



The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club

February 2010
Newsletter

A record turn-out for an excellent dinner.



League matches

We are waiting for confirmation of fixture dates and these will definitely be printed in the next newsletter and will also be sent out sooner by email as soon as available.

As a reminder, handicaps for the B League and Bear Cubs are between 24 and 16; for the Intermediate are between 18 and 9; and for the Federation are 12 or below.

2nd Bear CA Golf Tournament

Following the success of our first CA tournament last year, we are holding another on the weekend of June 12th/13th this year. Because entries are limited to eight pairs, any club members who wish to enter should contact Don quickly. Several of last year's entrants asked us to hold another tournament this year and, because it was so enjoyable, word will get around so spaces may soon be taken. Full details can be found on the CA website and in the CA Fixtures Book.



A recent visit to The Bear revealed one member who had spent a long time waiting to get through 4-back.

Jersey

Our 2010 International fixture

This year The Bears travel to Jersey to explore the delights of the island, the magnificence of the beaches and the famously delicious food. Any spare moments may be taken up with playing croquet at the world famous club where some of the top players reside but I am relying on Don to ensure I am not drawn to play them!!

Play will be on Saturday 31st July and Sunday 1st August but several members are intending to stay for longer than the weekend. Currently, some Bears will be in residence from Thursday 29th July onward with a few staying for 6 or 7 days. We will be staying at The Mayfair Hotel in St Helier which is about five miles from the airport and about five miles from the croquet club. Our thanks to Caroline who has used her initiative and negotiating skills to secure a discounted rate and if you telephone Magda on 01534 735511 quoting 'The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club', a special price of £92 per double room and £71 per single room per night has been agreed. This is lower than the cheapest price I was able to find on the internet! The hotel details can be found on

modernhotels.com

The cheapest flights I have found so far are from Exeter and Birmingham (same price) with Bristol being slightly more expensive – all with Flybe. A smaller plane from Staverton is £124 including baggage but is even better value if you consider this involves less

travelling. If anyone can do better, please let me know.

(It is up to members to book the hotel and flights themselves.

Being the beginning of the August holidays, I suggest you book early!)

Once again, our thanks to Don for organising this.

The Dragons are coming!

We are delighted that our friends at Llanfairfechan have accepted our invitation to pay us a return visit. We are exploring the possibility that their group will visit us on the bank holiday weekend on August 28th/29th.

When arrangements are confirmed, we will be planning a weekend of entertainment, enjoyment and frivolity based around two day's play.

We are sure all club members will want to keep this weekend free and join in for some, if not all of the weekend's events.

Snooker continues with many surprises. Never let it be said that it is a predictable game! The next snooker evening is **Thursday 4th February**.

Pub nights. The next one is on **Wednesday 10th February at The Woolpack, Stonehouse** and then the final one for this year will be on **Wednesday 10th March at The Brittonia, Nailsworth**. Look out for tokens in the Stroud Life – they often offer good discounts.

5. Help! What do I do now?

This article is printed on its own page in case you want to cut out and keep it.

The following situations are where you should watch your opponent very closely.

If I hit the ball through the (correct) hoop, does it score the hoop point?

We all know that you will score your hoop point if your ball goes through in one shot. We also all know that if it gets stuck part way through, you can continue running the hoop in the next turn if the ball is still there.

However, you need keen observation and your wits about you in the following circumstances:

In my continuation shot, my ball got stuck halfway through the hoop but also came to rest in contact with another ball on the far side of the hoop. What do I do now? Can I score the hoop?

The first point to consider is whether the ball it is in contact with is LIVE or DEAD.

Terminology: A LIVE ball is one you have not yet roqueted in this turn.

A DEAD ball is one that *has* been roqueted and cannot be roqueted again in this turn.

If it is a LIVE ball (one that had not already been roqueted in this turn) you can take croquet from it but you CANNOT also score the hoop in the same stroke. This is specifically forbidden under law 14 (d) (4) (A) which states that your ball now becomes a **ball in hand** and a ball in hand cannot run a hoop.

If it is a DEAD ball (already roqueted in this turn), this is end of turn.

So, can I take a bisque and hit my ball through to score the hoop?

NO – for the same reason as given above.

Terminology: running the correct hoop is called “running your hoop-in-order”

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Playing on a sloping court, my ball went right through the hoop the wrong way, paused and then rolled back through the hoop the right way. Did it score my hoop-in-order?

NO. Law 14(d)(2) is clear on this. It must come to rest on the playing side “before it can score the hoop point in a subsequent stroke.”

STOP PRESS



COACHING

Don is holding two coaching sessions based on sensible and clever things to do when all has gone wrong! For the benefit of new members, Don is one of the most respected coaches in the country and both newcomers to the game and hardened veterans hang on his every word – with good reason!

I urge you not to miss these sessions on Tuesdays 16th and 23rd March which will be held in the training room of RDS Technology (by kind permission of Richard Danby).

Don will send out full details in due course.



Faith has her own email address now – faithgaunt@tiscali.co.uk



For more information:

Our Club Website-

<http://www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear.html>

Croquet Association (of which the club is a member) - www.croquet.org.uk

South West Federation of Croquet Clubs (to which we are affiliated) – <http://www.swfcroquet.org.uk>

The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club.

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