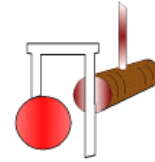


CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB

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Newsletter No. 67, January 2013

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Firstly, slightly belated good wishes for the New Year. Secondly, hopeful wishes for kinder weather in 2013!

As might be guessed, there is not a great deal of news at this time of year. For all too obvious reasons, not a lot of croquet has been possible, but we were lucky on the mulled wine day, when the half lawns enabled afternoon games of golf and association to be played.

The short croquet and the golf tournaments have suffered badly from the weather, and we may not get enough results to warrant awarding the trophies.

We had hoped to have been able to close lawn 2 by now, and move play to lawn 1, but although the grass has grown reasonably well where we applied surface dressing to try to improve the levels, the weather has so far prevented mowing. At the moment we are still using lawn 2, but unless we can move very soon, the hoops need to be moved ASAP as the rabbit runs are deepening.

Moss growth, particularly on 1 & 2, has developed rapidly over the last two to three weeks, and both lawns were getting rather yellow in some areas. We had hoped to delay treatment for a little while, but to try to prevent the situation worsening, we have just moss killed and fertilised 1 & 2.

Please remember that to minimise wear, golf croquet in particular should be set out to start in the opposite corners to our normal layout. And please, while the lawns are soft, no jump shots!

However, if we think we have problems with some yellowing and moss growth, spare a thought for Barnstaple C.C. Barry and I spent

a couple of days in North Devon in early January, and looked in on their lawns. These are sited on the flood plain of what is normally a small tributary river. This had badly flooded, and it was obvious that 12 – 18 inches of water had swept across their lawns, the weight of debris having collapsed part of the upstream boundary fence. As they had not managed to play before late July in 2012, it seems their problems can only be worse this year.



Barnstaple CC, January 2013



Which makes our flood seem pretty puny – at least you now know which way the ball will turn!

Looking forward Well, with some of next year's events now on the calendar and looming nearer, we can begin to look forward to the new season. As ever, we will be entering a team for the Nailsea Short Croquet event on April 13th & 14th – we expect to be playing on Saturday the 13th. It is a good season-starter, and if anyone would be interested in playing, please let me or Colin know.

Following a week later is the Budleigh High Bisquers event – handicaps 16-24, CA membership not required. More details & entry forms from me or Dorianne. This is another good event, well supported by Cornwall in recent years, with a good social side.

The inter-club league fixtures will be very similar to last year, but with the addition of a Golf Croquet level play league – this had been discussed in previous years but had not got off the ground.

The general format of Club competitions will be similar to 2012. We are hoping to improve the coaching programme, and would welcome input from members, at any level, GC or AC, on any specific topics they would like included.

For those who volunteer (please!) for the mowing rota, we will have a refresher session on the use of the mower.

Work Yes, it is getting to the time when we have to think about the start-of-season work list, mainly for when the lawns are closed in March. You will see that the slippery decking warning notice is back up – we had hoped to apply coatings in the autumn, but conditions were not suitable. Also, we had hoped to recoat the outside of the pavilion, but couldn't. We have a number of trees to plant along the bank to lawn 3, to ultimately provide a windbreak. Then there's all the usual stuff, including moving & re-marking the lawns as necessary. So the cry will go up for all hands to the pumps.

Social If any members have ideas for social events, please don't be slow in coming forward with them!



A reminder – sometimes the sun DOES shine.

Finally Don't forget the website – for news, results, photos, and links to other sites. Thank you Ian.

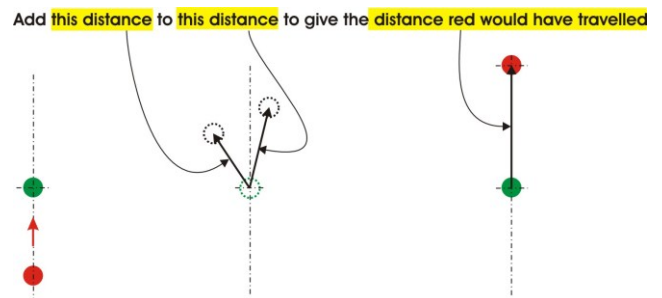
Best wishes to all,

David

TECHNICAL CORNER

Placing the balls after a hitting foreign ball.

When a ball from another game is hit, then the balls are placed as near as possible to where they would have been if the interference had not occurred. Here is a method for arriving at the best estimation of the positioning of the balls after the event.



Red hits Green and they come to rest as in the middle diagram. Green goes back to in its original position. Red is placed along its original path at a distance from the point of impact by adding the two distances that the two balls travelled after impact.

If you and your opponent cannot agree the final positions or if they are critical, then the stroke should be replayed (after marking green!)