

THE  
**CROQUET**  
ASSOCIATION GAZETTE  
THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

April, 1953

NUMBER 1

Price 6d.



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in a new guise*

**JAQUES**  
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**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
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Manufactured to the original Ayres formula and by the same process that placed the "Championship" ball in a class of its own. Now known as JAQUES "ECLIPSE" CHAMPIONSHIP, experienced players can obtain their old favourite, made with all the century-old skill of JAQUES, the best-known manufacturers of Croquet equipment in the world. It was John Jaques who first introduced Croquet to this Country. Obtainable from your local sports shop. Illustrated catalogue of the full range of croquet equipment is available, free on request, from

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## FIXTURES FOR 1953

- April 27 **Woking.** *Hon. Sec., Major J. W. Cobb, Farm Hotel, Woking.*
- May 4 **Sidmouth.** *Hon. Sec., Croquet Club, c/o. Cricket Pavilion, Sidmouth.*
- " 11 **Peel Memorials (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 18 **Brighton.** *Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove.*
- " 25 **Inter-County Championships (Hurlingham).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- June 8 **Men's and Women's Championships and Gold Caskets (Hurlingham).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 8 **Ryde.** *Hon. Sec., H. A. Compton, 67 Monkton Street, Ryde, I.O.W.*
- " 15 **Nottingham.** *Hon. Sec., N. L. Bright, 5 Premier Road, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham.*
- " 22 **Buxton.** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. D. Chorlton, 6 The Square, Buxton.*
- " 22 **Parkstone.** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone, Dorset.*
- " 29 **Bedford.** *Hon. Sec., Miss D. D. Steel, Kings Close, Biddenham, Bedford.*
- " 29 **Compton (Eastbourne).** *Hon. Sec., Lt.-Col. R. A. Irwin, The Lawn, Willingdon.*
- July 6 **Croquet Championships (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 13 **Budleigh Salterton.** *Hon. Sec., Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton.*
- " 20 **Cheltenham.** *Hon. Sec., T. J. Gould, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.*
- " 20 **Exmouth.** *Hon. Sec., Miss A. E. Mills, Grey Friars, Budleigh Salterton.*
- " 27 **Ladies' Field Cup. Creyke Cups (Hurlingham).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 27 **Warwickshire Croquet Club (Leamington Spa).** *Hon. Sec., Major A. M. Deakin, Cliffe House, Guys Cliffe Avenue, Leamington Spa.*
- Aug. 3 **Hurlingham.** *The Games Secretary, Hurlingham Club, London, S.W.6.*
- " 12 to 14 **All England Handicap Final Stages. Roehampton.**
- " 13 to 22 **Challenge Cups and Gilbey Cup (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 24 **Brighton.** *Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove.*
- " 31 **Hunstanton.** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.*
- " 31 **Parkstone.** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. H. Ashton, The Orchard, Parkstone, Dorset.*
- Sept. 7 **Exhibition Matches—All England.** *L.T. & C. Club, Church Road, Wimbledon.*
- " 8 **President's Cup.**
- " 8 **Silver Jubilee Cup. Golf Croquet Cups (Roehampton).** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- " 21 **Roehampton Club.** *The Games Sec., Roehampton Club, London, S.W.15.*
- " 28 **Eastbourne, Devonshire Park.** *Secretary C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.*
- to Oct. 10

## NON-OFFICIAL FIXTURES

- Aug. 24 **Hunstanton (American).** *Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. C. Perowne, 65 Victoria Avenue, Hunstanton.*
- " 31 **Brighton.** *Hon. Sec., F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove.*
- Sept. 7 **Cheltenham.** *Hon. Sec., T. J. Gould, Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham.*

## NOTICES

The Annual Subscription of £1 is due and payable on January 1st.

\* \* \*

## HANDBOOK OF LAWS

Price 1s. new edition (Non-Associates, 1s. 6d.).

\* \* \*

## YEAR BOOK 1953

Price 3s. 6d.

\* \* \*

## ENTRY FORMS for tournaments

Pads of 25 price 2/-, can now be obtained from the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

\* \* \*

Associates who wish to become Managers or Handicappers should send in their names to the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

Associates who wish to become Referees may make their own arrangements with the necessary two Examining Referees to take the examination prescribed by the Laws Committee, or, in case of difficulty, they may send in their names to the Secretary, C.A. The names of the Examining Referees will be found in the 1953 editions of the C.A. Year Book and the Handbook of Laws, etc.

\* \* \*

## AUTHORISED VARIATION FOR HANDICAP PLAY

Tournament Committees, in arranging their programmes for 1953 are invited to adopt the following variation in any event to which it may apply. This variation has been authorised by the Council with the purpose of accelerating play between competitors in the higher bisqued categories, and will be applicable to class "D" in the Gilbey Cup next August.

In a handicap event divided into classes, where any class is restricted to players with handicaps of 4 bisques or over, each competitor shall be allowed to take all the bisques to which he is entitled, less 4.

It is hoped that an extensive trial will be given to this variation, which for convenience may be referred to as Variation H.

\* \* \*

Applications for increase of handicap may be made to the Secretary C.A. Applicant must furnish supporting evidence for submission to the Handicap Co-ordination Committee.

## ELECTION OF ASSOCIATES

Mrs. N. L. Bright  
 Mrs. G. N. Bright  
 L. W. Buckley  
 A. J. Bucknell  
 J. R. Cullen  
 E. J. Cook  
 Mrs. Drake-Brockman  
 Miss S. C. Gough  
 W. F. Lord  
 Mrs. E. Haigh Smith  
 Lt.-Col. I. Picton-Turbervill

\* \* \*

## CROQUET COLOURS

To be obtained from T. M. Lewin and Sons Ltd., 103 Jermyn Street, S.W.1.

Ties, 15s. 6d.

Squares, 52s. 6d.

Scarves (to order) Art Silk, 37s. 6d., Silk and Rayon, 63s., Pure Silk, 95s. Post free except for Overseas.

\* \* \*

## SALE OF BALLS

"Brento" balls used at the Peel Memorials Meeting will be for sale at £3 10s. 0d. per set, carriage 1s. 6d. Apply Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

\* \* \*

## AUTHORISED HANDICAPPER, 1953

H. O. Hicks

LORN C. APPS,  
*Secretary.*

## CASSIOBURY CROQUET CLUB

The Annual General Meeting of the above Club was held on 31st January, 1953, when a satisfactory balance of cash was reported and six new members were elected.

There are two lawns available for play in Cassiobury Park adjoining Watford Metropolitan Station, and they are open to members of the club and the general public from 10 a.m. until dusk, between mid-April and mid-October. A very warm welcome will be extended by the Club members to any visiting players or prospective new members for the coming Season.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

## The Play's the Thing

As in previous years, our thanks are again due to the Tournament Committee for their work in arranging an attractive programme of fixtures for 1953.

These opportunities for competitors are many and the tournaments are widely distributed over the country. So far so good—the stage is set, the players are anxiously awaited.

We say anxiously because the C.A. Council, like the governing body of games generally, has to study the financial side of croquet very seriously—if not, in these days, with some trepidation.

Obviously, therefore, however attractive the programme provided by the Tournament Committee may be, unless it draws to the numerous meetings a substantial number of players—sufficient to keep the game itself in being—their labour in providing Tournaments will have been in vain.

In case we have seemed pessimistic, let us add the encouraging fact that the adverse balance shown on the accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1951, has been wiped off.

This is actually due to the increased levy, and reveals the wisdom of the Finance Committee in recommending the increase. Let us see to it that this season there will also be a still further increase in the number of competitors at Tournaments.

\* \* \*

## The Best Players

The above heading may at once conjure up the question as to who are the best players of today. Obviously we must be able to answer this question more easily nowadays than when the number of players were vastly more numerous.

Today the eminently best players can be counted on one hand—and, we venture to add, including those of both sexes.

Originally the "Ladies' Field" Cup was presented by the proprietors of the publication of that name in 1911, to be competed for by the ten best ladies; that number was maintained for 10 years. Then for the next eight years only eight took part; but the following seven years ten ladies again competed. Since 1946 only eight competitors were invited to play for this handsome trophy.

It is somewhat disappointing now to read in the very informative article by Mr. M. B. Reckitt, Chairman of the Tournament Committee, that there will only be six competitors this year in the "Ladies' Field" Cup.

Though in the President's Cup, since the war, only eight have competed for it, there are no doubt adequate—if not obvious—reasons for this. Perhaps a glance at the Year Book will be enough to give some indication as to who are the best players of today.

We mean, of course, judging by the order in which the competitors in both the "Ladies' Field" Cup and the President's Cup finished during the last half a dozen years.

\* \* \*

## Croquet in South Africa

The following letter to our Secretary may interest readers:—

Dear Mrs. Apps,

I have been playing quite a bit of croquet out here, though it was only by luck I heard they played at all in the Transvaal; and even the Durban people didn't know if they still played up here.

I had one game at Cape Town with Capt. Belcher where there are three gravel courts—but very moderate ones, and not really much fun. I hear now there are two good gravel courts at King William's Town, and two at East London,



I played on a rather coarse grass court at Pietermaritzburg, where they had two; and I heard of a very good grass court at Pinetown, twelve miles north of Durban, and there are two clubs in Durban with two gravel courts each, but I had no time to see them.

Near Johannesburg there are two good gravel courts, two very good gravel courts at Benoni, and two at Brakpan. At Pretoria, in Eastwood Park, there is one of the best level grass courts I've ever played on; it was a real joy after gravel, and as good as Hurlingham or Roehampton.

The bowling greens out here are superb, and I long for a game of croquet on them!

I'm afraid croquet is dwindling out here—they think it's an old women's game. Golf and bowls are the popular games.

I thought all this might interest you and any Associates who may come out here; the clubs are most hospitable and welcome visitors.

Yours sincerely,

C. G. REID WALKER,

Captain.

6 Grove Road,  
Mountain View,  
Johannesburg.

February 22nd, 1953.

\* \* \*

#### News from U.S.A.

Mrs. R. R. Williams, a keen Associate and player, who was over here some time ago from her home in Philadelphia sends the following cutting from the New York Wall Street Journal:

##### *Old Faithful Croquet*

One of the surprises of the show was the sudden popularity of that old faithful croquet. Paul J. MacMahon, president of Crane and MacMahon, of St. Mary's, Ohio, claims the game—relegated to homes for the aged a short four or five years ago—has come back so sharply that his sales are at least 1,000% above the level of two years ago. Mr. Morley L. Moore, general sales manager of the Wilson Sporting Goods Co. of Chicago, says: "People are turning more to personal activity sports, away from the big spectator games."

\* \* \*

#### Edinburgh Croquet Club—Inaugural Dinner

With the object of preventing Members losing complete touch with each other during the winter season, the Edinburgh Croquet Club, founded in 1950 by Mr. Moray McLaren, the well-known author and broadcaster, held a most successful Dinner recently in the Roxburghe Hotel, Edinburgh.

Club Membership last season was 47, but, including guests, a company of 51 partook of an excellent meal. A novel feature was the miniature crest of a croquet ball surmounted by two crossed mallets which had been skilfully inscribed on the Menu cards by a daughter of one of the Members.

As President, Mr. McLaren occupied the Chair, and, in a delightfully informal style, said he scarcely anticipated when making the first tentative proposal for a Club nearly three years ago that such an enjoyable evening would be one of the unexpected results. He reminded those present of their extreme good fortune in being able to play in such unique surroundings of sylvan beauty as the grounds of Lauriston Castle, overlooking the Firth of Forth. He also remarked on the popular misconception of croquet as being a graceful game of the Edwardian era, mainly suited for ladies. By this he did not in any way belittle the extraordinary enthusiasm of the ladies of the Edinburgh Club, but he thought it had been proved again that both ladies and gentlemen could find equal pleasure in the deep strategies of the game.

#### *The Club's Benefactor*

Honorary President of the Club is Sir Andrew Murray, a former Lord Provost of the City, who was present as Guest of Honour along with his sister, Miss Rodney Murray. The Toast of "Our Guests" was proposed by Mr. R. J. B. Sellar, radio playwright and author, who, in a happy little speech, referred to the Club's great indebtedness to Sir Andrew for the invaluable assistance he gave during his term of office in securing the Club's green and premises at Lauriston Castle, which is on property owned and controlled by the City authorities.

Sir Andrew briefly replied, and the concluding speech was made by Lord Mackay, a senior member of the Scottish Courts who is an extremely active member of the Club. In proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Lord Mackay referred to Mr. McLaren's many literary accomplishments as well as to his prowess on the green.

The Edinburgh Club owes much to one of its Members, Mrs. J. D. Steel, who originated the whole idea of a Dinner, which is now likely to become an annual event.

#### SUMMARY OF ALL HANDICAP SINGLES GAMES PLAYED AND FINISHED AND REPORTED IN THE GAZETTE 1952

	Bisques	Games		Percentage of games Won
		Won	Lost	
1	— 3½	26	8	76.47
2	— 2½	39	14	73.58
3	— 1	29	12	70.73
4	— 5½	8	4	66.67
5	— 4	9	5	64.29
6	— 2	21	12	63.64
7	2	100	63	61.35
8	8½	9	6	60.00
9	3	86	61	58.50
10	— 3	18	14	56.25
11	— ½	50	40	55.56
12	— 1½	44	36	55.00
13	6	43	36	54.43
14	1	31	26	54.39
15	0	19	18	51.35
16	7	80	77	50.96
17	1½	62	63	49.60
18	4½	42	45	48.28
19	½	27	29	48.21
20	5	38	43	46.91
21	6½	48	55	46.60
22	5½	30	36	45.45
23	2½	45	56	44.55
24	8	56	72	43.75
25	3½	32	43	42.67
26	10	69	95	42.07
27	7½	15	21	41.67
28	12	19	27	41.30
29	4	26	37	41.27
30	9	39	66	37.14
31	11	17	36	32.08
32	13	4	14	22.22
33	14	3	14	17.65
		1,184	1,184	

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952

EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.	
1951.	1951.	1951.	1951.
£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
12 To Medals ... ..	34 13 3	586 By Subscriptions ... ..	588 0 0
111 " Prizes at Meetings—		16 " Donations... ..	6 12 6
Roehampton ... ..	47 18 0	14 " Affiliation Fees, Overseas Clubs ... ..	15 19 6
Hurlingham ... ..	15 0 0	284 " Entry Fees—	
Eastbourne ... ..	42 0 6	Roehampton ... ..	126 15 6
		Hurlingham ... ..	44 4 0
		Eastbourne ... ..	110 5 0
241 " Expenses at Meetings—	104 18 6		
Roehampton ... ..	15 3 3	126 " Levy and Tribute ... ..	281 4 6
Hurlingham ... ..	47 17 0	88 " Sales—	232 12 0
Eastbourne ... ..	122 10 1	Year Book ... ..	21 10 3
Roehampton Club Associates' Fees... ..	48 17 6	Laws ... ..	69 12 11
Engraving and Carriage of Trophies ... ..	20 17 1	Hints to Long Bisquers ... ..	1 4 0
		Croquet and Entry Forms ... ..	9 0 5
567 " Printing and Publications—	255 4 11		
Publication of C.A. Gazette ... ..	379 0 11	82 " Advertisements in Gazette ... ..	101 7 7
Editor's Salary ... ..	58 16 0	29 " Dividends and Interest, less Tax—	71 3 6
Printing Laws ... ..	46 1 6	Roehampton Club Debentures ... ..	10 10 0
Printing Year Book ... ..	55 11 6	London County Cons. 31% ... ..	8 6 8
		War Stock 31% ... ..	9 3 8
100 " Salary, Secretary ... ..	539 9 11	P.O.S.B. Interest 3 years ... ..	8 2 3
290 " Rent Office, Cleaning, Light and Heat ... ..	100 0 0		
26 " Repairs to Premises ... ..	284 5 1	150 " Rent Received ... ..	36 2 7
28 " Office Stationery ... ..	40 3 6	104 " Excess of Expenditure over Income ... ..	150 0 0
10 " Telephone... ..	10 17 7		
7 " Insurance Trophies and Office Contents ... ..	6 14 2		
20 " Postage ... ..	18 0 9		
10 " Audit Fee ... ..	10 10 0		
54 " Travelling and Sundry Expenses ... ..	50 4 6		
3 " Corporation Duty ... ..	2 13 1		
— " Excess of Income over Expenditure ... ..	5 6 11		
£1,479	£1,463 2 2		£1,463 2 2

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1952

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
1951.	1951.	1951.	1951.
£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
11 To SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE ... ..	6 11 0	737 By CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND ... ..	658 2 9
202 " SUNDRY CREDITORS—Expenses Outstanding... ..	137 3 1	202 " DEPOSIT—Post Office Savings Bank—	
50 " VICTORY FUND—As per last Balance Sheet ... ..	50 2 4	As at 1st January, 1952 ... ..	202 2 4
2,763 " ACCUMULATED FUND—		Add Interest 3 years to 31.12.52 ... ..	14 3 9
As at 1st January, 1952 ... ..	2,762 13 0		
Add Excess Income 1952 ... ..	5 6 11	930 " INVESTMENTS AT COST—	216 6 1
	2,767 19 11	£453 9s. 9d. London County Consolidated	
		31% Stock 1958-68 ... ..	430 10 0
		£493 3s. 0d. War Stock 31% ... ..	500 0 0
			930 10 0
		(Market Value 31.12.51, £825 10s. 3d.)	
		(Market Value 31.12.52, £798 5s. 2d.)	
		510 " 500 Roehampton Country Club Debentures	500 0 0
		£10 Roehampton Country Club Ordinary	
		Shares ... ..	10 0 0
			1,440 10 0
		75 " OFFICE FURNITURE—	
		As per last Balance Sheet ... ..	74 18 0
		572 " TROPHIES—	
		As per last Balance Sheet ... ..	571 19 6
			£2,961 16 4
£3,026	£3,026		

E. P. DUFFIELD, *Chairman of Council.*  
 Col. C. C. ADAMS, *Vice-Chairman of Council.*  
 L. F. C. DARBY, *Hon. Treasurer C.A.*

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept. We have examined the above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Account which is in agreement with the books of account and the explanations given to us. The Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the Association's affairs at 31st December, 1952, and the Income and Expenditure Account gives a true and fair view of the excess of income for that date.

3 RAYMOND BUILDINGS, GRAY'S INN, LONDON, W.C.1. 19th January, 1953.

BECBIE, ROBINSON & CO., *Chartered Accountants.*

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row, on Thursday, November 20th, 1952.

*Present.*—Chairman, E. P. Duffield, Col. C. C. Adams, C. B. Bird, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, D. E. Buckland, Col. J. G. Clarke, L. F. C. Darby, G. V. Evans, Miss D. A. Lintern, Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson, M. B. Reckitt, Mrs. E. Reeve, Brig. H. C. N. Trollope, Mrs. G. J. Turketine, B. H. Wiggins, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, H. F. Crowther-Smith (Editor C.A.G.), Mrs. L. C. Apps (Secretary).

The Chairman welcomed Mr. N. L. Bright and Brig. H. C. N. Trollope newly co-opted members of Council.

1. The Minutes were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. A letter from the Rev. G. F. H. Elvey was read suggesting that the *ad hoc* Committee formed about three years ago to deal with instruction in the clubs should be disbanded. On the proposal of Col. Adams, seconded by Mr. Bird this was agreed.

3. A vacancy on the Council was declared.

4. The Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury proposed the motion standing in his name, and adjourned from November 6th. He asked leave to add three words to it. Consent being given the motion read: Addition to Regulation 15 "to call attention at once to any infringement of the Laws and to appoint, at his discretion, two of the assistant referees to have similar powers." This was seconded by Mr. Reckitt. After considerable discussion the Chairman suggested that the clause be added to Regulation 15 (e) as a variation for 1953, so that it might be given a trial before being embodied in the Regulations. With this *proviso* the motion was put to the vote and carried.

5. Motion by Mr. E. P. Duffield: To consider the present handicapping procedure and, if deemed necessary, offer guidance thereon to the Handicap Co-ordination Committee. Members with handicapping experience gave their views. There was general agreement that while wholesale raising of handicaps was to be deprecated, individuals who found themselves unable to play to their handicaps should be encouraged to apply for an increase. Also that a conservative policy should be followed in reducing handicaps.

6. It was decided to cancel the December meeting of the Council.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at 4 Southampton Row, on Thursday, January 1st, 1953.

*Present.*—Chairman, E. P. Duffield, Col. C. C. Adams, Mrs. R. C. J. Beaton, C. B. Bird, Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury, N. L. Bright, D. E. Buckland, Col. J. G. Clarke, E. P. C. Cotter, Major J. H. Dibley, G. V. Evans, Miss D. A. Lintern, Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson, M. B. Reckitt, G. W. Solomon, Mrs. G. J. Turketine, B. H. Wiggins, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins, Brig. H. C. N. Trollope, W. Longman, H. F. Crowther-Smith (Editor C.A.G.), Mrs. L. C. Apps (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from L. F. C. Darby, N. Oddie and Mrs. E. Reeve.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

2. The Secretary read a letter drafted by Mr. Darby, which he proposed should be sent to the Treasurer of the Eastbourne Corporation on the subject of the Account for the Eastbourne Tournament. This was approved.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in which it was stated that only two full sized croquet courts could be laid out on the club grounds. As this rendered the venue unsuitable for holding the President's Cup competition at Wimbledon, Mr. M. B. Reckitt proposed that exhibition games should be staged on the two full sized courts on Saturday, September 12th. Miss D. A. Lintern suggested that Monday afternoon would be preferable, and Mr. Buckland

also spoke in favour of Monday. After discussion it was decided that application be made for the use of the courts for Monday afternoon, and the opening day of the President's Cup competition postponed till Tuesday.

3. Mrs. Beaton gave notice of motion "That a novices' event should be played at most of the large tournaments especially country meetings for players 7 or 8 and over. A shortened game, handicaps, entry fees to be from 3s. to 5s.

4. The venue for the Annual General Meeting was discussed. Mr. M. B. Reckitt proposed that it be held during the Peel Memorials week at Roehampton. This was seconded by Mrs. Nickisson. Major Dibley proposed that it be held at Hurlingham during the Inter-County Championships meeting. This was seconded by the Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury and on being put to the vote was carried.

5. MacRobertson Trophy. It was decided that an *ad hoc* Committee be appointed to deal with all questions as to issue of challenge and any further arrangements. Messrs. Duffield, Adams, Reckitt, Darby, Brackenbury and Solomon were selected.

6. Mr. Reckitt submitted a statement on handicapping policy for approval by the Council, and it was agreed that this should be published in the April C.A.G.

A special meeting of the Council was held in accordance with Rule XIV. Col. Adams moved that the amendments to the laws be agreed. Mr. Longman asked that the amendment to Law 24 (b) be taken separately. The other amendments having been passed, Mr. Longman moved that Law 24 (b) remain as at present. This was seconded by Mr. Evans, and after considerable discussion put to the vote and carried.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Croquet Association will be held at the Hurlingham Club, Fulham, S.W.6, on Tuesday, May 26th, 1953, at 2.30 p.m.

(Associates will be admitted free on production of 1953 Membership Card and signing the Gate Book.)

### AGENDA.

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
2. Accounts and Balance Sheet.
3. Report of the Council for 1952.
4. Election of Hon. Treasurer.  
Mr. L. F. C. Darby retires and offers himself for re-election.
5. Election of eight members of Council for a period of three years. The following retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election: C. B. Bird, D. E. Buckland, W. E. C. Cotton, Miss D. A. Lintern, M. B. Reckitt, G. W. Solomon, Mrs. G. J. Turketine, Dr. W. R. D. Wiggins.
6. Any other business.

### Notes.—

Rule VI. Election of Council. (a) Candidates for election shall consist of (i) Members of the Council retiring under Rule 11 (a) and offering themselves for re-election. (ii) Associates duly proposed and seconded by two other Associates of whose candidature notice in writing shall have been received by the Secretary at least thirty-one days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

Rule VII. (b) Any Associate desirous of proposing a candidate for the office of President or Vice-President or of moving a resolution at the Annual General Meeting except on a question arising out of the Report and Balance Sheet, must give notice thereof to the Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the date of Meeting in order that the same may be published in the C.A. Gazette.

(An amended Agenda will be published in the May issue of the Gazette if necessary.)



## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL 1952

The following officers were elected for the year:

*Chairman of Council.*—Mr. E. P. Duffield.

*Vice-Chairman.*—Col. C. C. Adams.

*Hon. Treasurer.*—Mr. L. F. C. Darby.

The Council records with profound regret the death of two of its members during 1952.

Mr. G. L. Reckitt had been a member of Council from 1923 to 1926 and again from 1947 to 1952. He was Chairman of the Laws Committee 1947-49 and Chairman of the Council 1950-52. His valued advice and untiring efforts in the interests of the game will be greatly missed.

Major J. B. Moffat was co-opted a member of Council in 1946. He always took a keen and constructive interest in the affairs of the Association, and until prevented by ill-health, was a most regular attendant at Council meetings.

Another vacancy, in happier circumstances was occasioned when the Rev. G. F. H. Elvey accepted the invitation of the Council to become a Vice-President of the Association. Mr. Elvey, who qualified for a silver medal in 1904 has a very long-standing connection with the game. His continued active interest in all pertaining to it will undoubtedly make this a popular appointment.

Two of the vacancies of the Council have been filled by the co-option of Mr. N. L. Bright of Nottingham, and Brigadier H. C. N. Trollope of the Colchester Club. It is always a cause for satisfaction when Associates from the provinces feel able to serve on the Council, as it is most important that the views of the provincial clubs shall be well represented. It is perhaps not fully appreciated that such representation can only be given at a very real sacrifice of time and money on the part of those who are willing to come long distances to attend Council and Committee meetings.

Although fifty-five new Associates were elected in 1952 as against thirty-four in 1951, there has been a further slight drop in membership. This is largely attributable to deaths.

One new club—the Edinburgh Croquet Club and the old established club at Littlehampton have become affiliated to the C.A. Any Associate who knows of an unaffiliated club should endeavour to get it added to the registered list. There is no charge. The advantage is that it enables the Secretary of the C.A. to advise inquirers as to local facilities for play, and such inquiries are increasing in number, and gives such clubs the opportunity of getting in touch with the C.A. They may also benefit from visitors fees which they might otherwise not get.

The Council has decided to resume the distribution of medals to overseas Associations. The Australian Croquet Council, the New Zealand Croquet Council, and the South African Croquet Association will each hold an annual competition for a silver and a bronze medal to be competed for under such conditions as they may severally determine.

As will be seen from the Accounts, in lieu of the adverse balance of the previous year there is a small sum on the credit side. This is due to the increased Levy, and the Council feels that the Finance Committee is to be congratulated on having made this recommendation. An increase in membership, however, is still the true basis for a sound financial position.

The Council desires to thank all those who have acted as Managers, Referees and Handicappers during the past season. Their services in these most important capacities are universally appreciated.

## NOTES ON ALTERATIONS TO LAWS, Etc., 1952-53

We had hoped that by this time, the Council would have decided whether the game of Association Croquet is to be played with the four lifts provided for in Law 44, or whether we are to be satisfied with two lifts only, as now laid down in Variation B. This knotty problem is still under discussion, and we must, therefore, play our level games during 1953 under the existing laws, but we are assured that this matter will be settled one way or the other before we come to the 1954 season.

The alterations which are coming into force this year are small, almost microscopic, so far as Association Croquet is concerned, but players will be glad to find that the diagram giving the dimensions and lay-out of the Court, has been moved from Appendix A, and will in future be printed opposite Law 1, where it properly belongs. There are slight alterations to the wording and punctuation of Laws 10 (b) and 36 (a) (ii), but these do not affect the play in any way.

A proposal to alter Law 24 (b) has been discussed, but it has not been accepted by the Council and the Law will, therefore, remain unaltered. Part of this Law reads as follows: "When a ball in play is sent off the court within one yard of the corner, the striker shall at once place it so that it rests on the corner spot. If it cannot be so placed, the striker shall place it on the yard-line as near as possible to the corner spot." The meaning of this is that if a ball is on the yard-line an inch or two out of the corner, a ball coming into the corner is placed on the yard-line, touching it and "across" the corner. It has been a custom with many players to interpret this law loosely, and place one ball on the corner spot and the other touching it on the yard-line. The proposed amendment was an attempt to make the law conform with this practice, but now that it has not been accepted, it is hoped that players will obey the law and remember that in such cases, the balls must be placed diagonally across the corner.

The Laws of Golf Croquet have been altered to provide for a new system of handicapping by bisques and half-bisques, which, it is hoped, will prove satisfactory.

There is a new paragraph on the Etiquette of the game which refers especially to tournament play, and is of some importance. It directs the winner of a game to return at once the balls to Baulk-line A, and replace the clips on the first hoop. He is also, without delay, to report to the Manager the result and score. Incidentally, it might be as well to draw attention to the common failure of players to remove from the peg the clip referring to a pegged-out ball.

Finally, a short reference should be made to two temporary regulations which are being tried out this year as an experiment. They are not at present being incorporated in the Regulations for Official Tournaments, but this will probably be the case next year if they prove successful. The first refers to handicap events divided into classes, where there is a class for competitors with a handicap of 4 bisques or over. In that case, it may be decided by the Committee of the Tournament that in that event, each competitor may take all his bisques less 4. It is hoped that this variation will tend to speed up the play in such events. The second temporary regulation gives powers to the Referee of a Tournament to call attention at once to any infringement of the laws and to appoint, at his discretion, two of the Assistant Referees to have similar powers. We hope that this *proviso* will have a salutary effect on the careless player who is inclined to commit such misdemeanours as "shepherding" and "double-tapping."

The Official Handbook of the Laws is now being reprinted. Every Associate should make sure that he or she possesses an up-to-date copy.

C.C.A.

## C.A. HANDICAPS—A STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Council, on the initiative of the Handicap Co-ordination Committee has recently had the whole question of C.A. Handicaps under consideration and has arrived at the following decisions:—

1. Though it is inevitable that from time to time (as on three previous occasions) the scale of handicaps should be altered if a "Minus" handicap is to retain any significance, it is not proposed to make any further alteration of this sort in the immediate future.

2. As already announced, Associates who desire an increase in their handicaps are invited to apply for this to the Secretary C.A. giving evidence in support of their application and specifying the tournaments at which they have recently played. It is not the present policy of the Committee to raise the handicaps of individual Associates unless such an increase is applied for.

3. It is of course open to Club Handicappers to allot to their members, for play in their own clubs, any handicap they think fit. They are asked, however, to be circumspect in giving new handicaps to competitors in preparation for C.A. Calendar Fixtures, and in particular to avoid allotting to players, who show obvious promise of rapid improvement, handicaps likely to be in excess of their potentialities.

4. In view of the smaller entries at tournaments by comparison with those of pre-war days, it is felt that the rate at which handicap reductions are now made ought to be somewhat slowed down. During the forthcoming season reductions will be made more sparingly and will have to be earned by a more consistent level of performance than has been required hitherto.

This statement of policy is made for the information of Associates, and is to be taken as without prejudice to the practice of reducing as promptly as possible those players who by virtue of rapidly improving form show that they are in need of this.

Tournament Handicappers will assist the Committee if they make their recommendations in accordance with the policy outlined above.

## THE TOURNAMENT SEASON

### SOME ALTERATIONS—AND THE REASONS FOR THEM

This article is written to call the attention of Associates to certain changes in the dates and conditions of some of the fixtures for which the Council is responsible. Though it would in fact be possible for any sufficiently attentive reader of the "Gazette" during the "close season" to extract all the information about to be given here for himself by a study of the minutes of Council meetings and of the programmes of C.A. tournaments, it is doubtful whether more than a handful of Associates attempt anything of the kind. Hence the facts—and the reasons for them—are here set forth so that only the most negligent reader will find himself without the information which he needs (and presumably desires) to have.

A preliminary reference may be made to the official statement on Handicapping policy put out by the Council which appears elsewhere in this number. If Associates will study this carefully not only will they discover some things which they ought to (but too often do not) know already, but they will find information which will help them to understand matters in the future which might otherwise appear to be puzzling.

Taking the new features in the order in which they occur in our Calendar, we come first to a new condition (i.e.) under which a player may qualify for a county team. The purpose of this will, it is hoped, be obvious. It is twofold: to widen the area from which Collectors may draw in mustering their teams, and so far as possible to prevent exclusion from the competition of good players who do

not happen to possess a birth or residential qualification for those counties which enter for it.

The next point is one that was announced as much as eight months ago. The occurrence of the Coronation in the first week of June makes it necessary to suspend for this season the convenient arrangement by which the "Caskets" week has of late years followed upon County week. The dates of some provincial tournaments have been adjusted accordingly. Associates may notice that the honourable and ancient titles of what it has become convenient to call "the Caskets" have been restored at the head of this programme, to recall the fact that these events carry with them the Men's and Women's Championships—the latter a title which goes back as far as 1869. Again, it has been thought more appropriate to play both the Mixed and the Open Doubles Championships under Law 44, without any modification, so that competitors will be entitled to as many "lifts" under this Law as their opponents give them the opportunity of enjoying.

We come next to the most far-reaching of all this season's alterations, and one that was only decided upon after prolonged consideration. The competition for the Ladies' Field Cup is one that has of late years given rise to some difficult problems. This tournament is played in a week when it is often very hot and the courts at Hurlingham fast and tricky. In consequence games have become very long, and even a few such dislocate the schedule and require play to be continued to an unreasonably late hour, even on occasion till nine o'clock. As a result the competition has been felt by some of the best lady players to be so tedious and exhausting that they have become reluctant, or even physically unable, to enter for it. Since the essential purpose of the tournament is not fulfilled unless the very best lady players do in fact compete in it, it has been decided this year to limit the competitors to six. Since this cannot involve more than two games a day, it is hoped that all those invited will in fact accept and the prestige of the trophy be thus fully maintained.

There is another, though relatively minor, alteration in the programme for this week. It was pointed out last year that this is for some Associates the beginning of the holiday season in which alone they are free to compete in tournaments, but that previously there has not usually been any opportunity for minus players to do so, since the Silver Jubilee Cup was not instituted (and was never intended) for them. Accordingly this competition, previously played at Hurlingham, has been put forward to the President's Cup week at Roehampton early in September, when the Golf Croquet competition will also be played. Instead the Creyke Cups will be competed for and in two blocks, so that every type of croquet player will now have this opportunity of play before the big tournament which follows at Hurlingham in the first week of August.

It will be noticed that the President's Cup will begin a day later than usual this year. There is a reason for this of the greatest interest. The suggestion had been made that the "Best Eight" should play their great contest at Wimbledon, thus recalling the earliest days at Worple Road, before Lawn Tennis was heard of. The A.E.L.T.C. committee received our rather daring suggestion with the greatest cordiality, and it was hoped that the President's Cup could be played there during the week of the Junior Lawn Tennis Championships. This, it was felt, would give an unparalleled opportunity for publicity, both on the ground itself and in the press. But unfortunately several difficulties arose, the chief of which proved insurmountable, namely that no playing area was available for more than two full-sized courts. Accordingly the Best Eight will play as usual at Roehampton, but on the Monday of the week allotted to this competition four of the most outstanding of these will play exhibition games at Wimbledon, attracting, as we may hope and expect, a degree of interest which it would be hard to arouse in any other way.

A brief reference may be made in conclusion to two other matters. First, it has been found of recent years that the attempt to play the early stages of the Longman Club Team Cup in Areas is barely feasible and leads to results which are sometimes inequitable. Accordingly all teams entering will this year be included in a single draw. As will be seen from the new conditions, the Manager will make every



endeavour to see that the result works out as fairly and conveniently as possible.

Finally, it is proposed to send over in mid-August a fully authorised English team to compete first in the Irish Championship, and then in a Match against a team representing that country. It is hoped to initiate a series of such matches, and to welcome an Irish team here in 1954.

MAURICE B. RECKITT,  
*Chairman,  
Tournament Committee.*

## CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor, "The Croquet Association Gazette."

Dear Sir,

### CROQUET NINETY YEARS AGO

I think the following extracts from two letters, written some time before her marriage to W. Holman Hunt, the pre-Raphaelite famous painter, by Edith Marion Waugh to a school friend may interest your readers:—

"November 5th, 1863.

"We have been trying to persuade a friend of ours, W. Holman Hunt, who lives on Campden Hill and has a garden, to have it turfed over, for croquet next year."

"July, 1864.

"Some of us went to such a delightful croquet party the other day, we had such fun. One game lasted nearly four hours and we played until it was too dark to see."

It is said that history repeats itself!

Yours sincerely,

DAISY JENNINGS.

53 Loughborough Park, S.W.9.  
January 14th, 1953.

## OBITUARY

### REV. F. S. STONEY

By the recent death of Mr. Stoney an Associate of many years' standing is lost to the game and a large circle of friends. He was constantly seen at the Felixstowe Tournament in his younger days, together with his wife and a small black and tan terrier—their constant companion. He had a handicap of  $\frac{1}{2}$  in those days, and his wife was 12; they were a useful pair in Handicap Doubles.

### MISS E. HODGSON

By the death of Miss E. Hodgson, the Nottingham Croquet Club has sustained the loss of one of its founder members.

She served on the Committee for many years, and did much valuable work for the Club.

A skilful and sporting player, she was deservedly popular, and will be greatly missed by all her fellow members.

### FRANCIS N. HODSON

There was no more ardent lover of the game than the above Associate whose death occurred recently.

He was such a constant competitor in tournaments that his quiet pleasant presence will be much missed. Reigate Priory Club particularly will have cause to mourn his loss; to his energetic and devoted service the Club owes its very existence. We offer our condolences to his wife who was his constant companion.

## ALL-ENGLAND HANDICAP 1953

Winner 1952—Miss D. A. Lintern (—2½)

*Committee.*—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

*Manager, Referee and Handicapper.*—Miss D. A. Lintern.

*Secretary.*—The Secretary, C.A., 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

1. Competitors must be members of the C.A. or members of a Registered Croquet Club.

A member of the C.A. not being a member of a Registered Club must arrange to play in a Registered Club's All-England Competition in order to become eligible for the Final Stages.

A Competitor may not play in more than one Registered Club's Competition.

2. *Preliminary Stage.*—Each Club, members of which enter for the All-England Handicap, will hold a competition, under Club arrangements, to be finished by the 19th July.

Clubs entering 16 to 31 competitors will be entitled to have two representatives (the winner and the runner-up) in the Final Stages.

3. *Final Stages.*—The Club representatives will be drawn on the Bagnall-Wild System and will meet in London during a period extending over August 12th to 14th.

The Final will be played at Roehampton on August 15th. Where there are two representatives from a Club they will be allocated to opposite quarters of the draw.

4. *Qualification to hold a competition:*—

No Club with an entry of less than 4 competitors is eligible to be represented.

5. *Handicaps.*—In the Club Competitions the handicapping will be under Club arrangements.

In any match of the Final Stages a competitor shall play on the C.A. Handicap that he would have been playing at in an Official Tournament during that week.

If a Non-Associate wins or is runner-up in a Club Competition, the Club Secretary will furnish the Manager with sufficient data to enable him to allot a handicap.

6. *Entry Fees.*—Entry Fee for each Competitor 3s., to be paid to the Club Secretaries. 1s. of the Entry Fee will be retained by the Competitor's Club, and 2s. will be sent to the Secretary, C.A., by the Club Secretary.
7. Club Secretaries are requested to notify the Secretary C.A., by the 9th May, if they are holding a Competition.
8. The results of Club Competitions should be sent to the Secretary, C.A., to reach her not later than July 20th.
9. Matches of single games throughout.
10. *Prizes.*—Winner and Runner-up, The Tingey Trophies, others in last eight, Bronze Medals.

## THE CLUB TEAM CUP (Handicap)

Presented by William Longman, Esq.

*Committee.*—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

*Manager and Referee.*—Secretary, Croquet Association.

*Secretary.*—The Secretary, C.A., 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Holders—Edgbaston

1. Competitors must be both members of the C.A. and bona-fide members of the Club for which they play. No individual may play for more than one Club during the Competition.
2. The teams shall normally consist of 4 players who will play 2 Doubles and 3 Singles. By mutual consent, however, the teams in any match may consist of 6 players. In this case the match will include as a minimum 3 Doubles which must be completed, and 2 Single games, though two competing Clubs may increase the number of Single games to 4 or 6 if they mutually agree to do so.
3. HANDICAPS. This Competition is to be played under C.A. Handicap. The gross handicap of any team of four players must be at least 12 bisques, or 18 bisques for a team of 6 players. The gross handicap of any pair in a team must be at least 6 bisques. Every Competitor must have a C.A. handicap of at least half a bisque.
4. To be played with the same general arrangements and conditions as hold for the All-England Handicap and the Inter-Club Championship in so far as they apply.
5. The Clubs entering will be drawn on the "Bagnall-Wild" system.
6. Competing Clubs will play on mutually agreed grounds. If they cannot agree, the match shall be played on a convenient neutral ground chosen by the Manager. If such ground cannot be found, or made available, the Manager shall draw lots as to which side has choice of ground.
7. The results of matches with names, initials, and handicaps of the players should be sent by the winning teams to the Secretary, C.A., who will arrange for publication in the C.A. Gazette.
8. PRIZES. The winning Club will hold the Cup for one year, or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period.
9. There are no entry fees.
10. Entries must reach the Secretary, C.A., by the 9th May, 1953.

## WOKING

LAWN TENNIS AND CROQUET CLUB  
THE  
33rd ANNUAL CROQUET TOURNAMENT  
will be held on  
THE CLUB GROUND, PINE ROAD, HOOK HEATH  
WOKING

On MONDAY, APRIL 27th, 1953  
AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS.

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

*Committee.*—Mrs. B. C. Apps, Major J. W. Cobb, Sir Crawford Douglas-Jones, A. McClure Williams, T. F. Dalton and Mrs. M. F. MacArthur.

*Manager, Referee and Handicapper.*—Mrs. E. E. Turner.

Assistant Referees will be appointed under Reg. 15 (a).  
*Hon. Secretary.*—Major J. W. Cobb, Farm Hotel, Woking.

### EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. "Two Lives." Final best of three games. Variation B. The winner will be entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Club Challenge Cup. A competitor winning this Cup on three occasions will be presented with a replica Cup.  
Entrance Fee, 10s.
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Open to players over two bisques. Winner entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. H. T. Farris. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES ("X.Y.Z."). Entrance Fee, 8s. Unrestricted. The winner of "X" will be entitled to hold for one year or until the next Tournament, whichever is the shorter period, the Challenge Bowl presented by the late Mrs. J. M. Miles.  
N.B.—No competitor may enter for more than two of the above events.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 8s. each competitor. All Entrance Fees include C.A. levy.

### CONDITIONS.

Non-Associates pay a tribute of 10s. to the C.A. when playing in an Official Tournament, or 5s. if they compete in one event only (except in a Tournament promoted by their own Club), when they pay such C.A. Tribute, if any, as the local Committee may determine, but on becoming an Associate any tribute paid during the current year is refunded or credited against subscription.

First and second prizes will be given for each Event, and semi-final prizes if sufficient entries.

3½ in. Hoops and Jaques' Eclipse Balls will be used. Six Courts will be provided on the ground.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

TEA can be obtained on the Ground.

The Club Ground is 1½ miles from Woking Station.

Taxis can be obtained. Bus Service.

Accommodation.—Hotels: Albion, Wheatsheaf, Farm, Cotteridge and Heathside.

### ENTRIES.

Entries for all Events except No. 4 must reach the Hon. Secretary by first post on Friday, April 24th. Entries for No. 4 close on Tuesday, April 28th at the Club, at 2 p.m.

### THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place in the Pavilion on the Club Ground at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 24th.

The Draw for No. 4 at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28th.

### PLAY.

Play will begin at 10.30 a.m. unless otherwise notified.

Players required on Monday will be notified. Competitors in Events 1 and 2 must be prepared to play on Monday. Any competitor who leaves the Ground without permission of the Manager, or who is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so will be liable to be scratched.

## THE PEEL MEMORIALS

will be played for at

### THE ROEHAMPTON CLUB

The Headquarters of the Croquet Association

On MONDAY, MAY 11th, 1953  
AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager and Handicapper.—Mrs. G. J. Turketine.

Referee.—T. Wood-Hill.

Assistant Referees on the Official List will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

### EVENTS.

Open to Associates only.

- 1.—“PEEL MEMORIAL HANDICAP” SINGLES for men. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Prizes: A Silver Challenge Bowl, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. This Event will be played under the “Two Life” system. Holder—Dr. G. L. Stanley (3).
- 2.—“PEEL MEMORIAL” HANDICAP SINGLES for Women. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. Prizes: A Silver Challenge Bowl, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. This Event will be played under the “Two Life” system. Holder—Miss E. F. Rose (2).
- 3.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Combined handicaps scratch or over). Entries must be made in pairs. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d. for each person. Prizes: Two Silver Challenge Cups presented in memory of Lady Murray, and the number of other prizes will be according to the number of entries received. Holders—Miss D. A. Lintern and Mrs. M. L. Thom (7½).

### CONDITIONS.

Hoops 3¼ in. wide. “Brento” Balls will be used. At least seven courts will be provided.

The winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition, whichever is the shorter period.

The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to decide any question that may arise.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

### ENTRIES.

The Entries, accompanied by the Entrance Fees, for Events 1 and 2 must be sent to the Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, so as to reach her not later than the first post on Wednesday, May 6th, and for Event 3 by noon on Tuesday, May 12th.

Competitors must give with their entries the address at which messages will reach them during the Tournament.

### PLAY.

Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily unless otherwise notified.

Competitors must report themselves to the Manager on arrival, and ascertain, if not previously notified, at what hour they must be ready to play.

Any Competitor who wishes to leave the ground before the conclusion of play must obtain the permission of the Manager.

Any Competitor who is not present, or is otherwise unable to play when called upon to do so, will be liable to be scratched.

### DRAW.

The Draw for Events Nos. 1 and 2 will take place at 4 Southampton Row on Wednesday, May 6th, at 11 a.m.

## BRIGHTON

### ANNUAL SUMMER CROQUET TOURNAMENT

On the Grounds of the

SUSSEX COUNTY CROQUET AND LAWN  
TENNIS CLUB, VICTORIA ROAD, SOUTHWICK

on

MONDAY, MAY 18th

AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—The Croquet Committee of the Club.

Manager, Handicapper and Referee.—Nevill Oddie, Esq.

Assistant Referees will be appointed under Reg. 15 (a).

Hon. Secretary.—F. E. Corke, 28 Mansfield Road, Hove 3.

### EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. THE “ABBEY” CHALLENGE CUP. Presented by W. H. Abbey, Esq. Best of three games. Entrance Fee, 8s. 6d.
- 2.—HANDICAP SINGLES. For players not entering Event 3. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. “X.Y.Z.” system of draw. For players not entering Events 1 and 2. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Unrestricted). Entrance Fee, 8s. each player.

The provisions of Regulation 13 (a) will apply at the discretion of the Manager.

Entrance Fees include C.A. Levy.

Extra Event if time permits.

### ENTRIES.

Entries for Events 1, 2 and 3 must reach the Hon. Secretary by the first post on Thursday, May 14th. Those for Event 4 may be made on the ground up to 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 19th.

Entries in all cases must be accompanied with Entrance Fees.

Non-Associates (except members of the S.C.C. and L.T. Club) pay a tribute of 10s. to the C.A. (5s. if they enter in only one Event); but on becoming an Associate any tribute paid in the current year is credited against the subscription.

The Committee reserves the right of refusing any Entry without assigning a reason.

### THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2 and 3 will take place at Southwick on Thursday, May 14th, at 2.30 p.m. Event 4 on Tuesday, May 19th, at 2.30 p.m.

### PLAY.

Play will commence at 10 a.m. and continue till 6.30 p.m. or later if necessary each day.

Players coming from a distance requiring leave should notify it on their Entry Form. No leave will be granted later than 12 noon Monday, unless the exigencies of the Draw permit.

### PRIZES.

According to Entries.

Standard Setting and Jaques Eclipse Balls will be used.

Every Competitor will wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Court.

Competitors will be made Hon. Members of the Club during the Tournament.

Nine Courts will be available.

Light Luncheons and Teas will be obtainable on Ground.

Motor Bus Service from BRIGHTON every 10 minutes via Western Road or by Green Bus along the Front.

Also Train Service to Southwick Station.

Free Parking for Cars on the Ground.



## SIDMOUTH

### A CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on the CLUB GROUNDS

On MONDAY, MAY 4th—MAY 9th, 1953

(Under C.A. Laws and Regulations).

Manager.—Miss A. E. Mills.

Referee and Handicapper.—H. O. Hicks.

Hon. Secretary.—Croquet Club, Cricket Pavilion, Sidmouth.

#### EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES (CLASS "A"). ("Two Lives" system). Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
  - 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (CLASS "B"). Open to players of 1—4½ Bisques. Entrance Fee, 8s. (Rule 44 suspended).
  - 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (CLASS "C"). Open to players of 5 Bisques and over. Entrance Fee, 8s.
  - 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Open to all. Entrance Fee, 8s.
- No competitor may enter for more than two events of Events 1, 2, 3, 4.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Unrestricted). Entrance Fee, 8s. each player.

#### CONDITIONS.

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 must reach the Hon. Secretary, Croquet Club, The Cricket Pavilion, Sidmouth, by first post on **Thursday, April 30th.**

Entries for Doubles by midday **Tuesday, May 5th.**

As only five courts are available, entries will be strictly limited. The Committee reserve the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason.

Competitors must not leave the ground without finding out what time they will be required the NEXT day.

Competitors shall wear such flat-soled footwear as cannot damage the courts.

Lunches and Teas will be provided on the ground.

Entry forms and any further particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary if required.

(Continued from next column)

7. If the number of Counties entering is too large to permit each County to play all the others, they will be so drawn as to allow any County to play as many other Counties as time permits.

8. The winning County shall be that which wins the greatest percentage of matches played. In the event of a tie between two or more Counties the County which has won the greatest number of games shall be the winner. Provided that in the event of all Counties not being drawn to play the same number of matches the Manager shall have power, in the later stages of the competition, to withdraw matches unplayed which have no material influence on the result and substitute others if thereby an equal number of matches are ensured to the leading Counties. If there still be a tie, the Challenge Cup shall be held jointly.

9. The winning County holds the Challenge Cup for one year or until the next Competition, whichever is the shorter period.

10. Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or shoes as cannot damage the Courts.

11. Play will begin at 11 a.m. on Monday and at 10 a.m. on other days unless otherwise notified. Entries to be made to the Secretary, C.A., by May 9th.

12. A limit of 3½ hours will be imposed on all games. Two rounds a day will be played. Play will not normally extend beyond 6.30 p.m.

13. Event to be played under Variation "B."

#### No Entrance Fees.

Prize.—The County Championship Cup.

Hoops 3½ in. wide, and "Brento" Balls will be used.

## THE INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

### THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP CUP.

Presented to the C.A. by the Hon. Arthur Capell, will be played for at THE HURLINGHAM CLUB  
(By kind permission of the Committee of the Hurlingham Club)

On MONDAY, MAY 25th, 1953  
AND FOLLOWING DAYS

Committee.—The Tournament Committee of the Croquet Association.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Mrs. L. E. G. Nickisson.

Assistant Referees on the Official List will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

Secretary.—The Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Holders—Middlesex

#### CONDITIONS.

1. The team for each County consists of three pairs, and the qualifications to represent a County are:—

- a. Birth in the County, or
- b. Present residence in the County of two years' standing, or
- c. A previous residence in the County for an uninterrupted period of five years, other than as a pupil in a school or college.
- d. No one is qualified to represent a County who has represented a different County in the year immediately preceding the competition unless he has previously represented that County, or except in the case of a County which has not competed during the past five years, or unless the County he has represented in the previous year is not competing.

e. An ordinary member of a registered croquet club, of not less than two years standing, not being invited to play for a County for which he is eligible, or being eligible for a County which does not enter a team may play for the County in which his club is situated.

f. Channel Islands, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales to be treated as Counties.

2. A player living in a house other than as an owner or occupier shall only be eligible on satisfying the Council that he or she is *bona-fide* a resident in the County.

3. Care must be taken by those who have undertaken the collection of teams to see that all their members are properly qualified, otherwise their teams will be liable to disqualification. All qualifications must be accurately defined when the names of the teams are submitted.

4. Each County shall appoint a duly qualified Captain. Unless the Captain is included in the list of the eight nominated players (see Condition 5) he will be unable to play for the County, though he will arrange the teams, but must not give advice to any of the team during the progress of a game.

5. The collector of a team shall send to the Secretary, C.A., before May 9th, a list of the names of not more than eight players, from which the playing team of three pairs for any match must be selected, and also the name of the Captain. In a match the players may be combined to form pairs in any manner that the Captain thinks fit, but the pairs must be arranged in the order of the joint amount of bisques, the lowest amount corresponding to the A pair, the highest to the C pair. The constitution of the team must be given to the Manager before any match. If in any match only two pairs from a team should be available for play, these pairs must be matched against the "A" and "B" pairs of the opposing team.

No player can be on the list of nominated players for more than one County.

If a player is obliged to withdraw before a game is concluded, such game shall go by default to the opposing pair.

6. A match between any two Counties shall consist of three games, each of the three pairs of a County playing a single game against the corresponding pair of the opposing County.

(Continued at foot of previous column)

**NOTTINGHAM****CROQUET CLUB**

Telephone: 549371

**ANNUAL TOURNAMENT**

Will be played during the week commencing Monday

**JUNE 15th, 1953**

(Under the laws and regulations of the Croquet Association.)

Manager of Tournament.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury.

Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. D. Steel.

Hon. Tournament Secretary and Treasurer.—Neville L. Bright, 5 Premier Road, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham (Tel.: 64806).

Chairman of Committee.—Mrs. J. R. Elliott, 13 Ebers Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham (Tel. 64354).

**EVENTS.**

First and Second Prizes may be given in each event.  
An Assistant Referee will be appointed on the ground under Reg. 15 (a).

- 1.—“ROBIN HOOD” HANDICAP CHALLENGE TROPHY (Presented by the Croquet Association) for Associates only. Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 2.—OPEN SINGLES (Variation “B”). Challenge Bowl presented by the Nottingham Croquet Club. Single Games.—The final of this event will be the best of 3 games, time permitting. Regulations for Official Tournaments Reg. 13 (a) and (b) will be applied if considered necessary or advisable. Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 3.—LEVEL SINGLES. 5 bisques and over. Single games. Challenge Bowl presented by the late Mr. L. L. Bright. No lifts (Law 44, a, b, c, will not apply). Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES (X.Y.Z.). Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d.  
Winner of X—Challenge Trophy presented by Mrs. J. W. Naake.  
Winner of Y—Challenge Trophy presented by the late Mrs. Reynolds Hole.  
Winner of Z—Challenge Trophy presented by Mrs. F. A. Wadsworth.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES (Unrestricted). Challenge Twin Trophies presented by Mrs. Hitchen. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. each.

**CONDITIONS.**

Entries for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 should reach the Hon. Tournament Secretary, not later than Friday, June 12th, accompanied by a cheque. Entry forms for the Doubles Event may be deferred until Tuesday, June 16th. Play will begin at 10 a.m. daily or earlier.

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.

Lunches and Teas will be served each day in the Pavilion at moderate charge.

Seven Lawns will be available and choice of Lawn will be determined by draw. Standard setting of the lawns, 3½ in. hoops. A Bridge Pavilion will be provided.

The Winners hold the respective Challenge Trophies for one year or until the next competition.

To prevent damage to the lawns every competitor shall wear flat-soled boots or shoes.

Ample Car Park accommodation is available. Buses pass the gates leading to the Club every few minutes, the route numbers being 4, 4a, and 5a, these may be boarded in the City Centre.

List of Hotels (Licensed and Unlicensed) will be supplied on application to the Hon. Tournament Secretary.

Owing to the Test Match (England v. Australia) being played at Nottingham, June 11th and onward, early application for reservations is advisable.

**BUXTON****THE NORTH OF ENGLAND TOURNAMENT**

will be held in

**THE PAVILION GARDENS, BUXTON****On MONDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1953****AND FIVE FOLLOWING DAYS**

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

Committee.—W. T. Bell, A. L. Megson, J. Hunter, Mrs. Oram, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Chorlton.

Manager, Referee and Handicapper.—Miss D. D. Steel.

Hon. Treasurer.—W. T. Bell, 4 Rochester Terrace, Buxton.

Hon. Secretary.—Mrs. D. E. Chorlton, 6 The Square, Buxton.

**EVENTS.**

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. “Two Lives.” Final, best of three games. Variation B. The winner entitled to hold for one year, The North of England Challenge Cup. Entrance Fee, 10s. 6d.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. “Class B.” Open to players of 3½ Bisques and over. Law 44 suspended. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. “X.Y.Z.” System. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 10s.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Unrestricted. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d. each player.  
All Entrance Fees include C.A. Levy.

**CONDITIONS.**

First and second prizes will be awarded for each Event, in addition to Silver Trophies.

Non-Associates pay a tribute of 10s. to the C.A. or 5s. if competing in only one event.

Six Courts will be provided and Jaques Balls and equipment will be used with 3½ in. Hoops.

Competitors shall wear such flat-soled footwear as cannot damage the Courts.

Morning Coffee and Afternoon Tea can be obtained on the ground.

Accommodation.—A list of Hotels and Boarding Houses will be sent on application to the Hon. Secretary.

**ENTRIES.**

Entries (for Events 1, 2, 3) accompanied by Entrance Fees, and made on the official form, should reach the Hon. Secretary, by Friday, June 19th. Entries for Event 4 can be received up to and including, June 23rd.

**THE DRAW.**

The Draw for Events 1, 2 and 3, will take place in the Club Pavilion, on Saturday, June 20th, at 8 p.m. The Draw for Event 4, on Tuesday, June 23rd, at 5 p.m.

**PLAY.**

Play will commence at 10 a.m. unless otherwise notified.

## COMPTON, EASTBOURNE

AN OPEN CROQUET TOURNAMENT  
(Under the Laws and Regulations of the C.A.)

will be held on the grounds of  
**THE COMPTON CROQUET CLUB,**  
**COMPTON PLACE ROAD, EASTBOURNE**  
from  
**MONDAY, JUNE 29th to JULY 4th, 1953**

Manager.—Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury.

Referee and Handicapper.—Lord Tollemache.

Hon. Secretary.—Lt.-Col. R. A. Irwin, The Lawn,  
Willingdon, Sussex.

Committee.—The Committee of the Compton Croquet  
Club, with the Rev. B. V. F. Brackenbury.

### EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. (Draw and process, Variation B.)  
Entrance Fee, 9s. 6d.
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES. —3 Bises and over. (Single  
Games. Law 44 suspended.) Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.
- 4.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Combined Handicaps to  
be not less than Scratch. Entrance Fee, 7s. 6d.  
each player.

1. Fees include C.A. Levy charge of 2s.

2. First Prizes in all Events. Second Prizes if entries  
are sufficient.

3. All entries to be sent to the Hon. Secretary, who  
should also be informed of the proposed Eastbourne  
addresses and Tel. Nos. of competitors. Entries for Events  
1, 2 and 3 will close after first post **Thursday, June 25th**,  
and for Event 4 at midday **Tuesday, June 30th, 1953**.  
The Committee reserve the right to refuse an entry without  
assigning a reason.

4. The Draw will take place at the Compton Croquet  
Club at 2.30 p.m., **Thursday, 25th June**.

5. Play will commence each day at 10 a.m. (or earlier  
if so arranged by the Manager).

Players wanted at 10 or 11 a.m. on Monday will be  
notified. All others will report to the Manager at the  
Club at 2 p.m. on Monday. Competitors will report to the  
Manager on arrival each day.

6. Five Lawns will be available. Every competitor  
will wear such flat-soled shoes as cannot damage the lawns.

7. 3½ in. Hoops and Jaques "Eclipse" Balls will be  
used.

## "TWELVE HINTS TO LONG BISQUERS"

by R. L. J.

(2nd edition).

Contains practical advice for the beginner.

Price 1/-.

Twelve copies for 9/-.

From Secretary, C.A., 4 Southampton Row,  
London, W.C.1.

## BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

A CROQUET TOURNAMENT

will be held on

**THE CLUB GROUNDS**

**On MONDAY, 13th JULY, 1953**  
**AND FOLLOWING DAYS**

(Under the Laws and Regulations of the Croquet Associa-  
tion).

Committee.—Mrs. F. Rotherham (Chairman), Major  
G. F. Stone, Miss A. Mills, Col. D. W. Beamish, L. G.  
Walters, Esq., and G. Black, Esq.

Manager and Handicapper.—Mrs. Edmund Reeve.

Referee of the Tournament.—H. O. Hicks, Esq.

(Assistant referees and umpires may be appointed under  
Reg. 15 (a).)

Secretary.—Lt.-Col. G. E. Cave, Lawn Tennis and  
Croquet Club, Budleigh Salterton. (Tel.: 548).

### EVENTS.

- 1.—OPEN SINGLES. Draw and Process. Variation  
B of Law 44. The Winner to hold the Colman  
Challenge Cup for one year or until the next  
competition, whichever is the shorter period.  
Entrance Fee, 11s. 6d. *Except in the case of a bye  
Competitors in this event will not be granted leave  
after 2 p.m. on Monday, 13th July.*
- 2.—LEVEL SINGLES (Class B). Single games, Law  
44 suspended. The winner to hold the Longman  
Cup for one year or until the next competition,  
whichever is the shorter period. Open to players  
of 1 to 5 bises. Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 3.—HANDICAP SINGLES (Class C). Single games,  
Variation H. Open to players of 5½ bises and  
over. Entrance Fee, 9s.  
N.B.—No competitor may enter for more than one of  
the above events.
- 4.—HANDICAP SINGLES. Single games. The winner  
to hold the Oliver Bowl for one year or until the  
next competition, whichever is the shorter period.  
Open to all. Entrance Fee, 9s.
- 5.—HANDICAP DOUBLES. Single games. The winners  
to hold the Le Messurier Cups for one year or until  
the next competition, whichever is the shorter  
period. Unrestricted except that no two minus  
players may play together. Entrance Fee, 7s.  
each player.

### NOTES.

The above Entrance Fees include the C.A. Levy.  
Non-Associates pay a Tribute of 10s. to the C.A. when  
playing in an Official Tournament, or 5s. if they compete  
in one Event only (except in a Tournament promoted by  
their own Club, when they pay such C.A. Tribute, if any,  
as the local Committee may determine); but on becoming  
an Associate any Tribute paid during the current year  
is refunded, or credited against the subscription.

### PRIZES.

First and Second Prizes will be given in each Event,  
and two equal Third Prizes where Entries are sufficient.

### ENTRIES.

Entries, on Association Forms please, must reach the  
Secretary by the following dates: For Events 1, 2, 3 and 4,  
by the first post on **Thursday, 9th July**; and for Event  
5 by 3 p.m. on **Tuesday, 14th July**, but the Committee  
reserve the right to close the lists earlier should they find  
it necessary to do so.

### THE DRAW.

The Draw for Events 1, 2, 3 and 4 will take place in the  
Club Pavilion on **Thursday, 9th July**, at 11 a.m., and for  
Event 5 on **Tuesday afternoon, 14th July**.

Luncheons and Teas will be provided on the ground at  
moderate prices. Bridge Rooms are available.

Standard Setting, 3in. Hoops.

Play will commence each day at 10 a.m. or earlier if  
necessary.

Every Competitor shall wear such flat-soled boots or  
shoes as cannot damage the Court.

Eight lawns will be provided. Further courts by  
Courtesy of Exmouth Croquet Club will be used if entries  
necessitate.



April 1953,

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"RED HOT BALL"

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