

NEWSLETTER

May 2022



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... and other news

CNSW CLUB HUBS

CNSW Board established a Panel to review the submissions. All submissions were comprehensive, and the Panel agreed to interview representative from all those Clubs. The Panel was impressed by the level of enthusiasm of each Club and was encouraged by the extent to which each Club possessed a desire to grow all codes within their communities and support other croquet clubs. All Clubs were aware of their responsibilities, including reporting, commitment to hold CNSW events, establishing coaching sessions and various partnerships within their communities.

The CNSW Board accepted the recommendation that all the following Clubs deserved the opportunity to implement the Club Hub Plan in the first-round offer: Canberra, Couatts Crossing, Port Macquarie, Strathfield and Toronto.

The establishment of the CLUB HUBS is progressing well with the focus on Club Hubs putting together the calendar of workshops they would like to host for the next 12 months. NSW players are going to enjoy the level of enthusiasm and commitment from the CLUB HUBS, who are eager to provide a wide range of opportunities for clubs and players, from social and competitive players to clubs who want to begin using social media or need assistance to better organise their finances.

The HUBS will be providing a wide range of courses to support everyone. Stay tuned for the release of the CLUB HUB calendars later in May ready to begin courses in early June 2022!

GC REFEREEING NEWS

~ Tutor Referee Appointment ~ Kaye Martin from Coogee Club has been appointed as a Tutor Referee for the Sydney Metro region. Congratulations Kaye!

~ Retiring Referee ~ After many years of service to NSW players, Michael Strickland is retiring from GC refereeing. All the best Michael and thank you!

We are still awaiting the delivery of the 6th Edition GC Rules books from Croquet Australia. In the meantime, you may like to watch either or both of the following videos to get a feel for what is coming (from 1 July 2022).

The first video features Stephen Mulliner - England's representative and the Editor for the WCF GC Rules Committee - discussing his role in the committee and introducing the key changes and implications of the 6th Edition of the GC Rules. Copy and paste this link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/unDTzISYjgA>



The second video features John van der Touw - Australia's representative on the WCF GC Rules committee - discussing the main changes compared with the 5th Edition. Copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://youtu.be/qWkgEpgShvo>

As soon as the rule books are available, referees will be actively seeking opportunities to familiarise players with the impact of the changes introduced in the 6th Edition. Lorraine Hatfield, Tournament Committee.

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

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

Many of our Clubs have been very busy hosting events and members have enjoyed visiting other Clubs and experiencing the wonderful welcome they receive, often attending the same event year after year. As Clubs focus on membership and retention, we can look forward to utilising the tools that are now available, including the expert advice from the Marketing Committee at the ACA. By now, Clubs will have received a copy, via email, of Greg Bury's presentation which he gave at the CNSW Forum held via Zoom on 26 April. In his role as General Manager, ACA, Greg has been sharing his ideas throughout the country.

The Board continues to review its policies, ensuring compliance as well as relevance, and all policies can be found on the CNSW website. The website is kept up to date by David Archer. Here you will also find information for members and Clubs including Club news, the event calendar, results, resources for coaching and refereeing and all copies of the Newsletter and Board Minutes, amongst other documents. Follow the link <https://www.croquet-nsw.org>

World Croquet Day was celebrated the first weekend in May 2022. If your Club celebrated, be sure to send a report on to secretary@croquet-nsw.org for possible inclusion in the CNSW Newsletter, website or Facebook page.

Liz Friend,
Board Member



Liz Friend

NORTHERN RIVERS FLOODED COMMUNITIES

For the first time since the February 2022 flood impacted Lismore Croquet clubhouse and lawns, members returned for a social morning on Thursday 28 April 2022. Although the clubhouse cannot be occupied, the lawns are in good condition thanks to the efforts of Fred and his team from Lismore City Council Parks & Gardens and Lismore Croquet Club's lawns manager, Bruce Ross. There remains continued uncertainty as to what is required to restore the clubhouse, how much that will cost and who will pay. Unfortunately, Lismore Croquet has also lost storage space in nearby Council owned facilities, adding more uncertainty to costs for recovery.

Casino Croquet members are disappointed they have not been able to return to their lawns which are still too waterlogged to mark and play. They remain hopeful of a return to play in mid May 2022. The Casino clubhouse also requires extensive renovation with the local council indicating they will replace their kitchen cupboards and perhaps floor coverings. However, storage cupboards, paint and white goods will likely be at Casino Croquet expense. Like Lismore, there remains a myriad of costs that remain unknown and uncertain.

Members from both clubs are resilient and dedicated to getting their respective clubs back up and operating. Both Clubs have been encouraged and invigorated by the financial and moral support received from the wider croquet community with donations, emails and phone calls from individuals and fellow croquet clubs.

On behalf of Casino and Lismore Croquet Clubs, Croquet NSW thanks everyone who has donated as well those still planning to do so, for example, holding a fundraiser day.

Finally, a big thank you to Croquet Australia for their Disaster Relief Program ([ACA DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAM – Australian Croquet Association \(croquet-australia.com.au\)](#)) which enabled the message for support to be widely spread.

David Scott, Ballina.

CROQUET NSW FORUM on Tuesday 26 April 2022 via Zoom

Croquet NSW held a Discussion forum open to all NSW players on the last Tuesday in April. The Forum was attended by over 50 CNSW players from across the State and had a focus on recruitment and retention. Two clubs shared their recruitment experiences: Liz Friend from Nelson Bay Croquet Club and Anne Collins from Cooks River Croquet Club. Both Clubs have successfully recruited new players to try the sport using different means: one through personal and paid promotion in local media and the other using the local Council website and the booking application 'trybooking'. This was followed by an overview of the importance of marketing and the need to do the groundwork in your Club to receive new members, presented by Greg Bury, Australian Croquet Academy. The presentations were followed by questions which had been previously submitted by Clubs. The Board appreciates the thoughtful questions raised and is happy to answer outstanding questions for Clubs and their members.

1. **Killara Croquet Club** raised the issue of helping those clubs who have been flood affected.
David Scott, Secretary, Croquet NSW responded with reference to the ACA option for clubs to donate to flood affected clubs, and CNSW has been keeping in contact with the clubs. The Board considered the use of CNSW funds as not appropriate for emergency and disaster relief as there are government agencies charged with such functions.
2. **Nowra Croquet Club** raised a series of questions related to
 - a. Coaching support for clubs
Croquet NSW responded advising of the program to train coaches across the State, which is facilitated through the State Coaching co-ordinator.
 - b. The needs and benefits of paying affiliation fees to the Australian Croquet Association and Croquet NSW.
Croquet NSW emphasised the importance of affiliation with the national sporting peak body which handles regulations and standards for play, selection, insurance, national policies and represents Australia on the world croquet stage. The ACA is also developing tools for national use around the website and database. Croquet is one of the cheapest sports in terms of affiliation at \$50 per head per year (\$18 CNSW, \$32 ACA), and NSW is the cheapest state to play croquet in. Over the last two years Croquet NSW has offered rebates on fees of \$1,000 per Club and the ACA halved its affiliation fees in 2020/21. Croquet NSW funds the delivery of coaching, referees, competitions at all levels, a national standard headquarters, and is now funding the Club Hubs program.
 - c. Timing on Pennants competitions: *Lorraine Hatfield (Tournaments Committee) clarified the timing given to organise Pennants matches, where there has been an increase in clubs playing, and which have followed closely on from the delayed finish of the 2021 Pennants competitions.*

The session was plagued with some technical hitches in loading Greg Bury's presentation, and in some of the audio quality of speakers. Further information is available from the Croquet NSW website including a recording of the event, a copy of Greg Bury's presentation, and responses to the questions raised.

The next CNSW Discussion Forum will be held in the evening of Tuesday 26 July. For questions or any issues you would like to see raised at this Forum please advise secretary@croquet-nsw.org.

Kate McLoughlin
Chair, Croquet NSW

WAGGA WAGGA CROQUET CLUB

The story of croquet in Wagga Wagga goes back to the nineteenth century, but the organised Club apparently came into existence in 1909. According to an item in the Wagga Daily Advertiser, croquet was to be included in the sports to be played in a Carnival at the Racecourse early in 1901. No follow up to this has been found. There are many interesting historical facts including:

- The minute and cash books go back to 1938
- Over many years the Club was involved with school children and the local agriculture college
- Membership of the Wagga Wagga Ladies Croquet Club did not include males until the 1970s
- With the introduction of incorporation, a new constitution was drawn up and the name officially changed to the Wagga Wagga Croquet Club
- The introduction of Come & Try Days was successful, and it was at one in April 2001, that **Jim Nicholls**, who has played for NSW and Australia, tried his hand at croquet and never looked back.

To learn much more about the history, **attached to this newsletter** is an article submitted by Nola Scott from the Wagga Wagga Croquet Club and demonstrates the wonderful record-keeping of the Club, including very interesting photos that show much of the history.

GAIL SICCARDI – AWARD RECOGNITION

On Tuesday 12 April this year, our croquet Treasurer, Gail Siccardi was presented with an Individual Recognition Award by Blue Mountains City Council. Gail was nominated by members of the Blue Mountains Croquet Club for her outstanding service to the Club as our Treasurer for the last nine years. Gail is also our Membership Secretary and has helped the Club grow in numbers over the years. She has several other hats which include Club Coach, Club Referee, Club Captain and Games Captain. She often writes submissions for community grants to continue the operation of the Croquet Club: if it isn't new seating, it's new mallets.

Gail is a tireless worker for the Club and has been recognised by this Award for her efforts in making this a fun social game in the mountains. She was presented with her Award by Councillor Mick Fell on behalf of the Mayor of the City of the Blue Mountains.



THE SPORTS COMMUNITY WEBSITE

This website has excellent articles to assist volunteers, including Grants that are available. The following two articles offer guidance for those considering taking on roles of Secretary or President in their Club.

<https://sportscommunity.com.au/>

Club Secretary

The secretary is often the first point of contact for people interested in the club who need information or details about activities. An effective secretary also helps in coordinating club events such as meeting schedules, social activities and fundraising activities. The club secretary's role can be challenging at times. Often not seen as high profile, in actual fact, the secretary is a key pivot point for all the club's activities. This person is a valuable member of the club and contributes continuously to its success. So how can you, or your club's secretary, be more successful in the role?

1. Very Organised and planned
2. Understands and follows the club's rules, policies and procedures
3. A "people person"
4. Willing to develop strong relationships
5. Problem and conflict resolver
6. Write things down
7. Have time

You can discover the breakdown of the above keys to success [through this link](#).

(Sports Community website cont.)

Club President

These days, it's easier than you think to become the President of your local club. Simply say the words "I might think about becoming President of my club one day" and the job is practically yours before you know it!

The formal process for a club President will be defined in your club rules/constitution. Usually, each year committee members and office holders of the club are elected at the Annual General Meeting. It is becoming very rare for there to be elections for office holders. But, this is what will happen if two people run for President. Your club rules/constitution may have a nomination process to follow, so the best place to start when thinking about becoming club president is to read the club rules/constitution. There are a few situations where an opening for presidency opens up:

- The club president is being stood down, or chooses to stand down
- The current President wishes to be re-elected, but you think you're the person for the job

[Find out how these scenarios impact your ability to run for president and find out more information here.](#)

ACA GOVERNANCE

The following Governance documents are on the ACA website, all being accessible from the Documents page at <https://croquet-australia.com.au/documents/> :

- Marketing Committee ToR – this committee replaces the former Publicity Committee, the ToR for which have been removed from the website
 - National Integrity Framework policies:
 - Child Safeguarding Policy V2
 - Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy V2
 - Improper Use of Drugs and Medicines Policy V2, and
 - Member Protection Policy V2
 - A Sports Integrity Australia (but non-National Integrity Framework policy) template adapted Personal Grievances Policy V1, for those inter-personal grievances that do not fall under the MPP, and
 - Policies adapted from National Sports Tribunal templates, for when the National Integrity Framework policies are not applicable:
 - Code of Conduct V1
 - Conduct and Disciplinary Policy V1
 - Review and Appeals Policy
- N.B. All the above policies become effective on 1 June 2022

ACA MAGAZINE – Autumn Edition

The latest issue of the magazine includes many articles of interest, including:

Page 21 – a new croquet scoreboard developed by Mark Scruton from Gareth Denyer's on-screen scoring during the Eire Cup;

Page 22 – information about the newly formed ACA Marketing Committee (to which our Board member, Liz Friend, has been appointed);

Page 26 – an article on the recent Award received by Peter Landrebe, recognizing his eight years of service to the World Croquet Federation.

To read more https://issuu.com/adalapublishing/docs/aus_croquet_autumn_2022

ACA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The ACA 2023 budget will contain provision for six scholarships of \$500 each in any of the categories listed in the Scholarship Policy. Due to the vagaries caused by Covid in the past two years, the Board has not applied specific amounts to each category listed in Para 4 of the policy but will assess all applications against the relevant criteria. The formal call for nominations will be posted in early August, with applications closing by the end of that month. A copy of the ACA Scholarship Policy is attached to this newsletter.

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

CNSW MEN'S GOLF CROQUET OPEN – 25-27 March at Tempe



There were fifteen players in two blocks with the top 4 players in each block progressing to the finals. Red block had three players tied for fourth place which resulted in a 3 hoop playoff. David Hanbridge got through, winning 2/0, over Kevin McGlynn after Kevin beat Ray Chapman 2/1.

The semi-finals came down to David Hanbridge vs Chris Williamson with David winning 7/5 7/5. The other semi-final saw Malcolm Powys beat David Scott 3/7 7/4 7/5 to reach his first ever final.

In the final David Hanbridge was too steady, winning 7/4 7/3 to record his second men's GC Open win. The winner of the plate event was a draw between Kevin McGlynn and Stephen Burns.

Many thanks to our two GC referees for their tireless efforts over the three days and well done to Pamela Barnwell on her first time as Tournament Manager.

David Hanbridge with his trophy

CNSW AC MENS OPEN SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP 28 April – 1 May at Tempe



(L:R) Peter congratulates Dwayne

Twelve of the best AC players from Sydney, Canberra, Sawtell and Ballina, and one from South Australia, contested the event in two blocks.

In the semi-finals Dwayne McCormick beat Alan Walsh 26TP/0 26TP/8 and Peter Landrebe won 26/15 2/26TP 26/16 against Trevor Bassett.

The final was a rematch of the recent AC Australian Gold Medal championship which Dwayne won. Dwayne won the first game 26/22 with some steady play. Peter won the second game and it was a really interesting - one ball ending from both players with Dwayne getting to Penult with some amazing shots before Peter after a TPO (triple peel) pegged out to win the game 26/23. The final game started on a lovely Sydney morning with Dwayne hitting the supershot opening and with an opening break going to 4 back. Peter fought back getting first ball to 4 back and second ball to 5. Dwayne responded by taking second ball around, triple peeling first ball and pegging out to win 26/14. Well done to Dwayne. The win cemented his place in the top section of AC in Australia. The winner of the Plate event was John Bartrop. Congratulations to everyone on a wonderful tournament.

CNSW WOMEN'S GOLF CROQUET CHAMPIONSHIP 8-10 April in Canberra

The CNSW women's golf championship in Canberra 8-10 attracted many of the best players in NSW. At the conclusion of the block rounds the cream had risen to the top with the top 8 ranked players qualifying for the quarter finals.

The semi-finals saw Jamie Gumbrell beat Alison Sharpe 5/7 7/5 7/5 and Gerda Lambeck beating Pamela Barnwell 1/7 7/5 7/3

The final was between Jamie Gumbrell and Gerda Lambeck, both from the Canberra Croquet Club. Jamie won the thrilling and close final 7/5 and 7/6 to claim her first women's golf singles championship.

Congratulations to Jamie and all the players officials and volunteers who made the tournament a huge success.



(L:R) Jamie Gumbrell & Gerda Lambeck

THE MOSMAN BASH 22–24 April



The Winners



Fidye Westgarth - The Winner

On 22 April Mosman welcomed players to its 10th annual Mosman Bash open singles AC handicap tournament. 24 players in four blocks seeded by similar handicaps battled for the substantial prizes for each block. Generous sponsorship from Mercedes Benz North Shore enabled winners to walk away with \$150 while the runners-up got \$50. All enjoyed the great inclusive meals and refreshments during the tournament. In addition there was the chance to win the draw for a Peter Coles mallet which Peter had kindly donated.

The weather on the first day was not good with constant heavy showers. But everyone rugged up and got the program finished on time. Fortunately, the next two days were lovely days for croquet and everybody could show off their style.

Block Winners

In the Blue Block Ted Woodley from Chatswood was a clear winner winning all five games. Michael Strickland from Cammeray, who came second on net points over Steve Miles from Cammeray, missed out on his 5th block win in the Bash. He was a block winner back in the inaugural event in 2012.

The Red Block was a closely fought contest. In the final round both Margaret O'Brien from Cammeray and Rob Wright from Mosman had a chance to overtake the overnight leader, Ron Humpherson from Mosman, if they could win by sufficient margin. Margaret made a valiant effort with a big win over Ron, and Rob also won his match with Chris Smith. Unfortunately neither quite got there, so Ron was the winner. Rob Wright was runner up.

The Green Block was reduced to 5 players because of a late withdrawal. However, there was no doubt about the winner as Fidye Westgarth from Mosman won all her matches. David Gibson from Manly was runner up.

Mosman was again successful in the Yellow Block as David McGrane won four matches. There were three players with 3 wins and only 3 points between them. Gerard Barry from Chatswood was the runner up. For full results please visit <https://croquetscores.com>. The photos show Ben Bradley, General Sales Manager Mosman, presenting the prizes on behalf of the sponsor Mercedes Benz North Shore.

Thank you to all at Mosman who contributed to the success of our tournament. The lawns were in great condition after the recent good growing weather and a cut immediately before provided excellent lawn speed. Inside the clubhouse the catering ladies turned on a succession of scrumptious cakes and a closing gourmet lunch. Thank you to all the competitors for the way in which they entered the spirit of the three days. With each player having five 2½-hour games over two days and a half it was essential to keep things moving. But there was time for a bit of socialising which is an essential part of visiting Mosman. We enjoyed putting on the show and look forward to welcoming everybody back again next year.

Ron Humpherson,
Tournament Manager (Photos Richard Westgarth)



Ron Humpherson

Ted Woodley

CNSW AC BRONZE SINGLES – 3-5 May at Killara

Killara CC put on three glorious blue-sky days when for the AC Bronze Singles. Two blocks of eager competitors took to lawns that had survived the big wet well and which ran quick and true. The end of day 2 saw Warwick Nassif (Warawee) & Fidy Westgarth (Mosman) contest the semi-finals against Peter Gordon (Nelson Bay) and Margaret Craig (Killara). Peter and Warwick progressed to the finals, with Peter winning the day and the Rene Montgomery Memorial Trophy, whilst Fidy overcame Margaret in a closely fought minor final. Thanks are extended to the tournament referees Ron, Ted and Bob, David Stanton for his tireless work, Susan Howland for performing the duties of tournament manager so ably and also to the wonderful friendly folk from Killara.



(L:R)David Stanton & Peter Gordon



(L:R)Peter Gordon & Warwick Nassif



(L:R)Margaret Craig & Fidy Westgarth

AUSTRALIAN GATEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS – 1-3 April Runaway Bay Qld

David Hughes and Ruth Mulvaney from Toronto's Macs team were winners in the Doubles over "Mr and Mrs Gateball", Glen and Krystina Whitehead of Canberra. CNSW were not so lucky in the team's event where Glen's Canberra team were knocked out in the semi-finals by Southport Red. The Toronto Macs also reached the semis and were knocked out by eventual winners, Kew from Victoria.

For more information see www.gateball.com.au . Anyone interested in gateball can email info@gateball.com.au.



(L:R) Jim Nichols (ACA Chair), David & Ruth, Krystina & Glen, John Park (National Coordinator, Gateball) All NSW registered!

WANTED - CLUBS TO HOST CNSW EVENTS 2022

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

(NB. 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: tournaments@croquet-nsw.org

Thanks go to Maitland Croquet Club which will host the GC Gold Brooch Doubles 15-17 August and to Jamberoo Croquet Club which will host the AC Gold Brooch Singles 29-31 August and the Division 1 GC Pennants finals.

TOURNAMENTS COMING UP:

(AC) Open Women's Singles 27-29 May, Tempe. Entries close 20 May

(AC) Gold Coast Tweed Tournaments 2-10 July. Entries close 20 June

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

BOOKING A LAWN AT TEMPE

<https://cooksrivercroquetclub.com/>