

# United Croquet Club

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## Newsletter – March 2016

It's been a while since the last newsletter, but here is a catch-up and what is happening for the rest of the summer season.

### Trans Tasman

Our club members Jenny Clarke, Chris Clarke, Jared Keeman and Duncan Dixon are members of the New Zealand team of four women and four men that won the first GC Trans Tasman. NZ won two of the three two-day tests.

Since 1991 New Zealand and Australia have competed for the Camden Trophy in the Trans-Tasman Open croquet tests. This is an association croquet event that NZ has won seven out of ten times.

For the first time an equivalent golf croquet event was held at Nelson Monday 30 November to Sunday 5 December.

Detailed results are at:

<https://croquetcores.com/2015/gc/trans-tasman>

### Corporate events

We have had a lot of corporate events this season, and they are still continuing. We have one on Friday 11 March at 5:30pm and one on Wednesday 16 March at 6pm.

Maurice will be contacting members for helpers to guide players around the lawns.

### Business House competition

A business house competition was held on the evening of Friday 26 February. After a number of last-minute changes we ended up with ten pairs competing.

One pair was doing well, winning all their games, but had to leave part way through.

Christine & Stewart from PGG Wrightson won and received club membership for one year. Two pairs, Michael & Liam and Richard & Tom, were runners-up and received winter membership.

### Club champs and lunch

Three days have been allocated for the club championship this season.

1. Saturday 12 March, 9:30am to 12:30pm and 1:30 to 5pm.  
Between 12:30 and 1:30pm we will have a BBQ sausage lunch. Please bring a salad or desert.
2. Afternoon of Wednesday 16 March (after the Maud Trainor in the morning).
3. Wednesday 23 March.

The champs will be run in both GC and GC and will be played in grades. The days each grade and code will play depend on entries.

If you are interested, contact our club captain, Mary Morrison on 355 9510 or [mjmorrisson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mjmorrisson@xtra.co.nz).

### Working Bee and summer closing

We will be having a working bee on Saturday 9 April, starting at 9am. This is to get the club house, sheds and gardens tidy before the winter season.

From noon we will have a BBQ sausage lunch. Please bring a salad or desert. This will be the closing for the summer season. Play will continue through winter, subject to weather and lawn conditions.

You can relax in the afternoon with some croquet.

### AGM

Our AGM will be at the club on Saturday 21 May 2016, starting at 10:30am.

After the AGM we will be having a lunch at Chateau on the Park. This will be pay your own.

We will ask for numbers nearer the time.

### Nominations for committee

Nominations are called for the executive committee.

These must be with the secretary by Saturday 14 May 2016.

Nomination forms are available at the club.

Nominations will be displayed on a board at the club.

## Developments in Hagley Park

The bowling club, that used the club house next to us, left in 2010. High School Old Boy's have been given permission to use the club rooms, in the expectation that a lease would be signed at some point.

Croquet, HSOB, Tennis, and at times Petanque, have been in discussion with each other and council staff for about six years.

Croquet club members have been kept informed through reports at the last three AGMs and other reports.

The Christchurch City Council issued a Request for Proposals for the land and buildings used by the bowling club. We have until 16 March to respond.

With permission of the council, we have used one of the bowling lawns as a seventh croquet lawn. However, we have decided that we will not continue with lawn 7. It is not used often and takes more time and maintenance than the other lawns.

This was confirmed at an informal meeting of club members last Wednesday.

## Calendar

Here are some of the events coming up.

- Sat 5 Mar Final round of Atkins Trophy
- Fri 11 Mar Corporate event. 5:30pm
- Sat 12 Mar 9:30–12:30: Club champs  
12:30–1:30: lunch  
1:30–5pm: club champs
- Tue 15 Mar Carol Hayward – round 5
- Wed 16 Mar Maud Trainor. am  
Club champs. pm
- Sat 19 Mar Atkins play-offs
- Wed 23 Mar Club champs  
Corporate event. 6pm
- Sat 9 Apr 9am: working bee  
noon: Lunch  
afternoon: casual play
- Sat 14 May Nominations for executive close
- Sat 21 May 10:30am: AGM  
1pm: lunch

## Croquet NZ newsletters

Croquet New Zealand regularly produces a newsletter. A copy is placed on the club house notice board.

You can get you own electronic copy by signing up at <http://croquet.org.nz/newsletter/>

## Website

Our website is at [unitedcroquet.com](http://unitedcroquet.com). This includes news, information about coming events and an online calendar. Keep checking for the latest news.

In the right-hand column there are headlines and links to news items and below that the next four items in the online calendar.

# United Croquet Club

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## Newsletter – May 2016

### AC World Champs

The AC World Champs were held at the National Croquet Center, West Palm Beach, Florida on 16–24 April 2016.

The final match was a five-game 11.5-hour marathon that was finished under lights where Stephen Mulliner of England beat David Maloof of USA.

Jenny Clarke and Paddy Chapman were both eliminated at the semi-finals. Edmund Fordyce of South Canterbury, and has played at United several times, won three of his block games.

A report on the event is at <http://www.worldcroquet.org.uk/index.php/world-championships/2016-ac-world-championship> and full results can be found at <https://croquetscores.com/2016/ac/wcf-world-championship>

### GC World Team Championship

The GC World Team Championship Tier 1 will be played at Surbiton, England 15-21 May.

The Tier 1 countries are: Egypt, England, Ireland, NZ, South Africa, Sweden, Wales, USA.

The NZ team is Chris Clarke (captain), Jenny Clarke, Paddy Chapman, Mike Crashley, Duncan Dixon and Phillip Drew

Results will be available at <https://croquetscores.com/2016/gc/golf-croquet-world-team-tier-1-at-surbiton>.

The Tier 2 championship will be played at Bath and Camerton & Peastown clubs 15-20 May. The tier 2 countries are Australia, Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Latvia, Scotland and Spain.

### Business House competition

In the March newsletter I made a mistake in reporting on the business house competition held on the evening of Friday 26 February. The runners-up were Julie & Michelle from Wynn Williams and Richard and Tom. Apologies to Julie and Michelle.

### AGM

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### Nominations for committee

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### AC coaching for GC Players

Golf croquet players wishing to try out Association croquet have their chance this month. AC coaching sessions, designed for GC players, will be held on Wednesdays 11, 18 and 25 May from 2pm to 3pm.

Just turn up at United Croquet Club.

### AC Winter competition

An AC winter competition will start on Wednesday 11 May. Games will be 2½ hours starting at 11am with a lunch break and so should finish by 2pm.

### Membership applications

Membership application forms are kept in the set of draws under the notice board.

If you get a new member to complete an application form, please note on the form the status of any membership payment and put the form in the secretary's draw under the notice board.

Some forms have been left on tables and not processed for some time. Also, it is not clear if the new member has paid their sub or not.

# United Croquet Club

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## Newsletter – August 2016

### **New Zealand wins the GC World Team Championship**

Congratulations to the NZ GC team of Chris Clarke (captain), Jenny Clarke, Duncan Dixon and Phillip Drew who won the Tier 1 GC World Team Championship at Surbiton, England 15–21 May.

Full results are available at <https://croquetscores.com/2016/gc/golf-croquet-world-team-tier-1-at-surbiton>.

The Tier 1 countries are: Egypt, England, Ireland, NZ, South Africa, Sweden, Wales and USA.

### **Opening Day**

The summer season officially starts on Saturday 3 September.

There will be a committee meeting at 10am and we will be having a BBQ lunch at noon. Please bring a salad or desert. The club captain will be explaining about all the competitions and handing out draws for the interclub events.

There will be play in the afternoon.

### **Our new committee**

At our AGM on Saturday 21 May 2016, the following were elected to the committee.

President	Sally Jeffcott
Vice President	Lena Metcalf
Secretary	John Yarrall
Treasurer	Tony O'Donnell
Captain	Pam Hurst
Vice Captain	Mary Morrison
Committee	Jeanette Allison Robyn Dawson Philippa Porter Rosalind Thomson

### **Tournaments**

The tournaments being held in Canterbury in September and October are below. See the yearbook for other tournaments around New Zealand.

Entering tournaments is a great way to improve your game. Remember, that even the best players were probably nervous entering their first tournament.

#### **United Weekend GC Tournament**

Sat/Sun 10/11 September at United. There are two events for handicaps -6 to 5 and 6 and over. Get into practice for the new season.

Entries to the manager, John Yarrall 325 7855  
[jjarrall@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jjarrall@xtra.co.nz)

#### **Interprovincial**

The annual competition against South Canterbury will be held at Ashburton on Sunday 18 September.

This year it is an AC doubles event. If interested, contact Jono Hart 359 3021 or [jono.h75@gmail.com](mailto:jono.h75@gmail.com).

#### **United Weekend AC Tournament**

Sat/Sun 24/25 September at United. There are two events for handicaps -4 to 2 and 2 and over. Get into practice for the new season.

Entries to the manager, Chris Clarke 385 5957 or [chrisd4clarke@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisd4clarke@hotmail.com).

#### **CNZ 0–3 & 4+**

Friday 14 to Sunday 16 October at United. This AC event will be managed by Gordon Smith. As a CNZ event, register and pay on the CNZ website [croquet.org.nz](http://croquet.org.nz). Click on the Tournaments link on the top-right of the screen.

#### **CCA AC Handicap Singles**

Sat/Sun 22/23 October at St James Park. Entries to the manager Graham Button, 352 6504 or [gabutton@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gabutton@xtra.co.nz).

## **CNZ Bronze, Silver and Gold coaching**

CNZ run AC bronze, silver and gold coaching squads.

Bronze is for new players with a handicap 16-24. An objective is to achieve a Bronze Merit Award (a break of 10 hoops or more with or without bisques in a tournament game that is won). This will be 19 September at St James Park.

Silver is for players who have achieved a Bronze Merit Award with the objective to achieve a Silver Merit Award (a break of 12 hoops or more without bisques in a tournament game that is won). This will be 20 September at United.

Gold is for players who have achieved a Silver Merit Award with the objective of achieving a Gold Merit Award (a triple peel in a tournament game that is won). This will be 21-22 September at United.

Full details are in pages 7-10 of the yearbook, in the Croquet Matters newsletter and on the CNZ website at [croquet.org.nz/coaching/squads/](http://croquet.org.nz/coaching/squads/)

Coaching is provided by Greg Bryant, CNZ's Sport Development officer.

## **Newsletters**

As well as this club newsletter, CCA and CNZ produce newsletters.

If you don't receive the CCA newsletter by email, let me know and I will get your email added to the distribution list. The last newsletter was sent out 6 August.

The CNZ newsletter, called *Croquet Matters*, is sent direct by CNZ. To get on the distribution list visit the CNZ website at [croquet.org.nz](http://croquet.org.nz), click on Newsletter on the menu and enter your email address. The last *Croquet Matters* was sent out 1 August.

All three newsletters will also be put on the notice board.

## **Golf Croquet Rules**

On Friday 30 September, starting at 9:30am, Tony O'Donnell will be running a session on GC Rules and etiquette at United. There is no charge.

## **GC Coaching**

On Sunday 2 October Jenny Clarke will be running a coaching session at United. It will start at 10:30am with a pot luck lunch and further coaching and games in the afternoon. Charge of \$5.

## **AC Laws**

On Monday 3 October, starting at 9:30am Judie Cleine and Ian Campbell will be running a session on AC Laws at United.

## **Boiling water heater**

You may have noticed steam and water coming out of the overflow pipe next to the outside toilet at times. This is from the boiling water heater in the kitchen.

The boiling point has recently been recalibrated so hopefully it will stop boiling over.

It has also been adjusted to switch to standby outside the hours of 8am to 5:30pm. It will also switch to standby after two hours without use.

In standby, the temperature is dropped to 80°C. If this happens, and you want boiling water, press any of the buttons to get it to activate again.

Don't switch the heater off, or it will lose its settings. If it continues to boil over, please let me know.

## **Committee meeting minutes**

Committee meeting minutes will be put on the notice board for members to view. They will be marked as draft as they will not be approved until the following committee meeting.

## **New club day hours**

Some of our new members may not have had the welcome that should have. Members have arranged their own play among themselves and some new members have been unsure what to do and have been left out. If that has happened to you, then we apologise and we want to be better.

Starting on opening day, if you wish play on club day afternoons, please be there no later than 12:50pm and indicate if you wish to play AC or GC. The club captain will arrange will play, starting at 1pm, so no members are left out. If you arrive late, you may have to arrange play yourself.

All members should be aware of new members or visitors and make them welcome, even if it involves interrupting their game to see if a visitor wishes to try it out.

## **Changes to the GC handicapping**

The current range of Golf Croquet handicaps is 0 to 12. Starting 1 September 2016 the handicap system will be changing and the range extended to -6 to 16.

You must have your handicap transferred to the new system before you play any competitive games. Please bring your existing handicap card to the club so we can issue you with a new card. New cards should be available this week. Mary Morrison is organising this change.

Generally, if your handicap is between 3 and 12 it will remain the same, but your index points will change. If your handicap is 12, and you are struggling getting your handicap above 0, talk to Mary.

For players with handicap between 0 and 2, the new handicap will be based on your world ranking.

## **New Trust for North Hagley Park**

United Croquet Club is one of three founding members of the *North Hagley Community, Sports & Recreation Trust* that was registered this month. The other members are High School Old Boys and Christchurch Petanque Club.

The intention is that the Trust will lease the area previously leased to United Bowling Club. HSOB and petanque will be the main uses of this area and croquet will retain use of some of the sheds.

Christchurch Council will be assisting petanque set up pistes on one of the old bowling lawns.

The lease for our part of the club rooms and the six lawns remains and is unaffected by the new lease.

## **United Calendar**

We have an online calendar on our website at [unitedcroquet.com](http://unitedcroquet.com). Below are the main events being held at United for the rest of 2016.

On the right-hand side of our website the next four entries from the online calendar are listed for quick reference.

- 3 Sept – Club opening day
- 10–11 Sept – United GC tournament
- 20 Sept – CNZ Silver Coaching
- 21–22 Sept – CNZ Gold Coaching
- 24–25 Sept – United AC tournament
- 30 Sept – GC Rules
- 2 Oct – Coaching
- 3 Oct – AC Laws
- 7 Oct – GC Interclub starts
- 8 Oct – Johnson starts
- 10 Oct – AC interclub starts
- 14–16 Oct – NZ 0-3 & 4+
- 10-13 Nov – CCA Open & Grades
- 16–20 Nov – South Island champs
- 10–11 Dec – Johnson playoff
- 12 Dec – AC interclub playoff

# United Croquet Club

## Newsletter – October 2016

### Tournaments

The tournaments being held in Canterbury in October are below. See the yearbook for other tournaments around New Zealand.

Entering tournaments is a great way to improve your game. Remember, that even the best players were probably nervous entering their first tournament.

### United Weekend GC Tournament

A report of the Sat/Sun 10/11 September GC tournament is on our website at <https://unitedcroquet.com/2016/09/11/the-second-united-weekend-golf-croquet-weekend-tournament/>



Carolyn Fordyce (runner-up handicap), Edmund Fordyce (winner open), Alan Belcher (winner handicap) and Neil Williams (runner-up open)

### CCA AC Handicap Singles

Sat/Sun 22/23 October at St James Park. Entries to the manager Graham Button, 352 6504 or [gabutton@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gabutton@xtra.co.nz).

### United Weekend AC Tournament

A report of the Sat/Sun 24/25 September AC tournament is on our website at <https://unitedcroquet.com/2016/09/26/ac-united-weekend-tournament-2425-september/>



Harps Tahurangi (winner of the Open) and Pam Hurst (winner of the handicap)

### CNZ 0-3 & 4+

This AC event will be played Friday 14 to Sunday 16 October at United and be managed by Gordon Smith. The tournament will be using all lawns.

CCA policy allows any members of a club hosting national and association tournaments to be able to play at other Canterbury clubs without paying green fees. If you want to do this, then please organise with the club first.

## Kitchen

The kitchen is in the process of being upgraded. This has been prompted by the discovery that the boiling water unit has been leaking for several months and the kitchen cupboards had deteriorated and had grown a large quantity of mould. Thanks to Jeanette and Les.

We now have a dishwasher. When the "Dirty" sign is on the door, put your dirty cups and glasses in the machine. Please ensure that any crockery is well rinsed, so a short wash can be used. If the machine is full, follow the instructions on the sign to start the machine and turn the sign over to show "Clean". If the "Clean" sign is showing and the machine is finished, please empty it.

We hope to have the hot water unit back in service soon.

## Answerphone

The phone on the table has been replaced with a cordless phone with an answering system. This will allow us to include the club number on any publicity and we will be able to receive messages even if there is no one at the club. Messages can be retrieved remotely.

You may take the cordless phone out on the lawns if there is no one else around – but not if it is raining.

If someone calls the club and you don't manage to get to the phone before the call is answered the welcome message and the caller leaving a message can be heard on the loudspeaker. You can answer the call by removing the cordless phone from its cradle.

If you listen to a message and delete it, you are responsible for dealing with the caller. If you know there are messages, please let a committee member know. The number of messages is shown on the display of the base unit.

## Website

The club website is [unitedcroquet.com](http://unitedcroquet.com). It includes an online calendar and a blog reporting on events of interest. This includes reports on opening Day the GC Weekend Tournament and the AC Weekend Tournament.

The right-hand column of every page includes links to the last few blog posts and also the next four events in the online calendar.

If there are things you think should added, or have content you would like to provide, including photos, please send to John Yarrall at [jyarrall@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jyarrall@xtra.co.nz).

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- 7 Oct – GC Interclub starts
- 8 Oct – Johnson starts
- 10 Oct – AC interclub starts
- 14–16 Oct – NZ 0-3 & 4+
- 10-13 Nov – CCA Open & Grades
- 16–20 Nov – South Island champs
- 10–11 Dec – Johnson playoff
- 12 Dec – AC interclub playoff



# United Croquet Club

## Newsletter – November 2016

### Corporate events

We are fast approaching the silly season in the run-up to Christmas. Several businesses are now playing croquet as part of their Christmas events.

Last season we earned \$8,500. This helps to keep our subscription rates down and is good publicity for croquet.

We provide club members to show the players around the lawn. Ideally we like to start with one club member for each game. After a couple of games have been played, then we don't need as many helpers, so some can leave after the first hour.

You don't need to be an expert player to help. You just need to be able to know the basics, especially the sequence of hoops.

Maurice Cook will be arranging helpers again. If you can help, even for an hour for one or more of these events please contact Maurice at 351 8862 or [mauricecook@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mauricecook@xtra.co.nz). Maurice may be contacting you.

The events booked so far are listed below. They are subject to change.

Date	Start time	Ideal number of helpers
Tue 29 Nov 16	6:30pm	3
Fri 02 Dec 16	12:30pm	2
Wed 07 Dec 16	5:30pm	10
Thu 08 Dec 16	2pm	9
Fri 09 Dec 16	3pm	5
Sat 10 Dec 16	3pm	5
Sat 10 Dec 16	3pm	6
Sun 11 Dec 16	1pm	0
Tue 13 Dec 16	2pm	7
Wed 14 Dec 16	2pm	5
Thu 15 Dec 16	2pm	7
Thu 15 Dec 16	4:30pm	3
Fri 16 Dec 16	2pm	15
Sun 18 Dec 16	1pm	9
Tue 20 Dec 16	noon	10

### Club Pot Luck Dinner

We will be having a pot luck dinner on Saturday 17 December starting at 5pm at Sally's place at 11 Knowles Street, St Albans.

If you are coming, please fill in the list on the club notice board or email [jyarrall@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jyarrall@xtra.co.nz) with the numbers attending and what food you plan to bring.

### South Island Championship

Many thanks to The United Club members for allowing this to proceed as the players were pleased to have the opportunity to partake in this prestigious tournament.

Also thanks are given to John Yarrall, Tony O'Donnell, Ian Campbell and Richard Kimberley for such great hoop holes and hoop setting- a massive job. Also to Tony and Kevin Freeth for a mid tournament recut after torrential rain stopped play on Thursday.

Gordon Smith ran a well managed tournament and although there were only 9 games in the doubles there were 107 games over all.

Also many thanks to Mary Morrison, Pam Hurst and Ian Campbell for helping with 7am starts and cleaning up. Also Elmwood Club provided some lovely people and great food to sustain us.

Winners:

Doubles: Greg Bryant and Anita Fowler

4+: Leo van Oosten

Plate: William Rush

Open: Greg Bryant. Runner-up: Dennis Bulloch

It was a great privilege for me to be able to assist Gordon in this tournament and to get to see some of the best croquet players show what they are capable of and to welcome people from Nelson, Wellington, Dunedin and Westport.

Philippa Porter (Assistant Manager)

## New members get-together

Jeanette Allison has been tasked with welcoming new members to ensure they feel welcome and become comfortable playing with players other than their own friends.

Knowing how nervous I was about doing this, I would like to suggest that once a month, for a few months, we run a mini Progressive Tournament just for players who have learned this great game in the last 2–3 years.

Jeanette would like to start the ball rolling (excuse the pun!) by a get-together next month.

The format would be:

1. Start with a player – friend or regular partner if you like.
2. Play against another pair for 30 minutes.
3. On the bell, losers move forward to next lawn, winners stay put.
4. Swap partners.
5. Play again.

This rotation will get you playing with and getting to know other members as well as feeling more comfortable about entering tournaments in the future.

We will try to have experienced players on side, to help with strategies and decision making – to improve your game.

Jeanette has emailed new players suggesting Sunday 11th December at 10 am. It has been difficult to find a morning or afternoon that has not already been committed. We may be able to play into the afternoon, depending on how many lawns are being used by the group booked for the afternoon.

We can perhaps chat afterwards as to what day(s) suit everyone in the future.

To get this going Jeanette needs some feedback from you:

1. Are you interested in participating?
2. Can you come on Dec 11th?
3. Any other suggestions - like Sat 10th in the morning before club play?

If there is anything else that occurs to you that would enhance your experience at our club, please feel free to catch up with Jeanette at the club, or contact her –

Phone: 325 7980, cell: 027 209 7767

or email: [jeanettebill@gmail.com](mailto:jeanettebill@gmail.com)

## Setting out hoops

When setting out hoops some players enthusiastically use the mallet to drive the hoops in.

Hoops do not have to be hammered in until the carrots are below ground level. There is a one inch (25mm) tolerance on the height of hoops, and the carrots will not interfere with the ball if they protrude.

Hammer hoops only until they are just firm. This allows them to be driven in further as the holes wear with use and delays the time when new hoop holes need to be made. The team that resets hoops will thank you for not creating unnecessary work for them.

## CCA Open

The CCA Open and Grades Association Croquet Championships were scheduled to be played at United from the 10th to the 13th of November with Tony O'Donnell as the Manager. Due to a lack of entries in the Doubles and the Grades competitions these were cancelled. Perhaps the proximity of the two Croquet NZ tournaments at United in mid October and mid November cannibalised the entries as they aimed at the same players.

With the withdrawal of the fifth entrant to the CCA Open Singles the remaining 4 competitors were given the option of playing five rounds over the scheduled weekend. This would have involved the Manager also playing but the players' preferred option was to play a round robin event with three games on the Saturday. Games went according to seeding so in the final round Peter Parkinson played and beat Ian Campbell in the match deciding first and second whilst Maguaritte Rogers beat Owen Evans for third. In both the final matches the higher handicapped player had a good chance of winning when playing their last turn before making an error enabling their opponent to peg out.

## **CNZ 0-3 & 4+**

This AC event was played Friday 14 to Sunday 16 October at United and managed by Gordon Smith.

There were 10 entries in the 0-3. They played a tiring three 3-hour games each day.

Ian Campbell won the event with 8 wins out of 9 games and the runner-up Jono Hart.

The 4+ event had 8 entries, so they had only two games on days 2 and 3. Leo Van Oosten won and Robert McLay runner-up.

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- 12 Dec – AC interclub playoff

# United Croquet Club potential material for CCA newsletter October 2016

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## United Croquet Opening Day

Saturday 3 September marked the official club start to the summer croquet season for United Croquet Club.

The day started with a BBQ lunch after which the club captain updated us with the season's competitions.



Lunch on Opening Day 2016

Chris and Jenny Clarke arranged for the shield for the World Teams Golf Croquet Champs to be on display. Chris pointed out that three of the four members of the winning team are United members.



Members of the winning team for the 2016 World GC Teams' Championship, Jenny, Chris and Duncan



Shield for the World GC Teams' Championship, made by Ray Atkins of Christchurch

## **The second United Weekend Golf Croquet Weekend Tournament**

The second United September Golf Croquet weekend tournament was held on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th September 2016.

The new Golf Croquet handicap regulations came into effect from 1 September 2016. The manager had a busy time updating and issuing new AHS cards for several players who had not had their old one updated.

The weather was kind with no rain and plenty of sun for his time of the year. Rain in the days before the weekend meant that the lawns had not been mown and were rather long. They were finally mown after the first day's play.

Four players entered the Open event. It was played as a triple round robin with five 13-point games played the first day and four the second. Edmund Fordyce (Waireka, South Canterbury) won eight of his nine games to take the event for the second time. Edmund's new handicap is -3 (compared to his previous 0). With one loss, his index points reduced in spite of winning the event. Neil Williamson (Hornby) was runner-up with five wins.

The handicap event had a field of nine and was played as a round robin with five rounds games on Saturday and four on Sunday and each player having one bye. The winner of the handicap was Alan Belcher (Hornby) winning all 8 of his games. Carolyn Fordyce (Waireka, South Canterbury) was runner up, losing only to Alan.

Full results are on Croquet Scores <https://croquetscores.com/2016/gc/united-september>.



The last game of the tournament



Carolyn Fordyce (runner-up handicap), Edmund Fordyce (winner open), Alan Belcher (winner handicap) and Neil Williams (runner-up open)

## **AC United Weekend Tournament 24/25 September**

The regular AC United Weekend Tournament was held on Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 September, managed by Chris Clarke.

As usual, it was run with an open event and a handicap event.

The weather on Saturday was cloudy and cool (some might say cold).

The start on Sunday was a bit later as clocks were put forward with daylight saving. The day started with drizzle and rain but improved in the afternoon.

With eight entries, the handicap was played as two American blocks of 4 with three 2.5-hr games on the Saturday. The top 2 players went into the Gold Play-offs and the bottom 2 players went into the Silver Play-offs.

Tony O'Donnell won the Silver Play-offs.

The Open Event, with 13 entries, was played as a flexible swiss with 2.75hr time limits.

Harps Tahurangi won the event with Jenny Clark of United runner-up.

John Yarrall was declared the best non-minus player winning 40% of his games.

Full results are on Croquet Scores.



Harps Tahurangi (winner of the Open) and Pam Hurst (winner of the handicap)