



# HOOP POINTS

March 2020 Issue No.370

*A Monthly Newsletter from Croquet SA*

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AC STATE TEAM HEADING FOR QLD

Good luck to the AC State Team competing in the Eire Cup in Queensland 18-22 March. The ACA Gold Medal will be held 10-12 March and Mens & Womens Singles 14-17 March. Good luck also to our Gold Medal entrant Simon Hockey.

### Eire Cup Team

Murray Baum	Mary Marsland (Vice Captain)
Mark Kobelt	Virginia Arney
Dwayne Mc Cormick	Shirlene McBride
Harley Watts (Captain) (absent)	Robyn Short
Reserve—Mark Senior	Reserve—Shirley Howlett

Team Manager is Lyn Parnell

Follow the scores on [www.croquetscores.com](http://www.croquetscores.com)



## HALL OF FAME PRESENTATION

**Congratulations** to Bryan Dawson who was presented with a certificate commemorating his induction into the World Croquet Federation by WCF President Ian Burrige of Wales, during the Opening Ceremony of the World Croquet Federation Association Croquet World Championship, held at the Victorian Croquet Centre, Melbourne, 15<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020.

### CITATION

Bryan Dawson is a resident of Adelaide, South Australia and played Association Croquet competitively from 1988 to 2013. He made regular appearances in the Australian Men's and Open Championships from the start of his career to the early 2000s and was a stalwart of the South Australian Interstate Team from 1991 to 2011. In 1999, he travelled to the USA to play in the Sonoma-Cutrer and Resort at the Mountain events and, in 2000, represented Australia in the MacRobertson Shield in New Zealand as well as making a second appearance at Sonoma-Cutrer.

However, Bryan made his major contribution to the game of croquet as the maker of the eponymous Dawson Ball, the premier competition croquet ball for over 25 years from the early 1990s. In his Adelaide workshop, he undertook years of painstaking research into the precise mix of plastics and colours required for the cold moulding process that would produce a croquet ball that met the official specifications reliably by being perfectly round, robust enough to withstand years of vigorous use and almost totally resilient to temperature changes.

Given these characteristics, the ball that steadily took centre stage in almost every croquet-playing country in the world was the Dawson Ball.

The only exception was in Egypt which had been self-sufficient in ball-making for decades. The Egyptian Croquet Federation recognised that it made sense to use Dawson Balls in their own international events not only to suit foreign visitors but also to prepare their own players for using Dawson Balls in world championships. The Dawson Ball can now claim to be genuinely ubiquitous.

Bryan retired from ball manufacturing and sold the business in 2017 to a fellow Australian who continues to manufacture Dawson Balls and export them all over the world. Bryan's unique contribution to modern croquet will be remembered and appreciated by croquet players for as long as the Dawson Ball continues to be used.



*Bryan receiving the award from Ian Burrige*

## Bryan Dawson's acknowledgement on receiving the World Croquet Federation award

Good day. I would like to thank the World Croquet Federation for this award and for everyone that nominated me for it. I would also like to say thanks to June, my wife, for her massive effort in promoting and selling the Dawson 2000 ball worldwide. She is a very clever lady.

My school years were hopeless but I had brilliant hands and could make just about anything. I failed in grade 1-3-6 and left school in grade 6. I didn't even get to high school. At 14 I left school and worked with dad in our joinery and cabinet making business. At that stage I could not even read a ruler properly.

I loved inventing things. Even as a kid my head would be thinking what can I do next. I loved anything mechanical and as life went on, I built my own machines and everything to do with croquet ball manufacturing.

When I was 20 years old I build my first crossbow with a precision mechanism. It was all handmade and beautiful. The Mount Gambier Border Watch newspaper was so impressed I got the front page. It was then put on display for the local police and others to look at it. I still have it today 56 years later.

My father was a perfectionist. Everything had to be perfect or you ended up on the wood heap chopping firewood for days. The perfection was drummed into me and so in my life of manufacturing it had to be perfect or thrown in the bin. My father sacked me 13 times in 3 years. I guess it made me the person I am today.

When I got into the croquet business I mainly made mallets for 3 years and then I decided its time I learned how to play the game. The first thing they asked me was "when are you going to produce a decent croquet ball".

I was young and loved the challenge and so started thinking how should I do it. Will I try this or that. It was very complicated. I had to get rebound, size and temperature right. I thought of a way to manufacture the perfect ball which is foolproof and the results are impressive. I'm the only one in the world to use this technique and the balls are still made that way today and will be for years into the future.

Now months of searching for different materials, I finally came up with a rough prototype ball. I asked Neil Spooner to have a hit with it. He thought it was great. We came up with several different balls for the Australian market. Over the next few years they were all tested and approved by England every 3 years.

The balls were good, but I wanted better. I wanted perfection! I came home from playing at Sonoma USA and started on a new very precision alloy master ball. It was 6 weeks with high magnification on the lathe to come up with the most precision master ball of all time.

We now had to obtain the world market. The ball was so brilliant it created its own market.

The years of manufacturing wasn't easy. I worked incredible hours, 7 days a week and would never give in to any problems. Just keep fighting.

I am very proud and so is my family, including my twin brother Kevin, of how I came from nothing to achieve a place in the Hall of Fame. It's unbelievable. Also thanks to June, my wife, again for her determination and fight for our wonderful croquet ball.

Have a beautiful day or evening.

*Bryan Dawson*

## CROQUET SA SPONSOR KENSINGTON OSTEOPATHY APPOINTS NEW ASSOCIATE

Kensington Osteopathy is excited to welcome Emma Smith who has joined our team of Osteopaths.

Emma joins us from Melbourne where she graduated from RMIT University with distinction. Her passion for Osteopathy started with a fascination of human anatomy and function, along with a desire to help others achieve their best health outcomes. She enjoys treating people of all ages, however has a particular interest in working together with elderly patients to assist them in reaching their goals. Using a variety of techniques, combined with a thorough understanding of how the human body functions, she is able to offer highly individualised treatment and management for a range of musculoskeletal complaints. Outside of her work, Emma is a keen runner and cyclist and is currently learning to speak Japanese. Emma is available for appointments Tuesday to Saturday.



If you would like to make an appointment please call:

**Kensington Osteopathy**  
291 Kensington Rd

Kensington Park 5068 Ph **8431 1166**

[www.kensingtonosteopathy.com.au](http://www.kensingtonosteopathy.com.au)

**20% DISCOUNT\* FOR ALL CROQUET SA MEMBERS ON PRESENTATION OF REG. CARD**

\* First visit only

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2020

## MARCH

- 1—6 **AC** Victor Harbor tournament singles and doubles Entry fee \$50 Contact Noel Young  
noel.young@bigpond.com 8552 2348
- 1 **GC** North Adelaide handicap singles 3 matches Cost \$6 Contact Kevin LePoidevin 0403836954
- 11-22 **AC Nationals** in Queensland: Gold Medal 10-12 March; Mens & Womens Singles 14-17 March  
Eire Cup 18-22 March
- 13-15 **GC** SA Silver Medal for handicap 6+ Entries esportsdesk.com
- 17 **GC** Murray Bridge St Patricks gala Cost \$20 includes lunch Contact Eric Zadow 0450782205
- 23 **GC** West Lakes gala 10am start Cost \$20, lunch provided Contact Gail rgnewmarch@bigpond.com
- 27-29 **GC** SA Gold Medal Entry fee \$45 Entries to esportsdesk.com

## APRIL

- 1—5 **GC** Victor Harbor tournament doubles and singles. Contact Kate Logan 8554 3356  
kate.logan@adam.com.au
- 2 **GC** North Adelaide handicap singles 3 matches Cost \$6 Contact Kevin LePoidevin 0403836954
- 3-5 **AC** Norwood CC Swiss tournament Contact Norwood CC 8364 0943 04002 94455
- 6 **GC** North Adelaide gala Cost \$20 includes lunch and 5 games Contact Kevin LePoidevin 0403836954
- 11-14 **GC** Launceston Easter tournament Contact Ruth McKean, rumckean@gmail.com 0408 432 721
- 18 **Gateball** Doubles at SACA
- 18 **AC/GC** Moonta CC Cost \$20 including lunch Contact Robyn Sparrow robynsparrow44@gmail.com
- 19 **AC** Victor Harbor gala Cost \$20 inc. lunch Contact Beth Young 8552 2348 bethyoung@bigpond.com
- 23-26 **AC** Norwood tournament. Div 1,2,3,4; 7 games over 4 days. Cost \$45 Contact John Arney 0433015440
- 28 **GC** Norwood gala day Cost \$15 includes lunch 4 games 10.30am start Contact Marg Allan  
maggieallan@me.com 0403 863 302

## MAY

- 3** **WORLD CROQUET DAY CLUB PROMOTION**
- 3-7 **AC** Naracoorte tournament doubles and singles. Cost \$50 Contact Eugene Dunstan 08 8752 3703  
enjordan@bigpond.com
- 4 **GC** North Adelaide handicap singles 3 matches Cost \$6 Contact Kevin LePoidevin 0403836954
- 13-18 **AC** Tumby Bay Tournament

## JUNE

- 5 **GC** North Adelaide handicap singles 3 matches Cost \$6 Contact Kevin LePoidevin 0403836954
- 20-21 **AC** Selectors Invitation
- 22-25 **AC** Country Week; Whitelaw Cup

**REMINDER TO ALL MEMBER PLAYERS, CLUB EVENTS MANAGERS, AND SACA COORDINATORS**

A reminder that coaching, information or refereeing sessions conducted on behalf of Croquet SA, club events such as Gala Days and tournaments, as well as Croquet SA events are for **current** registered members only.

**A player quoting their ID number does not mean they are currently registered. The number could have been issued in prior years.**

**All Players:** Please ensure you have your current Croquet SA registration card with you when attending events.

**Club & SACA Event Managers and Coordinators:** After entries close you can check whether players are registered with the Registrations Officer Norma Amey [membership@croquetsa.com.au](mailto:membership@croquetsa.com.au) or [croquetsa@bigpond.com](mailto:croquetsa@bigpond.com) prior to the event.

If no checks are made prior to the event, then current ID cards for all participants should be sighted on the day. Croquet SA relies on clubs to administer this for club events. Please ensure this process is undertaken for all internal events held. Thank you for your assistance.

**Croquet SA Board**

**GOOGLEGROUPS MAILING LIST—GET ON IT**

Googlegroups mailing list was established for clubs to advertise their events to each other by email and for Croquet SA to share relevant information direct to you—our members. It was lovely to have a player come to me the other day to tell me how his interest in croquet has really grown now that he received all the information on events at clubs and from Croquet SA! Send an email to [croquetsa@bigpond.com](mailto:croquetsa@bigpond.com) to join.

**COMPETITION ENTRY FEES—REMINDER**

Clubs are now sent an invoice for entries and lawn fees. Clubs are requested to submit entries via the appropriate on-line entry form. For individual and doubles events players are also requested to complete an on-line entry and are encouraged to submit entry fees direct to Croquet SA via bank transfer.

**PARKING AT HUTT ROAD** The Adelaide City Council has agreed that Croquet SA members when using Hutt Road car park should **display their Croquet SA ID card** on the dashboard if expecting to be parked for any length of time that will exceed the current parking restrictions.

The current **parking restrictions are Maximum 5 hours Mon-Fri 8am-6pm**. Parking inspectors have been provided with a copy of the card to know what to look for.

**REGISTRATION FEES** for all Croquet SA players for 9 months 1 January to 30 September 2020:  
 City \$85.50 inc GST, Country \$56.25.00 inc GST, Student (18-25 with ID card) city \$41.25 inc GST, country \$24.75 inc GST, Juniors (under 18 as at 1/7/19) city and country free. Club affiliation \$66 for clubs with < 40 members; \$110 for clubs with 40+ members

For new players who join as the year goes on Secretaries please note that Registration fees are reduced every quarter in January, April and July and are published on the back page of the Hoop Points newsletter. Please use the correct fee when sending in your registration form

**OFFICE HOURS AT HUTT ROAD** The office at Hutt Road is open on Mon, Tues and Thurs 9am—1pm.  
 Phone number is 8271 6586. At other times via email below

**CROQUET SA OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT	EILEEN FERGUSON	president@croquetsa.com.au	8258 9069
VICE PRESIDENT	ANSI BAUMANIS	vicepresident@croquetsa.com.au	0421 289 844
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ACA INSURANCE & CLAIMS	JIM SAUNDERS	ourjives@bigpond.com	

**SACA COMMITTEES**

**ASSOCIATION CROQUET Coordinators**

Referees	James Temlett	acrefereeing@croquetsa.com.au	0400 740 333
Coaching	Eileen Ferguson	accoaching@croquetsa.com.au	8258 9069
Events	Roger Buddle	acevents@croquetsa.com.au	0409 846 344
Selection	Lyn Parnell	acselection@croquetsa.com.au	0410 110 764
Handicapping	Chris Birdsey	achandicap@croquetsa.com.au	8267 4567
Secretary	Vacant		

**GOLF CROQUET Coordinators**

Refereeing	Vacant	gcrefereeing@croquetsa.com.au	
Events	Karen Magee	kmageewb@gmail.com	0404 174 177
Coaching	Kim Millhouse	gccoaching@croquetsa.com.au	0414 318 497
Selection	Barry Haydon	gcselection@croquetsa.com.au	0419 424 184
Handicapping	Carolyn Cooper	gchandicap@croquetsa.com.au	0427 831 642
Secretary	Jane West	gcsecretary@croquetsa.com.au	
Scorer	Jim Grindrod	gcscorer@croquetsa.com.au	0422 837 485

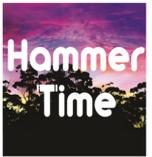
**CALENDAR MANAGER** Peter Martyniuk [calendar@croquetsa.com.au](mailto:calendar@croquetsa.com.au) 0408 277 689

**CROQUET AUSTRALIA CONTACTS**

Croquet Australia Website [www.croquet-australia.com.au](http://www.croquet-australia.com.au)  
 ACA office, PO Box 254, Dickson, ACT 2602: 02) 6257 0880  
 Administrative Officer, [admin@croquet-australia.com.au](mailto:admin@croquet-australia.com.au)



SPORTSA  
 AWARDS  
 2014  
 EVENT OF THE YEAR



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