

CAMMERAY CROQUET CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2009:

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Having been Treasurer of the Club for 10 years, I am taking a turn this year as President. Here are a few of the Committee's thoughts for the further development of the Club.

We are in an unusual position among Sydney Clubs in having very strong new membership enquiries. Because we have only two lawns and already over 100 members, we are diverting some of these new enquiries to neighbouring clubs.

With a large number of members of only one to two year's experience, we see our main responsibility as providing ongoing coaching to this group.

We play mostly Association Croquet although there is a growing interest in the Golf Croquet alternative. At this stage we prefer to maintain a preference for the more difficult but more rewarding Association option.

In recent years we have added lights enabling night play. We have also upgraded the Club House and added an extra storage shed. The Council and the State Government have assisted with this but we have also contributed a substantial amount to the costs incurred.

We now want to turn our attention to the grassed area to the north of the Club House. Although not large enough for a full-sized lawn, it is nonetheless an adequate size for a practice lawn. We want to create an all-weather surface without the drainage problems that bedevil our existing lawns. We will need Council and State Government assistance in building this so it may take a little time to organise the funding.

Finally, there is a growing use among our members and among outside hirers of the lawns for croquet combined with a social occasion. We want to improve the outdoor area to encourage this. We also want to tap the abilities of our members to add an exotic touch to the social occasions that we organise for our own social occasions.

Enjoy your croquet. We are there to help you

Neil Hartley

Cammeray Birthday Tournament

Our annual Birthday Tournament will be 22nd to 24th May. We have already had entries from all over Sydney. We are limiting entries this year to a maximum of 16 – that should give us four blocks with four people in each. There will be four sessions of play on Friday and Saturday, starting at 8.30 a.m. and finishing at 9 p.m. On Sunday we will have the semi-finals and finals, from 8.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There are entry forms in the clubhouse for any members who wish to enter – however, you must have a handicap of eighteen or less to compete. The closing date for entries is 11th May. The cost of \$30 includes lunches and the final barbecue.

If you don't enter, do come along and watch – it is a chance to see some good-quality play.

Birthday Tournament Barbecue

On Sunday 24th May at 1 p.m. we will have a barbecue, and those who come can watch the second half of the Birthday Tournament Final. The cost of the barbecue is \$15 – all welcome, do come along and cheer the finalists (there has always been a Cammeray member in the final, even though they do not always win!).

Centenary Lunch

We are celebrating our Centenary with a grand lunch at the Northbridge Golf Club. This is on Friday 19th June at 12 noon, cost \$40. There is a flyer included with this Newsletter about it. Please let us know by 5th June if you are coming. This will be a great occasion with excellent food, to commemorate a remarkable milestone in our Club's history.

For this occasion, as we have to commit to numbers in advance, we require payment beforehand.

History of the Cammeray Croquet Club

Neil Hardie and Stephen Howes have written a history of the Cammeray Croquet Club as a record of its first hundred years. Copies of the history will be for sale at the centenary Lunch, cost \$10.

Pennants Competition

We are hoping to enter two teams in the NSW Bronze Pennants this year. The Pennants are an inter-club competition with teams of four. Each match consists of two singles games and a doubles game. They are played on Thursday mornings from 9.30 a.m., starting on 11th June. Half the matches are 'home games' played at Cammeray, so we expect support from our members at these.

We also hope to have a Gold Pennants Team to defend the trophy which we won last year.

Club Championship

The Cammeray Club Championship has started, with six entries. The winner of this represents Cammeray in the 'Champion of Champions' competition in June. In the past we have had as many as three Cammeray players in the Champion of Champions, as Cammeray players who belong to more than one club often win the championships of other clubs.

Cammeray Bronze Championship

The Cammeray Bronze Championship will begin in June. A sheet will be placed in the clubhouse soon for people to register for this event. Last year we got eight people playing in this – let's get an even greater number this year! We will ensure that some matches can be played in the evenings or weekends, so that anyone who works full-time can still enter this competition.

We don't think we have enough Silver Players to have a silver competition; but we hope that some of our better bronze players will have moved into silver by next year.

Coaching

Last month we put a paragraph in the Newsletter asking members if they wanted coaching. We are in the process of organising coaching sessions in response to this – one on Wednesday mornings, and the other on Thursday evenings.

At these sessions, the coaching will be on request and incidental to game play.

A visiting leading New Zealand player, Peter Couch, gave a Master Class to our platinum/gold players on Monday 26th April and another to our bronze players at 1 pm the same day.



Peter Couch (second from left) and some of his students

Neil Hartley is also arranging for some coaching of the Golf Croquet players.

Club Badges

We have Club Badges available for any members who would like them. These have the member's name on them, and Cammeray Croquet Club. The cost is \$6. We would appreciate it if any members who represent Cammeray acquire a badge – e.g. those who play in competitions at other clubs.

CAMMERAY CROQUET CLUB PROGRAM: MAY 2009

Friday	1	
Saturday	2	1.30-4 bronze games Beginner coaching 4-6 p.m.
Sunday	3	Golf croquet 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. (special group) Beginner coaching 4-6 p.m. Private hire 3-6 p.m.
Monday	4	9.30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m.
Tuesday	5	
Wednesday	6	2 p.m. – 4 p.m. – thank-you tea for Nationals helpers Bronze night games 6.30 - 9 p.m.
Thursday	7	1.30-4.00 bronze games
Friday	8	
Saturday	9	1.30-4 p.m. bronze games Beginner coaching 4-6 p.m.
Sunday	10	Golf croquet 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (special group) Beginner coaching 4-6 p.m.
Monday	11	9.30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m.
Tuesday	12	
Wednesday	13	Bronze night games 6.30 - 9 p.m.
Thursday	14	1.30-4 p.m. bronze games
Friday	15	
Saturday	16	Committee Meeting 8.45 a.m. Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m. Beginner coaching 4-6 p.m.
Sunday	17	Golf Croquet 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. – all welcome Beginner coaching 4-6 p.m.
Monday	18	9.30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m.
Tuesday	19	
Wednesday	20	Bronze invitation evening 6.30- 10 p.m.
Thursday	21	1.30-3.30 bronze games
Friday	22	Cammeray Birthday Tournament 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
	23	Cammeray Birthday Tournament 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Sunday	24	Cammeray Birthday Tournament Barbecue 1 p.m. – all welcome \$15
Monday	25	9.30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m.
Tuesday	26	
Wednesday	27	Bronze night games 6.30 - 9 p.m.
Thursday	28	1.30-3.30 bronze games
Friday	29	
Saturday	30	1.30-4 p.m. bronze games
Sunday	31	

Future events: Centenary Lunch Friday 19th June at 12.30