

CROQUET NSW NEWSLETTER



December 2021

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Golden Mallet Award

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Our Patron, the Honourable Margaret Beazley, sends her best wishes to members. Please see attached letter from the Governor.

WHAT IS THE GC SELECTION COMMITTEE UP TO?

By the end of January, we aim to form a GC State Squad of around 20 players, for a series of training sessions running to the end of May. From these players we then expect to select the NSW Team to play the InterState Shield in Adelaide in September.

We will be looking at results of major tournaments during this time, to help us to assess players' form and match temperament, and maybe even identify new emerging players.

Right now, we are busy finding out which players are available for selection this year. If any NSW player feels they may not be on our radar (perhaps because they have not been playing in State tournaments in 2020 or 2021), they should contact one of the committee members. They would need to be at handicap 3 or less, or rapidly improving towards a lower handicap.

Our other main goal is to expand the number of Regional Development Squads (RDS) across NSW and to encourage and support them.

The purpose of a RDS is to intensify competition at the Division 1 and State level, and to increase the number and standard of players keen to play for the State. Each RDS develops its own structure and activities but should have a Coordinator who can keep us informed about the progress of participating players, and through whom we can support and inform the players about coaching opportunities and State selection processes.

At present, RDS have been running for some time, or are just now getting under way, in:

Northern Rivers (Ray Chapman)

Hunter (Pamela Barnwell, Peter Smith)

ACT/Riverina (Peter Freer)

Coffs Coast (Simon Cook)

Southern Metropolitan (Ron Johnstone) We anticipate a Northern Metropolitan squad will form in early 2022, and we would very much like to see similar squads form in the South Coast and Central Coast regions.

The GC Selection Committee comprises Alison Sharpe, Ros Johnstone, Peter Freer and Peter Montague.

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Kate McLoughlin

Deputy Chair: Rik Mills

Treasurer: Steve Miles

Secretary: David Scott

Projects & Grants: Rosie Landrebe

Newsletter: Liz Friend

newsletter@croquet-nsw.org

Board member: Ray Chapman

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

[Croquet NSW Facebook page](#)



FROM THE BOARD

It is great to see competitions underway again, as players enter Clubs and State events to make up for lost time. The GC Pennants competitions are underway, and the AC Bronze Medal will be played in Canberra on Dec 11 and 12. The Tournament Calendar for 2022 is available on the website, and there are still opportunities for Clubs to host Croquet NSW events for next year.

Croquet NSW has launched applications for Club Hubs.

Golden Mallet Award nominations have come in; thanks to those Clubs who submitted nominations. Judges: Lorraine Hatfield (Sutherland), Kem Hazelton (Queanbeyan) and Fay Ross (Lismore) will be recommending the winner in the next few weeks. Cliff Elliott from SouthWest Rocks has again crafted a trophy for the winner to keep.

Work is underway for the holding of the Eire Cup in 2022: David Stanton is approaching Clubs to confirm the use of their lawns. Royal Sydney Golf Club has put in planning work to ensure there will be four top class lawns available. The Tempe lawns are undergoing their annual renovation, and we are in touch with other Clubs to confirm their venues.

Trophies are being returned to Croquet NSW HQ at Tempe, thanks to the work of Board member Ray Chapman. They are being engraved with recent winner's names.

A defibrillator has been purchased by Croquet NSW and will be installed at Tempe. Training in using the defibrillator is to be organised.

The Croquet world was shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of Alan Honey on Friday 26 November. Alan has played high level Association Croquet in State and National competitions and was a much-loved friend and colleague to many. Our commiserations to his partner Kerri-Ann Organ.

Kate McLoughlin, Chair, Croquet NSW

EOI STATE HANDICAPPER

Croquet NSW is looking for a person to undertake the role of State Handicapper.

The State Handicapper shall administer the AHS for Croquet NSW and in particular with reference to Clauses 5.1 to 5.4 of the ACA Handicapping Regulations. They will consider and impart to all clubs additional supplementary advice or guidelines as they are received from time to time from the ACA Handicapping Committee.

The Officer should ideally:

- be familiar with Association Croquet, Golf Croquet and Ricochet
- have a broad knowledge of play and competition throughout the State
- be available for advice for Clubs across the State
- provide information and training where appropriate in the area of assigning, changing and determining player handicaps.

Please contact the [Chair](#) for more information, and send your expression of interest to secretary@croquet-nsw.org

SURVIVING COVID RESTRICTIONS ...

Orange Scoring Hoops

The Orange City Croquet Club is almost back to normal playing arrangements after its share of disappointments over the past 18 months of COVID-19 restrictions. When recreation and sport was closed down, we suspended play, but were thankful that most of that time was in the winter when our couch lawns are completely dormant. Our lawns went into winter with a good grass coverage, albeit not a blade of green and some heavy snow falls. But they have come out the other end looking the best they ever have.

At the beginning of 2020, we ordered a new mower which had to come from South Africa. Delays in delivery are an understatement and then when it was to arrive, we were told that it was damaged beyond repair in transit. A new one finally arrived in time for the Spring growth (in 2021) and, along with our professional greenkeeper, means that the lawns are a real pleasure to play on. We are now playing AC three mornings a week and GC four afternoons a week in addition to a morning training session in GC for new players. Membership continues to grow.

While we had to cancel a couple of carnivals and travel to neighbouring inter-town friendly competitions because of COVID-19 restrictions, we are looking forward to holding our AC Carnival in February 2022 and our GC Carnival in October 2022. No members succumbed to COVID-19 and all members are now fully vaccinated and enjoying the Spring playing conditions.



Nelson Bay

COVID-19 has been tough on everyone but has been particularly hard on community sport. Nelson Bay Croquet Club lost 12 weeks play altogether (8 weeks in 2020 and 4 weeks in 2021), but also some additional 16 weeks with very restricted numbers of members able to play.

However, in comparison with other local community sports, many of which have hardly been able to play at all, croquet has been lucky. The nature of the sport – played on a large court in the open air with players taking turns to strike a stationary ball – means that physical distancing is relatively easy and croquet was able to resume much earlier than many other community sports.

The 2021 lockdown seemed to effect club members more severely than the 2020 restrictions. Perhaps there was a level of novelty first time around and many members commented on discovering new walks and places locally. Whereas, when the club resumed in 2021, members commented on how relieved and glad they were to be able to get out of the house to play croquet, even if only for an hour or so.

In retrospect, though we should have preferred not to have had the experience at all, COVID has arguably made the club stronger. Members now fully appreciate the value of the social aspects of meeting regularly at a social game of croquet. For majority of members, a convivial chat over a cup of tea and a biscuit is an important part of being a member of our Club.



HONOURING ALAN - 50 YEARS YOUNG

Alan Honey died suddenly on Friday 26 November at the age of 50. His is a great loss to his family and friends, but also to the croquet community. Alan was a friendly, much-loved person who loved his croquet and was committed to being the best player he could be. As a result, among other results he was a 3x winner of the NSW 1st Selectors and played for NSW in 4 interstate cups, being part of NSW winning twice. His best individual tournament wins were being a 2x Queensland Open champion.

I met Alan through croquet and have known him for 16 years. We hit it off immediately – we are both competitive, both loved to play hard and also to have a beer and a joke after. Alan tested me on the court, and I tested him.

He beat me in the last game we played together – the bugger! 😊

In memory of Alan, I would ask that you all try your hardest to be a better croquet player. I also ask that you greet everyone as if they are the next friend you never had, and thus make the world a happier place for a while. Because it has become much less happy without Alan.

Nicole and Tim Murphy

2022 GC PRESIDENT'S EIGHTS - Eol open

Expressions of interest are now being sought for the 2022 Golf Croquet Eights, which will be held 11-13 February 2022 at the Victorian Croquet Centre, Cairnlea.

However, the event going ahead will be subject to any Covid-19 outbreaks that create significant travel restrictions (not just in Melbourne).

All interested players should send their Expression of Interest by 31 December, to ACA Events Chair Peter Freer via email at pfreer@netspeed.com.au

Existing EoIs are listed on croquetscores at <https://croquetscores.com/2022/gc/australia-presidents-eights/>

DAWSON INTERNATIONAL CROQUET BALLS

The Australian Croquet Company has advised that, due to some of the raw materials becoming unavailable, there has been a need to make a change in material used. These balls (MK3) have been made and sent to England for accreditation, hopefully before Christmas.

WINNERS are GRINNERS

Results of recent CNSW events:

NSW SELECTORS AC INVITATION - 13-14 November

Winner - Mike Hughes from Cammeray, 4 wins +59 net hoops

Runner up - Kerri-Ann Organ from Canberra, 4 wins +40 net hoops

The wins were equal. Mike just won by a bit more in most games.

Both players qualified for the NSW ACA AC Bronze Medal to be held on the 11-12 December.

Well done to all the players, officials, umpires for ensuring the event was a success.

CNSW AC OPEN SINGLES - 5-8 November



Winner - Callum Hyland from Sandy Bay Tas

Runner up - Robert Elliott from Cammeray.

Callum played brilliant croquet only matched by his always excellent choice of pants. Callum only lost two games and was the leading triple peel scorer with 2. Peter Freer from Canberra won the Plate event overcoming Steve Miles from Cammeray in three exciting games.

CNSW DIVISION 1 GC SINGLES - 21-23 November at Tempe

Winner Alison Sharpe being presented with the trophy by venue manager,

Peter Landrebe. Alison won the best of three finals against David Scott

7/2 4/7 7/4.

All the games were a tactical battle between both players. David was gallant in defeat and

Alison gracious in winning.

A big well-done to the other eight participants who played through constant and sometimes heavy rain all day on Sunday. As the old saying goes "the show must go on".

A big thanks to the referees who also battled the rain and our three venue managers.



CNSW MIXED DIVISION 1 GC DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP - 19-20 November at Tempe

Winners Kate McLoughlin and Peter Freer, defeated Jill Sullivan & Rob Elliott. The event was played as a double round-robin and it was the final game that produced the winners.

Kate and Peter got off to a flying start winning the first four hoops against Jill & Rob. Although Jill & Rob fought back it was too big of a start with Kate and Peter winning 10 to 5.

Congratulations to the winners and bad luck to the runners up and big thank you to all the other teams and referees.



CNSW - 2021 AC GOLD BROOCH - Friday to Sunday, 12-14 November
Hosted by the Port Macquarie Croquet Club.

With severe weather warnings for most of the east coast of Australia, and severe rain and flood warnings for parts of the Mid North Coast, our prospects for good playing conditions were not good. The peg-out sheets were ready for use.

After 40 mm of rain over-night, we woke to sunshine on Friday morning. With sand-based courts there was no water lying on the surface. However, on Saturday severe and damaging winds were with us all day. Balls were affected and, in strong gusts, were blown well off course.

The seven players came from Coutts Crossing in the north to Canberra in the south. They played a Round Robin with six games each. Barb Piggott, from Urunga, was the Tournament Referee.

There were only 6 peg-outs, and no triple peels, in the 21 games. Many of the games were very closely contested. Unfortunately, there was a withdrawal on the last day.

Four people won three games, and on a countback, the winner was Peter Richardson, from Sawtell, 3 wins and 18 net hoops. Pam Gentle, from Maitland was the runner-up, 3 wins and 11 net hoops. On Friday night nine people enjoyed dinner at the Westport Club.

Photos were taken by Robin Shenton and Bridget Earle.

CNSW is always looking for regional clubs to host an event.

RON WILSON

On the 9th of August, Ron Wilson turned 100 years. He received letters of congratulations from The Queen, Prime Minister, Governor-General, both State and Federal Ministers, and various local identities.

Ron joined the Cheltenham Recreation Club in 1964 together with his wife Marie and they enjoyed the many sporting and social activities on offer.

Ron joined CRC Bowls section where he has continually played twice a week. He has decided to give bowls away because his balance is not the best when bowling.

After watching us for many years on the croquet lawns and not ready to retire he decided to take up a new interest CROQUET at the ripe age of 99 years.

Ron has been recognised, for his involvement over many years, as a Life Member of the Cheltenham Recreation Club.

He has taken to Croquet exceptionally well and plays three games twice a week. He is very enthusiastic, hits a straight ball and with his hoop scoring ability manages to win a few games. He also asked one of our players this week 'What days can I come and practise'.

Ron Wilson - a Legend at the Club and on the Greens.

CHANGE OF NAME – MACQUARIE CITY CLUB

The Club has had an official name change to Pelican Croquet Club Incorporated.

GC RULES 6TH EDITION - Consultation Draft published

The WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee has published a Consultation Draft of the proposed 6th Edition of the WCF Rules of Golf Croquet. The relevant documents can be found on the WCF Website: <https://worldcroquet.org/gc-rules-6th-edition-consultation-draft-published/>

Comments on the Draft are welcomed from all interested parties and should be made via your Governing Body or its Golf Croquet Rules Committee.

The Consultation Period ends on **15 January 2022** and it is hoped that the final form of the 6th Edition will be in place by early next year.

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS GAMES – 23-30 April

We are excited to announce that Early Bird registrations for the Australian Masters Games, 23-30 April 2022, are officially open! Flyer attached.

CANBERRA GATEBALL TRIPLES 19-20 February

This is the inaugural event and entries are welcomed from Australia and around the world. Flyer attached.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

Eva Short Memorial Trophy (AC) 12-13 February
Win Dickinson Memorial Trophy (AC) 12-13 February
Canberra Gateball Triples 19-20 February
5 and Under Mixed Doubles (AC) 19-20 February
Orange City Autumn Carnival (AC) 24-28 February
Three days of Ricochet at Sawtell 18-20 March
NSW Open Men's GC Singles, 26-28 March, Tempe
NSW Open Women's GC Singles, 8-10 April, Tempe
Check out the [Events](#) tab on the CNSW website.

HELP CNSW LOCATE TROPHIES

After two years of tournament turmoil CNSW needs to locate and update all the CNSW silverware. Does your club or any of your members have a CNSW trophy? If YES can you forward the following details to Ray Chapman chapmanray89@yahoo.com:

1. Your location
2. What tournament and which year did you win it
3. Confirm your name is engraved on the trophy
4. Please include a picture of the trophy



Office of Sport - Her Sport Her Way Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2021/2022 *Her Sport Her Way* Awards, a key initiative in the NSW Government's *Her Sport Her Way Year Three Action Plan* to advance equality in sport.

The Awards recognise and celebrate the achievements of women leaders in sport and the efforts of the sector throughout 2021 in providing opportunities for girls and women to get active in NSW.

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The five award categories are outlined below:

- **Young Achiever:** Recognises a woman under 25 who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of women or girls in sport during the 2021 calendar year. **Local Champion:** Recognises a woman involved at club or community level sport for their contribution and commitment to increasing opportunities for women and girls during the 2021 calendar year.
- **Outstanding Organisation:** Recognises an organisation's significant contribution and commitment to the advancement of sport for women and girls during the 2021 calendar year.
- **Trailblazers:** Recognises up to three women per year whose exceptional efforts over the long-term have removed barriers for women and girls in sport and made it easier for them to participate and succeed. Trailblazers' efforts have left a legacy for their sport that will not be forgotten.
- **Champion:** Recognises a woman for her outstanding achievements during 2021, as a coach, official, administrator or leader, and a commitment to furthering opportunities for women and girls to participate.

[Her Sport Her Way 2021/22 awards guidelines](#)

[Her Sport Her Way 2021/22 award nominations](#)

Recipients will be announced at an event around International Women's Day in March 2022.

Nominations will close 19 January 2022.

CLUB HUB PROJECT

A reminder that the Club Hub Project will enable CNSW to collaborate with 6 clubs across the state and fund the delivery of the ACA Academy programs and other coaching, marketing and event management sessions at your club or a club close to yours.

It will also provide clubs with the opportunity to host CNSW events and assist with the cost of doing so.

The CLUB HUBS PROJECT is being funded for the next 2 years, [2022, 2023] providing the successful applicant clubs with a grant of \$5,000 each year to spend toward the designated activities of the Project, namely growing croquet enjoyment, skills, participation and supporting other croquet clubs in your local area.

We will be applying for ongoing funding for Project after 2023.

BOOKING A LAWN AT TEMPE

<https://cooksrivercroquetclub.com/>