

CROQUET NSW NEWSLETTER



January 2022

IN THIS EDITION

Golden Mallet Awards 2021
GC Refereeing News
Board update
Eire Cup
Vale Max Hooper
Tournaments Coming Up
Vaccination Requirements
Winners are Grinners
Nelson Bay Opening Event
Booking to play at Tempe
... and other news

GC REFEREEING NEWS - JANUARY 2022

Newly accredited Referees:

Greg Porter Ballina Cherry St
Jill Drury Port Macquarie
Keith Brodie Coutts Crossing

Congratulations!



Retiring Referees:

Margaret Watt Lismore
Rosemary Freeman Cheltenham

Thank you!



Golden Mallet Award

GOLDEN MALLET AWARDS 2021

The Golden Mallet Award nominations have been considered by the Judges: Lorraine Hatfield (Sutherland), Kem Hazelton (Queanbeyan) and Fay Ross (Lismore).

There was a strong field of nominations so it was not an easy task. However, it was decided to declare **Marion Davies** and **Barbara Piggott** as joint Golden Mallet Award winners for 2021, with **Margaret Sawers** receiving an honourable mention.

Cliff Elliott from South West Rocks has again crafted the trophies for the winners to keep.

!

Croquet NSW acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands of NSW on which we meet and enjoy croquet. We pay our respects to elders past and present and emerging

(Golden Mallet Awards 2021 cont.)

MARION DAVIES

In 2021, Marion completed her 6th year as President of Toronto Croquet Club. Over the past year, Marion has demonstrated leadership and support at many different levels and has made a multi-faceted contribution to her club and her region.

She has encouraged and supported opportunities for participation amongst school children, young people with a disability and U3A members. Two local high schools now offer croquet as a school sport and during 2021, Marion collaborated with the State Co-ordinator of Junior Croquet to organise croquet days during the school holidays.

During this year, she also gained coaching qualifications in GC and GB and accreditation as a Level 2 GB referee.

As club President, she has been the instigator of Toronto Club's active participation in playing and hosting events for all 4 mallet sports during 2021.



During 2021, Marion also completed the training required to become a Member Protection Information Officer, thus clearly demonstrating her commitment to item (b) of the Codes of Behaviour.

Marion's "circle of influence" and leadership and administrative skills extend beyond her club to include her role as Chair of the Hunter Region Croquet Group, her membership of the Toronto CC Relocation Committee currently negotiating with Macquarie City Council, and most recently, as co-ordinator of the preparation of Toronto club's application to become a Club Hub.

BARBARA PIGGOTT

In 2021, Barb has been extensively involved in the roll-out of the National Coaching Program as the Assistant National Coaching Co-ordinator. At the start of the year, she spent 4 days in Newcastle then 4 days in Canberra assisting in the launch of this program under the auspices of the Australian Croquet Academy.

Following this, she has conducted Coach Training Courses as follows: GC1 & GC2, AC1 & AC2, RC1 & RC2 all at Ballina; RC1 at Sawtell and GC1 at Port Macquarie.

On a regular basis, Barb applies her high-level coaching qualifications in AC, GC and RC by assisting and mentoring players and club coaches from the Mid North Coast region, the Coffs Coast Region and the Northern Rivers Region. She is also an Examining Referee in AC and GC and in 2021 has been involved in supervising and assessing trainee referees in both codes.

In addition to these coaching activities, Barb attended a workshop in Sydney focussed on the introduction of the AC Laws Edition 7 and then conducted 2 AC Laws workshops in her region.

During 2021 Barb also conducted 2 GC Rules workshops and she served as TR for the Port Macquarie AC Carnival and for the CNSW AC Gold Brooch Tournament. Barb regularly shares news, rules/laws questions, and information about training opportunities on the CNSW Community Facebook page.



MARGARET SAWERS



Margaret's nomination for the Golden Mallet award is the culmination of her service as Club Captain at Nowra Croquet Club, her extensive community promotional work and her involvement with coaching and organising other local and state activities over many years.

2021 was her 15th year as Club Captain.

During the past year she has continued to show her dedication and commitment by encouraging, initiating and supporting the creation of opportunities for participation amongst school children, people with disabilities, Seniors, U3A members and members of other sporting clubs.

She is a dedicated GC coach and mentors new members as well as more experienced club players who wish to boost their skill level.

In 2021, she continued to be the driving force behind club events in AC, GC and RC. She refereed over the 2 days when Nowra hosted the CNSW GC Div2 Doubles.

Margaret was appointed as a Tutor Referee at the end of 2020, and during 2021 she has provided valuable supervised practice opportunities for trainee GC referees in the region.

During 2021, Margaret was also the non-playing captain of GC Pennants teams in Division 1, 2 and 3. In this role she organised dates to play other teams and managed and refereed for all home Pennants contests.

Margaret pioneered the playing of Ricochet in her region and is an accredited RC Referee.

Nominations for the Golden Mallet Award

In addition to the abovementioned recipients, congratulations must also go to those mentioned below who were nominated. To those who took the opportunity to recognise the achievements of others and to put them forward for the Award, thank you.

Other Nominees

David Stanton – Cammeray & Cooks River

Michael Chambers – Elanora & Mosman

Kerrie Crooks – Nambucca Valley

Ruth Bridger – Strathfield

Mary Gibson – Mosman

Robin Catalano – Hunters Hill

John W Cook – Bathurst

Brenda Wild – Mt Sugarloaf

David Scott – Ballina Cherry St

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

Welcome to the new year! Players and Tournament Officials are hoping we can play events again, but our old friend Covid is still on the prowl.

We are pleased to be able to announce the winners of the Golden Mallet Award in this edition of the Newsletter. Well done to these three women who have all made significant contributions to croquet in NSW. Another trophy is being crafted as we speak. Thanks to Cliff Elliott from South West Rocks!

Croquet NSW is currently reviewing applications for Club Hubs, before announcing the initial round of recipients.

Croquet NSW is managing the Headquarters Facilities at Tempe and has reached an Agreement with Cooks River Croquet Club for their continued use of the site. Cooks River will have access to lawns outside CNSW Tournaments and training times at Tempe at an annual per member payment rate. Other Croquet NSW Club members can use the lawns at a rate of \$6 per day payable to Croquet NSW. Croquet NSW will be responsible for lawns, equipment and repairs and updates to the Clubhouse. Cooks River will manage the online booking system and keep the Clubhouse clean and supplied with tea, coffee, biscuits etc. The Facilities Management team consists of Steve Miles (convenor and contact), Rosie Landrebe and Peter Landrebe. Tournaments are booked through the Tournaments Committee and training sessions will be booked through CNSW State Team or Selection Officials. I look forward to CNSW players from around the State continuing to enjoy play and competition at these CNSW HQ facilities.

The defibrillator has now been installed at Tempe just outside the Clubhouse door. Training in using the defibrillator is to be organised.

As you know, each year CNSW pays for group insurances on Club's behalf and then passes the cost on to individual clubs. This year the CNSW board has decided to only pass on the cost of public liability insurance and as a result there has been a significant reduction in cost to Clubs. In addition to public liability, all players are covered for limited personal accident as well as travel insurance when travelling to and from CNSW tournaments. The cost of this insurance has been paid by CNSW.

The Eire Cup (Association Croquet Interstate contest) is still scheduled to go ahead in March 2022. Croquet Australia will decide in early February whether there are any reasons to cancel the event. It seems that Western Australia will not be sending a team, and Tasmania has not confirmed their attendance.

David Stanton, Tournament Manager, is working with a range of Sydney Clubs to be venues for the AC Men's or Women's Singles, or the Eire Cup itself. The numbers attending will affect the final requirement for Clubs. So far play is planned for Tempe, Royal Sydney, Mosman, Cammeray, Chatswood, Manly, Eastwood and Sutherland. AC Referees and helpers to help put out lawns, feed and water the players are all being sought. Registrations for entries to the Men's and Women's Singles will open shortly, so this is a good chance to participate in a top-quality AC event on your doorstep.

The Eire Cup team to represent NSW has been announced and is listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Congratulations to all. Five-member teams seem sensible in Covid times!

Kate McLoughlin
Chair, Croquet NSW

NSW EIRE CUP TEAM MEMBERS



Coach and Vice-Captain: Peter Landrebe (no captain was selected out of respect for Alan Honey)

Men: Peter Landrebe, Tim Murphy, Jim Nicholls, Stephen Richards and Gareth Denyer (Team Manager)

Women: Rosie Landrebe, Kerri-Ann Organ, Jean Pack, Alison Sharpe, Diane Scott and Reserve, Kate McLoughlin

CNSW TOURNAMENTS – VACCINATION REQUIRED

The Board has agreed that double-vaccination is to continue as a requirement for CNSW tournaments. The Board has foreshadowed looking at the use of Rapid Antigen Testing as a way of reducing the risk of members being exposed to COVID. In the interim, players are encouraged to consider undertaking their own testing (if they can readily obtain kits) as a precaution to protect others and themselves and certainly not attend any event if they feel unwell.

NSW club practice re vaccinated players

The Board very recently undertook an informal survey of CNSW Clubs and received 30 replies. The responses revealed that almost all clubs currently restrict access to vaccinated players, officials and spectators and support the restriction of tournaments to vaccinated players, officials and spectators. More importantly, where clubs are used as a CNSW tournament venue, the club venue requirements will apply if more restrictive than CNSW guidelines.

In addition, a number of tournament officials, referees and umpires have said that, at this stage, they will only perform their duty if players, officials and spectators are vaccinated.

ADVANTAGE CROQUET – 2022 UPDATE

Further to WCF encouraging the trialing of Advantage Croquet rather than “extra strokes”, the following extract is from the WCF newsletter:

2022 update - amendments identified

The trial showed that most people felt this game provided a closer experience to level play GC than using extra strokes. The data showed that this variant provided closer matches than the use of extra strokes. Previous analysis has shown that extra strokes generally favours the stronger player, however, data collected over some 836 games of Advantage GC, showed that in some cases there was a slight advantage for the weaker player. To correct this, the Starting Scores Table has been amended.

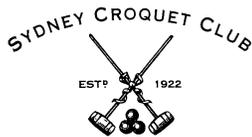
There are two new tables to be used - First to 7 point and First to 10 point game variants. These should be downloaded and used for all future games of Advantage GC, not the table published last year.

Click here to download the new tables >

[Advantage 2022 Table-1 Starting Scores First-to-7-points](#)

[Advantage 2022 Table-2 Starting Scores First-to10-points](#)

WCF newsletter <https://worldcroquet.org/advantage-gc-2022-update/>



Dr Francis Maxwell (Max) Hooper

Born: 21 February 1923

Died: 18 December 2021



Max joined Croquet in 1979 at Coogee Club, transferring to the Sydney Croquet Club in 1980, and he remained an active member (42 years), driving himself and wife Tess (deceased April 2021) to croquet a few times a week. Over the years Max had been a visitor to some Sydney clubs, where he gave instructions on the rules of Golf Croquet, as well as the infamous double tap! Max did a lot of work for Croquet NSW keeping the archives up to date for many years. He also wrote a very informative book, *The History of Croquet*, which many clubs would have. In addition to the book he wrote, his daughters found that he had also made a computer game for croquet, but he had not shared this. He was ever dedicated to the sport, travelling the UK and Europe to research his book and spending many hours studying in State Libraries.

An extract from the Eulogy given at his funeral by one of his daughters sums his life up well: “Dad enjoyed his life, doing the things he liked and simply ignoring what was merely fashionable. During his final illness he said he had done everything he wanted and was happy. He spent most of his time sleeping during the last two months of his life but when he woke up, he would give us a beautiful smile. He didn’t say too much but was just happy to see us and have us near him. Dad died in his sleep, aged 98, after a peaceful final illness.”



This is how we at Sydney Club remember Max in his last years with us – always very intent and careful with his game and keen to pass on the rules when needed.

And always with the hat perched on his head.

NEW BOOKS ON CROQUET

The following was received from the email group, the Nottingham List (croquet@nottingham-lists.org.uk). Paddy Chapman, Ben Rothman and I are pleased to announce the completion of three books that may be of interest to you: *Variations on Golf Croquet*, *New Roles for Peeling in Croquet*, and *Color Order Association Croquet*. They provide alternative ways of thinking about our traditional games and develop new games, each with a full set of rules that are explained with myriad diagrams and discussed in hours of narrated videos as they are being played by world class players you will recognize. We hope these books test and tease your mental and physical skills and expand the horizons of Croquet.

We considered traditional ways of publishing but decided to provide the books free of charge. They are available electronically to anyone as PDFs using the link provided below.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nmupyjVVxKY1Ed731AnC841bGKsAETrk?usp=sharing>

(If the link does not work, please copy and paste it into your browser address field).

Feel free to copy, print or otherwise use the books and to distribute them to friends as we intentionally did not acquire ISBNs and did not seek copyright protection.

The videos can be viewed on the YouTube Channel, Croquet Innovations. Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo3RGteV1heQO7TY-v6Crqg>

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Happy Holidays,

Sincerely,

Paddy Chapman

paddy_nzer@hotmail.com

Ben Rothman

Croquetpro@gmail.com

Howard Sosin

howard@sosin.net

WINNERS are GRINNERS

Results of recent CNSW events:

CNSW 2021 GC GOLD BROOCH

The CNSW 2021 Golf Croquet Gold Brooch Tournament was hosted at Newcastle National Park Croquet Club (NNPCC) over three days, 10-12 December 2021. The GC Gold Brooch is a doubles tournament with each team consisting of a Division 1 player and a Division 2 player. 34 players (17 teams) entered the competition and were split into two blocks where they played a round robin over the first day and a half. Under mild and sunny weather conditions the first four teams in each block entered the best of three game knockout series of quarter finals, semi-finals and finals. The remaining teams played in a cross block round robin.

In a very exciting and close tournament final, local Newcastle pair John Levick and Chris Gill won in three games over Canberra pair Peter Freer and first-time tournament entry Robert Ey. Third place went to Stephen Thornton and Michael Aneer (Maitland) who defeated Roslyn Johnstone (Sutherland) and Patricia McCaskie (EDSACC) in the 3rd and 4th place play-off. The winners of the Plate event were Brenda Wild (Mt Sugarloaf) and Ruth Mulvaney (Toronto). Full results are on Croquet Scores.



Derek Bull (Tournament Manager), Kate McLoughlin (CNSW) and winners, Chris Gill and John Levick (Newcastle)

The tournament was played in very good spirits and at a high level with very many games going to a 7-6 or 7-5 result. The teams were very well matched and the competitors enjoyed the conditions, the opportunity to play well, and to catch up with friends.

NSW 2021 GC BRONZE BROOCH

The CNSW 2021 Golf Croquet Bronze Brooch Tournament was hosted at Maitland Croquet Club over three days, 13-15 December 2021. Players came from Clubs across NSW, from Coutts Crossing in the north to Nowra in the south. The GC Bronze Brooch is a singles tournament for players with handicaps 6-10. There were 17 players that entered and they were split into two blocks where they played round robin over the first two days. The weather was very hot and humid, but the catering volunteers at Maitland ensured everyone was well looked after with cold drinks and iceblocks. On the third day games were played in a knock-out series of quarter finals, semi-finals and finals. In a very close final, Rae Uptin (Nelson Bay) won over Robyn Sim (Wollongong).

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



Rae Uptin, the Winner

“TRIAL” OF TROPHY PRESENTATIONS AT CNSW EVENTS

During 2022 a “trial” will be undertaken to enable trophies to be available for presentation at CNSW trophy events.

The process will be that the previous year’s trophy winners (where applicable) will either return their trophy to the 2022 venue by hand delivery or via the post. The cost to return the trophies via Australia Post will be refunded to the trophy holder.

The winner(s) of the trophy will be asked to arrange the engraving of their trophy and forward the invoice to CNSW for reimbursement.

Trophy winners can either keep the trophy at home or display it at their croquet club.

This system will bring croquet into line with most other sporting events where trophies are presented at the end of an event.

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

2022 GC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS INVITATION

The 2022 Golf Croquet World Championship will be held at the Sussex County Croquet Club, Southwick, Sussex, England over nine days between Saturday 30 July to Sunday 7 August 2022. The Event Capacity will be 64.

The Qualifying Tournament will be held at the Compton Croquet Club in Eastbourne, Sussex from Monday 25th July to Thursday 28th July 2022.

The Formal Invitation has now been sent to all WCF Members and RCO’s.

All details can be found on the WCF Website: <https://worldcroquet.org/world-championships/upcoming-events/2022-golf-croquet-world-championship/>

If you wish to play, please submit your entries through your Local Governing Body (LGB) via whatever mechanism they have in place. The response date (when your LGB has to submit names into the WCF) is Thursday 3rd March.

Entries into the qualifier will be via the English CA website Fixtures Book when it goes live in February (note: overseas Members can access this, please see details in link above).

Debbie Lines, WCF Secretary-General +44 (0)7436 583716

NB. if you are interested, contact ACA GC Selectors.

NELSON BAY CROQUET CLUB – OPENING CEREMONY

The formal opening Nelson Bay Croquet Club's new courts on 3 December 2021 seemed strange as the Club has been playing on them for over 18 months – yet another COVID impact on the Club's operations.

The development of the two new courts was made possible by financial contributions and grants from the NSW State Government, Port Stephens Council and Tomaree Sports Council ... plus a significant contribution from the Club itself. It was, then, fitting that Kate Washington MP, State Member for Port Stephens, was available to officially open the courts, in the presence of Councillor Glen Dunkley, representing the Mayor Ryan Palmer, Bruce Scott, President of Tomaree Sports Council, and Councillor John Nell.

With around 100 members, the Club is the 5th largest croquet club in NSW by playing numbers but, until the development of the new courts, was one of only two of the ten largest clubs in NSW to have only two courts.

The justification for increasing the number of courts was to deliver the following outcomes:



- to reduce, or even eliminate, the need for half-courts for the Club's regular social games – the Club has not played on half-courts since the new courts became playable,
- to enable the Club to actively pursue an increase in membership numbers – a “Come-and-Try” Day was planned for October but, due to COVID, will now be scheduled in early 2022, and
- to enable the Club to host state or national competitions – the inaugural Christmas Bush Bash GC doubles tournament was planned for November but, again due to COVID, will now be scheduled in November 2022.

Kate Washington unveiled a commemorative plaque before members and guests enjoyed a morning tea.

President David Wilson, Margaret-Rose Thompson, Kate Washington MP (centre) and official guests at the Opening

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

Eva Short Memorial Trophy (AC) 16-17 July (please note the date change from February)
Win Dickinson Memorial Trophy (AC) 16-17 July (please note the date change from February)
NSW AC 3 & Under Singles 5-6 February (Tempe)
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.
... and the ACA Men's and ACA Women's Singles

BOOKING A LAWN AT TEMPE

<https://cooksrivercroquetclub.com/>