

# PHYLLIS COURT CROQUET

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## Croquet Association Diploma Award *~ for Services to Croquet ~*

Phyllis Court's Frances Colman was recognized by the Croquet Association for 'Services to Croquet'  
She was presented with the following citations by CA President Quiller Barrett  
at the CA's AGM at The Hurlingham Club on 21 October 2017.



Frances Colman

Frances Colman has been at the heart of the Phyllis Court Croquet Club for the last nine years, during which time the club has transformed from a generally social croquet only club into one where a competitive element now runs through all levels of ability.

Frances' potential as a croquet organiser was spotted quickly and she was invited to serve on the Club's committee in only her second year in the sport, willingly accepting the Golf Croquet brief.

She has organised beginners training that has seen over half the Club's current 150-strong membership pass through introductory classes.

She quickly introduced GC handicaps for all members where previously there had been none and this then allowed competitive play in ability-based classes to be brought in.

By the start of her second year in the post, the number of season-long competitions had doubled, the first Singles play one-day tournament had been introduced, and, thanks to Frances' encouragement and enthusiasm for competitive play, members flocked to fill everything new that was offered.

More events have been added each year, including inventive ones like an Over-80s Day and the four-yearly Phyllis Court Olympics, where national colours are worn, flags surround the courts and of course medals are presented.

Under Frances' stewardship, competitive GC has blossomed, producing regular CA tournament circuit players and Club teams that have reached Inter-Club competition semi-finals, and a final in which she captained the team.

Frances' work has not stopped at her club, for she sits on the committee of the Southern Croquet Federation, as the representative of the SCF on the CA Council, as Federation AC Handicapper, and she has the big job of GC Leagues Manager, where she has overseen the growth in events from one relatively poorly supported doubles-only league to three competitions boasting 30 entries.

Frances is a CA qualified coach at GC and AC, Championship Referee at GC, Assistant Referee at AC and an experienced tournament manager of Club, Federation and CA events.

It is, however, for her work at her club, Phyllis Court, that Frances Colman is nominated for this CA Diploma, timed as it is to mark with much thanks her first ten years in croquet.