



PARAPARAUMU CROQUET CLUB

Newsletter – March 2023

Competition Updates

It has been very busy with lots of competitions in the last few weeks.

Nathan and Jessica Bullen participated in the Under 21 GC World Championship held at Mount Maunganui and Tauranga with pleasing results. I hope you had a chance to watch some of the event live stream.

The CNZ AC Nationals Open event was held at PCC and WCC 21-25 February. This was a very successful event which was also livestreamed. A big thankyou to all the members who made this such a successful event and congratulations to Brian Bullen for achieving a third place result in the singles event. Other results can be viewed on the Club's web page.

The Wainuiomata GC handicap doubles sponsored by Linda Goss-Wallace and Ray Wallace was held at the Wainuiomata CC last weekend. Three teams from our Club competed with Denise and Chris Magner and Sue and Rob Dixon achieving 3rd == place. It was a fun day so a good competition to consider playing in next year.

Denise's email of 14 February gave updates on results of earlier competitions including the "Sherwood Cup", "Judy Kermode Tray" held at Rose Gardens, Palmerston North and the combined AC/GC "Marty Symons Cup" Tournament. All tournament results can also be found on the Club's website. <http://www.paraparaumucroquetclub.weebly.com>

Congratulations are also due to Jessica Bullen for her selection as a "wildcard" entry in the 2023 GC World's Women's Championship due to be held 7-14 August 2023 at the Sussex Country Croquet Club in England.

Upcoming March Competitions

The GC Teams Event will be held at our Club next weekend 11/12 March. Tournament Manager is Anne McKenzie. ***This will mean that the lawns will not be available for play this weekend, however please come along and watch and give your support to our Club representatives.*** If you can help by keeping the kitchen manned over the weekend please let Anne or any Committee member know.

The GC WCA Silver Badges competition will be held at Kelburn Saturday/Sunday 18/19 March. To date we have one representative competing in the 9-16 grade. For those who are unaware this is a level singles tournament within grades. Winner of each grade receives a CNZ supplied Silver Badge.

The "Beth Jessop" GC PCC vs WCC will take place at Waikanae on 22 March. Details are on the Club's noticeboard.

AC "Shona McFarlane" Open Singles to be held at Waimarie on Saturday/Sunday 25/26 March – further details on Club noticeboard.

AC Jubilee Shield vs Waikanae will be held at Waikanae on Saturday 26 March – details also on the Club's noticeboard.

The Club GC Singles Championships will take place on Saturday and Sunday 25/26 March. If you are not able to compete during that weekend please organise your own game, ensuring you have a referee present. Remember to put your results in the club competitions folder. Programme for games is on the noticeboard.

Reminders and notices re April events will be sent out/displayed on noticeboards by Club Captains.

In addition to the flyers on the Club's noticeboard and regular emails from the Club's GC and AC Captains, information on competitions held in the WCA region and at our Club can be found in the Club's Programme Booklet which is published each year. Details can also be found on the Club's website maintained by Bob McKenzie. The website is always up-to-date so please consult the website on a regular basis. The Croquet Yearbook, a copy of which is kept in the Clubrooms for members' information is also a valuable resource for this information and it also contains information on various tournaments held around the country which may interest some of our members.

Twilight Croquet

A reminder that twilight croquet is played on Fridays commencing 4pm (weather permitting). The last date for twilight play will be Friday 31 March as daylight saving ends 2 April. Come along – it's a fun evening – just bring some nibbles and whatever you like to drink.

AGM/Prizegiving/BBQ – Saturday 29 April 2023

Please mark your diaries for the 2023 AGM/Prizegiving. AGM papers will be sent out after the March Committee meeting. Nomination forms for Officers and Committee Members will be available in the Clubrooms. These will also be displayed on the noticeboard in due course.

Information from recent CNZ Update

CNZ Levies for 2023/24 Season

The CNZ Board approved to increase the CNZ levies in accordance with CPI increases as previously presented to Associations. The levies for the 2023/24 Season are set as follows:

- Full Members: \$52
- New to Croquet Members: \$26
- Under 18 Members: \$17

GC Book by Ian Burrige

Ian Burrige has recently released a book on GC aimed at tournament players (*flyer previously circulated for orders*). The book can be ordered from the UK, however if there is sufficient interest in

New Zealand CNZ could order the books and obtain a small discount as well as saving on freight. CNZ would look at selling the book for \$50.

It has been suggested that a copy be purchased for the Club to be held in the Clubrooms. However, please advise me as soon as possible if you wish to purchase your own copy. I have one order to date.

Request for Member Input to WCA Survey

Anne McKenzie has forwarded the survey below to Club Committee's requesting input.

To assist the Committee it would be appreciated if Club members could forward any input or ideas they might have on the survey questions, in the table below, to me. The Committee will collate replies at its next meeting on 24 March.

Please indicate the number of the question you are responding to.

Your input will be much appreciated.

Now that this year's tournament programme is nearly complete, planning for the next playing season needs to get underway. The WCA Executive Committee has concerns about the low level of support for our regional tournaments in the past year and would like responses to the following questions:

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| 1. In what ways could you better promote your tournaments to encourage participation from players both within your Club and from other Clubs? |
| 2. Do we need a means to communicate and celebrate the success of our tournament placegetters to perhaps motivate others to seek similar glory? What's needed? |
| 3. Does your Club identify players with potential and provide encouragement by way of coaching and recommendation for tournament participation? If not, why not? |
| 4. Does our tournament programme (content and scheduling) meet the needs of our players? If it doesn't, how should it be changed? |
| 5. Should some tournaments be discontinued? Do all tournaments need to be on a weekend? |
| 6. Should we introduce an Advantage GC tournament? |
| 7. Do you have any suggestions regarding the Wednesday Team Levels Interclub (we will review the combined handicap for next season)? |
| 8. Are you happy with the current tournament allocations? If not, what changes would you suggest? |
| 9. Do you provide rules sessions (essential for all players) and encourage the seeking of qualification as referees in both AC and GC? If not, why not? |
| 10. Do you think that some of these questions could be better addressed via a planning meeting of Club representatives during April? |

Hopefully I have covered most things that needed a mention in this newsletter. However, I am sure Denise and John will keep AC and GC members informed/reminded of AC/GC events as required.

Let's also hope the weather continues to be kind to us for the remainder of the season. Note that PCC will be closed for play this winter season and we will be invited to play at the Waikanae CC. Due to the reciprocal agreement entered into with the Waikanae CC last year our members will not need to pay a per day playing fee to play at the Waikanae Club for the coming winter season.

Sue Dixon, Secretary

6 March 2023

*A reminder to support our sponsors - they are in the Club Programme Booklet,
Website and on hoardings around the lawns.*