

ACA ASSOCIATION CROQUET AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
CAIRNLEA, MELBOURNE
WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH – SUNDAY 28 MARCH 2010

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

1. All events will be played under the Laws of Association Croquet, sixth edition, amended 2008, adopted by Croquet Australia and Australian Tournament Regulations as amended on 1 January 2009.
2. Entrants shall have a current handicap from -3 to +7. However, the ACA may accept entries from players with a handicap outside this range. The Men's and Women's championship of Australia shall be limited to a total of 80 entries. The ACA reserves the right to refuse any entry without assigning a reason and to have final arbitration on any question that may arise.
3. Winners of trophies are to obtain a quote for the price of engraving their details on the trophy and submit this to the Executive Director of Croquet Australia for approval before proceeding with engraving.
4. Should an overseas player win an event, any perpetual trophy shall remain in Australia in the custody of the Executive Director of the ACA.
5. All competitors who have not already provided an address, telephone number or email address at which messages can reach them during the events should provide this information to the Tournament Manager during registration.
6. Tournament Headquarters is the Victorian Croquet Centre, Cairnlea. Programs will be available Registration (which takes place at the first venue of play for each player).
7. Courts may be available for practice up to 7.50am each day, when hoops may only be run in a controlled fashion, and after the completion of play for the day (at the discretion of the Venue Manager).
8. Hoops will be set as near as possible to 3 11/16 inches. To allow for inaccuracies in gauges, balls, hoops and setting techniques, a tolerance of $\pm 1/32$ inch is allowed.
9. Dawson International balls will be used.
10. Courts will be allocated by the Manager and games will be double banked as required.
11. A 5 minute warm up period will be permitted before a player's first game of the day when hoops may only be run in a controlled fashion.
12. Matches shall commence at **8.00 am** sharp unless otherwise indicated. Players are requested to be at their designated court before the scheduled starting time.
13. Players are requested to assist in setting the hoops at the start of the day if necessary.
14. Players may be allowed a break of up to 10 minutes between matches and a lunch break of up to 30 minutes. No break is allowed between games of multiple game matches. The Tournament Manager will ensure games go on expeditiously to enable completion of the scheduled program.
15. It is mandatory for players to inform the Tournament Manager should they wish to leave the venue for any reason.
16. Players are required to wear predominantly white clothing and appropriate footwear. Club, State or National Uniforms are also permitted. Predominantly white clothing means any article with more than 75% of its surface area white. White means white, not grey or off-white (this condition does not apply to wet weather clothing hats or caps). Any player presenting at the venue in clothing that does not meet this criteria will be given the opportunity to dress appropriately or will not be permitted to participate in the event. The Executive Committee may amend these rules if necessary.
17. The Tournament Manager will decide whether play in any match should continue if the weather is deteriorating.
18. Referees will be Referees on Request in accordance with Regulations 4(b)(1) and 7.
19. The Tournament Manager in consultation with the Executive of Croquet Australia may make any alterations to the program, draw and other arrangements as are necessary in order to complete the tournament in the time available. Lights may be used at the Tournament or Venue Manager's discretion.
20. Special damage may be repaired in accordance with Law 34(c).
21. Players' attention is drawn to Law 49 regarding Expedition in Play.
22. Players' and spectators' attention is drawn to the new ACA Regulation 25 and Clause 65A proposed for the ACA handbook re Conduct of Spectators:
A match in Association Croquet is intended to be a contest between the skills and intellect of the players alone. Spectators are to avoid giving advice to players during a match, either deliberately or by mistake. To avoid misunderstandings they should not position themselves near a player or remain nearby if they could be thought to be offering advice. Infringements may be dealt with by the Manager and could result in the offender being required to leave the venue.

23. The Australian Handicapping System is used for this Tournament. Players must ensure that they have their handicap cards with them and present them to the authorised person before the Open Singles. Handicap changes will be effective after completion of the Singles event.
24. The Tournament Manager is Brian Reither.
25. The Tournament Referee is Owen Edwards.
26. The Tournament Handicapper is Kevin Beard.
27. The Results Manager is Bill Armstrong.
28. An appeals committee under ACA Regulation 3 (b) comprising the Tournament Manager, the Tournament Referee and a member of the ACA Executive shall determine any matters that are in dispute during the course of the tournament.

Men's and Women's Singles

1. The draw will be conducted by the Executive Director of Croquet Australia in conjunction with the ACA Tournament and Selection Committee on 5 March 2010 using the ACA Seeding and Draw procedures. The ranking list that will be used will be the list from 4 March 2010.
2. The format is single life knockout. All matches except the Men's final shall be best of three games unless otherwise specified. The Men's final shall be best of five provided all of Day 4 is free for it.
3. Each best of three shall have a cumulative time limit of 7.5 hours with individual game time limits of 3, 2.5 and 2 hours plus Reg.15 (c). Each best of five shall have a cumulative time limit of 12 hours with individual game time limits of 3, 3, 2.5, 2 and 1.5 hours plus Reg.15 (c). Time not used in games shall be added to subsequent games. Players are responsible for their own time clocks.
4. If time is called in any game and play continues in terms of Regulation 15(c) the additional time to complete the game shall be excluded from the above-mentioned time limits.
5. No player shall be required to play more than 12 hours or 6 games in one day.
6. Alternative venues (Essendon, Williamstown, Brunswick) may be used if necessary.
7. Men's: First and second round losers proceed to the Plate. A XYZ shall be played at the round of 16. Losers in the round of 16 play in the Y event. Losers of the quarter-finals play in the Z event. There shall be a play-off for places 3 and 4.
8. Women's: First and second round losers proceed to the Plate. A XYZ shall be played at the round of 8. Losers in the round of 8 play in the Y event. Losers of the semi-finals play in the Z event.
9. Players who are required to change venues during the day will generally be transported to the second venue by private car.

Plate Event

1. Players who may enter the Plate event are as follows:
 - a. Players knocked out in rounds 1 and 2 of the main events;
 - b. Players not allocated a place in the main events;
 - c. Players who are reserves for the main events.
2. Players entering the Plate Event only will pay 50% of the entry fee.
3. The Plate event shall be played initially as blocks (preferably blocks of 8, however, as large as possible within time and court constraints).
4. Round-robin matches shall be single games with 2 hours 15 min time limits plus Reg.15 (c).
5. Rounds 1 to 3 of block play shall be scheduled for the first day of plate play (Day 2) with rounds 4 to 7 on the second day (Day 3). Matches may start immediately that players are available. Players may have to wait for some time between matches due to the timing of players from the second round entering the Plate.
6. On Day 4 the finals phase of the Plate events shall be single game semi-finals (if four blocks) and a single game final. If there are three Plate blocks the semi finals shall be between the three block winners and the best second place getter. All time limits for the finals phase shall be 3 hours plus Reg.15 (c).

Interstate Cup

This event shall be played as per Section 54 of the ACA Handbook. Games shall have a 3 hour time limit plus Reg.15 (c).

Australian Medal

This event shall be played as per Sections 56 of the ACA Handbook. On Days 1 and 3 (Wednesday and Friday) each player shall play 3 matches, and on Day 2 (Thursday) each player shall play 4 matches. All games will be untimed subject to ACA Regulation 15.