



South African Croquet News

- December '23
- Edition 1

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Welcome to the South African Croquet News publication of Dec '23

- ▶ We hope you enjoy this, the first of what we trust will be many more publications, on SA croquet club news and all that goes with it.
- ▶ We ideally would like to be able to distribute twice a year, and all your pictures, news, interesting town or province points of interest would be most welcome. Overseas travels including anything croquet – please do share.
- ▶ With the 2023/2024 croquet season in full swing there will be loads of opportunity for submitting editorials and photos, which we are looking forward to receiving – the more the merrier.
- ▶ We would also like to offer advertising space to anyone keen on wishing to make use of the opportunity, please mail to make enquiries in this regard.
- ▶ Every good wish to you all for the festive season, all the very best of luck on the lawns, and keep the news rolling in.
- ▶ Remember, keep an eye on the SACA website for various event entry forms.

Port Alfred Croquet Club

The Port Alfred Croquet Club has a very active membership and has been going since 1997. It forms part of the Port Alfred Bowling Club on the banks of the Kowie River and under the shadow of the Nico Malan Bridge - a recognizable landmark in Port Alfred.

The SACA Nationals Tournament is an annual event attended regularly by Port Alfred CC members. The team of 6 who attended the 2023 Tournament held recently in Gauteng was Ellen Wolmerans, Sue and Roger Darkes, Noeline Kirsten and Glynis and Trevor Welbourne.

The PABCC is looking forward to welcoming all to the upcoming Port Alfred Classic to be held in April 2024.





Rondebosch Croquet Club

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- ▶ The summer season brings with it the frequent requests for venue hire of the club and surrounds, including corporate team building events, croquet themed birthday parties, year end functions and family and church gatherings, all invaluable to the club's kitty. In order to prepare for all the upcoming events the club held a work party day to help spruce up the clubhouse, equipment and surrounds – this was then followed by a super lunch prepared by our club secretary, Anne Ellis.
- ▶ On the local and national competition front, Paul Fanner won the Open Singles club GC tournament and Sue de Villiers winning the SACA Nationals GC Open Handicap doubles with Judith Hanekom

Typos Croquet Club

11 November '23 saw the East London Typos Croquet Club hosting their award ceremony. A fine performance had been demonstrated by all the competitors, who certainly gave the eventual winners a real "run for their money". The winners absolutely did deserve their trophies – congratulations to Neil Rowe being awarded most improved player, winning the in-house Open Singles event, plus in-house handicap doubles with partner Allan Clatcher. Linda and Rob Penhall won the in-house open doubles event and Kelvin Kretchmann the in-house handicap singles event. Keep up the great work guys!



Somerset West Croquet Club

Nestled below the beautiful Helderberg Mountain and snuggled up close to the Hottentots Holland Mountain range, the SWCC club was established in 1970. It soon became noted for its competitive, yet very social croquet. Having 4 lawns of super quality in the winelands, the club is busy on just about every day of the week, and with the playing season being in full swing will see the club hosting four major events next year, attracting international competitors from the UK, Europe and Australia to mention a few.

Upcoming events being hosted WCCA AC and GC championships, SACA Rainbow International during February/March 2024 and in November the SACA Nationals Championship.

Entry forms available on croquet.org.za



News from Waterfall Hills & Valley Croquet Club



We were pleased to welcome 3 new members to our club recently. John Barham, Dave and Penny Marsh.

Attached photo from the recent SA Nationals, showing our oldest member, and possibly the oldest croquet player in the country, Colin Miller Miller, 93 years old, holding the trophy, along with his doubles partner Roy Watson. They won the Restricted Handicap Doubles at the Nationals..... congratulations Colin and Roy!

Benoni Kleinfontein Croquet Club

It is wonderful to be able to wield our mallets and whack those balls through the hoops once again after a long wait for a new venue,"

Since having had to move venues in 2020 Kleinfontein has grown from strength to strength, with help from JayJay McHardy setting the lawns initially they now have two courts which are regularly full on their Wednesday and Sunday club days.



News from the 2023 SACA Nationals

► Overheard during the GC open doubles semi finals...

” Chris called Mike Corcoran’s shot jumping the peg, my ball in hoop 6 and scoring the point to go 4 – 2 up, the best shot of the Nationals; Reggie and I saw it as the “worst” thing that happened to us but that’s the joy of croquet isn’t’ it?

► Held in Johannesburg, at the beautiful Country Club Johannesburg, an oasis in the centre of a bustling metropolis, the nationals was played over two weeks from 5 to 9 November for the AC and 13 to 18 November for the GC. A substantial field for the GC saw winners from various clubs across the country, and although the entry for the AC was smaller, saw bragging rights shared between Gauteng and Western Province. Extremely well managed, competitive play in both codes on near perfect lawns, Gauteng Croquet Association can be well pleased with a hugely successful event.





2023 SACA National Championship results

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- ▶ AC Open singles – Neil McHardy
- ▶ AC Open doubles – Neil & JJ McHardy
- ▶ AC Restricted singles – Mike Corcoran
- ▶ AC Open Handicap singles – Neil McHardy
- ▶ AC Handicap doubles – Mike Corcoran & Lloyd Jackson
- ▶ GC Open singles – Neil McHardy
- ▶ GC Open doubles – Alfred Makhubo & Victor Dladla
- ▶ GC Restricted Handicap singles – Pat Cronin
- ▶ GC Restricted Handicap doubles – Colin Miller & Roy Watson
- ▶ GC Open Handicap singles – Judith Hanekom
- ▶ GC Open handicap doubles – Judith Hanekom & Sue de Villiers

World Croquet Federation news

- ▶ The WCF are pleased to be able to launch this new resource – an Online GC Rules Training and Study Pack. Comprising individual 28 modules, including videos, the complete rules of GC are covered in one Study Pack. There are separate modules aimed at those wishing to train towards becoming a referee.
- ▶ Originally this initiative was aimed at providing material for their smaller Members who do not have the infrastructure or geography to support on lawn courses or exams. However, the material that Ian Shore has created for the WCF is a resource available to all, whether to those studying to be a referee, those who wish to refresh their knowledge, or any player who wishes to learn and understand the rules.
- ▶ To find out more please visit the new page on their website:
<https://worldcroquet.org/online-rules-training-and-study-pack/>



WCCA Robinson Cup league standings at 18 December '23



	<u>games</u>	<u>hoops</u>	<u>points</u>
False Bay CC	44	452	6
Greyton CCC	23	373	0
Helderberg Village CC	19	237	3
Kelvin Grove CC	46	354	6
Rondebosch CC	29	410	3
SWCC Eagles	55	497	8
SWCC Falcons	43	392	6

Clubs and their contacts around SA

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Rondebosch CC – anneellis@hotmail.co.uk

Typos CC – smorgan035@gmail.com

Somerset West CC – lynrudmanswcc@gmail.com

Waterfall Hills CC – unarowlands@gmail.com

Benoni Kleinfontein CC – sunstove@iafrica.com

False Bay CC – rolysheena@gmail.com

Kelvin Grove CC – jeanfarrell@mweb.co.za

Greyton CC – natasha@Overberg.biz

Helderberg Village CC – merlelang44@gmail.com

Country Club Joburg – Wakeham.c@gmail.com

Marks Park CC – grootes@intekom.co.za

Port Alfred CC – rdpat@telkomsa.net

Berea CC – mounfford.anne@gmail.com

*NB – when mailing replace * with @*



WHERE ELEGANCE MEETS EXCELLENCE ON THE LAWN

SUGAR BEACH

INTERNATIONAL CROQUET CUP

16 PLAYERS **6** DAYS **5** STARHOTEL **1** COMPETITION

24th - 29th JAN 2024

CONFIRMED PLAYERS



Robert Fletcher



Jenny Clarke



Guy Scurfield



Neil McHardy



.....and just off our shores

- ▶ <https://www.sugarbeachmauritius.com/sugar-beach-international-croquet-cup-2024/>
- ▶ 16 players will play across 2 lawns, situated in front of the main hotel building and overlooking the sea. The competition will be played over 3 days, consisting of a 1-day doubles competition and a 2 day singles knockout competition.
- ▶ Your croquet competition holiday includes an all inclusive package, allowing you to drink and dine throughout the resort at no additional cost.
- ▶ Beach & Pools: Main Pool, Infinity Pool Beach and sunbeds. Land Sports: Tennis, Gym & Sports Centre, Beach Volleyball, Table Tennis, Football, Bocce Ball ,Fitness Classes. All inclusive activities - Water Sports: Kayaking, Pedal boats, Glass bottom boat ride Zayak Windsurfing Stand-up paddle Aqua zumba Snorkeling, Golf. Free and unlimited green fees at Ile aux Cerfs Golf Club and Tamarina Golf Club. Free boat shuttle transfers at Pointe Maurice Jetty (within operating hours) for Ile aux Cerfs Golf Club
- ▶ T +230 403 3300—E info@sugarbeachmauritius.com W sugarbeachmauritius.com Wolmar, Flic en Flac, 90504, Mauritius

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- Minis Christmas Gift Pack – R220
(4 x 50ml Triple Three Gin Range)

WhatsApp your orders to me on
082 515 8184 - Allan

