

NEWSLETTER

March 2022



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GC REFEREE PROTOCOLS FOR THE "NEW COVID-19 NORMAL"

As competitive play resumes, referees will continue to be there as a supportive resource for players. For the protection of everyone involved, some additional protocols will be implemented by referees. Referees will have Eyes and Mind on the play but Hands OFF! As far as possible, they will avoid any contact with equipment while play is in progress. Referees will remain accessible but seek to minimise their presence on the lawn and are very likely to wear a mask whenever they are active on the lawn. If the need arises, players will be expected to move balls and/or clips as directed by the referee. In addition, players should always carry markers with them and be ready to mark any ball they own if requested by the other game in double-banked play.

Lorraine Hatfield (CNSW GC Referee Coordinator)

2021 GC PENNANTS COMPETITIONS

Everything about these competitions was extraordinary!! Due to lockdowns imposed to curtail the spread of COVID-19, the Div2 and Div3 Pennants competitions turned out to be the longest in CNSW history - just a few days short of lasting a whole year!

19 teams from 15 clubs competed in Division 2 with teams from Nelson Bay Samurai, Mosman Blue, Sutherland and Canberra winning their respective zones and going on to compete in the Finals. 2021 was the first opportunity to play the Finals as a complete round robin of contests between the zone winners. The Finals for the 2021 competitions were originally scheduled for early February 2022 but had to be postponed by a couple of weeks because of the Omicron outbreak! They eventually started on that very special day - 22-2-22 - but play had to be abandoned very soon after lunch because of a torrential downpour that flooded the Tempe lawns! Play was resumed the next day with Bo3 matches shortened to 7 point games so that the draw could be completed in the planned timeframe. Canberra was undefeated in the Finals with Nelson Bay Samurai very close Runners-Up. In Division 3, 23 teams from 16 clubs competed in 4 zones for a place in the Finals. The zone winners for Division 3 were teams EDSACC Red, Chatswood, Marrickville and Canberra. These Finals were also completed in February 2022, but over 3 extremely hot and humid days. Both Canberra and Marrickville teams won 2 of their 3 finals contests but on a countback of matches won, Canberra club were the winners and Marrickville the Runners-Up. This was a great effort from Marrickville club, since 2020 was the first year ever that Marrickville had entered a team in a GC pennants competition and the competition in 2020 was cancelled because of the pandemic.

By contrast, the 2021 Division 1 GC pennants season was shortened (sigh!) so zone play could be squeezed into the small window between November 1, 2021 and lawn renovations over Christmas and January! 11 clubs competed in 4 zones with Maitland, Mosman, Canberra and Ballina Cherry St teams winning through to the Finals. The Finals were hosted in January by Toronto Club - another first - in a trend set to continue from 2022 onwards when all GC pennants Finals will be hosted in the regions on a rotating basis.

Sadly, at the very last minute, the Ballina team had to withdraw because they were forced into isolation as close contacts of someone who contracted COVID-19. The remaining three teams all won a contest each in the finals; they had all won 3 matches and lost 3 matches overall. Canberra had won 9 games out of 16, whereas Maitland and Mosman had each only won 7 games. So Canberra were the winners with Mosman the Runners-Up on a countback to net hoops!! 2021 - an unforgettable year of GC Pennants competitions, and we note that the Canberra wins in three divisions of Pennants is a first in the State.

Lorraine Hatfield (CNSW GC Pennants Manager)

Croquet NSW acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands of NSW on which we meet and enjoy croquet. We pay our respects to elders past and present and emerging

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Kate McLoughlin

Deputy Chair: Rik Mills

Treasurer: Steve Miles

Secretary: David Scott

Projects & Grants: Rosie Landrebe

Newsletter: Liz Friend

newsletter@croquet-nsw.org

Board member: Ray Chapman

Website: <https://croquet-nsw.org>

[Croquet NSW Facebook page](#)



MEMBER FORUM. The CNSW Board will hold a member forum, via Zoom, on Tuesday 26 April at 5.30pm. More details and the link in the April newsletter.

FROM THE BOARD

Preparations for The Eire Cup Tournament have been the focus over the past month, as we look forward to welcoming competitors to Sydney on Friday 11 March for the Australian Men's and Women's AC Singles Championships. Royal Sydney greenkeepers have 4 lawns available for play, and Chatswood, Cammeray and Warrawee are preparing to welcome players for practice on Friday and play on Saturday 12 March.

The CNSW grounds at Tempe have had serious work done by the Facilities Management Team: Steve Miles, Rosie Landrebe and Peter Landrebe. There are new plantings, gazebos erected, the clubhouse area has some new furniture and a cleanout. So, we are ready to welcome our visitors. You may just need to bring your gumboots!

Live-streaming video will be available for selected events from Royal Sydney Golf Club: notably the finals of the Men's and Women's on Tuesday 15 March and the final day of play between NSW and Victoria in the Eire Cup. More details will be available closer to the event on Facebook and the Croquet NSW website. Players for both events are listed on Croquetscores.

Spectators are welcome: note that Royal Sydney has a strict double vax policy and a dress code for the café area. For details ask a venue manager. All venues have a double vax policy, but welcome spectators, and food is available for purchase at all venues.

The Eire Cup Tournament Program is on the Croquet NSW website on the *News* page. Don't forget to book in to attend the dinner or to order a shirt. Links on CNSW website. David Stanton as Tournament Manager has done an outstanding job in making this event happen. Thank you, David.

The Australian Croquet Association AGM will be held on Saturday 19 March, 9 am at the Concordia Club. Most of the ACA Board is continuing, but Alison Sharpe, Mary Marsland and Bernie Pfitzner are not continuing. Max Kewish (WA) and Pat Habner (Qld) have nominated for election. Kate McLoughlin will be the CNSW Delegate at the meeting. A Forum will be held after the AGM at Concordia Club where all croquet club members are welcome.

Kate McLoughlin
Chair, Croquet NSW

CNSW TOURNAMENTS – VACCINATION REQUIRED

The Board has agreed that double-vaccination is to continue as a requirement for CNSW tournaments. The Board has foreshadowed looking at the use of Rapid Antigen Testing as a way of reducing the risk of members being exposed to COVID. In the interim, players are encouraged to consider undertaking their own testing as a precaution to protect others and themselves and certainly not attend any event if they feel unwell.

6th EDITION OF THE GC RULES

The WCF Council has approved the 6th Edition of the GC Rules. The ACA will now consider adoption for Australia. The rules can be found on the WCF website: <https://worldcroquet.org/croquet-information/golf-croquet/the-rules-of-golf-croquet/>

THE 2022 LISMORE FLOOD STORY

Lismore is a city in north-eastern NSW and home to around 29,000 urban dwellers. It sits in a low flood plain on the banks of the Wilsons River and has just experienced its most devastating flood since records commenced in 1870. The SES issued a Severe Weather Warning early morning on Saturday 26 February 2022. Torrential rain poured in Lismore and the surrounding catchment areas overnight on Saturday with flash flooding occurring early Sunday morning. The relentless rain continued and with the Wilsons River rapidly rising and at 9:50pm on Sunday 27 February, the SES ordered residents of the CBD and North & South Lismore to evacuate.

Most residents and business owners had experienced major flooding before with the last one being in 2017 so were busy moving what they could to higher ground, often to the second level of their home or business, but that wasn't high enough. Most thought they had time to prepare because the flood levee constructed in 2005 kept the water out of the CBD until the river height reached 10.6m. Again, not enough time as the levee was breached around 3am on Monday 28 February. With the CBD levee wall breached the CBD was inundated with water but it was not that deep. Some people chose to evacuate others decided to stay till morning. What a mistake that turned out to be with many trapped in ceiling cavities and on their roofs. The main roads become a river of water with boats rescuing stranded residents.

The Lismore Croquet clubhouse was covered with water and only a bit of its roof showing above the water level.

Businesses in the CBD had water to the ceiling which meant all stock was a soggy mess. Similarly, many houses were completely submerged, and all contents damaged or lost. Many properties require structural assessment to determine their habitability so it will be an anxious wait for the property owners.

This was the second major flood in Lismore in five years so one wonders whether some businesses can regroup or simply not re-open their doors.

The Lismore Croquet Club, like most businesses, is a dirty mess of mud from floor to ceiling. The two croquet lawns, like most of the town was, and still is in some cases, 10cm of slippery ground sludge that is as dark and thick as melted chocolate.

The SES and volunteers did a fantastic job in rescuing many hundreds of residents from their homes. Unfortunately, five people died during the floods but it could have been a lot worse.

The water level peaked at 14.4m, well above the 11.59m peak in the 2017 floods.

The massive clean-up has begun, and the Mud Army is out there ripping up furnishings, carrying out damaged floor coverings and stock and hosing off the mud. Everyone is pitching in to help including the police, ambulance, SES, units from the rural fire service and plenty of local and nearby residents.

It will be a long time before Lismore can return to its former glory, but the people of Lismore are resilient people and while it will take some time, there is no doubt that Lismore will rise again.

Sadly, another Northern Rivers clubhouse succumbed to flooding with the Casino Croquet Clubhouse being inundated with water for the first time in its 92-year history.

Ray Chapman & David Scott

Lismore



Lismore (cont)



Casino



SPORT NSW ADDENDUM FOR THE FEMALE LEADERSHIP SPONSORSHIPS PROGRAM

On 28 February the following programs were launched:

Sport NSW Female Leadership Sponsorships Program

Australian Institute of Directors Not-for-Profit Foundations Course

Chief Executive Women Leaders Program

Sport NSW Female Leadership Scholarship Program

Australian Institute of Directors Governance for Directors Course

Following feedback from our members, we are providing additional guidance on the eligibility criteria for both sponsorship programs. The Australian Institute of Directors Governance for Directors Course Scholarship criteria remains the same. The eligibility criteria now reads:

- . CEW Leaders Program applicants must have minimum 3 years leadership / management experience and be actively engaged on a board in the sports industry or currently permanently employed with an eligible organisation
- . AICD Not-for-Profit Foundations Course applicants must have minimum 3 years leadership / management experience and be actively engaged on a board in the sports industry or currently permanently employed with an eligible organisation
- . AICD Not-for-Profit Foundations Course applicants are no longer required to attach a CV

If you have any further questions regarding the Sport NSW Female Leadership Program, please do not hesitate to contact Libby Sadler, Strategic Project Manager libby.sadler@sportnsw.com.au

TEMPE LAWNS & GARDENS' RENOVATIONS

Croquet NSW Headquarters at Tempe has undergone extensive renovations which was managed by the Facilities Management Committee comprising Steve Miles (CNSW Board Member), Rosie Landrebe (CNSW Board Members) and Peter Landrebe. The work will be completed in time for the Eire Cup and other tournaments to be held at Tempe in the coming days. The following photos show the Committee's progress.



EIRE CUP 2022 (SYDNEY)



The NSW Team

(Back row) Jim Nicholls, Stephen Richards, Peter Landrebe (Vice Captain and Coach), Gareth Denyer, Tim Murphy, (Front row) Kate McLoughlin (reserve), Kerri-Ann Organ, Alison Sharpe, Di Scott, Rosemary Landrebe and Jean Pack.

The Victorian Team

The team is looking forward to the Eire Cup and the ACA Men's and Women's Singles Championships. Stephen Forster is team captain, with Tricia Devlin as vice-captain, and Lewis Mercer and Mignon Johnston are the non-travelling reserves.



(L:R) Kevin Beard, Stephen Forster (back), Chris Eiffert, Greg Hill (back) Lois Kirk, Tricia Devlin, Lewis Mercer (back), Elaine Coverdale, Chris Grant and Mignon Johnston.

The Queensland Team

Queensland is so much more than the "travelling team" as we have the support of so many other players in our preparation for the Eire Cup. Covid is still a factor as Jacky Lynch was in isolation due to an infected family member.



(L:R) Dave Luxmoore (Captain), Lindsay David, Hedi Trask, Rosemary Newsham (Reserve), Bruce Ford, Zach Kominar, Barbara Northcott (Reserve), Greg Kerswell, Kathie Grant (Manager), Heather Knight (Vice Captain), Wade Hart, Helen David, Greg Bury, Donna Manning, Ken Barker, Robert Smillie. Absent: Jacky Lynch, Don Close, George Oliver (Reserve)

The South Australian Team 2022 (no photo)

David Short, Mark Senior, Greg Rowberry (Captain), Barry Jennings, David Wise (reserve)
Robyn Short, Virginia Arney, Shirley Howlett (Vice-Captain), Sally Harper, Tracey Sincock

Tasmania – not playing due to covid travel restrictions

Peter Ross, Callum Hyland (Captain), Leigh Herrington, Tim Parker, Bob Beattie (Reserve),
Sue Beattie (Vice Capt), Elaine Hazell, Sue Pearson, Doreen Briant, Heather Lovell.

Western Australia – not playing due to covid travel restrictions

Jeff Newcombe. Ian Dumergue, Eric Ayling, Alan Sands (Captain), Tim Barks (Reserve)
Dorothy Bull, Megan Fardon, Jennifer Brand.

WANTED - CLUBS TO HOST CNSW EVENTS 2022

GC Gold Brooch Doubles (Handicap 0-4 & 5-9) 15-17 August

AC Gold Brooch Singles (Handicap 3-6) 29-31 August

AC Silver Brooch Singles (Handicap 7-10) 5-7 September

(NB. to ensure sufficient entries, it would be preferred if the AC events were hosted in or around the Sydney Metro Area)

Please email your Club's interest to host an event to: tournaments@croquet-nsw.org

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Jamberoo Croquet Club who will host the Division 3 Pennants finals in May.

Is your club interested in hosting the GC Division 1 Pennants Finals?

Entries close for the Division 1 competition on 1 September 2022.

CNSW AC BRONZE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Killara Croquet Club will be hosting this event, 11-14 April, for handicaps 14-20, 18 point games. Entries close 1 April. Flyer attached. To register, go to [Events](#) on the CNSW website.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

Australian men's and ladies AC championships begin at croquet clubs around Sydney, 12-15 March with finals to be played at Royal Sydney Croquet Club on Tuesday 15 March.

Three days of Ricochet at Sawtell 18-20 March

NSW Open Men's GC Singles, 25-27 March, Tempe. Entries close 18 March

NSW Open Women's GC Singles, 8-10 April, Canberra. Entries close 31 March Flyer attached

AC Men's Singles Championship 29 April – 1 May. Entries close 22 April

Gold Coast Tweed (AC) Tournament 2-10 July

Eva Short Memorial Trophy (AC) 16-17 July

Win Dickinson Memorial Trophy (AC) 16-17 July

[Check out the Events tab on the CNSW website.](#)

WINNERS are GRINNERS

Results of recent CNSW events:

The new Ricochet Trophies were presented to the 2021 winners: the Margaret-Rose Thompson Trophy for Singles was presented to Ray Chapman (Cherry Street Ballina) and the Margaret Sawers Trophy for Doubles was presented to Peter Deeth and Wayne Gadke (Coutts Crossing), shown here with Richard Hughes, the Ricochet Development Officer.



(left)
Ray Chapman with
Richard Hughes

(right)
Peter Deeth and
Wayne Gadke with
Richard Hughes



GATEBALL TRIPLES CHAMPIONSHIPS, CANBERRA



(L:R) Pamela Hunt, Judy Tier, Glen Whitehead (C), Craig Oxley

The Canberra Croquet Club (CCC) hosted the inaugural 2022 Gateball Triples Championships on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 February.

More than 50 competitors in twelve teams entered for the title of Canberra Triples Gateball Champion. Players from Queensland, Victoria and NSW joined Canberra players for the first GB event in 2022. Queensland players came from Bribie Island, Eildon and Southport and NSW teams included Twin Cities in Albury (including a Victorian), Strathfield, Toronto and Hazelbrook.

As Coordinator of GB at CCC and the ACT & NSW, Judy Tier welcomed all players and reminded participants that for many our last Triples tournament was probably several years ago at Jamberoo CC. Judy also noted that at least 50% of players were attending their first Triples tournament with many new players being initiated into their first GB tournament.

Special thanks were given to the Tournament managers– Margot and Andrew Davies – and the many CCC volunteers who ensured each day flowed smoothly. There are so many people involved in running a GB tournament but fortunately the very timed nature of our games does allow for precision timing throughout the weekend.

It was great to have Bruce McAlister, Director of refereeing for Gateball Australia, to identify referee training needs. He gave valuable feedback to all referees and trainees and was generally pleased with standards. Glen Whitehead, tournament referee, explained the relational form of Triples play and the tournament structure.

On Saturday the two qualifying blocks played a round robin with each team playing 5 games. The first and second placed teams from each block progressed to Yellow block. The third and fourth placed teams progressed to Green block and fifth and sixth to Red block. The classification blocks were round robin with each team playing 3 games. The first and second placed teams from Yellow block played in a final to determine the Championship winners.

The Triples Gateball Championship trophy, complete with handmade gateball stick, was awarded to Kristina Whitehead, Captain of the Canberra 3PK team and Peter Wood and Peter Freer. Runners-up badges were awarded to Glen Whitehead, Captain of Canberra Djara team and Craig Oxley, Pamela Hunt and Judy Tier. Canberra North finished third with Lake Mac (Newcastle) fourth overall. Southport won the Green block with 3 wins and two + two (Canberra) won the Red block by 2 net hoops from Murray Mayhem (Twin Cities).

Players gave very positive feedback on the draw format with the Sunday three-block format allowing teams to compete against their peers and register wins.

Judy Tier

Gateball Coordinator (ACT & NSW)



(L:R) Peter Wood, Kristina Whitehead (C), Peter Freer

BOOKING A LAWN AT TEMPE

<https://cooksrivercroquetclub.com/>