

REPORT - C.Q. GATEBALL TOURNAMENT ROCKHAMPTON 31 May/1 June 2008

The rain was badly needed but not on our Gateball Tournament weekend. However, we played on through prolonged showers with only one break of about an hour and a half mid-morning on Saturday.

There were six teams competing in the teams event, two from Caloundra, one from Ipswich and three from our own club. An apology was received from Mcillwraith Club. We also had two players from Brunswick Malletsports Club in Victoria, Chris Langford and Sue Leitinger played with Rockhampton teams, Sue with Barras and Chris with Gold. We were fortunate to have a visit from Croquet Qld. President Liz Fleming for the weekend, she also visited Yeppoon and Gracemere Clubs courtesy of George Budd and Janette Muscat. Director of Gateball Qld., Bruce McAlister also visited on his way to and from Mackay. The teams event was won by Caloundra One with Rockhampton Gold runners/up. (May Feddersen, Margaret Gall, Joy Lee, Gabriella Dargel, Allaina Dargel, George Budd and Chris Langford). The doubles event was won by Les Smedley and Trish Williams with runners/up Coral Schinkler and Glenda Windust all of Caloundra.

The lawns stood up very well to a weekend of constant use and drizzling rain. A different system of catering proved popular and allowed members to enjoy competition, although the management of a total of 69 games over two days in persistent rain was a major feat of organisation with the last game on Saturday finishing in the almost dark. The Saturday night Barbecue was postponed until Sunday night because of the rain and this was followed by the Presentation of Trophies and Medals by Liz Fleming. The raffle, a painting of the Blue Mountains by Nan Green of Gracemere was won by Margaret Gall and second prize of a bottle of wine was won by Ron Stokes of Ipswich.

Overall the weekend was a success despite the weather, but with the increased popularity of gateball, especially doubles, a close look will need to be kept on the organisation of future tournaments.

May Feddersen

Secretary Rockhampton Mallet Sports Club Inc.