Camerton & Peasedown Croquet Club

www.camertonpeasedowncroquet.co.uk

Newsletter

October 2024

Simon M receives the Short Croquet Division 4 Winners Trophy
on behalf of CPCC's Saturday team at Budleigh Salterton on Saturday 5 October.
Well done!
Unfortunately the following day the Sunday team's matches at Budleigh Salterton had to be abandoned halfway through due to……. Rain!

CPCC Summer Tournaments Finals Day: Congratulations to all the winners!
Happy day… sunshine on lawns 1 & 2 (not 3 & 4) .... plenty of spectators...lots of food

GC Level Singles **and** Short Croquet:	**Colin**	GC H'cap Singles:	**Ann**
GC High H'cap Singles:	**Chris**	GC Level Dbls:	**Mark & David**
GC H'cap Dbls:	**Trish N & Jill S**	AC Singles:	**Mark**

(photos on page 5) ***BIG THANKS* to Colin** for organising the Tournaments

CPCC Quiz Night

Saturday 26 October
at Claverton Village Hall
7pm for 7.30pm start.

This is always a very enjoyable evening!
All family and friends are welcome
but you need to book tickets at £12 per person
with Fran franralli@gmail.com
by **next Thursday 24 October**
Fran is organising the legendary Ploughman's Supper.
(Please bring your own drinks….)

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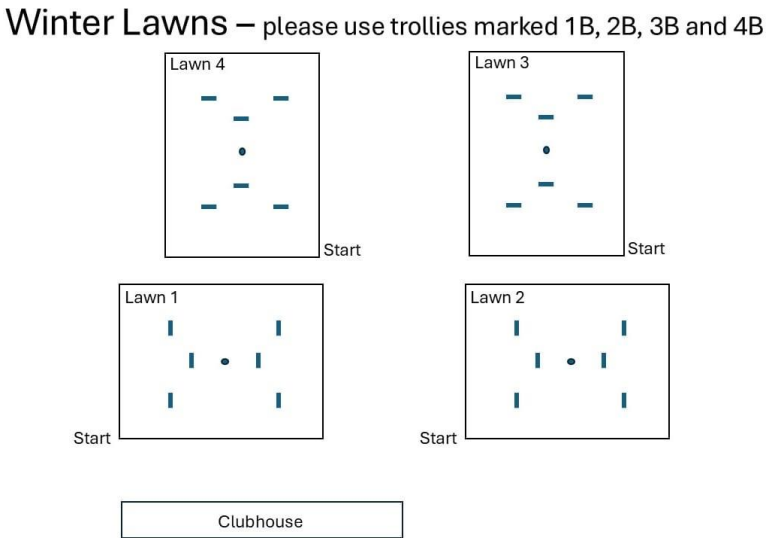
Colin Wins the Third Eight Plate

Towards the end of each season are the "Eights" which are tournaments where top players compete in groups of eight, based on their ability. Croquet England run three Eights, appropriately named the First, Second and Third Eight.

Colin was accepted into the Third Eight played at Nailsea over three days.
He just missed out on the main tournament winning three out of seven of his qualifying matches and taking one game in three more.
On the final day he went on to win the Plate event for places 5 to 8.
Wow…. Well done Colin!

Winter Lawn Settings

The lawns are having their winter treatment in rotation this year…
Currently lawns 3 and 4 are out of bounds! Lawns 1 and 2 are available for play (weather conditions permitting)
The lawns are now set in their winter configuration…. as shown in this diagram



CPCC Winter GC Tournaments…..due to start soon….

Nigel is the organiser this year…. Please let him know in which competitions you would like to participate. **Closing date for entries is next Wednesday 23 October**
Matches will be organised on a Friday and/or a Sunday.
An email has been sent out with full details…… but if you have any queries please contact Nigel as soon as possible: nigelwulcko@yahoo.co.uk
Four Competitions: **Level Play** and **Advantage Play** (both open to all)
Low Handicap (7 and below) and **High Handicap** (8 and above) playing extra turns.

Peasedown St John Cubs' Archery training session took place on the evening of 12 September. It was very well organised and everyone had a good time.

Something Different?: Next summer we hope to organise a CPCC Archery Evening!

Something New!!!! Drop- In Sessions.
On the first Sunday of every month from 2pm until 4pm there will be Drop-In Sessions to which anyone interested in finding out more about croquet will be welcome. The first session will be free with the option of up to seven more sessions at £7 a time. Members will be on hand to welcome visitors to the Club House and to introduce them to the principles of the game. A rota will be arranged to ensure that one or more members are available on each Sunday.

Lunch: Thurs 31 October at 12 noon The King William Tunley BA2 0EB
Please sign the Notice in the Club House or contact Marion marion.button@yahoo.co.uk
Numbers are needed to reserve a table……

100 Club Lucky number: **2** **Robin Oldland**
Please contact Nigel to join or buy more numbers nigelwulcko@yahoo.co.uk

Bath Christmas Market. A Craft Stall is booked for **Tuesday 3 December**.
Mo Boys and Sue Wagstaff are organising this once again.
Please contact them if you are able to assist in any way.
Moboys@talktalk.net Sue.wagstaff2@btinternet.com

Cygnet: The most recent issue in October of The South West Area Newsletter as always has lots of interesting information but this month there are plenty of references and pictures relating to CPCC which shouldn't be missed . An electronic copy has been sent out but a paper copy will be available to read in the Club House.

CPCC Whats App. If you are not already in this Group please get in touch with Andy. Andyloakes@hotmail.co.uk Information about the state of lawns etc is circulated much more quickly than by email….

DIARY DATES

Saturday 26 October: Quiz Night: Claverton Village Hall

Thursday 31 October: Lunch: The King William Tunley

Sunday 3 November: Drop-In Session 2-4pm

Sunday 1 December: Drop-In Session 2-4pm

Tuesday 3 December: CPCC Craft Stall at Bath Christmas Market

Tuesday 10 December: Christmas Lunch: The Club House

CPCC Summer Tournament
Winners
receiving their Trophies!!

AND FINALLY…… Here is the second and final chapter of

Andy Loakes' Croquet exploits 2024

"Pride comes before a fall" they say and my fall was in the Veterans' Championship in East Sussex a couple of days later. Brimming with confidence (I was runner-up in 2023)
I overnighted in the Southwick CC car park and proudly presented myself to the Manager on the first day of the three day tournament saying "Actually I'm now a minus 2!" I then promptly lost 25 points on day one, another 25 on day two and, yes you've guessed it, 25 on day three….. Back to the drawing board!

The following weekend Colin and I played in a lovely relaxed tournament at Budleigh Salterton, the National Doubles Championship. Colin and I agreed on our only stategy – not to apologise to each other. The pressure was off. I was only responsible for every second shot and the results did not go on my handicap card (although interestingly some counties do count doubles games towards their handicaps). We did very well, coming equal third.

I was drawn back to Budleigh the following weekend, wisely opting for a campsite this time. The occasion was the Budleigh Open and I was the holder having won it in 2023. I had another indifferent day one but fought back on the second day to win the Plate, including my very first in-competition bouncing bomb from the boundary – at hoop 13 too! Another 30 points lost and I was now back in my happy place as a minus 1 after my three week dalliance with the rarified atmosphere of being a minus 2 player. I will strive to get to minus 2 but it is a lonely place and the target on your back gets larger and larger.

Then the Division 1 Inter-Counties Championship, again at Southwick, West Sussex. Another lovely two-day tournament. There are 50+ competitors and we all know each other quite well. There are also county-themed mascots, non-white team kit and lots of friendly(ish) county rivalry. Colin and I had helped Somerset win promotion to Division 1 a couple of years ago. Then last year we were both dropped. It's dog-eat-dog in the world of inter-county croquet!
But this year we were selected and Somerset had a good solid team of 6 players. Along the way we beat all other South-West opposition: Gloucester, Devon and Dorset. It all came down to the final match which was against the tournament favourites, Nottinghamshire. Colin and I played a blinding doubles game, helping to win the round and therefore win the entire tournament.

Then, to end the season I popped up to Wrest Park, Bedfordshire for a weekend with the International Performance Development Group. (About 10 bright young things are invited by Croquet England to join the squad each year. It meets two weekends a year and you belong for two years and then you "graduate". Colin did it a few years ago) This was a "mentored match weekend" where we simply played games all day against "elite" opponents who advised on tactics/strategy. Lots of fun, but on impossibly fast lawns. We also had some particularly good coaching on stop shots and jumps.

All in all a challenging and inconsistent season where I yo-yo'd between my best ever ranking and my moderate norm. I had some terrific victories and some outrageous losses, all taken I hope with the same good grace. I've got stuff to work on over the winter and will enter 2025 refreshed, optomistic and confident…. What could possibly go wrong!

Andy Loakes