



# Cammeray Croquet Club



## NEWSLETTER October 2009

<http://www.cammeray-croquet.org.au/>

### Lawn Maintenance

The lawns will be closed for maintenance for two weeks in October. The current plan is to close them from 12<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October, but this can change depending on the weather and special demands on the North Sydney Council staff. The lawns will be top-dressed, and should play much better after this treatment. Any change to these dates will be shown on the club's website as soon as we are made aware of it.

### Cammeray Bronze Championship

The semi-finals and final of the Bronze Championship were played in blustery conditions on Saturday 26 September. Block winners Jake Henzler and Gordon Schmidt played runners-up David Stanton and Warren Yates in the semi-finals, with Jake and Gordon winning 16-4 and 18-1 respectively. Gordon got away to an early lead in the final, and held off a late charge by Jake to take the title with a convincing 18-8 win.

Congratulations, Gordon – enjoy your new handicap of 16!



Semi-finalists Jake, Warren, David and Gordon



Stephen Howes in action in the High-Low

### High- Low Tournament

The high-low tournament has started, with mixed reactions. The high handicap players who were off-form did not like the format, while those that played well approved of it. It certainly places some pressure on the high-handicap player. However, some good croquet has been played, with some good breaks being made.

Neil Hartley and David Stanton played particularly well in their first match to defeat Dennis Faggoter and Jon Nixon, and scraped a narrow win over Stephen Howes and Georgie Ofner in the second round. Michelle Nixon and Neil Hardie also played well in their first match to defeat Fay Simpson and Steve Baxter, then combined brilliantly the following week for a win over the fancied pairing of Alan Walsh and Gordon Schmidt.

Fay and Steve overcame their first round loss to bounce back with a good win over Gareth Bushill and Jake Henzler.

## Cammeray Summertime Tournament

This new tournament is planned to run on Tuesday evenings during daylight saving time, and is aimed at encouraging silver and bronze players to take part in 26-point handicap events at Cammeray. It is being run in response to a desire expressed by a number of players for more serious games to be available at Cammeray, particularly for bronze players.

Numbers will be limited to 8 per evening, and games will be played using AHS handicap cards, with the results having an effect on players' index numbers. Some players may be invited from other clubs.

It is hoped to hold the first such evening on Tuesday 27 October 2009, subject to the lawns being available after top dressing. It is proposed that games start at 7 pm and conclude at 9:30 pm, with wine and cheese from 6:30 pm.

Bookings will be made via the Members/Guests page on the club's website ([www.cammeray-croquet.org.au](http://www.cammeray-croquet.org.au)). If you haven't made use of this page before, you will need to get a password from the club by following the instructions at the top of the page.

A final decision on the playing conditions is yet to be made – one possibility which has been suggested is that we play Full Bisque Handicap Play (see Laws of Association Croquet, Appendix 3). If we decide to do this, it is likely that the base handicap will be 11, in which case a player on a handicap of 16 would receive 5 bisques, and a player on a handicap of 20 would receive 9 bisques. David Stanton is organising this tournament, and he would welcome any feedback regarding it. He can be contacted at [david@dsapl.net](mailto:david@dsapl.net), or on 9967 5092 or 0414 275 233.

## Barbeque with a Greek Flavour

This function was held on the same day as the Bronze Championship finals, and a good crowd of nearly 40 turned up to watch the croquet (mainly from the protection of the clubhouse) while enjoying a delicious Greek-inspired luncheon. Parea Hartley was head chef, ably assisted by Georgie Ofner, Di Loveday and Penny Garrett. Neil Hartley was kept busy ensuring that all present had at least a small glass of retsina, while Warren Yates manned the barbeque. Mila Kotala made sure everybody paid their money and had a nametag, and also provided her legendary potato salad. Special thanks to Barbara McDonald, who did the lion's share of the washing up.

Lunch was interrupted briefly to allow Games Captain Neil Hardie to announce that Gordon Schmidt had just won the final of the Bronze Championship, after which Gordon and Jake were also able to enjoy the luncheon.

President Neil Hartley advised that he hoped this themed barbeque would become a fairly regular event, and that the next one would have a Malaysian theme. Date to be determined.



Members enjoying the Greek barbeque lunch



The happy victor

## **Future Events**

October 4<sup>th</sup> is when daylight saving starts, and our popular twilight games will begin again on Monday evenings from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. followed by wine and cheese and scintillating conversation. The first Twilight game will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, then we have a break until the lawn maintenance is complete. With the present maintenance schedule, the second Twilight game will be on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Do come along to these – all grades of player are welcome, it is a great chance to play against a range of players, and there is fine food and conversation afterwards.

## **Children's Day**

North Sydney Council will hold its annual Children's Day on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October next to the Council Chambers. Cammeray Croquet Club always helps with this event by running mallet games for the children. We will need volunteers to help run our games. We will have a roster so that you only need stay for an hour or two. Tell Mila if you can help.

## **Cammeray players do well**

Alan Walsh won the Platinum Brooch – a new event for top players. He won all his games. Congratulations, Alan.

## **Seminar on the Laws of Croquet**

Neil Hardie will run a seminar on the laws of Association Croquet on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October from 4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. This is aimed at bronze players who need more information on the basic laws, not at more experienced players or potential referees. Contact Neil Hardie on 9958-7261 [nhardie@ozemail.com.au](mailto:nhardie@ozemail.com.au) if you are interested.

## **Manly Seabreeze Tournament**

Many of our members are taking part in this tournament, which runs from October 1 to October 11. We wish them all good luck, and hope that they play well.

## CAMMERAY CROQUET CLUB PROGRAM: OCTOBER 2009

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
<b>Thursday 1</b>		Bronze Games 1.30-3.30	<b>Hi-Lo Tournament 6.30-9.00</b>
<b>Friday 2</b>	Carers (one lawn) 10.30-12.30		
<b>Saturday 3</b>		Bronze Games 1.30-4.00	Private function 4.30-9.30
<b>Sunday 4</b>		Golf Croquet (special group)	
<b>Monday 5</b>	Games for all grades 9.30-12.00	Bronze games 1.30-4.00	<b>Twilight games followed by wine &amp; cheese 5.00-7.00</b>
<b>Tuesday 6</b>			
<b>Wednesday 7</b>			Bronze Games 6.30-9.00
<b>Thursday 8</b>		Bronze Games 1.30-3.30	<b>Hi-Lo Tournament 6.30-9.00</b>
<b>Friday 9</b>	Carers (one lawn) 10.30-12.30		
<b>Saturday 10</b>		Bronze Games 1.30-4.00	
<b>Sunday 11</b>		Golf Croquet (special group)	
<b>Monday 12</b>	<b>LAWNS CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE</b>		
<b>Tuesday 13</b>			
<b>Wednesday 14</b>			
<b>Thursday 15</b>			
<b>Friday 16</b>			
<b>Saturday 17</b>	<b>Committee Meeting 8.45-10.00</b>	<b>LAWNS CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE</b>	
<b>Sunday 18</b>	<b>LAWNS CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE</b>		
<b>Monday 19</b>			
<b>Tuesday 20</b>			
<b>Wednesday 21</b>			
<b>Thursday 22</b>			
<b>Friday 23</b>			
<b>Saturday 24</b>		Bronze Games 1.30-4.00	
<b>Sunday 25</b>		Golf Croquet (special group)	
<b>Monday 26</b>	Games for all grades 9.30-12.00	Bronze games 1.30-4.00	<b>Twilight games followed by wine &amp; cheese 5.00-7.00</b>
<b>Tuesday 27</b>			<b>Summertime Tournament 6.30-9.30</b>
<b>Wednesday 28</b>			Bronze Games 6.30-9.00
<b>Thursday 29</b>		Bronze Games 1.30-3.30	<b>Hi-Lo Tournament 6.30-9.00</b>
<b>Friday 30</b>	Carers (one lawn) 10.30-12.30		
<b>Saturday 31</b>		Bronze games 1.30-4.00	<b>Seminar on laws of croquet 4.00-5.30</b>