



# The Bear of Rodborough Croquet Club

March 2011  
Newsletter

## New Season of Club Nights .

Subject to the weather and Nick's approval, club nights begin on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April (Golf) and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April (Association).

The clocks change on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March so if conditions allow, the lawn will be available for practice from then. Confirmation that the lawn is open will be sent by email at the time.

## This Season's Fixtures.

Plans for the season are now finalised and we look forward to what may well be our busiest and most demanding season ever. With five league teams playing twenty-five matches, it promises to be a most exciting time. Additionally, we have the Club Singles, Club Doubles, Club Advanced and Club Golf Croquet knockouts to fill in the rest of the time.



*The Bears in Austria 2008*

## New Club Kit

Entering 3-5 day tournaments this year? Need extra club shirts? Old one no longer fits? John is putting together an order so please let him know if you want to order anything.

[joncolmunro@aol.com](mailto:joncolmunro@aol.com)

## South West Federation.

### B League

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May Home to Llandaff  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June Home to Cheltenham  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June Away to Worcester Norton  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July Away to Swindon  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July Home to Broadwas

### Intermediate North

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May Away to Worcester Norton  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June Home to Dyffryn  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June Away to Kington Langley  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July Away to Swindon  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July Home to Broadwas

### Intermediate Central

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May Home to Weston-S-Mare  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June Home to Bristol  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June Away to Bath  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July Away to Taunton Deane  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July Home to Nailsea Central

### Federation

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May Home to Dyffryn  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May Home to Swindon  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June Away to Kington Langley  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July Away to Cheltenham  
Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July Away to Nailsea North

### Parkstone

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May Home to East Dorset  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May Away to Cheltenham  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June Away to Nailsea  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June Away to Bristol  
Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July Home to Dyffryn

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**Our Australian Guests** have now firmed up some of their arrangements and will be joining us for club night on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May. They are booked into The Bear that night so we may like to consider turning it into a club night followed by a pub night.  
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## Referee's Corner.

### **Testing! Testing!**

The two most common tests are to check whether a ball has run a hoop or to test whether a ball has "gone off" the court.

1. If a visual check cannot decide whether a ball has run a hoop and a referee is not on hand, you should invite your opponent to observe or conduct a test. **NEVER, NEVER, NEVER use the side of your mallet to rub down the hoop.** Not only is this bad form, it is possible to move the ball without clearly noticing it. The test should be conducted with a lightweight straight edge such as a pencil or small plastic ruler placed against the hoop below the ball and slowly raised up until it is level with the centre of the ball. You will both now be able to see clearly whether the ball moves and if it does so, even slightly, it has not run the hoop.

2. A questionable ball is "off" if any part of it overhangs the line. In theory, a straight edge running vertically from the inside of the boundary line should not make contact with the ball. The problem is compounded if the line is indistinct, if several lines exist and it is unclear which one is correct or, as in some clubs, they mark the boundary with string (which can move). You really do need a referee to judge in these circumstances but what if one is unavailable?

Two square headed mallets placed carefully either side of the ball, with their edges just touching the inside of the line, give a clearer sight line to judge whether the ball is off.

If there is a choice of lines, you will have to agree which line the grounds-man intended. If there is a string, the boundary is from where the string lies. You must not move it first.

### **Answers to last month's questions.**

1. *The ball bounces off the wire and rebounds onto your mallet.* **Fault**

2. *The ball bounces off the wire and just touches the side of your shoe.*

**Fault**

3. *The ball bounces off the wire. You notice it is about to hit your foot so you jump out of the way but in so doing kick another ball.* **Fault**

4. *The ball bounces off the wire, you move your mallet head out of the way and just touch another ball in doing so.*

**Fault**

5. *The ball bounces off the wire and is heading for your foot. In order to avoid it you lose balance, fall over the hoop altering the angle of it and end up lying prostrate on the lawn.*

**Not a fault provided no ball touched your mallet, your person or your clothes before they and you came to rest. The hoop will need straightening before play continues.**

### **Stop Press.**

There are 22 people coming to the annual dinner on 1<sup>st</sup> April so far and this is the last chance to add names to the list.

**Please let Rosemary have your menu choices and cheques ASAP.**

### **For more information:**

Our Club Website- <http://www.faydon.com/Bear/Bear.html>

Archived newsletters and coaching hints - <http://www.faydon.com/Bear/News.html>

Croquet Association (of which the club is a member) - [www.croquet.org.uk](http://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.**

Chairman and Hotel Liaison:

Robert Moss 01453 872386

Secretary:

Rosemary Danby 01453 872456

Treasurer:

Brian Pittaway 01453 860610

Handicapper and club competitions manager:

Don Gaunt 01453 822507

Lawn Manager:

Nick Hurst 01453 882960

Equipment Manager:

Richard Danby 01453 872456

Webmaster:

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