



Watford (Cassiobury) Croquet Club

Newsletter number 2 September 2008

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News from our chairman – Arthur Reed

The club has been in discussions recently with Watford Borough Council about the possible development of club facilities. However, I regret that these have not yet reached a stage where we are able to report anything definitive to the members.

The proposed parking restrictions in the streets to the north of the Park have been put on hold for the time being whilst the wider implications of such restrictions are reviewed. However it seems likely that some form of parking restrictions will be introduced in due course but we have stressed to WBC that we would like the opportunity to be consulted on such proposals before they are finalised. It is hoped that proposals to introduce restrictions on a Saturday will be dropped as these could have a knock-on effect in Shepherds Road and Cassiobury Park Avenue.

I attended a meeting of the Cassiobury Park steering group in June and there were two items which may be of interest to club members:

- WBC is producing a leaflet about the Park. This will include a location map showing the croquet lawns and also include mention of the club and give our website address. This leaflet will be distributed through the Cha Cha Cha café, paddling pools and other outlets around the Borough and will certainly help to promote the club.
- Forthcoming event in the Park: Sunday 14th September Big Herts Walk in aid of the Peace Hospice.

Club sessions

Association Croquet sessions would welcome more participants. Beginners are especially wanted – people will be on hand to instruct: Wed, Thurs & Sat 2pm.

The new Tuesday morning **Golf Croquet** session is going well. This is for members to play singles and also to catch up on competition matches. 11.30am – 1.30pm.

Do you enjoy Caravan holidays?

Brenda Theobald has passed on this information about a Caravan Club with croquet facilities:

“Mr O Kiddy, Brandeston Hall, Great Waldingfield, Sudbury, CO10 OTG. Tel: 01787 247220. Further details are on page 433 of the current Caravan Club Sites Directory and Handbook’ and it is also included in the Herts Rally Book 2008.

The hoops and peg are permanently laid out on a good size lawn, although you have to be careful not to hit the ball too hard for fear of it going into the moat at the far end. Mr & Mrs Kiddy and family are keen Association Croquet players themselves and play regularly between family and friends, I’m sure they would appreciate a game or three against anyone else interested. They don’t have any spare equipment to lend except for the balls, so I would advise you take your own mallet which may be a good idea anyway if you wish to play croquet at your own leisure.

Keeping your golf croquet handicap card up-to-date!

Several people asked if we could provide an explanation of how to fill in your handicap card. Thanks to Janet for the explanation below.

Newcomers will usually be given the starting handicap of 12 with a zero 0 index.

The card shown below is made up of the following games:

Match 1. You played John Smith who had handicap of 8 and you beat him 7 hoops to his 4. For each handicap game you score or lose 10 points. So the columns across now read:

- 1) John Smith
- 2) 8 (John's handicap)
- 3) H (for handicap game)
- 4) 7/4 (Always put the number of hoops you score first, whether you win or lose)
- 5) +10 (Each handicap game is 10 points)
- 6) 10 (New index total)

Match 2

Playing Mary Brown with a handicap of 2 and winning 7/0

- 1) Mary Brown
- 2) 2
- 3) H
- 4) 7/0
- 5) +10
- 6) 20

Assuming you won the next 3 games, your index is now 50.

As an index of 50 is a trigger point (see chart on your handicap card), this means your handicap is now 11.

| OPPONENT | | GAME | | | INDEX | |
|------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-------|--|
| Name | Hcp | h/l | Res | +/- | New | |
| John Smith | 8 | H | 7/4 | +10 | 10 | |
| Mary Brown | 2 | H | 7/0 | +10 | 20 | |
| | | | | | 30 | |
| | | | | | 40 | |
| | | | | | 50 | |
| Jane Green | 6 | H | 4/7 | -10 | 40 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Match 6

You then lose 7-4 to Jane Green who has a handicap of 6

- 1) Jane Green
- 2) 6
- 3) H
- 4) 4/7 (Your score first)
- 5) -10
- 6) 40 (new index) **NB You do not go back to a 12 handicap until you reach 0 again. This could mean that players with an 11 handicap could have an index from 10 to 90**

When your handicap changes (ie reaches a trigger point) the match manager should complete and sign the front page. When this happens as a result of an internal tournament at our club, ask Janet, Roger or Ian to do the honours.

If you are playing in a tournament which is designated as "level play", this is slightly more complicated and you will need to refer to the large chart on your handicap card – and ask for help from Janet, Roger or Ian!

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY : Annual dinner on Thursday 19th
February 2009. 7.00pm for 7.30pm at The Met Police Sports Club
on Aldenham Rd Bushey near Queens School**