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Number 88

July 1966

## J W Solomon

# ● Croquet ●

John Solomon's book has been eagerly awaited by all croquet players. As one would expect from the author, it is a really authoritative manual, based on long experience and much thought. It will surely help any player, from novice to expert, to progress towards championship class. The text is lucid and is greatly enhanced by more than 20 drawings of equal clarity. A chapter is devoted to elucidating some of the more difficult Laws. Most of the 12 photographs - some specially taken - show Mr. Solomon in action on the court.

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**JAQUES EQUIPMENT, WHEREVER CROQUET IS PLAYED**

## CALENDAR FIXTURES 1966

- July 11-17 CHALLENGE & GILBEY CUPS. Roehampton. Sec. C. A. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6.
- " 18-23 CHELTENHAM. Hon. Tourn. Sec. Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
- " 18-23 COLCHESTER. (Non-official). Hon. Tourn. Sec. E. P. Duffield, 5 Acland Ave, Colchester.
- " 25-30 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS. Hurlingham. Sec. C. A. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6.
- Aug 1-10 HURLINGHAM. Games Sec. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6. (NOT the C. A. Sec.)
- " 6-13 CHAMPIONSHIPS OF COUNTY DUBLIN. (Non-official) Hon. Sec. Croquet Club, Carrickmines, Dublin.
- " 12-14 CHELTENHAM. (American) (Non-official) Hon. Tourn. Sec. Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
- " 15-20 NOTTINGHAM. Hon. Tourn. Sec. F. B. Stephens, Ebor House, 24 Gladstone Terrace, Grantham, Lincs.
- " 22-27 SOUTHWICK. Hon. Tourn. Sec. Mrs W. A. Naylor, 60 Southwick Street, Southwick, Sussex.
- " 29- Sept 3rd SOUTHWICK. (Non-official) Hon. Tourn. Sec. Mrs W. A. Naylor, 60 Southwick St, Southwick, Sussex.
- Aug 29- Sept 3rd HUNSTANTON. Hon. Sec. Mrs A. N. Rolfe, Weathercocks, Heacham, Kings Lynn, Norfolk.
- " 5-9 PRESIDENTS CUP. Hurlingham. Sec. C. A. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6.
- " 5-9 CHAIRMAN'S SALVER-Hunstanton. Sec. C. A. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6.
- " 5-9 SURREY CUP. Cheltenham. Sec. C. A. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6.
- " 5-10 PARKSTONE. Hon. Sec. Mrs McMordie, Yapton, Delhi Close, Parkstone, Dorset.
- Sept 13-15 ALL ENGLAND HANDICAP AREA FINALS. Roehampton. Sec. C. A. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6.
- " 16-19 OLD BOYS EVENT. Cheltenham. Hon. Tourn. Sec. Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.
- " 19-24 ROEHAMPTON. Games Sec. Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, S. W. 15.
- " 26- Oct 8th DEVONSHIRE PARK. Sec. C. A. The Hurlingham Club, S. W. 6.
- " 14-16 CHELTENHAM. (American) (Non-official) Hon. Tourn. Sec. Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.

## CROQUET ASSOCIATION NOTICES

**G**REAT EFFORTS are being made to re-vitalize the Norwich Croquet Club - which faces dissolution unless new members can be found.

On Mrs Reeves death, Mrs L. C. Bower, Fieldgate, Town Close Rd, Norwich took over as Hon. Secretary and has started an advertising campaign to get new members. Both Mr. & Mrs Bower are keen and willing to give time and energy to get the Club on its feet. Will any Associate having friends in the neighbourhood who might possibly be interested - help the cause of croquet by putting them in touch with Mrs Bower.

Thanks to the energy and initiative of the new Hon. Secretary of the Cassiobury Club - Mrs K. Clark, 113 Cassiobury Park Avenue, Watford (Watford 28899) - who took all the trouble to come up to London for discussion on ways and means - and also personal instruction on points of play - Cassiobury Club has made a good beginning with about 9 new members - and Mrs Clark now feels optimistic about its' future.

The attention of members is drawn to Rule XXV of the C. A. Constitution - which reads:-

**"Resignation"**  
An associate desirous of resigning shall give notice to the Secretary not later than the 30th November; otherwise such associate shall be liable for the subscription for the following year.

There are still quite a lot of unpaid subscriptions. Please send yours NOW.

The Hon. Treasurer's telephone number is now 08925373 and can be dialled direct.

The Budleigh Salterton Club is 2548, and Col. G. E. Cave, Hon. Secretary 3447.

As telephone numbers are all changing now, I fear it is not possible to publish them - most unfortunately they changed too late for the new Handbook.

Associates will have seen by the advertisement that the Challenge & Gilbey Cups competition is being run as one big American Tournament - thus ensuring at least 5 Games for everybody.

V. C. Gasson.

## NEW ASSOCIATES

M. S. BUSHNELL	28 Patterdale Rd, Woodthorpe, Nottingham.
MRS. H. J. O'REILLY	Shandola, Radley Road, Warlingham, Surrey.
MR. & MRS E. P. TOMLINSON	313 Upper Richmond Rd, Putney, S. W. 15.
MISS A. VICK	25 The Grove, Cheltenham.
A. R. BYRNE	157 Woodside Road, Amersham, Bucks.

## NOTES by ROVER

### A Surrey Comeback

**S**URREY'S recovery of the County Championship after eight years domination of the event by Middlesex, recalls their keen rivalry during the inter-war years, and indeed for ten years from 1948 to 1958. Middlesex began annexing the title before World War 1. and now 55 years later have a total of 20 victories. Surrey first won in 1922 under the energetic leadership of Ben Apps, and have now a score of 15. It is of course quite understandable that metropolitan counties should start with a 'built-in' advantage in such a competition as this, and suggestions have sometimes been made for countering this 'flying start'. It is difficult, however, to see how anything of this sort could be achieved without profoundly modifying, if not destroying, the character and significance of the event. After all, their dominance has been overcome by provincial teams in the past, four times by Hampshire and three times each by Bedford and Kent. Sussex at various times and Devon of late years have come very close indeed to victory.

Another sort of 'reform' would have much to be said for it if only it were practicable, namely to play the event over a long week-end, thus allowing some of our brilliant young players to take at any rate some part in it. But to ask a London club to surrender the opportunity of play by its members for a whole week-end is no doubt to ask too much. Finally, cannot more enterprise be shown in organising new county teams, or formerly competing ones such as Oxford, Berks and Bucks, first initiated, and for several years captained by Basil Brackenbury.

### Desegregation

**S**URREY'S VICTORY in the County Championship was not the only change in the winners of C. A. official tournaments this season, for in the following week the Men's Championship was won by Humphrey Hicks, this time after a break of only four years. It was, of course, no surprise to find Humphrey winning one of the three major titles, as he is never far from the top on these occasions, and was appearing in this final for the third consecutive year, but it was the first time in three seasons that John Solomon had been beaten in a best-of-three match. We note that on the last occasion Humphrey won in Caskets, he took the President's Cup the same year. It was pleasant to find such a high-bisque lady winning in the mixed doubles, though again no surprise that her partner should be Humphrey.

It was, however, entirely expected that the Women's final should have been contested by Hope Rotherham and Joan Warwick, as these two have dominated women's croquet since 1959, and it seems that only the luck of the draw can prevent a repetition of the same dramatis personae in each successive final. This, indeed, highlights the distressing feature of the week, that there are no new ladies reaching the top class, and so few entering the top events, although there seems no obvious reason why men should succeed more than women. One radical step has

already been taken, in the suspension for one year at least of the Ladies' Field Cup: this prompts the suggestion of a possible follow-up in the abolition of this rather antiquated piece of sexual segregation in favour of a truly open, and integrated, singles and doubles Championship in this week.

### "The Rigours of the Game"

**Y**OUR CORRESPONDENT'S thoughts are going back to the days when the lamented "Ladies' Eight" was known, with amused affection, as the "Ladies' Hate" (or, more classically by Mr. Cotter, as "Odium Mulierum"), and when it was not unknown for a certain gentleman champion to stalk away from a match he had lost and ceremonially destroy his mallet - presumably in order to assuage his disappointment as well as sacrifice ritually the offending instrument of fate.

Is there a danger nowadays of the game becoming too fulsome and, perhaps, not intense enough? It is, rightly not the custom for players to shake hands after a match, and this reflects the old rigorist attitude. Croquet is a game that one plays to win and not a spineless fuddle for summer afternoons. Indeed it is positively unsporting of any victor to expect from his luckless opponent more than the formal: "Thank you very much" (in a voice that doesn't); or, better still: "It was a very nice game" (after one has lost by 26); or: "I laid out your breaks too accurately for you this time." The best sourness-in-defeat comment that comes to mind was after a dour and very fraught handicap doubles final of the five-and-a-half hours variety, when the long-bisqueur's minus partner was heard to remark, deliberately in his partner's hearing: "It's difficult to play against three opponents. If my partner had made one decent stroke in the whole match we could have won easily."

If Associates become too 'cosy' about their tournament matches - fawning over their victorious opponents with cloying insincerity: "I knew I had no chance against you and I feel I was very lucky to get on as far as I did" (meaning: "I know you think yourself a better player than I am, but if I'd had a bit of luck I'd have beaten you"); or: "It was a really exciting game" (i.e. "You had a lucky win") - the game will suffer. After all the defeated player is being consigned to the Extra (5th hoop start, 2 hour time limit), and it is asking too much of him to be pleased about it. It is quite enough for the winner to enjoy the fruits of victory without expecting his vanquished opponent to make him feel good about it as well.

Three points for losers: 1. Don't toady to your opponent. 2. Don't make him feel he has had an enjoyable game. 3. On NO account help him to clear up the court.

By putting an exaggerated premium on "being a good loser" we are encouraging hypocrisy. Triumph in Victory - Bitterness in Defeat. It would be a sad day for Croquet if these very human antitheses became blurred into an insipid false bonhomie.

# Annual General Meeting

Report of Annual General Meeting held at the Hurlingham Club on Monday, 23rd May 1966

Apologies:- Dr. C. A. Boucher, Mrs L. H. Turketine, A. D. Karmel, Miss E. J. Warwick and Mrs R. R. Williams.

Present:- M. B. Reckitt (Chairman) J. M. Rivington, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, Cmdr. G. Borrett, D. C. Caporn, Major J. H. Dibley, G. V. Evans, Miss D. A. Lintern, D. W. Miller, Lt. Col. D. M. C. Prichard, E. A. Roper, Mrs E. Rotherham, Lt. Cmdr. G. W. Style, J. W. Solomon, L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts, W. Longman, E. P. Duffield, Mrs. S. M. Adler, Miss W. Adye, I. Baillieu, Mrs H. F. Chittenden, A. J. Cooper, R. J. Ede, Miss K. D. Hickson, Mrs A. Isaacs, Mrs W. Longman, Mr & Mrs T. S. Oliver, Miss H. D. Parker, Miss H. M. Pass, W. B. C. Paynter, Dr. H. J. Penny, Mrs M. B. Reckitt, Mr & Mrs L. Riggall, Mrs E. A. Roper, Mrs P. D. Showan, Dr. R. B. M. Smartt, Mrs B. L. Sundius-Smith, Mrs M. L. Thom, J. G. Warwick.

## M. B. Reckitt's Speech

I have been called in as a sort of Referee to arbitrate between a potential insurgent democracy of rank and file Associates and the Executive powers of your chosen representatives - The Council. This being so, before any such clash can develop I want to say only two things... to stress to the rank and file present that this is an opportunity of which they ought to make full use. If there is anything you want to know, ask about it; if there is any constructive criticism you want to offer, tell us about it. This is what we are here for. This is your day - make the most of it. The second thing I want to say at this point is that it is only fitting in a year like this when our Association has suffered such unusually heavy losses by death, that we should spend a few minutes remembering some at any rate of those whom we shall not see amongst us again. Two of these were exceptionally notable and hard working members of our Council - Muriel Reeve and Basil Brackenbury. I first met Muriel Reeve more than 50 years ago. What we chiefly recall of her today I think is her devoted work for many years as a Referee and Manager and her long service on the Laws Committee. 'Brack' as we all called him - was one of the most energetic servants of the game and it is to him that we owe the revivication of our journal. If there was always an iron hand in his velvet glove as Manager he was one of the most efficient officials we have had since the last war. These two were types of the kind of croquet lover of whom we can never have too many, because much as they got out of playing the game what they put into it was always more. Time only allows us to recall a few more names - Dorothy Steel, the greatest lady player of all time. Laurence Ashton, one of the very best Managers of the inter-war years; and two more who were perhaps among the most well loved players of the post war period - J. K. Brown and Dacre Stoker. Shall we stand for a moment as we think of them and thank them.

I wish to draw attention of the especially great services which our Chairman for the last two years has rendered, not only to the Council but to the whole Association. The happy coincidence of his simultaneous chairmanship of this Club has made it easier than it might have been for anyone else to secure for us favours at Hurlingham, especially in the matter

of accommodating the Council which has been of the greatest value. Major Rivington's zeal on our behalf has been unceasing as the zest which has gone with it. . . . I have sat under no fewer than 14 Chairmen on this Council - they were a pretty good lot, but none excelled in energy the Chairman we are all too soon to lose.

Mr. Rivington thanked Mr. Reckitt for his very kind words and said he wished to thank all the Associates and Clubs for their kindness to him during his two years as Chairman. He visited quite a few Clubs and been given a great welcome. He also wished to thank all the members of the Council who had given him such good support and co-operation - and especially the Secretary and her Assistant for all the help they had given him.

1. The Minutes of the Meeting held 24th May 1965 were approved and signed by Mr. Reckitt.

2. Report on Balance and Accounts  
Cmdr. Style presented his Report and Balance Sheet detail by detail. As there were no questions Mr. Rivington, seconded by Cmdr. Style moved their adoption and the A. G. M. gave unanimous approval. Cmdr. Style wished to pay his tribute to the retiring Chairman, who was always available and always helpful and kind.

3. Election of Hon. Treasurer  
Cmdr. Style was unanimously re-elected as Hon. Treasurer.

4. Election of members of Council  
The following were elected members of Council:-  
J. W. Solomon, Mrs E. Rotherham, L. E. W. Stokes-Roberts, J. M. Rivington, A. D. Karmel, Major J. H. Dibley, B. G. Neal, A. A. Reed, S. S. Townsend and I. C. Baillieu.  
Not Elected:- B. Lloyd Pratt and P. J. M. Fidler.

## 5. Amendment to Rules

Mr. Rivington referring to the proposal to hold next year a nation wide Centenary Tournament on the lines of the All England Tournament and to pay expenses to area finalists, pointed out that if this were to be done it would be necessary to amend or temporarily suspend for one year Regulation 10 and Rule 23. In respect of any alteration for Rule 23, a Special General Meeting would be necessary, and this he suggested, if desired, could be convened to coincide with the Conference in November when the matter could be fully discussed.

## 6. Any other business

Mr. Caporn gave details of the Centenary Competition. Each Club to play as in the All England. The Club winner to receive a bronze medal and go on to the Area Finals - Area Finalists to receive a shield or plaque and to go to Hurlingham for the finals. Her Majesty the Queen has been asked to present the prizes if she is able to spare the time. There were various questions on details to which Mr. Caporn replied.

Mr. Ede, Secretary of Reigate, suggested a Directory of Clubs might be given to sports shops to include in Croquet sets.

Mr. Hicks asked that the 3/16th hoops be checked in plenty of time to rectify any faults.

Miss Hickson asked if the condition of two years residential qualification for Inter Counties could be amended to 1 year, only providing the person concerned had not played for any other county. Referred to Tournament Committee.

Cmdr. Style proposed and Dr. Wiggins seconded that the present auditors be re-appointed. Agreed.

Mrs Longman considered the article on croquet in "Country Life" was so good we should get copies for distribution.

Dr. Wiggins wished that the players for Invitation Events to be decided before Hurlingham Tournaments, but was defeated.

## COMMITTEE 1966

### LAWS

I. C. Baillieu (Chairman), E. P. C. Cotter, A. D. Karmel, D. W. Miller, Lt. Col. D. M. C. Prichard, E. A. Roper, J. M. Rivington, J. W. Solomon, L. Riggall.

### TOURNAMENT

G. Birch, Cmdr. G. Borrett, D. C. Caporn, Major J. H. Dibley, Miss D. A. Lintern, Lt. Col. D. M. C. Prichard, E. A. Roper, Mrs. E. Rotherham (Chairman), J. W. Solomon, B. G. Neal.

### F. & G. P.

I. C. Baillieu, Major J. H. Dibley, E. P. Duffield, G. V. Evans, Miss D. A. Lintern, J. M. Rivington, Lt. Cmdr. G. W. Style (Chairman), S. S. Townsend, J. W. Solomon.

### PUBLICITY

Cmdr. G. Borrett, Dr. C. A. Boucher, D. C. Caporn (Chairman), Major, J. H. Dibley, G. V. Evans, Miss D. A. Lintern, S. S. Townsend, Mrs R. R. Williams, B. G. Neal, A. A. Reed.

### SELECTION COMMITTEE

E. P. C. Cotter, Miss D. A. Lintern, M. B. Reckitt, J. W. Solomon, Major J. H. Dibley.

### HANDICAP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

Major J. H. Dibley, Miss D. A. Lintern, M. B. Reckitt, E. A. Roper, J. W. Solomon.

### HANDICAP APPEAL

G. Birch, A. D. Karmel, Mrs. E. Rotherham (Chairman)

### EDITORIAL PANEL

M. B. Reckitt, Miss D. A. Lintern, D. C. Caporn, J. M. Rivington (Chairman), Lt. Cmdr. G. W. Style, P. J. M. Fidler (Editor).

### GOLF CROQUET

G. Birch, G. V. Evans, D. W. Miller, Miss D. A. Lintern (Chairman)

## Questions and Answers

**Question.** An interesting point has been drawn to our attention. Red was for the 4th hoop and about one foot in front of it. Black roqueted Red, which came to rest in the jaws of the hoop. In the subsequent croquet-stroke, Black made a crush-stroke, and the balls were replaced. Red was, therefore, in the jaws of the hoop (having entered from the playing side) and Black in contrast on the non-playing side. Can Red run the hoop on the croquet stroke?

**Answer.** Hard luck as this undoubtedly is, Red may not run this hoop on the first stroke of his turn. Law 16(c) lays down that Red is deemed to have roqueted Black, and is, therefore, not in a legal position to run the hoop, notwithstanding that it originally entered from the playing side. The "Old" thinking that a fault of this kind does not count does not apply. It certainly does, as is illustrated by the fact that Red in that situation, if it were not in contact with Black, but put there through a fault by Black, would have a lift under Law 13.

## JUNE QUESTION

**T**HERE WAS an unfortunate misprint in this column in June, for "rush peel" should, of course, have read "Irish Peel".

The accuracy of the answer given, and a proposed amendment to the laws, are now being considered. Our readers in Australia and New Zealand may, however, rest assured that their respective councils will be consulted on this point.

Meanwhile, should the situation recur, players about to play the continuation stroke should obtain a Referee's ruling before the stroke. They can then play the stroke accordingly and any advantage or disadvantage of any such ruling one way or the other should be minimal, and there should be no "aggrieved" party.

Editor

## OBITUARY

### MR. HUGH DENNY

THE C. A. has lost yet another keen and valued member by the sad death of Mr. Hugh Denny during March last. He had been very active for the past 5 years in trying to promote interest in the Reigate Club, and in 1965 he was elected to the Council. Alas ill health prevented his ever actually taking his seat at the Council table.

As a very young man he served in the first World War and won the M. C., he had two years in the trenches with no leave - which the Doctor thinks may well have been the basic cause of the heart trouble from which he died.

The Council deeply regrets his loss and extends sincerest sympathy to Mrs Denny.

### MISS E. D. B. SIMEON

THERE WILL NOT be many associates left now who can recall seeing this lady play, but her recent death at the end of April ought not to go unrecorded. For about two decades from 1912, when she won the Women's Championship at a time when rivalry for this title was very keen; she was one of the most formidable players of her sex, nor were her victories won only at the expense of other ladies, for the best men had good cause to fear her. Ella Simeon began her croquet at the Bedford Club at about the same time as Dorothy Steel, and they were notable rivals. Later, when resident at Brighton, she was generally a successful competitor at Southwick and Devonshire Park. She first appears in the Ladies Field Cup in 1912 when she was runner-up and she was tied for first place in the following year, as in 1928 (the last of her eight appearances in the event). In partnership with Miss Mona Bryan she formed one of the strongest Women's pairs ever seen on the courts.

A curious feature of her play was that the back swing of her mallet went out at an angle of 45 degrees to the right. A back swing to the left is by no means unusual, but to her sister's recollection Miss Simeon's 'deviation' was unique.

M. B. R.

## Notes from the Clubs

### CHELTENHAM

OUR weekend American Tournaments are proving very popular. After an entry of 30 for the Easter Meeting we had 26 for Whitsun. The latter was an awkward number but we managed to play off one block of six and four blocks of five in two days leaving Whit Monday free for three knock-out competitions of 8 players each.

Unfortunately only the top eight succeeded in finishing in the one day, Aspinall proving a worthy winner without losing a game in the three days. He will go far.

We had a very pleasant match against Oxford Croquet Club on May 14th and scraped through to a narrow win of 4 to 2 by a thrilling finish to a pegged down Singles between Wheeler and Whitmore ending 26-24 after a peg-out.

### SOUTHWICK

THE CLUB Competitions which have previously lingered on - with decreasing interest - through the Season, were held this year like a small Tournament - in one week. It made a bit of an occasion and seemed to have the approval of the majority of the contestants.

We want to see more beginners and High Bisquers joining these competitions which form an admirable introduction to Tournament play. The games were managed by the Croquet Secretary who had the benefit of kind advice and help from senior Members of the Club: Altogether, a friendly and enjoyable week.

Results:-

Longden Cup. (H, cap. Singles) Final yet to be played.

D'Esterre Bowl. do. (2-7½ Bisques) W. H. Austin.

Daldy Cup. do. (8 + ) Capt. L. A. W. Spooner, RN.

Abbey Salvers. (H, cap. Doubles) Mrs W. A. T. Synge and W. J. Baverstock.

### TUNBRIDGE WELLS CLUB

THE Tunbridge Wells Club was formally constituted and opened on Monday, May 2nd at Shernford Park, Frant. It was a most lovely day and the grounds were at their best. The two croquet lawns, with extensive views for miles, looked gay with their new equipment and an excellent pavilion erected under the trees nearby proved not only a useful but an attractive addition.

There were about 30 - 35 people present most of whom played some time during the afternoon - and 18 members were enrolled. There was a good attendance of the Press and the Croquet Association were represented by the Chairman, the Hon. Treasurer and the Secretary.

During the afternoon a meeting was held to form the new Club and Mr. Gerald Williams, who used to live at Sherfold Park, when it was his family home, and has been so generous in his support of the project, was elected President, and Mr. Clive Phillips, Secretary.

Great praise is due to Mr. Gerald Williams with

whom the idea originated and to Mr. Clive Phillips, who worked so hard to bring the whole scheme into being - but without the goodwill and kindness of Mr. Marples and Mr. Coleman of Aerovak Co. who own the grounds - and have generously made them available, there could have been no Club - and to them most grateful thanks are due from all Croquet players.

## Correspondence

DEAR SIR,

A suggestion for making the game of croquet more entertaining for players who wish to play level singles during an afternoon or evening, without altering the game fundamentally.

The game to be played in the ordinary way with lifts, etc., but with the following limitations.

Not more than five hoops may be made in one break; if the fifth hoop is made the turn ends as soon as the hoop is run; no further stroke may be made. The opponent has then a chance to pick up a break, but again he cannot make more than five hoops in the one break, he can, however, make a smaller number of hoops, wire his adversary and lay up.

The game proceeds in this manner until the stick is hit with both balls, but lifts are given in the normal way when 1-back and 4-back are made. A contact lift can be given if 1-back and 4-back are made by the first ball in the one break.

It will be seen from the above that the possibility of a player being left sitting on a seat for the best part of the afternoon without taking croquet becomes a very remote chance.

The advantage as seen by the writer is that there is no alteration in the manner of play, except possibly the omission of the triple peel, but who wants to sit out watching his opponent going round like this in a friendly game.

Yours faithfully,  
R. J. LEONARD

DEAR SIR,

3 - HOUR LIMIT

With regard to Derek Caporn's letter in the October "Croquet" I feel I must rebut his five points in favour of a time limit.

1. A tournament is run for the benefit of the players and not that of the Manager.
2. Players should be interested enough in the tournament to be watching matches until it is their turn to play instead of arriving at a fixed time to play.
3. Far from "encouraging attacking play" it fosters stonewalling, for as soon as some players get ahead of their adversaries they play safe.
4. To say "it would benefit the long-bisquer" is a monstrous reason. A handicap is based on a player's ability to score 26 points: not just to get a point or two ahead of his adversary.

Yours faithfully,  
W. B. C. PAYNTER

## THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

### THE GOLD CASKETS

Go draw aside the curtains, and discover

The several caskets . . .

The first, of gold, which this inscription bears,

'Who chooseth me shall gain what many men desire';

The second, silver, which this promise carries,

'Who chooseth me shall get as much as he deserves';

The Merchant of Venice. Act II. Scene VII.

HAD THE shade of Shakespeare visited Roehampton he would have seen trophies as handsome as any Portia displayed, and far more of them, with no leaden ones to perplex the aspirants to success. In fact there were as many as eleven prizes to be won on this occasion (for verification see the programme in the April No. of CROQUET) - not to speak of any sordid financial gain by which successful competitors were additionally rewarded. No less than five of these went to the winner of the Ladies' Championship, including the most venerable of all the Association's awards, the golden locket which dates back to 1874.

It is a pity that at this time of year none of our brilliant young personalities were free to include themselves in the lists, but with John Solomon, Humphrey Hicks, William Ormerod and Dudley Hamilton-Miller in the lists quality was not wanting, while no doubt Patrick Cotter would have been had he not been cruelly deprived of his expectation of being en route for South Africa at this time. Most of our best ladies - alas, a diminished band, were present, as well as three enterprising newcomers to the event who gave a good account of themselves during the week.

The most interesting tie in the first round of the Men's Championship was an internecine contest between the undefeated Surrey A pair of the previous week. Hamilton-Miller made a good fight of it in the first game, but Hicks always looked like winning the second. That promising player B. G. Neal, also of Surrey, was given few chances by Ormerod and couldn't take those he had. Another Surrey man, that much improved player, A. V. Camroux, won two close games from Alex Karmel to complete the list of semi-finalists, with John Solomon winning an easy first game from Prichard, but hunted home in the second by the Colonel.

There were some protracted contests in the early stages of the Women's Championship, one match of two games lasting from ten to well past seven. Mrs Chittenden came very close to winning the first game against Mrs Rotherham; the other semi finalists being Miss Warwick and Mrs Prichard, who after an easy win over Miss Parker, came very near to losing the second game to her.

In the Doubles Ormerod and Mrs Prichard began a most promising partnership by knocking out the holders, Hamilton-Miller being quite out of touch and unable to give much support to Mrs Rotherham. They went on to defeat a scarcely less formidable pair in Prichard and Miss Warwick. Ormerod had played some beautiful croquet in these encounters and his partner supported him with qualities of skill and nerve not often forthcoming in a 4 bisquer. In the second half of the draw Hicks and Mrs Rolfe, the latter playing quite admirably, won a close game from Neal and Miss Lintern. Surely never before have ladies with handicaps of 4 and 2½ reached the final of this Championship. Are we beginning to see the Ladies' revival for which we have waited so long?

In the Women's Championship we were to witness the expected - one had almost written the inevitable - final. Mrs Rolfe seemed, as well she might be - overwhelmed by the occasion and though she had chances against Mrs. Rotherham could not make much of them. Mrs Prichard fought a good fight against Miss Warwick from whom she would have been receiving seven bisques in a handicap, and lost the first game by single figures.

Finals' Day brought a strong S.W. wind and conditions adverse to Mrs Rotherham with her long mallet and back-swing, but she made a splendid effort to overtake her adversary in the first game and would probably have won it if she had not left the 'cross peg' open and taken insufficient precautions against the danger to which this exposed her. In the second game Miss Warwick was not to be caught up again. With the single exception of Miss Roe's intervention in 1961, these two ladies have shared the Championship between them from 1959 onwards, as in the previous ten years Mrs Rotherham and Miss Lintern did. The total score of victories now stands at Mrs Rotherham 6, Miss Lintern 5, and Miss Warwick 4.

The final of the Doubles proved to be a most thrilling match, extending (with lunchtime excepted) from 9.45 to 2.45. Up to lunchtime Hicks and Mrs Rolfe looked to have a strong lead, but Ormerod having secured the innings, took full advantage of it. Space doesn't allow of an accurate account of all that happened, but at what appeared to be an almost certain victory for Ormerod and his partner, Mrs Rolfe being pegged out, the Doctor took what appeared to be a rather incautious long roll stroke right across the court and having sent his partner ball off was cruelly punished by finding both balls 'pegged' from Hicks' ball, so that Humphrey had no more to do than pick up his ball, hit a short roquet, and obtain a rush to his rover hoop and an easy win. One felt at the end that, as in the famous game in Alice in Wonderland, 'everybody has won and all should have prizes'. In fact, of course, everybody did.

The Men's Final could not begin before 3 pm. Solomon had reached this stage by a good victory over Ormerod, and Hicks after a three-game match with Camroux, who had deservedly won the first game by excellent play, but got few chances in the next, and none of which he seemed able to take advantage in the third. Two long and exacting Doubles extending over more than four hours each on the previous afternoon and that morning, might have left Hicks very understandably tired, and so he appeared to be in the first game against Solomon in which he missed several roquets at which he would not normally have failed. There was better play from both men in the next game in which Solomon hit some fine shots, but on two occasions a poor approach to the sixth hoop interrupted progress and Hicks, playing some admirable croquet, deservedly won. It was then 6.40 and your reporter has to confess that he did not remain to see the third game, and can only deduce from the score that Hicks maintained the good form he had regained, and thus won for the ninth time an event in which he had first been successful thirty-six years before, an unusual example of the preservation of a skill remarkable for a delicacy of touch and an unrivalled intellectual mastery of the game.

When it was seen that Mr. Hamilton-Miller had been eliminated in the first round of the main event, a good many of

those observing it might have said, 'there's the winner of the Du Pre Cup'. And so it proved to be, though Professor Neal had had an easy progress to the final and made a good match of it there. He is clearly a player with a future and is likely to win yet greater distinction ere long.

#### MEN'S SINGLES

(13 Entries)

B.G. Neal bt. Lt. Col. F.E. Stobart + 19 + 26  
 J.W. Solomon bt. J.B. Gilbert + 22 + 23  
 Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard bt. W.B.C. Paynter + 8 + 9  
 H.O. Hicks bt. D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller + 7 + 17  
 Lt. Col. G.E. Cave bt. M.B. Reckitt + 11 - 4. opp. ret.

Dr. W.P. Ormerod bt. B.G. Neal + 24 + 25  
 J.W. Solomon bt. Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard + 26 + 10  
 H.O. Hicks bt. Lt. Col. G.E. Cave + 9 + 20  
 A.V. Camroux bt. A.D. Karmel + 9 + 4

#### SEMI-FINAL

J.W. Solomon bt. Dr. W.P. Ormerod + 12 + 26  
 H.O. Hicks bt. A.V. Camroux -10, + 24 + 19

#### FINAL

H.O. Hicks bt. J.W. Solomon -19 + 12 + 21

#### WOMEN'S SINGLES

(8 Entries)

#### FIRST ROUND

Mrs E. Rotherham bt. Mrs H.F. Chittenden +2, + 12  
 Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe bt. Mrs W. Longman + 3 -9 opp. ret.  
 Miss E.J. Warwick bt. Mrs G.W. Solomon + 12, + 11  
 Mrs D.M.C. Prichard bt. Miss H.D. Parker + 22, + 3

#### SEMI-FINAL

Mrs. E. Rotherham bt. Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe + 24 + 15  
 Miss E.J. Warwick bt. Mrs D.M.C. Prichard + 9 + 22

#### FINAL

Miss E.J. Warwick bt. Mrs E. Rotherham + 5 + 17

#### MIXED OPEN DOUBLES

(8 Entries)

#### FIRST ROUND

Dr. W.P. Ormerod & Mrs D.M.C. Prichard bt. D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller & Mrs E. Rotherham + 7  
 Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard & Miss E.J. Warwick bt. A.D. Karmel & Miss H.D. Parker + 15  
 B.G. Neal & Miss D.A. Lintern bt. J.W. Solomon & Mrs J.W. Solomon + 14  
 H.O. Hicks & Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe bt. W.B.C. Paynter & Mrs. H.F. Chittenden + 5

#### SEMI-FINAL

Dr. W.P. Ormerod & Mrs D.M.C. Prichard bt. Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard & Miss E.J. Warwick + 12  
 H.O. Hicks & Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe bt. B.G. Neal & Miss D.A. Lintern + 6

#### FINAL

H.O. Hicks & Mrs J. Neville-Rolfe bt. Dr. W.P. Ormerod & Mrs D.M.C. Prichard + 3

#### DU PRE CUP

(10 Entries)

A.D. Karmel bt. Lt. Col. F.E. Stobart + 12  
 J.B. Gilbert bt. M.B. Reckitt + 14

B.G. Neal bt. Mrs H.F. Chittenden + 25  
 W.B.C. Paynter bt. A.D. Karmel + 2  
 J.B. Gilbert bt. Mrs W. Longman + 4  
 D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller bt. Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard + 14

#### SEMI-FINAL

B.G. Neal bt. W.B.C. Paynter + 22  
 D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller bt. J.B. Gilbert + 10

#### FINAL

D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller bt. B.G. Neal + 11

#### EVENING HANDICAP SINGLES

(8 Entries)

Mrs J. Speer (5) bt G.F. Hallett (7½) + 9  
 Mrs J. Feaver (12) bt Mrs L. Farlie (6) + 13  
 Mrs G. Trull (7) bt Mrs J. Power (10) + 2 on time.  
 J.L. Sanders (6½) bt Mrs H. Wills (7½) + 17

### Inter-County Championships

TUESDAY 24TH MAY - FRIDAY 27TH MAY

#### AT HURLINGHAM

There is a certain glamour about the Counties Championship. Perhaps it is because it is the first big gathering of players during the season. Maybe it is that Spring is still in the air. The weather, however, was not welcoming but the trees and the green of Hurlingham are forever refreshing at this time of year. There was universal praise for the condition of the Courts themselves and one hopes that Mr. Gray, the head groundsman, will read this.

The popularity of the Counties Championship persists despite the fact that it usually produces the worst croquet of the year and despite the sameness of the annual results. We have come to accept the fact that Middlesex will be the winners and that Middlesex, Devon and Surrey will all in turn beat Sussex, Hants and Dorset and the Eastern Counties. Last year brought a surprise. The Eastern Counties beat Surrey and this victory was achieved despite the absence of two of their leading players, and despite the fact that they were a pair short and had to forfeit the 'C' game. This year it was the turn of Sussex to be the giant slayers. Their victim was the mighty Middlesex. There was nearly another surprise when the Eastern Counties all but beat Devon. It was only a superb hit-in by Miss Warwick that deprived their opponents of a fairly easy opportunity to peg-out in the next turn. Another surprise was that the Eastern Counties beat Sussex, the slayers of Middlesex when, for the second year in succession, the Eastern Counties were a pair

short and again had to forfeit the 'C' game. They had a player ready on the ground to partner the only other available member of the team notified to the Secretary of the Croquet Association, but she was not allowed to play because of the conditions of the tournament. This reporter is happy to record that there was almost universal agreement amongst the players that these frustrating conditions be abolished.

Middlesex won the title from Surrey in 1958 and held it until last year. Now Surrey have regained the title and the feature of the week's play was the performance of two pre-war grand masters of the same, Mr. H.O. Hicks and Mr. D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller. They convincingly beat all comers including the leading Middlesex pair, Mr. J.W. Solomon and Mr. E.P.C. Cotter, generally regarded as the strongest post-war partnership.

#### DEVON

Mrs E. Rotherham (Captain) Col. D.W. Beamish, Lt. Col. G.E. Cave, A.J. Cooper, Dr. R.B.N. Smartt, Miss E.J. Warwick, J.G. Warwick.

#### DORSET

V.A. de la Nourgerede (Captain), Cmdr. G.V. Beamish, Miss K.D. Hickson, Major F. Hill-Bernhard, Mrs E.M. McMillan, Dr. H.J. Penny.

#### EASTERN COUNTIES

E.P. Duffield, I.C. Baillieu, R.W. Bray, W.B. Franklin, A.D. Karmel, Mrs A. Neville Rolfe, Prof. A.W. Skempton, Mrs M.L. Thom.

#### MIDDLESEX

Miss D.A. Lintern (Captain), E.P.C. Cotter, R.A. Godby, J.A. Hollweg, Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard, Mrs P.D. Showan, J.W. Solomon.

#### SURREY

M.B. Reckitt (Captain), A.V. Camroux, J.B. Gilbert, R.O. Havery, B.G. Neal, Mrs G.W. Solomon, D.J.V. Hamilton-Miller, H.O. Hicks.

#### SUSSEX

Mrs W. Longman (Captain), Lady Ursula Abbey, Mrs H.F. Chittenden, Major R. Driscoll, H.A. Green, W.E. Moore, Miss H.D. Parker, E.A. Roper.

#### ANALYSIS

SURREY won 5 matches v Middlesex 2-1; Dorset 3-0; Sussex 2-1; Eastern Counties 2-1; Devon 2-1.

DEVON won 4 matches v Sussex 3-0; Dorset 3-0; Middlesex 3-0; Eastern Counties 2-1; and lost to Surrey 1-2.

MIDDLESEX won 2 matches v Eastern Counties 3-0; Dorset 3-0; and lost to Surrey 1-2; Devon 0-3; Eastern Counties 1-2.

SUSSEX won 2 matches v Dorset 2-1; Middlesex 2-1; and lost to Surrey 1-2; Devon 0-3; Eastern Counties 1-2.

EASTERN COUNTIES won 2 matches v Sussex 2-1; Dorset 3-0; and lost to Middlesex 0-3; Surrey 1-2; Devon 1-2.

DORSET won no games

### Brighton Unofficial Tournament

May 16th - 21st.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances we much regret that Southwick Unofficial Tournament, (May 16-21) results will have to be held over until next month.

### Cheltenham Whitsun Unofficial

Cheltenham at Whitsuntide. Blazing sun, cloudless sky; Cleve Hill and Leckhampton in the distance, gliders spiraling slowly over them; jet trails spearing their way silently across the endless blue; a huge expanse of lush green grass bordered by the rich yellows of laburnum and broom in full flower; holiday noises drifting over from the fairground nearby; wisps of applause from the tennis tournament next door: what more perfect surroundings for a croquet tournament.

There was never much doubt about the result; Nigel Aspinall played like the book throughout, displaying not only a marvelous technique but a most intelligent approach to the game and to handicap tactics in particular. It was interesting to see him refrain from cross-wiring the opponent after his first break, in the conventional way; instead he preferred to scatter all four balls, knowing that the opponent would almost certainly not think it worth while taking a bisque in such a situation, and that as a result he would probably get a shot with his backward ball the next turn. This technique proved devastating against poor Mr. Greene, who went down with all five bisques untaken. Nigel Aspinall's stroke play is a delight to watch and in this observer's opinion he must be counted in the top class of players in this country.

The runner-up was Mr. Sidwell who played throughout very steadily, but who would find it to his advantage to take his bisques earlier in the game and more aggressively. Col. Wheeler was also impressive; he played some very accurate and enterprising breaks, and made it difficult to understand how he can enjoy a handicap as high as five.

#### BLOCK 1. Winner

Col. G. T. Wheeler (5) won games, Bt. Lt. Col. D.M.C. Prichard (-2½) + 26, Mrs D. Daniels (½) + 19, W. Haynes (7) + 8, C.G. Rich (9) + 5 and Miss W.K. Allardyce (16) + 8.

#### BLOCK 2. Winner

D. Strachan (-2) won 4 games viz. Bt. Miss K. Sessions (1½) + 21, Mrs D.M.C. Prichard (4) + 1 on time, Miss M.A. Posford (6) + 7 and Mrs K.M. Lowein (13) + 21

#### BLOCK 3. Winner

F.W. Meredith (2) won 3 games, viz. Bt. G.E.P. Jackson (-1½) + 19, G. Scott Page (7) + 17, Mrs J.A. Whitehead (14) + 17 and lost to C.G. Miller.

BLOCK 4. Winner  
W.Green (5) won 4 games, viz. Bt. E. Sidwell (2) + 15,  
N. V. Snell (7) + 18, Miss E. P. Carmouche (8) + 16, and  
Miss A. M. Vick. (15) + 3

BLOCK 5. Winner  
G. N. Aspinall (0) won 4 games, viz. I. C. Baillieu (1) + 24,  
W/C. E. M. Smith (6) + 9, Dr. O. Quayle (8) + 12 and  
L. G. Ayliffe (11) + 8.

## Ryde Tournament

JUNE 6th - JUNE 11th.

THE PLAYERS found the lawns in excellent condition and very true. Mr. Birch played very well throughout the week reaching three finals. It was unfortunate he was obliged to scratch in the final of the X Handicap as he had the play-off in the Open event on Saturday morning and the final of the doubles in the afternoon. Mr Simpson who reached the final of the Draw was a strong opponent for Birch in the play-off. This was a very interesting game as both players, after one back had been cleared by all four balls, drew practically level. However, Simpson went ahead, with Birch just missing his long shots, and won by seven. Congratulations to him.

Canon Creed Meredith was in much better form than of late. In fact it may be true to say that he hadn't played better for some years. He did some excellent breaks and reached the final of X Handicap after beating his formidable opponent Mrs Simpson who, too, showed good form. She won the B levels quite comfortably although Miss Walker put up a very good fight against her in the first round.

A player who has much improved lately is Miss Bryan. She reached two finals and was beaten by Mr. Birch by the narrow margin of five in the semi-final of the X Handicap. These two players, partnering together, won the Doubles.

Of the new comers to Ryde were Professor and Mrs Ross from Birmingham and Messrs. Austin & Green from Southwick. It is hoped they enjoyed their first tournament here and will come again next year. Mrs Ross won the Hutton Cup for the C Class. She is a keen player with many good strokes.

A curious incident occurred in the Open. A player made hoop 5 with blue roqueted black to near red at one back looked round the lawn, picked up black, proceeded with his turn with black failing to get a rush on red to the hoop croqueted red away laid near blue, picked blue clip out of his pocket and placed it on hoop 6. Neither player realised most of the turn was played with the wrong ball and went on with the game. Spectators on the verandah were unanimous that this happened.

I mentioned it because talking about the game long after it was over misled people and I am anxious to correct false impression. I confused the incident. The player it appears played with the wrong ball so the turn ended. It was not that he took croquet from the wrong ball in which case Law 29 (a) applies.

R. Creed-Meredith

## OPEN SINGLES

(8 Entries)

### DRAW FIRST ROUND

Major J. H. Dibley bt Mrs B. Latham w. o. opponent scratched.  
Canon R. Creed Meredith bt Mrs J. G. Stevenson w. o. opponent scratched.

G. Birch bt W. H. Austin + 20  
R. A. Simpson bt. H. A. Green + 7

### SEMI-FINAL

Canon R. Creed Meredith bt Major J. H. Dibley + 11  
R. A. Simpson bt G. Birch opponent scratched.

### FINAL

R. A. Simpson bt Canon R. Creed Meredith. + 6

### PROCESS FIRST ROUND

R. A. Simpson bt Canon R. Creed Meredith + 4  
G. Birch bt Major J. H. Dibley + 7  
W. H. Austin bt Mrs J. G. Stevenson w. o. opponent scratched  
H. A. Green bt Mrs B. Latham w. o. opponent scratched

### SEMI-FINAL

G. Birch bt R. A. Simpson + 7  
W. H. Austin bt H. A. Green + 4 (on time)

### FINAL

G. Birch bt W. H. Austin + 6

Play off: R. A. Simpson beat G. Birch + 6

### LEVEL SINGLES

(9 Entries)

### FIRST ROUND

Professor A. S. C. Ross bt Miss J. L. Preston w. o. opponent.  
scratched.

### SECOND ROUND

Miss M. Bryan bt Miss M. M. Taylor + 5  
Professor A. S. C. Ross bt Mrs M. McMordie + 17  
Mrs R. A. Simpson bt Miss E. Walker + 4  
Mrs J. H. Dibley bt Mrs R. A. Hill + 14

### SEMI-FINAL

Miss M. Bryan bt Professor A. S. C. Ross + 6  
Mrs R. A. Simpson bt Mrs J. H. Dibley + 15

### FINAL

Mrs R. A. Simpson bt Miss M. Bryan + 16

### HANDICAP SINGLES

7½ bisques and over  
(6 Entries)

### FIRST ROUND

Dr. W. F. H. Betenson (8) bt Mrs C. Devitt (8) + 4  
Mrs A. S. C. Ross (10) bt Mrs K. Lowein (13) + 8

### SEMI-FINAL

Dr. W. F. W. Betenson (8) bt Mrs R. Creed Meredith (16) + 15  
Mrs A. S. C. Ross (10) bt Mrs G. H. Wood (14) + 15

## FINAL

Mrs A. S. C. Ross (10) bt Dr. W. F. W. Betenson (8) + 4

## HANDICAP SINGLES

"Class X"

(23 Entries)

### FIRST ROUND

Miss M. M. Taylor (7) bt R. A. Simpson (1½) + 7  
W. H. Austin (2) bt Mrs C. Devitt (8) + 9  
Dr. W. F. W. Betenson (8) bt Mrs J. G. Stevenson (4) w. o.  
opponent scratched.  
G. Birch (½) bt Mrs B. Latham w. o. opponent scratched (2)  
Mrs R. Creed Meredith (16) bt Miss J. L. Preston w. o.  
opponent scratched (7)  
Mrs M. McMordie (4) bt Miss E. Walker (5½) + 9  
Mrs R. A. Simpson (3½) bt Mrs A. S. C. Ross (10) + 8

### SECOND ROUND

Miss M. Bryan (7) bt Professor A. S. C. Ross (4) + 6  
H. A. Green (1) bt Mrs J. H. Dibley (5) + 22  
W. H. Austin (2) bt Miss M. M. Taylor (7) + 20  
G. Birch (½) bt Dr. W. F. W. Betenson (8) + 13  
Mrs M. McMordie (4) bt Mrs R. Creed Meredith (16) + 7  
Mrs R. A. Simpson (3½) bt Mrs A. B. Ward (12) + 11  
Mrs K. Lowein (13) bt Mrs R. A. Hill (6) + 14  
Canon R. Creed Meredith (2) bt Mrs G. H. Wood (14) + 7

### THIRD ROUND

Miss M. Bryan (7) bt H. A. Green (1) + 2  
G. Birch (½) bt W. H. Austin (2) + 12  
Mrs R. A. Simpson (3½) bt Mrs McMordie (4) + 14  
Canon R. Creed Meredith (2) bt Mrs K. Lowein (13) + 5

### SEMI-FINAL

G. Birch (½) bt Miss M. Bryan (7) + 5  
Canon R. Creed Meredith (2) bt Mrs R. A. Simpson (3½) + 6

### FINAL

Canon R. Creed Meredith (2) bt G. Birch (½) opponent  
scratched.

### CLASS Y

(11 Entries)

### FIRST ROUND

Dr. W. F. W. Betenson (8) bt Mrs R. Creed Meredith (16) + 10  
Mrs A. S. C. Ross (10) bt Miss E. Walker (5½) + 5  
Professor A. S. C. Ross (4) bt Mrs J. H. Dibley (5) + 9

### SECOND ROUND

R. A. Simpson (1½) bt Mrs C. Devitt (8) + 1  
Mrs A. S. C. Ross (10) bt Dr. W. F. W. Betenson opponent  
retired.  
Professor A. S. C. Ross (4) bt Mrs A. B. Ward (12) + 1  
Mrs G. H. Wood (14) bt Mrs R. A. Hill (6) + 8

### SEMI-FINAL

R. A. Simpson (1½) bt Mrs A. S. C. Ross (10) + 10  
Professor A. S. C. Ross (4) bt Mrs G. H. Wood (14) + 11

## FINAL

R. A. Simpson (1½) bt Professor A. S. C. Ross (4) + 18

## HANDICAP DOUBLES

Restricted to a combined handicap of 2.

(Seven Pairs)

### FIRST ROUND

G. Birch & Miss M. Bryan (7½) bt Professor & Mrs A. S. C.  
Ross (12) + 1 Continued.  
Mr. & Mrs R. A. Simpson (5) bt W. H. Austin & F. E. Green  
(3) + 6  
Dr. W. F. W. Betenson & Miss M. M. Taylor (15) bt Canon &  
Mrs R. Creed Meredith (17) + 10

### SEMI-FINAL

G. Birch & Miss M. Bryan (7½) bt Mr. & Mrs R. A. Simpson  
(5) + 11  
Dr. W. F. W. Betenson & Miss M. M. Taylor (15) bt Mrs. C.  
Devitt (12) + 12

### FINAL

G. Birch & Miss M. Bryan (7½) bt Dr. W. F. W. Betenson &  
Miss M. M. Taylor (15) + 11

## Carrickmines

### CROQUET & LAWN TENNIS CLUB TOURNAMENT

#### OPEN SINGLES

#### CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND

(13 Entries)

#### FIRST ROUND

D. Hamilton-Miller bt R. D. Leonard + 14 + 9  
D. Figgis bt Miss F. Joly + 12 + 20  
Mrs Rotherham bt Col. F. Stobart + 23 + 15  
Mrs Daniels bt L. J. Webb + 7 - 4 + 3  
D. F. Strachan bt Mrs Lightfoot + 4 + 13

#### SECOND ROUND

D. O'Connor bt F. W. Meredith - 7 + 15 + 17  
D. Hamilton-Miller bt D. Figgis + 16 + 6  
Mrs. Rotherham bt Mrs. Daniels + 16 + 24  
D. F. Strachan bt Mrs H. M. Read + 19 + 19

#### SEMI-FINAL

D. Hamilton-Miller bt D. O'Connor + 14 + 22  
D. F. Strachan bt Mrs Rotherham + 3 on time & + 18

#### FINAL

D. F. Strachan bt D. Hamilton-Miller + 11 + 11

#### STEEL CUP

(6 Entries)

#### FIRST ROUND

Miss G. Hopkins bt L. J. Webb + 3  
A. D. Craig bt D. Campbell + 10

## SEMI-FINAL

Mrs Purefoy bt Miss G. Hopkins + 7  
A. D. Craig bt G. M. Read + 14

## FINAL

Mrs Purefoy bt A. D. Craig + 9

## GREEN CUP

(7 Entries) FIRST ROUND

F. Regan bt Miss G. V. Pirie + 15  
Mrs D. Figgis bt D. Birch + 2  
W. G. B. Scott w. o. Mrs Corbally Sen. opp. Scr.

## SEMI-FINAL

F. Regan bt Miss M. Somers + 12  
Mrs D. Figgis bt W. G. B. Scott + 8

## FINAL

F. Regan bt Mrs D. Figgis + 9

## FOUNDERS CUP HANDICAP SINGLES (DIVIDED A &amp; B)

(13 Entries) Time Limit 3 Hours

## FIRST ROUND (Section A)

D. Campbell (4½) bt Mrs Figgis (6½) + 6  
D. Figgis (1) bt W. G. B. Scott (8) + 19  
R. J. Leonard (½) bt Miss Somers (7) + 9  
D. F. Strachan (-2) bt Mrs Regan (7) + 21  
F. W. Meredith (2) bt Col. F. Stobart (½) + 10  
D. O'Connor (1½) bt Mrs Rotherham (-3) + 22  
Mrs Daniels (½) bt D. Bird Sen. (12) w. o.

## SECOND ROUND

D. Campbell (4½) bt G. M. Read (4) Retired  
D. Figgis (1) bt R. J. Leonard (½) + 5  
D. F. Strachan (-2) bt F. W. Meredith (2) + 2  
D. O'Connor (1½) bt Mrs Daniels (½) + 10

## SEMI-FINAL

D. Figgis (1) bt D. Campbell (4½) + 2  
D. O'Connor (1½) bt D. F. Strachan (-2) + 16

## FINAL

D. P'Connor (1½) bt D. Figgis (1) + 14

(15 Entries) FIRST ROUND (Section B)

Mrs H. Read (3) bt Mrs Lightfoot (2) + 5 on time  
L. J. Webb (3) bt Miss G. Hopkins (4½) + 13  
A. D. Craig (5½) bt w. o. Mrs Corbally (Sen.) (11) w. o.  
L. J. B. Webb (3½) bt Lady FitzGerald (2) + 13  
F. Regan (6) bt Miss G. V. Pirie (9) + 19  
Miss F. Joly (1½) bt G. Gilpin (9) + 3  
M. J. Killeen (7) bt Bye. + Bye

## SECOND ROUND

Mrs H. M. Read (3) bt bye  
L. J. Webb (3) bt A. D. Craig (5½) + 15  
L. J. B. Webb (3½) bt w. o. F. Regan Sen. (6) w. o.  
Miss F. Joly (1½) bt M. J. Killeen (7) + 21

## SEMI-FINAL

L. J. Webb (3) bt Mrs H. M. Read (3) + 18  
L. J. B. Webb (3½) bt Miss F. Joly (1½) + 9

## FINAL

L. J. Webb (3) bt L. J. B. Webb (3½) + 15

## STONEBROOK CUP

## HANDICAP DOUBLES

(15 Entries) Time Limit 3½ Hours

## FIRST ROUND

F. W. Meredith & Mrs Daniels (2½) bt G. M. Read & Mrs Read (7) + 10 on time.  
Miss G. Hopkins & Miss F. Joly (6) bt L. J. Webb & W. G. B. Scott (11) + 1 on time.  
F. Purefoy & Mrs Purefoy (10) bt D. F. Strachan & Miss Somers (5) + 6  
D. O'Connor & L. J. Webb (4½) bt D. Figgis & Mrs Figgis (7½) + 4 on time.  
Col. F. Stobart & Rudy FitzGerald (2½) bt F. Regan & Mrs Regan (13) + 2  
A. D. Craig & Mrs Rotherham (2½) bt B. O'Connor & Mrs Lightfoot (11) + 13  
D. Hamilton-Miller & D. Bird (7) bt G. Gilpin & G. M. Fitzpatrick (11) + 21

## SECOND ROUND

F. W. Meredith & Mrs Daniels (2½) bt R. J. Leonard & Miss Pirie (9½) + 14  
L. Purefoy & Mrs Purefoy (10) bt Miss G. Hopkins & Miss F. Joly (6) + 5 on time.  
D. O'Connor & L. J. Webb (4½) bt Col. F. Stobart & Lady FitzGerald (2½) + 19  
A. D. Craig & Mrs Rotherham (2½) bt D. Hamilton-Miller & D. Bird (7) + 12

## SEMI-FINAL

F. W. Meredith & Mrs Daniels (2½) bt L. Purefoy & Mrs Purefoy (10) + 1  
D. O'Connor & L. J. Webb (4½) bt A. D. Craig & Mrs Rotherham (2½) + 16

## FINAL

D. O'Connor & L. J. Webb (4½) bt F. W. Meredith & Mrs Daniels (2½) + 11

## Longman Cup Matches

Roehampton v Worton Hall

## Singles

A. J. Oldham (3½) lost to W. Sexton (10) - 16  
L. Riggall (5) bt E. J. Reeves (11) + 23  
Mrs L. Riggall (5) bt R. Wood (13) + 9

## Doubles

A. J. Oldham & Mrs L. Riggall (8½) v  
W. Sexton & R. Wood (23) match unfinished.  
L. Riggall & J. L. Sanders (11½) bt E. J. Reeves & A. M. Wilson (25) + 17

Roehampton bt Worton Hall 3 matches to 1 - 1 unfinished

## LONGMAN CUP

Roehampton v. Parsons Green

## Singles:

A. J. Oldham (3½) v. Mrs. P. D. Showan (2) game unfinished.  
L. Riggall (5) bt. Mrs. J. Speer (5) + 16  
Mrs. L. Riggall bt. Mrs. L. C. Farlie (6½) + 9

## Doubles:

A. J. Oldham & Mrs. L. Riggall (8½) lost to Mrs. P. D. Showan & Mrs. G. T. Trull (9) - 2.  
L. Riggall & J. Sanders (11½) beat Mrs. J. Speer & Mrs. L. C. Farlie (11½) + 15.

Roehampton beat Parsons Green 3 games to 1, and 1 unfinished.

## TOURNAMENTS

## GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INFORMATION

THE FOLLOWING conditions apply to all tournaments advertised below unless specified to the contrary in any advertisement:-

- The tournament will be played under the Laws of Association Croquet and the Regulations for Official Tournaments.
- The Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse an entry without giving a reason. In particular, entries will not be accepted in excess of the capacity of the lawns.
- If there are very few entries for an event, the Manager may play it on the American system, even though otherwise advertised.
- Hoops will be 3¼ in. wide. Jaques "Eclipse" balls will be used.
- Flat-soled footwear must be worn on the lawns.
- In C. A. tournaments no leave will be granted before the draw has been made. Application for leave on the first day will be considered immediately after the draw by the Manager or a deputy authorised by him. Leave on other days may be given by the Manager only. In other tournaments leave may be granted by the Manager or his authorized deputy, if the needs of the tournament permit.
- Entries for C. A. tournaments must be made on Official Forms and must be accompanied by the entrance fee (which includes levy) and any Tribute due. Tribute is payable at the rate of 25s. per tournament or 12s. 6d. for one event only, for all Calendar Fixtures, Official or Non-Official, by all except those competitors paying the standard rate of subscription (i. e. 50s.) and Junior members or others playing in their first Tournament. It is helpful if entries for other Tournaments are made on the Official Forms. In any case entrants should give the address and telephone numbers if possible, which will find them during the tournament: entrance fees and any Tribute due must be paid before the draw.
- Winners of Trophies will hold them for one year or until next competed for, whichever period is shorter.
- (i) Play will normally commence at 10 a. m. each day, but the Manager may arrange an earlier start if he feels it desirable.  
(ii) All competitors must report 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.
- Competitors will be made Honorary members of the Club for the duration of the Tournament.

THESE CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL TOURNAMENTS EXCEPT WHEN OTHERWISE STATED.

## HURLINGHAM

THE ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT including the "LADIES FIELD" CANDLESTICKS. (Under the direction of the C. A.)

will be held from

MONDAY AUGUST 1st to WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10th

COMMITTEE The Croquet Committee of the Club.  
MANAGER & HANDICAPPER - E. A. Roper  
REFEREE J. G. Warwick  
GAMES SECRETARY Lt. Col. R. F. J. Hayward, V. C., M. C.,

## EVENTS

- THE HURLINGHAM CUP. HOLDER - J. P. R. Bolton. Level Singles. Entrance Fee 12/6d. DRAW and PROCESS.
- THE TURNER CUP. HOLDER - W. B. Franklin. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 1 bisque or over not entered for Event 1. Challenge Cup presented by the late Mrs Ernest Turner. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee 10/-.
- THE HURLINGHAM DOUBLES. HOLDERS - H. O. Hicks and Mrs. N. J. Gazzard. Level play. Mixed pairs. Challenge Cup presented by the late Mrs Henry Franc. Singles games throughout. Entrance Fee 10/- per player.
- THE YOUNGER CUP. HOLDER - Mrs A. W. Skempton. Level Singles. For players handicapped at 4½ bisques and over not entered for Events 1 or 2. Challenge Cup presented by the late Lt. Col. J. A. C. Younger. Single games throughout. Law 36 suspended. Entrance Fee 10/-.
- THE LONGWORTH CUP. HOLDER - Mrs L. Riggall. Handicap Singles. For players handicapped at 8 bisques and over, not entered for Events 1, 2 or 4. Challenge Cup presented by Mrs R. C. Longworth. Single games throughout. Entrance Fee 10/- Law 36 suspended. Now that 8 lawns are available, it is hoped that it will be unnecessary to play any games at Roehampton.
- THE PINCKNEY SIMPSON CUP (HANDICAP SINGLES) HOLDER - Mrs N. J. Gazzard. This event will be run on the XY principle although the Y event may have to be played as shortened games.
- THE "LADIES FIELD" CANDLESTICKS. (Ladies Handicap Doubles). HOLDERS - Mrs G. F. H. Elvey and Mrs L. Riggall. Open to lady Members of the C. A. only. Entrance Fee 10/- each player. All games to start at the third hoop.
- MEN'S HANDICAP DOUBLES - HOLDERS - H. O. Hicks and J. P. R. Bolton. Open to pairs with a minimum combined handicap of Minus 2. All games start at the third hoop. Entrance fee 10/- each player. Prizes in accordance with the entries. Tournament plant by John Jaques.
- GOLF CROQUET SINGLES. THE ASCOT CHALLENGE CUP. Entrance Fee 6s. 6d. The competition will be played under the official Laws of Golf Croquet. Played in two blocks

according to handicaps: the winners of the blocks playing-off to decide the winner of the Cup.

Holder: Mrs B. L. Sundius-Smith.

10. **GOLF CROQUET DOUBLES. THE "DELVES BROUGHTON" CHALLENGE CUPS.** Presented by the late Sir Delves Broughton. Open to pairs with a combined handicap of not less than 4 bisques. Entrance Fee 6s. 6d. each person. The Competition will be played under the Official Laws of Golf Croquet. Holders Mrs F. N. H. Davidson and Mrs G. W. Solomon.

#### ENTRIES AND DRAW

All entries with fees for Events 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 with the addresses of the competitors (and telephone number) must reach the Games Secretary, Croquet Tournament, The Hurlingham Club, Fulham, S.W. 6. by first post on Wednesday 27th July (not C. A. Secretary).

Entries for Events 3, 7, 8, 9, and 10 will close on Tuesday 2nd August.

Entries for Events 3, 7 and 8, will close at noon on Tuesday, August 2nd. The Draw for Events 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, will take place at the Club on Wednesday July 27th at 2.30 p.m. - for other Events as announced on the ground.

CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE HURLINGHAM CLUB

TIME LIMIT There will be a 3 hour time limit on "ALL EVENTS" and it is hoped that the day's play can in general be divided into 3 sessions:-

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

#### GENERAL

Play will start at 10 a.m. daily and continue till 7.30 p.m. if necessary.

At least eight lawns will be provided.

Events 9 and 10 will be played at Roehampton by kind permission of the Club.

Luncheons, Teas and Dinners can be obtained at the Club. There will also be a snack Bar.

#### DINNER

A Croquet Dinner will be held on Thursday 4th August 7.30 p.m. for 8.0 p.m. Price 27/6d. Dress: Dinner Jacket.

### CARRICKMINES

CROQUET AND LAWN TENNIS CLUB  
CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Saturday 6th August to Saturday 13th August, 1966

HON. SEC. Frank Regan, Esq., c/o Carrickmines Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club, Carrickmines, Co. Dublin.

#### EVENTS

1. CHAMPIONSHIP OF CO. DUBLIN. OPEN. Perpetual Challenge cup. Draw and Process. Entrance Fee 15/-.
2. DUFF MATHEWS CUP. (Perpetual) Open to players of 5 bisques and over. Single games. No lifts. Entrance Fee 10/-.

N.B. Competitors may enter for only one of the above events.

3. BOXWELL CUP. (Perpetual). Handicap Singles. Entrance Fee 10/-.

4. CORONATION CUPS. (Perpetual). Handicap Doubles. Matches will begin at the 3rd hoop and will be limited to 3½ hours. Combined handicap must not be less than 4. Entrance Fee 10/- each player.

Entries for all events close on Tuesday 2nd August at 6 p.m. and the draw will then take place.

Play will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday 6th August. Competitors who are Irish residents must be available on that day. Competitors from overseas will not be required for play until Monday, 8th August at 10 o'clock.

All competitors must be ready to play when required by the Manager.

Competitors are encouraged to wear whites as much as possible.

### NOTTINGHAM

CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET TOURNAMENT

Monday, 15th August, to Saturday, 20th August, 1966

MANAGER, REFEREE,  
HANDICAPPER: Miss A. E. Mills

HON. TOURNAMENT  
SECRETARY: Mr. F. B. Stephens,  
24 Gladstone Terrace,  
Grantham, Lincs. Tel:  
Grantham 4851.

#### EVENTS

1. "ROBIN HOOD" GOLD CUP CHALLENGE TROPHY Handicap. Presented to the Club by the All England Croquet Association. For Associates only. Entrance Fee 12/6.
2. OPEN SINGLES. Draw and Process. Silver Challenge Bowl presented by the Nottingham Croquet Club. The Final of this event will be the best of three games, time permitting. Regulation 13(B) will be applied if considered necessary or advisable. Entrance Fee 13/-.
3. HANDICAP SINGLES. 5 Bisques and over. Silver Challenge Bowl presented by the late L. L. Bright. Entrance Fee 12/-.
4. HANDICAP SINGLES. X and Y. Silver Challenge Bowl for each event. Entrance Fee 12/6.
5. HANDICAP DOUBLES (unrestricted). Twin Challenge Trophies presented by the late Mrs. Hitchin. Entrance Fee 10/6.

First and second prizes will be given in each event.

Entry Fees include C. A. Levy but do NOT include C. A. Tribute, due from non-Associates, 12/6 for one event or 25/- for two or more events.

TOURNAMENT CONDITIONS AND FACILITIES.

Entries may be restricted.

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 should reach the Hon. Tournament Secretary not later than FRIDAY, 12th AUGUST.

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 will appear on the Club's Notice Board on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, 14th AUGUST.

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.

Luncheons and Teas will be served each day in the Pavilion at a moderate charge. Morning Coffee will be available.

Eight lawns will be available.

Ample Car Park accommodation is available. Buses pass the gates leading to the Club every few minutes, the Route Nos. being 4, 4a and 5a. They may be boarded from the City Centre.

List of Hotels and Guest Houses will be supplied on application to the Hon. Tournament Secretary.

### HUNSTANTON

The Sixty-eighth Hunstanton Open Croquet Tournament

will be held in the Club Grounds on  
Monday, August 29th to September 3rd, 1966.

COMMITTEE: The Tournament Committee of the Club  
MANAGER: Miss J. Warwick  
REFEREE & HANDICAPPER: J. G. Warwick  
HON. SECRETARY: Mrs A. Neville Rolfe,  
Weathercocks,  
Heacham, Norfolk.

#### EVENTS

1. OPEN SINGLES. Draw and Process. Norfolk Challenge Cup. Holder T. Read. Entrance Fee 12/6.
2. LEVEL SINGLES. Law 36 suspended. Hunstanton Challenge Bowl 2½ to 6 bisques inclusive. Holder Mrs A. Neville Rolfe. Entrance Fee 10/6.
3. HANDICAP SINGLES. 6½ bisques and over. Silver Rose Bowl. Holder William Prichard. Entrance Fee 10/6.
4. HANDICAP SINGLES. X. Y. Unrestricted. Ingleby Cup. Holder Robert Prichard. Entrance Fee 12/6.
5. HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicaps to be not less than 4. Holders. Col. D. Prichard and Robert Prichard. Entrance Fee 10/6.

#### Conditions

No player may enter for more than one of events 1, 2 and 3.

A time limit of three hours may be imposed on all games at the Manager's discretion.

Entries may have to be limited.

Entries for events 1, 2, 3 and 4 must reach the Hon. Secretary by Wednesday, 17th August and for event 5 by Tuesday 30th August. Leave will not normally be granted after noon on Monday.

### BRIGHTON

The fifty-third Summer Tournament

Monday 22nd August, and five following days.

To be held on the Lawns of the Sussex County Croquet Club, Victoria Road, Southwick, Sx.

MANAGER & HANDICAPPER: Miss A. Mills  
REFEREE: E. A. Roper  
HON. TOURNAMENT  
SECRETARY: Mrs W. A. Naylor, 60  
Southwick St, Southwick,  
Sx. Tel: Southwick 2720.

#### EVENTS

1. OPEN SINGLES (Draw and Process) THE SUSSEX GOLD CUP. Presented by the late E. R. Harrison. Holder - B. Lloyd-Pratt. Entrance Fee 15/-.

2. LEVEL SINGLES (Class B) Law 37 in force. THE FRANC CUP. Presented by the late Mrs H. Franc. Holder R. A. Simpson. Open to players handicapped 2½ - 6 bisques. Entrance Fee 12/-.

3. HANDICAP SINGLES (Class C) THE MONTEITH BOWL presented by the late G. C. Braithwaite. Holder - Mrs H. Wills. Open to players handicapped 6½ and over. Entrance Fee 12/-.

4. HANDICAP SINGLES. THE MAURICE RECKITT BOWL presented by Mr. M. B. Reckitt. Holder - R. A. Simpson. Entrance Fee 14/-.

5. HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined handicaps not less than 2. All games in Event 5 start at Hoop 3. Entrance Fee 12/- each.

One event only of events 1 - 3 is available to competitors who may enter for 3 events in all.

Entries (on official forms, please) to reach the Tournament Sec. by first Post on Thursday, 18th August.

The Draw for events 1 - 4 will take place at Southwick on Thursday August 18th, at 2.30 p.m. Event 5 on Tuesday, August 23rd at 2.30.

Request for leave should be notified on the entry forms. No leave will be granted later than noon on Monday 22nd, unless the exigencies of the draw permit.

Prizes according to entries.

11 Courts will be available.

Luncheons and teas will be obtainable in the Canteen.

Motor Bus service from Brighton every ten minutes. Train service to Southwick Station.

Free Parking for cars on the ground.

#### Annual Summer Tournament

(Un-official)

Monday, 29th August and five following days.

To be held on the Lawns of the Sussex County Croquet Club Victoria Road, Southwick, Sx.

MANAGER: Mrs L. H. Turketine

ASSISTANT MANAGER: Miss H. D. Parker

REFEREE: E. A. Roper

HON. TOURNAMENT  
SECRETARY: Mrs W. A. Naylor, 60  
Southwick St, Southwick,  
Sx. Tel: Southwick 2720.

#### EVENTS

1. OPEN SINGLES (Draw & Process) Entrance Fee 15/-.
  2. LEVEL SINGLES 3½ - 7 bisques (Law 37 in force) Entrance Fee 7/6.
  3. HANDICAP SINGLES 7½ bisques and over Entrance Fee 7/6.
  4. LIMITED HANDICAP SINGLES 3½ bisques and over. Entrance Fee 7/6.
  5. HANDICAP SINGLES The Douglas Jones Cup. Holder I. E. Banks. Entrance Fee 11/-.
- Competitors may not enter for more than 3 of the above events or for more than 3 games, counting Draw & Process as 2 games.

6. HANDICAP DOUBLES (Combined handicaps not less than 4). All games in this event start at Hoop 3. Entrance Fee 10/- each.

EXTRA EVENT, time permitting.

Entries (on official forms, please) to reach the Tournament Sec. by first Post on Thursday, 25th August.

The Draw for events 1-5 will take place at Southwick on Thursday August 25th, at 2.30 p.m. Event 6 on Tuesday 30th August at 2.30.

Request for leave should be notified on the forms. No leave will be granted later than noon on Monday 29th August, unless the exigencies of the draw permit.

Prizes according to entries.

11 Courts will be available.

Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable in the Canteen.