

AUSTRALIAN GOLF CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIPS Cairnlea, VIC 2009

GOLF CROQUET OPEN SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP OF AUSTRALIA, 29 August – 1 September 2009 WCF INTERSTATE SHIELD FOR GOLF CROQUET TEAMS, 2 - 6 September 2009

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

General

1. Entrants are to have a current Golf Croquet handicap. A handicap may be assigned by the Tournament Manager in terms of the Appendix to the Rules of Golf Croquet. Croquet Australia reserves the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to have final arbitration on any question that may arise.
2. All events will be played under the WCF Rules of Golf Croquet adopted by Croquet Australia.
3. Should an overseas player win an event, the perpetual trophy shall remain in Australia in the custody of the Executive Director of Croquet Australia. All winners of trophies are requested to obtain a quote for the cost of appropriate engraving and submit that quote to the Executive Director of Croquet Australia before proceeding.
4. All competitors who have not already provided an address and telephone number at which messages can reach them during the events should provide this information to the Tournament Manager during registration.
5. Hoops are to be set as near as possible to 3 11/16 inches. To allow for inaccuracies in gauges, balls, hoops and setting techniques, a tolerance of $\pm 1/32$ inch is allowed.
6. Dawson International balls will be used.
7. All games will be un-timed. However, the Tournament and Venue Managers may impose a time limit of an additional 15 minutes of play after a game has been in progress for at least 1 hour. WCF Golf Croquet Regulation 2(d) shall apply.
8. Courts will be allocated by the Venue Manager and games will be double banked as required.
9. Courts may be available for practice up to 7.50am each day and after the completion of play for the day, subject to club requirements for dressing courts and maintenance. The Tournament Manager's approval should be sought for such practice and players assistance in preparing and clearing lawns will ensure that this practice can continue.
10. There will **not** be a warm up period before each game.
11. Matches shall commence at **8.00 am** sharp unless otherwise indicated. Players are requested to be at their designated court before the scheduled starting time.
12. Players may be allowed a break of up to 10 minutes between matches and a lunch break of up to 30 minutes. The Tournament Manager will ensure games go on expeditiously to enable completion of the scheduled program. In best of three matches games should be 'seamless' - players are expected to commence play in the second and third games immediately after the completion of the previous game. **It is mandatory for players to inform the Tournament Manager should they wish to leave the venue for any reason.**
13. Players and officials must wear suitable, predominately white sportswear or their approved club or state uniform. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.
14. The Tournament Manager will decide whether play in any match should continue if the weather is deteriorating.
15. There will be a Referee at each venue to act as required. Referees will generally be on call in terms of Rule 15 (b) (2).
16. Players' attention is drawn to Rule 14 of the WCF Golf Croquet Rules book regarding Etiquette, which also covers expedition in play and to Condition 65 of the ACA Handbook concerning Conduct of Players in the activities of the ACA.
17. The Tournament Manager in consultation with the Executive of Croquet Australia may make any alterations to the program, draw and other arrangements as are necessary in order to complete the tournament in the time available.
18. Programs will be available at registration held on Friday 28th August from 1 pm – 4:30 pm. **A briefing on the Tournament conditions will also be provided at 4.30pm – please try to be there.**
19. The Australian Handicapping System is in force for this Tournament. Players are to ensure that they have their ACA Handicap Cards with them to present to the Tournament Manager or his representative before each event commences. Handicap cards should be completed after each game. If players reach a trigger point their handicap changes immediately.

Golf Croquet Open Singles Championship of Australia

20. The Open Singles Golf Croquet Championship of Australia is generally limited to 64 players. **(This year, 67 entries were received and accepted.)**
21. Croquet Australia's Selectors will determine seeding for the event.
22. The draw was conducted by the Executive Director of Croquet Australia in conjunction with the ACA Tournament and Selection Committee using the ACA Seeding and Draw procedures, as follows:
 1. Blocks were seeded and members of the same family were placed in different blocks and players from the same State were evenly spread between blocks. Each player will play other players in the block in a single life 13 point game. Players placed 1 to 4 in each block, based on games and then net points, will proceed to the final 32 knockout stage of the event. If players are still tied then the players concerned will play a 13 point game to determine the winner, or other method at the Tournament Manager's discretion.
 2. Players will be re-seeded for the knock-out phase based on final placings in initial blocks. The knockout will be played as best of three 13 point matches.
 3. The Plate event will be conducted as large blocks with a single life knockout final. Players may enter the Plate event as follows:
 - a. players not allocated a place in the main events, and,
 - b. players who are reserves in the main events, and,
 - c. for players not entering the Plate Event through the main event a fee of half the normal entry fee will be charged.
 4. If necessary, part of the plate event may be played at Brunswick Mallet Sports Club and/or Essendon CC.

WCF Interstate Shield for Golf Croquet Teams

23. States may name no fewer than 4 players (2 men and 2 women) or more than 8 players (4 men and 4 women). Reserves are permitted under Clause 27 below. If one or more State(s) is/are not able to provide a full team of two men and two women, but can provide at least one man and one woman, the Host State or other States, in consultation with said State, may provide additional players to make up a full team and allow the State to participate;
24. A playing or non-playing Captain shall be appointed by each State and the Executive Director advised accordingly;
25. The draw is to be seeded by the ACA Executive Director prior to the event based on the results of the previous interstate teams event for Golf Croquet. Tests will be played as follows:

Day 1 : Team 3 vs Team 5, Team 1 vs Team 6, Team 2 vs Team 4
Day 2 : Team 1 vs Team 4, Team 2 vs Team 5, Team 3 vs Team 6
Day 3 : Team 4 vs Team 6, Team 2 vs Team 3, Team 1 vs Team 5
Day 4 : Team 2 vs Team 6, Team 4 vs Team 5, Team 1 vs Team 3
Day 5 : Team 1 vs Team 2, Team 3 vs Team 4, Team 5 vs Team 6
26. On the day scheduled for any Test:
 1. The names of singles players in order of merit, and the doubles pairings, shall be notified by each Captain or Vice Captain to the Tournament Manager or Venue Manager or Assistant Venue Manager at least 20 minutes before the commencement of each Test. In each Test only two men players and two women players can be selected to play singles but the players selected to play doubles can be different members of the team from those playing singles. The order of play for singles matches shall be in accordance with the Australian Ranking List (derived from the World Ranking List) and such other list that may be issued for the Championships by the Executive Director;
 2. Individual members of teams may be varied for each separate Test. Apart from the arrangements permitted under clause 27, individual members of a team may not be varied during a Test, unless a player is incapacitated by sickness or accident (but not for a pre-existing illness or condition). In such event, a substitute player, nominated under Clause 27 below may fill his or her place in the team for any match not already commenced. Such substitution must be reported to the Captain of the opposing team and be sanctioned by the Venue Manager
 3. The second round of singles must be played with the same players who played in the first round of singles of that Test. If a match is started but is unable to be completed it will be conceded. The score in any conceded game will be recorded as 7 to the winner and the score to the opponent at the time of concession.

- 27.** Each team shall be entitled to nominate one or more players, any of whom may, prior to the commencement of the Test, act as a substitute for a player. If the occasion arises that no substitute is readily available, a reasonable time shall be allowed to obtain a substitute, and the Team Schedule shall be adjusted accordingly. If the team concerned is unable to nominate a substitute within the given time, the match for that player shall be forfeited (7-0, 7-0).
- 28.** Each team will play every other team once. A Test comprises ten matches, two doubles and 8 singles. All matches will be the best of three 13 point games. Doubles shall be played first then the singles, women versus women and men versus men.
- 29.** Singles and reverse singles shall be played in the following order:
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| Game 1 | Team A no 1 vs Team B no 2 | Team A no 2 vs Team B no 1 |
| Game 2 | Team A no 1 vs Team B no 1 | Team A no 2 vs Team B no 2 |
- 30.** Should a team be unable to complete the series of Tests, scores for and against that team will be deleted from the results.
- 31.** The winning team shall be decided as follows:
1. in each Test, the team that wins the most matches, but:
 - a. if matches are equal, the team that wins most games;
 - b. if games are equal, then net points;
 - c. the team winning the Test shall score one (1) point.
 2. the winner of the Interstate Shield for Golf Croquet Teams will be the State Team scoring the greatest number of points. If points are equal:
 - a. the greatest number of matches during the series;
 - b. if matches are equal, the greatest number of games in the series;
 - c. if the number of games in the series is equal, the winner of the Test between the teams.
- 32.** The Tournament Manager is authorised to make decisions to vary the conditions of play as required.