



2022 Survey of Croquet Players

Frequently Asked Questions

We have grouped the FAQ into themes below:

Purpose

- **What is the purpose of this survey and why are you holding it now?**

A survey of croquet players has been held every 5 years since 2002, so this will be the 5th survey. It is a particularly opportune moment because many new people have been attracted to our sport during the pandemic. The aims have gradually changed from a straight-forward 'profiling for marketing purposes' in the very first one, to gaining more and more understanding of our players so that policy, direction and recruitment can be tailored accordingly.

- **I have only just started playing so is there any point in me completing the survey?**

Yes!

You are seeing the sport with fresh eyes. If you like what you see you will probably continue playing but if you don't then we will lose you. Retaining and developing beginners is essential for the future of the sport so your input to this survey is very important.

- **Why is the CA including croquet players who aren't members of CA affiliated clubs?**

It is estimated that there are about 10,000 people who play croquet in the UK who are not members of clubs. We know almost nothing about them and yet they are enjoying the same sport as us. We would like to know if their reasons for playing and needs are the same as affiliated club members, or do they have very different requirements?

- **Why does the CA need to know about my protected characteristics?**

Equality, diversity and inclusivity are very important in all sports. No group should be unable to participate or discriminated against because of a particular personal attribute such as age, disability,

sex, gender, marriage, pregnancy, race, religion and sexual orientation. These attributes are known as 'protected characteristics'. At present we have almost no statistical information to help guide future policies or to ensure we are not inadvertently discriminating. The governance of some sports has come into serious question in recent years so we have to recognise that 'not knowing' is not an excuse for doing nothing.

- **What does LGBTQ+ mean?**

LGBT stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning (or Queer). The + stands for a variety of other less commonly used terms such as asexual, pangender etc.

- **Why are you asking CA members if age, gender and ethnicity can be collected in future, when you have these questions in this survey?**

The answers you provide in this survey are anonymous so cannot be linked to you. They will provide a snapshot in time of the sample of people who complete the survey. However, for the reasons given in the previous questions, we need basic statistical information of all our members that we do not currently hold.

The CA database is set up so there are different levels of visibility. This information would be held under the tightest security level which means it would only be visible to you and to the data controller. Anyone else within the CA would only be supplied with statistical analysis.

- **Some of the questions have nothing to do with croquet – why is that?**

Understanding who plays croquet and what their background, other interests and requirements are, is critical information when planning development, recruitment and marketing strategies. This is known as 'profiling'. Remember the information cannot be linked to you as an individual but it could provide the background statistics that grant providers, sponsors, advertisers or partners, at both local level and at national level, would want to know.

- **The survey is quite long - couldn't you have made it shorter?**

The survey is longer this year than it has been previously. This is because the data collected will help in the design of all aspects of future policy. Previously it has been largely for marketing purposes. It will take most people about 25 minutes to complete, although some people may find it takes them longer. Remember this is only 25 minutes of your time once every 5 years!

- **Some of the questions ask for personal information that I do not want to give.**

We are committed to widening the appeal of croquet, which is essential for it to thrive. We therefore need to find out more about existing croquet players. Most, but not all, of the questions in the 'About You' section either have a 'prefer not to say' option or the question is not mandatory. By answering these questions though you will be providing really helpful information. Remember, all the answers are anonymous so they cannot be traced back to you.

- **Why does the first question ask if I am under 18?**

Under 18s are directed to different questions in the survey. Please do NOT answer this section if you are over 18 since your responses will obscure the responses from those who are genuinely under 18.

Data Privacy

- **I can see my email address on the form but the data is supposed to be anonymous. Why?**

This survey is being conducted using Google forms. If you have a Google account it automatically recognises that on your computer and puts your Gmail address at the top of the survey. This is only visible to you and is NOT included with your answers when they are submitted. One advantage if you do see your Gmail address is that you can stop filling in the survey at any point and, when you come back to it, all your previous answers will have been saved so you can continue where you left off. If you do not see an email address then you must complete the survey in one sitting.

- **Can I be identified after I press “submit”?**

No

- **Can my answers be linked to my club?**

No. Even if you are from a very small club all the responses are handled together for statistical analysis so your answers will not be identifiable.

- **After the analysis of all the data, what will happen to the individual responses?**

The individual responses will be anonymised before analysis i.e. the final section where you may have given your email address or nominated a club will be stripped out. This will all be completed within 3 weeks of the survey closing. Once that has been done, it will not be possible to link any response to the individual croquet player. GDPR rules permit the anonymised data to be retained for re-analysis in the future.

Prize Draw

- **If I give my email address to enter the prize draw, how will that be kept separate from my answers?**

The prize draw is a separate section of the survey and this will be stripped out before everything else is sent for analysis. There will be no way to connect the parts together.

- **Can I nominate a club that is not affiliated to the CA?**

Yes, but it must be a croquet (or predominantly croquet) club and you will have to give a contact email address because we won't have any contact details.

- **How will the winners be drawn?**

A number will be assigned to each completed response in the order received. A random number generator will be used to pick four numbers. Winners will be notified by email, if they have given their own email address, or club secretaries will be notified if the winners nominate a club. The winners will be announced on the CA website.

Survey results

- **When will the results be available and what form will this take?**

The initial results, which will be a simple analysis of each question will be available a month after the survey closes. A more detailed analysis and report will be ready by the end of the 2022 playing season.

- **How will the CA share the results of the survey, and with whom will this be shared?**

The results will be publicly available via the CA website. Some aspects of the survey may be of particular interest to clubs and Federations and there will be an opportunity for them to receive tailored statistical analysis, so long as the number of participants is large enough that individual responses cannot be worked out.

- **Where can I find the results of previous surveys?**

The previous 4 surveys (2002, 2007, 2012 and 2017) can be found on the CA website by clicking on this link [Croquet Player Surveys](#)