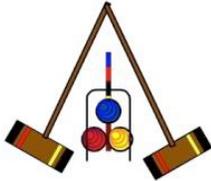

TCCC



Issue 119 February 2020

Website: www.tegacaycroquet.com

February 2020 Events

February was, like January, a slow, cold month. The only event this month was the semi-annual meeting.

February 15: Membership Meeting, Souper Saturday

On Saturday, February 15, at the Glennon Center, more than 50 TCCC members attended the semiannual general meeting, Souper Saturday. **Frank Powell** presided and began by congratulating **George Fiegel** on the success of his Thursday afternoon open play days and instruction, which has succeeded in encouraging the growth of our club. Frank also discussed our new wickets and announced that the Golf with Wickets event will take place again this year. Frank acknowledged the challenge presented by the new wickets, which are narrower than members are used to. **Barbara Williams** wondered aloud if perhaps the problem is not the new wickets, but that our croquet balls are too big.

Following his remarks, Frank turned the meeting over to **Harry Barnes**. Harry, the club's treasurer, in his excellent, well executed chart, showed that the club's finances are well in the red at \$32,373.06, enabling the club to handle upcoming social events and unexpected expenses.

Alan Bensch, the club's tournament director, thanked the volunteers who helped him during the year in the many efforts needed to hold tournaments. He summarized the upcoming schedule, which includes the St. Paddy's Day Six-Wicket Tournament on March 17. Alan encouraged six-wicket players to sign up soon for that tournament and also requested members provide ideas for future tournaments.

Sue Offen, Social Chair, discussed the Wearing o' the Green event on March 15 at 3 p.m., and **Terry Hunt** discussed plans for Croquet Week (April 27 through May 1), which will include training by professional croquet players, as well as competitions.

Finally, Frank introduced **Fergal O'Shea**, Tega Cay's new Director of Golf. Fergal pledged his support for the Tega Cay Croquet Club and, in particular, the Golf with Wickets event, for which he emphasized the need to enlist at least 100 players. After Fergal answered a few questions, the meeting was adjourned, and everyone feasted on the delicious soups, salads, and desserts brought in by enthusiastic and energetic club members.

TCCC Substitute List

A link to a list of members willing to substitute for regular group members is on the website. Contact **Sally Bennett** at sallyirishbennett@gmail.com if you wish to be added or subtracted from the list or if you need the password. A new list will be published monthly only if there are changes. This list is for TCCC members only and is password protected.

Once you are added to this list, if there is a particular group that you want to play with, you may want to contact them and tell them you are interested in subbing.

A Good Six Wicket Video

The following article is from an email from Terry Hunt to some TCCC members.

Below is a link to a YouTube video of a Six Wicket Finals match in a sanctioned tournament held at Sarasota County Croquet Club in Florida.

This video is an excellent example of the strategy and skills used by two really good players. The players are Macey White and Webster Bull. The narrator is Jeff Soo. (Jeff will be doing our training clinics during our Croquet Week and he is an expert on strategy.) Rob Byrd (a TCCC member) finished third in this tournament. (Rob will be helping Jeff with the training during Croquet Week.)

Roquet shots, croquet shots, rush shots, roll shots, split shots, takeoff shots, and missed shots are all demonstrated during the video. Watch the players' stance, grip and swing when they hit each type of shot. It surprises me how easily they swing and how far each

ball travels on their croquet shots. Macey is using a mallet like my new one.

Some things that may help while watching the video:

- The video will start in the middle. Make sure you rewind it back to time 0:00 and watch from the start. Jeff Soo has a good introduction at the beginning.
- The video does not always show all of the player's shots during a turn. It may show a couple of shots at the start of a turn and then skip to the last shot in the turn which may be several wickets later. Jeff says they edited out some of the "uneventful shots" during some break runs in the interest of time.
- This is a timed game. Probably 75 or 90 minutes to last turn. The video takes about 50 minutes to watch but you can pause it at any time and come back later.
- The deadness board that occasionally pops up on the bottom left side shows the status of the game. Down the first column show the four colors of the balls. The second column shows the Clip that each ball is shooting to at the start of their next turn. (This can be used to quickly determine which player is ahead in the game.) The next three columns tell which balls that each ball is dead on.

Watch and learn:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hqT5Sai_NOI&t=2310s

If you are unable to see this video using this link, send me, Marvin, an email, and I will forward you a copy of Terry's email so that you can use the link. My email address is <mailto:marvinebennett@gmail.com>

Future TCCC Events

Details for each TCCC event will be sent to all members as the date approaches.

March 15, 2020 – Play Day, Wearing o’ the Green

The Wearing o’ the Green, held at the Anderson Lawn, will be from 3 to 6 and a fun time will be had by all. Please bring a snack to pass. Drinks will be provided. We look forward to seeing everyone.

March 17, 2020 – St. Paddy’s Six-Wicket Tournament

If you are a six-wicket player, please email Alan Bensch to sign up to play no later than March 11. Only seven people had registered by February 29. Alan’s email is alanbensch@gmail.com.

This six-wicket tournament will be mixed doubles, single elimination, 55-minute games. Entry fee is \$5 (the fee is used for cash prizes for the winning teams)

April 7 & 8, 2020 – TCCC Invitational Golf Croquet Tournament with the Coastal Croquet Clubs (practice day April 6)

April 27 - May 1, 2020 – Croquet Week, Training, Tournament, and Social Events.

Croquet Clinics: on Monday, April 27, (golf croquet) and Tuesday, April 28, (six wicket), the instructors will be Jeff Soo and Rob Byrd. Contact **Terry Hunt** (terry9044@gmail.com) to sign up for a 90-minute session each day.

Tournaments, Golf Croquet:

Wednesday, April 29 (men),
Thursday, April 30 (women
and junior/senior). Sign up details will be provided later.

Play Day Social Events:

Friday May 1: Play croquet games with random partners. We’ll have lunch, and, for the true fun-seekers, karaoke.

Additional social events will be posted on the website and in this newsletter when their dates are determined.

New Members

No new members joined this month.

Open Session

The TCCC has designated Thursdays from 12 to 2 p.m. as Open Sessions on the Tega Cay Croquet Court. Any adult can attend. You do not need to be a resident of Tega Cay or a member of our club to participate. All croquet equipment will be provided by the TCCC. **George Fiegel** will give croquet instructions and arrange games for those who attend. If you plan to attend one of these sessions, contact George in advance at gfiegel@comporium.net or call him at 803-372-1721. In addition, **Jerry Misik, Alan Bensch**, and others will work with George to teach special shots, such as jump shots.

Court Rental Contact

Dana Boots is the court rental contact. To schedule a time, call Dana at 704-453-9636 or email her at dboots4242@gmail.com.

USCA Membership Information and Events

The United States Croquet Association (www.croquetamerica.com) is a national organization that provides its members with a number of playing opportunities outside Tega Cay.

USCA MEMBER BENEFITS

- Membership card,
- Official USCA rulebook,
- Able to compete in USCA sanctioned tournaments
- Assignment & tracking of handicap & Grand Prix ranking
- Croquet News magazine
- Monthly e-newsletter
- Group discounts on USCA instructional schools
- USCA Merchandise & Program discounts
- Full time staff to answer questions & help new players find clubs
- Coordination of international events
- National network of croquet clubs
- Website including club directory, tournament schedules, valuable information on how to start a club, handicap information, links to instructions, back-issues of periodicals
- Support of the national association that oversees through national, regional & district representatives. Promotes the sport nationally
- Represents members within the World Croquet Federation
- Regulates equipment specifications
- Offers dispute resolution

- Development of alternate mallet sports
- Rules development, maintenance and enforcement
- Referee & Instructor training & certification
- Alamo Car Rental Discounts
- Annual Awards: USCA Support, Financial Support, Appreciation Volunteer

2020 USCA MEMBERSHIP DUES

You can join directly with USCA. Annual dues are as follows:

- Individual \$75
- Couples \$120
- Juniors \$25

If you join through TCCC (the club is a member of USCA), annual dues are discounted:

- Individual \$70
- Couples \$110
- Juniors \$25.

For more information on joining USCA via TCCC, contact our treasure Harry Barnes.

TCCC Website

The TCCC Website contains a wealth of information about our club, including a list of officers, membership information, rules, contact information, and the substitute list. The Photo Gallery section contains photos and articles for recent events. Also included is information concerning the club's Junior Croquet Program. The address for our website is <http://www.tegacaycroquet.com>

President's Corner

It was very gratifying to see such a large turnout for Souper Saturday. I just love the buzz in the room when our club gets together for a function. How lucky we are to enjoy our fun game with such a great bunch of people. I am also grateful that, because of smart decisions and the hard work of club members and the board, our club is in excellent financial shape.

*Another vital part of our club's health is the ability to recruit new members. We have been able to keep our membership at over a hundred members for many years despite the inevitable turnover that we have experienced. Special thanks to **George Fiegel** for the open play sessions he runs. It has been our best strategy to attract new members to the club.*

*I have a favor to ask. As you know, the board has tabled any discussion of a second court. That means we need to make every effort to fully utilize our lawn. There are still many games being played with folks playing two balls and even groups cancelling play (not weather related). Yet we have new members who struggle to find times to play. Please make every effort to find subs for your games. **Sally Bennett** just published a link to the sub list, and it is available online at our website. If you need the password, please contact Sally. (sallyirishbennett@gmail.com)*

I would also encourage you to invite new members to sub. You just might make a new friend!

Finally, and on a completely different note, please keep Carol Higgins in your thoughts and prayers. Carol lost consciousness after playing croquet last week. Fortunately, Alina Howington and Peggy Lee were close by and called an ambulance to take Carol to the hospital. A reason for the episode has yet to be determined.

*Respectfully,
Frank Powell
TCCC President*