



CLUB NEWS LETTER September 2019

From the September Committee Meeting

Lawns Developments

There has been little activity on the development of the lawns over winter. This is part of the plan to allow the area to settle ready for levelling and the introduction of top soil.

The committee is still working on acquiring plants to complete planting of the north boundary. Ideally this should be done as soon as possible. If we can access plants and bark for mulching we will need volunteers for a working bee to get this done. We will let you know if and when this will happen.

Mary has indicated that we are successfully meeting the budget for the development of the two new lawns. That is great news!!!!

Finances.

Club finances are sound thanks to careful monitoring by Mary and the committee.

We are continuing to look at ways to raise money needed to equip our new lawns with hoops and balls. A good opportunity has come with club members delivering the WDC Questionnaire. Thank you to the members who have volunteered. This will bring in good funding for us. Thank you to Mary for organising this. We are also initiating a process to seek funding from local businesses.

Captains' Reports

Hilda commented on the good turnout on opening day, and the attendance of three potential members, as well as a further potential member attending on Thursday. The CCA calendar for the next few months is very full. She confirmed **3 golf teams in golf interclub competition** this year, and that there are now sufficient reserves available.

The **club championship** this year will be a knock-out event with all those entering guaranteed two games with a "flight" to be run for the people who lose in the first round. It will be run in two divisions (equal numbers competing in each with the division on handicap determined by the number competing). The competition will not be played on handicap. It is envisaged that this competition will be played on Sundays, and that it may take two days to compete the first rounds.

Carol advised that she, Neville and Lynn will be representing Canterbury in a match with South Canterbury at Ashburton on Sunday 22 September. She will be attending a captains' meeting at Fendalton on 21 September. The annual friendly meeting with St James will be hosted by Rangiora this season and will be played on Wednesday 22 January. The AC club competition this year will be singles only as there are not really sufficient players for a doubles competition.



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Coaching

Lesley outlined an approach to analysing performance used in England and explained by Chris and Jenny Clarke. The emphasis is on how each shot is executed. She has also spoken with Greg Bryant about youth croquet and strategies for working with beginners. Secondary school students playing croquet can use this activity for gaining NCEA credits, and Greg is eager to make contact with the PE teacher at the Rangiora High School.

In terms of working with people starting croquet, the emphasis is encouraging them to play, not on technical issues, as they are to be encouraged to do what is comfortable. Also, everyone is to be encouraged to develop an analytical approach to the game, not to either be the person who does the telling or who is told what shot to play. There is interest in Greg coming to Christchurch to teach members how to coach, and it would be good to have definite dates.

Opening Day

Opening day was very successful with a turnout of over 30 members. The lawns are in excellent condition and it was a real pleasure to play croquet, and to catch up with so many people. The following week days were also great as the weather was warm and sunny. Not quite so good for play last Saturday!

Greens Group

The lawns have been well maintained over the winter. The Greens Group will be doing some further fertilizing soon but this will not interfere with play.

The lawns are still soft due to rain so members are asked **to take special care not to make indentations**. They are hard to repair.

Club Shirts

We are putting in another order for club shirts. If you would like to order one please put your name on the club whiteboard, or email Hilda neweyah@gmail.com. Indicate the size you require.

Membership

Thank you to members for a very good response in renewing subscriptions. This allows us to submit accurate information to CCA.

Committee meetings

The committee meets again on Tuesday October 1st. Please let Anne Barns know if there is anything you would like the committee to consider.

Wil Henderson
President

