

# CROQUET NSW NEWSLETTER

February 2022



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## CNSW RICOCHET TROPHIES

The CNSW Board has approved the purchase of two trophies for the CNSW Open Ricochet Singles and Doubles events. The **Margaret-Rose Thompson Open Singles Ricochet Shield** and the **Margaret Sawers Open Doubles Ricochet Shield** recognise the outstanding contribution that Margaret-Rose Thompson and Margaret Sawers have made, not only to the health and development of croquet generally, but specifically to the acceptance and growth of ricochet.

**Margaret Sawers** received an honourable mention in the recent CNSW Golden Mallet awards. This testifies to her long and deep commitment to croquet. The award speaks to 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. In



*Margaret Sawers*



*Margaret-Rose Thompson*

2021, she continued to be the driving force behind club events in Association, Golf and Ricochet. Margaret pioneered the playing of Ricochet in her region and is an accredited RC Referee. Margaret 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.

**Margaret-Rose** is a founding member of Nelson Bay Croquet Club and has played a pivotal role in the growth of the club from 17 members over 26 years ago to more than 100 members currently. Margaret-Rose coaches, plays and referees association, ricochet and golf. Margaret-Rose has refereed at international, national, state and club level, including the inaugural women's world championships held at Cairnlea, the Australian singles championships and the Interstate Shield on many occasions, and the Croquet NSW State singles and doubles championships, as well as district and club events within the Hunter region. Margaret-Rose was responsible for introducing ricochet croquet to Nelson Bay Croquet Club and ensuring its adoption across NSW over the last 10 years. Margaret-Rose stated "I drove to Queensland to complete a referee's course and then travelled across the state doing workshops." In 2021 Margaret-Rose re-accredited numerous ricochet referees, assisting in developing the assessment and discussing the current referees and assessing work submitted by many of the re-accrediting referees

The purchase by CNSW of the trophies demonstrates the confidence by the health, acceptance and future of ricochet.

Richard Hughes,  
CNSW Co-Ordinator of Ricochet



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: Rik Mills  
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Secretary: David Scott  
Projects & Grants: Rosie Landrebe  
Newsletter: Liz Friend  
[newsletter@croquet-nsw.org](mailto:newsletter@croquet-nsw.org)  
Board member: Ray Chapman  
Website: <https://croquet-nsw.org>

[Croquet NSW Facebook page](#)



## FROM THE BOARD

The Board was pleased that the Australian Croquet Association has confirmed that the Eire Cup (Association Croquet Interstate contest) will be played in March 2022. Only four states will compete for the coveted trophy: Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales. The Gold and Silver Medal Championship has been postponed, so the event has been shortened by 2 days to 12-18 March. The venues for the Eire Cup will be Royal Sydney Golf Course and Croquet NSW HQ at Tempe. The Governor of NSW, Her Excellency the Honorable Margaret Beazley AC QC, will host the opening reception at Government House. The Men's and Women's AC Singles Championships will be held 12-15 March, and we are encouraging NSW members to take the opportunity to enter!

Covid safety measures will be in place to protect competitors. Registration, practice and welcome drinks and nibbles will be held at Tempe, Friday 11 March. The final dinner will be a less formal affair held in the open air at Tempe on Friday 18 March after the conclusion of the Tournament. Details will be available from the CNSW website shortly.

The Eire Cup team has been practising and playing in a number of events at Tempe, and is looking like strong competitors to defend its win in 2020. The AGM of the Australian Croquet Association (ACA) will be held Saturday 19 March at the Concordia Club (changed from Monday 21 March). The Agenda is attached. NSW will be represented at the AGM by a Board delegate. NSW Club members can attend as observers. Following the AGM will be a Forum, open to all ACA registered players. Come with your questions or comments for ACA. We are pleased to support the inaugural Ricochet trophies, named for two champions of this form of our game: Margaret Sawers and Margaret-Rose Thompson. Thank you both for your contribution and thanks to Richard Hughes for his energetic leadership as CNSW's Ricochet Development Officer.

Kate McLoughlin  
Chair, Croquet NSW

## GC REFEREEING NEWS - FEB 2022

Thank you to those players and referees who took up the opportunity to express an opinion regarding the two Public Consultation questions associated with the proposed 6th Edition of GC Rules. Q1 was about the toss for balls before a game/match starts and Q2 was about a refinement to the rule for Wrong Ball play by the striker's side. NSW respondents were in favour of implementing both proposed changes and this was consistent with the consolidated Australian position.

It is expected that the finalised 6th Edition of GC Rules will be released by the WCF sometime in March 2022. Croquet Australia has made preparatory arrangements for the printing of 6th Edition GC Rules booklets. The complete rules will also be available to download from the WCF website.

All GC referees will be involved in ensuring players are familiar with changes to the current rules and are ready to implement them in play from the date determined by Croquet Australia.

Lorraine Hatfield  
Referee Coordinator

## THE CNSW MISSING TROPHIES' HUNT IS OVER

All the CNSW missing trophies have now been located.

Many thanks to John Eddes and everyone else who assisted in locating the trophies.

Plans are well on the way to ensure that CNSW trophies are engraved with the winners' names from previous years and made available for presentation to the events' winners in 2022.

## COACHING NEWS

The ACA Coaching Academy is now live, enabling all certified coaches access to on-line manuals and videos, a valuable resource for all club coaches. <https://croquet-australia.com.au/aca-academy/>

COVID has prevented more training courses from being run. However, thanks to Barb Piggott in the north, Stephen Burns in Sydney, and Peter Freer in Canberra, since August, NSW has 36 new Golf Croquet coaches, 12 new Association Croquet coaches, and 5 new Ricochet coaches.

### Congratulations to:

*AC Level 1* coaches John Hincks, Bridget Earle, Peter Martin, Jenny Arnold, Tim Woolford-Smith, Mary Hughes, David Hoffman, Stephen Pearce, Kerri-Ann Organ.

*AC Level 2* coaches David Scott, Ray Chapman, Mike Gidding.

*GC Level 1* coaches Jenny Arnold, Mary Hughes, Deborah Jones, Peter Hall, Lorraine Wilson, Rosemary Howard, Dan Howard, Cheryl Fell, Elizabeth Comino, John Hall, Carolyn McNamara, Ann Woods, Pauline Hogan, Alison Sharpe, Cheryl Smith, Judy Tonkin, Chris Cox, Bob Kerr, Ian Bell.

*GC Level 2* coaches John Hincks, Bridget Earle, Peter Martin, David Scott, Ray Chapman, Deborah Matten, David Gibson, Bernice Gibson, Ron Johnstone, Ros Johnstone, Ann Shaddick, Petula Shun, Roberta Flint, Bob Berry, Charles Britton, Alison Sharpe, Peter Smith, Pam Wiemers

*Ricochet Level 1* coaches Mary Hughes, Jenny Arnold

*Ricochet Level 2* coaches David Scott, Ray Chapman, Deborah Matten.

We still have many people on the waiting list to certify as coaches, and hopefully we will be able to run courses for them in the next few months.

Pam Gentle

CNSW Coaching Coordinator

## VALE MARGARET MURRAY



*Margaret hitting the first balls at Milton Ulladulla Bowling Club, note the arm in plaster! Nothing would stop her playing croquet.*

It is with the deepest of sympathy that Milton Ulladulla advises that our former Patron and Founder, Margaret Murray, passed away on Saturday 29 January 2022. Margaret was 89.

Unfortunately, she had a fall in her care home and went to hospital and passed away peacefully with her family around her.

Margaret was the driving force behind the forming of Milton Ulladulla Croquet Club: without her dedication and drive to form a croquet club in the Milton Ulladulla area we would not be here today!

Margaret came to the South Coast from Tamworth and having played croquet for many years in Tamworth, she was disappointed a club did not exist here. For about 3 years she played and taught croquet, via U3A, on a quarter size lawn croquet at Sarah Claydon Lifestyle Community Centre, but realized croquet needs at the very least a half size lawn to play a really effective game. So, what Margaret did was write letters to Shoalhaven Council and various sports bodies seeking finance and a space to play. She also gathered help from many members in the community to form a club. This happened in 1999, and from then on there was no stopping her: raffles in the street, movie mornings, any event to raise money!

She was rewarded by the offer of a half size lawn at the Milton Ulladulla Bowling Club. MUCC commenced at the club in 1999. We played on a half size lawn until we moved to the Milton showground in 2006.

MUCC named our lawn at the showground after Margaret Murray and we are continuing with her name at our new Ulladulla Sports Park Croquet Lawns.

Margaret was a dedicated croquet player and believed more people should play this great game.

(Submitted by Jean Pack, Secretary MUCC).



## EIRE CUP: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT TEMPE

The Eire Cup and the ACA Men's and Women's AC Singles Championships are going ahead in Sydney, from 12-18 March. Events will be held primarily at CNSW Headquarters, Tempe, and Royal Sydney Golf Club. Other Clubs including Cammeray, Chatswood, Manly, Eastwood, Strathfield and Warrawee are hosting events.

Croquet NSW is looking for volunteers to assist at Tempe between 12-18 March. We are looking for volunteers to assist in setting up and taking down lawns, organising morning/afternoon tea, ordering and delivering lunches, scoring etc. Two or three people per day should be ample. Starting 7.15am and packing up 5 to 6pm. Catering costs are covered by Croquet Australia and there is an opportunity for volunteer Clubs to keep profits if they run the catering. They can also sell additional food to spectators and players.

... and you get to watch some great Association Croquet play from Australia's top players!

**Contact:** John Stokes (Assistant Tournament Manager) and Venue Manager (Tempe) [croquetking59@gmail.com](mailto:croquetking59@gmail.com)

Phone:0448847461

### Our Eire Cup Team training



*Tim Murphy doing the down-to-snake-eye-level for a peel and Gareth Denyer and Stephen Richards walking down the lawn with intent!*



*Pete Landrebe taking the troops through some classwork*

## ADVANTAGE CROQUET – 2022 UPDATE

The 2021 trial was extremely well received and as a result this new variant has been added to the draft 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the GC Rules, to be released soon.

Following analysis of the results from last year, the Starting Scores Tables (for both 7 point and 10 point games) have been updated for 2022. Please use the new tables which can be found at: <https://worldcroquet.org/advantagegc/>

## **WANTED - CLUBS TO HOST CNSW EVENTS 2022**

GC Gold Brooch Doubles (Handicap 0-4 & 5-9) 15-17 August

AC Gold Brooch Singles (Handicap 3-6) 29-31 August

AC Silver Brooch Singles (Handicap 7-10) 5-7 September

To ensure sufficient entries, it would be preferred if the AC events were hosted in or around the Sydney Metro Area. Please email your Club's interest to host an event to: [tournament@croquet-nsw.org](mailto:tournament@croquet-nsw.org)

## **2022 GC PENNANTS COMPETITIONS**

Information flyers are available for these competitions - see [Events](#) on the CNSW website.

### **Divisions 2 and 3**

After 2 years of interruptions due to lockdowns, the 2022 schedule is back to the pre-pandemic practice of completing these competitions before the Championship events for each Division.

Thank-you to EDSACC Club (Bateau Bay) - in the Hunter region club hosting the Finals for the Division 2 pennants competition.

Sydney Metro region is scheduled to host the Finals for the Division 3 competition in 2022. They are scheduled to be held on any 2 consecutive days between 9 & 13 May.

### **Is your club interested in hosting the GC Division 3 Pennants Finals?**

Entries close for Division 2 & Division 3 competitions on 1 March 2022.

### **Division 1**

Zone play will commence in mid-September, after the completion of the Interstate Shield.

ACT/Southern region is scheduled to host the finals for the Division 1 competition in 2022. They are scheduled to be held on any 2 consecutive days between 14 & 18 November.

### **Is your club interested in hosting the GC Division 1 Pennants Finals?**

Entries close for the Division 1 competition on 1 September 2022.

## **ENTER NOW: MEN'S AND WOMEN'S AC SINGLES EVENTS IN SYDNEY**

Do you play Association Croquet? Would you like to play in a National Tournament?

Calling all AC players in the Sydney region and beyond! The Australian Men's and Women's Championships are to be played in Sydney from Saturday 12 to Tuesday 15 March. The Men's competition will be played at Chatswood, Cammeray, Eastwood, Manly and Warrawee; the Women's competition will be played at Tempe, Royal Sydney Golf Club (RSGC) and Strathfield also March 12-15. Finals to be played at RSCG.

### **Do you have a handicap of ten or under?**

If so, you should enter this event, which has been held for the past 51 years at various venues across six States. Over the four-day period, entrants will compete in a single-life Knock-Out playing best-of-3 game matches. Losing players go into a range of consolation events.

Fabulous opportunity! This opportunity comes to Sydney only every 6 years. You might get to play a state or national champion - how many sports offer that sort of opportunity?

Entries close Feb 18 on-line via ACA at:

<https://croquet-australia.com.au/ac-mens-singles-entry> and <https://croquet-australia.com.au/ac-womens-singles-entry>

## **GOLD COAST TWEED (AC) TOURNAMENT**

The 2022 GCT Association Croquet Tournament is being planned for 2-10 July this year. The number of events has been reduced to 9, as shown in the [attached tournament flyer](#). This is one of Australia's last multi-event tournaments catering for all skill levels.

## WINNERS are GRINNERS

Results of recent CNSW events:

### CNSW AC3 and under

The CNSW tournament for AC3 and under singles was held at Tempe on 5 & 6 February.

Sixteen of NSW best AC players were playing and after the preliminary rounds, the final came down between NSW champion Peter Landrebe and up and coming Mike Gidding from Ballina. In an exciting and absorbing final Peter got home 26 to 22. Well done to both players.

A good hit out for the upcoming Eire cup for those players representing NSW.

A well-done to John Stokes for running his first CNSW tournament as Tournament Manager.



*(L:R) Mike and Pete after an exciting and absorbing final*



*(L:R Mark Scruton, Gerda Lambeck, Kevin McGlynn, Kate McLoughlin, Peter Freer)*

### Division 1 Pennants Finals (Toronto)

They came to the Hunter Valley, conquered their talented rivals and returned home to the ACT with the spoils. The Canberra quartet of Peter Freer, Mark Scruton, Gerda Lambeck, Kate McLoughlin and Kevin McGlynn proved too strong in the recent Division 1 Pennants NSW Championships at the [Toronto Croquet Club](#).

Contested over two days at the Lake Macquarie venue, local hopes Maitland, Canberra and Mosman showcased their greatly-honed skills and proficiency on the manicured courts. The one setback, however, was the unfortunate withdrawal of the Ballina (Cherry St) outfit due to a COVID-19 contact concern.

Each team comprised a doubles pair and two singles players, all with handicaps under 4, who participated in a best-of-three format. Following the action, the combatants had all won a

game – and suffered a loss – in the triangular series. And, in the end, a countback was required to decide the state victors.

Canberra, with a for-and-against record of 94-80, finished with a net score of 14 hoops, ahead of Mosman (80-85) on -5 and the Hunter representatives, Maitland, (84-93) on -9.

Toronto Croquet Club publicity officer Liz McDonald praised the efforts of the champions (Freer, Scruton, Lambeck and McGlynn), as well as their opponents Mosman (Alison Sharpe, Lyn Day, Vaughan Pairman and Denis Edelston) and Maitland (Stephen Thornton, John Pace, Pam Gentle and Ken Green).

“With all three teams registering a win apiece, it shows there wasn’t much between them,” she said. “It also highlighted the quality on offer. Day one was extremely hot when Maitland faced Mosman, who then backed up to meet Canberra. The weather was much kinder 24 hours later as Maitland faced Canberra. But, the intense play was watched by a number of spectators. For it to come down to a countback, to see who actually won as they were so close, was a fitting finale to the tournament.”

Croquet NSW is always looking for Clubs to host tournaments. Toronto Club is to be congratulated for hosting such a wonderful event. Thanks go to the organisers, referees, timekeepers and other volunteers.



## Australian 2022 Golf Croquet President's Eights

This event was held at Cairnlea, Victoria and Canberra fared very well. The winner of the First Eight was Kevin Beard (Yarrawonga), Runner-up Peter Freer (Canberra); the Second Eight winner was Shane Downie (Traralgon), Runner-up Richard Parks (Monash); and the Third Eight winner was Kevin McGlynn (Canberra), Runner-up Mark Scruton (Canberra).



*(L:R)Kevin Beard and Peter Freer*

*(L:R) Mark Scruton and Kevin McGlynn*

## 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.

## TOURNAMENTS COMING UP

Orange City Autumn Carnival (AC) 24-28 February  
Three days of Ricochet at Sawtell 18-20 March  
NSW Open Men's GC Singles, 25-27 March, Tempe. Entries close 18 March  
NSW Open Women's GC Singles, 8-10 April, Canberra. Entries close 31 March  
AC Men's Singles Championship 29 April – 1 May. Entries close 22 April  
Eva Short Memorial Trophy (AC) 16-17 July  
Win Dickinson Memorial Trophy (AC) 16-17 July  
Check out the [Events](#) tab on the CNSW website.

## BOOKING A LAWN AT TEMPE

<https://cooksrivercroquetclub.com/>