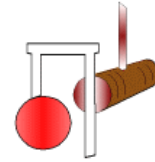


CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB

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Chairman's Corner

With the season now one month old, we have played some matches, had some training, and have enjoyed varying weather conditions. So far, in spite of the lawns having been flooded on several occasions, nothing has had to be cancelled. The level 4 Association coaching session had to be done in the clubroom, but the puddles on lawn 2 disappeared by lunchtime and allowed all that was learned in the morning to be put into practice. Some of the ladies suffered from the cold, damp wind at the Golf Croquet coaching, but resolutely completed the course after a warm-up and hot drink at half time – since most of them stayed on for the club afternoon, I think that they survived the morning's ordeal.

Two South West Federation matches have been played in the past week. The Association Intermediate League game, against Budleigh Salterton at home, was won by Cornwall 5 – 2: there is a report and picture on Paul's Club website. Our team was Paul, Colin, Stephen and Malcolm, all of whom contributed points. Two days later, there was a Golf League game between our two teams 'Cornwall' and 'Porthpean'. Both teams fielded 5 players. The start was wet, but the lawns dried out quite quickly, as the rain disappeared just before the start. The 12 singles matches, played in the morning session, went Cornwall's way by 11 to 1, but that score flattered them rather, as most of the matches were closely fought. The afternoon singles and doubles went Cornwall's way by 4½ to 3½, giving Cornwall an overall victory by 15½ to 4½. It was a fine day in the end, and most enjoyable for all concerned. I'm sure that Porthpean will give a good account of themselves when they meet other teams in the league. The best of luck to both teams.

The course for coaches went very well, although two members were unable to take part. The participants will now take part in

some of the training courses in the club, so that satisfactory experience will allow the club to apply for coaching certificates for them.

The provision of a third lawn has been postponed for a while, for various reasons. The lawn will go beyond Lawn 2, between the safety fences; one of which will have to be partially removed and re-directed. There is a request, from the hospice designers, to slant the golf range clockwise, to stop any balls going onto the hospice site. However, this would appear to be impracticable, but helpful to our third lawn if possible.

There is a new system for the placing of hoops on the lawns – **please keep to it**. There is a notice in the equipment hut showing the system, which is described thus:-

The hoops are kept on the shelves that are marked 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B. There is a plan of the site, showing which half court is which and also marked 1A etc.

Because the bottoms of the hoops are of different designs (some are round & pointed – carrots, and some are fluted and pointed – stars), they are not inter-changeable without spoiling the holes made for them, and making it difficult to place them firmly. Even hoops of the same design vary slightly so, by putting a specific hoop in a specific hole, the hoop does not need to be hammered into the ground; making the hole bigger and bigger. Better still, the hoops could always be placed in the same way, in case the two bottoms vary slightly. They will then need only a slight tap, at the most, to get them firm.

That may all sound a bit complicated: the upshot is that, in future, please use the correct group of hoops for a particular lawn, and place them in the holes as marked on each hoop. The number then goes on the **left, as you would run the hoops 1 to 6**. (Note – keep the red-topped hoop in 5 even if playing a 14-point game)

When setting out a full-sized lawn, always use the 1A or 2A hoops, remembering that lawn 2 is the one in front of the clubhouse. If you think that this is stretching things a bit too far, ask “.....”, who set out the hoops in the wrong holes before I played the person one club afternoon. When we got to hoop 9 the ball would not go through it. Once I had changed the hoops around (there were 3 incorrect), we had no further trouble. I must add that “.....” did not know of the new system.

Finally, on the subject of hoops, the trolleys are marked 1 and 2. Please do not leave “B” hoops in them. For health & safety reasons, never try to take two sets of hoops in the same trolley at the same time. The trolley may collapse, or the added weight may put too much strain on you or the grass. The trolleys are marked 1 and 2 for obvious reasons.

Richard has made some cardholders for the two ladders, so you will now be able to see the positions and scores without having to scrabble in a box or fathom out the golf page. Thanks Richard.

If you have entered the Golf Croquet Knockout competition, the playing order is on the notice board. There are completion dates for each round, so please have a look and get your matches completed by the due dates. It is the responsibility of the first-named member to arrange the date for each match. Don't forget that every game has to go on your handicap card, not just an overall result. (The same with the ladder).

Thank you to all those who turned out for the Open Day on Monday. It was very cold and windy, but the atmosphere amongst the members was warm, so the dozen visitors that arrived were well looked after. I have had three requests, already, from those wanting to join the club, and there will probably be others. So, it was not a wasted day. We welcome Gill Jacobs, Annie Le Fevre & John Perry into the club.

Last year, we had an excellent evening out with ‘Medical Maelstrom’ – three doctors in concert. This year the event is at Werrington Park, near Launceston, on Friday 15th June. If you would like to join the party from the Croquet Club, please contact Margaret Read

A.S.A.P. The price is £27, which includes supper before the concert. Organised by ‘The friends of Duchy Opera’, it is an evening of fun and laughter.

Finally, please do not use the Dawson Balls for Golf Croquet. They make little difference to the game of Golf, but are superior balls for Association Croquet. By keeping them for Association only, we can prolong the life of the balls, which are more expensive than the others that we have.

Ron George

Howard and Shirley cutting the cake at their 50th Wedding Anniversary dinner. Congratulations to both.



Lawn 1

Lawn 1 can now be used as normal, but please treat it with care.

Golf There is a new CA ruling regarding touching balls. If the Striker's ball is played away from the ball it touches, then it will be off-side if it goes over the half-way line, and is still there when the hoop is run. The ball it is touching must be an opponent's, or it would be off-side even if the ball moves.

Layout of half courts

