



Absolute last chance to book presentation dinner on 18th November! Please contact Diana.

Firstly apologies for the delay in publishing the Newsletter, I have been on holiday to Scotland, and I am very pleased to say that I returned in one piece having not picked up any virus' or bugs. Scotland was stunningly beautiful and well worth the very long journey.

November! So our last season at Forrester's is now officially over. The committee are working hard to try to secure MCC a new home, as yet nothing is definite so our next season is difficult to predict. Hopefully a new venue will be available because such a thriving club deserves to continue to flourish.

Lynn

Chairman's Update

Our time at Forrester Park Golf Club has now come to an end. As you know we have kept the lawns open far longer than normal thanks to splendid autumn weather, and not having to preserve the lawns or have late season renovations to them.



We have now whittled down possible sites to play next year from 23 prospective venues, which have been contacted and reviewed, to what may be the final short list. Although it may seem a long time to next April, realistically a final choice of a temporary home will have to be selected by about Christmas of this year, as lawn preparation and establishment of facilities will have to be in place. As I hope most of you have gathered two possible venues may be able to accommodate us. Although preliminary discussions have taken place which have demonstrated a willingness to have us, both are subject to final approval from their governing bodies, and of course although our stay may be 'temporary' i.e. 2 or 3 years, we similarly have to be satisfied the sites concerned suit us as members of the Croquet Club.

The two possible places for new lawns are:-

King George V Park adjacent to Plantation Hall in Heybridge. This has a football pitch marked out which has occasional use in the winter, and as a recreational area for residents, dog walkers and youngsters. Although of course we have to respect the rights of the residents, similarly we would hope we could enjoy quiet enjoyment of our games. Plantation Hall has toilets, and storage facilities which would be available to us whilst playing. The owners are Heybridge Parish Council.



The other site is owned by Danbury Parish Council and is similarly a public recreational area. It is situated adjacent to Eves Corner in Danbury and is below the Cricket Pitch that can be seen from the main road. It has its own car park which looks over the area we are considering. Also within the complex are lawn bowls and tennis courts, so our sport would increase the versatility of sporting activities available. The lawn area will accommodate 4 lawns and although regularly mown, is only occasionally used for other activities, although casual football in the winter may take place. Again residents have the right to roam over the whole area. Adjacent to the prospective lawns is a two storey Sports hall with meeting rooms, toilets and light refreshments. The prospective site is more secluded than Heybridge with views over countryside.

If any member is passing by the two sites they may care to look in to get a better idea of what may be on offer. I stress again that although we have received a good reception from representatives of these two possible venues, negotiations are still at an early stage and we as a Club, cannot presume anything is cut and dried. We will keep you informed as to progress, or even if another site should appear within our timescale.

Neil Clark

CLUB CAPTAIN'S NOTES

FINALS PART 2

Graham Parker did a grand job in marshalling the troops to get the outstanding finals played just before autumn weather conditions dictated the end of our final season at Forrester Park.



So, travellers return from distant lands, others recover from Covid and the semis get played to enable the final to be played on 28th October between the pair of Al Brown and Richard Wallis on the one hand and Maisie Randall and Tony White on the other. The match played on temporary court 4 (the best available at the time which says a lot about the others!!) saw Al and Richard run out the winners 7-3. Congratulations to the winners and commiserations to the runners up.

Advantage Croquet Doubles Tournament

Graham reported at the time (22nd October) –

We finally wrapped up this tournament today. Results attached. All 3 pairs in the play-off won a game each, but as a result of their 7-1 win over Pete and Janet today, Karen and Sue triumph by virtue of their hoop difference.



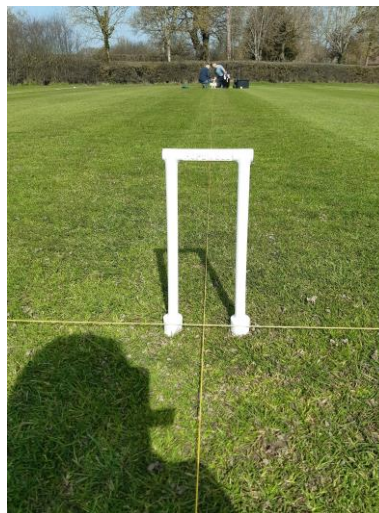
Thank you all for taking part. I hope you enjoyed it as a not too serious introduction to Advantage Croquet. We seemed to have coped pretty well with the new scoring system, and I hope we'll be able to run something similar next year.

Modesty prevents Graham from adding that he and Martin Ridsdale were the third pair in the play-offs. Well done to all and congratulations to Sue and Karen.

And finally

The final Roll Up was held on Saturday 5th November (appropriate!), the last ever at Forrester Park. Just three of us flew the flag (Margaret Harker, Barry Keusch and me) and enjoyed two full games despite sticky conditions.

And so it's goodbye to Forrester Park but as we pack our bags allow me, on behalf of us all, to thank Pete Howe and Geoff Macro for keeping our lines straight and white, our hoops properly set and our lawns as green as they could be without irrigation in drought conditions (but with rabbits, geese, foxes etc.)



RAMSGATE 2023

Hotel rooms reserved thanks to Gill Stone, all deposits paid!
Ramsgate here we come...





As you can see from the list below and by Geoff's remarks work continues even though the season has ended. As Chris has already said we are all grateful to Geoff and his team for the quiet efficient work they have done and are continuing to do on our behalf:

- The Flag
- The mallets (other than the five white plastic ones and trolley)
- The member's pegs
- The peg bag
- The lawn allocation board
- The hoop white line template

The bench and line machine are now in the shed.

I started to dismantle the shed internals but to do this properly the shed will have to be cleared, we will require a discussion of who is going or can take all the items for storage. I am seeing Neil & Chris tomorrow so will discuss a plan with them.

Lost Property:



Please contact Geoff Macro if any of the above items belong to YOU!