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TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

1958

- May 12 Peel Memorials (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
" 19 Southwick. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick.
" 27 Inter-County Championships (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
June 2 Men's and Women's Championships (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
" 2 Ryde. Hon. Sec., Miss L. Isaac, Flat 18, Osborne Court, Cowes, I.O.W.
" 9 Nottingham. Hon. Tourn. Sec., G. N. Bright, 15 St. Jude's Avenue, Mapperley, Nottingham.
" 9 Woking. Hon. Sec., Major J. W. Cobb, Farm Hotel, Woking.
" 16 Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. V. C. Gasson, Newlyn, Blair Avenue, Parkstone, Dorset.
" 21 Championship of Ireland. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin.
" 23 Compton (Eastbourne). Hon. Sec., H. C. S. Perry, Hockington House, Willingdon, Sussex.
" 30 Leamington Spa. The Croquet Sec., Guys Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.
July 7 Budleigh Salterton. Hon. Sec., L. G. Walters, 1 Braywick, Budleigh Salterton.
" 14 Open Championships (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
" 21 Cheltenham. Tournament Secretary, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
" 28 Ladies' Field Cup, Silver Jubilee Cup (Hurlingham). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
Aug. 4-12 Hurlingham. Games Sec., Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.
" 12-14 All England Handicap. Area Finals (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
" 13-23 Challenge and Gilbey Cups, Ascot and Delves Broughton Cups (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
" 25 Southwick. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.
Sept. 1 Hunstanton. Hon. Sec., Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton.
" 1 Parkstone. Hon. Sec., Mrs. V. C. Gasson, Newlyn, Blair Avenue, Parkstone, Dorset.
" 8 President's Cup (Hurlingham), Surrey Cup (Roehampton). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
" 22 Roehampton. Games Sec., Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, London, S.W.13.
" 29 Devonshire Park (Eastbourne). Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London W.C.1.

NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES

- Apr. 11-14 Hunstanton (American). Hon. Sec., Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton.
May 12 Budleigh Salterton. Hon. Sec., L. G. Walters, 1 Braywick, Budleigh Salterton.
Aug. 9-16 Carrickmines. Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin, Eire.
Sept. 1 Southwick. Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.
" 15 Cheltenham. Tournament Secretary, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

The Subscription of £1 10s. 0d. due on January 1st, 1958, should be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Laws of Croquet 1s. 6d. (Non-Associates 2s.).
Obtainable from the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

CROQUET ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK 1958-59, 4s. 0d.

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AMENDMENTS TO LAWS

(1) In the April, 1957, issue of *Croquet* there appeared the following announcement:

The following alterations have not been printed in the 1957 Laws Book as the Council has only authorised them as temporary experiments for 1957 and Referees should be specially careful to make separate notes. . .

Law 6. Deleting the word "not" allows the bevel edge of the mallet to be used in making a stroke, especially in the hammer stroke.

Law 34(a). In the past, the player and only he, has been responsible for declaring that a croqueted ball has been moved or shaken but now a referee can be called by either side. . . The law now reads: "After making the croquet stroke and in the absence of a referee appointed to watch the stroke, he must be able to declare that the croqueted ball was moved or shaken, etc.

(2) The Council has decided not to continue with either of these experiments as such. In these respects therefore, the Laws as they stood in 1956 still hold good.

(3) But the Council are proposing to incorporate officially into the Laws, the second of these two experiments.

(4) As a first step the Council at their meeting on the 6th February, 1958, passed a resolution proposing an amendment to Law 34(a) as set out above, and notice is hereby given of that fact. Associates, however, should be reminded of two facts. In the first place such proposal must be confirmed by a two-thirds majority of the Council at a Special Meeting held not less than 14 days after this date before the proposed amendment becomes law. In the second place such law does not come into operation until 1st March following such special meeting. This is the effect of Rule XIV of the Constitution. It follows therefore that unless there is some constitutional change at the Annual General Meeting of the Association in 1958, this proposed amendment will not come into force until the 1959 Season.

ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

F. H. Curtis.
Mrs. F. H. Curtis.
Mrs. D. Kozhever.
Mrs. L. Frenten.
A. E. Whitcomb.
Lt.-Col. M. F. F. Buszard.
Mrs. Stella Harvey.
John Stokes.
Lady Stanham.
Mrs. E. Heathcote.
Mrs. J. Neville Rolfe.
Miss H. T. Woolley.

LORN C. APPS,
Secretary.

NOTES by ROVER

Programme for 1958

The arrival of the first issue of *Croquet* for 1958 will start many Associates thinking of their tournament plans for the coming season, and it is fitting therefore to open these Notes by drawing attention to a few changes from the normal programme to which we have become accustomed over the years. First, there is one major change in dates. The Open Championships are being held one week later than customarily and the Budleigh Salterton tournament is one week earlier. Reference to this will be found in the Minutes of the Council meeting of 21st November, 1957, which appear on a later page. The Open Championships are being held at Hurlingham this year, while Caskets week, when the Men's and Women's Championships are played, will be at Roehampton. This in fact last happened in 1954, the reason at that time being as Rover put it, the disturbance during Championship week caused by the jangling of bells from the polo ground at Roehampton and the invasion of our playing area by hordes of visitors. In the following year, the Caskets were competed for at Cheltenham but in the two following years Hurlingham was again the venue; which reminds the present writer that the first game of croquet he saw was the final of the doubles in the 1949 caskets week at Hurlingham, the last (and unlamented) occasion on which a best of three games was played in doubles in this country. The four players concerned started at 10 o'clock in the morning and the final peg-out was delayed until nearly 8 o'clock in the evening.

A further change is that the President's Cup is being played at Hurlingham and the Surrey Cup at Roehampton. Within the memory of the writer the President's Cup has always been played at Roehampton, so this year's innovation represents a departure which will doubtless be closely watched.

As usual, Hunstanton opens the season with an American tournament during the weekend following Easter. There is still time to enter and you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Associates may have noticed that the Tournament Fixtures list in *Croquet* for December, 1957, omitted the Nottingham entry and also that for the Roehampton September meeting. These appear in this issue in their correct order.

Shortened Game

Associates will recall that they were asked in the December, 1957, issue of *Croquet* to complete a Questionnaire giving their views of the 5th Hoop Variation. The results of the Questionnaire were discussed by the Council at their meeting on February 6th, 1958. There was a response of about 80, which while appearing to be disappointing in numbers, may well represent a high proportion of our regular tournament players. The voting was generally against the 5th Hoop Variation, but in view of the advanced state of preparation of many tournaments for the coming season it was felt that action by the Council should best be deferred until the latter end of this year; in other words, the experiment will go on for the time being.

This is a suitable point at which to mention a suggestion received by Dr. Wiggins for a further variation

to make the game easier and quicker. In brief, the idea is to extend the present "yard line" a further yard inside the lawn, whereby a ball going off the lawn is placed two yards inside the boundary. It will be seen after a little thought that this makes rushes from the vicinity of the boundaries that much easier since the player has a wider range of error. Associates are asked to play this variation in friendly games and the Council would welcome as much information as possible on their views.

Hurlingham Dinner

We are interested to hear that Hurlingham are holding a dinner during their August tournament. The last occasion in 1956, which was attended by the New Zealand Test team, was a great success and we still recall the delightful speeches of Sir William Mabane and Messrs. Ross and Brackenbury. Which reminds us how much Sir William Mabane is missed from our tournaments since he moved deep into the countryside. We understand that the Hurlingham croquet committee are hoping to secure the presence of Sir Compton MacKenzie, our President, at the dinner.

Mrs. Apps

Associates up and down the country will be sorry to learn that Mrs. Apps suffered a prolonged illness throughout most of the winter. It is at times like this that one realises the value of Mrs. Apps to the Association and her devotion to the furtherance of croquet. We all join in wishing her a speedy recovery and may we see her on the lawns this summer as frequently as hitherto.

Mrs. Thom has given unsparingly of her time at Southampton Row during Mrs. Apps's absence while Miss Lintern, Mr. Duffield and, needless to say, our Chairman Mr. Brackenbury, have also put in much valuable work at the office.

Mr. Brackenbury himself has recently been indisposed and has under doctor's orders very grudgingly had to curtail some of his croquet activities, including managing at Hurlingham and other tournaments. He hopes, however, to play as often as he can.

Annual General Meeting

This will be held at Hurlingham on Tuesday, 27th May, at 6 p.m. The notice of the meeting and the Agenda appear later in this issue. Had Monday, 26th May, not been Whit-Monday, we should doubtless have continued last year's experiment of holding the meeting on the day before the Counties competition started. However, a Bank Holiday was considered not to be suitable and the Tuesday was chosen accordingly. The rather unusual time of 6 p.m. was fixed as most convenient for the players and the tournament officials who would have finished their labours for the day by 5.30 p.m. To Associates who feel that 6 o'clock is an unseemly hour to come to a meeting we would suggest that an early arrival soon after lunch will give an opportunity to see some good croquet during the afternoon, to be followed by tea when acquaintance can be renewed with old friends.

C.A. Handbook

The new Croquet Association handbook for 1958/59 is now available and can be obtained as described in C.A. notices. This handbook contains items of interest to every Associate and you are advised to make early application. I have spent many a pleasant hour looking at the lists of winners of C.A. events. How many Associates know that Mrs. Beaton won the Women's Championship as long ago as 1899. In fact, Miss L. Gower, as she then was, carried off the honours in 1900 and 1901 as well. E. P. C. Cotter appears in 1948 as winning the Peel Memorials playing at 1½ and the All England Handicap at -2, a fairly startling lowering of handicap over a period of no more than three months.

News from Down Under

We are fortunate in having received a contribution from the pen of Maurice Reckitt on his visit to New Zealand during the past winter. In fact, two contributions, the second of which must be deferred till our next issue: it is a review of Arthur Ross's new work on Croquet. We are, however, glad to include in this number his interesting impressions on Croquet in New Zealand. Maurice Reckitt was writing about Croquet before many of our present Associates were born and his vast storehouse of knowledge on the game is a veritable boon.

REFEREES AND PLAYERS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The Council is of opinion that a serious effort should be made to improve the standard of refereeing and to this end propose that Mrs. Reeve shall, during 1958 hold or arrange for, refresher courses at the following centres (providing these clubs are willing to receive her or her substitutes) London, Budleigh Salterton, Cheltenham, Parkstone and Eastbourne, and that all referees wishing to remain on the official list should be required to attend one of the courses unless prevented for a satisfactory reason. Mrs. Reeve should report after the end of the 1958 season to the Laws Committee on these courses and the Committee should then decide as to the names of the referees to be retained on the Official list.

The following Questions and Answers are of interest to both referees and players and it would be an excellent thing for all concerned if players would study them carefully and test their own knowledge of the Laws. We hope to have further sets in subsequent issues during the current season.

Question: If a player shoots at an adversary's ball on a wire and moves it but does not actually hit it, has the opponent a lift?

Answer: Yes, under Law 30(c), which was altered last year to this effect. See also Law 10(e) for the definition of *moved*.

Question: If at the beginning of a turn a player finds himself wired from all other balls by his adversary but is in contact with a ball, is he entitled to a lift?

Answer: No, see Law 21, for the definition of a wired ball.

Question: If a player states he will take a bisque, may he change his mind?

Answer: Yes.

Question: If a player states he will *not* take a bisque, may he change his mind?

Answer: No. See Law 46(e).

Note.—A good way to remember the answer to these two questions is to say "Yes I will"; Yes, I can change my mind. "No I will not"; No I cannot change my mind.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

We have considered the application from the Compton Club for a subsidy, and recommend that the sum of £10 0s. 0d. be given to them.

We inspected the available redundant trophies, and recommend that the late Surrey Union Cup, known as the Calthrop Cup, be given to the Cheltenham Club as a perpetual challenge cup for competition at their non-official tournament.

We recommend that the sum of £5 5s. 0d. be given to the Central Council of Physical Recreation as an annual subscription.

We considered the suggestion that an annual subscription should be given to the National Playing Fields Association, and if this is approved by the Council we recommend that the amount should be £1 1s. 0d.

The Accounts and Balance Sheet were reviewed and were recommended to Council for adoption.

NOTES AND SUGGESTIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LAWS COMMITTEE AND CONFIRMED BY THE COUNCIL

on Thursday, February 6th, 1958

A letter from Commander D. W. Roe was discussed on the subject of "Dividing", "Scratching" and "Retiring."

"Dividing." Comdr. Roe says "it should not, in my opinion, be open to the player to suggest dividing to the opponent. The decision of the Manager should be final." On this point the Council was agreed that all responsibility lay with the Manager.

"Scratching and Retiring." Comdr. Roe says, "should a player be unable or unwilling to play through a subsequent round it should be accepted practice that he shall scratch or retire on the peg." On this point the Laws Committee was not unanimous but the Council agreed that this decision should be left to the player involved.

Grounding the mallet, when playing a possible crush stroke, was considered very carefully because of recommendations in Correspondence in the August, 1957, *Croquet*. The Council agreed not to make this compulsory. It might be a great help to the decisions of referees but many players would be forced to carry out these strokes in a way which to them would be a quite unnatural method and it would also have to be defined very carefully as to what exact position would demand this grounding which would be a very difficult task for a referee to decide.

Reference to the experiments in 1957 on Law 6 and Law 34(a) are included elsewhere in C.A. Notices. M.M.R.

EXPERIMENTS WITH THE LAWS IN 1957

It would appear from the announcement in Official C.A. Notes that the Council have decided in favour of adopting the one and discarding the other of the two experiments which were made with the Laws in 1957. Both the experimental laws operate in New Zealand and no doubt the experiments were made with a view to keeping the laws identical so far as possible. It is noted, however, that the amendment to Rule 34(a) will not become operative until 1959 by reason of Rule XIV of the Constitution. This reads as follows:

"The Council shall have power to make alterations in and additions to the Laws of Association Croquet and the Regulations for Official Tournaments, but such alterations or additions shall not take effect until confirmed by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting at a subsequent meeting of the Council (at which not less than 12 members must be present) called specially for the purpose on a date which shall be not less than two weeks after the alterations and additions proposed to be confirmed shall have been published in *Croquet*; such alterations and additions shall come into force on the 1st day of March following their confirmation.

"The Council shall have power to authorise the adoption of variations in the Laws of Association Croquet or in the Regulations for Official Tournaments, under such conditions as may be laid down by them in the Regulations for Official Tournaments."

On 6th February, 1958, the Council proposed that the 5th Hoop Variation as played in 1957 should remain legal in Club Tournaments and C.A. events in 1958 as a continuation of the experiment.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Croquet Association will be held at the Hurlingham Club on Tuesday, May 27th, at 6 p.m.

AGENDA

- Minutes of the last meeting.
- Report and Balance Sheet.
- Election of Hon. Treasurer. Mr. D. E. Buckland retires from office and offers himself for re-election.
- Election of members of Council. The following retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election:—

Col. C. C. Adams
Mrs. H. F. Chittenden
E. P. Duffield
G. V. Evans
Mrs. P. E. Heley
Mrs. E. Reeve
Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts
Lt.-Comdr. G. W. Styles

- Motion by Mr. I. C. Baillieu: "That Rule 14 of the Rules of the Croquet Association be amended so that it shall read as follows:—

"A. The Council shall have power to make alterations in and addition to the Laws of Association Croquet and the Regulations for Official Tournaments in the following manner. The Council shall first pass a resolution proposing the adoption of one or more alterations or additions. Such Resolution shall be published in *Croquet*. A special Meeting of the Council for which a quorum shall be 12 shall be convened not less than 14 days after such publication to consider the proposal and such proposal shall become law if it is confirmed by a two-thirds majority present and voting. The new law shall come into operation as from the Monday following such confirmation or on any subsequent date decided upon by the Council at such Special Meeting.

"B. The Council shall have power to authorise the adoption of variations in the Laws of Association Croquet or in the Regulations for Official Tournaments but only in so far as such variations are expressly provided for in such Laws or Regulations."

- Any other business.

Notes:—

Rule VI. Election of Council

- Members elected by the votes of all Members of the Association.

- Candidates for election shall consist of:

- Members of the Council retiring under Rule II (a) and offering themselves for re-election.

- Associates, duly proposed and seconded by two other Associates, of whose candidature notice in writing shall have been received by the Secretary at least 28 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

- (i) If the number of candidates does not exceed the number of full-term vacancies such candidates shall be deemed to be elected to fill the full-term vacancies.

- If the number of candidates shall exceed the number of full-term vacancies there shall be an election, conducted as prescribed in (iii). On the poll being declared the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be deemed to be elected to fill the full-term vacancies. Those next in order of number of votes shall be deemed to be elected to part-term vacancies, if any.

- The election to fill vacancies on the Council shall be conducted as follows:

At least 10 days before the Annual General Meeting voting papers shall be issued to all Associates giving the list of the candidates and the names of the proposer and seconder of each.

In voting an Associate may not give more than one vote for any candidate and may not record more votes than there are vacancies.

The voting papers must be returned to the Secretary so as to arrive not later than the Saturday of the week preceding that in which the Annual General Meeting is held.

Two scrutineers, not being members of the Council, shall be appointed by the Council. They shall report the result of the poll at the Annual General Meeting.

Rule VII

(b) Any Associate desirous of proposing a candidate for the office of President or of moving a resolution at the Annual General Meeting, except on a question arising out of the Report and Balance Sheet, must give notice thereof to the Secretary, at least twenty-eight days before the date of Meeting, in order that the same may be published.

Associates will be admitted to the Club for the purpose of attending the Annual General Meeting on production of the current membership card.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL 1957-58

The Council records with deep regret the deaths of a number of Associates. To mention but a few, Captain H. J. Pulein-Thompson who was doing so much to revive croquet in Oxford; Lt.-Col. Mathews, Secretary of the Cheltenham Club; Mrs. Nickisson, a member of Council for thirty years.

There was a gratifying excess of Income over Expenditure during 1957 although nearly half of this was of a non-recurring nature. There was an increase in subscriptions received; 48 new Associates were elected during the year.

In conjunction with the Central Council for Physical Recreation, well attended courses of instruction were held at Parsons Green and Hurlingham. The Council are grateful to the C.C.P.R. for arranging these courses and to Brigadier Stokes-Roberts for devoting so much time to supervising them.

The Council were pleased to hear that the All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club had re-opened a croquet court at Wimbledon. On the invitation of the Club the court was opened by the Chairman of the Council playing a game with Mrs. Rotherham.

An exhibition match was played at Folkestone in July in which Messrs. Cotter, Hodges, Kirk-Greene and Solomon participated. It was attended by 80 spectators.

To commemorate the Fiftieth tournament held at Devonshire Park the Mayor of Eastbourne held a Reception and Cocktail party, a gesture which was much appreciated by all participants.

The recommendations of a Handicap Reform Committee were accepted by the Council, the main change being a general raising of handicaps by 2 bisques.

The 18-point game was experimented with in 1957 and will continue during the 1958 season at the end of which the situation will again be reviewed.

A match against Ireland has been arranged to take place at Carrickmines on June 29th, 1958.

The Council desires to express their warmest appreciation of the services of Managers, Referees, Honorary Club Secretaries and all others who by their efforts have done so much for the welfare of croquet. It particularly thanks Mrs. M. L. Thom, who during the illness of Mrs. Apps has given invaluable service, and couples with this its best wishes to Mrs. Apps for speedy recuperation.

Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row, on Thursday, November 21st, 1957.

Present

Chairman The Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, Col. C. C. Adams, Mrs. L. H. Ashton, I. C. Baillieu, Mrs. H. F. Chittenden, Col. J. G. Clarke, R. C. V. de Wesselow, Major J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, Mrs. P. E. Heley, Miss D. A. Lintern, Dr. G. L. Ormerod, Brig. J. S. Omond, Mrs. E. Reeve, Mrs. E. Rotherham, E. A. Roper, J. W. Solomon, Brig. A. E. Stokes-Roberts, Lt.-Comdr. G. W. Style, Mrs. I. H. Turketine, D. E. Buckland, Mrs. L. C. Apps (Secretary).

Correspondence

The Chairman read a letter from Dr. Wiggins suggesting a further variation whereby the game of croquet could be made easier and therefore quicker. It was agreed that this information be published in the magazine and that Associates be asked to play this variation in friendly games. It was hoped that clubs would report results to the Council at the end of the season.

Miss Lintern requested that the Finance and General Purposes Committee be asked to consider whether a subscription should be given to the National Playing Fields Association and if in agreement to state what the amount of such subscription should be.

Notice of Motion

Mr. Roper gave notice of motion: "That an Official Handicapper be appointed."

Report of the Tournament Committee

This was presented by Mr. Baillieu who explained the reasons for the changes from last year's programme. The Report was adopted. The question of the date for the Open Championship was then debated. Mr. Duffield asked what other tournaments would be affected if the date was changed, and was told that only the Budleigh Salterton Club would be affected. The Chairman said that the Championship Meeting had been held as early as the week of June 22nd and as late as July 10th. Miss Lintern said that a change was undesirable as it might be taken as a precedent. The Chairman did not agree and said that it was competent for the Council to change or to refuse to change the dates of official fixtures at their discretion. Mr. Solomon said that if there was no particular reason to keep the date and the change would be beneficial to the Budleigh Salterton Club he favoured the change. On a show of hands it was decided to play the Open Championship in the week of July 14th in 1958.

It was agreed to await the result of the questionnaire before coming to any decision on matters concerning the new 18-point game.

Editorial Panel Report

The Chairman gave preliminary and approximate figures of the cost of the magazine which had amounted to about £100 less in 1957 than in 1956. Great credit and thanks for this were due to Mr. de Wesselow, who had suggested economies in the format of the journal, and to Mr. Roper who had succeeded in securing additional advertisements. Mr. Duffield endorsed this tribute and wished to add the name of Mr. Brackenbury to those responsible for the success of the paper. The Chairman said that the majority of editorial contributions had come from Mr. Reckitt and it was to him that the chief credit of the magazine's success was due.

Dr. Ormerod suggested that as a measure of propaganda advertisements might be put in *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph* during the playing season, giving information about the C.A. Other suggestions on the same lines were made, and it was decided that a sub-committee be set up to consider the matter and report to the Council. Those appointed were Mr. Brackenbury, Mr. de Wesselow, Dr. Ormerod and Brig. Stokes-Roberts.

The Chairman said that there would be no meeting of the Council in December nor would there be a meeting in January unless urgent business arose when notice of such a meeting would be given before December 25th.

1957-58 RETURN OF ATTENDANCES AT COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	Laws	Tournament Finance and General Purposes	Handicap Appeal	Publicity	Golf Croquet	Council	Total Attendances	Total Possible Attendances
Adams, Col. C. C.	1	1				2	4	7
Ashton, Mrs. L. H.		1				5	6	6
Baillieu, I. C.		1				4	5	7
Brackenbury, Rev. B. V. F.	1	1				4	7	9
Chittenden, Mrs. H. F.		1				5	6	6
Clarke, Col. J. G.	1	2				5	8	8
de Wesselow, R. C. V.		1				2	2	7
Dibley, Major J. H.		1				5	8	8
Duffield, E. P.	1	2				5	8	8
Evans, G. V.		1				4	5	7
Heley, Mrs. P. E.		1				5	6	6
Lintern, Miss D. A.	1	2				5	9	9
Omond, Brig. J. S.		1				4	5	7
Ormerod, Dr. G. L.						5	5	5
Reckitt, M. B.						2	2	7
Reeve, Mrs. E.	1	1				4	6	7
Roper, E. A.	1	1				5	7	8
Rotherham, Mrs. E.		1				3	4	6
Solomon, J. W.	1					4	5	6
Stokes-Roberts, Brig. A. E.		2				5	7	7
Style, Lt.-Comdr. G. W.		2				5	7	8
Townsend, S. S.		2				3	5	8
Turketine, Mrs. I. H.		1				5	6	6
Wiggins, Dr. W. R. D.	1					3	4	6
Buckland, D. E.		1				4	5	9
Hon. Treasurer								
Elvey, Rev. G. F. H.						3	3	5
Vice-President								
Longman, W., Vice-President						3	3	5

South African Croquet Association

The South African Championships were held at Pretoria from 12th to 18th October, 1957, and a very enjoyable week was had by all the players, with really perfect weather. There are four courts in Pretoria, two lawn and two gravel, the latter being very fast.

SINGLES

FIRST ROUND

Capt. Belcher bt Miss Jones-Bateman by 12.
Mrs. Belcher bt Miss H. Robertson by 12.

SECOND ROUND

Mrs. Fraser bt Miss Chick by 12.
Mr. Ward-Petley bt Miss M. Simkins by 11.
Mrs. Hepburn bt Mrs. McFadzean by 4.
Capt. Belcher bt Mr. Savory by 2.
Mrs. Belcher bt Mrs. Phillips by 21.
Miss K. Robertson bt Mrs. Freislick by 16.
Mr. Neaves bt Mrs. Neaves by 25.
Mrs. Woodhead bt Mrs. Stewart by 16.

THIRD ROUND

Mr. Ward-Petley bt Mrs. Fraser by 20.
Mrs. Hepburn bt Capt. Belcher by 3.
Mrs. Belcher bt Miss K. Robertson by 17.
Mr. Neaves bt Mrs. Woodhead by 20.

SEMI-FINAL

Mr. Ward-Petley bt Mrs. Hepburn by 15.
Mr. Neaves bt Mrs. Belcher by 10.

FINAL

Mr. Ward-Petley bt Mr. Neaves +18 +9.
Mr. Ward-Petley won the Belcher Cup and The Croquet Association Silver Medal.
Mr. Neaves won The Croquet Association Bronze Medal.

DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

STEEL SILVER SALVER

(11 pairs)

SEMI-FINAL

Mr. Neaves and Miss Simkins bt Misses H. and K. Robertson by 24.
Mrs. Woodhead and Miss Chick bt Mr. Ward-Petley and Capt. Belcher by 8.

FINAL

Mr. Neaves and Miss Simkins bt Mrs. Woodhead and Miss Chick by 8.

OBITUARY

T. WOOD-HILL

The passing of Tom Wood-Hill will bring back many happy memories of tournaments at which he played and the wonderful help which he gave to both managers and groundsmen. During the years he played Croquet few did more for the game and his unflinching patience with long-bisquer partners, his cheerful smile and readiness to do anything for anybody made him loved by all who came in contact with him.

Those Associates who were able and did contribute to the token of affection and gratitude which was given him in 1955 will be glad to know how deeply touched he was and that it was of great assistance at that time.

MRS. A. M. BADCOCK

Mrs. A. M. Badcock's sudden death in February came as a shock to her many friends at Southwick. She had been a member of the Sussex County Croquet Club for about seventeen years. A few years ago when volunteers to teach croquet were asked for by the Association, Mrs. Badcock enrolled as an instructor for Sussex.

She was a very keen player with a distinctive style of her own and although she played singles with zest, she really enjoyed doubles most and was untiring in her efforts to help any beginners who joined the Club. She had a jovial personality—always ready with a laugh and we shall all miss her.

EDWARD CARLILE

The death of Edward Carlile on March 9th has removed not only a player who on his day was a difficult man to beat but one with an exceptional personality, winning or losing.

He was also a quick player, but very accurate with it. Rotherham players—where he had been a member for many years—will feel his loss, particularly those who, whatever their handicap, were so often asked to have a game with him.

Carlile will be greatly missed by many players who, like the writer of this memoir, had enjoyed his exceptional charm and companionship for over twenty years.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1957

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
1956	1957	1956	1957
£	£	£	£
26	26	777	777
15	15	1	1
37	37	11	11
109	109	140	140
28	28	38	38
26	26	94	94
125	125	118	118
65	65	23	23
90	90	18	18
294	294	10	10
608	608	95	95
60	60	3	3
668	668	2	2
108	108	108	108
533	533	10	10
128	128	5	5
100	100	8	8
302	302	9	9
13	13	10	10
37	37	9	9
18	18	18	18
9	9	7	7
25	25	1	1
14	14	1	1
52	52	1	1
1	1	1	1
£1,663	£1,663	£1,680	£1,680

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1957

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
1956	1957	1956	1957
£	£	£	£
3,121	3,121	108	108
102	102	572	572
16	16	59	59
241	241	30	30
1,370	1,370	510	510
510	510	881	881
£3,480	£3,480	£3,623	£3,623

We have received all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept. We have examined the Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account which are in agreement with the books. In our opinion and to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the Association's affairs at 31st December, 1957, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the excess of income for the year ended on that date.

B. V. F. BRACKENBURY, Chairman of the Council
D. E. BUCKLAND, Hon. Treasurer
J. G. CLARKE, Chairman, Finance and G.F. Committee

3 RAYMOND BUILDINGS, GRAY'S INN, LONDON, W.C.1.

17th January, 1958

BEGBIE, ROBINSON & CO., Chartered Accountants

CROQUET IN NEW ZEALAND

A Few Impressions by Maurice B. Reckitt

EVERY New Zealand reader of these notes will know, and any English ones will doubtless guess, that these impressions are inevitably superficial and formed on a very slender basis of experience. Moreover they have had to be written before my departure for the South Island, to be in time for the April number of *Croquet*. I have played in two tournaments—the North Island Championships at New Plymouth and the Dominion Championships at Wanganui; also in friendly games at two clubs in Auckland (there are twenty others!), Rotorna, Hastings and Napier. I have been interviewed by the press and have engaged in a dialogue with Arthur Ross on the wireless. I was privileged to be present at the Annual Meeting of the N.Z. Croquet Council and at a Players' Meeting at which opinions on all sorts of subjects can be—and certainly are—spontaneously and freely expressed. I was also invited to give a talk to a well-attended meeting on "Croquet past and present" which produced a number of questions from a very attentive gathering. The interest in all that has happened and is happening now in croquet circles "at home"—as all here invariably call it—is very striking to an English visitor; we must do all in our power to deserve and to sustain the warmth of feeling to which the interest testifies.

The first thing which we in England have to realise is the disproportion in numbers and universality between our two groups of players. There are in New Zealand 224 clubs, and the game is played throughout the length of the land from Bluff to Kaitaia which on a British analogy would be from Lands End to John O'Groats. This is the first great difference between our situation and theirs, and it is one of enormous significance, for it means that the vast majority of New Zealanders live within a dozen miles of a croquet club and have only to be persuaded to have a look at the game to find every facility for playing it at hand. There has in fact been some concern in New Zealand at a certain decline in numbers, and a woman encountered on the ship coming out here informed me that "Croquet is a dying game in New Zealand." This of course is nonsense, and I was instantly reminded of George II's reply when someone complained to him that his famous general, Wolfe, was mad; "then I wish he would bite some of my other generals." If Croquet in this Dominion is "dying" then one could only wish that our C.A. had half its complaint.

What the game does need in New Zealand is an influx of men players. There are signs that this is due to take place. A new player at the Dominion Championships, Mr. J. Tucker, shows the highest promise and is likely to appear in any future New Zealand team. At New Plymouth a boy of 14 arrived with a handicap of 6½ and won with ease every event in which he entered. He is being talked about as a future John Solomon; and though of course it is far too early to make any such prophecy worth while, yet Tony Stephens is, I think, a name of which more will be heard if he has time to give to the game. It is significant of conditions here that he comes from a little township of 5,000 people, yet this place has a club with five courts and more than 50 members.

At present, however, croquet is overwhelmingly a woman's game in the Dominion, and preponderantly a married woman's game, for very few spinsters appear in the lists. I have rallied the ladies here by saying that clearly they know how to "get their man" but they don't seem to know how to get him on to a croquet court—bowls being the rival attraction. The quality of their women's croquet was well shown in England by the members of their 1956 team, but there are many other women here little behind these in skill. To mention only a few names Mrs. Jarden (mother of the famous Rucker international), Mrs. Middlemiss, Mrs. Purdy and Mrs. Hadsworth (who beat Ross to win the North Island Championship) would hold their own in any company and considerably strengthen the opposition to our leading ladies should any of them be able to visit England.

A third difference between our conditions and theirs, and one which this visitor found rather disconcerting, is that the game is played everywhere without "surrounds" to the courts, the east boundary of one normally forming the west boundary of another. At any moment a ball may travel across one's line of aim or even hit one's own ball in play, and long walks taken to recover the ball from a missed shot can add appreciably to one's "mileage" in a day. What I found most difficult to get used to was to be sure of where the boundary line was, with no barrier beyond it to indicate this.

Courts vary in character as much as or more than they do in England; far the best I have so far encountered are those in Auckland. The town of Wanganui where the Dominion Championships were played this year boasts of five clubs with a total of 21 courts, many of which were in use at the opening of the tournament. The headquarters was at the beautifully situated St. John's Hill ground with its nine contiguous courts. The playing surface itself was, however, disappointing, consisting chiefly of heavy clover on a hard sub-soil which I myself found very baffling, and the problems set by this I never overcame. The results of the main competitions at this large and prolonged tournament, the high spot of the season here, are given at the end of these impressions. All the members of the N.Z. 1956 team were present except Miss Wainwright and Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, Clem being still much too unwell for them to be able to travel from Hastings where we saw a lot of them at Christmastime. He is as keen as ever and Rene was playing as faultlessly as she did in England. Miss Wainwright has been moving house and has not played any tournament croquet this season.

A feature of the "Dominion" tournament was the wonderfully accurate and consistent croquet played by Ashley Heenan who swept the board, winning all four events for which he entered, even including the Doubles Championship in partnership with myself. Ashley is an infinitely more mature player—and individual—than the young man who many of us remember in England in 1949. He is now certainly one of the best half-dozen players in the world, a magnificent shot, with a beautiful rhythm in his strokes and great precision in his hoop making. He has admirable judgment, both as a player and an administrator, and the future of the game in

New Zealand will very largely depend upon the amount of time which his work with the N.Z.B.C. will allow him to give to it. Arthur Ross is, of course, still very much a force to be reckoned with and played with typical brilliance at times. Of the other players remembered in England, Mrs. Kirk played the dogged game for which she is famous, and Gordon Rowling, though not at his best from lack of practice, did well to reach the final of the Men's Championship.

The type of play most characteristic of the majority here presents some interesting contrasts to that in England. For one thing, all but a very few here play with a most admirable despatch and there are scarcely any examples of what our "Etiquette" calls "undue deliberation." This excellent characteristic has its disadvantages, however. There is, to an English visitor's eye, too little attention devoted to preparation for a break—"stacking 'em up" as they call it here. The shooting standard at all distances is extremely high, but directly a shot is hit there is a disposition to attempt ambitious roll strokes, at which it has to be said that most players are very skilful, though a less exacting standard of crispness in the shot is more cheerfully accepted here than it is with us. But very many entirely fair and beautifully executed passrolls are made, though sometimes these skilful strokes seem to be resorted to because the basic principles of break making have been neglected—notably that of the "rush line."

It is very much to be hoped that it will be possible for the C.A. to send over a team in 1962 (when such a visit is "due") to enable our New Zealand friends to recover the International Trophy or alternatively for our players to establish a record of gaining a victory away from home. Such a visit is earnestly hoped for in the Dominion and it is in my view urgent that we should begin to explore the possibilities in a very practical manner at once and inform our prospective hosts of the outcome as soon as possible. But if we are to send a team it will have to be a good one, for nothing less will suffice to make a match of it with this country where croquet numbers its adherents by thousands, and commands a degree of respect and public attention which is in striking contrast to our situation at home.

NEW ZEALAND DOMINION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wanganui—January, 1958

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

SEMI-FINALS

A. G. F. Ross bt J. Tucker +23 +5.

A. D. Heenan bt Mrs. H. Purdy +1 +26.

FINAL

A. D. Heenan bt A. G. F. Ross +26 +16.

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

SEMI-FINALS

G. D. Rowling bt L. Middlemiss +25 —15 +11.

A. D. Heenan bt M. B. Reckitt +15 +22.

FINAL

A. D. Heenan bt G. D. Rowling +25 +23.

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

SEMI-FINALS

Mrs. C. T. Hadsworth bt Mrs. G. D. Rowling +20 +10.

Mrs. B. Jarden bt Mrs. H. Purdy +6 +8.

FINAL

Mrs. Jarden bt Mrs. Hadsworth +26 +26.

OPEN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

(Two Life System)
(21 Pairs)

FINAL

A. D. Heenan and M. B. Reckitt bt Mrs. H. Purdy and Mrs. B. Jarden by 18.

The HANDICAP SINGLES was divided into two sections of equal strength, with one "play-off" for two trophies:—

1. "The English Rose Bowl" (presented by English Test Team in 1950)

FINAL

A. G. F. Ross (—4) bt Mrs. L. Middlemiss (—1) by 13.

2. The "Hurlingham Cup" (presented by Mr. W. G. Hawkings)

FINAL

A. D. Heenan (—2) bt Mrs. H. Apperley (1½) by 4.

BRIDGE

by E. P. C. Cotter, *British International*

RESULT OF CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

The prize of One Pound has been awarded to W. Sweet Escott. R. V. N. Wiggins was second, and L. Kirk-Greene and B. Lloyd Pratt equal third.

The standard of replies was generally much better this time. Here are the solutions—the problems are repeated for convenience.

Problem 1. Bid the following hands with North as dealer at Love All.

NORTH: S—A, K, 9, 3; H—Q, 2; D—Q, J; C—A, Q, 6, 4, 2.

SOUTH: S—Q, 5; H—A, K, 7, 6, 5, 3; D—A, 10, 8; C—9, 5.

Answer. 1C—1H—1S—3H—5H—6H.

This is the bidding sequence that I think the best, for which I awarded full marks. Though I do not condemn 1C—2H I think it is undesirable. I do condemn 1C—1H—2S. This is mistimed and breaks a fundamental rule. Never force when you need a free bid from partner for game. After 1C—1H—1S South must force with 3H. And now that North knows South has got something he can show his extra strength by a telling bid of 5H.

This problem proved the most difficult and no competitor scored full marks.

Problem 2. As dealer at Love All you hold:

S—A, K, 4; H—A, K, 5; D—8, 7, 3; C—A, K, 5, 2. What do you bid?

Answer. One Club.

This is an easy problem and most competitors scored the maximum. To bid 2NT breaks (to a lesser degree) the fundamental rule above mentioned. If partner cannot reply to 1C no game will be missed.

Problem 3. North deals at Love All and bids One Club and you reply One Spade; North now bids Two No Trumps. You hold: S—K, 9, 8, 7, 5, 4, 2; H—Q; D—K, Q, 7, 6; C—Q. What do you bid?

Answer. Three Diamonds.

This bid allows you to bid a Blackwood 4NT over partner's reply of 3S or 4D. To bid 4S is spineless and a bid of 4NT at this stage is not conventional. This tripped up all but two competitors.

Problem 4. At Game All West deals and bids One Spade. North bids Two Diamonds and East doubles. You hold:

S—K, 10, 4; H—Q, 7, 2; D—3; C—A, K, Q, J, 8, 5. What do you bid?

Answer. Three No Trumps.

No other bid is worth twopence. Three Clubs shows no imagination at all. 3NT is a good gambling bid. Note that 3C is no more likely to succeed.

50% of competitors scored full marks.

Problem 5. You are South playing a contract of Four Spades.

S—9, 6.

H—9, 7, 3.

D—10, 6, 4.

C—A, K, J, 6, 5.

N

W

E

S

S—A, K, Q, 10, 4.

H—8, 4.

D—A, K, 7.

C—Q, 3, 2.

The defence start off with two rounds of Hearts and a third Heart is led which you trump with the Four of Spades. (1) What card do you play now? (2) Why?

Answer. (1) The Ten of Spades.

(2) To guard against four Spades to the Knave in either hand. By playing the Ten first, you have the Nine to guard against a fourth Heart lead.

This is a simple safety play. It protects the trump fortress and keeps the Club suit intact. If the Ace or King of Diamonds were in dummy you would not employ this play.

Problem 6. Your right hand opponent East deals and bids Two Spades, and West replies Three Clubs. East bids Three Hearts and West Five Spades and East Six Spades. You hold: S—4, 2; H—8, 7, 6, 4; D—A, Q, 10, 9; C—K, Q, 7.

(1) What do you lead? (2) Why?

Answer. (1) Ace of Diamonds.

(2) The Diamond Ace might be lost if not led but it is inconceivable that a Club trick could be lost.

This proved a blind spot for most competitors. Granted that it is a natural thing to set up a second trick by leading the King of Clubs. But you'll find your Diamond Ace discarded on declarer's Hearts, as the defender did in actual play in a high stake game! You'll find it interesting to try to concoct a hand where the Ace of Diamonds is the wrong lead. Let me know if you succeed!

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Notes from the Clubs

Budleigh Salterton

Budleigh wound up its 1957 season with a spirited display on two lawns, by eight stalwarts, on the morning of Boxing Day. One lawn was subsequently kept open until January 15th and was finally closed down in the face of fierce opposition from two or three of our most enthusiastic "die-hards."

Every fine day the Secretary and Groundsman are now assailed with reproachful, if not very hopeful, requests to reopen! Which is all very healthy and satisfactory.

A very complete programme for 1958 has been drawn up, including the addition of a Ladder Competition among the Club events, and, of general and particular interest, a return meeting of the London match, which was held here last September in such a genial and happy atmosphere.

The match, eight a side, is to be held on August 15th, 16th and 17th, and the proceedings will be terminated by a cocktail party in honour of the visitors. The Club will be "open" to friends of members on the first two days, and to the general public on the last day, and it is hoped that a substantial and enthusiastic "gallery" will result.

The usual May (unofficial) and July tournaments are fixed for May 12th and July 7th respectively, and again the Club will be open to the public on finals day, July 12th. The July tournament will once more be run under the genial and efficient management of Major Dibley, and eight lawns are being prepared for the May tournament, to accommodate the higher entry expected this year.

Bedford

Associates will be glad to hear that Bedford is still alive. After prolonged negotiations arrangements have been made to retain one court, and Miss Steel will always be pleased to give a warm welcome to any croquet players who happen to be in the district.

Hurlingham

One lawn has been kept open during most of the winter, frost permitting, and this has given a few of the more ardent players the opportunity to keep their hands in. Among them we have seen Brian Lloyd Pratt who has recently become a member and has lost no time in acclimatising himself.

A recent meeting of the Croquet sub-committee confirmed the decision to hold a dinner during the August tournament this year. Thursday, August 7th, was provisionally agreed, so Associates who intend playing in the tournament have plenty of notice to reserve the date. It was agreed to make the occasion a dinner jacket affair and so remove the slight uncertainty that surrounded the 1956 dinner.

There was considerable discussion regarding the length of the August tournament and the view was expressed that a greater entry would be attracted if it were confined to one week. The Committee agreed to two modifications which would go part of the way; that the tournament should finish a day earlier, that is on the second Tuesday, and that the big handicap would be completed by the end of the first week. It has also been decided that the Hurlingham Cup should be played as Draw and Process instead of Best of Three.

We have agreed in conjunction with Roehampton to continue the joint weekend tournament which was tried out so successfully last year. It is Roehampton's turn this year to be the venue for the semi-finals and final. This event was one of those which contributed to J. A. Hollweg tumbling down the bisque scale.

We have just learned that "Brack" has been forced to give up the Chairmanship of our Croquet Sub-committee. This news is a great blow, but we hope he will still be playing as often as his commitments permit.

Southsea

An exhibition match has been arranged on May 7th, in an effort to attract new recruits to the game. Major Cobb and Col. Stobart have very kindly consented to play. The Club's one remaining court is well situated for such an event, being in a public park. It is hoped that the Corporation will give the Club back another court if they can secure the promise of more members. The membership before the war was over fifty, and has now dwindled to five. This is a supreme effort on the Club's part to keep the flag flying!

Parkstone

The Parkstone croquet season opens on April 21st and we are all much looking forward to this date. We are glad to think that we shall have Canon Creed Meredith and Major and Lady Ursula Abbey as active members this year—and we are also hoping to get one or two further new ones. There have already been inquiries for accommodation for the September tournament. Owing to conferences in Bournemouth people are booking early and one or two places where players stay are already full up for June and September.

The groundsman has put in considerable work on our No. 4 court—relaying the drain, etc., so let's hope we see the improvement and avoid too much water. Here's wishing all Clubs a happy and successful season.

Hunstanton

The Hon. Secretary's address was wrongly given in our last issue. This should be: Mrs. J. A. Clarke, 49 Northgate, Hunstanton (Tel.: 563). We apologise to Mrs. Clarke for any inconvenience this error may have caused her.

It is not yet too late to enter for our weekend American tournament, April 11th-14th.

Compton (Eastbourne)

Thanks to a most generous gift from our landlords, the Eastbourne Cricket and Football Club, we have been able to have some much needed work done. The turf has been thoroughly scarified and aerated; de-worming has been carried out; and fertilisers, top dressing and sand have been applied. The worst weeds have been tackled by hand and it is expected that selective weed killer will account for the rest. We are looking forward to the courts being truer and faster than they have been for some years.

As usual our tournament has to compete with the rival attractions of Wimbledon, but we hope to reap as usual the benefit of Wimbledon's proverbially good weather. Last year, most unfortunately, entries were accepted for more events than our five courts could accommodate and we had to cut out part of the advertised programme. This was particularly hard on people coming from a distance, some of whom, perhaps, got less play than they expected. This year, if entries justify it, it is hoped we shall have the use of extra courts at Devonshire Park and the programme has been arranged so that every player can be sure of five games, even if he fails to win a single one. These will as far as possible be spread over five days. Transport between Compton and Devonshire Park will be laid on.

Mr. Kirk-Greene, who has recently been rather monotonously successful in winning our Open Event will not be defending his title, as he will be playing in the Irish Championships, the date of which has been changed and now clashes with Compton. A pity. He and his family will be greatly missed, but it may add to the interest of the Open Event by making the result open too—it is hoped the entry for this will reach sixteen and the finalists will receive C.A. silver medals in addition to the usual prizes, and the Cup for the winner.

Intending competitors from away are reminded that Eastbourne hotels get booked up for the end of June pretty early. Incidentally, the Compton Club benefits financially chiefly from the profit on catering. This is not because poor value is offered, but because friends and members give the food and do the cooking and the waiting. We trust most visitors will have lunch and tea at the Club. They may well be able to arrange with their hotels special rates not to include these meals. The matter of running a bar is under consideration.

Roehampton

Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. Turketine were honoured by an invitation to the Dulwich Croquet Annual Dinner, held in late November at the Crown and Greyhound Hotel.

The new President, Mrs. Kozhevar, presided. The presentation of cups and prizes was made by Mrs. Kozhevar, who proposed the toast of the guests. Miss Lintern was invited to reply, and after thanking the President and committee for their kind invitation, went on to explain the work of the Croquet Association, and urged those present to join as Associates.

Mrs. Pethebridge—the late President, was presented with an initialled cigarette case, lighter and cigarettes, in appreciation of her many years devoted service to the Club.

A short musical programme followed, and brought to a conclusion a most enjoyable evening.

The courts will be opening this season on April 4th, so members will have plenty of opportunity to play themselves in during the Easter week-end.

Ryde, Isle of Wight

Our tournament opens as usual the first week in June. Last year, owing to the very dry spring and early summer and the restrictions on watering, our lawns suffered greatly from the drought. There were not a few complaints from tournament players, although the circumstances were quite exceptional and might not occur again for a very long time. This year we are spending much time, effort and money on the lawns and we hope that by the first week in June, given reasonable weather, we shall have six croquet lawns in really good condition.

We sincerely hope that the poor lawns of last year will not be remembered against us and that past contestants, to show there is no ill-feeling, will not only participate again in our tournament, but will persuade new competitors to visit us as well.

Cheltenham

It is difficult to write notes about croquet in February. A lot of money has been spent on the lawns and they look good. Plaintains and daisies have disappeared but it is not yet possible to tell whether any seeds have been left.

Resignations among playing members (mainly due to anno domini) are so far slight, and some new members have joined. Gardening is croquet's greatest enemy, and provides the chief excuse for retired men not playing, despite the well-known fact that gardening kills elderly people very quickly!

A new experiment is being tried this year of allowing visitors to play a few times at a very small charge in the mornings or after 6 p.m. It is hoped that scorn for the game will be quickly overcome by the fascination of it—thereby inducing them to become full members.

Memo

Will all compilers of "Notes from the Clubs" send future contributions to Mr. S. S. Townsend, 54 Lowther Road, London, S.W.13.

CORRESPONDENCE

Croquet Propaganda

Dear Sir,

In support of Major Stone's letter in the December gazette, you may be interested to know that on September 25th last, by kind permission of the Avenue Tennis Club, Havant (of which I have the honour to be President), I was able to stage an exhibition game of croquet on two of their courts. There was heavy rain the night before and again during the morning, but over thirty people turned up and they all seemed very interested, as the majority had never seen the modern game. If there had been any prospect of getting a lawn I feel sure I could have enrolled a dozen or more prospective players. We hope to put on an exhibition game in Southsea early in May, to advertise it and to throw it open to the public. I have lived most of my life within easy reach of the Southsea Club, and had never even heard that there was a croquet club in Southsea, till I was on a golfing holiday at Budleigh Salterton in 1953. I feel that there must be many people who have had to give up strenuous games who would delight in croquet, if only they knew about it.

Yours faithfully,

T. A. CHIGNELL

Handicap Revision

Dear Sir,

1. Reference to a dictionary makes it clear that a handicap is imposed to make a better contest. These wholesale, indiscriminate, handicap increases will not produce a single better game and should not be termed Handicap Revision.

2. The argument of the Chairman of the sub-committee, which advocated these increases, was given on page 3 of the December number of *Croquet*. It was briefly—

(a) "It has been done before at least twice"—

Quite valueless as a reason for doing it again, unless it is shown that on the previous occasions there resulted an upsurge of national interest in the game, or at least some minor benefit.

(b) "With some 65 players having handicaps of scratch or under, the traditional prestige attaching to such handicaps was largely disappearing."

Forty-six clubs are listed in *Croquet*. This gives an average of less than 1½ scratch players per Club and doesn't suggest they need worry unduly about their giddy prestige. However, if they do, let them form a "Minus 2 Club" and get Mr. Victor Evans to design a tie. They could then achieve the extra exclusiveness they wish for, without bothering the rest of us.

(c) "Within a few years the situation could well arise when there could be more players below scratch than over it."

No attempt is made to substantiate this remarkable utterance and a case must indeed be weak, if it has to be bolstered up by so questionable a statement. If we are intended to treat it as a rational pronouncement, what is the point of increasing handicaps by two strokes? In a few years time there would, in spite of this increase, be more players below *two* than over it—a position which would doubtless lead the Council to make further and more swingeing increases.

3. Now consider the cases of Mr. A, Mrs. B and that plucky Miss C. All have reached the age when to improve is increasingly difficult. Their handicaps range from ½ to 1½. They have arrived at this standard only by hard work and determination. They are not among those to whom all games come easily. They have loved croquet and they have nearly achieved their great ambition of becoming scratch players. Now, suddenly, when they are about to grasp their prize, the Council has pushed it beyond their reach.

I say it is an insensitive act; and then to affirm, as is done, that "the net effect of these increases is to leave everyone for practical purposes where they were" is grossly misleading and deplorably cynical.

Yours faithfully,

"C" CLASS PLAYER

Devonshire Park

Dear Sir,

The report of the Devonshire Park tournament commented unfavourably on the state of the courts. I feel in fairness to Mr. McKellar it should be pointed out that Devonshire Park was used for public tennis courts, for the Davis Cup, for the Varsity match, for the County Championship Group A (men and women), for the Professional Championship of Great Britain and similar tennis events. During the six days ending September 17th some twenty thousand games of tennis were played there in the course of the South of England Championships. Mr. McKellar then had a fortnight to repair the ravages and set the scene for croquet. In the middle of this period there was a heavy thunderstorm and the courts were under water.

Mr. Maurice Reckitt noted elsewhere that Mr. Kirk-Greene hit eight consecutive long shots in one game at Eastbourne, and your correspondent was likewise impressed by "the remarkably high standard of shooting in every class; never has he noticed so many 'last shots' hit." Remarkable, indeed, on "very rough lawns"!

Compton has arranged to use three of the lawns, in addition to its own, for its tournament. Mr. McKellar assures me that in June he will be able to have them in perfect condition.

Yours faithfully,

N. C. S. PERRY

OBITUARY

J. F. DALTON

The recent death of the above Associate, in the late octogenarian years of his life, removes a keen player, and a brother of T. F. Dalton of the Woking Club.

He was 87, and one who loved the game. Though only a seven bisquer, he played well down to that handicap—and often well above it.

ALL-ENGLAND HANDICAP

1957 Winner—J. A. Hollweg (1)

Committee and Secretary as for the Club Team Cup.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. A. Lintern.

Competitors must be members of the C.A. or members of a Registered Croquet Club. A member of the C.A. not being a member of a Registered Club must arrange to play at a Registered Club. A Competitor may not play in more than one Registered Club's Competition.

Preliminary Stage.—Club competitions to be finished by 16th July. Clubs entering 16 to 31 competitors will be entitled to have two representatives in the Final Stages.

Final Stages.—The Club representatives will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild System and will meet in London during the period extending over August 12th to 14th.

Qualification to hold a competition.—No Club with an entry of less than four competitors is eligible to be represented. In any match of the Final Stages a competitor shall play on the C.A. handicap that he would have been playing at in an Official Tournament.

Entry Fees.—Entry Fee for each competitor 3s., to be paid to the Club Secretary. 1s. of the Entry Fee will be retained by the Competitor's Club, and 2s. will be sent to the Secretary, C.A., by the Club Secretary.

The results of Club Competitions must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., to reach her not later than July 21st.

Matches of single games throughout.

Prizes.—Winner and Runner-up: The Tingey Trophies; others in last eight, Bronze Medals. Winner's Club holds the New Zealand Plaque. Holder: Roehampton.

THE CLUB TEAM CUP

(Handicap)

Presented by William Longman, Esq.

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—Mrs. L. C. Apps.

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Holders—Hurlingham Club

Competitors must be members of the C.A. and of the Club for which they play. No individual may play for more than one Club during the Competition.

The teams shall normally consist of 4 players who will play 2 Doubles and 3 Singles. By mutual consent, however, the teams in any match may consist of 6 players. In this case the match will include as a minimum 3 Doubles which must be completed and 2 Singles.

Handicaps. This Competition is to be played under C.A. handicap. The gross handicap of any team of four players must be at least 12 bisques or 18 bisques for a team of 6 players. The gross handicap of any pair in a team must be at least 6 bisques. Every competitor must have a C.A. handicap of at least half a bisque.

To be played under the same general arrangements and conditions as held for the All-England Handicap in so far as they apply.

Competing Clubs will play on mutually agreed grounds.

Full results of matches must be sent by the winning teams to the Secretary, C.A.

There are no entry fees.

Entries must reach the Secretary, C.A., by the 1st May.

THE PEEL MEMORIALS

will be played for at the

ROEHAMPTON CLUB on MONDAY, MAY 12th, and five following days

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—V. A. de la Nougerede.

Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. A. Lintern.

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

EVENTS

Open to Associates only

1.—PEEL MEMORIAL SILVER CHALLENGE BOWL. Handicap Singles for Men. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. This Event will be played under the "Two Life" System. Holder: S. S. Townsend (1).

2.—PEEL MEMORIAL SILVER CHALLENGE BOWL. Handicap Singles for Women. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. This Event will be played under the "Two Life" System. Holder: Mrs. P. E. Heley (3½).

3.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (combined handicaps scratch or over). The Lady Murray Memorial Silver Challenge Cups. Entries must be made in pairs. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. for each person. Holders: S. S. Townsend and Mrs. M. L. Thom (5½).

CONDITIONS

Hoops 3¼ in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. At least five courts will be provided.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period. Other prizes according to number of entries.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to decide any question that may arise.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

ENTRIES

The Entries accompanied by the Entrance Fee for Events 1 and 2 must reach the Secretary, C.A., not later than the first post on Wednesday, May 7th, and for Event 3 by noon on Tuesday, May 13th. Entries will be limited.

PLAY

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily unless otherwise notified. Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival. Any Competitor who is not present, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so, will be liable to be scratched.

DRAW

The Draw for Events Nos. 1 and 2, will take place at 4 Southampton Row on Wednesday, May 7th, at 11 a.m.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

A CROQUET TOURNAMENT

(Unofficial)

will be held on

THE CLUB GROUNDS on MONDAY, 12th MAY, 1958, and following days

(The Laws and Regulations of the C.A. will apply)

Manager and Handicapper.—Miss A. E. Mills.

Referee of the Tournament.—J. G. Warwick, Esq.

Tournament Committee.—Mrs. E. Rotherham (Chairman), Col. D. W. Beamish, Miss J. Cooper, Miss A. Mills, J. Weston Martyr, Esq., J. G. Warwick, Esq.

Tournament Secretary.—L. G. Walters, Esq., Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton (Tel.: 548).

EVENTS

1.—AN AMERICAN TOURNAMENT (Handicap). Competitors will be arranged in blocks according to handicap and the numbers of Entries received. It is hoped to arrange four blocks and guarantee each player a minimum of five games. Winners of blocks will play off semi-final and final. The Winner to hold the Godfrey Turner Challenge Cup, and the Winner of the longest Handicap block the L. G. Walters Long Handicap Challenge Trophy.

(Note.—The "C" and "D" Handicap Blocks, and the "C" versus "D" semi-finals will play the shortened game beginning at the 5th Hoop. Full Game to be played for the final.) Entrance Fee, 12s. 6d.

2.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Knock-out). Combined handicaps not to be less than 8 bisques. (Note.—All games to start at the 3rd hoop). Entrance Fee, 5s. each player.

An Extra Event will be arranged if time and Entries permit.

ENTRIES

On Official Entry Forms please.

Entries for Event 1 must reach the Secretary not later than 1st post **Wednesday, 7th May**.

Entries for Event 2 must reach the Secretary by 10 a.m. **Tuesday, 13th May**, and the Draw will take place at 2 p.m. that day.

At lunch time, Coffee and Sandwiches, but not lunches will be available at the Club House.

Teas, a Licensed Bar, and Bridge Rooms will be available as usual. Normal conditions of play. Eight courts will be available.

The usual Official Tournament will be held on Monday, July 7th, 1958, and days following. (See June Croquet.)

BRIGHTON

ANNUAL SUMMER CROQUET TOURNAMENT

VICTORIA ROAD, SOUTHWICK

MONDAY, MAY 19th, and five following days

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—V. A. de la Nougerede.

Referee.—E. A. Roper.

Hon. Secretary.—F. E. Corke, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.

EVENTS

1.—OPEN SINGLES. "THE ABBEY" CHALLENGE CUP. Presented by W. H. Abbey, Esq. Entrance Fee, 10s. Draw and Process. Law 44.

2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 8s.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. "X.Y." Entrance Fee, 8s.

4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Unrestricted). Entrance Fee, 8s. each player. Combined handicap not less than 2.

All games to start at No. 3 hoop in Event No. 4.

Competitors may enter for 3 out of 4 Events.

Event "Y" will start at No. 5 hoop.

Extra Event time permitting.

ENTRIES

Entries with Fees for Events 1, 2 and 3 must reach the Hon. Secretary by the first post on **Thursday, May 15th**. Those for Event 4 may be made on the ground up to 2 p.m., **Tuesday, May 20th**.

Non-Associates (except members of the S.C.C. and L.T. Club) pay a tribute of 15s. to the C.A. (7s. 6d. if they enter in only one Event); but on becoming an Associate any tribute paid in the current year is credited against the subscription.

The Committee reserves the right of refusing any Entry without assigning a reason.

THE DRAW

The Draw for Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place at Southwick on Thursday, May 15th, at 2.30 p.m. Event 4 on Tuesday, May 20th, 2.30 p.m.

PLAY

Play will commence at 10 a.m.

Players coming from a distance requiring leave should notify it on their Entry Form. No leave will be granted later than 12 noon **Monday**, unless the exigencies of the Draw permit.

PRIZES

According to Entries.

Standard Setting and Jaques' "Eclipse" Balls will be used.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Competitors will be made Hon. Members of the Club during the Tournament.

Ten Courts will be available.

Light Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable.

Motor Bus Service from BRIGHTON every 10 minutes. Train Service to Southwick Station.

Free Parking for Cars on the Ground.

The Secretary will be pleased to recommend accommodation if desired.

Twelve

THE INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP

will be played for at the

HURLINGHAM CLUB on TUESDAY, MAY 27th, and during the week

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—Mrs. M. L. Thom.

Referee.—Mrs. E. Reeve.

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Holder—Surrey

CONDITIONS

1. The team for each County consists of three pairs, and the qualifications to represent a County are:—

(a) Birth in the County, or

(b) Present residence in the County of two years standing, or

(c) A previous residence in the County for an uninterrupted period of five years, other than as a pupil in a school or college.

(d) No one is qualified to represent a County who has represented a different County in the year immediately preceding the competition unless he has previously represented that County, or except in the case of a County which has not competed during the past five years, or unless the County he has represented in the previous year is not competing.

(e) An ordinary member of a registered Croquet Club, of not less than two years standing, not being invited to play for a County for which he is eligible, or being eligible for a County which does not enter a team may play for the County in which his Club is situated.

2. A player living in a house other than as an owner or occupier shall only be eligible on satisfying the Council that he or she is bona fide a resident in the County.

3. All qualifications must be accurately defined when the names of the teams are submitted.

4. Each County shall appoint a duly qualified Captain.

5. The collector of a team shall send to the Secretary, C.A., before May 2nd, a list of the names of not more than eight players, from which the playing team of three pairs for any match must be selected, and the name of the Captain. In a match the players may be combined to form pairs in any manner that the Captain thinks fit, but the pairs must be arranged in the order of the joint number of bisques, the lowest amount corresponding to the "A" pair, the highest to the "B" pair. The constitution of the team must be given to the Manager before any match. If in any match only two pairs from a team should be available for play, these pairs must be matched against the "A" and "B" pairs of the opposing team.

6. If the number of Counties entering its too large to permit each County to play all the others, they will be so drawn as to allow any County to play as many other Counties as time permits.

7. The winning County shall be that which wins the greatest percentage of matches played. In the event of a tie between two or more Counties the County which has won the greatest number of games shall be the winner. Provided that in the event of all Counties not being drawn to play the same number of matches the Manager shall have power, in the later stages of the competition, to withdraw matches unplayed which have no material influence in the result and substitute others if thereby an equal number of matches are ensured to the leading Counties. If there still be a tie, the Challenge Cup shall be held jointly.

8. Flat-soled footwear must be worn. Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily.

9. Entries must reach the Secretary, C.A., by May 1st, 1958.

10. A limit of 3½ hours will be imposed on all games. Two rounds a day will be played. Play will not normally extend beyond 6.30 p.m.

11. Law 44 partially suspended.

No Entrance Fee.

Hoops 3¼in. wide and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used.

Nine courts will be provided.

THE MEN'S and WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS MEETING

Will be played at the

ROEHAMPTON CLUB on MONDAY, JUNE 2nd to JUNE 7th

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager.—E. A. Roper.

Referee.—W. Longman.

Handicapper.—Mrs. E. Reeve.

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

EVENTS

Open to Associates only

1.—THE MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. Matches best of three games. Prizes: The winner holds for the year the Gold Challenge Casket presented by the late Viscount Doneraile, and a Challenge Trophy presented by the late Sir Francis Colchester-Wemyss, K.B.E., and the late Col. C. E. Wilson, and will receive a medal. Holder: Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.

2.—THE WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. Matches best of three games. Prizes: The winner holds for the year the Gold Challenge Casket presented by the late Viscount Doneraile, a Silver Challenge Bowl presented by the "Ladies' Field", the Gold Challenge Badge and Gold Locket, and will receive a medal. Holder: Miss D. A. Lintern.

3.—THE MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP. Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. each person. Matches of single games. Prizes: A Pair of Silver Challenge Cups presented by the All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club. Holders: E. P. C. Cotter and Mrs. E. Rotherham.

4.—THE "DU PRE" CUP. Open to competitors in Events 1 and 2 who have not qualified for the third round. Matches of singles games throughout. Entrance Fee 6s. Level play. Prize: A Challenge Cup presented by the late Lt.-Col. W. B. Du Pre. Holder: Mrs. W. Longman.

5.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 6s. Open to competitors in Events 1 and 2 at the discretion of the Manager. Matches of single games.

CONDITIONS

Hoops 3¼in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Five courts will be provided.

No leave can be granted till after the Draw.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition whichever is the shorter period. Other prizes according to number of entries.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

ENTRIES

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees for Events 1 and 2 must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, so as to reach her not later than the first post on **Wednesday, May 28th**, and for Event 3 by noon on **Tuesday, June 3rd**. Entries for Events 4 and 5 can be received only on the ground.

Competitors must give with their Entries the address at which messages will reach them during the Tournament.

DRAW

The Draw for Events 1 and 2 will take place at 4 Southampton Row at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 28th, and for Events 3, 4 and 5 as will be announced on the ground.

PLAY

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily unless otherwise notified. Any competitor who is not present, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so, will be liable to be scratched.

The semi-finals and finals will be so arranged that play in them will extend over the afternoons of Friday and Saturday.

R Y D E

FORTIETH ANNUAL OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on

MONDAY, JUNE 2nd, 1958, and following days

at the Club Ground, Play Street Lane, Ryde, I.O.W.

Committee.—Croquet Committee of the Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—Major J. H. Dibley, M.C.

Referee.—L. H. Ashton, Esq.

Hon. Secretary.—Miss L. Isaac, Flat 18, Osborne Court, Cowes, I.O.W. (Phone Cowes 870).

EVENTS

1.—ISLE OF WIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OPEN SINGLES. The Challenge Trophy. Present holder: Mrs. F. N. Latham. Draw and Process. Law 44 partially suspended. No lift after 4-back. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.

2.—LEVEL SINGLES (Class B). The Chapman Cup. Open to players of 5 bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Final best of 3 games (time permitting). Present holder: Mrs. C. F. Rand.

3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (Class D). The Hutton Cup. Open to players of 12 bisques or more. Shortened game, commencing at No. 5 hoop. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. Present Holder: Miss E. E. Bennett.

No player may enter for more than one of the above Events.

4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. The Benest Cup. Open to all players. Shortened game, commencing at No. 5 hoop. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. Present Holder: Mrs. J. G. Stevenson.

5.—HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y."). The Dibley Cup. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Present holder: F. E. Corke.

6.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. each player. Shortened game, commencing at No. 5 hoop.

Should time permit there will be an Extra Event.

PRIZES

Two for each Event if sufficient entries.

ENTRIES

For Events 1 to 5, together with Fees and C.A. Tribute of 15s. where payable, must reach the Hon. Secretary by first post on **Thursday, 29th May, 1958**.

Entries for Doubles (Event 6) close on the ground at 5 p.m. on Monday, 2nd June.

DRAW

The Draw for Events 1 to 5 will take place at the Club Pavilion at 3 p.m. on Thursday, 29th May. For the Doubles at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 3rd June.

PLAY

Will commence at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 2nd June, and at 10 a.m. on following days. Players not present when called on to play will be liable to be scratched.

GENERAL

Six Lawns provided, which have been reconditioned during the Winter. Standard setting. Luncheon and Teas provided in Pavilion A Motor Bus from the Pier sets down close to the Ground.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Hotels.—Spencer's Inn; Yelf's Hotel (both in Union Street); Osborne Hotel, The Esplanade. Guest House (specially recommended).—Mrs. Taylor, 78 Pellhurst Road, Ryde, I.O.W. (Phone Ryde 3481), 300 yards from Club.

NOTTINGHAM

CROQUET CLUB, HIGHFIELDS, UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Will be played during the week commencing **MONDAY, JUNE 9th, 1958**

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Association)

Manager, Handicapper and Referee.—Miss D. D. Steel.

Chairman of Committee.—Mrs. J. Elliott, M.B.E.

Hon. Tournament Secretary.—G. N. Bright, 15 St. Jude's Avenue, Mapperley, Nottingham (Tel.: 61965), to whom all correspondence should be addressed.

An Assistant Referee will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15(a).

Thirteen

EVENTS

- 1.—"ROBIN HOOD" GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHALLENGE TROPHY. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. (Presented by the All-England Croquet Association.) For Associates only.
- 2.—OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process). Single games. The Final of this event will be the best of three games, time permitting. Regulation 13 (a) and (b) will be applied if considered advisable. Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d. Challenge Bowl.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 5 bisques and over. Single games. Entrance Fee, 9s. Challenge Bowl.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES (X.Y.). Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Winner of "X", Challenge Trophy. Winner of "Y", Challenge Trophy.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Unrestricted). Single games. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. each person. Twin Challenge Trophies.

All Entrance Fees include C.A. Levy charges.
First and Second Prizes will be given in each event.

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 should reach the Hon. Tournament Secretary not later than **Friday, June 6th**, accompanied by a cheque. Entry forms for the Doubles Event may be deferred until **Tuesday, June 10th**.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily, or earlier.
Leave of absence may be arranged on application to the Manager. No leave will be permitted after 2 p.m. on the opening day.
Players must present themselves punctually and must not leave the ground without permission previously obtained from the Manager.
Lunches and Teas will be served each day in the Pavilion at a moderate charge.

Seven lawns will be available and choice of lawn will be determined by draw. Standard setting of lawns, 3½ in. hoops.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition.

Flat-soled boots or shoes must be worn.
Ample Car Park accommodation is available. Buses pass the gates leading to the Club every few minutes, the route numbers being 4, 4a and 5a, and may be boarded at the City Centre.

A list of hotels will be supplied on application to the Secretary.

WOKING

Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club

THE 38th ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on

THE CLUB GROUND, PINE ROAD, HOOK HEATH, WOKING

On **MONDAY, JUNE 9th, 1958, and following days**

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—Mrs. L. C. Apps, Major J. W. Cobb, Brig. T. S. Omond, A. McClure Williams and T. F. Dalton.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. E. E. Turner.

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

Hon. Secretary.—Major J. W. Cobb, Farm Hotel, Woking.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. Best of three games. The winner will be entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Club Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 10s.
 - 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. Class B. Open to competitors handicapped at 4 to 7 bisques inclusive. Winner entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament whichever is the shorter period the Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. H. T. Farris. Entrance Fee, 8s. "Law 44 partially suspended."
 - 3.—LEVEL SINGLES. Class C. Open to competitors handicapped at 7½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s. "Law 44 suspended."
- N.B.—No competitor may enter for more than one of the above Events.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 8s. Unrestricted. The winner will be entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Challenge Bowl presented by the late Mrs. J. M. Miles.

Fourteen

5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined handicaps 4 or over. Entrance Fee, 8s. each competitor. The winners will be entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Challenge Cups presented by Mrs. E. E. Turner.

Players will be expected to play until 7 p.m. or after if required.

CONDITIONS

Non-Associates pay a tribute of 10s. to the C.A. when playing in an Official Tournament, or 5s. if they compete in one event only (except in a Tournament promoted by their own Club), when they pay such C.A. Tribute, if any, as the Local Committee may determine, but on becoming an Associate any tribute paid during the current year is refunded or credited against the subscription.

First and Second Prizes will be given for each Event; and semi-final prizes if sufficient entries.

3½ in. hoops and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used.

Six Courts will be provided on the Ground.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

Tea can be obtained on the Ground.

The Club Ground is 1½ miles from Woking Station.

Taxis can be obtained. Bus Service.

Accommodation—Hotels: Albion, Wheatshaf, Farm, Cotteridge and Heathside.

ENTRIES

Entries for all Events except No. 5 must reach the Hon. Secretary by first post on **Friday, June 6th**. Entries for No. 5 close on **Tuesday, June 10th**, at the Club, at 2 p.m.

THE DRAW

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 will take place in the Pavilion on the Club Ground at 11 a.m. on **Friday, June 6th**.

The Draw for No. 5 at 2 p.m. on **Tuesday, June 10th**.

PLAY

Play will begin at 10.30 a.m. unless otherwise notified.

Players required on Monday will be notified. Competitors in Events 1 and 2 must be prepared to play on Monday. Any competitor who leaves the Ground without the permission of the Manager, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so will be liable to be scratched.

PARKSTONE (East Dorset)

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, JUNE 16th-21st, 1958

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—Croquet Committee of the Parkstone Club.

Manager and Handicapper.—V. A. de la Nougerede.

Referee.—Lt.-Col. F. E. W. Baldwin.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. V. C. Gasson, L.T. and Croquet Club, Salterns Road, Parkstone, Dorset.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Lives." Entrance Fee, 10s. Dorset Salver and Halse Cup.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. Law 44 suspended. For players of 3½-7 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Deshon Cup.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players of 7½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Cope Cup.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y."). Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. Bishop Cup and Evans Rose Bowl.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d. each player.
Extra Events will be arranged time permitting.

CONDITIONS

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4, must reach the Hon. Secretary before midday **Thursday, June 12th**. Entries for Event 5 close midday on **Tuesday, June 17th**. The Draw will take place at the Club on **Thursday, June 12th**, at 3 p.m.

COMPTON, EASTBOURNE

ANNUAL OPEN TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, JUNE 23rd, to SATURDAY, JUNE 28th

The 5 Compton lawns at the Saffrons and 3 lawns at Devonshire Park will be used.

(Transport between the two venues will be laid on. Average time for journey 3 minutes)

Manager and Handicapper.—Major J. H. Dibley, M.C.

Referee.—Mr. R. V. N. Wiggins.

Committee.—The Committee of the Compton Croquet Club.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process). Challenge Cup. Holder: Mr. L. Kirk-Greene. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 2.—"B" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 4½ to 7½ bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 3.—"C" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 8 to 11 bisques inclusive. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 4.—"D" LEVEL SINGLES. Open to competitors handicapped at 12 bisques or over. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 5.—RESTRICTED HANDICAP DOUBLES. Open to pairs with a combined handicap of not less than 4 bisques. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. per player.
- 6.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Challenge Cup. Holder: Mrs. E. Rotherham. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 7.—LIMITED HANDICAP. Open to those who have not competed in Event 1 and have been defeated in their first match in Event 6. Entries will be accepted at the Club on **Wednesday, June 25th**. Entrance Fee, 5s. 0d.
- 8.—THE ALL COMPTON PLATE. A handicap event, for which all are expected to enter, but only those, who have competed in all events for which they are eligible and have been defeated in their first match in each, will actually play. A Piece of Plate (Old Earthenware). Entrance Fee, 1s. 0d.

CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION

Hoops 3½ in. wide. Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Flat-soled footwear must be worn.

Competitors may enter for one only of Events 1 to 4. Law 44 will be suspended for Events 2, 3 and 4. Two prizes will be given in each event. Entrance Fees include C.A. levy.

Lunch and Tea will be available at the Club.

Entries to be sent to H. C. S. Perry, Hockington House, Willington, Eastbourne. Those for Events 1 to 4 and 6 will not be accepted after first post on **Thursday, June 19th**. Entries for Event 5 will be received up to noon on **Tuesday, June 24th**.

Owing to the exceptionally heavy programme (every player can be assured of five games), numbers for each event will be limited and to avoid disappointment early entry is strongly advised. The Committee reserve the right to refuse an entry without assigning a reason.

The Draw will take place at Compton Croquet Club at 2 p.m. on **Thursday, June 19th, 1958**.

Play will commence each day at 10 a.m. (or earlier, if so arranged by the Manager).

For further information please read Compton's Club Notes on page 9.

The attention of Club Secretaries is drawn to the desirability of trying to obtain special terms for tournament visitors at local hotels. It is suggested that only such hotels as are willing to make concessions should receive special mention in the tournament advertisements.

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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.

CARRICKMINES

Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club

CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING OF IRELAND

SATURDAY, 21st JUNE, to SATURDAY, 28th JUNE, 1958

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

Manager.—Lady Fitzgerald.

Referee.—To be appointed.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. B. T. O'Reilly, Ballynamote, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin.

EVENTS

- 1.—CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND. Silver Salver (Perpetual). Presented by P. D. Matthews, Esq. Rule 44. Entrance Fee, 12s. Holder: Commander I. V. J. Beamish.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. Challenge Cup (Perpetual). Presented by the late J. W. Green, Esq. 5 bisques and over. Single games, no lifts. Entrance Fee, 8s. Holder: R. Armstrong.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Founders Cup (Perpetual). Entrance Fee, 8s. Holder: R. J. Leonard.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Stonebrook Cups (Perpetual). Presented by the late Col. Cooke. Single games. Entrance Fee, 8s. each player. Holders: J. and Mrs. Stokes.

Entries for all Events will close on **Tuesday, June 17th**, at 6 p.m., and the Draw will then take place.

Play will commence at 10.30 a.m. on **Saturday, June 21st**. Competitors residing over 25 miles distance from Dublin will not be required for play until 10 a.m. on **Monday, June 23rd**.

Standard setting and Jaques' "Eclipse" balls will be used. Flat-soled shoes must be worn.

The committee reserve the right of refusing any entry without assigning a reason.

LEAMINGTON SPA

AN OPEN TOURNAMENT

will be held on the

CLUB GROUND on **MONDAY, JUNE 30th, 1958, and the five following days**

Manager and Handicapper.—Miss A. E. Mills.

Hon. Secretary.—E. Sidwell, Croquet Secretary, Warwickshire Croquet Club, Guy's Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.

EVENTS

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Life" System. The Midland Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 10s. (If less than six entries, this will be played as an American.)
 - 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. 3½ bisques and over. Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- Players may only enter for one of the above.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (X.Y.). Open to all. Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 10s.
 - 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Challenge Silver Salvagers. Entrance Fee, 8s. per player.

Two prizes will be given for each event.

All Challenge Trophies to be held by the winner for one year.

CONDITIONS

Entries, with Entrance Fees, must reach the Hon. Secretary, by the first post on **Thursday, June 26th**. Entries for Event 4 may be made on the ground, up to 2.30 p.m., on **Tuesday, July 1st**.

Draws for Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place in the Club House at 2.30 p.m. on **Thursday, June 26th**.

Five courts provided. Equipment by Jaques. Competitors required at 10 a.m. on **Monday**, will be notified.

All other competitors should be on the ground by 11.30 a.m. Play will begin at 10 a.m. unless otherwise ordered.

Flat-soled footwear must be worn. Bridge. Licensed bar. Lunches and Teas at the Club.

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