



Did You Know?



Proposed & Discontinued ANCC Activities

At the Board of Governors meeting of March 22, 2018, the Finance Committee Chairman reported “that a proposal for **platform tennis** was out because there was no money and no place to put the courts.” Over the years several activity proposals have been considered only to fail to gain acceptance. In two cases the activity was initiated only to be disestablished.

When the Army, Navy and Marine Corps Country Club (the original name) was established in 1924, the primary activities envisioned were golf, tennis, swimming and **polo**. In July 1928 the Club was interested in leasing property that was large enough for both a polo field and **steeplechase** course. Eventually the idea was dropped, probably the victim of limited space, the challenges of maintaining horses (i.e., stables), and the financial constraints brought on by the “Great Depression”.

In 1933 members were asked to subscribe to fund a **bowling** alley and **squash** courts. Despite the unanimous opposition of the Golf Committee, the motion passed. The proposal for bowling and squash reappeared at the 1935 annual membership meeting along with **handball**, but the proposals were apparently never implemented.

One activity that did take root was an ANCC **orchestra**. The Executive Committee minutes of August 22, 1934 comment on its “great improvement”, an improvement obviously insufficient to ensure its continued existence.

At the 1938 annual meeting a motion carried to forward to the Board of Governors a proposal to construct a **bridle** path around the grounds. Apparently, this proposal “rode off into the sunset”.

In 1943, in support of the war effort, the Grounds Committee established 30’ X 40’ plots across “the Club road from the No. 11 (now White #2) green” to serve as “**Victory Gardens**”. At the time there was no golf hole in this area as much of the property on that side of the Club road (today’s Memorial Drive) belonged to Charles St. Johns, not ANCC (ANCC acquired the property in 1952). This activity probably did not survive the end of WWII.

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In April of 1973 the Chairman of the Tennis Committee proposed introducing **paddle tennis** at ANCC in 1974. The proposal was referred to the House and Entertainment Committee where it apparently died.

Croquet was proposed three times, first by a member in 1989 and then by the Military Attaché and Commander British Army Staff in 1992 and 1993. The 1992 proposal called for the “leveling a croquet court in the vicinity of the Clubhouse”. The 1993 proposer even offered to provide the croquet playing equipment. The second British proposal led to a suggestion that “we might try to play once or twice this summer to see if there is sufficient interest. No funding will be permitted for leveling the area other than the normal mowing of the grass. The letter in response to his offer will be proposed and the point of contact for Army Navy will be the General Manager to work out the specifics of the play with the Attaché.”

In December 1993 the Planning committee was “asked to explore the feasibility of an **Ice Skating** Facility using the surface of one of the Tennis Courts”. As reported during the following month’s Planning Committee meeting, the \$350,000 price tag was considered too expensive.

That is quite a list. About the only “country club activities” for which a proposal could not be found were badminton, curling, and skeet shooting.

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