

CROQUET AUSTRALIA

EXECUTIVE CIRCULAR – NO 1 2008

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This circular will summarise the events of the year so far.

59th Australian Association Croquet Championships

The Championships were held in Brisbane at seven different croquet clubs. The ACA would like to thank all who organised, catered, and worked very hard to make the Tournament a success. A special mention to Tournament Manager Carmel Donley, Tournament Referee Roy Donley and the ACA Tournament Committee.

Peter Landrebe (NSW) won the Gold Medal and Shane Davis (QLD) won the Silver Medal; Margaret Melville (QLD) won the Women's Singles [runner-up Creina Dawson (SA), Plate winner Miranda Morgan (SA)]; Bruce Fleming (QLD) won the Men's Singles [runner-up Trevor Bassett (Vic), Plate winner Ken Bald (Vic)].

The Eire Cup was claimed by Victoria [runners-up QLD]. Congratulations to all Players and we'll see you in Sydney in 2009 for the 60th Australian Championships.

The ACA AGM

The ACA Plenary Session and AGM were held at Sports House, Milton QLD on Friday 4th April 2008. New office bearers were elected and appointed. The Executive Committee as elected: President, Max Murray; Vice Presidents, Stephen Meatheringham and Bruce Fleming; Treasurer, Tony Hall; Executive Director Maree Skinner (also Secretary), John Fransen is the

Immediate past President. Amendments were passed to the ACA Handbook and it was agreed that ACA will pay \$25 per court per day to clubs providing their facilities for ACA Events. An allowance of \$5.00 per day per referee for lunch will be paid for referees who volunteer their time at ACA Events. The minutes of the meetings are available on the ACA Website:

<http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/Governance/minutes.html>

Review of ACA Constitution

President Max Murray, has been working on a draft model for the Constitution. Max and I have discussed and liaised regarding the draft and it will be sent to the members of the Working Party for further review.

Vice-Regal Patronage of Croquet Australia

A letter has been sent to the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor General requesting the patronage of the new Governor General Ms Quentin Bryce AC, for the Australian Croquet Association.

We have received a letter from retiring Governor General Major General Michael Jeffrey's Senior Executive Officer, extending the Governor General's warmest good wishes for the future to the Australian Croquet Association.

Laws Committee

Nell Hass is the new Chair of the Laws Committee. The Committee will be working on the laws that were not amended on the last occasion that the ILC published the amendments to the laws of Association Croquet and any other matters that may arise. The committee will also be working with Tony Hall on reviewing the Tournament Regulations. Croquet Australia has a new link on the website for players to contact the Laws Committee direct:

<http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/Governance/officials.html>

We will also be seeking some articles from the Committee for the Croquet Australia Magazine.

Selection Committee

The ACA Selectors, chaired by Stephen Meatheringham, have selected the Trans Tasman Test Team. Team Captain is Stephen Forster, Vice Captain Peter Landrebe, Bruce Fleming, Mike Jenner, Liz Fleming, Claire Bassett, Margaret Melville and Miranda Morgan, reserves are Ken Bald and Chloe Aberley. Congratulations to those chosen to represent Australia. We hope you will bring the trophy home.

The ACA appointed Steve Jones as Team Manager (Steve is also the Coaching Consultant for the Team) and he will be assisted by Trevor Bassett. Steve Jones convened a very successful training weekend in Melbourne on 3rd and 4th May and another weekend is scheduled in Bribie Island on October 11th and 12th 2008 at the Bribie Island CC. At the present time a final TT preparation weekend is being scheduled in Melbourne in January 2009.

The Selectors have called for nominations from the States for NZ Scholarships. Three Junior Players will attend the NZ Open in January 2009.

Referee Accreditation

Stephen Meatheringham has produced a Draft Accreditation Program (submission) for Association Croquet Umpire (level 1). This document has been approved by the Executive and requires input from the National Director of Refereeing, and approval from the Australian Sports Commission. Draft submissions for Referees Accreditation will be produced in due course.

Golf Croquet Referees Manual

The GC Referees manual has been published and is available for viewing on the ACA website:
<http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/Referees/referees.html>

Thank you to author Owen Edwards and to Stephen Meatheringham and Brian James for Assisting.

AC Referees Manual

Work is progressing on this manual, an electronic version will be produced in the near future.

Coaching Accreditation

John Riches (National Coaching Director) has been working with me on the review of the National Coaching Accreditation Program. John has also recently published a number of books relating to Association Croquet. A Draft of the Level 1 Coach Training Program has been submitted to the Australian Sports Commission for approval. Drafts for Beginner Coaching and Level 2 Coaching will be submitted after we have approval for the level 1 program.

Amended Member Protection Policy

The Australian Sports Commission requires the Member Protection Policy to be reviewed on an annual basis. The amended policy is available for viewing on the ACA Website:

<http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/Governance/Documents/index.html>

Amended Anti-Doping Policy

The Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority has released a new template for all National Sporting Bodies to update their Anti-Doping Policies. I have just begun work on the Policy and it is due to take effect on January 1 2009.

Submitting results to the AC and GC World Ranking Lists

A procedure for submitting results for World ranking has been circulated to states. Results must be submitted on a regular basis to ensure the accuracy of the World Ranking Lists. The procedure is available for viewing on the ACA website:

<http://www.croquet-australia.com.au/Handicapping/index.html>

Please pass on to those responsible for submitting results for the World ranking Lists, that these lists are critical in that Selectors use them to seed players for National Events.

Incomplete results cause imbalance in the seeding processes and affect all players in any given event.

President's Eights

The invitations for the 2008 President's Eights to be held at the Victorian Croquet Centre at Cairnlea on 3 – 6 October 2008 were sent out in May. The following players have been offered and have accepted places (Selectors advised the following order of Invitations based on the World ranking List published 10th April 2008):

First Eight: Bruce Fleming, Peter Landrebe, Steve Forster, Mike Jenner, Trevor Bassett, Harley Watts, Kevin Beard, Mark Prater.

Second Eight: Liz Fleming, Simon Watkins, John Philpott, Ken Bald, Alan Sands, Tim Murphy, Margaret Melville, Tony Hall.

Women's Eight: Rosie Graham, Claire Bassett, Alison Sharpe, Creina Dawson, Tricia Devlin, Sue Beattie, Anna Miller and one place still awaiting confirmation.

Please note: Final places in individual Eights will be determined by the Ranking list one month prior to the commencement of the event.

Australian Golf Croquet Championships Sunshine Coast QLD

Entries have closed for the Golf Croquet Open Singles Championships and the Interstate Shield to be held on the Sunshine Coast on 6 – 14 September 2008. Entries for the Open Singles have increased from last year (to a maximum of 48 entries) and we have several players from NZ competing in the event. At the moment I am working on the program and am awaiting a list of seeded players from the Selectors. The draw will be performed by the ACA Tournament Committee on or around the 22 August 2008.

National Handicap Events

Entry forms were published in May for the National Association Croquet Handicap Singles and Doubles Championships to be held at Rich River Croquet Club (12 – 18 October 2008 – Registration 11 October) and for the National Golf Croquet Handicap Singles and Doubles Championships to be held at Deniliquin (20 – 24 October 2008 – Registration 19th October).

Australian AC Open Championships

The Championships will be hosted at the Victorian Croquet Centre on 21 – 30 November 2008. Stephen Meatheringham completed a review of the Formats and Conditions of Australian Tournaments. These can be viewed on the ACA website. The entry forms will be published in mid-August.

Australian Gateball Championships

The Australian Gateball Championships will be held in Rockhampton QLD October 16-18 2009. Any queries to National Director of Gateball, Gilon Smith: info@gateball.com.au

Insurance

Please note that the ACA Insurance Officer is ACA Vice President, Bruce Fleming: bruce26tpo@bigpond.com.

Croquet Australia Magazine

The Magazine Editor is Carolyn Ribone: carrib@tpg.com.au and the Magazine Manager is Vice President Bruce Fleming: bruce26tpo@bigpond.com.

WCF Review of Plate Events

Bruce Fleming has agreed to participate in a Working Party that has been established by the WCF to examine the WCF Plate Event structure.

WCF Women's World GC Championship 2009

A meeting was held at the Victorian Croquet Centre on 15th May 2008 to set up an organising committee chaired Mike Cohn to manage the WCF Women's World Golf Croquet Championships to be held at the VCC in November 2009. Max Murray and myself attended that meeting and we congratulate all attendees on the excellent organisation of the meeting and thank all who offered to take up specific responsibilities.

Calendar of Events

The Calendar can be accessed on the Croquet Australia Website. www.croquet-australia.com.au

Australian Ranking List

Please follow the link for 'Rankings' on the Croquet Australia Website.

Maree Skinner
Executive Director
5 August 2008