda Lang and Peter Dexter

Golf Handicap Singles - Des Honey



Tony Backhouse receives the Edwards Trophy for the one Ball Competition

Faith Hoop and Hilarity

Unfortunately, due to the atrocious forecast weather conditions for 22nd August this has been postponed. Keep your eyes on your email (if you have one) and/or the club notice board for the new date.

Committee Notes

At the last meeting it was agreed that both Golf and Association players would use the Dawson Balls, but the Barlow Balls should still be used at Open Days and with visiting social groups.

Members wishing to practise 'jumping' are asked to use the strip of grass between lawns 1 and 2.

Discussion took place regarding the membership of teams playing on behalf of

the club and the problem of getting members who are willing to play at away matches some distance from us. It was also noted that some visiting teams requested lunch instead of tea and the committee agreed that in these cases the refreshments provided should be the same as they are for tea.

Please note that the minutes of committee meetings are displayed on the notice board on the club wall as soon as available.

External Events

In June we were invited to a 'friendly' match against the newly formed St Agnes Croquet Club. A team of 10 players and a few supporters went along to St Agnes on 20th June and I'm sorry to say we were beaten by St Agnes, 13 points to 11. Undaunted we have formed a team to host a return match on 10th September at Porthpean and are hoping for more success this time.



Linda Lang gives some friendly advice at St Agnes.

Almoner

It is a while since the last Almoner's report and back in May we heard that John Hindley had died. He and his wife Frances used to be members, and John suffered with Parkinson's disease. A card was sent.

Since then we have had more sad news with the sudden death of dear members David Edwards on July 4th and Lynda Everett on July 12th. This is a huge loss to the club and to their friends here. Many members attended the funerals. Des gave a short eulogy at David's funeral, held in Fowey Church, and at Lynda's funeral at Glynn Valley there was standing room only.

Ann Campbell is unable to play at present; she is waiting for an operation on her back. Jeff Smith is in hospital in Bristol awaiting surgery. Gill Shaw, who has been fighting her battle with cancer, sadly died on August 29th, peacefully in Mount Edgcombe Hospice. Her funeral is a private family one on 14th September. We heard only recently that Mike Greville-Harris has died. He was a relatively new member who had become a popular player in the Wednesday morning Association Tournament.

Finally, and thankfully, on a more positive note, Tony Dyson is on the mend and has been up to the club to play recently.

Our secretary, Dorianne, has been advised by Mike's daughter that she would like to donate his mallet and set of Sunshiny Croquet balls to the club. A very generous offer for which we are very grateful.

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Hurlingham Mid-Week Veterans 2015

On 1st September Des Honey and Paul Schofield returned to the immaculate lawns of the Hurlingham Club at Putney Bridge in London for the annual Veterans' Tournament. This Association Croquet match is played as 6 rounds over 3 days with 12 players in the 70+ age group. At the end of day 2, Paul was in the lead having won 4 out of 4 games. This included beating Des who was standing at 3 out of 4. Unfortunately, Paul lost both games on the final day and ended the tournament in 3rd place. Des won his 5th game and in his final game the score was level at the end of time. So the next hoop scored would win the match. With all the players spectating and on what looked like his final turn, he managed a 20 yard hit-in and a take-off to his opponent's balls which were set up at her next hoop. From there Des was able to contain his nerves and rush to his final hoop to win the game +1T and win the fine tournament trophy, a pair of elegant wine glasses engraved with the Hurlingham Crest.

Well done Des



New Members' Day

Four new members took part in a GC tournament under Ron's watchful eye with Bob Cash winning the New Members' Bowl.



The line up: Felicity, Ann, Richard and Bob



Some more from our 'Gallery' courtesy of Stephen Read



The Wilson Salvagers AC Doubles Tournament. The Winners, Paul Schofield & Russell Moore with Ian Wilson, 15th August 2015



SWF Golf Level Play League, Cornwall v Swanage, relaxing with a nice cup of tea after the match, 18th August 2015

And finally - wouldn't you just know it!



Read Trophy High Bisquers Tournament, Group photo, 8th August 2015



Search party heads out to help look for a lost ball in the Golf Croquet Handicap singles tournament. They found it just as we arrived!

**Best regards,
Rhona**