

# THE ROVER

The Newsletter of The Chicago Croquet Club

## Upcoming Events

We'll let you know when a new date is booked!

## Send Us Your News

Members: send us your photos, links to articles, or write-ups of what's new in your croquet world.  
ellenkf@sbcglobal.net

## CCC Board of Directors

Tom O'Laughlin, President  
tolaughlin@hotmail.com

Jef Lee, Vice President  
jpmlee@aol.com

Rick Cooper, Treasurer  
73363.2045@compuserve.com

Ellen Fox, Communications Officer  
ellenkf@sbcglobal.net

Thomas Wilson, Secretary

## Our website

[www.chicagocroquetclub.org](http://www.chicagocroquetclub.org)



## Court Report

### New Members (and a potential new Striker!)

Please be sure to introduce yourself and start up a game next time you are on the court! Want to join the Club or know someone who does? Contact a **Board Member** today for details.

- Bess Gallanis
- Rick Hayes
- Spencer Parts
- Kerry McCaran
- Devin Laseter
- Brooke Baxley
- Nathalynne McGinnis
- Barbara Pearce

~ If you've been wondering why Tex hasn't been playing recently, it's because he may be busy with his new son. Congratulations to Tex and his wife on the arrival of their son Ezra. Mom, Dad, and baby are all doing well.~

Sadly, CCC must bid a farewell to our friend Marie Trankina, vital member of our Chicago Croquet Club community, who passed away this summer. Marie served for many years on the Board of Directors as Secretary, assiduously recording and archiving meetings, offering prudent input, and volunteering to pitch in wherever needed. She was an eager competitor, rarely missing a Saturday on the lawn with the gang of regulars. Marie impressed everyone with her bravery and stoicism. Friends described her as energetic, vibrant, and strong. She gave it her all and will be greatly missed.



## Court Cases

### Opening Day 2022

Opening Day: The Club opened its season on June 4, the National Croquet Day designated by the United States Croquet Association (USCA). Nineteen members and guests came out to celebrate the start of a new season. The theme for the event centered around USCA's "croquet party" theme. CCC Officers Ellen Fox and Thomas Wilson organized the event, and party games with prizes, such as a "best accessory" and "closest shot" contest. Russ and Diana dressed up for the event and were subsequently featured on the cover of the USCA Magazine Croquet News, as were the personalized cookies that Thomas brought to share. In fact, those goodies were selected by the USCA as the best snacks for the national event. Special thanks to CCC Secretary Thomas Wilson for the "croquet mallets and ball cookie" treats!

The image shows the cover of the 'Croquet News' magazine, 'The Official Magazine of the United States Croquet Association'. The cover features a collage of photos from the National Croquet Day event. On the left side, there is a green sidebar with a list of winners for various categories. The 'Best Croquet Themed Snacks' category, awarded to the Chicago Croquet Club, is circled in red. Another photo in the collage, showing two people in croquet attire, is also circled in red.

**NATIONAL CROQUET DAY**

# Croquet News

The Official Magazine of the United States Croquet Association

**CROQUET DAY WINNERS**

- Most Action-Packed Party**  
Green Gables Croquet Club
- Most Players Introduced to the Sport**  
Highland Falls
- Most Fun at a Croquet Party**  
Jekyll Island Croquet Club
- Most Inviting Location for a Party**  
Highlands
- Most Festive Croquet Party**  
Wyndemere Croquet Club
- Most Wacky Croquet Party Hats**  
Club at the Strand
- The Party With a Historical Look**  
West River Wickets
- Most First Responders Invited**  
Tega Cay Croquet Club
- Best Croquet Themed Snacks**  
Chicago Croquet Club
- Most Community Oriented Party**  
The Springs Croquet Club

**Consolation Prize:**  
**Best Effort Despite Being Rained-Out**  
Mary Shields, The NCC

*Croquet in the rain? Yes, we can...well, mostly!*

With much anticipation and excitement, the Golf Croquet Mixed Doubles event started on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> with 16 participants. Play began in overcast skies then light rain after round one. Players were enjoying the camaraderie and competitive shot-making with each wicket scored. The second round saw a steady rain develop with players focusing on the changing lawn from the weather. During the end of the third round, play was stopped and the fourth round eliminated due to heavier rain.

The scores were totaled, winners were announced, and prizes awarded. John Fox took first place with a 14 point total for the three games and Rick Cooper was second with 12 points. Fun continued with snacks and drinks as everyone socialized and stayed dry under the front porch of the clubhouse. Below are the final results:

Golf Croquet Mixed Doubles, June 25, 2022

John 14 points	Jeff 9 points	Spencer 6 points	Tex 5 points
Rick 12 points	Ellen 8 points	Thomas 6 points	Don 4 points
Dave 10 points	Drew 8 points	Dean 5 points	Ben 3 points
Bess 9 points	Tom 7 points	Kerry 5 points	Geri 2 points



### *Hot Dog Day August 27*



CCC held its annual Hot Dog Lunch on August 27. Twenty players came out to enjoy croquet and Chicago's favorite sausage. Chef Tom did a great job grilling the dogs on the Club's electric grill. Many thanks to those who contributed to the event.



### **Ball in Hand (Away Games)**

#### *Glencoe*

On May 11, several CCC officers and members met with Stella Nanos, manager of the Glencoe Golf Club, regarding plans to install croquet courts at their Club. Tanya Volk has long promoted croquet on the North Shore and the Glencoe Golf Club is proposing putting in new courts as part of an overall restoration of its facilities. CCC members offered their support. Things got off to a great start when Glencoe invited CCC members to play on June 18. Since then, Bess Gallanis and Rick Hayes have been organizing games at the Club on Monday mornings.



2022

*Tournament Play: Woodlawn Mini Lobster and Merion Invitational*

Rick and Ellen competed in the Woodlawn Mini Lobster, a favorite tournament among the traveling croquet set, held in Ellsworth, Maine. They battled each other for a spot in the finals of their flight, and Rick won after a nail-biting game that ended in the third round of last balls. Rick ultimately took second place. Great showing for Chicago!



Just a few days after Woodlawn, Ellen and Will met up in Philadelphia for the Merion Invitational at the beautiful Merion Cricket Club Will was undefeated and easily took first place in his flight. Chicago continues to make new connections with other clubs and we look forward to more tournaments ahead!



2022

## Lawn Gear

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### *Chicago Croquet Club Apparel*

A number of members have expressed an interest in buying a cap with the Club's logo. Let Tom O know if you would like to buy one. They are O/S, cost is \$16.00 each. The caps should be available in a few weeks.

If you are interested in purchasing some Chicago Croquet Club (CCC) labeled clothing, you can go directly to Lands' End business outfitters at

<https://business.landsend.com/>

The Logo number is 0425336 and the Customer ID is 4013501. They often have sales offering free logos and/or shipping. You might want to sign up for their emails to see if they offer you any discounts. Please contact Tom O'Laughlin if you have any questions.



## Court Connections

The United States Croquet Association (USCA) website is a wealth of resources about the sport. For example, if you scroll down on the USCA home page, they have a direct link for American, Association, Golf, and Long Grass Rules for the Croquet. The rules synopsis provided is a good way to learn about the game for beginners and can also be a good refresher for a seasoned player. Check out this resource and more at <https://uscroquet.clubexpress.com>

The World Golf Croquet Championship recently took place in England and the new champion is American Matthew Essick. Americans have won the past two Championships. Ben Rothman won in 2019. Over 32 players participated in this year's tournament from more than 20 countries. Matthew is from Winston-Salem, NC, teaches croquet, and is the current pro in Orlando, FL during the winter and in Quogue, NY during the summer. Videos of the games are available on You Tube. Incidentally You Tube is a great source for watching croquet games and learning strategy. Search for "rdilley USCA croquet". **Check out the link below from CBS News** about Matthew and his love for the game. <https://youtu.be/yYBjD1-leC0>