THROUGH THE HOOP

Newsletter of the Su3a Croquet Group Edition No: 10. August 2023



From the Coordinator

2/3rds of the way though the season. We have had an average of 323 players during April, May and June, which is a good showing. Our new members have fitted in well, having been made welcome by you all.

Our internal competitions arranged by Chris Cave went well culminating with the finals on 20th July

Winners were:

Doubles Trophy: Won by Sue Cave & Peter Smith. Runners-up were: Julia Salter & Peter Jones

Restricted Singles Cup: Won by: **Brian Stewart**. Runner-up was: **Ann Granville**

Open Singles: Won by: Pete Reed. Runner-up was David Park



Julia Salter, Peter jones, Sue Cave, Peter Smith, Brian Stewart, Ann Granville, Pete Reed, David Park

The afternoon was topped off by a cream tea, arranged by Julia. Many of our members brought homemade scones and sausage rolls for us all to enjoy.

Our thanks to Chris for organising the tournament, to everyone who competed, to Julia for arranging the Cream Tea and to all those who slaved over a hot stove. Also a big thank you to those who helped clear up at the end of the day. We hope to see many more of you taking part next season. It's a bit of fun, playing against those you would normally play with or against.

Julia has also started the monthly early evening meal. Please put your name down on the sheet when it appears on the table.

Brian





CROQUET ASSOCIATION

Four years ago, Su3a Croquet Group was an affiliated member of the Croquet Association (CA). They then changed the rules of affiliation which required us to become full members. The fee for full membership was £60 for year 1, £90 for year 2 and £120 for year 3. Thereafter, the fee would be calculated on the number of members a club had. This fee is £15.50 p.a.p.p. Therefore in 2024, we would have to pay 80 members x £15.50 = £1240.

The benefit of the club being a member of the CA is a) 3rd party liability insurance (which the u3a also provide) b) guidance, advice and a monthly magazine (which two of our members receive anyway as being individual members of the CA). c) members can play in Federation competitions. As only 12-15 members want to play competitively, we cannot justify paying the annual CA fee of £1240.

To enable those members who want to play in Federation Competitions, we have a possible solution.

Su3a Croquet Group resigns from the CA.

A new club registers with the CA called Sheffield Parkhead Croquet Club. To all intents and purposes, nothing will change within Su3a Croquet. Only Su3a Croquet members can be SPCC players.

The new club will pay £60 in 2024, £90 in 2025 and £120 in 2026. Thereafter, the fee is £10 per member. The reason for the reduced fee is because:

"For 2023, the normal rate is £15.50 per head for adult members, but there is a discounted rate of £10.00 per head for clubs that have either a playing area significantly less than two full-sized lawns or significant external restrictions on their usage."

Quote from CA website

SPCC will have reduced lawns and are restricted to playing on only 2 days per week including no weekends, therefore qualify for the reduced fee.

Su3a members who wish to play in federation competitions pay the Su3a Croquet annual fee of £45 plus £15 p.a. for SPCC membership plus £5 per match played. This should cover CA membership, mileage charges and provision of refreshments at matches.

Please let me have any comments

Brian

Book a Lawn and play with friends

During Covid, many of you booked to play together once it was allowed.

At the moment, after about 3 in the afternoon, 1 or 2 lawns are empty, so for the rest of the season, if you want to play either singles or doubles, you can book a lawn from 3.30 and play with your friend/s. Lawns available will be No:3 and/or No: 4A. Lawns 1 & 2 may also be used if there are no members waiting to play.

To book a lawn, contact Mo at mocave@btinternet.com and when the last players leave the lawn, you and your friends can use it.

This is dependant on someone being available to lock up at the end of the day.



End of Season BBQThursday 28th September

Put Thursday 28th September in your diary. If you can bring a salad or cake on the day, please let Julia Salter know <u>julia.salter23@hotmail.co.uk</u>

The last day of play for the season will be Thursday 28th September.

New Balls

We now have two sets each of primary and secondary Dawson 2000 competition balls for general use on Lawns 1 and 2 and one new set each of primary and secondary Sunshiney balls on Lawn 4A. The old balls will be available as practise balls.

The condition of the drainage works carried out at Parkhead last year still precludes the use of Lawn 4. Lawn 3 is also affected but playable to an extent. Lawn 4A is proving a popular replacement for Lawn 4.



Pete Reed



We have a defibrillator in the club house in the Umpires room which is easy to use, although we will be offering some more training. Only one of our members has provided a "Do not Resuscitate" certificate. This is kept with the defibrillator.

Remember that whilst the defibrillator is being fetched someone should be carrying out CPR. You may find the following useful.

