

NEWSLETTER

March 2023



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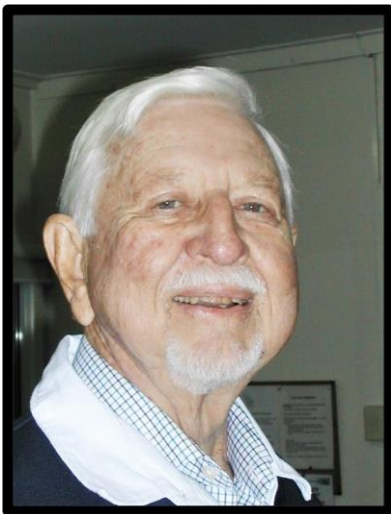
... and other news

RECOGNITION OF EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES

There comes a time in all our clubs when a club hero decides the time has come to step down from providing their invaluable services. This is often seen with club coaches who teach generations of members how to learn the game and how to get more out of their game.

Croquet NSW has responded to this opportunity to honour these heroes by developing a "Certificate of Recognition" for coaches which may be presented to a recognised club hero. If your club wishes to present such an award at a club event, they should write to the Secretary of CNSW outlining the services provided by the honoured person. A personalised "Certificate of Recognition" will be set up and sent to your club for presentation. CONTACT: secretary@croquet-nsw.org

VALE STEPHEN HOWES



It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Stephen Howes on the 11 February. Stephen made a huge contribution to croquet, at Cammeray Croquet Club, at State and national levels, and internationally. He was President of Cammeray Club and coached a large proportion of their new members. He was an outstanding referee, a first class examining Referee, and a splendid Tournament Referee for major tournaments.

There was a large turnout of croquet players at the funeral on 22 February, with members from Cammeray, EDSACC and Mosman.

At the Cammeray AGM on 4 February, Stephen was made a Life Member of the Club for his outstanding contribution.

The citation was published in full in the Cammeray CC newsletter at [202302News.pdf \(cammeray-croquet.org.au\)](#)



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

Bookings for the CNSW lawns at Tempe are managed by Cooks River Croquet Club who play at Tempe when CNSW is not using the lawns. Any CNSW member may book a session at Tempe by going to <https://croquetbooking.com/book/index.php?site=69>. You will need to be registered to use this link. If you are not registered just email cooksrivercroquetclub@gmail.com. The cost is \$6 per session and CRCC will issue an invoice.

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: Simon Cook
Treasurer: Steve Miles
Secretary: Rik Mills
Board Member: Ray Chapman
Board Member: Fidy Westgarth
Newsletter: Liz Friend
newsletter@croquet-nsw.org

Website: <https://croquet-nsw.org>
[Croquet NSW Facebook page](#)



FROM THE BOARD

The CNSW Board has been busy preparing for the AGM to be held on Monday 27 March at 7pm, via video conferencing. Following the AGM, there will be an Open Forum so if you would like any matters discussed, please forward your request to the Secretary prior to 20 March secretary@croquet-nsw.org. The Annual Report is being finalised and the Board thanks the contributors for their Reports.

The Board is very pleased to announce the winner of the 2022 Golden Mallet Award: Pat Moroney, from Jamberoo Club. Congratulations Pat. Thanks go to the GMA Committee – Doug Cornish, Marion Davis and Barb Piggott.

The Board successfully applied for NSW Office of Sports grants between 2020 and 2022. Part of this funding has been used for the Club Hub program which will continue until 2024. The Board is pleased to launch Expressions of Interest for **Club Hubs Phase 2** for Croquet NSW Affiliated Clubs. For this phase we are looking for up to 3 Clubs willing to take on the leadership role in areas where there is no existing Club Hub and we are targeting the Western region of the State, the South Coast and another Hub in Sydney, probably in the northern area. Clubs in Phase 2 will receive \$5,000 in funding to cover the period until 30 June 2024. The PowerPoint presentation is available on the CNSW website news page at [230216-Club-Hubs-Phase-2.pptx \(live.com\)](#). Contact Ray Chapman, Club Hubs Board member, for further information ray.chapman@croquet-nsw.org.

At the meeting of 14 February, the Board decided that any Club hosting a Hub event, such as coaching, would be reimbursed, per attendee, from the relevant Hub fund to go some way to compensate for the use of that Club's facilities. Thanks to those clubs who have sent in stories of recruitment and "Come & Try" events, especially during Senior's Week, which you can read in this newsletter. CNSW has begun a marketing and promotion effort which endeavours to assist those Clubs wishing to increase membership as well as retain existing members. It is anticipated that there will be a range of ideas for Clubs to consider including Come & Try days, local free press opportunities, etc. making good use of stories of promotions around the State. Clubs are invited to send articles, with photos, of

membership efforts that have been found to be successful to newsletter@croquet-nsw.org in order for other Clubs to consider what would work best for them. To increase membership, Croquet Australia (ACA) has established a program which will pay any affiliated Club that has a net increase in membership of 10% p.a., \$50 per person per year, from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023.

The Board wishes our Eire Cup Team success as they go to defend their title in Melbourne in March. Following the Eire Cup, the ACA is holding its AGM in Melbourne on 20 March. Kate McLoughlin is the CNSW delegate at the meeting. Following the AGM, there will be a strategic forum, to look at the major priorities and directions for the ACA in the year ahead. We look forward to action regarding a new Membership and Event platform, Coaching resources, the promotion and marketing of croquet and more. All affiliated players are welcome to attend the forum.

Liz Friend, Director.

Reminder CNSW AGM will be held on Monday 27 March at 7pm.

REVIEW OF CNSW TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS (input due 12 March)

There is presently a **review of the CNSW Tournament Regulations (T-Regs)** that apply to state championship and state trophy tournaments.

Feedback from players and Tournament Managers (TMs) on the current T-Regs would be appreciated. Feedback will assist in a comprehensive review, and in finding pathways to clear and concise directions to players and TMs for future state tournaments.]

E-mail comments should be **directed to** rjccchristian@bigpond.com **by Sunday 12 March.**

Richard Christian.

2023 GC DIVISION 2 AND DIVISION 3 PENNANTS' COMPETITIONS

These competitions are now underway for 2023 and we have another record year of entries!!!

31 teams representing 26 different clubs are competing in Division 3. That's 4 more than last year. A special welcome to "GC pennants first-timers" Pelican, Mt Sugarloaf and Holroyd Clubs!! And Strathfield Club, who were first-timers last year, have doubled last year's effort and entered two teams this year.

A new record has been set for Division 2 entries also - 24 teams (up from 21 in 2022). Pelican Club is also a "first-timer" in Division 2 and Hurstville Club is back in this competition after a break of a few years.

Based on an average of 5 players per team, that means we have something like 275 players participating in these two GC pennants' competitions. Once GC Division 1 pennants get underway in July, I am confident we will have had around 330 players involved in GC pennants' teams in 2023.

These competitions would not be possible without players from each club who volunteer to be Team Captains. They liaise with the other team captains in their zone to organise when their team plays, they 'round up' their players for each contest (reminding each player to bring their medical info form and their GC handicap card) and they are responsible for recording the results at each contest. And they do all this for the next three months!!

2021 was our "come-back" year for GC pennants, overcoming the disruption caused by the pandemic. That was the year when all three finals had to be re-scheduled and were actually played in January and February 2022. Canberra Club teams won all three Divisions.

For last year's competitions, Manly Sapphire team won Division 3, Toronto won Division 2 and Royal Sydney Club won Division 1.

Which Clubs will be the GC Pennants Champions in 2023??

Lorraine Hatfield, GC Pennants Manager

SENIORS' WEEK - SUTHERLAND CROQUET CLUB

During the NSW Government Seniors' Week from 1 – 12 February 2023, Sutherland Croquet Club hosted three very successful free 2 hour "Come and Try" sessions, together with a stall at the Seniors' Expo organised by Sutherland Shire Council. The Expo was a good opportunity to talk to large crowds of people and to network with other stall holder groups, to let them know about croquet and what a great game it is for both men and women. We also had a couple of mallets and some balls for those wanting to "give it a go".

At the "Come and Try" sessions, the visitors were given a short introduction to croquet by the very knowledgeable John Eddes, followed by a game with members acting as facilitators for each group. A Devonshire Tea was then served and a further game played. This was a great response for our amazing hard-working members resulting in six of those seniors having such a great time, they are now being coached and wanting to join our Club.

Margaret Morters, President, Sutherland CC



TORONTO HUB PROMOTES SENIORS WEEK 2023

CROQUET OPEN DAYS

FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

COME AND TRY CROQUET

- Free coaching
- Free use of equipment
- Enjoy a game



Sun. 5 th Feb at 9am	EDSACC (The Entrance Sports Complex) Contact: 0419 432 905	Free sausage sizzle
Mon. 6 th Feb at 9am	CESSNOCK Croquet Club Contact: 0425 355 492	Free refreshments
Mon. 6 th Feb at 9am	MAITLAND Croquet Club Contact: 0408 221 398	Free sausage sizzle
Tue. 7 th Feb at 9am	BRANXTON Croquet Club Contact: 0428 387 635	Free sausage sizzle
Tue. 7 th Feb at 9am	TORONTO Croquet Club Contact: 0429 659 990	Free sausage sizzle
Wed. 8 th Feb at 9am	MOONAN Croquet Club Contact: 0407 235 687	Free sausage sizzle
Wed. 8 th Feb at 9am	PELICAN Croquet Club Contact: 0417 667 878	Free refreshments
Thur. 9 th Feb at 9am	MT SUGARLOAF Croquet Club (West Wallsend). Contact: 0438 586 655	Free lunch
Sat. 11 th Feb at 9 am	MYALL PARK Croquet Club (Hawks Nest) Contact: 0409 443 586	Free sausage sizzle
Sun. 12 th Feb at 10.30 am	NEWCASTLE National Park Croquet Club Contact: 0420 963 719	Free refreshments
Sun. 12 th Feb at 11.30 am	NELSON BAY Croquet Club Contact: 0420 963 719	Free sausage sizzle
Sat. 18 th Feb at 9am	MT SUGARLOAF Croquet Club (West Wallsend). Contact: 0438 586 655	Free lunch

All eleven clubs were contacted in regard to a “Come & Try” day during Seniors Week. It wasn’t possible to get all clubs participating on the one day, but at least all agreed to have one day between 5 and 12 February.

There was a mixed response but at least croquet was “put out there” with the publicity:

- Branxton had 2 try, with one joining and the other coming back later
- Cessnock had 10 try, with 4 coming back to have another turn
- EDSACC had 17 try, with some coming back for a second time
- Mt Sugarloaf had 8 try, with one person joining
- Maitland had none try, but have had a lot of new members join in the last few months
- Moonan – haven’t yet reported
- Myall Park said they had a successful morning
- Nelson Bay had 11 try, with some coming back for coaching and 2 new members
- Newcastle had 24 try, with 12 coming back for a coaching session
- Pelican had only 1 try
- Toronto had 8 people try on the day with others coming in the following days, resulting in 12 new members.

Liz McDonald from Toronto CC managed to get an article in the Seniors Paper, and 2 people mentioned having seen that. We put as much as we could on Facebook and that was where many people seemed to have found information as well as information put out by local Councils.

We have had 4 workshops so far this year organised by the Hub and the response to them has been very good. Chris Gill from Newcastle had a limit of 16 people – 16 responded – the same for Trevor Black. There have been two Division 3 workshops with Brenda Wild and Chris Williamson - a limit of 20 for each with 18 and 23 responding (see photos). I feel that the Hub is an ideal way to share ideas and give players a chance to be coached by a variety of coaches and this promotes enjoyment of the game and also helps to gain and retain members.

Marion Davies

Toronto Hub



RAINBOW CROQUET AT MARRICKVILLE



As part of Inner West Pride, a series of celebrations, the Marrickville Croquet Club (MCC) with the support of the Inner West Council, held its inaugural Rainbow Croquet event in February.

With MCC members volunteering their enthusiasm and support for the inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ community and a suitable abundance of rainbow coloured flags and bunting, “Come & Try” sessions were held to showcase the civilised savagery of croquet. These sessions were well received with over 35 people booking to attend. We finished the week with a game and a BBQ to complete our celebrations. It was a great week and well received by club members and the Rainbow community.

We are looking forward to continuing this in coming years and would encourage other clubs to join us in celebrating the diversity of our croquet community.

(article by Michele Van Der Sander)



MEM CHALLENGE

Mosman, Elanora and Manly croquet clubs (photo below) held a two day event at Mosman and Manly in February called the MEM Challenge. This is the second Challenge: last year Div. 3 singles and this year a Div. 2 playing with a Div. 3 player giving an opportunity for our Div. 3 players to play with/against better players. John Tew and Jane Trousdale from Manly won the challenge against Richard Shields and David Adams from Elanora in the finals. All in all, a great event. Well done



Manly.

The February ACA Bulletin has been published. The link: [ACA Bulletin](#)

The March 2023 WCF Newsletter has just been published on the website. <https://worldcroquet.org/march-2023-newsletter/>

RICOCHET AT MOSMAN

For years we have talked about it, but had not made much progress. Now, at last, it is happening!

In February 2023, Mosman club members were invited to learn about the intriguing game of Ricochet. Around 20 members attended the introduction session and were given a thumbnail outline of how the game of Ricochet is played. The group then split into sets of Hi-Lo doubles games, where the experienced players partnered the new players and explained how the game works.

All being experienced Golf Croquet players, our new players already knew croquet lawns setup, how to run a hoop and how to roquet (by another name), so it was easy to get started playing the games – and all had a lot of fun. The club has now set up a standard Club Play time for Ricochet, and is having good attendance. We are all finding Ricochet is a very enjoyable game!



2023 GOLD COAST TWEED AC TOURNAMENT, 1-9 July

I am happy to announce that the 55th GCT Association Croquet Tournament with 9 events hosted at 5 locations is being planned from Saturday 1st to Sunday 9th July this year. The attached tournament information and entry form gives details of events, locations and dates. Over the years this tournament has attracted entrants from all over Australia and New Zealand and it is probably Australia's last multi-event tournament that caters for all skill levels.

Please consider joining us in July and please share the information with any AC players who may be interested. I hope to see you on the Gold Coast for some sunny winter croquet and I look forward to receiving your entry forms soon.

Dave Luxmoore, Tournament Manager. Ph. 0417720844

Link https://netorgft9628872-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/newsletter_croquet-nsw_org/EdkjlTiuHc5OnYgg07M9PTYBvZ1jK1GGZTfxjUKxpWE0Hg?e=DO3eqk

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

AC 3 & UNDER SINGLES, 4-5 February, Mosman

Sixteen of NSW's best Association players gathered at beautiful Mosman Croquet Club to contest this year's event. A good warm up for the upcoming Eire Cup. Four blocks of 4 players were played with the top two from each block progressing to the knockout stage.

In the quarter finals Trevor Basset won 26/2 against Stephen Richards. Tim Murphy 26 won against Chris Lavine 7, Alison Sharpe 26 won against Rosie Landrebe 11, and Kerri-Ann Organ 26 won against Callum Hyland 19.

In the semi-finals Trevor Basset continued his fine form beating Tim Murphy 26/10 and Alison Sharpe won 26/11 against Kerri-Ann Organ. In the final Alison Sharpe proved too strong for Trevor Basset winning 26 to 8 although the game was closer than the scores reflected.

A big thanks to Mosman for hosting the event at short notice when the Tempe Lawns became unavailable due to the renovations.



Alison and Trevor

WORLD UNDER 21 GOLF CROQUET, 8-12 February, New Zealand

Aston Wade (UK) won the final defeating Fawzy Helmy (Egypt) 7/4 7/4 5/7 7/6. This was a wonderful final played in pouring rain and fierce winds. The standard of play from both players was exceptional. Two new future croquet champions were born.

How did the Australians go?

Ethan Gumbrell (NSW) 1 from 6 in the block and 4 from 7 in the Plate. Tim Wright 3/3 block and made the final 16 knockout but lost a close one 3/7 7/7 2/7. A terrific effort from Tim. Addison Matthews 3 from 7 in block made semi-final in the Plate losing 5/7. Well done Addison. Jamie Fleming won 1 from 7 in block and 1 from 7 in plate. Curtis Mead won 1 from 7 in block and 4 from 7 in the plate.

It was a terrific learning experience for all these young Australians and to play in a world championship and would be something they will remember forever.



ACA PRESIDENTS EIGHT GOLF CROQUET, 10-12 February, Cairnlea, Victoria

MEN'S

First Eight winner - Robert Fletcher (Vic)

Peter Landrebe (NSW) won 4 out of 7, David Hanbidge (NSW) won 2 from 7, and Steve Harden 1 from 7.

Second Eight winner - Shane Downie (Vic) and Peter Freer (NSW) won 3 from 7.

Third Eight – Mark Scruton (NSW) undefeated - a wonderful effort from Mark, and Kevin McGlynn (NSW), Malcolm Powys (NSW) and Kate McLoughlin (NSW) all won 3 from 7.

WOMEN'S

First Eight winner - Mary McMahon (Qld).

Gerda Lambeck (NSW) won 4 from 7, and Rosie Landrebe (NSW) and Pamela Barnwell (NSW) both won 3 from 7.

Second Eight winner - Yvonne Shaw (Tas), and Georgina Carnegie (NSW) won 1 from 7.

Men's Eight winner - Derek Bull (NSW) undefeated - well done Derek. Stephen Burns (NSW) won 5 from 7 to be runner up and Richard Christian (NSW) won 1 from 7.

AC 5 & UNDER MIXED DOUBLES, 18-19 February, Cammeray

Only 4 teams lined up this year in a double round robin. The final standings were:

Rosemary Landrebe and Stephen Richards winning 5 from 6 games with net hoops of 53. Runners up were Diane Scott and Stephen Pearce, also winning 5 from 6 games with net hoops of 34.

Well done to Cammeray CC for hosting the event after the Tempe lawns were unavailable due to the renovations.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP:

CNSW Open women's (GC) championship, 24-26 March, Tempe. Entries close 17 March.

CNSW Open men's (GC) championship, 31 March – 2 April, Canberra. Entries close 24 March.

CNSW (AC) Bronze Singles, 11-14 April, Killara. Entries close 31 March.

ACA (RC) Open Doubles, 14-16 April, Tempe. Entries close 24 March.

ACA (RC) Open Singles, 17-20 April, Tempe. Entries close 24 March.

CNSW (GC) Open Singles Championship, 21-24 April, Tempe. Entries close 14 April.

CNSW (AC) Open Men's Singles Championship, 28-30 April, Tempe. Entries close 21 April.

CNSW (AC) Silver Singles, 2-5 May, Strathfield. Entries close 21 April.

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