



NEWSLETTER

Issue 17

January 2023

**We wish all our members and their families
A Very Happy New Year.**



It's been quite a year at Trinity Park

We were granted planning permission last January. However any thoughts that life in 2022 would be a breeze were soon to be dashed. The ineptitude of the planning authority paled into insignificance when dealing with our new landlord's solicitors. However all is well that ends well. On 31st August, after much legal procrastination, agreement was reached by all parties and a 25 year lease was signed.

In September no time was lost by our contractors - who live in the real world – as they set about creating the new lawns. The site was stripped, levelled, the grass was sown, pipes and cables laid, the pavilion moved and re-erected. On 18th and 19th November the grass was cut for the first time. ICC's new home is now looking good and on target for an April 1st opening.

Continued

The countdown has begun

Just 90 days to go before, god willing, we play our first game on the new lawns.

That said there is still a lot of work to be done and any help you can give us will be much appreciated. Such work will include erecting the shelter, preparing and painting the pavilion and shelter, creating a concrete pad for the water tank, installing the irrigation system, trenching (with trencher) water and electricity from the pavilion to the toilet site, repairing boundary boards, mowing, distributing leaflets door-to-door in Bucklesham Road, erecting signs and marking out lawns - to name but a few jobs.

To do this we intend set up regular working parties. Early in January we will send a list of what needs to be done to all members to find out who is able to help, do what and when. We appreciate that this is a big ask, however we will be grateful for as much help as we can get.

December tournaments

Singles

Unfortunately the December Singles was cancelled because the ground was frozen solid causing the balls to skate across the grass with alarming velocity. Let's hope for better conditions for the next tournament on Wednesday, 11th January.

To avoid disappointment please don't delay in submitting your entry - this event has become well subscribed and entries are taken on a 'first come first served' basis.

Doubles

Please contact Simon Holloway for details of doubles tournaments, to enter and for results.

Interclub matches

During the summer months (April to September) we like to enter a few interclub team matches organised by the East Anglian Croquet Federation and the Very Local League. If anyone of any handicap would like to participate please contact Ria Hunt without delay – scheduling is already well under way.

Golf Croquet tutorial

The Offside Rule

As soon as a hoop is run any other ball which is more than halfway towards the next hoop to be played is 'offside'.

A line from the centre peg to a (chalk) mark at the middle point of the boundary line is called the *halfway line*. A ball that is clearly beyond the *halfway line* is offside.

However when turning to go to one of the middle hoops (i.e. hoops 5, 7, & 11) the *halfway line* is less clear because the centre peg cannot be used as a marker, however there is a halfway mark on the boundary line.

Exception. A ball is **not** offside if it is over halfway and has arrived at its position having been in contact with an **opponent** ball, i.e. having been hit there by an opponent ball or glanced off an opponent ball. *Please note* - if the contact was with a **non-opponent** ball it is **offside**.

Offside penalty. There are 2 penalty spots – one on either side of the lawn in the middle of the long boundary and level with the centre peg. The **opponent** to the offside ball can have it moved to the penalty spot of their choice or leave it where it is.

It is up to the offside **opponent** to state **as soon as a hoop is run** whether (and if) they want an offside ball to be moved to a penalty spot. It is considered *good etiquette* for the owner of the offside ball to ask if it is to be moved (but under no obligation to do so) and this has to be before the next stroke is played.

A ball ceases to be offside if an offside ‘**opponent**’ plays a stroke having not given an offside direction. If however the **owner** of the offside ball plays it before the offside **opponent** has given a direction, the balls are to be replaced in the previous positions and, if the offside opponent wishes, the offside ball is to be moved to the nominated penalty spot.

When playing from a penalty spot, the ball can be placed anywhere within a one yard arc of the penalty spot.

Financial year end

January 31st is ICC’s financial year end. During February the accounts will be finalised and submitted for independent examination ready for the next AGM scheduled for **10 AM on Sunday, 5th March 2023** at Nacton Village Hall.

We have achieved a great deal in 2022 and look forward to discussing our plans for an exciting 2023 at the AGM.

December suggestion box

There were no submissions during December. Please don’t hesitate to use this facility if you have any observations, suggestions or concerns that might help administer and/or improve your club.

In the next issue

- ~ Progress at Trinity Park
- ~ Winter tournaments
- ~ 2022/23 AGM
- ~ Golf Croquet tutorial
- ~ January suggestion box

Is there a topic you would like covered?

END

We would appreciate your feedback. If you have any comments about this or future newsletters or would like an article published in a newsletter please contact the editor—contact details at the bottom of this page. Copy should be submitted by Sunday, 22nd January for inclusion in the February issue.