

HOLDFAST BAY CROQUET CLUB

KEEPING IN TOUCH

November, 2021



Hi Folks,

Trust all is well with everyone. To those on the sick list all the best for a speedy recovery. As Christmas is fast approaching social events are being organised.

The Club Holdfast Christmas dinner is being held on **Friday 26th November**. There will be or probably already is an attendance sheet in the Club Holdfast foyer. Please indicate if you are attending to give the organisers an idea of numbers...and speaking of numbers.

The Holdfast Bay Croquet Club Christmas dinner that is usually held at Trish Clayton's home had to be cancelled due to Covid number restrictions. Given this the HBCC committee has decided to hold the HBCC Christmas dinner at the Glenelg Football Club on Sunday **December 5th at 12.30 pm** , Please advise Secretary Margaret Frost on 0417882477 of your attendance so we can have an idea of numbers. We want as many as possible for the Christmas dinner so as many members as possible can meet and chat.

It has been a great year, many friendships have been made, pennants results have been great, our club dinners excellent, Gala Days well represented and fun has been had. We have a lot to celebrate as the year fast comes to an end.



CLUB CAPTAIN - Jan Sala

Pennants.

This season has been an eye opening learning exercise for me as a newbie interim Club Captain, but thoroughly enjoyable. We have had plenty of players that want to play and are keen to improve their skills. Overall, everyone this season has played very well - far above expectations.

Often, Holdfast Bay has been pitted against some very talented opposition players, often players who are very low handicappers including a zero handicapper. These instances occur in the 24+ competitions but in true Holdfast Bay tradition this did not faze our 24+ players. These low handicappers show no mercy, and in fact whilst they show their own players some useful tips and pointers we have at the same time learned to pick their brains. Never consider being beaten a negative. Always ask yourself why you lost and then you can focus on those aspects of your game and seek ways to strengthen and improve your game.

Next season I hope to structure our teams and player selection slightly differently.

Hopefully, we might be able to field 3 x 24+ doubles teams at Hutt Rd and perhaps even 2 x 9+ home & away singles & doubles teams should there be enough members interested.



Maybe, we will also be able to arrange some skills practice and strategy sessions along with explanations of the often misunderstood "crush shot", "double tap", "off side rule", and "wrong" ball played options available to the non offending party.

The opposition know that no matter which Holdfast Bay team they play they will get a tough match.

The annual schedule for tournaments and gala days is always crowded and as always Holdfast Bay Croquet Club is conspicuously represented. Recent successes have been recorded by Paul Wahlstedt and Colin Broom. Paul was successful in winning a 5+ Singles tournament and an 8+ Doubles in partnership with Colin Broom. Colin Broom was successful in winning the Brighton Gala Day recently. Well done to both members and to all our members.

Entering tournaments and galas are important for two reasons:

- 1) It projects our club's image out into the South Australian croquet community, raising our club's profile. Our uniform not only encourages an esprit de corp amongst members but advertises us to other clubs in relation to our attitude about how we go about our business, that we take a professional attitude to croquet by wearing our uniforms.
- 2) Most importantly entering competitions outside of the club enhances member's playing skills by exposing them to a range of techniques they may not have encountered if they play constantly at the club. It's important to be exposed to different players and their skills.



Around the Courts - Green Keeper Liaison Officer (GKLO) Colin Broom

The greenkeepers will be doing the remediation work on our croquet courts after our midweek pennant series is finished in November.

For a period of approximately 5 weeks after that court Number Two will be off limits but we will be able to use D green for a second court.

This work is to take place on November 29th & 30th and croquet volunteer workers would be appreciated for about four hours on each of these days to move the cored soil from the court to the car park and on the second day to move sand from the car park to the court.

Obviously this work will be quite labour intensive with wheelbarrows etc. but the more volunteers we get the less work it is for individuals therefore I hope our croquet members who feel they are fit enough to help will join in.

It is of course realised that for health and safety reasons some of our members who volunteer at every opportunity will not be able to help this time but I am hoping others who feel able to help in this venture can spare a couple of hours to help improve our courts so we can enjoy our games on an improved surface.

UNIFORM.

A reminder that if ordering tops/shirts from Greatex on Port Rd., Beverley that they have both synthetic and cotton shirts so please stipulate which ones requiring.

Does anyone know about 3 club tops that have been left in our club rooms. 2 blue, 1 white.

CROQUET CLUB ROOM.

Our club room was recently flooded out due to a hose being left on in the garden area so we now have a brand new carpet. Looks great.

First Aid Course.

Dates for St John First Aid course have yet to be decided. Will let you know in due course.

Keep well, keep safe, keep smiling and keep croqueting.

Cheers,

Marg

