

THE 2010 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

22 December 2009

Dear WCF Member Association President or equivalent officer,

Invitation to all WCF member associations except the ACA, CA, CNZ and USCA.

On behalf of the World Croquet Federation and the Croquet Association, I have great pleasure in inviting your Association to send a team to compete in an expanded World Team Championship ("WTC") which will be held in England in August 2010.

The WTC is now divided into three tiers. The MacRobertson Shield forms Tier 1 and will be competed for by Australia, Great Britain, New Zealand and the USA. This will begin on 6 August and end at Surbiton Croquet Club in south-west London on Sunday 22 August. Tiers 2 and 3 have been designed to offer different formats to cater for different levels of experience among member Associations.

If there are sufficient entries, Tier 2 will be divided into upper and lower divisions. Each division will consist of four teams and will be played over six days. The teams will consist of four players and will play three two day Test Matches against each other on an all-play-all basis. Each Test Match will consist of four best-of-three singles matches and two best-of-three doubles matches. If the score is 3-3, there will be a tie breaker consisting of two single games of singles and one game of doubles. If there is one division, it will be held at the Hurlingham Club in south-west London. If there is a second division, the upper division will be held at the Hurlingham Club and the lower division will be held at the Compton Croquet Club in Eastbourne, East Sussex.

Tier 3 will consist of a single division for all the other entrants and will be played over four days. The exact format will be decided once the number of entries is known but it will be based on matches between teams containing single games of doubles and singles. Tier 3 will be held at the Sussex County Croquet Club in Southwick, West Sussex.

Tiers 2 and 3 will end on Saturday, 21 August in order to allow competitors to take part in a combined closing ceremony for everyone involved in the WTC after play has ended in the MacRobertson Shield at Surbiton on Sunday, 22 August. This will be held at the All-England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club and further details will be provided in due course.

The attached schedule sets out full details of the Tier 2 and 3 arrangements.

On behalf of the WTC Organising Committee, I hope very much that your Association will wish to take part in the first Association Croquet team competition open to all WCF member Associations. One of the key objectives of the World Croquet Federation is to promote the development of croquet internationally and one of the ways in which this is sought is by ensuring that every member Association can send at least one representative to each individual World Championship. The World Team Championship offers the opportunity to send four players to what we believe will be an excellent international event.

An entry form is enclosed on which you can choose to enter your team in Tier 2 only, in Tier 3 only or in either tier. It would be greatly appreciated if you could reply as soon as possible by scanning the signed and completed form and e-mailing it no later than 31 January 2010 to me at snmulliner@googlemail.com with a copy to Brian Storey, the WCF Secretary-General, at bjstorey@btinternet.com. Please note that entries will only be accepted on the basis that the arrangements for the 2010 WTC which allow entries from Jersey, Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales do not set a precedent for future holdings of the WTC.

The number of divisions in Tier 2 will be announced no later than 28 February 2010. You will be asked to announce the names of your intended team members by 31 March 2010. The allocation of teams to Tiers 2 and 3 will be announced no later than 15 April 2010 and you will then be asked to pay the relevant entry fee, namely £150 for Tier 2 and £100 for Tier 3. Once paid, an entry fee will not be refunded if a team withdraws.

Yours faithfully,

Stephen Mulliner
Chairman, World Team Championship Organising Committee

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TIER 2 COMPETITION DETAILS

Division 1

Venue	The Hurlingham Club Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3PR
Dates	Monday 16 August – Saturday 21 August 2010
Lawns	4
Teams	4 teams with 4 players per team
Format	All-play-all, 2 day Test Matches comprising best of 3 singles and doubles

(a) Time of play
Play will begin at 10 a.m. on each day and potentially continue until dusk.

(b) Lawns and equipment
The front four lawns will be used. Dawson 2000 balls will be used and hoops will be set in accordance with WCF Sports Regulation 14.2 (largest ball plus 1/32 inch or 0.8mm).

(c) Catering
Players will be able to use the club restaurant and bar facilities.

(d) Entry fee: £150 per team

Division 2

Venue	Compton Croquet Club The Saffrons, Compton Place Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 1EA
Dates	Monday 16 August – Saturday 21 August 2010
Lawns	4
Teams	4 teams with 4 players per team
Format	All-play-all, 2 day Test Matches comprising best of 3 singles and doubles

(a) Time of play
Play will begin at 9.30 a.m. on each day and potentially continue until dusk.

(b) Lawns and equipment
Dawson 2000 balls will be used and hoops will be set in accordance with WCF Sports Regulation 14.2 (largest ball plus 1/32 inch or 0.8mm).

(c) Catering
Players will be provided with meals and refreshments, including a bar, at the club at normal club prices.

(d) Entry fee: £150 per team

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TIER 3 COMPETITION DETAILS

Venue: **Sussex County Croquet Club**
Victoria Road, Southwick, West Sussex BN42 4DJ

Dates Wednesday 18 August – Saturday 21 August 2010

Lawns up to 10

Teams up to 10 teams with 4 players per team

Format To be decided once the number of entries is known but it will be based on single games of doubles and singles.

(a) Time of play

Play will begin at 9.30 a.m. on each day and potentially continue until dusk.

(b) Lawns and equipment

Dawson 2000 balls will be used and hoops will be set in accordance with WCF Sports Regulation 14.2 (largest ball plus 1/32 inch or 0.8mm).

(c) Catering

Players will be provided with meals and refreshments, including a bar, at the club at normal club prices.

(d) Entry fee: £100 per team

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ENTRY FORM

WCF Member Association: _____

The above-stated Member Association wishes to enter a team in the World Team Championship to be held in August 2010.

Tier preference: Either tier / Tier 2 only / Tier 3 only

(please delete those which do not apply)

Please note that, if Tier 2 is over-subscribed, teams willing to play in either tier will be allocated to either Tier 2 or Tier 3 according to their average strength as decided by the WTC Organising Committee in April 2010 using the latest international croquet rankings. In this case, a team that enters Tier 2 only could have its entry rejected if sufficient stronger entries are received.

Please note that the arrangements for 2010 which allow entries from Jersey, Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales (in the circumstances set out by the WCF on their web-site) are not to be treated as setting a precedent for future holdings of the WTC. The submission of an entry using this form is deemed to represent acceptance of this condition.

Name of WCF member Association:

Signed:

Name:

Position:
