
Willy Silk



Willy was born in the Netherlands, and her family migrated to Australia in 1956. They lived in Melbourne for ten years, then moved to Brisbane. Willy was educated at St Rita's College and after her senior year, having had enough of studying, went to work in an office. She has been married to Jim for over 53 years, and they have four sons, three granddaughters and one grandson.

Willy joined Windsor Croquet Club in 1993 and reports that, after six months, she almost gave it up! There was no Golf Croquet then, so like many players, started her croquet journey with Association. At Windsor, she has been appointed to the positions of Club Captain, President and Secretary, and has been an Association Referee since 1998. She was appointed as a Senior AC Referee in 2018 and is a Level 3 Association Coach.

Willy has made a huge contribution volunteering at CAQ. Among her roles, she has been secretary to the Events Committee, BNR delegate to CAQ, secretary for BNR and Windsor's delegate to BNR.

Most recently, she volunteered as State secretary for 3 years, State coaching coordinator for 3 years, and is currently the State Association Code Coordinator.

Willy has enjoyed much success playing in Association and Golf Croquet tournaments at the local, regional and state level.

Among her achievements:

1995 - CAQ Association Doubles (10.5 to 20) Runner-up

1995 - CAQ Association Singles (10.5 to 15) Runner-up

1995 - CAQ Handicap Singles (10.5 to 15) Runner-up

1996 - CAQ Division 3 Association Medal Winner. * *

1996 - Eildon Tournament Division 2 Singles Runner-up

1997 - Sunshine Coast Ladies Event Runner-up

1997 - CAQ Singles (5.5 to 10) Runner-up

1998 - Gold Coast Division Singles Runner-up

1998 - Graceville Doubles (0- 10) Winner **

1998 - CAQ Open Doubles Winner**

1998 - CAQ Handicap Doubles Runner-up

1998 - CAQ Singles (5.5 to 10) Runner-up

2000 - Gold Coast Ladies Runner-up

2000 - CAQ Handicap Singles Runner-up

2001 - CAQ Doubles Open Runner-up

2001 - Darling Downs Doubles Runner-up

2001 - Gold Coast Doubles Open Winner **

2002 - Darling Downs Doubles Runner-up

2002 - CAQ Silver Medal Winner **

2004 - CAQ Ladies Singles Div 1 and 2 Winner **

2004 - CAQ Doubles Open Runner-up

2006 - Gold Coast Ladies Open Winner **

2006 - CAQ Open Singles Plate Runner-up

2007 - CAQ Golf Doubles Runner-up

Between 2008 and 2017 she played in many CAQ events and reached the final 8, but never quite got beyond that point. Since then, she has improved her game and enjoyed significant success, including:

2018 - CAQ Women's Singles Winner**

2018 - CAQ Open Doubles Winner**

In 2000 Willy was selected to represent Queensland in the Canberra Open and was selected to the National Development Squad for 2023-24.

Since 2001 she has been a member of the Queensland State Association Team - 16 times as a player, 3 times as a reserve and 3 times as Captain. In 2010 she was a player for the Queensland Golf Croquet team. She won the Queensland Player of the Series for Association in 2012 and 2018, and for Golf in 2010.

At Windsor Club, Willy has won the 2003 Association Doubles, 2007 Doubles, 1998 Div 2 Singles, 1997 Open Championship, 1995 Hilda Jolly, 1996 Hilda Jolly, 1995 Div 4 Singles, 2009 Doubles, 2016 Open Association Championship and Golf Championship, and the 2017 Open Association Championship. Over the several decades of competing, she has also enjoyed success as runner-up in many events.

Willy was awarded life membership of the Windsor Croquet Club in 2023. Says Windsor “Willy Silk’s croquet career is a testimony to someone who thrives by giving 100% and more. This is whether she is playing both golf and association croquet exceptionally well, by winning and bring runner-up at many tournaments; or by coaching with a very high level of qualification so others can benefit, or by giving back to the organisation by taking on roles in its administration allowing the game to continue to prosper” – 28 Nov. 2023

Willy continues to make a great contribution to the sport, at club and state level, both as a high-achieving player, and as a volunteer, working diligently behind the scenes to share the expertise, knowledge and experience that she has gained since first taking up a mallet in 1993.



Manager, 2024 State Association Team