

Croquet Communique 4th August 2022



'No crows this evening, possibly deterred by the wonderful sight of a Red Kite circling the lawns' photo courtesy of A Wilson

The summer is being kind to croquet, with a prolonged dry spell, and during the very high temperatures, there has been little complaint about the wind that blows down the lawns!

Ranelagh Cup

The main event to report is the Club's Ranelagh Cup Open Association Croquet Tournament

Played over the weekend of 23rd and 24th July, the tournament was well managed, as always, by Peter Siddall. A full entry of sixteen players, from ten clubs, took part with one travelling from Edinburgh and some from the South Coast.

Roehampton Club Members, Tim Russell and Mark Van Loon, were the 'home' representatives.

Excellent play and entertaining matches resulted in a last round with three players in contention: Nigel Polhill of Hurlingham, Gabrielle Higgins of Sussex County and Mark Van Loon of Roehampton Club. Gabrielle won, then had to watch Nigel and Mark play their match. Mark, who had to win, took an early hold on the match and went on to win with an almost flawless performance. He retains the Ranelagh Trophy, which he won last year, and in 2019.



Mark Van Loon and Peter Siddall, The Ranelagh Cup



Gabrielle Higgins and Peter Siddall, Mark Van Loon





Mark Van Loon, Mike Town



Mark Van Loon, spectators



Players

National Inter Club AC tournament

In our semi-final match in this tournament, we played away against a strong Hurlingham team on Wednesday, 20th July. We are very pleased to report that Roehampton Club won the match by four games to two, with the last match not required.

Congratulations to the Club team of Tim Russell, Harry Fisher, Mark Van Loon, and Joel Taylor on an excellent performance.

In the final, we will face the winners of the other semi-final between Surbiton and Bowden. The match will be played on Sunday 2nd October at Surbiton.



Joel Taylor, Mark Van Loon



Tim Russell, Harry Fisher



Joel Taylor and Tim Russell

South-eastern Croquet Federation Handicap League

We played two of our league matches.

Against Purley Bury, on 28th July, we were comprehensive winners by eight games to one. The Roehampton Club team was Carmel Brancen, Diana Wilson, Gill Bray, and Anne Wilkinson.

Our other SECF match, on 1st August, was against **Dulwich** and was a hard-fought affair, with the hosts, Dulwich, winning by five games to four. The Roehampton Club team of Anne Wilkinson, Trevor Campbell, Robert Scallon, and Diana Wilson were up against some good opponents and a lot of bisques!

Diary Date

The semi-final of the **National Inter Club Golf Croquet Tournament** will see Roehampton Club host Bowden on Saturday, 3rd September. Supporters will be very welcome.

Bowden, (just South of Manchester), will bring a very strong team, who are. Likely to include John-Paul Moberley (England Captain), and Jack Good, a -3 teenager!

The Club hopes to field our strongest side, so an intriguing day's play is expected.

Enjoy your croquet!

Mike Pattison

Croquet Captain

