

East news

July 2022

Our first newsletter for a while (sorry about that) so a lot to cover:



The program for the Adelaide Carnival is:
GC Aust Gold/Silver Medals 7–9 September
GC Women's/Men's Singles 10–13 September
GC Interstate Shield 14–18 September

OUR STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to Graeme Price and Paul Godard, members of the Tasmanian State Team to compete in the GC Interstate Shield to be played in Adelaide in September. The full team is Graeme Price, Paul Godard (East Launceston), Sue Beattie, Phil Roach (Kingston), John Colquhoun (Eastern Shore), Carol Hanigan, Graham Keating, Yvonne Shaw (Sandy Bay), Ruth McKean (North Esk) and Patsy Paine (Latrobe).

OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2022

At the AGM in March, we welcomed in a new Executive Committee for the year. After three years service, Alison Henty retired and Paul Godard was elected President, with Alison as Vice President. Sue Walker and Trevor Curtis-Flynn continue on as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Committee Members are Lee Turner, Graeme Price, Sue Cooper and Tony Walker.

Alison Henty reported on a good year for the Club, despite the challenges posed by COVID. Membership is at capacity and the Club is in a strong financial position.

East is contributing a lot to State croquet with Paul Godard as Vice President of Croquet Tasmania, Russell Reid Chair of the NTCC, Tony Walker on the ACA Marketing Committee and six referees and five coaches now qualified.

It was decided that there would be no increase in annual membership or green fees.

SUCCESSFUL MAYORAL CHALLENGE



The support of local Councils is very important to croquet clubs and the annual Mayoral Challenge, organised by Lee Turner with her NTCC Publicity Committee, is a good way of keeping Councils aware of croquet and the good work it does for the physical and social wellbeing of local communities.

This was the tenth year of the Mayoral Challenge, inviting mayors from the surrounding seven municipalities to a special competition at the NTCC followed by a barbecue. Mayors bring a partner and each team is assigned a mentor to guide their technique and strategy. This year all seven Councils were represented with Northern Midlands taking out the prize.

LAWN CLOSURE

Our last major lawn refurbishment was in 2019, and our lawn consultant, Andy Byard, is suggesting that the lawn again needs scarifying, top dressing, fertilising and resowing to prepare it for the coming season. The work will be done as soon as the soil warms sufficiently – probably late August or early September, and will involve closing the lawn for several weeks.

CLUB HANDICAP COMPETITION

A new concept in a Golf Croquet Handicap event was trialled by the East Launceston club at the Northern Tasmanian Croquet Centre with 16 members entering the event. In the new format a hoop advantage is allocated instead of free strokes. The handicap system was a great leveler, with the final fought out between Martin Reynolds (handicap 12) and Sue Walker (10), against several entrants with sub five handicaps. Everyone seemed to enjoy the new format, especially Martin.



SUCCESSFUL EASTER TOURNAMENT



East Launceston was the organising club for the annual Easter Gala at the NTCC, which this year attracted 25 mainland players to Launceston over four days of the Easter weekend. With some of Australia's lowest handicap players competing, the tournament was a great success.

Hector Russell made a surprise appearance as the Easter Bunny, seen her was Sue Walker and Lee Turner.

COVID POLICY

The Club had agreed to act as host club for the TCA Open Doubles Tournament to be held at the NTCC in July. Later we heard that the TCA had changed their COVID protocols and has now accepted an entry from an unvaccinated player who had a medical exemption from wearing a mask.

As researchers have demonstrated that unvaccinated people increase the risk of COVID-19 for everyone when they mix with vaccinated individuals, the Club executive decided that asking our members to co-ordinate the event would pose an unacceptable risk to a highly vulnerable senior group.

The committee therefore decided to withdraw East's offer to organise the event.

A BIG DAY AT BUNNINGS

Having been caught napping at our last Bunnings Sausage Sizzle (we ran out of sausages early in the day and had to raid all surrounding supermarkets), the team were better prepared this time and came well supplied. The result was a \$1000+ profit on the day. Thanks to all our volunteers.



Sandy and Sue take the money, Sue and Tony on cooking duty and Trevor in charge of quality control.

NEW MEMBERS



The Club has three new members - Chris Hurford and Stan and Rebecca Gottschalk.

As soon as the weather warms, we will have a wine and croquet evening to welcome and introduce our newcomers.

Tony and Gerard plan to revive our wine and croquet twilight games as part of the summer season.