

Croquet Communique

British Open Championships – Association Croquet

British Open Championship AC Tournament was held over the week 1st to 6th September 2020 in Cheltenham. Harry Fisher, of Roehampton Club, had a very good tournament, making his way unbeaten to the final.

In the semi-final he defeated Jonathan Powe, who had beaten Reg Bamford in the quarters. His final opponent was Paddy Chapman of New Zealand, who was World Champion in 2018. After taking a 2-0 lead, he was unable to take another game and ended Runner-Up 2-3.

A brilliant performance, well done Harry!

Mark Van Loon of Roehampton Club lost to Mark Omerod, the overall Plate winner, in the Plate 'Process' final.

Hussar Cup

John Pearson, yet again, organised the annual end of season open tournament, his report follows:

Newcomer (and star in the making) Aston Wade wins the Roehampton Club End-of-Season AC Handicap Tournament.

The Tournament was played over the weekend of 12th and 13th September in fine, sunny weather (particularly on the Sunday) on fast lawns with tight (and firm) hoops. The field was reduced to 12 by covid and late withdrawals, with the great majority of entrants having played in previous years, but we were glad to welcome two newcomers to Roehampton Club events. One of these (Aston Wade, aged only 18, from Hamptworth), having had plenty of leisure in this glorious summer, arrived having had his AC handicap reduced from 8 to 4. The reduction caused him little trouble however and he always looked the likely winner. He won all his 5 matches comfortably, though fittingly was given his hardest task in the last match against Barry Holland (Surbiton), who finished runner-up for the third year running – with 4 wins. Andre Machell (Watford), a former winner, also finished with 4 wins, having lost to Aston in round 4, but lost out to Barry on net points for the runner's-up spot.

The event was also notable as being the last event perennial entrant, Gina Pellegrini (Surbiton), says she will ever play in after 25 years. She had won the tournament in 2000, 2008 and 2009, following such luminaries as Bernard Neal, Nigel Aspinall and Stephen Mulliner, and recorded three good wins this time. We all wished her well in her croquet retirement.

John Pearson



The Hussar Cup

Croquet Association Golf Croquet B Level Final

This event, which brings together the winners from the qualifying rounds from all around the country, was hosted by Roehampton Club, on the weekend of 5th and 6th September 2020.

Lynn Percy was the only Roehampton player and had a good tournament. Some close losses spurred her on to better things and on the second day produced some magical croquet in the morning rounds.

However, as the rounds progressed it seemed likely there would be a 3-way tie. That eventually became two with 14-year old Jack Good from Bury and Lynn Percy of Roehampton Club tied on nine wins.

Jack was declared winner by the narrowest of margins, on a final Hoop count difference of 34 to 33.



Lynn is to be congratulated on taking part in two qualifying rounds, at Nottingham (won), and Hamptworth (second), and then coming so close in the final.

Jack Good, at 14, will be a name to watch in the future.

Golf Croquet Friendly Match v Hurlingham

On 4th September 2020, a Roehampton Club team, of Mike Pattison, captain, Mike Tumath, Sue Tumath, and Mark Green, travelled to Hurlingham for a friendly match.

After an entertaining day with excellent hospitality, the Roehampton team came from behind to win the last two doubles and were the winners 7-6.

The fine weather has seen the lawns still busy and we are pleased to see so many of the newer section members enjoying the game.

Keep well and safe
Mike Pattison
Croquet Captain

