

Like most of the leading
Players use

JAIQUES

CROQUET

MALLETS

Specially made to your own specification. For very many years it has been a hall mark of distinction to play with a **JAIQUES** mallet "tailor-made" to the personal requirements of the player. The masters of the game have their mallets specially made for them by **JAIQUES** craftsmen. Details gladly sent on request.

Equipment for Club or Home.

Single items or complete sets.

The famous *ECLIPSE CHAMPIONSHIP* ball
(Formerly known as *AYRES CHAMPIONSHIP*).

From all good sports shops and stores. In case of difficulty write for illustrated catalogue of complete range free from

A book for the enthusiast
or club player who wishes
to improve his style.

CROQUET

by the
Rev. G. F. HANDEL ELVEY,
M.A.

A most authoritative hand-
book on the strokes and
tactics of the game.
Obtainable at your usual sports shop
Price 7/6

JOHN JAIQUES & SON LTD.

THORNTON HEATH · SURREY

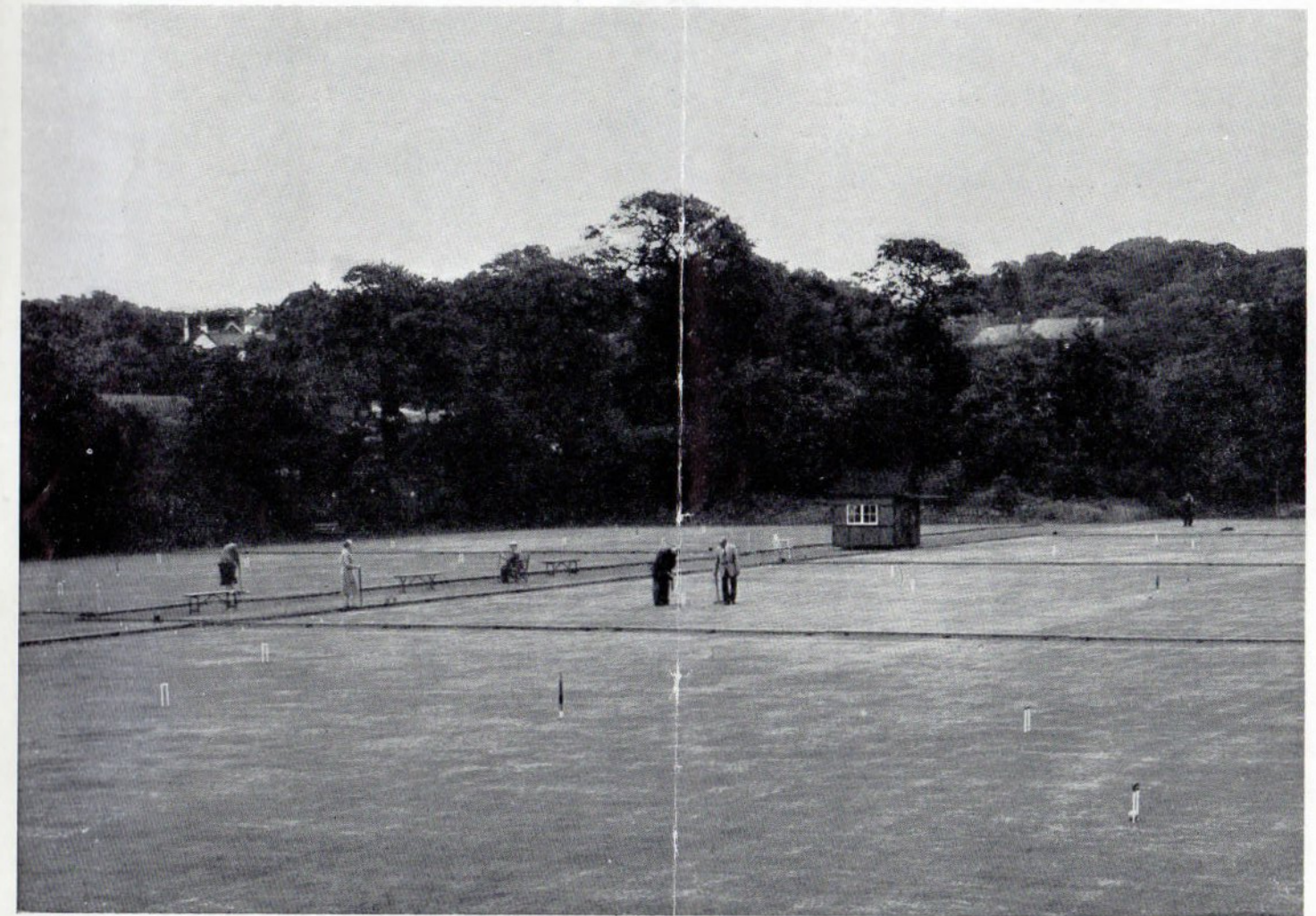
famous since 1795

No 28. September 1957

Price 1s.

CROQUET

The Official Organ
of The Croquet Association



East Dorset (Parkstone) Club Lawns

and equipment by Jaques, of course

TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

1957

- Sept. 9 President's Cup (Roehampton), Surrey Cup (Parkstone).
Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
- " 23 Roehampton. *Games Sec.*, Roehampton Club,
Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.15.
- " 30 Devonshire Park (Eastbourne). *Secretary C.A.*, 4
Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES

- Sept. 9 Cheltenham. *Hon. Sec.*, Lt.-Col. A. M. Daniels,
Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

SUBSCRIPTIONS—£1/10/0

The Secretary will be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions.

* * *

Laws of Croquet Is. 6d. (Non-Associates 2s.).

* * *

CROQUET ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK 4s. (1956-7, PUBLISHED BIENNIALY)

Obtainable from the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton
Row, London, W.C.1.

* * *

Associates who wish to become Referees should send their names to the Chairman of the Laws Committee (c/o The Secretary, C.A.), who will arrange for their examination.

* * *

Official Handicappers are reminded that, when they inform a player at the end of a tournament that a handicap reduction has been recommended, they should make it clear to the competitor concerned that the new handicap comes into force at once, pending confirmation by the Handicap Co-ordinating Committee.

* * *

NEW VARIATION

The attention of Associates is called to the fact that a new form of shortened game is to be given an extensive trial during the forthcoming season, in which each ball will start at the fifth hoop. In order to give this experiment a thorough try-out for all classes of players the Council has decided that it will be played in the following C.A. events.

October—Devonshire Park, Men's and Women's Open Singles, Restricted Handicap Singles and Handicap Doubles.

Attention is drawn to the amendment to the Devonshire Park Tournament advertisement. Events 2 and 3 will be played "Draw and Process".

* * *

ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

Miss M. Bryan
Bruce Buchanan
Dr. C. A. Boucher
Miss E. E. H. Fisher
Air Vice-Marshal F. H. M. Maynard
C. M. Meredith
D. C. Morton
Miss J. L. Preston
Miss M. M. Taylor
Miss C. A. Wade

* * *

THE PRESIDENT'S CUP

The following have accepted invitations to play:—

Col. D. W. Beamish
E. P. C. Cotter
Miss D. A. Lintern
W. Longman
M. B. Reckitt
Mrs. E. Rotherham
J. W. Solomon
Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins

The following were unable to accept:—

H. O. Hicks
L. Kirk-Greene
W. P. Ormerod
Major G. F. Stone

THE SURREY CUP

The following have accepted invitations to play:—

Mrs. L. H. Ashton
Comdr. G. V. G. Beamish
Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave
V. A. de la Nougerede
M. Spencer Ell
R. Faulkner
G. E. P. Jackson
G. J. Warwick

The following were unable to accept:—

Major J. W. Cobb
J. A. Hollweg
Mrs. W. Longman
S. S. Townsend
Miss E. J. Warwick

* * *

ENTRY FORMS FOR TOURNAMENTS

Pads of 25 price 2s., can now be obtained from the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

LORN C. APPS,
Secretary.

NOTES by ROVER

Fiesta at Eastbourne

It was said of Byron that nothing in his life became him as the leaving of it. There are some of us who have long felt that no feature of the season is so delightful as the last, and this year at Devonshire Park should be more joyous than ever. If it should rain (and it hardly ever does at this tournament) there will be tents besides the courts to shelter us, which may be welcome too on chilly mornings. There will be the now customary Bridge and Canasta evening on October 5th. Arrangements, too, have been made for those who dislike "hanging about" to play friendly games or to practice at the Compton Club on payment of the normal club green fee. But in addition to all this—to say nothing of the tournament itself!—there are two features of special interest this year. On October 4th the Mayor of Eastbourne is inviting all competitors to a reception and cocktail party to mark this, the 50th tournament to be held at Devonshire Park; further details of this will be found in an advertisement elsewhere in this number. This generous hospitality will be most welcome, not only for its own sake but as a sign of the happy relations which exist between the municipal authorities and our Association. And finally, the traditional match on the first Saturday is to assume a new complexion when a younger side is to challenge a team of seniors, with expectation and enterprise as the keynotes of the contest. "With youth on the prow and pleasure at the helm," this year at Devonshire Park should be a notable occasion and one not to be missed by anyone who can contrive to be present.

'Well and truly laid'

Experienced players are often asked by those who are less so for advice on how to make dispositions for their next turn when they are unable to make immediate progress. "We know how to make a break," they say, "but we don't seem to know how to prepare for one." There is perhaps no matter in which it is harder to offer suggestions, for the situations to be met are so various. It is indeed precisely experience, rather than any conscious theory, which leads most of our star performers to lay their breaks effectively, and advice founded on this is not easy to formulate and still less to communicate. Nevertheless an effort has been made from time to time in these Notes (as, e.g., last October and in the issue of last month) to make some suggestions on this subject. An important key to the problem lies in the right selection—and the proper order—of the split shots best calculated to get balls on to the court in such a way that it will be possible to make a fruitful use of them in the next turn, whatever one's opponent may decide to do. It is generally best to begin one's turn with a split shot which takes one's partner ball to its (or one's own) next hoop, care of course being exercised so to arrange this as to secure that one's own ball will stop within easy range of one of the opponent balls.

The Complete Angler

We shall now have put ourselves in a good position to prepare a promising situation but there is a good deal more to be thought of, which should in fact have been thought of before we began our turn at all. The clue lies in the right perception of angles: which ball in each croquet stroke now to be made will travel with least difficulty to the spot at which we wish one to arrive. A game recently observed in the Ladies' Field Cup presented an example of failure to seize this point. The player who had laid her partner ball correctly and accurately at its hoop (1-back), was so concerned to send an enemy ball to two-back that she did so at once, failing to perceive that if she had sent to three-back she would have left herself with the easiest of split shots with which to send the other ball to two-back and travel back to her own partner ball. It is of course essential to remember that the penultimate stroke of a break-laying turn should, wherever possible (and good planning will make it possible), be a split shot which brings one's ball back to its partner ball, thus enabling a controlled rush to be laid for its or one's own hoop. The moral of all this is to think before you begin your turn and carefully calculate the angles involved. Don't merely hope for the best; plan for it.

A Fair Question

With the season three-quarters of the way to its end at the time of writing, Rover has yet to witness—or even hear of—any instance of a referee being called on to adjudicate on a croquet stroke. This experimental privilege does not seem to have "caught on" here, though it appears to be valued in New Zealand, whence the idea was borrowed. It is still apparently untried in Australia, in which country the Council's official journal records an interesting case that would seem to have some bearing on the matter. A referee was called in to watch a croquet stroke in which the croqueted ball was lying in contact with the peg, the possibility of a foul being envisaged. In fact the only foul which appeared to the referee to occur was that under Law 26(m). She thereupon asked the striker whether he had moved or shaken the croqueted ball; the reply being in the affirmative the matter could not (with the laws as they are) be carried further. On leaving the court the referee was taken to task by several players for exceeding her powers. The right to challenge a striker on this point being (it was contended) reserved to his opponent. On inquiring of the authority who runs the excellent column on legal queries in the Australian journal (none other than our old friend Col. Saalfeld), the referee received his support, reference being made to No. 6 of the "Instructions to Referees" which lays down that his responsibilities extend to all matters immediately contingent to the stroke. Rover agrees with this ruling; do his readers do so?

Come to Devonshire Park

See Rover's First Note

THE CHARM OF CROQUET

By D. JESSON DIBLEY

MY earliest recollection of Croquet is not, in fact, a genuine recollection—earliest recollections rarely are. It is a photograph: self, aged 3½, plus ball, hoop, lawn—and the wooden hammer used for knocking the hoops into position. From the tenth to the fourteenth croquet season of my life, however, I can remember much. For this was the “intensive” period of my croquet life, played out on a reasonably level three-quarter size lawn (disregarding the land-slide at the third hoop—an instructive hazard that put a premium on forethought and deftness of “touch”; and disregarding the worn patches, the rifts and hollows created on those days when the lawn served as a tennis court or cricket pitch). As often as not, I played by myself: blue and black *versus* red and yellow—sometimes, even, blue and red *versus* black and yellow, just for a change. I had my preferences, yet, oddly enough, unless there were voices crying out that lunch was ready, I cannot recall cheating my favourite combination to an abrupt victory. Since my opponents were figures of the imagination—real people, nevertheless: cricketers, mainly—the temptation to cheat was less urgent, less devilishly satisfying.

I enjoyed playing by myself: I still enjoy playing. Although now, being less self-sufficient and fanciful, I do not care to play by myself, my reasons for enjoying the game have not changed. First, like most enjoyable games, it is played out of doors. More than that, unlike other out-door games, it is one that I find myself, at present, more able to win at than to lose. Other games, at which I might have preferred to shine—cricket, tennis, rugger, soccer—requires more energetic application than I have been prepared to give to them. One must practise, too, at Croquet; but, thanks to my early grounding in the game, I have found it possible to pick it up again and to “get by” in recent years without having to keep myself constantly in playing trim.

This advantage affords another reason for playing the game. I am a lazy person, in so far as I dislike training for sport of any kind. Fortunately, to play Croquet tolerably, it is unnecessary to run round a court before breakfast, jumping over the hoops in passing. Nor, in my case, has it been necessary to go far afield to practice.

But there must be other attractions in the game for a lazy person to go to the lengths of acquiring a mallet, bending down to get the balls out of the box and putting the clips on the first hoop—to say nothing of trekking to tournaments. Most important, I find myself suited temperamentally to the game. I like to be independent, I like to reflect, I like to create, I like to contend. The desire for independence has always governed my preferences for various sports. I have never had any ambitions about the Boat Race, needless to say. Cricket would satisfy me more if I could bat on, irrespective of the number of mistakes made. But, unlike croquet, a fluffed shot sends one back to the pavilion without the opportunity to make amends. Unlike Croquet, besides, one needs quick reflexes as a batsman; and that goes for the tennis player as well. Once on the Croquet lawn, however, one is at liberty to pursue a chosen course of action, unruffled and untroubled. One has to think progressively, creating, in one's mind, and subsequently

in effect, a sequence of events. To realise these, a variety of strokes has to be applied, with a touch as sensitive as a pianist's or a painter of pictures. Finally, however elaborate the strokes, however true the eye, however shrewd the tactics, to be successful one must be mentally and physically relaxed and poised. This last requirement, though necessary for success in practically any game is, I think, more satisfying when achieved on the Croquet lawn, because there it is complete and entirely personal. However fiercely an opponent may glower from the boundary, he or she cannot intervene while you are in play. He or she is not required to bowl, strike or kick the ball at you: your skill in play, your consideration, your poise, does not have to depend upon or adapt itself to your opponent's prior action. Consequently you have no one but yourself to blame for your errors, no one but yourself to commend on the quality of your performance. If for nothing else, Croquet would be worth playing for the exercise that it gives in self-sufficiency and “inner calm.”

If, of all games, it is the most self-centred, it is not, fortunately, a selfish game. It should and need never be that. For there is more than enough pleasure to be had off the court, especially when one's opponent's style of play, his tactics or his skill is stimulating. Moreover, praise-be, the tempo of the game remains more or less constant whether one is in play or not. Consequently, one has, when off the court, time to stand and stare, to reflect, to gossip—if so inclined—and to enjoy or shelter from whatever weather prevails. And these pleasures are no less enjoyable if one happens only to be a spectator. I do not, by the way, share the view that the game ought to be speeded up, though I am as irritated as anyone by needless delaying tactics and timid, defensive play. Croquet players, like batsmen, are what they are, or ought to be, because they are individualists. An individualist is most himself when adopting cavalier tactics: it should satisfy him more to err on the side of fool-hardiness than to be excessively cautious.

One would like Croquet to be more popular, though not too popular. The world should realise that it is not an inordinately expensive game to play; that to play and enjoy it, one does not have to be contemporary of Trollope or Tennyson; that it is as complex, stimulating and refreshing as any non-athletic game played out of doors—and more so; that it is a much easier game to play passably than is commonly thought, yet not so easy that one becomes bored because there is nothing more to learn about the game. The world should know that here is a quietly absorbing pastime for the weary and harrassed, yet, since the demands put upon temperament are great, not a pastime that can be called “soft”.

It cannot compete, of course, with the athletic games, and no one expects it to. A nation of youthful croquet-players would be as lamentable as a nation of rock-and-rollers. But it is a pity that more cricketers, tennis, hockey and rugger players, *passé* or *manqué*, do not turn to Croquet; first, as a side-line and later as their principal summer pastime. Potentially, I am convinced the enemies of Croquet are to be found less in their ranks than on the bowling green and golf course.

Croquet players must try to divert the exhausted athletes from these kindred and flourishing markets.

How is this to be done? Wisdom and experience have been seeking an answer for longer than I have years, so I can hardly presume to provide an answer. Nevertheless, I will suggest three possible answers! Since many Croquet clubs are tennis clubs as well, there should be as much liaison between players of the two games as possible. Croquet players should be quick to make the acquaintance of any tennis player complaining of stiff joints and lack of staying power. Incidentally, moreover, they should never hesitate to point out to the waning cricketer that in no other game will he experience a like satisfaction when it comes to stroke-play as in Croquet. A well executed “stop-shot” or “pass-roll” can be as rewarding as a cover-drive or a late-cut. Nor should they cease reminding the bleary-eyed seedy billiards player that Croquet would provide a healthy and natural outlet for his indoor skill.

Secondly, a club should announce hospitality and free tuition to all local organisations at the beginning of each season. One afternoon or evening for three successive weeks should suffice. At least 50% of the club's members would have to be press-ganged for their services, of course.

Your Turn to Play by Tactician

Solution to Problem 1

This is an exceptionally good problem, given by a leading exponent of our game. The supreme object is to exemplify the need of thoroughly studying the position of the balls before taking action. If Bloggs overlooks the fact that Red and Yellow are wired from Hoop 1, he is likely to waste a bisque. Unfortunately in the foreshortened Diagram it appears as though Black was wired from Hoop 1. This is not the case. The correct solution, then, is for Bloggs to play Blue gently at Red or Yellow and failing to hit, he takes a bisque. He then roquets one or the other—say—Yellow, and takes croquet, obtaining a rush on Red to behind Black. He then croquets Red to Hoop 2, getting a rush on Black to Hoop 1.

In view of the possible misunderstanding of the position of Black in the Diagram, Tactician is awarding the marks for this problem's solutions on their respective merits.

Solution to Problem 2

Mr. Ross's method was as follows. With a jump shot, he ran the Rover Hoop, Blue going off the South Boundary behind Red. He rushed Red to the playing side of the Rover Hoop, took croquet from Red, cannoning Black through the hoop, and went himself to the West of Yellow, which he roqueted. Then in taking croquet from Yellow, he cannoned Black clear of the Rover Hoop, at the same time getting his rush to the Peg. He rushed Black to the Peg and pegged out.

June

Hoopee: Problem 1, 5 marks; Problem 2, 4 marks.

July

Problem 1, max. 5 marks; Problem 2, max. 4 marks. Dogged, Problem 1, 4; Problem 2, 3. Lucky Dip, Problem 1, 3; Problem 2, 3. Hoopee 3 and 2.

(Hoopee's solutions for the June Problems arrived one day after the matter had gone to Press.)

This month's Problems

(1) You are a scratch player, playing in an Open Singles. You play first and put Blue two yards north of the fourth corner. Your opponent lays an eight yard tice with Red on the West Boundary. This you hit with Black and send it level with the second hoop. What is your best leave?

(2) In the second game of the same event, your opponent plays first and puts Red on the third-corner spot. What is your best reply?

No Diagrams required for above Problems.)

Lastly, if a friend or chance acquaintance rashly expresses curiosity, or even just plain ignorance of the game, then, assuming the person to be under 100 years of age, possessing at least one eye and one leg—no more has been proved by some of our most admired players to be necessary—he or she should be called for and taken to the nearest lawn, without ado or by-your-leave, and presented with mallet, two balls and a hoop, and told to “have a bash.” On no account “talk croquet” till they have mucked about by themselves for half-an-hour. The chances are that the fortunate sucker will find himself asking you questions about the game, and being drawn into it, without being so much as aware that he is being “got at”.

Personally, I dislike “getting at” people as much as I dislike being “got at”. Consequently, if anyone raises the topic inquiringly, I can never get beyond stating the bare facts that I play the game and I like it. But I decline to speak apologetically; Croquet needs no apology. For it is, above all, a courteous and civilising game and to play it means—nearly always does mean—that one is playing it with courteous and civilised people; which is not the same as saying, as so many outsiders wrongly imagine, that one is “mixed up with” a lot of dreary, dodderly, snobbish, half-witted cranks.

HANDICAPS CONFIRMED OR ALTERED BY THE HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

August 23rd, 1957

CHELTENHAM

Miss R. M. Allen 10 to *7 before play.
Miss R. M. Allen *7 to 6.
Mrs. A. M. Daniels 4½ to 4.
Miss I. M. Roe 7½ to 6.
Dr. T. E. Ryves 5 new handicap.
Miss L. Wilkinson 14 (D 12) to *12 before play.
Miss L. Wilkinson *12 to 12.
Dr. A. L. Yoxall 7 to 5½.

LEAMINGTON

Mrs. R. A. Slade 10 Club handicap confirmed.
E. Sidwell 9 to 7.

NON-ASSOCIATES

W. R. Bolton 14 (D 12) new handicap.
W. R. Bolton 14 (D 12) to 12.
K. Dann 14 (D 12) new handicap.
K. Dann 14 (D 12) to 11.
H. E. Jones 14 (D 12) new handicap.
H. E. Jones 14 (D 12) to 11.

HURLINGHAM

Miss B. Duthie 10 to 8½.
Major A. M. Hicks 7 to 6½.
B. Lloyd Pratt 5 to 4.
A. D. Karmel 6 to 5.
C. H. R. Penny 10 to 6.
S. S. Townsend 0 to —½.
M. Vlasto 9 to 8.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Mrs. M. B. Reckitt 2½ to 3.

ALL ENGLAND HANDICAP

J. A. Hollweg ½ to —1.
R. C. V. de Wesselow 1½ to 1.

CHALLENGE GILBEY CUPS

Mrs. S. Adler 8½ to 7½.
Mrs. M. Carrington 9 to 8½.
General Davidson 7 to 6½.
Mrs. V. C. Gasson 1½ to 1.
G. E. W. Hitchcock 2 to 1½.
A. D. Karmel 5 to 4½.
B. Lloyd Pratt 4 to 3½.
Mrs. F. Stanley-Smith 12 to 12 (D 10).

DEVONSHIRE PARK, EASTBOURNE

A MATCH

SENIORS Captained by E. P. C. Cotter

versus

JUNIORS Captained by J. W. Solomon

Saturday, October 5th

at 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The teams will be as follows:—

Seniors:

E. P. C. Cotter
Major J. W. Cobb
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden
Mrs. G. F. H. Elvey
S. S. Townsend
Miss J. Warwick

Juniors:

J. W. Solomon
B. Buchanan
D. Jesson-Dibley
J. B. Meachem
G. F. Rothwell
R. F. Rothwell

Reserve:

B. Lloyd Pratt

Notes from the Clubs

Budleigh Salterton

Budleigh Salterton has continued to experience inclement weather conditions, as practically the only rain of the season fell during the July Tournament. Fortunately more normal conditions appear to be returning to date.

We have been somewhat "Dominion Tour Fund Conscious" throughout the season, and are pleased to have been able to forward a cheque for £36 as the result.

A Croquet Gymkhana and Fun Fair held on June 27th was the main source of "Benefit" to the Fund. This consisted of a variety of amusing games, involving the use of a mallet and a number of balls of different sorts, weights and sizes, which were found to react in an amazingly different manner to the urge of the mallet.

A "White Elephant Sale," organised by Mrs. Gatehouse and Miss V. E. Mills brought in far the major financial contribution, whilst the "Raffle" of a number of articles kindly presented for the purpose came in a very good second. A most successful and enjoyable afternoon, was the general verdict.

A "One Shilling" Voluntary Contribution to the Fund, on each tournament entry also yielded a pleasing harvest, and we are very grateful to all those competitors who so kindly co-operated.

The July tournament was held in poor weather, but, under the tactful and sympathetic management of Major Dibley, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves as much as ever.

An interesting match against London is to be played here on September 15th, 16th and 17th. There will be 8 a side, and 8 singles and 4 doubles will be played.

The idea originated from some of our high bisquers, anxious to see some of London's best players in action, which, it is hoped, will include such aces as E. P. C. Cotter (Capt.), M. B. Reckitt, J. W. Solomon and Dr. Wiggins.

We are most appreciative of London's wholehearted response to the idea, and hope that a keen and thoroughly interesting match will result, with 7 out of last year's 9 Test Match Players participating.

An interesting high-light to the Golf Croquet Competition, of August 10th, was the astonishing play of the 11 year old granddaughter of Mrs. E. M. Mander, whose name will be remembered in Croquet circles.

Ryde

We, as a Club, are celebrating our golden jubilee this year. It was on July 13th, 1907, when our Courts were opened for the first time for play. On that occasion a garden party was held, attended by 300 people, enlivened by the band of the 1st Royal Fusiliers.

Times having changed so much since then a repeat was out of the question so instead, to celebrate our fiftieth birthday, we held a successful dance in the Club pavilion on July 13th last to which the Club benefited to the extent of £10. Furthermore we are going to have a much larger dance on Friday, October 25th, at the Castle Hotel, when all Croquet players will be warmly welcomed. Tickets including refreshments are 10s. 6d. each.

Major Dibley is now our President. Mr. A. B. Ward having resigned at his own request, after having held this office for a number of years. We are much indebted to him for all the valued help and assistance he has given to the Club. Mr. Ward, being a trustee of the Club, we are fortunate in still having his guidance and advice.

We congratulate our representative, Mrs. C. R. Farnsworth, in the All England Handicap on reaching the semi-final at Roehampton. She was narrowly beaten by Mr. J. Hollweg, a most formidable opponent, by 5 points. Our hearty congratulations to Mr. Hollweg on winning the event and the New Zealand Plaque.

Roehampton

Roehampton Croquet Team drew against Ryde, Isle of Wight, in the Longman (Club Team) Cup this year. In order to facilitate travelling, Woking Croquet Club kindly lent their ground for the contest, which took place on 29th July. The Roehampton team were J. A. Hollweg, Mrs. Pavia, Miss E. Fisher and Mrs. Adler. J. A. Hollweg, partnered by Mrs. Adler in the doubles, won both his singles and doubles games. We congratulate our opponents on winning the match by 3 games to 2.

The finals of the All England Handicap competition were played at Roehampton on 14th and 15th August, the results being reported elsewhere in this journal. This year the Roehampton croquet representatives were J. B. Gilbert and J. A. Hollweg. J. A. Hollweg, who was playing well, defeated R. C. V. de Wesselow by 8 hoops in the final game, so winning the event.

It is with deep concern that our members have heard of the serious illness of Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson, after an operation in the Putney Hospital. Mrs. Nickisson has for so long been the friend and helper of all croquet players that her presence is sadly missed among us. Miss Lintern has arranged for some beautiful flowers to be sent to her in hospital with the good wishes of us all.

Members would also like to convey their sympathy and good wishes to Mrs. George Solomon who has now left England for a visit to her daughter in Africa. They hope this trip will prove beneficial to her and they will see her on the courts again next season.

Bowdon

Towards the end of 1956 several members got together and held a coffee morning and sale of work, resulting in the substantial sum of £140. This has enabled the lawns to be put into good condition. On August 14th a croquet evening was held, to which, five prospective members were invited; Doubles were played, and afterwards a cold supper was provided by some of the members to which 18 sat down.

The Hon. Secretary has received a letter from Leeds, from people who have only played on their own lawn, and who wish to see a good game. It has been arranged for them to come early in September, and eight or nine are expected.

Whit week and August Bank Holiday, short tournaments are held—and the usual American and knock-out tournaments, run through the summer.

Mr. H. T. Pinckney Simpson thanks all friends for their kind letters and is glad to say he is recovering from his recent accident.

ROEHAMPTON

A CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on

MONDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER, 1957, and five following days
(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

Committee.—Mrs. I. H. Turketine (Chairman), Miss D. A. Lintern (Captain), Col. C. C. Adams, Mrs. H. J. Collins, Mr. J. B. Gilbert, Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson.

Manager and Referee.—Miss D. A. Lintern, assisted by the Committee.

Handicapper.—The Croquet Handicapping Committee of the Roehampton Club.

Secretary.—Mr. W. H. Abel (Games Secretary), Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S.W.15.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. Draw and Process. The Winner to hold the Ranelagh Gold Cup for one year. Entrance Fee, 10s.
- 2.—OPEN SINGLES. Single games. Law 44 partially suspended. Open to Competitors with a handicap of $\frac{1}{2}$ or more. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Open to Competitors with a handicap of $4\frac{1}{2}$ bisques or more. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Games start at the 5th Hoop.
N.B.—No Competitor may enter for more than one of the above events.
- 4.—X and Y HANDICAP SINGLES. In this event shortened games may be played in accordance with Reg. 12 at the discretion of the Manager. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. The Winners of X and Y hold the Creyke Cups for a year.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined handicap not less than scratch. Entrance Fee, 5s. 0d. each. Games start at the 5th Hoop.

N.B.—The above Entrance Fees include the Croquet Association's levy.

CONDITIONS

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 must reach the Games Secretary, accompanied by the Entrance Fee, by the first post, **Thursday, September 19th, 1957.** Entries for Event 5 close at midday on **Tuesday, September 24th, 1957.** The draw for Events 1 to 4 will take place at the Club at 2 p.m. on Thursday, September 19th, 1957. Play will commence at 10 a.m. daily.

Six courts will be provided and Eclipse balls used. Standard $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. Hoops.

Competitors will be made Honorary Members of the Club for the duration of the Tournament.

All Competitors must wear such flat-heeled boots or shoes as cannot damage the ground.

There are facilities for playing Bridge at the Croquet Pavilion.

SURREY CUP

Presented to the C.A. in 1955 by the Officers of the former Surrey County Union

To be played for at the EAST DORSET L.T. & C. CLUB (Parkstone), by courtesy of the Club Committee, on Monday, September 9th, and following days

Manager.—L. H. Ashton

Referee.—Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin.

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the C.A.

For eight players invited by the Council to compete Conditions as for the President's Cup, except that 3½in. hoops will be used.

DEVONSHIRE PARK, EASTBOURNE

SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Fiftieth Annual Open Tournament will start on Monday, September 30th, and continue during the following two weeks. (Held under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—The Entertainment Committee of the County Borough of Eastbourne, the Tournament Committee of the Council of the C.A. and the local representatives of the C.A.—H. C. S. Perry and Capt. H. C. Davey.

Manager.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury; Assistant Manager, Major J. H. Dibley.

Referee.—Mrs. E. Reeve.

Handicapper.—M. B. Reckitt.

Assistant Referees will be appointed under Reg. 15 (a).

Secretary.—The Secretary, Croquet Association, 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1 (to whom all entries should be sent).

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Open to all competitors (see conditions below). Entrance fee, 13s. 6d. Holder of the perpetual Challenge Trophy presented by the late Mrs. A. C. Ionides—A. G. F. Ross.
- 2.—MEN'S OPEN SINGLES. THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Open to all men competitors (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s. Holder of the perpetual Gold Challenge Cup presented by the late Capt. C. L. O'Callaghan—A. G. F. Ross.
- 3.—WOMEN'S OPEN SINGLES. THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND. Open to all women competitors (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s. Holder of the perpetual Challenge Trophy presented by Mrs. H. Franc—Miss D. D. Steel.
- 4.—"B" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 1½ to 4½ bisques inclusive (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s. Holder of the perpetual challenge Silver Challenge Salver presented by the Devonshire Park Company—Mrs. F. H. Chittenden.
- 5.—"C" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 5 to 8½ bisques inclusive (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s. Holder of the Challenge Trophy presented by the late E. S. Luard, Esq.—Lt.-Col. F. Stobart.
- 6.—"D" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 9 bisques or over (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s. Holder of the perpetual Challenge Cup presented by the late Trevor Williams, Esq.—Mrs. M. H. Vincent.
- 7.—UNRESTRICTED LEVEL DOUBLES (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s. each competitor. Law 44 partially suspended.
- 8.—RESTRICTED HANDICAP DOUBLES.—Open to pairs with a combined handicap of not less than 1 bisque (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s. each competitor.
- 9.—HANDICAP SINGLES—to be drawn in one block. THE SUSSEX PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP (see Conditions below). Entrance Fee, 10s.
- 10.—LIMITED HANDICAP SINGLES. THE SUSSEX UNION CHALLENGE CUP. Limited to competitors handicapped at 1½ bisques or more. Competitors in this event may not enter for Events 1, 2 or 3, or 7. Entrance Fee, 10s.

CONDITIONS

1.—In Event 1, matches best of three games will be played throughout. Events 2 and 3 Draw and Process. In all other events matches of single games will be played.

2.—Events 2, 3, 8 and 10 will be played under the 18 point variation, starting at 5th hoop.

3.—Law 44 will be suspended in Events 4, 5 and 6.

4.—Competitors may not enter for more than TWO of Events 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

5.—Play in Events 1 and 4 will begin on Monday, September 30th; in Events 5 and 9 on Tuesday, October 1st; in Event 7 on Wednesday, October 2nd; in Event 6 on Thursday, October 3rd; in Events 2 and 3 not before Friday, October 4th; in Event 8 on Monday, October 7th.

6.—Events 1 and 7 will be completed by Monday, October 7th. Players in Events 2, 3, or 6, may enter for Event 9 on the understanding that they will not be called upon to play in that event before Friday, October 4th.

INFORMATION

ENTRIES.—Entries accompanied by Entrance Fees for all Events except 7 and 8 must reach the Secretary, The Croquet Association, 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, by Tuesday, September 24th. (Do not send Entries to Devonshire Park). Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to the Croquet Association.

ADDRESSES.—Competitors are particularly requested to send with their entries the addresses and telephone numbers which will find them during the Tournament.

DRAW.—The Draw for all events except Events 7 and 8 will take place at the C.A. Office, 4 Southampton Row, London, at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 25th. The Draw for Event 7 will take place at Devonshire Park at noon on Tuesday, October 1st, and for Event 8 at Devonshire Park at noon on Saturday, October 5th.

COURTS AND EQUIPMENT.—Ten Courts will be provided at Devonshire Park and Competitors must also be prepared to play on the courts at the Compton Club if required to do so. Jaques "Eclipse" balls and hoops 3½in. wide will be used.

PLAY.—Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily, or earlier if necessary, and will continue until daylight fails. Competitors in Events 1 and 4 will be notified, and must be prepared to play if they are required at 10 a.m., or some later time on Monday, September 30th.

All competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival at the ground each day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.—No leave should be applied for, nor could it be granted save in exceptional circumstances.

HEELS.—Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

PRIZES.—In addition to the Challenge Trophies mentioned, two prizes will be given in each event with 8 Entries, and the number of other prizes will be in accordance with the number of Entries.

The Challenge Trophies may be held by the winner for one year or until the next Tournament whichever is the shorter period.

ADMISSION.—Associates will be admitted free on production of their Membership cards. Otherwise admission is 1s.

PRACTICE AND FRIENDLY GAMES

Throughout the Tournament courts will be available for practice and friendly games at the Compton Croquet Club. These may be booked at Devonshire Park and green fees should be paid there at the same time. Please read the Notice in the Devonshire Park Pavilion.

There will be a

Bridge & Canasta Evening

at the

Cavendish Hotel, Eastbourne

On SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5th

Commencing at 7.45 for 8 p.m.

TICKETS 5/- each (including refreshments)

Please apply to Mrs. IRWIN, The Lawn, WILLINGDON, near Eastbourne, Sussex, or during the Devonshire Park Tournament

It is hoped that, being held on a Saturday again, a high proportion of the Croquet Players at Devonshire Park will be able to take part.

DEVONSHIRE PARK, EASTBOURNE

50th TOURNAMENT 1957

On the 50th Anniversary of the Tournament

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF EASTBOURNE

has invited all competitors to a

Reception and Cocktail Party

On Friday, October 4th, 6—7 p.m.

Invitation Cards will be dispatched in due course

The Handy Hoop and Ball Gauge

Essential to All Clubs
All Groundsmen
All Referees
Useful to All Players

- (a) Can be used for 3½", 3¾" and 4" Hoops.
 - (b) Can be used for testing size and roundness of balls.
 - (c) Can be used as a straight-edge to determine if a ball is through a hoop.
- Size 5½" × 4" × 1/8" thick, made of Ivorine.

Price in Pocket Wallet which could contain the Laws Handbook as well 5/-, or 5/6 post free, from
W. LONGMAN,
42 CHELSEA SQUARE, S.W.3.
who will give all proceeds to charity



works wonders

After your "Doubles" (and "Singles" too!)
drink a **DOUBLE DIAMOND!**