

CAMMERAY CROQUET CLUB NEWSLETTER

September 2008:

Alan Walsh wins NSW Open Singles!

Six Cammeray members entered the NSW Open singles – Ted Griffin, Mike Hughes, Stephen Howes, Neil Hartley, Peter Landrebe and Alan Walsh. Peter was unexpectedly knocked out in the quarter finals, leaving the door open for Alan to win this major tournament. Peter won the Y-event (for players eliminated in the quarter finals) beating Mike Hughes in the final.

Cammeray hosted the Plate event (for players who did not reach the quarter-finals). As usual when we host a tournament, we got heavy rain which flooded the lawns on Saturday so we had to move the games to Mosman that day. Thanks to Claire Givney, Di Loveday, Georgie Ofner, Ken Clapp and Pamela Hardie who helped make the tournament a success, and to our referees – Neil Hardie, Robin Potter, and Pat Goldrick.



Mark Callan playing Nerida Taylor
Cammeray



Graham Scott, winner of the Plate at
Cammeray

Refurbishment

The refurbishment of the clubhouse is progressing well. The new floor has been installed, so we are now all on the same level. The floor has been sanded and polished, and painting has started. We are having another working weekend on the 6-7th September, so if you want to help, contact Neil Hardie, or just turn up between 9.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. We particularly need volunteers on the Saturday morning.

We are extremely grateful to North Sydney Council for their generous help in the refurbishment project; they have paid for the new flooring and done a variety of maintenance work, including fixing the roof and replacing rotten timber in the walls.

We are planning a party to celebrate the completion of the refurbishment. We haven't decided on a date yet – probably late September or early October. We will let you know when this has been organised.

Night Play

As the weather gets warmer, we will start Night Play in September. As soon as the clubhouse is available again we will be having bronze night play on Tuesday nights, and gold/silver night play on Sunday nights.

In early October daylight saving starts, so we will be having our regular Monday Twilight Croquet from 5p.m. to 7 p.m. followed by wine and cheese. The first of these is on Monday 6th October.

Cammeray now largest club in Sydney

We believe that Cammeray is now the largest croquet club in Sydney, with 92 members. As we have a further twelve people taking lessons, most of whom are likely to join, our numbers will reach a hundred by October. We do not feel that the club can accommodate many more members than this, so we may have to consider starting a waiting list for new members.

This remarkable increase in membership has put a heavy load on the coaches in the club, so we owe thanks to Neil Hartley and Alan Walsh (and myself!) for their efforts.

Our courses through the North Sydney Community Centre have proved very successful; we planned to do one course with a maximum of six students, but the first course was filled within hours of the brochure becoming available, so we were asked to do a second course – which also filled quickly. The Community Centre wanted us to do two more courses next term, but we declined, as we have to absorb the current groups first.

Other results

Lesley Fransen won the NSW Bronze Brooch held at Tempe, winning a thrilling final match against the runner-up (Ros Johnstone) by a single point.

Barbara McDonald won the Cammeray Bronze Championship, winning all her matches. The remaining matches are not complete, so we don't yet know who the runner up will be.

Mallet Hire

The mallet hire scheme has proved to be very popular. So far seven mallets have been hired out. This has enabled us to buy one good second hand mallet, and we are looking at buying a new mallet from one of New Zealand's leading mallet makers to add to our range for hire. Over time we hope to build up a set of mallets from all the major makers so that members can try each type before deciding on what they would like to purchase.

We are also developing a Guide to Buying a Mallet which has useful guidelines, and descriptions of all the main types of mallets (including prices). This booklet will be available in the clubhouse when the refurbishment is complete.

The Mallet Mart

Cammeray has set up a Mallet Mart on its website, where players can advertise second hand mallets for sale (and other croquet equipment). If anyone has a mallet for sale, or wants to buy a mallet, go to the website at www.cammeray-croquet.org.au/ and click on Mallet Mart.

Croquet NSW have given us a link from their website for this. It will take a little time before we get a wide range of mallets for sale, so keep checking the site, and tell your friends about it.

Local Developments

As members will have seen, both the soccer club changing rooms and the skateboard park have been opened in the last month. The changing rooms are a welcome addition – the public toilets will be open during the day, and we may be able to get them open in the evening if we have a major function.

The skate board park is very well used, and apart from a few instances of rubbish being thrown onto our lawns they have posed no problems for us.

Centenary Celebrations

Next year is our centenary, as we have recently discovered that our club started life as the Warringah Hall Club in Neutral Bay in 1909. We would welcome suggestions from members on the best ways of celebrating this great anniversary.

Practice Lawn

The area between the clubhouse and the new change rooms is planned to be a practice lawn. This will be useful during tournaments, and can also be used for coaching and for practice when the lawns are occupied. It is going to cost a substantial amount of money to lay new turf and level it properly, so we are talking to North Sydney Council and looking for other sources of money (such as grants). We will keep members posted on developments.

Laying out the lawns

Some players have been hammering in the centre peg with the little wooden extension still attached. Please remove the extension before hammering in the peg, as the extension can be damaged, and should not be jammed into the peg.

CAMMERAY CROQUET CLUB PROGRAM: SEPTEMBER 2008

Monday	1	9.30-12 games for all grades ; 1.30- 4 Bronze games 6-7 p.m. NSCC Beginner Coaching Course
Tuesday	2	
Wednesday	3	1.30-4 gold/silver games
Thursday	4	1.30-3.30 bronze games 6-7 p.m. NSCC Beginner Coaching Course
Friday	5	
Saturday	6	1.30-4 p.m. bronze games Working bee 9 - 4
Sunday	7	Working bee 9 - 4
Monday	8	9.30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m. 6-7 p.m. NSCC Beginner Coaching Course
Tuesday	9	Bronze night play 7-10 p.m.
Wednesday	10	Gold/silver games 1.30-4 p.m.
Thursday	11	1.30-3.30 bronze games. 6-7 p.m. NSCC Beginner Coaching Course
Friday	12	
Saturday	13	1.30-4 p.m. bronze games
Sunday	14	Gold/silver night play 7-10 p.m. Golf croquet 10-3
Monday	15	9.30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m. 6-7 p.m. NSCC Beginner Coaching Course
Tuesday	16	Bronze night play 7-10 p.m.
Wednesday	17	Gold/silver games 1.30-4 p.m.
Thursday	18	1.30-3.30 bronze games 6-7 p.m. NSCC Beginner Coaching Course (last lesson)
Friday	19	
Saturday	20	Committee meeting 8.45 a.m. 1.30-4 p.m. bronze games
Sunday	21	Gold/silver night play 7-10 p.m.
Monday	22	9.30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m. 6-7 p.m. NSCC Beginner Coaching Course (last lesson)
Tuesday	23	Bronze night play 7-10 p.m.
Wednesday	24	Gold/silver games 1.30-4 p.m.
Thursday	25	1.30-3.30 bronze games
Friday	26	
Saturday	27	1.30-4 p.m. bronze games
Sunday	28	Golf croquet 2 - 6 p.m. Gold/silver night play 7-10 p.m.
Monday	29	30-12 games for all grades Bronze games 1.30-4 p.m.
Tuesday	30	Bronze night play 7-10 p.m.