



Running Hoops

The Newsletter of Kenilworth Croquet

July 2017

First league match — First victory

We had a good start to the season with a victory over Himley in the West Midlands Croquet League on 7th June. It was the first rain-free day of the week (until 6 p.m.anyway) & the lawns were freshly cut and cleared of the many poplar leaves Tuesday's high wind had brought down. On handicap we were rather lower than they were. Himley had the usual benefit, as visitors, of each player keeping to the same lawn for the four rounds of singles.

We started well, with 3 wins from the 4 games in the first round. Philip Wood and Mervyn Harvey won all four of their singles matches, with Mike Cheeseman taking two and Ray Clipson one, to give Kenilworth the lead by 11 games to 5. There were the usual freak occurrences which happen in GC, and in one game the players realised half way through the game that they were playing with each other's balls - scoring hoops and agreeing on the score more than once before moving on to the next hoop. Somehow they managed to finish the game satisfactorily.

Finally, in the two doubles games we won the doubles game which had been agreed to count for 1-point. Unfortunately we lost the game agreed for the 2 points, 6-7 after a long struggle for the last hoop. So we did not



It's all in the rules somewhere

Charlecote Cup Final

On a bright sunny morning Peter Kristunas and Ian Robertson met to play the final of the Charlecote Cup.

The first of the best of three games was won by Ian who having got stuck in the 9th hoop, went through it. Then with his next shot went the length of the lawn and straight through the next hoop to win the game 7-3. The second game was more even with Peter's game improving.



With several closely fought hoops Peter eventually won 7-4.

The deciding game was even more tense. Peter seemed to be winning easily and with Peter's ball stuck in the hoop, peter used a jump shot to win the hoop and get to 6-3. The

wind was affecting Ian's game, but he recovered and won three hoops in succession to level it at 6-6. So it all depended on the 'golden' 13th hoop. After both players getting close Peter Kristunas got his yellow through to win.

New security cards & bar times

If you haven't already got your new card you need to go to the club bar to get it. Without it you will not be able to get into the main clubhouse.

The old cards no longer work.

The bar times are:

Days	Times
Monday - Friday	5 pm to 10.30 pm
Saturday	12 noon to 2 pm 5 pm to 8.30 pm
Sunday	12 noon to 2 pm 7 pm to 10.30 pm

Why not arrange to play Saturday or Sunday morning and then **relax on the club balcony with a drink** to get over the stress of the game.

Please continue to send exciting articles, photographs, opinions and comments to Gordon Henderson. on 01926 855376 or gordonhenderson28@gmail.com

Friendly against Offchurch

After about three weeks of fine, dry weather, including record-breaking temperatures, Kenilworth Croquet Club's first Golf Croquet friendly match against Offchurch on Sunday was delayed for a short sharp shower.

The first round gave results of one win for each side, and one draw, with the anticipation of a close match. However, Kenilworth pulled ahead with husband and wife team, Jim and Lynne Moorhouse winning two matches and drawing one, and Nick Hegan, who was celebrating his birthday, and Lynne Breedon, playing her first match, managing one win and one draw. Pauline Harvey and Stella Gill had mixed fortunes with one win, one loss and one draw.

The fixture finished with companionable chat over afternoon tea, and everyone looking forward to a return match at Offchurch in a few weeks' time.



Happy Birthday Nick

Sapcote Friendly with new players Alan Worrall & Lynne Breedon

We played our second GC friendly match of the season against Sapcote at home on Friday afternoon, June 30th. It was an overcast day, but the rain held off for us to play on lawns in pretty perfect condition. Hoops were keenly contested and only one game finished within the 45 minute limit. Alan Worrall played in his first ever match, partnering an old hand, David Green, managing two wins and a draw. Peter Kristunas and Irene Rogers won their games comfortably, and Cliff Daniels with novice Lynne Breedon won two of their three, only narrowly losing the third, which went to the golden hoop.

The opposition, although beaten on the lawns, greatly appreciated the full-size flat lawns, and enjoyed the splendid teatime spread even more! We look forward to playing the return at Sapcote on July 21st.

STOP PRESS

Unfortunately we lost both our league match against Church Stretton & Pendle (the Longmans cup) Reports in the next issue



The Little Red Book -

On The Day

Two weeks later came the exam itself when Peter Death came to Kenilworth. First were 20 multi choice questions, some straightforward and some more challenging than I expected. Alan's hard studying showed when he out-scored me but we both passed. Next came the practical test on the lawn. Challenging decisions needed to be made in both static and dynamic situations. Static positions are where a decision needs to be made based on where the balls lie and how they got there. Dynamic situations are much more challenging. Strokes have to be watched very carefully and any faults identified. You wouldn't believe how many faults an examiner can commit in one stroke! As Alan was doing his practical, I was sitting a one hour written examination with eight difficult situations where any infringement had to be identified, the remedy decided upon and the relevant laws from the Red Book quoted. Quite a challenge!

We adjourned to the pub for lunch and to allow Peter time to total the marks. I made the odd mistake in the practical but passed the test. Alan scored the requisite number of marks to pass but the examiner considered that his lack of playing experience affected his confidence in making his dynamic decisions. I think this was a borderline decision. I "just scraped through" my written exam to qualify as an AC Referee. Alan will be able to re-sit in the near future when, I'm sure, this experience will allow him to sail through – Best of luck Alan.

Adrian Morris