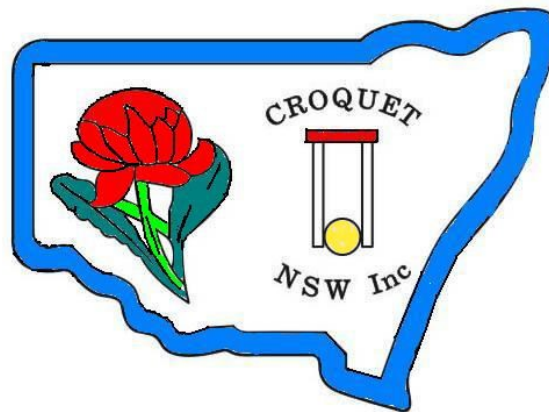


# **CROQUET NSW**



## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2014-15**

This Annual Report has been produced by Mr Stephen Thornton, Secretary  
and Public Officer, Croquet NSW Inc.

# CROQUET NSW Inc

ABN 95 174 213 987

*Patron: His Excellency General The Honorable David Hurley AC DCS (Ret'd) Governor of New South Wales*

## **Location**

Mackey Park  
Tempe NSW 2044

Telephone (02) 9559 6073

## **Postal address**

Croquet NSW Inc.  
P.O. Box 5096  
Marrickville NSW 1475

Website [www.croquet-nsw.org](http://www.croquet-nsw.org)

## **THE EXECUTIVE**

President

Senior Vice President

Junior Vice President

Hon Secretary

Hon Treasurer

Mr Tony McArthur

Mrs Alison Sharpe

Mrs Brenda Wild

Mr Steve Thornton

Mr John Eddes

A full listing of CNSW Officers is maintained on the website.

<b>CNSW MEMBERSHIP SNAPSHOT</b>	
Affiliated Clubs - 69	Affiliated Members - 2976

## **REPORTS**

### **Report from the President**

I am very proud what the executive team have been able to achieve on your behalf.

The amenities at Tempe, which have needed a freshen up for some time, have seen the equipment shed with the interesting lean replaced with a new shed and a concrete apron laid that assists in getting access to the equipment. The Kitchen area has been revamped and now has a complete range of amenities, including hot and cold running water!! A huge thanks to Alison Sharpe and John Eddes who were instrumental in achieving this. Also considerable time and effort have been put into preparing a new constitution which hopefully will have been accepted by the Member Clubs prior to the Annual General Meeting.

We have also adopted the Duffers Tice as a new method of entry to our state events and look forward to inclusion of a payment option. One of the new rollouts has been the on-line database which gives Clubs the ability to sign on and manage their Clubs details and Membership Directly on the website. There is also access to the information contained in the yearbook. The Executive are particularly excited about this latest addition of the yearbook, a special thanks to Steve Thornton and David Archer for helping achieve this for us.

During our successful win of the Eire Cup in March it came to my attention that our State Team were sporting up to 3 variations of our state uniform. We decided that a united front would be better and as such we have now implemented and designed a standard state team shirt for AC, GC and Gateball team Members. Thank you to Brenda for dealing with all the organisation of these issues. Thanks to Jim Nicholls we have been able to secure a 3 year sponsorship deal for our State Team Shirts.

Any organisation needs a management committee to keep things perking along. This team also need the assistance of many additional volunteers who give up their time during the year, often behind the scenes. A huge thank you to all those various committees and their members, Referees, Timekeepers without whom the organisation would not run so smoothly. In particular a big thankyou to Wendy Fothergill who apart from always being available for Refereeing duties when needed at Tempe is also in charge of the fantastic CNSW Newsletter.

During the year our New South Wales members have been out there on the lawns showing what a strong State New South Wales is in croquet. Our members have participated in World Championships, Australian championships, International events in Association and Golf Croquet and also Gateball. Our Inter State Shield Golf Croquet Team came 2nd and are about to do battle again in Tasmania in September. Our Eire Cup Team won the Eire Cup going through undefeated. Congratulations to all our members who have participated from Club events right through to the World Arena.

Finally I would like to thank Alison for all her help during the year. Alison has decided to step down from her executive role next year, I wish her all the best in her croquet in the future. It has been my privilege to serve as your President this year, I thank you all and look forward to seeing you on the lawns.

I love this game !!!

*Tony McArthur*

## Financial Report

The result this year was very similar to last year with a surplus from general operations of \$8206, up \$700, and investment return of \$12185, down \$1400 on last year. There was a small increase in income. Affiliation fees were up \$2800 due to more members as fees did not increase. Tournament entry fees were up \$800 despite a number of competitions being cancelled. Last years income from the 2013 GC Nationals of \$800 was not matched this year.

There was a small overall increase in expenses. The most significant changes are listed below and the smaller ones can be seen in the accounts.

- Lawn maintenance expenses were down \$4100 due mainly to reduced renovation expenses.
- There was no auditors fee compared to \$3100 in the previous year.
- Grants to clubs for involvement with school children were down \$3600 due to less claims from clubs and the accounting treatment of the 2013 grants.
- Total charges to Croquet Aust were up \$2400 for increased fees due to affiliation increases and timing of entry fee invoices.
- Repairs and maintenance was up \$4500 due to the renovation of our premises and to repairs to the aging irrigation system.

Investment return was down due to reduced interest rates.

Note: Some purchases during the year were classified as assets and therefore only the depreciation has been charged in the accounts as expenses. These were the new office computer and printer/copier and the Ikea furniture for the kitchen. Also the publicity banners are being treated as assets until sold but no depreciation is being charged. The cost of the banners to be used by CNSW and the subsidy on the banners purchased by clubs is included in the accounts as publicity.

At the request of Council a review of our investments was done during the year with the assistance of a financial adviser. As a result it was decided to transfer some of the money in term deposits to higher earning investments but still within the risk profile considered appropriate for our funds. By year end one investment in Australian Unity Healthcare Property Trust for \$50000 had been completed and three others totaling \$100,000 in Commonwealth Bank and Westpac subordinated notes and Cromwell Property Trust were in progress; the former two are now complete.

John Eddes (Treasurer)

CROQUET NSW INCORPORATED			
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015			
GENERAL OPERATIONS		2015	2014
<b>INCOME</b>			
Affiliation fees		125430.00	123695.50
Tournament entry fees		11460.00	10630.00
Dept of Sport & Recreation grant		16500.00	16500.00
Interest received		1471.79	1589.84
Profit on sales	Merchandise/Other Sales	684.96	903.76
Revenue from	Coaching	2870.00	2995.00
	Referee instruction	740.00	1230.00
	Use of HQ lawns & equipment	796.40	245.00
	Presentation day/Raffles (net)	20.00	-18.00
Public liability insurance levies		9787.67	9408.00
Aust Championships 2013 (net):		0.00	783.00
Sundry income		12.30	83.30
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>169773.12</b>	<b>168045.40</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Affiliation fees paid to Croquet Aust		70758.50	69278.00
Tournament entry fees paid to Croquet Aust		1655.01	755.00
Lawn maintenance		26817.36	30925.80
Administration expenses	Wages and Superannuation	3991.27	5090.59
	Stationery/Postage/Telephone/Printing	3798.37	4873.86
	Computer expenses	527.87	1496.23
	Insurance	807.09	783.87
	Auditors fees	0.00	3135.00
Expenditure on	Coaching	2984.98	2420.86
	Refereeing	1993.79	1427.51
	Lawn hire fees to clubs	3019.00	2750.00
	Travel	1522.90	1743.66
	Newsletter	3209.80	3060.20
	Year books (net)	311.00	197.80
	State team	8445.75	8586.89
	Schools development grants	-996.84	2595.85
	Publicity (banners)	852.50	0.00
	Trophies	2580.18	2218.54
	Catering & Housekeeping (net)	207.54	225.51
New equipment		1722.03	130.45
Public liability insurance		9854.58	9603.19
Repairs and maintenance		8108.00	3645.47
HQ overheads		911.30	311.30
National Championships 2015 (net)		1935.77	0.00
Net GST expense		2471.00	4218.00
Depreciation		1226.95	777.00
Write off assets & merchandise		281.00	104.00
Sundry expenses		2570.81	152.40
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>161567.51</b>	<b>160506.98</b>
<b>Surplus (Loss) on General Operations</b>		<b>8205.61</b>	<b>7538.42</b>
<b>INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES</b>			
Interest on Investments		12185.00	13505.00
<b>Surplus on Investment Activities</b>		<b>12185.00</b>	<b>13505.00</b>
<b>Total Surplus on consolidated activities</b>		<b>20390.61</b>	<b>21043.42</b>

**CROQUET NSW INCORPORATED**  
**Balance Sheet at 30 June 2015**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash on Hand		
Commonwealth Bank - cheque account	8,842.51	14,065.20
Commonwealth Bank - cash invest account	107,355.60	918.44
Quay credit union - term deposits	203,145.86	340,889.73
Office petty cash	100.00	100.00
Accounts Receivable and other debtors		
Sundry Debtors	2980.00	3422.00
Accrued interest to 30 June 2015	2755.00	3550.00
Stock on hand at cost	1023.14	1353.08
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>326,202.11</b>	<b>364,298.45</b>
<b>Non current assets</b>		
Australian Unity Healthcare Property Trust	50000.00	
Equipment at written down value	9791.50	3880.00
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>59,791.50</b>	<b>3,880.00</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>385,993.61</b>	<b>368,178.45</b>
Less		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Sundry Creditors	2285.70	7393.15
Affiliation & entry fees paid in advance	3642.00	1110.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>5927.70</b>	<b>8503.15</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>380,065.91</b>	<b>359,675.30</b>
<b>General funds</b>		
As at 1 July 2014	73,384.05	65,845.63
Surplus (Loss) from general operations	8,205.61	7,538.42
Balance as at 30 June 2015	81,589.66	73,384.05
<b>Special Funds</b>		
HQ/Building fund		
As at 1 July 2014	286,291.25	272,786.25
Surplus from investment activities	12,185.00	13,505.00
Balance as at 30 June 2015	298,476.25	286,291.25
<b>Total Funds at 30 June 2015</b>	<b>380,065.91</b>	<b>359,675.30</b>

## **Report from the Coordinator of Golf Croquet**

The past 12 months have been extremely busy for Golf Croquet starting with the State Handicap Championships hosted by Canberra and the Champion of Champions to complete our calendar for 2014. 2015 has seen the Division 3 Doubles and Singles in February, 2 Singles and Doubles in March, NSW Women's and Men's Singles in April and Open Doubles in June. Unfortunately the inaugural Selector's 8 were not contested due to a mix up with GC Selection Committee, but the Bronze Medal was conducted in June. Congratulations to everyone who entered, especially the winners.

The Interstate Shield is to be played in Tasmania in September and congratulations to all players on their selection and I know they have been putting in a number of hours of hard training in their endeavors to regain the shield from Victoria.

In addition to CNSW events, players from NSW also played in a number of ACA events in Melbourne this year including the President's 8s in February and ACA Doubles and Singles in May and acquitted themselves very well. I am sure those playing in the ACA Men's and Women's in September will represent the state with distinction.

Referees and coaches have been busy conducting workshops throughout the state over this period and I thank this dedicated band of players who give up their time to promote our sport.

Whilst the role of GC Coordinator is not an onerous position, combined with my coaching commitments I have been kept fairly busy and have enjoyed support from all levels and enjoyed the opportunity to assist in the promotion of our sport.

Barb Piggott (Coordinator of GC)

## **Report from the SD Refereeing - Golf Croquet**

This has been a very busy year for Golf Croquet, coupled with the problem of insufficient referees who are willing to give their time to assist with CNSW Championship events.

Without the continued support of Wendy Fothergill, the task of refereeing at Tempe would be impossible. My sincere thanks Wendy for your commitment and support.

Earlier this year WCF released a set of OFFICIAL RULINGS, which apply to the 2013 ED. of The Rules of Golf Croquet. These are available, along with the 2015



Edition f the Golf Croquet Referee Manual from the ACA web site—I urge all accredited referees to read both items.

I represented NSW at the National Referees Conference held in Queensland in April. It was gratifying to know that all NSW GC referees have, on the whole, embraced the changes that have taken place.

On a positive note, I congratulate the eight new Referees, who satisfactorily met the requirements to gain their badge of office. I know you will continue to gain in confidence with experience and wish you well in your new role.

I urge all clubs to encourage their members to embrace the role of referee, it is a most rewarding one. Thank you to the CNSW Executive for their support during the year.

***To all GC Referees - KEEP UP TO DATE, BE INVOLVED, BE COMMITED***

BEV SMITH (State Director Golf Croquet)

## **Report from the SD Coaching - Golf Croquet**

Coaching for Golf Croquet area has been extremely busy since last year's AGM with me attending a number of Clubs throughout the state to work with players during Improve your Game Workshops. These clinics are an opportunity for players of all levels to improve their game and the feedback from those attending is always positive.

We were also fortunate to have Greg Bury, the National Director of Coaching, conduct a workshop at Maitland in February for both qualified coaches and players and I am sure everyone who attended gained from Greg's enthusiasm and expertise.

We now have 22 Level 1 and 42 Level O coaches throughout the state from Walla Walla to Ballina. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Margaret Thompson and Pam Gentle for their assistance in conducting the training of our newer coaches as it reduces my travel commitments.

Players wishing to become Golf Croquet coaches should download and complete the application form from the CNSW website and forward it for processing.

The new National Directors of Coaching for Golf Croquet and Association are currently working with the Australian Sports Commission to have the Croquet Australia coaching packages accredited. This is a huge undertaking and the final format on conducting coaching is under review – more on this will be

disseminated as approvals are obtained, but it is hoped that the roll out of the new system will commence in early 2016.

As this is the last report before the AGM I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the assistance they have given me in this very busy position for the past 12 and wish the incoming appointment every success in improving the standard of Golf Croquet within NSW.

Barb Piggott (SDC–GC)

### **Report from the SD Refereeing - Association Croquet**

This is my last report as CNSW SDR-AC.

Congratulations to recently accredited officials – Steve Miles [Camberay], Rik Mills [Orange], David Gibson [Manly], and David Stanton [Camberay]. Thank you to Neil Hardie, Stephen Howes and Fay Stove for their time and wisdom in assisting with the training of these officials.

Many thanks must go to Pam Durie for her years of service as a Referee and Examiner. Pam has recently retired from these positions. Pam has refereed at local, state and national events, and also trained and examined candidates for referee status in both Association and Golf Croquet. It has been a pleasure working with this lovely lady.

I have held the position of CNSW State Director of Refereeing since August 2007, and can hardly believe that eight years have passed since I was voted to this position and nervously accepted a couple of boxes of books and documents from Fay Stove.

So much has happened in those years. The last eight years have been challenging and busy and interesting. I have met and come to know some wonderful people whom I will always admire and respect. I have seen many changes and developments in the sport of croquet – a great indicator of vitality and growth.

Every good wish for the future,

Jan Sage

## **Report from the SC Chair - Association Croquet**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the AC Selection Committee for their professionalism in conducting this very important role. Whilst the task is not an onerous one, a number of factors are taken into consideration for selection to every event to ensure the best team or players to represent NSW are selected.

This year we again called for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for a number of events and this has assisted in speeding up the selection process as we are not inviting players to events who are not available. Players should check the CNSW Website or check with Club Secretaries to see if an EOI has been issued to ensure they do not miss out on selection for events they may be interested in being selected for.

Barb Piggott (Chairman)

## **Report from The Director of Schools Croquet**

This year only three clubs applied to Croquet NSW for the Schools Grant. As Director of Schools Croquet I find it difficult to keep in touch with the clubs who are involved with schools. I am aware that there are other clubs involved with schools and it would be great if this involvement could continue. It would also be very helpful if clubs could inform me when they are taking juniors. Most students may not take up the game at the moment but if they have enjoyed the experience there is every chance they will return at a later date.

Children of current players are also playing, in fact it was those children and their friends who took part in the NSW State Championships last year. The winner was Lana Sexton of Manly Club and the runner up was Simon Sharpe. I was really pleased with the standard of play.

This year the NSW Schools Championship will be held at Tempe on 12th & 13th September and it is not too late to contact me and enter. The competition was moved to this date as the inaugural Australian Schools Championship will be held at Maitland on the 27th, 28th and 29th November.

I am really pleased the ACA has agreed to this as it could provide a training squad for the World Under 21 Championships. These are to be played in Australia in February 2017. With the success of New Zealand at this year's World Under 21s I am sure that the interest will only increase.

In addition The ACA has decided to accede to my continual pleas and will establish a non-voting "student" membership structured on a 50%reduced

affiliation fee and international levy for individuals under 21 or full time students under 25, effective in 2016. The Croquet NSW executive has agreed to follow suit. Now all that is needed is for the clubs to introduce “junior” fees as well.

As I have said many times before it is these young people who are the future of our sport.

Jacky McDonald (Director of School Croquet)

## **Report from the Newsletter Editor**

The Newsletter has managed to maintain its full complement of pages of the past year’s issues, although it is sometimes a bit frantic to get the spaces filled by the deadline.

Thank you to the following clubs who have made contributions for the current year, some of them deserve frequent writer points if such were available:

Bathurst, Ballina Cherry Street, Blue Mountains, Branxton, Canberra, Cessnock, Chatswood, Coutts Crossing, Cowra, Dubbo, Eastwood, Gloucester, Holroyd, Jamberoo, Macquarie City, Maitland, Manly, Mosman, Nelson Bay, Newcastle National Park, Nowra, Orange, Port Hacking, Port Macquarie, Queanbeyan, Sawtell, Strathfield, Sutherland, Sydney, Taree, Toronto, Wagga Wagga, Walla Walla and Young.

If your club is not listed here, perhaps you could make sure you are in the next report by sending in an article for the Newsletter.

There have been some other interesting articles, not specific to a club. Two of these were the demonstrations that Croquet NSW was invited to at the Rocks in January and to Glebe Island in April. The Makara was as busy and successful as ever. It was good to report on the Eire Cup win by our NSW Team – we hope the GC team does as well in their interstate competition. Some letters to the Editor were concerned with Ricochet and Handicaps. Other contributions included an interesting tour of clubs in the Central West, a new venture with a Croquet competition on Norfolk Island, Links with U3A, Premier Croquet League, and the proposal for development of School Croquet. It was also good to report on the Gateball Championships in Japan, and other Gateball competitions between our clubs. The reports of various CNSW tournaments are always welcome.

When I started working on the Newsletter, articles would just flow in and often there was too much for an issue. In the past two or three years, this flow has stopped and apart from some very regular clubs a lot of cajoling needs to take place to get an article.

I wonder sometimes if the Newsletter is considered relevant any longer – some clubs I have never heard from and would dearly love to have an article from them by the end of the next four issues. I am always interested in articles that are just a bit “outside the square”, not just reports of carnivals.

So, think about it – do you want a Newsletter and what can your Club contribute to its future?

Wendy Fothergill (Editor)

## **Report from the Membership/Records Officer**

Since taking over the role of Records/Insurance Officer in January this year I have been on a steep learning curve. At times confusing and intimidating – but overall very enjoyable. It's a privilege to be able to discuss then answer our clubs many questions.

Initially I was learning the previous system, which Wendy Fothergill had under control for many years – thanks Wendy, then in May this year the Membership database came online. Another system to learn!! Under the guidance of our webmaster, David Archer, the database is becoming easier for me to understand – thankyou David.

As at 23 August, 2015, Croquet NSW has 2967 members. A slight decrease from last year.

but a number of our members have dual or triple memberships. Our country clubs have 2168 members whilst our metropolitan clubs have 804 members. Also clearly women outnumber men by 2-1 in membership.

This year we welcome a new club to the fold of Croquet NSW. Welcome Camden Park. If anyone is travelling south west of Sydney please call Camden Park and join them in a game of Croquet.

Also this year ACA has created a new member category – Junior Membership. This is for members under the age of 21 as at 1<sup>st</sup> July every year. For CNSW members this is at a reduced rate. Congratulations, and many thanks, must go to Jacky McDonald for all her efforts in obtaining Junior Membership for ACA & CNSW.

To end – I wish to thank all the clubs for their patience & understanding as we all learn the new Membership database. The coming year will be a lot easier.

Brenda Wild

## **CNSW WEBSITE**

The current CNSW website passed its 10th anniversary this year, and continues to adapt to meet the expectations of a changing world.

Among many minor changes, this year has seen:

- the addition of icons for sharing pages with social media websites such as Facebook;
- the addition of an RSS feed so that subscribers can receive change notifications;
- the menu moved from page left to page top;
- additional support for small devices such as phones.

In early 2015 an online database of clubs, members, handicaps and events was developed, for sign in and use by club secretaries and CNSW officials. After a period of testing, this went live on 4th May and is in successful use by almost all clubs. This is a radical change to CNSW record keeping and related procedures, and sets new standards which other States and the ACA may wish to adopt. All sign in accounts have access to an online "Yearbook" which includes almost all of the current annual CNSW Yearbook content, but which is up-to-date at all times.

David Archer  
CNSW Website Administrator

## **Handicapper's Report.**

What a year! Lots of events, lots of competitors and lots of AHS entries. I've had many letters this last 12 months regarding handicap doubles play and how the handicaps are worked out.

Some words of advice from an analysis of those queries ...

Don't rely on someone else to tell you how to fill out your card. The instructions on it are simple. Read them thoroughly BEFORE you go to play. Make sure you understand. Check with the tournament manager if in any doubt. Remember ... If you are on a handicap of 10, 11 or 12 you CANNOT lose index points. (so when filling out your card after a loss, put "-0" in the index adjustment column.

I won't go on about that topic. Just read the card ... it says it all!

So, you think you have seen lots of change ...

Boy what's in the future looks good, however with all advances there is a price to pay. Hopefully in the near future, your club secretary will be able to have direct access to adjusting YOUR handicap number directly on the data base. That should make you all happy, except of course for the secretary. We also hope to have tournament managers putting the handicap changes directly into the database as well. This will alleviate the problem we have now where a form is sent to me which is then put in a pile till I have quite a few and a lot of time. I then have to update my membership list (3 days work) and then check and adjust all the details on those forms (at least another 3 days work). That info is then sent to our webmaster who then spend quite some time "putting it up" for us to read. Not very fast and so out of date.

In future we hope that at the end of a tournament, the TM will be able to directly feed in the required info and "Voila!" its all finished and up to date. How good does that sound?

One last thing ....

Try .... t r y.. TRY ... T R Y very hard to COMPETE at a tournament away from your own club. You get to meet lots of lovely new people, have a great time, learn a lot about croquet AND make adjustments to your *HIC* card. You might even become addicted to it .... I know I did and it has been a fantastic ride ...

Peter

## **Tournament Committee Report**

The NSW tournament schedule for 2016 has been finalised, and a copy is attached. Clubs are now asked to determine dates for their own events, and add them to the NSW website and consider making a bid to host NSW AC events.

It is apparent that GC events which have been held in country and regional areas over the last few years have been very successful and well attended. It is also clear that many AC events scheduled to be held at Tempe have been poorly attended, and in many cases have not been played because of low entries. Hopefully holding some more AC events away from Tempe will increase participation, as has happened with the 2015 Bronze Singles (at Strathfield) and the Gold Doubles (at Mosman). Some consideration has been given to combining the AC 5 & Under Doubles and the NSW Open Doubles, and playing

the event in February, the traditional time for the 5 & Under. At this stage the change has not been made for 2016, but it will be considered for 2017 and beyond.

A number of AC events which have been poorly attended or not run at all over the last few years are likely to be cut if greater interest is not shown in 2016. These include the Gold and Silver singles, doubles, handicap singles and brooch events. Hopefully if some of these can be held at new venues in 2016 interest in them will be revived. Special events such as the Seniors Week, the Fransted and the Win Dickinson have also been poorly attended.

The number of clubs taking part in AC Pennants has seen a slow decline over the last several years. Clubs are encouraged to get their players, particularly those in the Bronze division, to play in a Pennants team. It is an enjoyable and game-improving experience, and helps to break the ice regarding entry to CNSW events.

David Stanton

Chairman, NSW Tournament Committee 2014-2015