

NEWSLETTER

July 2022



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TORONTO CROQUET CLUB HUB ACTIVITIES

The aim of the CNSW Hub Project is to:

“Promote and develop the participation and enjoyment of the mallet sports codes of Association Croquet, Golf Croquet, Gateball and Ricochet...” (CNSW Club Hub Document). There are five Club Hubs in NSW.

The Toronto Hub has developed a calendar of activities, which will endeavour to work towards fulfilling this aim. This will only be achieved if all Hub committees pass on the information sent to them, to allow people to choose what they would like to try. Some activities will be targeted towards certain groups, while others will be open to all, who wish to participate.

So far, Toronto Croquet Club has had an *Introduction to Golf Croquet* , with a U3A group. This group enjoyed their time and coped with a cancellation due to wet lawns, by playing with indoor Gateball equipment on an asphalt netball court to avoid another cancellation, travelling to Mt Sugarloaf Croquet Club to play on dry lawns, and eventually managed three sessions on Toronto courts. Some of these people have indicated an interest in joining to play croquet.

On 21 June a group of four players from Nelson Bay Croquet Club came to our Come & Try Gateball day. While it would have been great to have had more “triers,” these people enjoyed their introduction to Gateball and have expressed an interest in a follow up day.

There are further Come & Try days for Association and Ricochet planned for July, as well as Come & Try Golf Croquet for the local community.

CNSW will provide appropriately experienced trainers and coaches to deliver workshops in such areas as governance, marketing, and applying for grants to name a few . Once the dates are set for these workshops, information will be forwarded to clubs in the Hub area to enable them to join any that are of interest to them.

Toronto Croquet Club believes this is a great initiative and one that can work to promote and grow the sport of croquet.



Marion Davies
Toronto Croquet Club

If your Club would like to share its interesting stories, please email newsletter@croquet-nsw.org for publishing.

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](#)

FROM THE BOARD

CROQUET NSW FORUM

All players are invited to attend the Croquet NSW Forum to be held 5.30–6.30pm, Tuesday 26 July, via ZOOM. The Forum will include a focus on the Club Hubs, which are getting underway with their programs. This will be an opportunity for CNSW Clubs and their members to hear from, and ask questions of, the CNSW Board. If you have any specific issues that you would like the Board to address at the Forum please provide a brief paper outlining the issue(s) to secretary@croquet-nsw.org by 18 July 2022. The ZOOM meeting link and Agenda will be sent to Club Secretaries around 22 July 2022.

FINANCIAL YEAR PROPOSAL

Clubs are voting on a proposal from CNSW for a change in the financial year from a July-June year to a calendar year. Why the change?

The main financial business of CNSW is paying affiliation fees to Croquet Australia, running CNSW tournaments and supporting the development of croquet through coach and development programs. All of these activities are run on a calendar year basis. Moving CNSW to a calendar financial year reflects the way we run our business and will lead to a consistent management approach and smoother operation over the year.

The CNSW AGM will need to change from September/October to March/April as the AGM must be held within 5 months of the end of the financial year. Clubs do not need to change their financial year or their fee arrangements. Voting needs to be completed by 25 July and must be submitted on the ballot form sent to each club.



Rik Mills, Deputy Chair

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

After two years as Membership Officer, Jeannette Walsh has decided to move on to other challenges. Jeannette has continued this volunteer role during the Pandemic and her wanderings around NSW. We will miss Jeannette and the conscientious way she has approached this work.

The role takes about 1 hour a week allocating membership numbers to new members on the database. New member data is entered by clubs and occasionally a bit of detective work is required to determine if members have already joined before and therefore have an existing number. If you think you would like to help out please contact Steve Miles treasurer@croquet-nsw.org or Jeannette membership@croquet-nsw.org

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY AT TEMPE

There are now OH&S protocols in place for all players, volunteers and visitors to the Tempe grounds. All persons attending the grounds should make themselves aware of the procedures displayed at the Clubhouse, to ensure a safe and enjoyable time.

NATIONAL INTEGRITY FRAMEWORK (NIF)

Croquet NSW has adopted the National Integrity Framework. The Framework offers a free online course about the overall framework. You will need to sign up for their e-learning platform at https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/pluginfile.php/309430/mod_scorm/content/3/index.html#/menu/6167bd4c0ded240ecb02cfa5

Rik Mills

CNSW Deputy Chair

AC WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP TIER 1: THE MACROBERTSON SHIELD

This event will be held at the Victorian Croquet Centre (VCC), Cairnlea, Melbourne, Australia, 12-29 November 2022. The 4 eligible nations of Australia, England, New Zealand and the United States, will compete for The MacRobertson Shield (The MacRob). It is 5 years since Australia won in the searing heat of Mission Hills, California. Defending champions and hosts, Australia, have 2 new faces to add to 4 of their 2017 team. Edward Wilson is a rising star who won the NZ Open as a teenager and reached the semi-final of the last Worlds before losing 3-2 to Bamford. Dwayne McCormick has been around longer, putting together a 37-game winning streak in 2020 (from an article by Chris Clarke).



<i>Australia</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Mac Wins/Played</i>	<i>TPs</i>
Robert Fletcher	2735	1/3	691
Malcolm Fletcher	2546	1/2	196
Edward Wilson	2534	0/0	96
Dwayne McCormick	2415	0/0	350
Ian Dumergue	2327	1/4	414
Stephen Forster	2272	1/5	565
Average Grade	2472	4/14	2312

COACHING COORDINATOR REPORT

Congratulations to the following new coaches:

Association Croquet Level 1 – Jeanette Testoni (Wollongong) and Fiona Gale (Holroyd)

Association Croquet Level 2 – Bernice Gibson (Manly), David Gibson (Manly), Steve Miles (Camberay), Charles Britten (Marrickville), Roberta Flint (Marrickville), Alison Sharpe (Killara) and Ted Woodley (Cooks River).

Golf Croquet Level 1 – Carol Christie (Cooks River), James Christie (Cooks River), Ann Collins (Cooks River), Margaret Gollan (Cooks River), Lynne Graham (Cooks River), Penny Howarth (Sutherland), Andrew Kelly (Sutherland), Pauline Markwell (RSGC), Janett Midgely (Cooks River), Frances Schembri (Sutherland), Ted Woodley (Cooks River), Patrick Rundle (RSGC), Alan Robinson (Manly), Jill Sullivan (Cooks River), Valerie Lloyd (Coogee), Kaye Martin (Coogee), Julie Lawson (Coogee), Julie Lawson (Coogee), David Burden (Coogee), Jan Van Kamp (Coogee), Trevor Zabow (Coogee), Teresa Stone (Newcastle), Marion Morahan (Pelican), Derek Bull (Newcastle) and Pamela Barnwell (Newcastle).

Golf Croquet Level 2 – Kevin McGlynn (Canberra), Keith Harvey (Toronto), Christopher Gill (Newcastle), Judy Chidgey (Newcastle), Brenda Wild (Mt Sugarloaf), Peter Gordon (Nelson Bay) and Anita Beer (EDSACC).

Ricochet Level 1 – Anita Beer (EDSACC), Peter Gordon (Nelson Bay), Derek Bull (Newcastle), Christopher Gill (Newcastle), Carol Bennett (EDSACC) and Ken Green (Maitland).

Thanks go to Stephen Burns, Jacky McDonald and Barb Piggott for running some of the Coach Certification courses.

NB. A GC Level 1 coach certification course will be held at Jamberoo on Tuesday 12 July and there are still spaces available.

I will be holding a workshop for coaches at Strathfield club on Friday 15 July. Coaches from Sydney clubs have been invited, and it is filling up fast. I am planning to hold workshops in other regions in the near future.

Pam Gentle

CNSW Coaching Coordinator

R • E • F • E • R • E • E NEWS

Congratulations to these new Golf Croquet Referees!

Marion Davies	Toronto
Robyn Irwin	Toronto
Malcolm Powys	Marrickville
Tim Diment	Taree

Lorraine Hatfield, State Director of Refereeing (GC)



CROQUET: BUILDING MEMBERSHIP

Don't you wish you had tried it earlier! How many of us have said that we wished we had started playing croquet sooner?

Croquet NSW is focussed on building Croquet in the State, by encouraging and facilitating recruitment to the sport at Clubs across the State. Building and retaining members is critical to the viability and future of our sport, and looking at our current number of lawns, we have the capacity to grow our membership by 25–30%.

We all know what a fun, accessible and challenging sport we play, and we can spread that message to others to join the sport of croquet.

Our Goals

- to build membership from its current level of 3,000 members in 60 clubs to 3,300 members by June 2023,
- to increase engagement with croquet by the community,
- to highlight the social and health benefits of croquet, and
- to target specific groups to increase the competitiveness, diversity, and community benefits of croquet.

Membership Building Plan

Membership has been static for 5-10 years, and while we have weathered the Covid storm, it is a good time to build membership. There are a number of factors in place that make this the right time to grow membership:

- we have had a new coaching accreditation system implemented, so the number of beginner coaches has grown,
- we have the capacity for growth; over half the clubs have less than 20 members per lawn,
- there are a number of promotional videos available from the Croquet Academy available for use on social media, websites etc.,
- many clubs have Facebook pages; there is a Croquet NSW Community page group to report activities and stories from clubs, and
- Croquet Australia has offered clubs \$50 per member where there is a net increase between January 2022 and January 2024!

How can my Club participate? Ask yourself the following questions:

- how many new members have joined my club this year and why?
- does my Club have a current coaching program with active coaches?
- is there enough information, resources, and support for new and existing members?
- what does my club currently do to attract new members ?
- can our Club accommodate new members?
- if so, how many? Estimates of club membership density vary from 25-40 members per lawn,
- is my Club connected with our community?
- who is doing the workload at my club?
- is my club doing an OK, good, or a great job with recruitment and retention?
- how can Croquet NSW and Croquet Australia help?

Get your club recruitment ready

- plan your recruitment strategy and get commitment from your Committee and Club members. Form a membership sub-committee, or at least 1 person dedicated to this area,
- define your membership targets. CNSW is looking at 10% in 2022/3, and a further 10% after that,
- decide which discipline/s you will recruit for,
- dedicate some annual budget to recruitment initiatives, or look for grants to support your activity,
- build a database or spreadsheet to record potential and new members so that you can track your progress and follow up those who have expressed interest,
- assess the number of coaches and their availability to coach and train new coaches if necessary,
- develop a Beginners coaching course: the Level 1 ACA coaching manuals are a good start and there are other Beginner coaching course outlines available. Refer <https://www.canberracroquet.org.au/learn> and
- have a system to mentor new members to successfully integrate them into the Club.

Creating Events to attract members, such as:

- Come & Try Days are a tried-and-true way to recruit members,
- Bring a Friend Day: personal introductions can be very powerful,
- Family Fun Day can include fun mallet sport activities and can be set up as part of community events and fairs,
- invite local sporting clubs to have a free fun croquet session at your club, e.g. the tennis, golf, bowls, cricket and netball clubs,
- use social media, local radio, have a free sausage sizzle/breakfast BBQ, or morning/afternoon tea,
- U3A courses are a powerful recruitment tool, and
- there are many more ideas! Share your favourites!

How can Croquet NSW help?

- Croquet NSW can supply brochures to hand out in shopping centres, to local businesses, sport clubs etc.,
- Croquet NSW has banners to help promote your event,
- use the Club promotion resources on the CNSW website,
- contact the Coaching Co-ordinator, Pam Gentle, if you need to train new coaches,
- use CNSW Community or CNSW Facebook page to celebrate your successes, take photos and contact the CNSW newsletter editor to publish your stories,
- use the croquet videos developed by the Croquet Academy. Contact Jon MacFarlane jonmac_au@hotmail.com

Recruitment is an ongoing part of the Croquet Club activity and can be incorporated into forward planning and budgeting for Clubs. Croquet NSW will be working with Croquet Australia to refresh and reinvigorate the sport of Croquet, and to develop some national marketing and promotional campaigns. Stay tuned for further developments.

Contact the Board members for further information, or to assist us in this program. You may find the following links useful.

Croquet Victoria <https://croquetvic.asn.au/displaypage.php?ref=Growing%20Croquet>

Croquet SA <https://www.sacroquet.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Club-Resource-Kit1-1.pdf>

Croquetwest <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s6RXsOml8zH0hd5lBikWdxz0p-D6DXf8/view>

Kate McLoughlin
Chair, Croquet NSW



CASINO CROQUET CLUB

On Monday 13 June, it was Casino Croquet Club's first play after the floods in February. Thank you to the various Croquet Clubs of NSW for your help to get us operational again.

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

GATEBALL TRIPLES CARNIVAL, 4-5 June, Newcastle National Park

On a very cold weekend the Carnival was held. Eight teams attended: two from Hazelbrook, three from Newcastle and one each from Toronto, Canberra and Epping. It was played as a block tournament with finals at the end.

The games were highly contested during the block matches with the teams securing a place in the finals being Newcastle Jades, 6 wins, Hazelbrook Blue, 6 wins, and Canberra, 5 wins. The fourth place went to Toronto after gate averages were taken into account from Newcastle Sapphires and Epstars who all had 3 wins. In the semi-finals, Newcastle Jades (10) defeated Toronto (7) and Canberra (10) defeated Hazelbrook Blues (7).

The final was hard fought to the end with Newcastle Jades (10) defeating Canberra 99).

Congratulations to Alan Gray (captain) Philippa Rose and Chris Gill from the Newcastle Jades team on their win.



(L:R) Philippa Rose, Chris Gill and Alan Gray

GC PENNANTS - DIVISION 2 & DIVISION 3 – 2022

After 2 years of interruptions due to the pandemic, excitement was high as these competitions got underway in March. 27 teams representing 21 clubs participated in Division 3. In Division 2 there were 21 teams representing 19 clubs. A special mention needs to be made of Elanora, Strathfield and Queanbeyan clubs who entered GC pennants teams for the very first time. I would also like to recognise the extraordinary efforts of the captains of these 48 teams as they battled against the havoc caused by all the wet weather and steered their teams through the schedule of contests to be completed. Teams were divided into 4 zones in each of these competitions, and in most cases the zone winner was not decided until the very last contest was completed. Competition was fierce!

The wet weather also caused the last-minute relocation of the Finals for both these competitions. **Division 3 Finals** were relocated from Jamberoo to Manly. Zone winners who competed in the Division 3 finals were: Canberra Green, Manly Sapphire, Marrickville and Nelson Bay. Overall winners were the Manly Sapphire team with Nelson Bay team as runners-up.



(L:R) Steve Curtis, Jim Patterson, Angela Bennet & Natalia Dunkley, Manly Sapphires



(L:R) David Wilson (TM), Peter Saunders, Greg & Sue Sellers, Peter Reeve, & Jim Houston (Toronto), with Robyn Irwin, a newly minted Referee

Division 2 Finals were relocated from EDSACC to Nelson Bay. Zone winners were: Toronto, Coogee, Jamberoo and Chatswood. Overall winners were the Toronto team - an extraordinary effort given they were prevented by the extreme rainfall from playing a single contest on their home lawns! Very close runners-up were Coogee. Photo shows TM for the finals - David Wilson - with Toronto players Glenn and Sue Sellers, Jim Houston, Peter Reeve and Peter Saunders. Front right is Robyn Irwin - newly minted referee.

GC Division 1 pennants will be played from September to November.

Lorraine Hatfield
GC Pennants Manager

BERYL CHAMBERS STATE (AC) HANDICAP CHAMPIONSHIP, FINAL SERIES, 10-13 June, Tempe



(L:R) Tim Murphy & Paul Skvorc

Ten players from around the state made their way to Tempe for this year's event.

After the block rounds the semi-finals results were:

Tim Murphy (Canberra) defeated Julie Toms (Canberra) 26/11, and Paul Skvorc (Cooks River) defeated Simon Cook (Coutts Crossing) 22/15. This was Paul's first CNSW event.

The final was between Tim Murphy (hcp-1) and Paul Skvorc (hcp 9). It was a close encounter with Paul using his bisques to advantage, but Tim got in enough times to win 26/18.

Congratulations to Tim on defending the title he won last year. Ken Green (Maitland) won the plate - 4 wins and 1 loss - well done Ken.

CNSW (GC) HANDICAP SINGLES, 18-20 June, Jamberoo

Ten players contested this event at Jamberoo Croquet Club. Wollongong was well represented with five players and there were three from Jamberoo and one from Nowra. The semi-finals came down to three Wollongong players (Robyn Sim, Hagen Kreusser and Janelle Brown) vs. one Nowra player, Doug Cornish, who was the lowest handicap player (on 3). In the first semi-final Doug Cornish defeated Robyn Sim 7/3 6/3 while Janelle Brown defeated Hagen Kreusser 7/5 7/6 in a close encounter. The final was a thriller with Doug giving away 6 extra turns but, undaunted, Doug won in a wonderful display defeating Janelle Brown 4/7 7/3 7/5. Patrick Moroney (Jamberoo) was the Plate winner defeating Ted Swan (Jamberoo) 7/6. It was a good tournament, thoroughly enjoyed by all.



(L:R) John Eddes (TR), Janelle Brown, Doug Cornish & Jim Cook (scorer)



(L:R) Steve Milton (TR), Janelle Brown & Doug Cornish

CNSW (GC) HANDICAP DOUBLES – 16-17 June, Nowra

Eleven pairs entered this year's GC handicap doubles at the beautiful 100-year-old Nowra Croquet club. Teams came from far away as Orange, Wollongong and Mosman in Sydney. After some thrilling and close encounters in the block games the semi-finals came down to: Helen and Mark Scruton (Canberra) defeated Margaret Sawers and Brian Mitchell (both Nowra)) 7/5; Denise Howarth and Penny Patterson (both Mosman) defeated Janelle Brown and Robyn Sim (both Wollongong) 6/5. In a close final, Helen and Mark Scruton held on to win both games 5/4 5/4 against a gallant Denise Howarth and Penny Patterson. The Plate was won by Doug Cornish and Bob Davis (both Nowra) winning all their 5 games.

(Photos - right)

Top: Mark & Helen Scruton with Rik Mills (TR)

Bottom: (L:R) Denise Howarth & Penny Patterson with Rik Mills (TR)





(L:R) Steve Miles & Peter Freer

NSW PLATINUM SINGLES (AC), 6-7 June, Cammeray

A select field of 4 players contested this event at Cammeray Croquet Club.

In the round robin, Peter Freer was undefeated with 3 wins and +53 net hoops and the runner up was Steve Miles.

Larry Bryant and Peter Montague made up the balance of the field. Congratulations to Peter Freer on his convincing win.



ACA (GC) BRONZE MEDAL, 24-26 June, Tempe

It's all over for another year. Jamie Gumbrell (photo to the right) triumphed over Peter Landrebe in the last round match. It was a great weekend and stunning weather. Congratulations to Jamie who is going on to represent NSW at the English Gold and Silver medals in Adelaide in September.



(L:R) Chris Brown and Steve Miles

CAMMERAY (AC) BIRTHDAY TOURNAMENT

Chris Brown is the 2022 Cammeray AC Birthday Tournament winner and receives the Maureen Cope Trophy from Steve Miles.

PORT MACQUARIE GOLF CROQUET HANDICAP DOUBLES

The final was played in glorious weather with the formidable team of Chris Cox and Lesley Easton successful defeating Keith Dalton and Margaret Mackie 5–3. The match was played under the Advantage (handicap) format. A big thank you to Tony Holmes for preparing the lawns and both Trevor Thornton and Bridget Earle for officiating as Referees for the championships.



(L:R) Lesley Easton & Chris Cox

AC STATE SQUAD

Congratulations to those selected for the State Squad, namely:

Men: Trevor Bassett, Mike Gidding, Peter Landrebe, Tim Murphy, Jim Nicholls, Stephen Pearce & Stephen Richards.

Women: Joanne Brown, Sue Eldridge-Smith, Rosie Landrebe, Liz Montague, Kerri-Ann Organ, Diane Scott & Alison Sharpe.

BALLINA CHERRY STREET CROQUET CLUB

A holiday with all the trimmings with croquet thrown in. What more could a croquet player ask for!

Fifteen players from Ballina joined 61 other players from around Australia to contest this year's Convict Doubles Croquet Cup. All our players did well with Jim Hannigan (2nd on right) winning his block with partner Dave Barlow (Orange Croquet Club) narrowly losing the final 5/7 against Roy Brooks and Pauline Blyth. Everyone had a terrific time with plenty of fun and laughter.



WANTED - CLUBS TO HOST CNSW EVENTS 2022

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

AC Platinum Brooch (Handicap 2.5 -9) 13-15 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

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP:

(AC) Eva Short & Win Dickinson Memorial Trophy, 16-17 July, at Tempe. Entries close 8 July.

(AC) Bronze Brooch, 25-27 July, Coutts Crossing. Entries close 8 July.

(GC) ACA Women's & Men's Singles, 10-13 September, Adelaide (several locations) (flyer attached to this email)

Qld State Gateball Championships, Teams, 12-13 August, and Doubles 14-15 August, Southport. Entries close 15 July (flyer attached to this newsletter).

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

BOOKING A LAWN AT TEMPE

<https://cooksrivercroquetclub.com/>