

NEWSLETTER

June 2023



IN THIS EDITION

Board Update
GC Pennants Finals 2 & 3
Junior Croquet
Winners are Grinners
Tournaments Coming Up

... and other news

CALLING FOR ENTRIES TO CNSW'S 2023 CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS EVENTS FOR ASSOCIATION AND GOLF CROQUET

The AC and GC Champion of Champions events have been fixtures of the annual CNSW events calendar for many years. CNSW records show that the AC Champion of Champions event commenced in 1958 and the GC Champion of Champions event commenced in 2012.

The eligibility criterion for the "Champion of Champions" events is that only "club champions" for the relevant year for each affiliated CNSW club can enter the events. In 2023, the AC Champion of Champions event will be held at Tempe on 10-12 November, and the GC Champion of Champions event will be held at Tempe on

1-3 December.

Over the last 5-10 years, the number of entries for both these events has fallen to extremely low levels, with both events having been cancelled at least once due to a lack of entries in this period. The Tournament Committee would like to get 15-20 entries for each event in 2023 to provide for a full draw of round robin games and potentially semi-finals and a final.

We strongly encourage all winners of club "open" AC and GC club champion competitions during the 2023 calendar year to consider entering the equivalent CNSW Champion of Champions event at the end of 2023. The events are a great opportunity to test your skills against players from a variety of clubs and playing backgrounds, many of whom you may not have played previously.

Should numbers for the 2023 events remain at low levels, the Tournament Committee will be reviewing the entry criteria and overall viability of continuing to include these events on the CNSW events calendar in the years ahead.

Stephen Richards

Member, Tournament Committee

CLUB HUBS

CNSW welcomes its 6th Club Hub, Nowra Croquet Club, and wishes them well in their endeavours to improve croquet in their Hub region.

Clubs within Club Hub regions seeking workshops, whether it be coaching or refereeing or advance tactics, should contact their local Club Hub co-ordinator:

Canberra – Peter Freer pfreer@netspeed.com.au

Strathfield – Petula Shun petulashun@hotmail.com

Toronto – Marion Davies marion.dawn@gmail.com

Coutts Crossing – Simon Cook simon@templerdesigns.com.au

Port Macquarie – Tim Woolford-Smith tim@scherchen.com

Ray Chapman

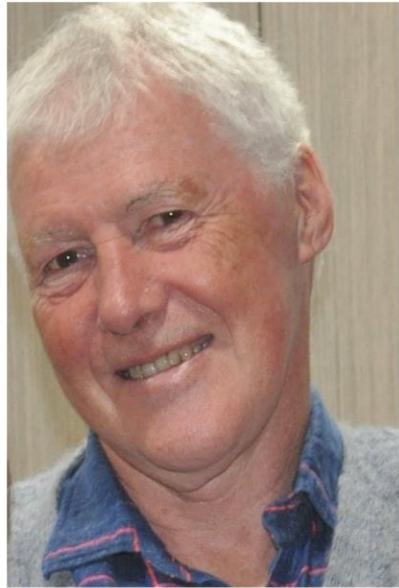
CNSW Club Hub Contact

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

BOARD MEMBERS

Chair: Kate McLoughlin
Deputy Chair: Ray Chapman
Treasurer: Steve Miles
Secretary: Rik Mills
Board Member: Stephen Burns
Board Member: Fidy Westgarth
Newsletter: Liz Friend
newsletter@croquet-nsw.org

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



FROM THE BOARD

The following issues are current Board priorities:

Membership Management Platform

CNSW is identifying a suitable provider of a Membership Management database to provide easy access to registration and members information for all clubs. Two candidates are being assessed with a decision soon to be made.

This new platform will be key to a CNSW branding and marketing strategy as it will enable better targeting of clubs, sponsors and potential members. Rik Mills (CNSW Secretary) will contribute to the National Database Working Group to identify State's needs.

CNSW Operation Planning

Focus is on participation and membership growth including increase in the membership by 10% by end of 2024. This is to be achieved by better marketing of croquet and assisting clubs in marketing to their local areas. It is expected that Croquet Australia will release their new logo and branding strategy shortly, which Croquet NSW will consider in its marketing strategy.

Facility Management

The Tempe facility and the relationship with Cooks River Croquet Club (CRCC) was discussed. A lawn use agreement between CNSW and CRCC is in the pipeline and is expected to be in place soon. A key initiative proposed by CRCC is to obtain grants to install lighting at Tempe. This will enable the heavy use of this facility (arising for CNSW tournament schedule and CRCC activities) to be extended over the day and also assist attracting working people to attend Come and Try and to play after work during the week.

NSW GC State Team Selection

Selection of the members of the NSW GC State Team to travel to Perth in September 2023 for the Interstate Shield (ISS) is being finalised. Five women and five men make up the Team, plus reserves.

Stephen Burns, Director

Tournament Entries

It is peak tournament time and peak time for our Treasurer processing tournament entries. You can make his life easier by:

1. Paying before you play
2. Identifying who is the entrant if you are paying for somebody else
3. Including the tournament code in the payment description line. This is the line that gets downloaded from the bank when payments are processed

There is no need to send a confirming receipt. Payments are received immediately if you use a bank transfer.

Each tournament has a three-letter code e.g. G3S (GC Division 3 singles) which is used to reconcile tournament entries and payments. Words such as "GC Ballina" just create extra work.

If you withdraw, then please send an email with your bank details to treasurer@croquet-nsw.org so a refund can be processed. It is easier to refund rather than allocate to another tournament. Refunds usually take a week or two.

And of course, enjoy your game!

GC PENNANTS REPORT - JUNE 2023

Division 3

Over 78 days, 31 teams divided into 5 zones completed 102 pennant contests. That's 306 Bo3 matches and around 800 games of GC! And then there were the Finals - 5 teams playing 10 more contests (30 matches and around 75 games) over 2.5 days at Toronto Club.

And the winners were the Wollongong team by a margin of just 1 match! Runners-Up were the Nelson Bay Birubi team who in turn finished just 1 match ahead of the Marrickville team! Congratulations also to the Canberra and Chatswood teams for reaching the Finals.

Division 2

Over 92 days, 24 teams in 4 zones completed 61 contests (183 Bo3 matches and around 450 games!) The Finals involved 4 teams playing 6 more contests over 1.5 days at Canberra Club.

After a nailbiting finish where the winner of Division 2 would be determined by the very last game being played, the Canberra team came out on top with the Marrickville team as Runners-Up.

Congratulations also to the Mosman White and Nelson Bay Kingsley teams for reaching the Finals.



A HUGE



SHOUT-OUT

to the **Team Captains** who were the organisers behind this amazing amount of GC play. A job well done!
And the GC Pennants story is still not finished for 2023.....

*** Entries for the GC Division 1 Pennants Competition close on 1 July ***
(Finals hosted by Sutherland Club 13-15 November)

*Below: Wollongong Division 3 Pennants winners
(L:R) Sue Burford, Ian Waters, Barbara Coombs and
Irene Irlam (Dennis Hardy absent)*



*Below: Canberra Division 2 Pennants winners: (L:R) Denese
McCann, Ann Clifton, Karen Bisley, Ian McRae (Captain),
Janelle Wilson, Rob Ey & Ian Donald. Peter Dale was the 8th
team member.*



Lorraine Hatfield
GC Pennants Manager

2023 DIVISION 3 GC PENNANTS TEAM FROM MOUNT SUGARLOAF CC

This year we entered our first ever Pennants Team in a NSW State Competition. Three members of our team only started playing croquet this year with another three starting during the second half of last year. A fantastic job from everyone, with our team winning 2 matches, winning 6 games and everyone scoring hoops in every game – well done team!!

We spent this year concentrating on hitting balls, running hoops and not making faults, which unfortunately didn't leave a lot of time to talk tactics. However, we had a debrief after every contest and all players agreed they had learnt something new about this great game of croquet. All our players finished their games with big smiles on their faces having met new people, learnt new skills and tactics, and really enjoyed their games of croquet.

I am a very proud Mumma Bear of our team and know we are all looking forward to 2024 – again well done team!!

I would like to thank all the Clubs in the Hunter for their encouragement and sportsmanship during the 2023 Division 3 Pennants competition.

Brenda Wild, Secretary

Some of our team (below left L:R) Margaret Grant, Leah Kime, Deon Andendorff, Derene Anderson, Paul Starrenburg, Edward Mordue



Some of our Team (above right L:R) Brenda Wild (Captain/Manager) Derene Anderson, Edward Mordue, Deon Adendorff, Leah Kime, Glen Strick

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

Bookings for the CNSW lawns at Tempe

CNSW Members who are not members of Cooks River Croquet who wish to play at Tempe on a casual basis can use the Cooks River Lawn Booking system. You will need to be registered to use the system by sending an email to tempelawns@croquet-nsw.org. Lawn fees of \$6 per half day apply.

WORLD CROQUET DAY 6 MAY

Many clubs celebrated World Croquet Day and several have submitted articles and photos of their events. Some clubs took the opportunity to hold an Open/Come & Try Day on that weekend too.



SAWTELL CROQUET CLUB

World Croquet Day and 14 prospective players were at Sawtell for a “Come and Try” day. A picture-perfect day and, with the help of members, all spent a couple of hours on the court trying out their mallet skills. A plus to the end of this story is that there has been some follow up with players signing up for coaching sessions with membership to follow.

Jenny Arnold



NELSON BAY CROQUET CLUB

Nelson Bay celebrated World Croquet Day with a BBQ and Social Croquet combined with an unofficial opening of the recently completed clubhouse roof extension. Twenty-five members enjoyed the great weather to play friendly games of croquet before gathering under the new roof to partake of BBQ fare and a wonderful celebratory cake. The enlarged patio area provided a great community space for such gatherings and will be an asset to be enjoyed by the Club for many years to come. | The event was organised by Social Secretary, Faby Batho, who also baked and decorated the wonderful cake (right).

David Wilson, President



JUNIORS IN CROQUET

Croquet New South Wales is encouraging the participation of junior players across the State. It is also committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Children in croquet.

Croquet NSW has signed up to the Sport Integrity Framework through the Australian Croquet Association, which includes the Child Safeguarding Policy. We remind members that all Clubs are bound by these policies to ensure that junior players (especially those under 18 years old) are able to participate in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment.

All coaches are required to have up to date Working With Children Checks (WWCC)/Working With Vulnerable People in the ACT (WWVP). Please ensure you advise the Coaching Co-ordinator to keep your WWCC/WWVP accreditation up to date. You are not able to undertake coaching without this accreditation, and certainly not coaching juniors.

Clubs which have junior members need to ensure they have procedures and protocols outlining how the Child Safeguarding Policy is implemented at your Club.

Chatswood Club has drafted a Policy for their Club which provides a useful model. This is available on the CNSW website. This includes supervision of children, communication protocols, reporting requirements, and the responsibility of juniors.

Croquet NSW is working with the ACA and Sport Integrity Australia to provide further guidance and training to assist Clubs to understand and implement Child Safe Practices.

Sport Integrity Australia offers online learning for club members. It also has a very practical brochure listing Child Safe Practices: Dos and Don'ts.

The Office of the Children's Guardian has released a free Child Safe Self-Assessment for child-related organisations to assess how well they are implementing the 10 Child Safe Standards. You can access the self-assessment on the Office of the Children's Guardian website now. <https://cssa.ocg.nsw.gov.au/>

The introduction to the Child Safeguarding Policy is worth reading and an extract appears below:

- The Australian Croquet Association has a zero-tolerance policy to child abuse and neglect in any form.
- The Australian Croquet Association is committed to ensuring that everyone involved in Croquet and Gateball is educated and informed of their responsibilities to protect and look after Children.
- All Children have the right to feel safe and protected from all forms of abuse, harm, and neglect. Children have the right to take part in sport in a safe, positive, and enjoyable environment. This Policy is part of the Australian Croquet Association's proactive and preventative approach to upholding its commitment to the safety, wellbeing, participation and empowerment of all Children who access Croquet and/or Gateball.
- This Policy sets out the standards of behaviour expected of those involved in croquet and the behaviours that are not acceptable ('Prohibited Conduct').
- This Policy imposes obligations on the Australian Croquet Association and Croquet and Gateball Organisations in relation to responding to allegations of Prohibited Conduct, including by reporting suspected Child Abuse to the appropriate authorities, and to implementing a commitment to child safety and child-safe practices, including recruitment and screening of staff and volunteers.

If you have any queries about junior membership at your club, or if you have some experience you would like to share, contact the Secretary@croquet-nsw.org or the State Co-ordinator of Junior Coaching, Jacky McDonald geofmcd@gmail.com.

CNSW AFFILIATION FEES

Many of you found last month's article on the new affiliation fee procedures confusing – well we did too! After a lot of feedback from the States, Croquet Australia has listened and introduced proportional fees for new members. This means that CNSW can go back to something we all understand – half yearly billing of affiliation fees.

The next invoice clubs will receive will be \$27 (\$16 for ACA and \$11 for CNSW) based on 30 September data. ACA is reviewing its 2024 fees and it is likely there will be some increase (\$1 to \$2 per half year), but CNSW will not be increasing its affiliation fee of \$11 per half year.

Benefits of Affiliation with Croquet NSW

RAISES PROFILE OF CROQUET

- Works to raise the general awareness of croquet and other mallet sports in NSW & ACT
- Represents the sport at a State and National level
- Club Hub program delivers services locally

SUPPORTS CLUBS and MEMBERS

- Provides pathways for players to learn croquet and develop their skills. This players in turn supports development at the local club.
- Provides players with an ACA ID which enables them to enter tournaments of affiliated clubs, CNSW and ACA.
- Supports clubs as appropriate with:
 - Submissions
 - applications for funding
 - dispute resolution
- Provides a low-cost club and member insurance scheme through the ACA, including \$20m public liability insurance
- Provides a website - a platform for member resources/information and to allow coordination of State and Club tournaments as well as club member data.
- Promotes member engagement and croquet generally through a regular newsletter and the use of social media

SUPPORTS AND CO-ORDINATES COMPETITIONS, TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS

- Runs coach, referee and junior player development programs.
- Provides players with access to National and International events through selection. ACA affiliation supports the National team and CNSW affiliation supports the State Team
- Secures State Grants which are used to support player development and overall sport development. Recent examples have included \$1,000 grants for Covid support in 2020 and 2022 as well as grants to establish Club Hubs
- Hosts nationally recognised events for elite players to ensure player excellence and selection
- Runs State-wide competitions for players at all levels to support improved standards of play
- Maintains the Tempe Croquet Centre to provide an accessible central venue for State competitions
- Supports clubs to host CNSW events to maximise participation and foster tournament management expertise

We use Sports Grants to cover: Hub programs and Support for our facilities at Tempe. We have other sources of income which we also use to fund our activities including our facilities. Our tournaments cover their costs through tournament entry fees. Our affiliation fees are much lower than other States and croquet itself is a relatively low-cost sport.

We use your affiliation fee to (this is a guide only, exact expenditure is in the annual accounts):

USE	2023
ACA	32.00
State Teams	7.00
Facilities	6.00
Insurance	2.00
Administration	4.00
Coaching, etc	3.00
	\$54.00

Croquet NSW
21 May 2023

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

Silver Singles (AC), 2-5 May, Strathfield

A small select field of players contested this year's event played as a double round robin. The winner was Paul Skvorc (Cooks River) with 4 wins 2 losses net hoops +26. Runner up was Gerard Barry, also with 4 wins 2 losses but net hoops of only +9. CNSW thanks Strathfield for hosting the event this year.

Lake Macquarie Games, 7-10 May, Toronto

Local knowledge helped Hunter players reap the spoils at the Lake Macquarie Games at the Toronto Croquet Club. With participants converging on the lawns from throughout the region, as well as Sydney, Nowra, Blue Mountains, Queanbeyan and Belmont (Victoria) to name a handful, Ron Hill Oval was a hive of activity again, and competition was fierce – but fun – over the three-day croquet golf tournament, which attracted 32 players.

Toronto Croquet Club founder Pam Drurie officially opened the Games, with singles and doubles being contested, according to handicaps, in a round-robin format.

In the doubles, Nowra pair Doug Cornish and Brian Mitchell secured Block A, Pelican's Denise Eckersley teamed up with Woolgoolga's Susan Bryan to claim Block B, while Lyn and Jim Cook (Blue Mountains) prevailed in Block C. In singles, Ken Green (Maitland) snared Block A, Ann Clifton (Queanbeyan) won Block B, Rob Batho (Nelson Bay) did likewise in Block C, and Jennie McNamara (EDSACC) won the Block D title.

Toronto Croquet Club publicity officer Liz McDonald said it was another successful event "It was a very friendly Lake Macquarie Games, enjoyed by everyone and the many hard-working volunteers in our organisation. Even though the weather was cold and windy on day one, it thankfully improved. By the end, we were blessed with magnificent conditions." Toronto Croquet Club president Peter Reeve and event captain Robin Irwin wrapped up proceedings at the presentation ceremony.



(above) Toronto Croquet Club President, Peter Reeve, and founder Pam Drurie. Pam officially opened the Games

Selectors Invitation (GC), 19-21 May, Tempe

Eight men and eight women were invited to this year's GC Selectors Invitation Event where they competed in separate blocks playing a double round robin. This event is the last one before the Selectors choose the team to compete in the Golf Croquet Interstate Shield (ISS) to determine the winning State each year. There are also 2 spots up for grabs in the Bronze Medal to choose the best NSW player to compete against the other State Champions.

Gareth Denyer won the mens block with 9 wins and 1 loss net hoops of +28. Hunter McPherson was runner up with 6 wins and 4 losses net hoops of +2

In the Women's block, Kate McLoughlin was the winner with 11 wins and 3 losses with net hoops of +23. Runner up was Gerda Lambeck with 9 wins and 5 losses with net hoops of +11. Both Gareth and Kate have been invited to contest the CNSW ACA GC Bronze Medal 23-25 June.



Manly Seabreeze (GC) 9-12 May

Manly Seabreeze GC 2023 tournament attracted visitors from across NSW participating in the Singles and Doubles play. The courts were in tip-top condition, the gardens magnificent, and all the volunteers ensured that everything ran smoothly, including the kitchen volunteers who spoilt everyone with wonderful food. Everyone enjoyed the friendly spirit of the competition and attributed it's success to the efforts of so many willing volunteers.

The Singles' winners were: A Block – Ted Woodley (Chatswood) and runner-up Rob Wright (Mosman); B Block - Janelle Brown (Jamberoo) and runner-up Robert Kerr (Maitland); C Block - Jaki Gaskell (Manly) and runner-up Bernie Gibson (Manly); D Block – Scott Davis (Newcastle National Park) and runner-up Jeff Williams (Manly); and E Block – Michael Evans (Chatswood) and runner-up Sylvia Milton (Jamberoo).

In the Doubles the winners were: A Block – Liz Friend (Nelson Bay) & Scott Davis (Newcastle National Park) and runners-up Rob Wright (Mosman) & Annie Yeomans (Manly); B Block Colin Bradford & Jeff Williams (Manly) and runners-up Stephen Curtis & Natalia Dunkley (Manly); and C Block Ron Humpherson and Linda Barnes (Mosman) and runners-up Joanne Nimmons & Heather Sherlock (Mosman).



Open Doubles (RC), 26-27 May, Nowra

A small but quality field assembled at beautiful Nowra for this year's Margaret Sawers Shield event. While the weather was a bit chilly and windy, the standard of Ricochet was very good.

In the round robin, the top two teams of Cheryl Patterson/Chris Williamson and Doug Cornish/Wayne Worrall met in the final. The more experienced pair of Cheryl and Chris proved too strong, winning 19/8 against Doug and Wayne who were playing in their first Ricochet championship.

(Photo L:R) Chris (Toronto) & Cheryl (EDSACC), Wayne & Doug (Nowra), with Brian Mitchell in the foreground

NSW Women's (AC) Open, 26-28 May, Tempe

The NSW Women's Open Singles (AC) was held in good conditions, despite some cold starts to the mornings. Nine women competed, including Kathie Grant from Queensland and Helena Panasewycz from Adelaide and Cooks River.

The event was played in 2 blocks, with a final four knockout and Plate being contested.

Kerri-Ann Organ, Kathie Grant, Barbara McDonald and Joanne Brown were the four finalists. In the end Kerri-Ann Organ prevailed over Kathie Grant to take out the Championship in 2 games.

Barb McDonald and Jo Brown shared 3rd place, while Kate McLoughlin won the Plate from Roberta Flint.

We thank Sue Eldridge-Smith for the yummy cake, and Peter Landrebe and the indefatigable David Stanton for managing and refereeing the Tournament.



(L:R) Roberta Flint, Kathie Grant, Diane Scott, Kerri-Ann Organ, Kate McLoughlin, Barbara McDonald, Helena Panasewycz and Joanne Brown

Open Singles (RC), 28-30 May, Nowra

Nine players contested this year's event including Ray Chapman who was striving to win the event for the third year in a row. A single round robin of eight 2-hour games over three days to determine this year's winner saw:

Ray Chapman with 7 wins 1 loss and net hoops of +78 declared the winner, Margaret Sawers with 7 wins 1 loss and net hoops of +13 was runner up, and Peter Freer with 6 wins 2 losses and net hoops of +41 was third. Congratulations to Ray Chapman - three years in a row is very special.

CNSW thanks Nowra for hosting both the doubles and singles, and in particular big thanks to all the Nowra members who were there every day assisting and supporting the players.



(L:R) Peter Freer, Ray Chapman and Margaret Sawers

Newcastle Golf Croquet Carnival 1&2 July. There are still places available for this Doubles event. Flyer attached to this newsletter.

Australian Masters Games. Register before July 31st and save \$30 With Early Bird Games Fee discount.



Tournaments coming up:

Gold Coast Tweed Tournament (AC), 1-9 July, various venues. Entries close 12 June (flyer attached).
Newcastle Golf Croquet Carnival (Doubles), 1 & 2 July. Entries close 23 June (flyer attached).
CNSW (GC) Advantage Doubles, 28-29 June, Ballina/Byron. Entries close 16 June
CNSW (GC) Advantage Singles, 30 June - 2 July, Ballina/Byron. Entries close 16 June
CNSW (GC) Open Doubles, 7-9 July, Tempe. Entries close 30 June
CNSW (GC) Div 3 Doubles, 10-11 July, Chatswood. Entries close 2 July
CNSW (GC) Div 3 Singles, 12-14 July, Mosman. Entries close 2 July
CNSW (RC) Div 2 Doubles, 14-15 July, Toronto. Entries close 7 July
CNSW (RC) Div 2 Singles, 16-18 July, Toronto. Entries close 7 July
CNSW (AC) Bronze Brooch, 24-26 July, Cammeray. Entries close 14 July
CNSW (AC) Eva Short Memorial, 29-30 June, Tempe. Entries close 21 July
CNSW (AC) Win Dickinson Memorial, 29-30 June, Tempe. Entries close 21 July
CNSW (GC) Bronze Brooch, 8-10 August, Taree. Entries close 28 July
Manly Seabreeze (AC) 15-19 September. Entries close 30 August
Intercept Competition (GC) 30 September – 2 October, Sutherland. Entries close 15 September (flyer attached).

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