

# **The Croquet World Series for the MacRobertson Shield**

## **Regulations for the Competition**

### **PREAMBLE**

This document is in two parts. The first part, through Appendix II, comprises the Regulations (“the 2003 Regulations”) which reflect the agreement between the Australian Croquet Association, The Great Britain Croquet Association, the New Zealand Croquet Council and the United States Croquet Association (“the Governing Bodies”) to amend the format of the Competition for the Series to be held in the United States in 2003.

The 2003 Regulations deal with a Series involving four teams only. The second part of this document, the 2003 Arrangements, details the specific arrangements for the 2003 event.

Changes made from the 2000 Regulations mainly relate to dates, venues, times, personnel and order of play. Also some sections have been renumbered. Regulation 3 has been amended to include a more general statement about applicable regulations for refereeing and tournament management.

### **GENERAL**

#### **1. The Competition**

The Croquet World Series for the MacRobertson Shield (“the Trophy”) will be competed for by Association Croquet teams representing:

- (a) Australia;
- (b) Great Britain;
- (c) New Zealand; and
- (d) United States of America.

For the purposes of the competition, Great Britain is deemed to be one country and the Croquet Association is deemed to be the croquet governing body for that country. Other countries may apply to enter the competition and will be accepted on the unanimous agreement of the existing participants.

## **2. Amendments to these Regulations**

These Regulations may only be amended by the unanimous agreement of the Governing Bodies.

## **3. Applicable Laws and Regulations for Tournaments**

The Competition shall be held according to the current edition of the Laws of Association Croquet and the regulations on refereeing and the powers and duties of the Tournament Manager agreed by the participating countries. Disputes relating to the Laws and their interpretation shall be the subject of an appeal to the Tournament Referee only.

## **4. Venues and dates of forthcoming Series**

The venue and dates of the next Series and the venue and approximate dates of the following Series shall be agreed during the current Series after liaison with the World Croquet Federation. The interval between successive Series shall be at least three years and not more than four years.

## **5. Hosting of the Competition**

- (1) The competition shall be held in each of the countries set out in Regulation 1 in rotation and the relevant Governing Body shall be the Host for that Series.
- (2) The Host shall:
  - (a) determine the venues and dates for the Test Matches and allocate courts of a satisfactory standard;
  - (b) provide hoops with an internal width which is 1/16 inch wider than the diameter of the largest ball to be used on the relevant court with a downwards tolerance only of 1/32 inch;
  - (c) provide balls of satisfactory manufacture which have been agreed in advance with the other Governing Bodies;
  - (d) appoint a Tournament Manager for the competition and a Test Match Manager for each Test Match;
  - (e) appoint a Tournament Referee and Referees for each Test Match;
  - (f) appoint an Appeals Committee consisting of the Tournament Manager and one representative of each competing country which may be convened at the request of a team captain to adjudicate in disputes between two or more teams on all matters other than the Laws and their interpretation.

## **6. The Trophy**

- (1) The holders of the Trophy shall be responsible for its safe custody, transport to the venue of the next Series and delivery to the Host at the commencement of the Series.
- (2) The Host shall accept delivery of the Trophy from the holders at the start of the Series, display it at Test Match venues if practicable and deliver it to the winning team.

## **7. Player qualifications**

- (1) Each team shall consist of players duly qualified to represent their respective countries. A player is so qualified if:
  - (a) he was born within the jurisdiction of that country; or
  - (b) either of his natural or adoptive parents was born within the jurisdiction of that country; or
  - (c) he is a citizen of that country, is entitled to hold a passport issued by that country and has lived there for 36 consecutive months at some time; or
  - (d) he has been a permanent resident of that country for a period of 24 consecutive months immediately prior to the competition.
- (2) In (1)(c) and (d) above:
  - (a) residence solely for the purpose of education at a school, college or university shall not be included; and
  - (b) absences not exceeding 90 consecutive days relating to holidays, representative croquet tours or business shall not be taken into account.
- (3) A player who has represented a country in a 26-point Association Croquet event controlled by the World Croquet Federation and/or participating governing bodies may not represent another country for which he is qualified unless a period of 36 consecutive months has elapsed since his last appearance for the former country.

## **FORMAT**

### **8. Format of the series**

The Series shall consist of six Test Matches, each involving a different pair of teams, played in accordance with Regulation 15. Subject to Regulation 12, each team shall consist of six players.

## **9. Announcement of teams**

- (1) The names of the players, the singles orders of merit and the doubles pairings of the competing teams shall be submitted in writing by the respective captains to the Tournament Manager at a meeting arranged by the Host and held not later than 8:30 am on the first day of the Test Match.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, teams are permitted to change the singles order of merit to reflect current singles form and the doubles pairings between Test Matches.

## **10. Casualties**

- (1) A temporary casualty is defined as a player who is unable to begin a match when called upon to do so or who becomes unable to complete a match but is expected to recover quickly.
- (2) A permanent casualty is defined as a player who is unable to take any further part in a Test Match.

## **11. Temporary casualties**

- (1) If a team suffers a temporary casualty, the Tournament Manager shall have discretion to alter the order of play in order to complete the matches involving the casualty within the scheduled period of the Test Match.
- (2) If, at the end of the Test Match, a match involving the casualty remains outstanding and could affect the result of the Test Match, the Tournament Manager shall have discretion to direct that the match shall be played at the same venue on the following day or at a venue to be arranged by the Host on the day following the sixth Test Match.
- (3) If a temporary casualty is unable to resume play soon enough to ensure in the opinion of the Tournament Manager (in consultation with the relevant captains) that at least all but one of his matches can be completed in the scheduled period of the Test Match, he shall be deemed to be a permanent casualty and the provisions of Regulation 13 shall apply.

## **12. Permanent casualties before a Test Match**

- (1) If a team suffers one or more permanent casualties before the start of a Test Match, the Captain may elect to introduce one or more substitutes or to field a smaller team or to introduce one or more substitutes and field a smaller team. However, if a team is unable to field at least four players at the start of a Test Match, it shall concede the Test Match to the opposing team.
- (2) Any substitutes introduced after the teams have been announced in accordance with Regulation 9 shall be placed at the bottom of the singles order of merit but the doubles pairings may be changed.

- (3) If a team is reduced in accordance with (1) above, the opposing team shall be reduced to the same number of players.

### **13. Permanent casualties during a Test Match**

If a team suffers a permanent casualty after a Test Match has begun, any uncompleted match involving the casualty shall be conceded to the opposing team, the remaining matches involving the casualty shall be cancelled and the Test Match shall be deemed not to include the cancelled matches.

If such cancellation causes the number of matches in the Test Match to become an even number and the Test Match ends in a tie, the result of the Test Match shall be decided by a tie-break consisting of one doubles match, the result of which shall be taken into account for the purposes of Regulation 14 if necessary. Each captain shall nominate any two members of his team to contest the tie-break.

The Tournament Manager shall have discretion to alter the order of play to accommodate a play-off or to direct that it shall be held at the same venue on the day following the scheduled period of the Test Match or at a venue to be arranged by the Host on the day following the sixth Test Match.

## **Appendix I**

### **14. Determining the Winner**

- (1) The Trophy shall be won by the team which wins:
  - (a) three Test Matches; or
  - (b) two Test Matches and the highest percentage of matches won in the competition (if two or three teams win two Test Matches).
- (2) If two or three teams have won two Test Matches and the same percentage of matches won then the trophy shall be shared.

### **15. Order of play**

- (1) Subject to Regulation 12, each Test Match shall consist of nine doubles matches and twelve singles matches. A match is best of 3 advanced games with no time limits. These matches shall be played either:
  - (a) in six rounds over six consecutive days in which either of the following schedules may be used:
    - (1) the first, third and fifth rounds shall consist of three doubles matches and the second, fourth and sixth rounds shall consist of four singles matches.

- (2) The first, third and fifth rounds shall consist of four singles matches and the second, fourth and sixth rounds shall consist of three doubles matches.
- (b) in five rounds over five consecutive days in which either of the following schedules may be used:
- (1) the first, second and fourth rounds shall consist of three doubles matches and the third and fifth rounds shall consist of six singles matches.
- (2) The first, third and fifth rounds shall consist of three doubles matches and the second and fourth rounds shall consist of six singles matches.
- (2) If played in six rounds, the order of play shall be as follows:
- (a) For 15(1)(a)(1)
- |       |            |            |           |         |
|-------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| Rd.1: | AD1 v BD2, | AD2 v BD1, | AD3 v BD3 |         |
| Rd.2: | A1 v B2,   | A4 v B3,   | A5 v B6,  | A6 v B5 |
| Rd.3  | AD1 v BD1, | AD2 v BD3, | AD3 v BD2 |         |
| Rd.4  | A2 v B1,   | A3 v B4,   | A5 v B5,  | A6 v B6 |
| Rd.5  | AC1 v BD3, | AD2 v BD2, | AD3 v BD1 |         |
| Rd.6  | A1 v B1,   | A2 v B2,   | A3 v B3,  | A4 v B4 |
- (b) For 15(1)(a)(2)
- |       |            |            |           |         |
|-------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|
| Rd.1: | A1 v B2,   | A4 v B3,   | A5 v B6,  | A6 v B5 |
| Rd.2: | AD1 v BD2, | AD2 v BD1, | AD3 v BD3 |         |
| Rd.3  | A2 v B1,   | A3 v B4,   | A5 v B5,  | A6 v B6 |
| Rd.4  | AD1 v BD1, | AD2 v BD3, | AD3 v BD2 |         |
| Rd.5  | A1 v B1,   | A2 v B2,   | A3 v B3,  | A4 v B4 |
| Rd.6  | AD1 v BD3, | AD2 v BD2, | AD3 v BD1 |         |
- (3) If played in five rounds, the order of play shall be as follows:
- (a) For 15(1)(b)(1)
- |      |  |            |            |  |
|------|--|------------|------------|--|
| Rd.1 | AD1 v BD2,   | AD2 v BD1, | AD3 v BD3  |  |
| Rd.2 | AD1 v BD1,   | AD2 v BD3, | AD3 v BD2  |  |
| Rd.3 | A1 v B2, A2 v B1, A3 v B4, A4 v B3, A5 v B6, A6 v B5 |            |            |  |
| Rd.4 | AD1 v BD3,   | AD2 v BD2, | AD3 v BD1, |  |
| Rd.5 | A1 v B1, A2 v B2, A3 v B3, A4 v B4, A5 v B5, A6 v B6 |            |            |  |
- (b) For 15(1)(b)(2)
- |      |  |            |           |  |
|------|--|------------|-----------|--|
| Rd.1 | AD1 v BD2,   | AD2 v BD1, | AD3 v BD3 |  |
| Rd.2 | A1 v B2, A2 v B1, A3 v B4, A4 v B3, A5 v B6, A6 v B5 |            |           |  |
| Rd.3 | AD1 v BD1,   | AD2 v BD3, | AD3 v BD2 |  |
| Rd.4 | A1 v B1, A2 v B2, A3 v B3, A4 v B4, A5 v B5, A6 v B6 |            |           |  |
| Rd.5 | AD1 v BD3,   | AD2 v BD2, | AD3 v BD1 |  |

- (4) In (2) and (3) above, A1 to A6 and B1 to B6 represent the singles players of teams A and B in order of merit based on current singles form as announced in accordance with Regulation 9. AD1 to AD3 and BD1 to BD3 represent the doubles pairings of teams A and B without reference to an order of merit.

### **Appendix II:**

#### **16. Permanent casualties before a Test Match**

- (1) If a Test Match is contested by teams of five players, the order of play shall be as follows:

Rd1:	AD1 v BD1,	AD2 v BD2		
Rd2:	A3 v B4,	A4 v B3		
Rd3:	AD1 v BD2,	AD2 v BD1		
Rd4:	A1 v B2,	A2 v B1,	A5 v B5	
Rd5:	A1 v B1,	A2 v B2,	A3 v B3,	A4 v B4

- (2) If a Test Match is contested by teams of four players, the order of play shall be as follows:

Rd1:	AD1 v BD1,	AD2 v BD2		
Rd2:	A1 v B2,	A2 v B1,	A3 v B4,	A4 v B3
Rd3:	AD1 v BD2,	AD2 v BD1		
Rd4:	A1 v B1,	A2 v B2,	A3 v B3,	A4 v B4
Rd5:	tie-break of one doubles and two singles if required.			

## 2003 ARRANGEMENTS

Numerical section numbers and associated sub-numbers refer to the main part of the Regulations.

The teams are abbreviated as follows:

AU – Australia

GB – Great Britain

NZ – New Zealand

USA – United States of America

### 3. Applicable Laws and Regulations for Tournaments

The applicable Regulations for Tournaments shall be the following parts of the USCA Regulations for International Rules Tournaments:

- P 2 a. (Attire)
- TD (Tournament Director; substitute the phrase “Tournament Manager” for “Tournament Director”)
- R (Referees)

### 5. Hosting of the Competition

- (1) The 2003 Series will be played in the United States and hosted by the United States Croquet Association
- (2)
  - (a) The Series will be held at the National Croquet Center at 700 Florida Mango Road, West Palm Beach, Florida.
    - November 1-5 – USA vs. GB and AU vs. NZ
    - November 6-10 – USA vs. NZ and AU vs. GB
    - November 11-15 – USA vs. AU and NZ vs. GB
  - (c) Sunshiny balls will be used throughout the Series.
  - (d) Jeff Soo has been appointed Tournament Manager. He will also act as Test Match Manager for each Test Match.
  - (e) Rhys Thomas has been appointed as Referee for the Series. He will act as Tournament Referee at each Test Match.

### 9. Announcement of Teams

- (1) There will be a meeting the evening before the first day of each Test Match, at 6:00 pm at the National Croquet Center. Each team will submit the 6 singles players in order of merit (1-6) and 3 doubles pairs, designated 1, 2 and 3 (not necessarily in order of merit) in writing to the Tournament Manager at or before this meeting.

## 15. Order of Play

- (1) Format (b) shall be used for each Test Match. There will be one round of matches scheduled each day. All Test Matches will start with doubles in Round 1.
- (3) The order of play will be:
  - **November 1-5**  
GB vs. USA: schedule 1 (see Regulation 15(3)(a))  
NZ vs. AU: schedule 2 (see Regulation 15(3)(b))
  - **November 6-10**  
GB vs. AU: schedule 2 (see Regulation 15(3)(b))  
NZ vs. USA: schedule 1 (see Regulation 15(3)(a))
  - **November 11-15**  
GB vs. NZ: schedule 1 (see Regulation 15(3)(a))  
USA vs. AU: schedule 2 (see Regulation 15(3)(b))

The Lawn Allocations will be announced at a later date.

There will be a short management briefing on October 31st at 4.00 pm at the National Croquet Center. One or more representatives from each team are asked to attend.

### A. Times of Play and Meals

1. All matches will start at 9.00 am (except that the start may be delayed by a ceremony on the first day of each Test Match). Play will continue if necessary until dark (approximately 5.45 pm).
2. For each match, a one hour lunch break may be taken starting as follows:
  - no sooner than 11.30 am
  - no later than the end of the turn in progress at 1.00 pm
  - if a game finishes after 12.00 pm, then either player (or pair) may specify that the lunch break be taken then
  - Before the start of a turn after 12.30 pm the player (or pair) about to play may specify that the lunch break be taken then
  - Otherwise by mutual agreement

### B. Practice during a Test Match

There will be a 5 minute practice period starting at 8.55 am each day. During this time players may practice on their lawn using the 2 balls they will use in their first game. They may not run or attempt to run any hoops and may not shoot at the hoops or peg. Other practice (after play for instance) will be at the discretion of the Tournament Manager.

**C. Unfinished matches**

The Tournament Manager intends that all matches in the 2003 Series will be finished if reasonably possible. The following steps will be taken as necessary to ensure this:

- Unfinished matches will be continued at any opportunity on subsequent days (however, unfinished matches will not take precedence over scheduled matches)
- Players with an unfinished match must be prepared to resume the match when so directed by the Tournament Manager, including (if necessary for determining the outcome of the Series) the day following the sixth Test Match
- Matches may be resumed on different lawns (even if pegged down)
- Since all Test Matches are at one venue, unfinished matches from one Test Match may be finished during a subsequent Test Match

**D. Weather**

The Tournament Manager shall have discretion to halt play on any court at any time due to:

- (1) Lightning or other severe weather that may threaten the safety of players and/or spectators, or;
- (2) Standing water that impedes normal play.

If play is halted, players must remain on site and available to immediately resume play upon notification by the Tournament Manager. All balls and clips will remain in place on the court unless it is deemed by the Tournament Manager that the match(es) be pegged down.