

CROQUET

NEW SOUTH WALES

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Supported by the



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FROM THE BOARD

Another interesting year but CNSW was able to deliver on many goals in our strategic plan.

The new constitution was overwhelmingly agreed by Clubs: 44 out of the 47 Clubs that voted in June. The new constitution is a revised simplified version based on the Model Constitution in Schedule 1 of the Associations Incorporation Regulation 2016. It makes clear that Croquet NSW is a collection of member Clubs, with Directors serving one year terms, and Clubs being responsible for their own members. Many thanks to Michael Strickland and Ted Griffin for their work, and ongoing advice in this area.

COVID-19 has affected our planned initiative to hold workshops for club members around the State. Online workshops were held in 2021 and were a popular way of sharing knowledge about coaching, tournaments, and lawn maintenance. We hope to continue these workshops, both live and using zoom in the new year. Updating Clubs with the latest Covid advice has been an ongoing challenge, and the Board appreciates the feedback and comments from clubs.

The board was also able to distribute \$67,000 in government grants to clubs as part of the “Grassroots Funding” program. Additional funds will be distributed this coming year”

Monthly electronic newsletters have been issued over the last year, with an emphasis on keeping members informed about Board and Croquet New South Wales activities and matters of relevance and providing a channel of communication about Club activities and competitions. Moving to an electronic newsletter has meant more timely information and a considerable saving in costs

The Eire Cup scheduled for Sydney in March 2021 was postponed until 2022, when NSW looks forward to hosting this premiere interstate Association Croquet tournament. In its place the Eastern Seaboard Tournament was held in March, with the singles won by Alison Sharp from Robert Fletcher. Other competition highlights are included in this report.

Coaching qualifications have taken a boost with the release of the new Croquet Australian Coach Accreditation Program, rolled out in Newcastle and Canberra in January/ February. We appreciate Pam Gentle taking up the Coaching Co-ordinator role to see this key coaching initiative established.

The continuation of tournaments when Covid allowed was much appreciated by Clubs, and the contribution particularly of regional Clubs in holding a range of these events meant that players from across the state had opportunities for State Championship competitions. The Tournaments team ably headed by David Stanton has been hard working, flexible and resourceful in rising to the challenges of running tournaments where possible and cancelling or postponing as required. The Board agreed to a new policy for CNSW Championship events. Under that policy, events will be postponed if 25% or more of players were unable to attend due to Covid 19 lockdown or travel constraints. (Should we mention State Referee coordinators?)

The lawns at Tempe were renovated and an additional lawn added to make Tempe a four-lawn venue. The work done on the NSW Headquarters lawns at Mackey Park, Tempe, by Rob Elliott and Cooks River Croquet Club was much appreciated by players. This four-lawn venue offers many opportunities for high level competition and will be important in the running of the Eire Cup March 2022.

The NSW Selection Policy has been overhauled and updated: it clarifies roles and responsibilities, opens up player access to Development Squads, focusses on fair, timely communication, and removes mandatory events with a range of events to enable assessment of players’ form.

A number of other new policies have been added to the CNSW website, some adapted from Croquet Australia and others devised for CNSW. They include: *Electronic Media Policy*, *Adverse Playing Conditions Policy*, *Use of Chemicals Policy*, *Trans and Gender Diverse Guidelines* and the *Australian National Doping Policy*. These policies all reflect current standards of contemporary sporting organisations, and many are a requirement for funding applications.

We thank all the volunteers who give so much time and energy to the sport of croquet in NSW. It has been a busy challenging year for Croquet NSW, and we thank Kate Elliott and Simon Cook who have stepped down from their roles on the Board, but who played key roles in Board responsibilities and leadership this year. And we thank the outgoing Board members who all put in time and considerable effort to ensure croquet is run and managed well in this state. It is a sign of great optimism that all members have put their hands up again. We note the active role of volunteers in Ricochet and Gateball, in Golf and Association Croquet who undertake roles including: training new referees, updating members on the rules, organising, running and managing tournaments, training coaches, and coaching members, selecting teams for competition and much more. Their reports follow. Croquet NSW also values those working in the background: Jeanette Walsh for managing memberships, Jeannette Walsh in membership, Lisa Kelshaw merchandising, David Archer for managing the website so efficiently, John Bartrop for his role in mediation.

Our Golden Mallet Award for 2020 for a volunteer nominated by Clubs around the State was awarded to Lorraine Hatfield from Sutherland Croquet Club. A tribute that represents the outstanding contribution made by our volunteers at all levels around the state, who run clubs, coach members, administer tournaments, referee games, provide catering, look after lawns and much more!

Croquet NSW Board



BOARD MEMBERS AND MEETING ATTENDANCE

Kate Elliott	8/8
Steve Miles	12/12
Kate Mcloughlin	12/12
Rosie Landrebe	7/12
Rik Mills	7/7
Simon Cook	7/7
Richard Hughes	3/3
Steve Marton	1/1

MEMBERSHIP

Croquet NSW has 67 member Clubs, which have 3,180 players across the state, and 147 full sized lawns. This is a 4% increase from 2020 numbers. Some players are members of more than one club but CNSW only charges one affiliation fee. The number of affiliated players for each region is:

ACT Riverina	233
South coast	328
Southern Sydney	285
Northern Sydney	615
Western region	229
Hunter region	540
Mid north Coast	204
Coff's coast	229
Northern rivers	231
	2,894



CNSW APPOINTED POSITION HOLDERS 2021-22

Appointed Positions	Continuing	Retiring
State Handicapper	<i>vacant</i>	
Tournament Committee	David Stanton (Chair) Richard Christian Mike Hughes John Stokes <i>Vacant</i>	Lorraine Hatfield
AC Selectors	Mike Hughes (Chair) David Stanton Kerri Ann Hughes Stephen Richards <i>Vacant</i>	
GC Selectors	Peter Montague (Chair) Peter Freer Alison Sharpe Ros Johnson <i>Vacant</i>	
State Coach	Peter Landrebe	
State Co-ordinator of Coaching	Pam Gentle	
State Director Refereeing AC	Ted Salter	
State Director Refereeing GC	Lorraine Hatfield	
State Director Gateball	Judy Tier	
State Director Ricochet	Richard Hughes	
State Co-ordinator, Junior Croquet	Jacky McDonald	
Merchandise Officer and Assistant to Treasurer	Lisa Kelshaw	
Membership Officer	Janette Walsh	
Complaints and MPP Officer	John Bartrop	
Web Manager	David Archer	
Eire Cup Management Committee 2021	David Stanton Peter Landrebe Ted Griffin Pauline Markwell	
Headquarter Lawns Management Committee	Steve Miles Rosie Landrebe Peter Landrebe	

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial Result



This report is a summary of the year. More detail is provided in the full financial statements which are presented to the AGM in a separate document.

In summary, this was a financial year which enabled CNSW to rebuild financial strength.

Certainly 2020/21 has been another interesting year as we lived through the COVID-19 epidemic. However, with stay at home restrictions and no overseas holidays many people have turned to croquet. We have more players and (when they are allowed to play) and more games per player. This, along with a surprisingly successful investment year and a change in accounting policy has resulted in an operating profit of \$79,940.

Earnings (\$)	2021	2020	2019	2018
Earnings from Croquet Activities	8,022	-7,744	-36,197	-9,041
Earnings from Investment Activities	31,548	11,879	19,568	18,952
Change in Basis	40,370			
Total Earnings	79,940	4,135	-16,630	9,911

Growth in revenue and continued expense savings has seen a return to positive earnings from croquet activities. However, not all expense savings are good. The cancelation of interstate competitions reduced state team costs!

Investment earnings benefited from a \$21,180 increase in the value of the investment due mainly to growth in Australian Unity Healthcare Property Trust. This fund is invested in health care properties in Australia and was also the target of an unsuccessful takeover bid

There was also a change in accounting basis to reflect that fact that when CNSW pays affiliation fees in June, the fees cover affiliation with Croquet Australia for January to December. This means that at the end of the June financial year there is still six months of Croquet Australian affiliation left to go. Usually there would have been a similar adjustment at the end of the previous year so the net effect would be small. This is an accounting entry only, to better reflect the matching of the timing of income and expenditure. It is not money that can be spent, nor is a refund available if CNSW cancel affiliation!

Other financial highlights of the year:

- The distribution of grass roots funding to clubs. Of the \$67,000 in funding \$47,355 was paid to clubs. The balance of \$19,645 was returned to the Office of Sport as not all clubs met the eligibility requirements. There is still another \$115,500 of funding to be distributed this year
- An increase in Affiliation Fees received as membership grew after an initial drop from the impact of COVID-19
- A significant increase in Tournament Fees received from an increase in entry fees and a growth in tournament entries.
- Significant expense savings from moving the newsletter and distribution of club information online. The monthly newsletter is now timelier and easily distributed to players
- The lawn renovation at Tempe which introduced a fourth lawn to the Tempe venue

The Financial Statements have the full financial details for the year. In summary the income and expenditure were:

Croquet NSW				
Summary of Income & Expenditure as at 30 June (\$)				
	2021	2020	2019	2018
Income				
Affiliation Fees	128,066	122,127	122,808	117,866
Nationals	0	0	26,450	0
Grants - Office of Sport	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Office of Sport Grant Income Recognised	67,000	0	0	0
Insurance Levies	11,398	10,054	10,368	9,852
Investment Income & Gains	10,368	11,690	14,887	15,206
Movement in Value of Investments	21,180	190	4,680	3,747
Presentation Day Income	0	1,179	1,564	1,464
Tournament Entry Fees	21,772	7,822	14,045	13,359
Miscellaneous Items	1,064	2,801	1,663	4,658
Total Income	275,848	170,863	211,466	181,151
Expenses				
ACA Affiliation Fees	40,370	42,480	74,741	73,453
ACA Affiliation Fee Rebate	0	42,358	0	0
Audit, Legal and Consulting Fees	2,000	4,919	30,163	18,360
Lawn Hire, Tournaments, Trophies	8,652	5,718	8,664	4,200
Depreciation	2,571	2,328	2,538	1,371
Insurance	11,448	10,821	11,390	11,381
Lawns, Tempe, CRCC	29,973	33,188	32,164	25,068
Lawn Renovation	22,555	0	0	0
Office of Sport Grass Roots Funding	67,000	0	0	0
National Championships	500	500	26,872	848
Office, Newsletter, Yearbooks	3,359	4,146	11,092	15,517
Presentation Day and Gala Day	0	3,559	1,718	1,918
Publicity	0	55	7,706	1,812
State Teams & Competition	2,239	13,908	12,592	12,840
Travel & Accommodation	1,601	1,942	5,487	2,978
Referee and Coaching	3,639	808	2,968	1,493
Total Expenses	195,908	166,727	228,095	171,240
Operating Profit	79,940	4,135	-16,630	9,911

As a result, the net assets in the balance sheet of CNSW increased to:

Croquet NSW Balance Sheet as at 30 June (\$)				
	2021	2020	2019	2018
<i>Current Assets</i>				
Cash	392,250	469,156	294,476	366,866
Receivables	19,677	2,365	4,827	1,393
Inventories	1,212	2,503	634	771
Other	46,660	6,586	5,350	5,569
<i>Non Current Assets</i>				
Other Financial Assets	160,677	131,484	125,081	115,255
Property, Plant, Equipment	10,283	11,891	14,364	6,250
Total Assets	630,758	623,984	444,734	496,104
<i>Current Liabilities</i>				
Payables	9,013	13,411	9,350	8,666
Other	130,518	199,286	28,232	63,657
Total Liabilities	139,531	212,697	37,582	72,323
Net Assets	491,227	411,287	407,152	423,781

Building Fund

Up until 2018 the financial results separated assets into General Funds and a Building Fund. There was no commitment to a building but a general expectation that funds may be required to build a clubhouse somewhere. The basis behind such model was that the building fund would receive the investment income from assets allocated to the Building Fund and that the General Funds would back a Croquet Business that would be break even each year.

As can be seen from the results above, this has not happened for several years, and after the loss of 2019 the Croquet Business was in need of extra funds.

In addition, Cooks River Croquet Club took over the lawn management for Tempe. It was expected that this would result in some extra costs (this has been true but CRCC have delivered outstanding value) and there was also the lawn renovation last year. The documentation indicated that these items could be charged against the Building Fund if it was necessary. I have therefore applied the following calculations to the Building Fund, rolling it forward from the \$358,957 disclosed in the 2018 annual report. This is one way of looking at how CNSW may spend its funds, but not the only way.

Building Fund (\$)	2021	2020	2019	2018
Balance at Start of Year	382,056	375,261	358,957	340,447
Investment Surplus	31,776	11,795	21,304	18,510
Extra CRCC Funding	-5,000	-5,000	-5,000	
Lawn Renovation	-22,555			
Investment Income on Grants	-1,074			
Balance at End of Year	385,203	382,056	375,261	358,957

It is important to look at this figure in the context of the overall net asset position of CNSW. As can be seen below, CNSW was undercapitalised until this year. This is not a concern for CNSW as long as the Building Fund is not spent. If the Building Fund is spent, CNSW will require additional capital.

Allocation of Net Assets	2021	2020	2019	2018
Investments supporting the Building Fund	385,203	382,056	375,261	358,957
Business Assets - Cash and Receivables	47,869	8,252	11,541	52,234
Business Assets - Non Financial	58,155	20,980	20,348	12,590
Total Net Assets	491,227	411,288	407,152	423,781

Looking Forward

For the last three years the Tempe lawns have been managed by Cooks River Croquet Club. Unfortunately, this arrangement was terminated by CCRC as the rollover conditions could not be met, either by CNSW or CCRC. As a result, the management of the Tempe lawns has reverted to CNSW. CRCC will pay hire charges which will grow as their membership grows.

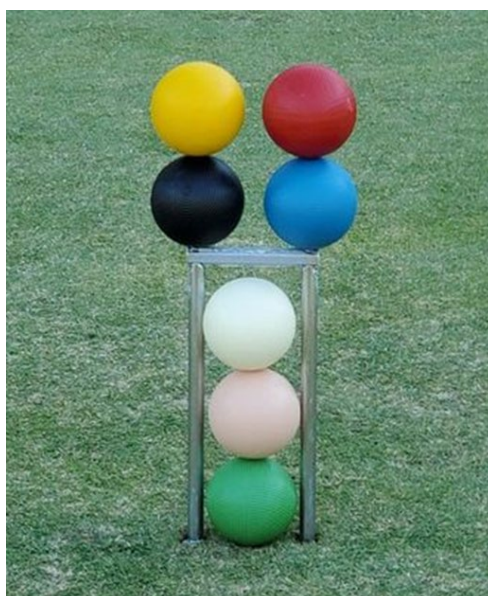
Longer term, CNSW is still looking to partner with CRCC on the management of Tempe. CNSW is working with Inner West Council to establish how that can be best achieved.

Over the coming year our challenges are to:

- Manage the Tempe lawns to have a suitable venue for the Eire Cup in March 2022
- Increase services in regional NSW where 70% of our members live
- Support the growth of club membership and recruit more clubs to CNSW

In closing I would like to thank club secretaries and treasurers for their help in paying promptly and being responsive to my information requests. My personal thanks to Jeannette Walsh as membership officer and to David Archer who is our webmaster. Both of these jobs require constant work each week and the efforts of Jeannette and David are truly appreciated.

Steve Miles,
CNSW Treasurer



COMMITTEE /OFFICER REPORTS

Golf Croquet Selection Committee

AIMS

The GC Selection Committee's aims for 2021 were:

- to encourage the establishment or continuation of Regional Development Squads,
- to select a State Squad and to run training sessions for the squad members,
- to select a team for the Interstate Shield to compete in Tasmania in September, and
- to select the fields for the Selectors' Event and the ACA Bronze Medal competition.

PROGRESS IN 2020

As a consequence of Covid19 restrictions, the Inter State Shield for 2020 was first postponed and then cancelled, and other planned events were also affected.

To sustain the interest and commitment of State Squad players, we therefore re-designed the Selector's Event as a contest between two NSW teams (Red v White). This was held over two days at Newcastle National Park CC, at the time the postponed ISS was scheduled (early December). This was a considerable success and could well be a regular feature of the croquet calendar.

PROGRESS IN 2021

Our first priority was to try and extend the range of Regional Development Squads (or their equivalents). We sought leaders in most regions, with mixed success - people were generally positive but often too busy. Strong regional groups are active in Northern Rivers, Hunter, and ACT, and Northern Rivers have been particularly communicative about participation in, and results of, their competitions. We have not done anything to facilitate coaching of these squads, however.

The Selection Committee provided feedback as required for the revision of the Selection Policy, which has now been finalised.

The State Squad was named in late April. 20 players were included, in order to encourage fast improvers as well as to provide the pool for the State Team. This selection date enabled the results of the Men's and Women's GC championships to be taken into account.

We did not contact the many individuals who had declined to be considered in 2019 (unless they had subsequently been active in tournaments), but we did ask our various regional contacts for their recommendations.

Because of the constraints of time and the effect of Covid19, we only required State Squad members to attend a minimum of one Squad training session and one qualifying tournament. Squad members showed commitment and enthusiasm, many exceeding these minimum requirements. Three training sessions were organised - one at a weekend and two immediately following GC tournaments.

The committee's proposed State Team was presented to the Board on June 8th, just after the last training session, and was approved 4 days later. The team included 5 women (each scheduled to play in several Tests), and 4 men with a male Reserve/Team Manager. Written feedback was provided to all Squad members who missed selection. Sadly, the Inter State Shield was subsequently cancelled for 2021, owing to Covid19 spreading in Greater Sydney and risking closure of State borders.

We planned to run the Selectors' Event as separate Men's and Women's Eights, with the winner of each to be offered entry into the Bronze Medal. However, too few of the invited players were available, so the event was run with a single group, with the winner and runner-up able to enter the Bronze Medal.

The field for the ACA Bronze Medal was determined in mid-June, which was short notice for the players; however, this tournament was postponed owing to Covid19. (The ACA Gold Medal was cancelled for 2021.)

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

We need to make vigorous efforts to extend the number of Regional Development Squads and to secure detailed data about participating players and their performance from more of these squads. This process should be started preferably before the ISS in 2021, so that the spring is not wasted. It also needs to be coordinated with development of the Regional Hubs. We may be able to facilitate coaching of the regional squads. We need to determine carefully how to promote Development Squads more effectively. The cancellation of ISS and the restrictions on travel mean that we can and should focus on regional development for the remainder of 2021.

While not relaxing our own efforts to discover promising players, we propose to send a letter to all NSW clubs, late in 2021, inviting any player who would like to be considered for selection to the State Squad 2022 to supply an expression of interest.

The State Squad could perhaps be named earlier in the year; however, we need to be clear about the purpose of the State Squad and of its associated training sessions.

The selection of the State Team in mid-June seems appropriate, given that it allows for as many major State tournaments as possible to be taken into account (aiding assessment of current form and capturing rapid improvers).

We should discuss the merits of our intended model for the Selectors' Event (Men's and Women's Eights), and the purpose of this Event could also usefully be reviewed.

We can but hope that Covid19 will have less impact on our activities in 2022, but will no doubt need to be flexible according to circumstances.

The GCSC currently has 4 members. This has been satisfactory, but there is a benefit in having an additional, preferably regional, member, to help to extend our awareness of new regional players. Five members are required by the current Selection Policy.

Peter Montague

Chairman

CNSW GC Selection Committee



NSW Intrastate Cup players. With the cancellation of the Interstate Golf Croquet Shield competition in 2020, squad members were divided into two teams: Red and White and played a 2 day contest, kindly hosted at Newcastle Croquet Club, December 5 & 6. Both teams were victorious on one of the days. Well done all, and thanks to Newcastle for hosting.

Association Croquet Selection Committee

The AC Selection Committee at the time the Eire Cup team was selected in December 2020 comprised Rob Elliott, Mike Hughes, David Stanton, and Peter Landrebe as Coach. Since then, Rob Elliott has resigned, Kerri-Ann Organ and Stephen Richards have been added. A new Selection Guidelines policy was introduced during the year and has been taken to apply to the Selection Committee in the current year. Potential players were directed to draft guidelines and advised that the new guidelines would be in effect once approved by the Board.

The state team selected for the Eire cup was Jim Nicholls, Peter Landrebe, Stephen Richards, Tim Murphy, Alison Sharpe, Alix Verge, Rosie Landrebe, Kerri-Ann Organ with Alan Honey, Barbara McDonald and Kate McLoughlin reserves and Alan Honey as non-playing captain. In the event the Eire Cup was not played because of COVID-19 and is currently re-scheduled for March 2022.

The committee selected a state squad from which the state team for the 2022 Eire Cup is expected to be chosen, and a **development** squad of players. Those squads were:

State Squad (Peter Landrebe, coach)

Rob Elliott	Alan Honey	Peter Landrebe
Rosie Landrebe	Kate McLoughlin	Liz Montague
Tim Murphy	Jim Nicholls	Kerri-Ann Organ
Stephen Richards	Diane Scott	Alison Sharpe

Alix Verge was originally selected but subsequently withdrew as she is recovering from a major operation.

Development Squad (Tim Murphy, coach)

John Bartrop	Joanne Brown	Sue Eldridge-Smith
Peter Freer	Mike Gidding	Steve Miles
Peter Montague	Julie Toms	Ted Woodley
Don Wright		

To date scheduled practice sessions have been unable to be held because of COVID-19 restrictions.

The committee has also selected the field for the Bronze Medal scheduled for mid-November. This field consists of 7 selected players, plus the winner of the selectors 8.

Bronze medal Players

Alison Sharpe	Jim Nicholls	Peter Landrebe
Stephen Richards	Rob Elliott	Trevor Bassett
Tim Murphy		

Originally scheduled for early September this event has currently been postponed.

Selectors 8 Players

Alan Honey	Ted Salter	Alan Walsh
Mike Hughes	Mike Gidding	Rosie Landrebe
Gareth Denyer	Kerri-Ann Organ	

It now seems likely both these events will be unable to be held until late this year or perhaps early next. The Selection Committee will need to liaise with the Tournament Committee to re-schedule these events when play becomes possible.

Finally, the committee discussed running additional selection events. In recent years a second 8s has been run. The committee has decided to select fields aimed at development players and has sent

out requests for expressions of interest to potential players. Again, it is uncertain when these events can be held.

The lack of events played to date this year, and probably for the remainder of the year, will impact on the selection of the team for the Eire Cup. The new playing requirements set out in the new Selection Guidelines introduced this year will be unable to be met. We will need to decide how to approach this selection once players COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed

Mike Hughes

Chairman

CNSW AC Selection Committee



1Scenes from the Eastern Seaboard AC competition in March

Tournament Committee

The past 12 months have once again been very busy for the Tournament Committee. Eighteen CNSW events were held between August 2020 and the end of November, in addition to seven regional qualifying events for the Beryl Chambers Memorial Trophy, at Lismore, Urunga, Chatswood, Cooks River, Orange, Jamberoo and Canberra.

The major events which were postponed from the first half of 2020 were rescheduled to be played in the second half of the year. Some events were cancelled outright, including the Fransted Trophy, the Tempe Open, the AC Bronze Brooch, AC Silver Brooch, AC Silver Singles, AC Open Doubles, AC Champion of Club Champions, GC Silver Brooch, GC Handicap Doubles and Singles and the GC Division 1 Mixed Doubles. Most postponed events were able to be fitted in to a very tight schedule, greatly helped by a number of events being hosted by Cammeray, Canberra, Cheltenham, Killara and Mosman croquet clubs.

The desire to get all major GC events played before the ACA events in Tasmania caused some problems, which were partly alleviated when it appeared that the ACA events would be cancelled, as they eventually were.

Emails were sent to all players who had entered any of these events advising them of changed dates and asking for confirmation that they were still able to take part. Emails were also sent to clubs which had agreed to host CNSW events, seeking agreement for new dates.

In the first half of 2021 we were able to play eighteen regular CNSW events, plus four regional qualifying events for the Beryl Chambers, at Byron Bay, Urunga, Manly and Jamberoo. Once again, this was made possible by events being hosted by Cammeray, Chatswood, Jamberoo, Killara, Nowra, Sawtell, Taree and Warrawee croquet clubs.

As the ACA AC events (Gold Medal, Men's and Women's Singles and Eire Cup) scheduled for Sydney in March were cancelled, we organised two replacement events, the Eastern Seaboard Mixed Doubles and the Eastern Seaboard Singles. These events were played at Warrawee, Killara, Cammeray and Tempe, and attracted strong fields including several players from Victoria.

In March, GC Division 2 and 3 pennants competitions commenced with entries from 19 teams and 23 teams respectively. The finals were scheduled for September to allow for any interruptions caused by lockdowns. As it turned out, even this extension was not sufficient. It is expected that the remaining few zonal competitions should be completed in November and December and Finals for these 2021 competitions have been scheduled for January 2022.

Only three clubs entered teams in the AC Pennants. Some matches were played before the lockdown prevented further play, and these events have now been cancelled.

Since 1 July only two events have been held, the Division 3 Doubles and Singles, held at Ballina, Byron Bay and Lismore. These events attracted large fields, and the use of three venues allowed all players to get a good number of games over the 5 days. All CNSW events which were scheduled later in July up to the end of October have been either postponed or cancelled, and many of them have tentatively been scheduled for November and December.

The problems of the last 6 months have contributed to, but have not been solely responsible for, a certain lack of progress on the task of developing revised Tournament Regulations. I would like to thank TC members Lorraine Hatfield, Mike Hughes, Peter Landrebe and Richard Christian for their contribution during what has been a difficult year. Lorraine has decided not to continue on the Tournament Committee so that she can concentrate on her new role as State Director of GC Refereeing. John Stokes has agreed to join the committee.

We have developed a calendar of events for 2022, as well as a schedule for November and December 2021, in the hope that competitions can resume from early in November.

The Tournament Committee feels that there needs to be a policy on vaccination for future CNSW events. The view of the committee is that all personnel associated with the on-court running of a

tournament (players, referees, managers, scorers and time-keepers) must be double vaccinated for COVID-19. We would like the CNSW Board to adopt this as a policy for all future CNSW events.

David Stanton

Chairman, CNSW Tournament Committee

Coaching Co-ordinator

As reported last year, the ACA has developed a new coaching program, written by Greg Bury and assisted by Barb Piggott, which is being rolled out Australia wide. The aim behind the new coaching program is to ensure consistency in coaching throughout Australia, and to provide on-line and easily accessible resources for all coaches and players.

Greg has toured Australia to introduce the program, and to re-certify our existing coaches with the new material. It was the turn of NSW in January of this year, when he visited Newcastle and Canberra. All participants were very impressed with the presentation and new manuals, and by the time Greg left NSW we had re-certified 6 Level 1, 23 Level 2, and 13 Level 3 Golf Croquet coaches, 2 level 1 and 13 Level 2 Association Croquet coaches, 11 Level 1 and 7 Level 2 Ricochet coaches, 6 Level 1 and 3 Level 2 Gateball coaches.

Since then, we have managed to run courses in Maitland, Mosman and Canberra for Golf Croquet with 19 new Level 1 GC coaches certified, and 8 Level 2 coaches re-certified, and for Gateball with another three Level 1 and five Level 2 coaches. Unfortunately, COVID lockdowns have meant we have been unable to run any more courses, but as soon as we are out of lockdown courses will be organized and advertised.

Up until now the on-line component of the new course has not been available, however this has now been launched via a Zoom meeting with all Australian states participating. All certified coaches will receive an email with login details to access the on-line material as soon as it becomes live.

I would encourage all coaches accredited under the old system to fill out the application form on the CNSW website Coaching page before their four-year accreditation has expired, so that they can be included in any courses as soon as possible. Expiry dates for coach accreditation can be checked on the CNSW website Coaching page.

I would also encourage anyone looking to further their career in croquet to consider becoming a coach. Coaching is a most rewarding experience, and it would be wonderful to have at least one coach in every club in New South Wales.

Pam Gentle

CNSW Coaching Coordinator



State Director Refereeing (AC)

This year saw the introduction of the 7th Edition of the Laws of Association Croquet and the ensuing re-accreditation of referees and umpires. 25 AC referees and 10 umpires have been re-accredited; Rule Books have been distributed to Referees and Umpires and are now available for Club purchase. Referee training has been active along the mid north Coast and Coffs coast.



3 AC referees from Mid north coast and Coffs Coast following re-accreditation

State Director Refereeing (GC)

What an extraordinary year this has been! For all GC Referees, who are the star players in this report, a definite positive is that the Rules of our game stayed the same even if everything else around us kept changing! Just as well, really, because restrictions linking group sizes and space required made it difficult to hold Rules workshops.

Just before her retirement as State Director of GC Refereeing at the end of 2020, Bev Smith introduced the role of Tutor Referees to NSW. (Many thanks Bev for sharing your expertise and enthusiasm for refereeing over those years when you were SDR-GC!!!!) Tutor Referees work with the Examining Referees in each region with a particular focus on helping trainee candidates to develop their Lawn Craft in preparation for their final pre-Accreditation assessment.

Amongst the 85 Accredited GC Referees in NSW there are now 11 Examining Referees and 8 Tutor referees. To facilitate administration, communication and support, NSW GC referees are grouped into 6 regions: Northern Rivers, Coffs Coast, Mid North, Hunter, Sydney Metro and West/ACT/South Coast. At the time of preparing this report, there are 26 trainee referees working towards accreditation and spread across all the regions.

Despite last minute re-scheduling due to the pandemic or venue changes required because of a large number of entries, there have been referees at all venues where play occurred in a CNSW GC Open event. WCF released a new version of their Refereeing Regulations in March 2021. So a focus for all referees involved in these championship events was to be familiar with those new regulations. In addition, at each of these events, the Tournament Referee facilitated a short discussion/feedback session each day with all referees involved.

The role of a GC Referee is a challenging one requiring mental and physical agility, diplomacy, vigilance and resilience in all weathers. To recognise the contribution of any referee who decides not to renew their accreditation, the Board has approved the presentation of a Service Award Badge to recognise their contribution to the playing of Golf Croquet in NSW. This badge is to replace their referee badge which cannot be worn if accreditation has lapsed.

Despite the challenges of the past year, GC Refereeing is alive and well in NSW. Whatever challenges come along next year, we will meet them with determination – recognising that hopefully, things will be better at the next hoop!

Lorraine Hatfield

State Director GC Refereeing

Gateball Co-ordinator

The discipline of gateball is but a minnow in the NSW croquet sea. It is played regularly at five NSW/ACT clubs and an increasing number of players must locate an active club to get a game.

Due to Covid restrictions NSW Gateball was able to hold only one major tournament. Fortunately,



Canberra Mavericks – winner of the 2021 NSW State Teams Championships

this was the CNSW supported NSW Championships held this year at Toronto on the Central Coast. Thank you CNSW for supplying the winner's badges and paying for trophy engraving. 12 pairs of Doubles representing South Australia, NSW, the ACT and Queensland competed for the Doubles trophy. In an incredibly tight fought game, the ACT pairing of Glen and Kristina Whitehead beat Geoff Crook (Woodville) and Barry Jennings (Hyde Park). Eight teams entered the Teams Championship. Many high scoring matches resulted in a finals contest between Canberra Mavericks and Canberra Sparkers won by the Mavericks. In third place was the Queensland team from Southport, Rockhampton and Ipswich.

The Sydney EPSTARS, made up of players from 4 Sydney clubs, improved their performance throughout the tournament and Strathfield benefitted from the strategy of Geoff Crook from the SA Woodville CC. I congratulate the Strathfield gate ballers for keeping the game alive in the Sydney region. The regular Sundays have gradually increased in numbers and has been a beacon of hope for gateball in Sydney's west and beyond.

With support from the ACA our coaching numbers have increased with nine Level 1 and eight level 2 coaches now accredited. Referees are a mandatory requirement for gateball games and this year five gained Level 2 accreditation and three await their practical assessment at our next tournament. We all know it requires effort to initiate any change (like introducing a new discipline), unfortunately we also know there will always be critics. These people are usually those who rely on the drive and enthusiasm of others. However, all the drive and enthusiasm for something new like gateball will never be successful if there is no support from the Club, particularly their committee members.

2020/21 has been a difficult year in which to grow our numbers but Twin Cities Croquet Club in Albury is one Club that has put in strategies to encourage our game. In November we introduced the game to 9 croquet players who have now played in their first state gateball tournament.

We have a full program for 2022 with many innovations. One day competitions, invitation only tournaments, more doubles and triples and a triathlon with gateball, golf croquet and ricochet.

Judy Tier
Gateball Coordinator



Bruce McAlister (International Referee) awarding Level 2 referee badges to Marion Davies and Robyn Irwin (Toronto CC) and Allan Gray (National Park Newcastle CC)

Ricochet Development Officer

Ricochet referees

Due to Covid and the fact that there was a period where there was no CNSW Ricochet Development Officer a number of accredited referees' accreditation expired during 2021. ACA agreed to extend the time for re-accreditation until early 2022. Thank you to all the referees who applied for re-accreditation. Lynda Davis, ACA Ricochet National Co-ordinator, Margaret-Rose Thompson, Examining Referee and myself wrote questions to be done by referees wanting to re-accredit. The original plan was to hold workshops to discuss issues and to share refereeing experiences and observations. Covid has prevented us holding the workshops apart from one held at Ballina in early July 2021 before the Northern Rivers was locked down. The alternative was that referees do the questions to satisfy the re-accreditation requirements. Thanks to all referees who have completed this. Their ongoing interest and commitment is much appreciated.

Five new referees have been accredited. A couple of other members have done the open book exam. We now just have to do the lawn craft and second part of the accreditation questions. Covid is playing havoc with this process. Again, thank you to these members for their commitment and understanding in what is becoming a drawn-out process.

CNSW Open Ricochet Singles and Doubles Championship

The events were held at Sawtell from 24 to 28 June 2021. There were 8 doubles pairs and 12 singles entries. The singles were won by Ray Chapman, Ballina Cherry Street and the runner up was Michael Hasting, Sawtell, while the doubles were won by Wayne Gadtke and Peter Deeth, Coutts Crossing and the runners up were Gary Urquhart and Graeme Marshall, Sawtell. Thanks to Sawtell for hosting the event, providing a warm welcome, superb catering and great conditions, with special thanks to Jenny Arnold the Tournament Manager. We were very lucky with the timing as the Greater Sydney lockdown was imposed on the Sunday night and so did not impact the event to any great extent. I look forward to another successful event in 2022.

I surveyed clubs to see which clubs play ricochet club championships. Thank you to the clubs that responded. It helps me get an overview of the interest in ricochet.

The Northern Rivers Croquet Association Clubs have scheduled Ricochet pennants in 2020 and 2021. Covid has conspired against holding the pennants in both years. Hopefully 2022 will be safer and more normal as far as playing croquet goes. It would be interesting to know whether other regions play ricochet pennants.

In conclusion thank you to all members who play ricochet, who are fostering the interest in and growth of the code. Also thank you to Lynda Davis for her support and encouragement. Finally a big thank you to Margaret-Rose Thompson for her tireless enthusiasm, commitment, work and advocacy for Ricochet.

Richard Hughes

Ricochet Development Officer



CNSW OPEN RICOCHET SINGLES – Ray Chapman, Ballina Cherry Street, winner, Michael Hasting, Sawtell, runner up, Phyllis Waters, Lismore, 3rd and Mary Hughes, Ballina 4th

STATE TEAMS 2021

The major Association and Golf Croquet interstate competitions were both cancelled during 2021 due to Covid 19 constraints. However, both teams were selected to represent their state, and we acknowledge the achievement of the team members in being selected. We look forward to 2022!

Eire cup (AC) team 2021

The Eire Cup is the premiere AC competition in Australia: pitting the four best male and female players in each State against each other. In 2021 the Cup was to be held in Sydney in March 2021 but had to be cancelled until March 2022, when it will be held in Sydney, with a team to be selected.

The 2021 Team was:

Peter Landrebe (Cammeray/Cooks River), Tim Murphy (Canberra), Jim Nicholls (Wagga Wagga), Stephen Richards (Canberra), reserve and **Captain** Alan Honey (Canberra).
Rosie Landrebe (Cammeray/Cooks River), Kerri Ann Organ (Canberra), Alison Sharpe (Killara), Alix Verge (Royal Sydney), reserves Barbara McDonald and Kate McLoughlin (Canberra).



4The 2020 Team (minus Stephen Richards), current Eire Cup title holders

Interstate shield (GC) team 2021

The ISS is the premiere GC competition in Australia, where teams of four men and four women compete against the other Australian States in a round robin. Due to be held in Launceston, Tasmania in 2021, the event was cancelled due to Covid constraints. The 2022 event is to be held in Adelaide in September, with a team to be selected in 2022.

The 2021 Team was:



Alison Sharpe (**Captain**) (Killara), Gerda Lambeck (Canberra), Rosie Landrebe (Cammeray/Cooks River), Kate McLoughlin (Canberra), Pamela Barnwell (Newcastle National Park/Nelson Bay).
Peter Landrebe (Cammeray/Cooks River), Peter Freer (Canberra/Queanbeyan), Derek Bull (**Vice-Captain**) (Newcastle/Nelson Bay), David Scott (Ballina Cherry Street/Lismore) Reserve and **Team Manager** Kevin McGlynn (Canberra/Queanbeyan)

GOLDEN MALLET AWARD 2020

The Golden Mallet award celebrates outstanding contributions to croquet in NSW and the ACT. It replaces the President's Award, and the nominations are put forward mostly by the Club members and peers, recognising their fellow members. This is the second year of this award, and although we are not able to have an event to recognise the nominees and winner, we were pleased to receive nominations for 11 CNSW Club members, all of whom have made wonderful contributions to croquet.

Nominations received

The following nominations were received from Clubs across the State, and I congratulate all these members on their significant contribution to our sport. Well, done to you all! And a big thank you to members who put together the information for the nominations.

David Scott Cherry St Croquet Club, Ballina

Alison Hine, Wagga Wagga

Robert Wilson, Camden Park

Janelle Wood, Cheltenham

Brenda Wild, Mt Sugarloaf

Andrew Davies, Canberra

Peter Martin, Coutts Crossing (2 nominations)

Bronwyn Thompson, Lithgow

Chris Christopher, Wollongong

Lorraine Hatfield, Sutherland

Kevin Davies and Ted Lyng, Toronto

Winner

The judging panel comprising Peter Freer, Canberra (last year's winner), Pam Gentle, Maitland and Richard Hughes, Ballina Croquet Club. The winner was (drum roll.....)

Lorraine Hatfield, Sutherland Croquet Club.

Lorraine was nominated for her many contributions at the State and local level. She has been active on the CNSW Tournaments Committee, including coordinating the Pennants competitions for Golf Croquet and the awards for events. Lorraine has contributed significantly to refereeing, running training as well as refereeing several State events and is active in coaching both Golf Croquet and Ricochet. A player and active member of Sutherland Croquet Club, she is described by fellow members as innovative, professional and a problem solver who manages to keep croquet 'fun and informed' for her fellow Club members, especially during the pandemic. Congratulations Lorraine!



Runner up

Peter Martin, Coutts Crossing Croquet Club.

Peter Martin has produced and published Running Hoops, an independent croquet newsletter 'written with humour and understanding of the interests and needs of ordinary Club players during the pandemic'. Peter established the Coutts Crossing Club and has encouraged croquet within the Clarence Valley especially. He has been active as Club President, Secretary, has written grants and been active in coaching, mentoring, and refereeing. He has publicized croquet and organized play with local clubs. Congratulations Peter!

CROQUET NSW EVENT WINNERS 2020/2021

2020 NSW GC ACA BRONZE MEDAL won by Peter Landrebe (Cook's River) from Chris Williamson (Toronto)

2020 NSW DIV 2 GC DOUBLES won by Kevin McGlynn & Sue Forrest (Canberra) from Denese McCann & Julie Toms (Canberra)

2020 NSW DIVISION 2 SINGLES won by Georgina Carnegie (Royal Sydney Golf Club) from Ruth Mulvaney (Toronto)

2020 NSW AC SELECTORS INVITATION
First 7 was won by Rob Elliott (Cook's River).
Second 7 was won by David Stanton (Cammeray).

2020 NSW GC DIVISION 1 SINGLES won by Peter Freer (Canberra), from Pamela Barnwell (Newcastle)

2020 NSW AC OPEN SINGLES won by Tim Murphy (Canberra) from Callum Hyland (Sandy Bay, Tas)

2020 NSW GC OPEN DOUBLES won by Pamela Barnwell and Derek Bull (Newcastle National Park) from Ron and Ros Johnstone (Cooks River/Sutherland)

2020 BERYL CHAMBERS STATE AC HANDICAP FINALS won by David Scott (Ballina Cherry Street) from Simon Cook (Coutt's Crossing)

2020 NSW GC CLUB CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT won by Rob M Elliott (Royal Sydney Golf Club)

2020 NSW AC ACA BRONZE MEDAL won by Rob Elliott (Cook's River) from Tim Murphy (Canberra)

2021 NSW AC 3 & UNDER SINGLES won by Stephen Richards (Canberra) from Robert Elliott (Cooks River)

2021 NSW AC 5 & UNDER DOUBLES won by Rosemary Landrebe & Peter Montague

(Cammeray/Killara) from Elizabeth Montague & Peter Landrebe (Killara/Cammeray)

2021 EASTERN SEABOARD AC OPEN MIXED DOUBLES won by Alison Sharpe (Killara) & Tim Murphy (Canberra) from Tricia Devlin (Castlemaine, Vic) & Callum Hyland (Sandy Bay, Tas)

2021 EASTERN SEABOARD AC OPEN SINGLES won by Alison Sharpe (Killara), winner of the 18-21 Mar, Tempe, from Callum Hyland (Sandy Bay, Tas).

2021 NSW GC WOMEN'S OPEN SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP won by Alison Sharpe (Killara) from Gerda Lambeck (Canberra).

2021 NSW AC MEN'S OPEN SINGLES won by Peter Landrebe (Cammeray) from Tim Murphy (Canberra).

2021 NSW AC BRONZE SINGLES won by Sandra Colquhoun (Cammeray) winner from David Rush (Killara).

2021 NSW GC MEN'S SINGLES won by Peter Landrebe (Cammeray) from David Hanbidge (Nowra).

2021 NSW AC PLATINUM won by Don Wright (Cooks River)

2021 NSW AC GOLD won by John Stokes (Cooks River)

2021 NSW AC SILVER won by Peter Brown (Cammeray) from Chris Brown (Cammeray)

2021 NSW GC HANDICAP SINGLES won by Peter Gordon (Maitland) from Bernie McAlary (Wollongong).

2021 NSW GC HANDICAP DOUBLES won by Jim Ball & Cheryl Lloyd (Nelson Bay) from Peter Gordon & Sherry Gordon (Nelson Bay)

2021 NSW GC OPEN SINGLES won by Peter Freer (Canberra) from David Scott (Cherry St Ballina)

2021 NSW GC SELECTORS INVITATION won by Pamela Barnwell (Newcastle NP) from Kate McLoughlin (Canberra)

2021 BERYL CHAMBERS AC HANDICAP STATE FINAL won by Tim Murphy (Canberra) from Gary Urquart (Sawtell)

2021 NSW GC DIVISION 2 SINGLES won by Doug Cornish (Nowra) from Jill Sullivan (Sutherland).

2021 NSW GC DIVISION 2 DOUBLES Brian Mitchell & Doug Cornish (Nowra) from Janelle Brown & Maureen Waters (Wollongong)

2021 NSW GC DIVISION 3 SINGLES won by Michael Dalton (Byron Bay) from Penny Scott (Ballina Cherry St)

2021 NSW GC DIVISION 3 DOUBLES won by Jan & Keith Brodie (Coutts Crossing) from Deborah Jones & Judy King (Ballina)

2021 NSW AC OPEN WOMEN'S SINGLES won by Alison Sharpe (Killara) from Kerri-Ann Organ (Canberra).

2021 NSW RICOCHET OPEN SINGLES won by Ray Chapman (Ballina Cherry St) from Michael Hastings (Sawtell).

2021 NSW RICOCHET OPEN DOUBLES won by Peter Deeth & Wayne Gacke (Coutts Crossing) from Graeme Marshall & Garry Urquhart (Sawtell)

Acknowledgement of Country

'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.'

