

Croquet Communique – 5th August 2021

Ranelagh Gold Cup

Report from Peter Siddall

The Ranelagh Gold Cup, the Club's premier Association Croquet open event (boasting the Club's most handsome trophy) was held on 24th/25th July. The strong field included 13 players with handicaps of 0 or less. Tim Russell -1 and Mark van Loon -1.5 represented Roehampton Club.

The tournament ended prematurely at 4pm after a thundery cloudburst flooded the lawns completely for the second time in a week. All credit to Chris Hughes and the grounds team, all lawns were playable the next morning as if nothing had happened.

Many of the guest players complimented us on the quality and speed of our playing surfaces with such comments as 'best in the country'!

Mark van Loon won the Cup for the second time in three years with five wins out of five. In 2019 he won six out of six. Gabrielle Higgins from Sussex County was runner up with four wins.

The standard of play was high with seven players recording triple peels and one sextuple!



Mark Van Loon



Peter Siddall, Mark Van Loon and the Gold Cup

Thank you to Peter Siddall for his excellent organisation of this event.

SECF Golf Croquet Handicap League

Having beaten Woking, in our first match, we were unable to maintain our winning form at home to a good Dulwich A team on Wednesday 28th July 2021.

Some close games saw us on the back foot, but a strong fight back, which ended with a 'Golden Hoop' loss in the last match, left Dulwich A 5-4 winners.

The Roehampton Club team was Robert Scallon, Mark Green, Trevor Campbell and Mike Pattison.

Rain continues to disrupt play

The very heavy rainfall continues, and July has seen almost six inches, (6") on the lawns.

The volume of water falling in short bursts overwhelms the drainage system, but the lawns recover remarkably quickly.

The pictures show the lawns at 16.30, last Wednesday, after 40 minutes of rain – Lawn 3 was playable two hours later! All back to normal the following day!



Championship of Surrey

Over the weekend of 31 July / 1 August

Harry Fisher and Mark Van Loon of Roehampton Club played in the Association Croquet Championship of Surrey.

Both proceeded to the main Championship round with Harry losing in the Quarter final. Mark lost in the second round but went on to the semi-final of the plate.

English National GC Doubles Championship

Tim Russell of Roehampton was partnered with Neil Fillery and they won six of their block games to proceed to the Championship Knockout. They were knocked out but went on to win the Bowl (5-8)

What happens when you've all gone home?

On their way for a quick game of croquet?

Enjoy your croquet and keep safe!

Mike Pattison
Croquet Captain

