

Club Captains Report

The 2019-2020 playing season has been very good despite being bookended between two events -A very wet first month reducing the lawn usage, and an abrupt end caused by the Covid 19 epidemic and country close-down. Luckily the Covid 19 only meant the cancellation of 3 club & 1 WCA events.

Jubilee Jug GC Pairs, Waimarie Hutt Valley AC Open, Ewen GC (1st year), WCA Silver Badges.

Formatted: Font color: Auto

The club competitions were all completed except for the Baldwin Cup AC Premier Grade.

New Stuff

Len Kane organised, with his team, a Twilight League on Tuesday evening during the 1st half of the season, which then continued into 2020. It was very successful in itself, and also in giving GC player insight into the mysteries of Association Croquet - four of whom managed a 3 hoop break with biscuits in the Hugh Gillies Tournament in March.

Marg Lissette & Beryl Stewart added an early start to the Saturday GC for members who wanted to play singles games. This was fairly popular 8 – 12 attending

John Farrell ran the “Bullring” a GC coaching session. It also was very successful with a good number of members attending. I feel that as well as being enjoyable, it gave a real boost to their game

Club Competitions

The 1st half of the season, the number of games played was very poor, resulting in many of the competitions being completed in the New Year. In the second half of the season there was an excellent response to my request that their games be played early and not left to the last minute. My thanks to all of you.

Entries into most of the 1 or 2 day club competition were up on last year especially the GC.

Interclub

The number of GC entrants were down, and AC about normal

Tournaments

The club organised and ran two WCA events.

- i. WCA 95th AC Open Championship Singles on the 27 - 30 Dec 2019, and,
- ii. WCA AC Championship Doubles & Singles on the 1 - 4 Feb 2020. (This was a late request from the WCA because Waikanae lawns were unsuitable).

Lawn Use

Golf: The 3 GC club sessions are well attended, which is no surprise given the majority of members play GC. Late in the season, an attempt was made late to have a GC singles day

Association: The Wednesday afternoon AC session stopped because of low attendance. This because most of the members who played on this day

at Ewen Park, are now also associate members of Petone CC and they choose to play there. Most if not all live closer to that club.

Ricochet: The Friday session stopped through a of lack of numbers. Play was incorporated into the Thursday session where it was offered as an option for those interested after morning tea.

Looking Forward.

1. In my 12 years with the club the ratio of AC players to GC player has probably switched 180 degrees, yet the number of sessions to GC player has remained at three (technically speaking, is five, but Mon & Wed are in reality defunct). It is probably high time we looked additional sessions for GC other opportunities for the GC players to expand their game
 - i) A day for singles play.
 - ii) A handicap day with a competition. To qualify you only need to play a minimum number of games (say 10), but if you play more, then your best 10 count. Also need to play with different members.
2. Ricochet. I feel the Friday AM spot is both, (a) isolating the players and (b) the game itself, from the rest of the club. If we are going to grow this game, and give these members social contact the rest the club, we have to include them in other sessions. This year a time was made available with the GC Thursday players. New ricochet players will mainly come from GC players, so perhaps we should continue to have time available with Thursday GC to get more players interested, and also have time on Thursday AC to help develop their skills and strategies
3. Club Competition. Needs to be changed so that it so that it is completed in time. I think that option would be to have two deadlines.
 - i) Half the games would have to be completed by the 1st deadline (a Sunday when out standing could be played).
 - ii) Similarly the remaining games to be played by the 2nd deadline on a Sunday.
4. There is need for more members putting their hand up to assist with running the club events. Club days, three GC club & three AC club tournaments, and two Open tournaments. The club tournaments are not hard to run and computer skills are not needed, as there are enough members who could help with the prep work like results sheets, draws, etc
5. The Twilight League coaching & playing AC to continue
6. The Bull Ring coaching to continue and perhaps be expanded to include other skills.

Acknowledgements.

Ross Bisley, for all the efforts that he has put in to preparing and maintaining the lawns in a very trying year. A wet start, new grass, and settling ground made the job difficult.

Shaun Theobald for the fine effort for updating the Results on to the Web-site

Kevin Fellows for Managing the WCA 95th

Len Kane & his team, Tuesday Twilight League

The Session Leaders, Dawn Dorresteijn, Maida Bishop, John Farrell, & Marg Lissette

John Farrell for organising and running the Bull Ring
Sue and Heather for maintaining the gardens