



# Busselton Croquet Club News

## Geographe Challenge - Busselton Vs Dunsborough - Doubles

The event got underway in ideal conditions, with Geoff, in sly good humour, displaying the shield and Brian reciprocating in kind, so we all looked forward to a convivial afternoon. Last minute selection changes for Busselton saw Kim replacing Steve after Steve injured himself playing croquet, something involving the ground, his mallet and his pectoral muscle. At this point the odds shifted.

First two games saw results almost dead level. Ellen and Jan, Trevor and Henry had both lost their games, while Kim and Barry had won theirs. Allan and Vicki had one of each. So, Dunsborough 5 games to Busselton's 3. Dunsborough were also leading Busselton by a comfortable 38 hoops to 29.

Brian was imagining Dunsborough's grip on the shield. Geoff was worried. Time for afternoon tea and a serious rethink. We enjoyed the usual top quality afternoon tea with all Busselton players contributing and Jill Hufton supervising and serving us all. Thanks Jill.

After tea was a different story. Ellen and Jan continued to miss out, but improved against Dunsborough's strongest pairs and should feel pleased with their day. The other three Busselton pairs won convincingly, allowing us to come from behind and retain the **Geographe Challenge Shield**, nine games to seven. Busselton scored 76 hoops to Dunsborough's 72 - not exactly a comfortable margin. In fact there was tension and cheering for every shot as the final game finished in front of the clubhouse. We, (Henry and I) were battling Allan and Derek at hoop 10. Time was up and spectators assumed that the score was 5—4, with the Dunsborough pair likely to force a tie. Why they should have assumed that was unclear. Henry and I knew we couldn't be beaten, but the spectator involvement was great.

And as the sun sank slowly in the west, as they used to say in the movies, both teams gathered for a final photo and shared a few reminiscences of the day's play, along with thanks to our sponsors, **Cape Naturaliste Wines** for the wines we enjoyed.

One of the most unusual concerned your correspondent who committed a foul stroke in his game against Richard and Anthony. Having run hoop five he was trying to clear white, who was poised outside hoop six. He was close to pink who was slightly behind and to the left of brown. The target was clear and pink did not pose a problem—just a distraction. Head down, shoot at white and, bingo, cleared it behind hoop six.

"You hit pink. It moved," called Richard and Anthony.

"But I hit my target, I didn't feel anything."

"No pink definitely moved."

"OK, I accept what you say. I guess I must have brushed it with the side of my mallet. Didn't feel anything."

Brown returned to its point of disgrace. White ran the hoop and we moved on to seven.

"A learning experience," as Kim observed. Indeed!



**Geographe Challenge Doubles September 23rd 2023**

**All who Played Plus Geoff and Brian**



**The Winning Team**

**Trevor, Henry, Allan, Kim, Vicki, Barry, Ellen, Jan**

Dunsborough	Geographe	Challenge BSN Score Shown 1st	September	2023	Totals Wins/Losses Games BSN Red	Totals Wins/Losses Hoops
	Vicki & Allan	Kim & Barry	Ellen & Jan	Trevor & Henry		
Richard & Anthony		7 - 2	5 - 6			
Wendy & Karen	3 - 6			3 - 4		
John & Odette	6 - 5			3 - 6		
Allan & Derek		7 - 2	2 - 7			
					Before Tea	
					3 - 5	29 / 38
Richard & Anthony	7 - 4			5 - 3		
Wendy & Karen		7 - 2	3 - 7			
John & Odette		7 - 4	4 - 7			
Allan & Derek	7 - 4			7 - 3		
					After Tea	
<b>Totals: BSN in Red</b>					6 - 2	47 / 34
<b>Grand Totals</b>					9 - 7	76 / 72