



CROQUET NSW Inc

ABN 95 174 213 987

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

CNSW Board Communique May 2018

It is with great pleasure I write this update to members having had recent advice of the success we have had with not one but two grant applications from the *NSW Office of Sport* to support the further development of Croquet in NSW.

A grant of \$25,000 has been approved to support a *Player Pathways to Excellence Program* (PPEP) which will invest in a structured player development program to recruit and further engage with players through coaching, and the development of tools and other resources. The program will seek to stimulate player involvement at all levels with a view to expanding engagement in developing a pool of competitive players. The Board wishes to acknowledge and thank Nerida Taylor for her leadership in developing this planned program. At the last Board meeting preliminary membership of the PPEP Implementation Group was confirmed as Nerida Taylor, Peter Landrebe, Alix Verge and Pam Gentle. If you have the skills and experience in community development and/or project management and you would like to contribute to the development through involvement in this project please get in touch as it is only with the support from all members that we can achieve great things!

In line with this is news of the approval of a \$20,000 Sports Development Grant to support the strategy of promoting greater engagement in the governance and practical operation of croquet in NSW by the clubs themselves. This project commenced in 2017 with the establishment of the 9 new regional groupings across NSW and the appointment of Regional Coordinators. The coordinators have visited the Clubs in their regions and fed valuable information through to inform CNSW of the training schedules for coaching and refereeing. The Board is delighted that the NSW Office for Sport is supportive of this initiative and wishes to expand and support these local roles through this project.

At our April meeting the Board also made a decision to invite interested parties to form a working group to begin the process of establishing an independent organisation at the current CNSW headquarters facility at Tempe. The objective is for them to take over the running of the Tempe facility from CNSW by 2021 under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CNSW which will ensure CNSW access to the facility for both a calendar of CNSW events and office functions. This decision was informed by recommendations of two previous working groups which considered the role of the Tempe facility for croquet in NSW. Rob Elliot who is currently on the Facilities Management Group is taking the lead on discussions to determine what this organisation may look like.

Further to all this, the Board has had a continued focus on governance this year with a refinement of a range of policies to support the Constitution. We were pleased to have had positive feedback from the NSW Office of Sport with regard to the sound governance foundation that has been laid and are following their suggestions in the areas that need our focus for further development. The Constitution is in need of some changes and we

will be forwarding a package of information to inform Clubs and Individual Members of the proposed changes well in advance of the AGM and how they will be able to lodge their vote.

On another more operational note it is nearly 3 years since the CNSW member database was launched and in that time Clubs have been asked to maintain their member information through this facility. In the main Clubs have been delighted with the functionality of the database and are using it well. Last year the option of allowing members to update their own details was added and this year an indicator has been added where members can elect to have their details kept secure and not published in the year book. Members can be assured that the data base is kept on a secure platform and that individual personal details are viewable only by the website administrator, the membership officer, the member themselves and their club secretary.

The use of the database reduces administrative burden for both CNSW and club volunteers. The database is the register of members for CNSW as an incorporated body and the information held in it supports our general reporting requirements of CNSW to the Office of Sport, which go hand in hand with receiving financial support from them.

Unfortunately some Clubs have not been entering required details to the database. At the last meeting of the Board the requirement for member details to be provided in this format was reaffirmed and all Clubs are required to enter all member details by 30 June 2018 to be eligible for affiliation with CNSW. If any Club has difficulty in complying with this requirement they should contact myself as the CNSW Membership Officer ASAP at membership@croquet-nsw.org.

For those who have checked the CNSW website recently will have noticed another enhancement that is specifically for CNSW Members. A 'Members Area' is available that can only be accessed after logging on via the Sign In page on the website and it will contain information that should not be available to the general public such as downloadable forms, minutes of board meetings (without the confidential & personal information), information documents, annual reports etc. This is a feature of many sporting body and club websites.

To wind up on a positive note there is a fourth exciting piece of news! The Visual Identity Working Group project to develop a new CNSW logo is near completion and we will shortly be launching a new logo which aims to bring a more contemporary image to Croquet in NSW. Watch this space!

Finally as I pen this message the AC Trans-Tasman Cup has been played and won by Australia 3 nil against NZ. NSW is very proud to have Claire Bassett, Rosemary Landrebe, Alison Sharpe and Alix Verge, who are members of CNSW, playing for the ACA. This is followed by the Australian GC Open where 14 NSW players have made the trek to Cairnlea. The very best of croquet to every one of these players!

Happy Hooping,



Brenda Wild