

## Croquet Communique 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Since the last *Communique*, the Croquet Section has been very active. The beginning of the summer internal competitions is well underway with people playing first round matches. The Club hosted Surbiton in the GC Inter-Club National Tournament; the GC Winter Rainbow was decided a five-way play-off. We also ran a Charity One Ball Competition, and Internal One Ball Handicap Competition as a weekend event. All of which are reported below.

### The GC Winter Rainbow

With five people tied at the top of the Rainbow, an all-play-all 'block' was played on 8<sup>th</sup> April. An entertaining day, saw Ron Wood, Mike Tumath, Robert Scallon, Diana and Andrew Wilson compete under the management of Tony Salem. Mike Tumath (in white) won the day.



### Handicap One Ball Competition

The weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022, saw the Summer Handicap One Ball Competition run as an 'event'.

A very enjoyable and successful format was enjoyed by competitors and spectators. An excellent entry of 16 people played draw and progress to the semi-finals. Incredibly competitive with many matches going to three games and all very tactical and entertaining. The semi-finals were closely contested with Tim Russell beating Diana Wilson 2-1 and Joel Taylor edging out Andrew Wilson 2-1, both interesting games. The final will be played later in the season.



## National Inter-Club Competition

### GC Inter Club Roehampton Club v Surbiton Sunday 10th April at Roehampton Club

*Report by Tim Russell:*

Roehampton Club beat Surbiton 7-0.

The top pairs, Tim Russell and Joel Taylor for Roehampton and George Noble (a late replacement for Don Beck) and Alison Maugham for Surbiton had a tight doubles encounter, with Surbiton coming back from 5-2 down to win the first game 7-5. Roehampton improved to win the next two games 7-3, 7-5.

In the reverse singles Mark van Loon ran out a comfortable winner 7-2,7-2 against Martin Burger and Dan Pearson won a tight match at the golden hoop against Stephen Harbron, 7-3, 3-7, 7-6 with an excellent long jump shot (over his own ball which he had injudiciously left blocking hoop and clearance.)

After tea, Roehampton Club completed a clean sweep with Tim Russell beating George Noble 7-2, 7-1; Joel beating Alison in a close contest 7-6, 5-7, 7-4; Mark beating Stephen 7-2, 7-4 and Dan beating Martin Burger 7-1, 7-4.

Thanks to the Roehampton Club Grounds Team who presented three fast, true lawns.





## Charity One Ball Day

The Annual National Charity One Ball Competition made a welcome return this year and on 19<sup>th</sup> April John Pearson organised an enjoyable day for the record 16 entrants.

The clear winner was Diana Wilson with five wins from five. Though her win in her last game (over runner up Howard Railton) went to the wire. Also worth noting was Andrew Wilson's 9-hoop break in one of his matches.

Diana and we hope, Howard, qualify for the finals at Surbiton on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May.



## Sidmouth GC Championship played at Budleigh Salterton

Tim Russell played in the Sidmouth GC Championship over the weekend 23/24.

The tournament was moved to Budleigh Salterton due to lawn issues and had attracted a strong field. Tim won through the early rounds to qualify for the main championship where he was knocked out in the quarterfinals.

Also, in Budleigh was Robert Scallon who was competing in a round of the National B level series.

## Jimmy James Memorial Bowl

Organised by Tony Salem, the Jimmy James Memorial Bowl will be played for on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May between pairs in the handicap range 9+. If it's a sunny day, it will be something to spectate.

## Breaking news

In the Roehampton Club round of the National Golf Croquet B Level tournament played on 27<sup>th</sup> April the only Roehampton Club entrant Nicholas Halton (pictured) won the event with 5 wins from 6 games. He now qualifies for the National final at Hunstanton later this year. The day was managed by Tony Salem and refereed by Tony and Mike Tumath.

Enjoy your croquet

**Mike Pattison**  
**Croquet Captain**

