

South African Croquet Association 2011

Since the World Golf Croquet Championship was held in Cape Town in 2008 the face of SACA has gradually changed. The Association now embraces 4 of the Provinces in South Africa – Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal, Eastern and Western Province – all of whom have representatives on the Executive Committee. The National Tournament which is run by SACA annually, moves each year to a different Club in the country. This has stimulated the game and raised the standard of play as well as encouraging development and growth in the host clubs. This year Port Alfred very successfully hosted the Nationals and both Association and Golf Croquet trophies were contested. Once again, after an absence of some years, Croquet was invited to be part of the SA Masters and this was also hosted by Port Alfred, Eastern Cape.

In the Western Cape great strides have been made towards the eventual setting up of a Youth League. Two Preparatory schools in Somerset West, Somerset House and Somerset College, and Western Province Preparatory in Cape Town, now offer Croquet on their curriculum.

Great interest in Golf Croquet has been expressed by 2 groups of enthusiastic players in Greyton and the seaside town of Hermanus where a Bed and Breakfast establishment wishes to offer games to their guests and possibly a special weekend of Croquet during the summer.

Gauteng is the centre of many of South Africa's new champions both national and international, Victor Dladla having played in the 2011 WCF Golf Championship and he has also been featured on CNN. The Country Club in Johannesburg continues to sponsor and encourage such enthusiastic players. Interest has also been expressed in setting up a new Croquet Club in Pretoria.

The relatively new SACA website continues to promote this previously unknown game throughout the country. There is now a manufacturer of Croquet equipment in South Africa who supplies an ever increasing interest and demand throughout the country, at private homes, hotels and lodges.

By way of welcoming and encouraging overseas visitors in 2012 a tour is being organised from Johannesburg and along the Garden Route to incorporate the Western Cape Association and Golf Croquet Tournaments in Somerset West and Cape Town followed by the Highlander in Port Alfred Eastern Province.

All information and details of up-coming tournaments are available on www.croquet.org.za