DURNHAM - on- CROUCH THE FIRST 10 YEARS East Anglian Croquet

East Anglian Croquet Federation

1986 - 1996



BURY St. EDMUNDS Federation

WREST PARK



Betty Purple at WELLS - next - the - SEA



INDOOR at SOHAM

# East Anglian Croquet Federation

# EACF "First 10 Years"

**Dedicated** to a long suffering **Husband**, and to ALL my Croquet Friends who have the vision and tremendous enthusiasm for the game that they give up their time to bring this fascinating pastime to others. This catalogue of events will show you something of our busy time since 1982....although the EACF officially did not come into existence until 1986.

Pressure of work means that this booklet is rather late in being produced so the title is really.....

East Anglian Croquet Development - the first 15 years.



Produced and Published by Judy Anderson

March 1998

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#### **BENEFACTORS**

We are exceptionally grateful to all who have given tangible help for the cause of Croquet in our Region. They include:- Sports Council (Eastern Region); The Croquet Association (CA); Chris Hudson (CA); Paul Day (Turners); Andrew Wilson (Bedford Modern School); Derek Vigrass (Kings Lynn Removals); Duncan Hector (Inter County Office Furniture); Charles Townsend (Townsend Croquet Equipment); Nat West Bank. The National Trust (Paul Dickson at HQ Blickling) and Administrators and Gardeners at Anglesey, Blickling, Oxburgh, Ickworth, Long Melford, and Wimpole. Greene King Breweries; Moet and Chandon (Champagne) and Peatling and Cawdron Sports Centre Managers and Staff at Clacton, Lynnsport and Soham.

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1996 10th anniversary - new LOGO designed by John Bevington (Wrest Park) "Sun rising over the East Boundary".









## **INTRODUCTION**

1.1. In early 1983, the **Croquet Association (CA)** launched a national initiative to encourage further development in the game. Its main aim was to encourage more people to play croquet, particularly since it is an activity which commends itself to people of all ages, both men and women.

1.2. The CA had asked Judy Anderson to liase with the Sports Council (Eastern Region) to promote croquet in the 6 counties - Essex, Suffolk, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. At this time there were only 9 Clubs registered with the CA, and most of them were in towns situated around the coast. We needed to "fill in the gaps in the map" in our region, particularly in the centre.

With the help of Tony Ploszajski (the Sports Council Officer given the Croquet "folder") a Development Plan was produced for 1983-1986. This formed the basis for financial assistance from the Sports Council to support the programme.

1.3. The East Anglian Croquet Federation (EACF) was formed in April 1986. With guidance and support from the Sports Council a second plan, for the period 1987-1989 was produced, and funds given to aid its implementation.

The EACF was formed by the clubs in the Region, with the aim of promoting croquet, helping to establish new clubs, and to co-ordinate the activities of existing clubs.

1.4. Since then great strides have been made by a few dedicated croquet enthusiasts in East Anglia, with the numbers of Clubs and "Groups" playing growing to well over 20 in membership. (There was also a great deal of effort spent on providing coaching at places where no lasting club emerged).

New clubs continue to be started almost every year, but our aim at the moment is also to consolidate and strengthen membership.

1.5. This booklet shows some significant successes, particularly the on-going National Trust Tournaments where both parties gain from the excellent publicity, and croquet is seen by many hundreds of the general public each year. We give out leaflets and have a "Come and Try It" lawn for people to have a go. The National Trust publicity Press Releases have helped such that we have had much publicity with local Press articles, live and recorded Radio interviews and regional TV footage.

The **CA Indoor Carpet** has provided a decade of enjoyment for players of all standards. We have been so fortunate to be supported by A class players and **World Champions**, so the beginners have been able to watch with awe the skills it is possible to achieve. The news of our Speed Croquet has gone "Round the World".

1.6. As we look to the future, it is hoped that the **National Lottery** is finally bringing the opportunity for two Clubs to expand with financial assistance from their Local Authorities. Letchworth to have a new 4 Lawn Club, and Bury St. Edmunds to have artificial surfaces. These are exciting developments, and it is only because of the tenacity of the club members themselves that these are about to happen.

The Appendix at the end of this book describes our thoughts for the future.

I hope you enjoy reading this, I only hope I have not made any glaring omissions. If I have, please let me know and they will be included in the second edition.

## EAST ANGLIAN CROQUET : 1982 to date SIGNIFICANT DATES

YEAR	EVENT
Oct 1982	Lionel Wharrad (CA Chairman) asked Judy Anderson to be Croquet Advisor to Sports Council (East Region)
1983	East Region Development Committee formed, Judy Anderson; Roger Bray; Ron Gosden; George Collin; Tom Anderson; Adrian Kirby and Bob Sutherland
	9 Clubs:- Hunstanton; Norwich; Ipswich; Colchester; Bentley; Watford (Cassiobury); St Albans; Wrest Park and Colworth House (Unilever).
	Sports Council Officer:- Tony Ploszajski. First 3 year Development Plan written and Grant Aided Sports Council 50+ Campaign
1984	Wrest Park Club allowed to "go open" - had been closed Club
1985	Development Officer (Judy Anderson, Colworth and Wrest Park) wins Sports Council "Service to Sport Award"
1986	East Anglian Croquet Federation formed with ~ 20 Clubs "supporting" Chairman:- Don Gaunt. National Trust/GreeneKing (Moet & Chandon) first 4 Tournaments (Short Croquet). First Newsletter produced "FACE EAST" No.1 April (Federation Anglian de Croquet de l'Est).
	Active Retired Motivators - Demonstrations for Sports Council
1987	Indoor Carpet Croquet Tournament - World First at Clacton.
1707	Produced our 2nd Development Plan with the Sports Council 1987 - 1989.
	With Sports Council grants we own 8 sets of Equipment. Unsolicited £150 from the CA "congratulating us on our activity and to help us get off the ground". Deaths of Helen Wilkinson (Colchester) and Jayne Neville Rolfe (Hunstanton).
	Indoor Village Hall Croquet evenings at Garboldisham (Sports Council initiative) Townsend Indoor Croquet Sets
1988	First Eastern Championship - Cecil Strange Cup donated by Faith and Don Gaunt. Indoor Village Hall (Garboldisham, Norfolk) Di Spinks/ Sports Council initiative. Townsend Equipment. EACF v. SE Fedn at Cassiobury 4-4, (6 players, no-one H'cap under 8 and 4 with H'cap 10 or over). EACF Schools Officer Andrew Wilson (Bedford Modern School).
1989	First Indoor Carpet at SOHAM (Between Newmarket and Ely).
	Newport open new Lawns with Sports Council Grant. EACF v. E.Midlands Fedn at Werrington 2 - 5; EACF v. SE Fedn at Havering 4 - 4. Deaths of Albert Lawrance (Soham, Cambridge and Hunstanton) and Peter Danks (Cambridge)
1990	Newport open Pavilion. Bury St Edmunds Shield donated for National Trust Tournament winners. Sports Council Officer - Mike Behnke (no more grants available from SC as we are no longer on their list of Sports to be funded). Referees Course run by Martin French.
1001	Albert Lawrance Memorial Trophy for Soham Indoor Carpet competition. Indoor Tournaments also held at LYNNSPORT (Kings Lynn, Norfolk)
1991	TENT purchased, mainly for use at National Trust Tournaments as Nick and Betty Carter retired from helping. Examining Referees Course held by Martin French and Michael Heap.
1992	Indoor Laws put in writing by Ipswich Club members (SPEED CROQUET) First Year of Play - Offs between EACF Area League winners to be the CA Secretary's Shield rep next year. National Lottery Roadshows attended.
1993	No more "Best Juniors" coming through the system at the Eastern Championships.
1994	Jan Michalek (National Trust Head gardener at Ickworth Hall) showing photographs of our NT Croquet Finals Tournaments on his NT advisory trip to Poland.
1995	National Trust Centenary, to celebrate we run Golf Croquet Tournaments (Singles and Doubles - now run annually) Storing Carpet at Soham, thanks to Paul Day. EACF win Inter-Fedn Indoor at Bretby (Don Cornelius; Nigel Gray; Celia Steward and Philip Eardley. Death of Edward Duffield (Colchester), also past President of the CA.
1996	10th anniversary - new LOGO designed by John Bevington (Wrest Park) "Sun rising over the East Boundary". Federation Representative on CA Council - Nigel Gray EACF win Inter-Fedn Indoor at Bretby (Clarke, Fulford, Allnutt and Percival) Claire Heritage named as CA "Coach of the Year".
	CA Council Centenary EACF Tournament at Wrest Park organised by Don Cornelius, won by Jeremy Scott

## EACF CLUBS : dates of joining, also other Development EFFORT

DATE	CLUB	Unsuccessful Development Work and CLUBS "Folded"
		also Groups which may yet join
1983	CA Registered Clubs:- Bentley; Cassiobury (Watford); Colchester; Colworth; Hunstanton; Ingatestone; Ipswich; Norwich and Wrest Park.	
1986 * 2/3/86	Bancroft RFC; Beechams; Bentley; BT Research (private); Bury St Edmunds; Cambridge; Cambridge Univ.; Colchester; Colworth; (private,Unilever); Cromer; Havering; Hunstanton; Ingatestone; Ipswich; MAFF (Lowestoft) Newport: Norwich; Peterborough (Werrington); Rochford; Thomas Cook; Wrest Park.	Luton; Stevenage Bedford Modern School; Farlingaye School; Harwich and Dovercourt; Colchester Royal Grammer School. Swaffham; Gunton Hall; Ongar; Stamford. Also helped at Milton Keynes (in "South") and (Northampton in "East Midlands")
1987	Letchworth	Sandy (Conservative Assn); Sudbury; Fenland; Oakley (Beds)
1988	St Albans; Downham Market; Watford (Cassiobury)	Ingatestone Disbanded. Huntingdon; Chigwell; Hertford; Brandon.
1989	Burnham-on-Crouch	Higham Ferrers; Hemel Hempstead; Wormleybury; Icknield School; Loughton.
1990	Bottisham; Soham (Private Lawn); Chelmsford	Thos. Cook, Rochford and Beechams disbanded; Felixstowe lost Lawn. Lost touch with Bancroft RFC; MAFF closed.
1991	Meldreth	Gorleston; Hinchingbrooke School (Huntingdon).
1992	Aldeburgh (Private Lawn)	Saffron Walden; Potters Bar; Diss (Golf Club); Bedford (Tennis Club); Norwich Union.
1993	Wells-next-the-Sea	North Weald (Golf Club); Holbrook School; Ipswich High School; RSPB Sandy.
1994	Mount Rayleigh W.I.;	Cley-next-the-Sea/Holt
1995	Enfield; Dry Drayton	St Bernards High School (Westcliff). Stevenage (British Aerospace)
1996		Aylsham; Maldon; Potton/Biggleswade; Sudbury. Cambridge "put on Ice"
1997	Rochford TWG; Easton Lodge	
1998	Easton Lodge (Dunmow)	
<del></del>		

\* date of EACF Inaugural Meeting

'FACE EAST' Martin French -"Federation Anglian de Croquet de l'Est"



CARTOONS by "Rhona"

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YEAR	Chairman	Treasurer	Sec/Dev	Coaching	Equipment	Indoor
1986	Don Gaunt (Ipswich)	George Collin (Wrest Park)	Judy Anderson (Colworth/Wrest Park)	Tom Anderson (Colworth/Wrest Park)	Tom Anderson (Colworth/WP)	
1987	"	"	"	"	"	Judy Anderson
1988	Bob Sutherland (Ipswich)	"	"	Robert Jones (Ipswich)	"	
1989		"	"	Ron Atkinson (Newport)	"	John Walters
1990	Don Cornelius (Newport)	"	· · · ·	Claire Heritage (Ipswich)	"	Judy Anderson
1991	"	"	"	"	"	Judy Anderson Claire Heritage Jonathan Toye
1992	"	"	"	"	""	Nigel Gray
1993	"	"	"	"	Peter Branson (Bottisham)	""
1994	"	"	"	"		Don Cornelius
1995	"	"	"	cc		
1996	<c< td=""><td>"</td><td>"</td><td>Nigel Gray (Letchworth) Also EACF Rep on CA Council</td><td>"</td><td>Claire Heritage</td></c<>	"	"	Nigel Gray (Letchworth) Also EACF Rep on CA Council	"	Claire Heritage
1997	Claire Heritage (Ipswich)		"			
						1

## EACF OFFICERS: 1986 to date

### Further <u>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u> throughout the YEARS

Roger Bray (Colchester); Ron Gosden (Hunstanton); Martin Hodge (Cambridge). Betty and Nick Carter (Havering); Adrian Kirby (Thos. Cook); Jonathan Collis (Colchester/Selwyn College); Paul Elliott (Colchester); John Walters (Ipswich); Jonathan Toye (Downham Market); Peter Lawrence (Chelmsford); Pat Hetherington (Colchester); Peter Allnutt (Ipswich).

#### COACHING HELPERS in the early days:-

Ron Gosden; John Hobbs; Nigel Aspinall; Norman Davren; Ray Hall; Roger Bray; Adrian Kirby; Harry Green; Martin Hodge; Ken Davies; Stephen Cooper; Nick Bowring; Marie Scott; Pat and Sarah Hampson; Bill Purdon; John Bevington; Colin MacKenzie; Paul Wareham; Trevor Wilkins, PLUS all Club Members who have helped nearby NEW Clubs, and all our "Come and Try It" events.



#### .....an example of our Publicity efforts

Terry Sparkes and John Read (Norwich) winning the National Trust Final at Ickworth

with Caroline Sier and Jan Mickalek (Property Manager and Head Gardener)





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## **EACF** Trophies

Eastern Championships Leagues Play-off National Trust (Short)

(Golf)

November

January

March

Indoor

Cecil Strange Cup (donated by Faith and Don Gaunt) Charles Townsend Cup originally (1986/'87/'88) Moet and Chandon sponsored 1989 BSE Shield (and EACF Mini Shields) National Trust Mugs Albert Lawrance Memorial Cup Lynnsport Shield Cornelius Cup





GOLF CROQUET at Anglesey Abbey

East Anglian Croquet Federation C.A. CENTENARY TOURNAMENT





The Eastern Championships

1997 Winner - Steve Comish (Ipswich) being presented with the Trophy by George Collin (Wrest Park), Manager Richard Hilditch applauding!!

## EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP

for the CECIL STRANGE CUP

(donated by Faith and Don Gaunt)

YEAR	VENUE a	nd Manager	WINNER	Best Junior
1988	Colchester	Pat Hetherington	Chris Clarke (Colchester)	
1989	"	"	Duncan Reeve (Hunstanton)	David Maugham (Bowden)
1990	" Sponsored by	Richard Hilditch NatWest/Townsend	Chris Clarke (Colchester)	
1991	"	"	Robert Fulford (Colchester)	Ian Burridge (Colchester)
1992	"	"	David Maugham (Bowden)	Chris Clarke (Colchester)
1993	"	دد	Robert Fulford (Colchester)	not continued
1994	"	44	Michael Taylor (Australia)	
1995	"		Robert Fulford (Colchester)	
1996	Hunstanton	٤٤	Robert Fulford (Colchester)	
1997	Wrest Park	در	Steve Comish (Ipswich)	
	1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		

## AREA LEAGUES

These have been evolving over the years.

The first, which was in existence before the EACF was formed, was the Essex/Suffolk League, then the Beds/Herts League, and finally the competitions between the Cambs/Norfolk Clubs.

In 1997 the Teams were:-

Essex/Suffolk
Bentley
Bury St Edmunds
Colchester
Havering
Ipswich
Newport

Beds/Herts Colworth Enfield Letchworth Meldreth St Albans Watford Wrest Park

## <u>Cambs/Norfolk</u>

Bottisham Cromer Downham Market Hunstanton Norwich

## AREA LEAGUES WINNERS Play-off (EACF CA Secretary's Shield Rep)

1991       Letchworth         1992       Letchworth         1993       Letchworth         1994       Wrest Park from Bury St Edmunds       (2 way play-off)         1995       Letchworth over Norwich over Bury St Edmunds       (3 way play-off at Newport)         1996       Colworth over Ipswich over Norwich       (3 way play-off at Hunstanton)         1997       Letchworth over Ipswich over Norwich       "	YEAR	WINNER		
1993Letchworth1994Wrest Park from Bury St Edmunds(2 way play-off)1995Letchworth over Norwich over Bury St Edmunds(3 way play-off at Newport)1996Colworth over Ipswich over Norwich(3 way play-off at Hunstanton)	1991	Letchworth		
1994Wrest Park from Bury St Edmunds(2 way play-off)1995Letchworth over Norwich over Bury St Edmunds(3 way play-off at Newport)1996Colworth over Ipswich over Norwich(3 way play-off at Hunstanton)	1992	Letchworth		
1995Letchworth over Norwich over Bury St Edmunds(3 way play-off at Newport)1996Colworth over Ipswich over Norwich(3 way play-off at Hunstanton)	1993	Letchworth		
1996Colworth over Ipswich over Norwich(3 way play-off at Hunstanton)	1994	Wrest Park from Bury St Edmunds	(2 way play-off)	
	1995	Letchworth over Norwich over Bury St Edmunds	(3 way play-off at Newport)	
1997 Letchworth over Ipswich over Norwich ""	1996	Colworth over Ipswich over Norwich	(3 way play-off at Hunstanton)	
	1997	Letchworth over Ipswich over Norwich	دد در	



CROQUET TOURNAMENT









Long Melford Hall



**Anglesey Abbey** 





Bryn Lewis (7) and Rhona Kerswell (11) Jonathan Toye (11) and Gabrielle Higgins (16)

Ickworth Hall (Finals)



# NATIONAL TRUST EVENTS: 1986 to date

YEAR	WINNERS	RUNNERS-UP	3rd/4th TEAMS
Short Croquet			
GreeneKing/Moet			
1986	Newport John Farley/John Hobbs	Ipswich	Werrington/Felixstowe
1987	Newport John Farley/John Hobbs	Thos.Cook	Colchester/Cambridge
1988	Felixstowe Bob Sutherland /Brian Jones	Watford	Ipswich/BSE
BuryStEdmunds Shield			
1989	BSE Robert Bawden/Bryn Lewis	Newport	BedsMod/Werrington
1990	Colworth Trevor Wilkins/Steve Jones	Cambridge	Norwich/SE Essex
1991	Aldeburgh Celia Pearce/Richard Kimmerling	Norwich	Colworth/Letchworth
1992	Meldreth Jon Smith/Christopher van Essen	BSE	Norwich/Cromer
1993	Newport John Rusted/Roddy Kesterton	Chelmsford	Letchworth/Cromer
1994	Norwich John Read/Terry Sparkes	Letchworth	Hunstanton/Newport
1995 (NT Centenary Year)	Newport Dennis Saville/Bill Tapper	BSE	Wrest Park/Cambridge
1996	St. Albans Andrew Apps/Chris Frost	Newport	Norwich/Meldreth
1997	Newport Bill Tapper/Fiske Warren	BSE	Downham/Wells-n-t-S
	2 		
Golf Doubles			
at Anglesey Abbey	DCE	BSE	
1995	BSE Betty Vansittart and John Rolfe		
1996	Rayleigh Rosemary Longbottom/Eve Wilson	Wells-n-t-Sea	
1997	Rayleigh Rosemary Longbottom/Eve Wilson	Wells-n-t-Sea	
Golf Singles at Ickworth Hall		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
1995	Don Cornelius (Newport)	Eve Wilson (Rayleigh)	
1996	John Rolfe (BSE)	Rosemary Longbottom (Rayleigh)	
1997	Irene Brazier	David Hills	
	(Colchester)	(Bottisham)	







Leisure Services

CLACTON-ON-SEA ESSEX

District Sports Association

## CA CARPET (THE FAST ONE !!)

Short Croquet Double-Banked Doubles with

SPEED CLOCKS"

Laws put in writing by Ipswich Club Members





THANK YOU TO ALL roll-up HELPERS

## **INDOOR CARPET**

## Thank you to all roller-uppers/heavy gangs!!

YEAR/Date	PLACE	Organiser	EVENT	WINNER	Extra INFO
1987 7/8 Nov	Clacton	Judy Anderson	EACF v. SE region Debbie Cornelius; John Walters; Paul Elliott; John Hobbs EACF v. South Robert Fulford; Fiona	3-0	World First Townsend sponsorship + appearance of
1989 14/15 Jan	SOHAM	Albert Lawrance	McCoig; Adrian Kirby; Graham Budd Invitation Event with 8 Top Players		Henry Cooper >100 paying
		John Walters			spectators
16/17 Dec		John Walters	East Anglia v. Great Britain GB - Mark Avery and Robert Fulford EA - Chris Clarke; Steve Comish; Debbie Cornelius; Martin French; Duncan Reeve and John Walters.	8 - 10	before GB depart to NZ for MacRob Shield Test matches
1990	Bedford Modern	Andrew Wilson	School Coaching by Nigel Gray and Hugh Williams (Slow Carpet)		School transport for carpet
1991 2/3 Feb	SOHAM	Judy Anderson	Albert Lawrance Memorial Trophy 12 Clubs, Gaye Lawrance presented Trophy	AnsellTrust Cliff Jones KevinWells	First use of Chess Clocks
9 Nov 10 Nov	Lynnsport	Jonathan Toye	10 Clubs/Teams - Lynnsport Shield Masters Invitation Chris Clarke - World No.1 Robert Fulford - World Champ 1990 David Maugham - Somona Cutrer John Walters - World Champ 1991	Colworth Robert Fulford	Derek Vigrass Transport
27/28 Dec	SOHAM	Claire Heritage	9 Clubs/Teams	Soham	Xmas Event
1992	SOHAM	Nigel Gray	Laws discussed and put in writing by IPSWICH CLUB members 14 Clubs/Teams	Colworth	InterCounty Office Furniture Transport
21/22 Nov			9 Devilie Deire was her	Carl	Verse Assis
29/30 Dec	SOHAM	Nigel Gray	8 Doubles Pairs won by Debbie Cornelius and Chris Clarke	C and C see left AnsellTrust	Xmas Again
1993 6/7 Feb	Lynnsport	N.Gray/J.Toye	12 Clubs - Lynnsport Shield		
20/21 Nov	SOHAM	Nigel Gray	14 Clubs - Albert Lawrance trophy	Ipswich	
1994 22/23 Jan 26/27 Feb 26/27 March	Lynnsport	Don Cornelius	12 Clubs - <i>Lynnsport Shield</i> won by Chris Clarke and Duncan Hector over 3 weekends	Letchworth	Jonathan Toye broke his arm!! Andersons carpe transport !!
19/20 Nov	SOHAM	Don Cornelius	14 Clubs - Albert Lawrance Trophy	Chelmsford	Transport costs too much
1995 21/22 Jan 18/19 March	SOHAM	Don Cornelius	14 Clubs - Lynnsport Shield over 2 weekends	Letchworth	Paul Day storing carpet
18/19 Nov	SOHAM	Don Cornelius	14 Clubs - Albert Lawrance Trophy won by Paul Day and Chris Clarke	Daystarke	
			Won Inter-Fed CA Indoor at Bretby Don Cornelius; Nigel Gray; Celia Steward and Philip Eardley		
1996 20/21 Jan 18/19 March	SOHAM	Claire Heritage	14 Clubs - <i>Lynnsport Shield</i> won by Paul Day, Chris Clarke & Keith Aiton	Daystarke	Soham storing carpet
9/10 Nov	SOHAM	Claire Heritage	14 Clubs - Albert Lawrance Trophy	Letchworth	
			Won Inter-Fed CA Indoor, Chris Clarke, Robert Fulford, Peter Allnutt and Mike Percival.		
1997 18/19 Jan 8/9 March	SOHAM	Claire Heritage	14 Clubs - <i>Lynnsport Shield</i> won by Chris Clarke and Robert Fulford	Clarkeford	
8/9/Nov	SOHAM	Claire Heritage	14 Clubs - <i>Albert Lawrance Trophy</i> Paul Day and Chris Clarke	Daystarke	
1998 17/18 Jan	SOHAM	Claire Heritage	14 Clubs - <i>Lynnsport Shield</i> won by Chris Clarke and Robert Fulford	Clarkeford	New experiment for top players - "Time H'cap"
			1	1	1
7/8 March	SOHAM	Claire Heritage	14 Clubs - Cornelius Cup		

## Information notes written for the CA Federation Conference (Feb 1994)

## EACF INDOOR CARPET EVENTS Nov. 1987 - March 1994

So far we have run 16 events - the inaugural event at Clacton; coaching at Bedford Modern School; 7 weekends at Soham (between Newmarket and Ely) and 7 at Kings Lynn.

Initially the carpet was used for "Top Players", but we have now run 10 "Club Weekends".

In order to cover expenses we have to play SHORT CROQUET, double-banked doubles, with Time Clocks. We have 12 - 14 Teams/Clubs at each Event, Clubs send 2 - 8 people and there has been up to 35 people each weekend. This has proved immensely popular and is particularly good for the social mixing of Clubs and players of all standards.

Charges have been between £20 and £30 a Team which means a rough average payment of £10 for an actual hours play.

Players have paid a total of £2868 which has hardly covered expences of Hall Hire - certainly not Transport of Carpet.

The CA Insurance only covers the carpets when in the warehouse, so we have had to pay £170 in the last 2 years for this. Also we have paid the CA £190 handling charges to the CA (to get the carpet out of the store).

\* We have to rely on <u>Donated Transport</u>, without this we could not run these Events. We gratefully acknowledge the people who have done this;

## Paul Day (Turners); Andrew Wilson (Bedford Modern School); Chris Hudson (The CA); Derek Vigrass (Kings Lynn); Duncan Hector (Inter County Office Furniture).

26/3/94 Emergency Transportby Tom Anderson, to return carpet (as Removal firm gone out of<br/>business)(Bedford/Kings Lynn/Stoke on Trent/Bedford)Van Hire£136 - 02Plus a day's holiday !!Diesel34 - 96Total£170 - 93

## An example of a typical Indoor Winter Season

Clubs competing in Indoor 1996 - 7 14 different Clubs, 3 with two teams, 67 different players (Nov '96 45 players; Jan '97 41 players; March '97 44 players) Clubs/Teams Bottisham Norwich Burnham - on - Crouch Ipswich (2) Chelmsford Meldreth St. Albans Davanon Letchworth (2) Downham Market Watford Northampton Newport (2) Wrest Park

## LIST of PLAYERS who have competed in EACF **EVENTS: 1986 - 96** We have tried our best - I hope we have not missed you out

With grateful thanks to Claire Heritage who helped to compile this Table

KEY:-	National Trust (Short Croquet)	- ordinary type (96)
	Indoor Carpet only	- in italics (76)
	Both Events	- in bold type (78)

Grand Total of 250 individuals

A	Aspinall L; Anderson J; Anderson T; Andrews; Allnutt; Allen; Apps; Atkinson; Ashwell;
	Aiton; Avery.
В	Barnes; "Belinda"; Burridge; Bleakley; Banks; Brice; Barnard; Bowring; Biddlecombe;
	Bertorelli; Bateson; Bangert; Billen; Bawden; Bar; Bithell; Bevington; Bell A; Bell D; Bugg;
	Bond; Branson; Bearpark; Blackburn; Burgin; Butters; Brazier; Ballard; Budd.
С	Crummay; Carter B; Carter N; Cooper; Collis; Comish; Coates; Christmas A; Christmas J;
	Cripps; Cook; Chipperfield; Chalmers; Case; Collins; Cornelius D; Cornelius D.C;
	Cordingley; Clarke; Clarke C; Clary; Crompton; Cordell; Chubb.
D	Day; Dankes; Dickerson; Davren; Drazin; Davlin; Dax; Davies.
E	Eardley; Elliott.
F	Farley; Fulford; French C; French M; Foster; Firth; Frost.
G	Green H; Green R; Gosden B; Gosden R; Gillott; Grimwood; Gray; Goddin; Griffin;
	Gardner; Grimes; Gregory; Grey; Goddard; Gaunt.
H	Hodge; Hobbs; Hutchins; Horne; Hampson P; Hampson S; Harris N; Hamilton-Miller;
	Huby; Hughes; Harris S; Hickman; Harbron; Hall; Hector; Heritage; Hammalev; Hardy;
	Harley; Halliday; Hallam.
I	Ivill.
J	Jones S; Jones C; Joscelyn; Jackson; Jackman; "John"; Judge; Jones Syd; Jordan.
K	Kitchener; Kingsnart; Kirby; Kesterton; Kimmerling; Kerswell D; Kerswell R; "Kevin".
L	Lawrance; Lewis; Littlewood; Lythgoe; Lester; Lawrence.
M	McCoig; MacDonald; Mapperley; Mantle; McTavish; Marston; Mahoney; McKay;
	Marsden; Magee; Mrozinski; Miller; Maugham; McDairmid; Mulliner.
Ν	Neville-Rolfe
0	Oborne; Oldham; Openshaw.
P	Purdon; Plummer; Parry; Palmer; Prevost; Powell; Payne; Pearce; Peters; Parkes; Potter;
	Porple; Percival.
R	Roscoe; Reeve J; Reeve D; Rawden; Richardson; Robinson; Robinette E; Robinette J;
L	Read; Rusted; Rice; Rastall; Rush; Rutter.
S	Sutherland; Smith B; Steward; Sawyer; Stott; Sparkes; Saville; Storey C; Storey I;
	Sharpe; Strangward; Skean; Scott; Stratford; Smith A; Smith J; Smith M; Smith P;
	Smith R; Spinks; Stephenson; Scaddon; Smart.
Т	Tutt; Tattersal; Thomas; Toye; Tapper; Thompson; Titman; Tibble; Teverson; Trotman.
V	Van-Essen; Vansittart.
W	Wood; Watson; Williams J; Wilkins; Wheeler; Wortley; Watt; Walters; White C;
	White D; Witts x2; Walker x2; Windham; Wooley; Warren; Waters; Weightman; Windred;
	Williams H; Wells; Willard; Wilson A; Wilson J; Wilson N; Wilson P;
Y	Yates.



28/8/97

# **THE NEXT 5 YEARS**



East Anglian Croquet Federation

Appendix 1

## EAST ANGLIAN CROQUET FEDERATION

## Judy Anderson Secretary/Development Officer 28/8/97

## THE NEXT 5 YEARS

A look at the EACF to date, and what we plan to do over the next few years.

## 1 Introduction

1.1. In early 1983, the Croquet Association (CA) launched a national initiative to encourage further development in the game. Its main aim was to encourage more people to play croquet, particularly since it is an activity which commends itself to people of all ages, both men and women. This initiative was followed up by the production of a CA National Forward Plan for Croquet at the end of 1984.

1.2 One of the key elements in the CA 1983 initiative was the appointment of voluntary Development Officers in each Region. These individuals were given the brief for promoting croquet as widely as possible. In order to channel development in the Eastern Region in a programmed manner the Development Officer, Judy Anderson, produced a development plan for the period 1983-1986. This set out a number of proposals for promotional initiatives and formed the basis of an application for financial assistance from the Sports Council to support the programme.

1.3 The East Anglian Croquet Federation (EACF), which was formed as one of the developments arising from the original plan, then produced a plan for the period 1987-1989. This was again drawn up with the guidance and support from the Sports Council and funds were given to support its implementation.

The EACF was formed in April 1986 by the clubs in the Region, with the aim of promoting croquet, helping to establish new clubs, and to co-ordinate the activities of existing clubs. It is administered by an Executive Committee elected by representatives from the 20 or so clubs in membership. The present Chairman is Claire Heritage. (Ipswich Club)

1.4 Since then great strides have been made by a few dedicated croquet enthusiasts in East Anglia, with the Region growing from 9 clubs in 1983 to well over 20 clubs/groups now.

1.5 The following paper describes what we have being doing, and our plans for the immediate future.

## 2 The Future

Our aim over the next 5 years is to consolidate in all the areas we are currently working by - improving quality

- speading the workload
- increasing our ability/experience

The areas concerned are

- finance
- publicity
- equipment
- coaching
- introduction of artificial surfaces
- competitions
- development

What we are currently doing in each of these areas is described below

## SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT TO DATE

ACTIVITY	CURRENT SITUATION
CLUBS	> 20 members; more "new" clubs registering with the CA
PUBLICITY	Green Leaflets; Banner; Display Boards; NT (Radio, TV, Local Newspapers)
EQUIPMENT	Club Loans, and to enable new clubs to get started (+grant aid for purchase); also used for coaching and "Come andTry It" events
COACHING	CA Grades 1 and 11; EACF Club Award. Run for both coaches and players. Referees Courses
COMPETITIONS	Eastern Championships; 3 Area Leagues; National Trust (Short and Golf) Indoor x3 p.a. Laws and Time Clocks.
DEVELOPMENT	Loans of Tent, Display Boards and Videos. "Face East" newsletter. Advice e.g. Local Authority databases, Sports Council/National Lottery, Lawn improvements, Artificial Surfaces.

## **3** Current Initiatives

### 3.1 FINANCE

The EACF Treasurer is George Collin. (Wrest Park)

For the first 6 years of East Anglian Croquet, money was provided by the Sports Council to implement the development plans.

This enabled the purchase of equipment to help new clubs to be formed, and has been the basis of our successful and continuing Loan system.

The grant money also paid for petrol travelling when meeting Local Authorities etc. to form new clubs, and the continuing coaching required to keep newly formed clubs alive.

Publicity to show croquet contacts/clubs in East Anglia particularly our 'Green Leaflet' was also funded.

Sponsorship by Greene King Breweries to run Tournaments at National Trust Houses in 1986 also made a tremendous impact on the EACF. Although the sponsorship was only for 3 years, the money has enabled us to be self sufficient financially, and meant that we have not asked the CA for money since then.

We ensure that tournaments and coaching are self-financing, administration and publicity leaflets are paid by subscription income

## 3.2 PUBLICITY

This is done by the EACF Secretary/Development Officer - Judy Anderson (Colworth).

Our main publicity comes from our 'Green Leaflets' which give details of all the clubs in the region. About 350 are used each year by the CA nationally, by clubs and by the EACF Secretary.

Another particularly excellent form of publicity is the series of tournaments we run at National Trust Houses - these have been going for 11 years. This enables us to show the game to 500-1000 people at each of 5 venues. These also generate further publicity on local radio, TV and newspapers.

We own a large banner and display boards for these NT events, but they are also loaned for other publicity events particularly in the winter.

The EACF also owns a tent which is loaned to clubs for any events they run, and a number of videos which are loaned for club winter socials etc.

## 3.3 EQUIPMENT

The EACF owns some equipment and has an Equipment Officer - Peter Branson (Bottisham) - to control its use.

We have many requests each year from newly formed clubs/groups for loans, and the location and condition of the equipment has to be continuously monitored.

Our policy is to encourage clubs to become self sufficient and a grant-aid policy is in place to enable new clubs to purchase their own equipment.

In addition, short term loans of equipment are made to the Coaching Officer and existing clubs for coaching courses.

#### 3.4 COACHING

The EACF has a Coaching Officer - Nigel Gray (Letchworth). He is also a member of the CA Coaching Committee.

Much of our coaching has been at club level.

Coaching courses are organised in the region to Grade 1 and 2 level both for training coaches and training players.

There is also a unique EACF Club Award for those relative beginners wishing to pass on their newly acquired skills and coach at their own recently formed clubs.

For instituting this award, and her continuing sterling work Claire Heritage (Ipswich) has been awarded the 1996 CA "Coach of the Year "Award.

Short Croquet has also enabled more groups to play, and is makes teaching/coaching much more beneficial.

We also encourage Golf Croquet, which we find is good for teaching the basic skills and for large gatherings and "Come and Try It "events. It is also very popular amongst the W.I. and the elderly. Rosemary Longbottom (Rayleigh W.I.) is a member of the CA Golf Croquet Committee

Examining Referees in the Region also run Referees Courses as required.

## 3.5 ARTIFICIAL SURFACES

There is an increasing interest in dual use of facilities by Local Authorities and schools. The CA and EACF have been investigating artificial surfaces for Croquet. It is felt (perhaps wrongly) that no maintenance is required.

Two croquet clubs in East Anglia (Bury St. Edmunds and Letchworth) who are in the process of improving/upgrading their facilities are considering/investigating artificial surfaces.

This has been a very long drawn out process, partly because of lack of finance by local authorities, and partly because of lack of precise specifications of the surfaces.

Now that National Lottery finance will probably be available things are moving ahead with the blessing and help of the Local Authorities concerned.

EACF help has been given with site visits, Local Authority contact, CA liason, Lottery information etc.

Further help is needed with hoop design.

With the probability of floodlighting being included in the scheme at Bury St Edmunds a variety of extra uses can be envisaged e.g. coaching out of the "normal" season.

## 3.6 COMPETITIONS

## The Eastern Championships

These are run under the auspices of EACF. We are fortunate to have a number of top players in our region, and this is reflected in that 5 of the 6 players in the 1986 GB team were from our Region. The Championship venue rotates between the Colchester, Hunstanton and Wrest Park Clubs.

## **Area Leagues**

Owing to the size of the Region and consequent long travelling distances, it has been divided into 3 areas for competitive purposes. It may be necessary to divide into 4 areas in future.

The eastern area is Essex/Suffolk; the northern area is Cambs/Norfolk and the western area is Beds/Herts. Each area has its own organiser.

There is a play-off at the end of each season for the right to be the EACF representative in the national Secretary's Shield competition.

## **National Trust Tournaments**

As mentioned under Publicity we run tournaments at 4 NT Houses each year. The NT Press Releases are influencial publicity for croquet nationally.

The SHORT CROQUET Doubles involves 16 clubs with 4 at each venue, and a Final play-off. The GOLF CROQUET Doubles involves 32 players, and the Singles 24 entrants.

#### Indoor

The EACF organiser/manager is Claire Heritage.

The Croquet Association owns 2 indoor carpets. The EACF have been most active in using these carpets, and have run tournaments on them since 1986.

It was found too expensive to pay for both hire of hall and transport of the carpets from storage. Now one carpet is stored permanently at Soham, near Ely, and we run 3 tournaments each winter there. These tournaments are a unique mix of GB <----> high handicappers, all playing together. There is a wonderful atmosphere, and also available is "the bar", snooker, table tennis, bridge etc. The format is Short Croquet, double-banked doubles, handicap with time clocks. (large chess clocks). The Indoor Rules have been adopted nationally. "Speed Croquet" is creating interest worldwide.

#### 3.7 DEVELOPMENT

The EACF has a Development Officer - Judy Anderson (Colworth/Wrest Park) - who is also on the CA Governing Council, so is able to pass on the most recent developments and proposals. She publishes a newsletter, 'Face East', twice a year with news, results and dates for the coming season. It also includes CA news, advice and contact addresses for W.I. contacts, Local Authority databases, Lawn Improvement contacts, National Lottery/Sports Council paperwork, etc. She also produces the EACF 'Green Leaflet' annually (mentioned elsewhere in this report under Publicity).

The Map (later) shows the clubs/groups in our Region. Areas in need of development also follow.

## **4 PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE**

#### 4.1 POTENTIAL AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

4.1.1 Peterborough

A club was started 10 years ago at Werrington Sports Centre/Library, and 2 (almost) full-size lawns and equipment still exists. Unfortunately no experienced croquet player is available to keep a club going.

4.1.2 Huntingdon

Croquet is played by 6th formers at Hinchingbrooke School and area for 2 small lawns exists, however the Master would not be able to run a club. Coaching to the schoolboys was given by EACF in the past.

### 4.1.3 <u>Thetford Area</u> (Breckland)

Again, no one available to organise a club.

4.1.4 Southend

Excellent (County Standard) cricket and bowls groundsmen and parks. St Bernards School >100 girls playing croquet with keen croquet playing teacher. Davis Haslam (CA Schools Officer) is aware of this.

## 4.2 JUNIOR/YOUTH PARTICIPATION

#### Schools

Continue to encourage "Adopt a School" policy amongst Clubs. Because of short term times, and exam priorities this has not been very successful. There is a lack of teachers interested in the commitment required. Encourage "Family" membership in Clubs, (2 of the 6 GB players learnt with family). Monitor the success of this, get Clubs to be more pro-active. Join with David Haslam to research/study Clubs which have had success with attracting and keeping Juniors. <u>Universities</u> Encourage/strengthen links with Cambridge, Essex and UEA at Norwich

### 4.3 INDOOR FUTURE

The carpets will/may not last for ever. Think of future and possible replacement options. The winter tournaments are always fully booked. Will this interest continue if the top players fell a need for change? We have just funded some purpose built stands for the carpet storage at Soham.

#### 4.4 INCREASE EFFORT

The need for more helpers continues and it is vital that more work is done for EACF by newer people. However this is difficult to achieve as all such players are vital to the continued existance of their own clubs. Many of the clubs need to be strengthened, and constant recruitment is required to maintain membership numbers.

## 5 Summary

The above paper shows the progress of the EACF before and since its formation. The present priority is for consolidation, time to recover and overview its many successes. Most of the activities/jobs are spread amongst its committee members, however new blood must be brought in to ensure a vibrant future.



## <u>Kev</u>

- Clubs which hold Tournaments
- Clubs with 2 or less full-size lawns
- ▲ Clubs/Groups with only small lawns
- △ Clubs/Groups which play on private lawns

Appendix 2.Map



DOWNHAM (Stow Bardolph Hall)



COLCHESTER





Richard Hilditch coaching at ENFIELD





HUNSTANTON

EACF "First 10 Years"

Produced and Published by Judy Anderson

March 1998.



CHELMSFORD



DRY DRAYTON