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SPRING 2021

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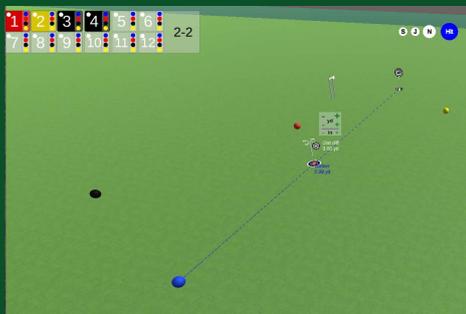
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Message from the ACA Board Chair



Jim Nicholls

I was hoping to be writing more about the action on the lawn and preparing for events in the latter half of the year. The current number of Covid-19 cases and subsequent border restrictions make it impractical to hold national events at this time. It was disappointing to have to make the decision to cancel the remaining events for 2021. Let's hope the situation improves soon.

So the action behind the scenes. In May the board and executive had some changes in personnel.

Anne Mann, our Finance Officer for the past 6 years, retired. Thankyou Anne for your diligence and service to Australian Croquet, especially over the past 18 months.

The ACA board appointed Kah Yang Loke to the board to fulfil the role of treasurer and employed Angeline Tan as Finance Officer. Kah Yang is a CPA (Certified Practising Accountant) and Angeline is a qualified Chartered Secretary and Administrator from the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators in the UK.

The Croquet Academy continues full steam ahead, with the finalisation of the coaching portal on the online learning management system (LMS) and the development of club support materials. There are now 15 Facebook promotional banners available to assist in promoting your club. Also in the development pipeline is a National Youth Training program.

Our website and database are currently being reconfigured to accommodate the LMS, to promote mallet sports in a unified manner, and to provide you with a 'one stop shop' for all things croquet.

I would like to acknowledge the growing number of volunteers contributing to these and many other projects, at National, State and club levels. Whilst the results of these efforts are not visible at this time I am confident Croquet will be better positioned when we are able to travel more freely in future.

I hope you enjoy the latest edition of the Australian Croquet Online Newsletter.

Retirement Announcement

Thank you Anne Mann for your service to Croquet Australia.



Welcome to the Team as our new Finance Officer Angeline Tan.



UPDATE ACA Events

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, border closures, lockdowns and uncertainties affecting many States across the country, the decision has been made to cancel all remaining events scheduled for 2021. This includes:

- GC Handicap (Singles & Doubles)
- President's AC Eights
- AC Open (Singles & Doubles)

Hopefully things will settle down over the next few months and we can get back to the normal scheduled events for 2022.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has made a Tax deductible donation to the Australian Croquet Academy it is greatly appreciated

Board Members and Appointed Positions



Jim Nicholls



Mary Marsland



Barbara Northcott



Bernie Pfitzner



Alison Sharpe



Kerri-Ann Organ



Max Kewish



Jim Clement
Board Appointment
Secretary



Rob Murray
Executive Officer



Greg Bury
General Manager
The Australian
Croquet Academy



Kah Yang Loke

Say hello to our new Croquet Australia treasurer



Kah Yang is a Principal in Audit and Risk Assurance at Parbery Consulting, a local consulting firm in Canberra. Kah Yang is an experienced professional in the financial and accounting industry, having over 25 years of experience in providing external and internal audits including financial and accounting advisory services to the private and government sectors in Australia and overseas. He has extensive experience in providing advice in financial and operational controls including fraud risk controls. Prior to migrating to Australia in 2004, Kah Yang was the Managing Partner of a private practice firm in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The firm primarily provided statutory financial statement audits to companies from various industries.

In Australia, Kah Yang has worked on significant audits of federal and state government departments, including the Australian National Audit Office, the Department of Defence, the Australian Tax Office, ACT Health and other leading commercial businesses including ActewAGL.

Furthermore, Kah Yang also has extensive experience working in the For-Purpose sector. Among some of the For-Purpose entities he has provided assurance and technical accounting services to are the Canberra Tradesmen's Union Club Limited, The Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries Limited, Canberra Institute of Technology Students' Union, Havelock Housing and the Australian Medical Council Limited. Kah Yang has worked at numerous international accounting firms, such as Ernst & Young, PricewaterhouseCoopers and RSM Australia.

Kah Yang has a robust understanding of current Australian Accounting Standards and Auditing Standards. In addition, Kah Yang is familiar with the various reporting frameworks such as the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act), the Corporations Act, the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act (ACNC Act) and the Associations Incorporation Act.

Official Positions of the ACA

Events Committee

Peter Freer (Chair)
Peter Tracey

Tournament committee

Trevor Bassett (Chair)

AC selection committee

Martin Clarke (Chair)
Greg Fletcher (Australian Team Captain)
Peter Landrebe (High Performance Manager)
Simon Hockey

GC Selection Committee

Chris McWhirter (Chair)
John Arney
Martin Clarke (High Performance Manager)
Peter Landrebe (Current Australian Captain)

Under 21 Committee

Jacky McDonald (Chair)
Kate Patrick
Barry Haydon
Kay Chynoweth
Peter Tracey

AC High Performance Manager

Peter Landrebe

AC National Refereeing Coordinator

Mike Cohn

National Coaching Coordinator

Greg Bury

Assistant National Coaching Coordinator

Barb Piggott

Ricochet National Coordinator

Lynda Davis

Gateball National Coordinator

John Park

GC High Performance Manager

Martin Clarke

GC Refereeing Coordinator

Jim Clements

National Handicapper

Gareth Denyer

Archivist

Martin Clarke

Australian Representation

WCF AC Laws Committee

Elizabeth Fleming

WCF GC Rules Committee

Bernie Pfizner

WCF Management Committee

Peter Landrebe

Public Officer

Nick Chapman

Complaints Officer

Rob Murray



Peter Freer
Events Committee
Chair



Chris McWhirter
GC Selection Committee
Chair



John Park
Gateball National
Coordinator



Martin Clarke
Archivist

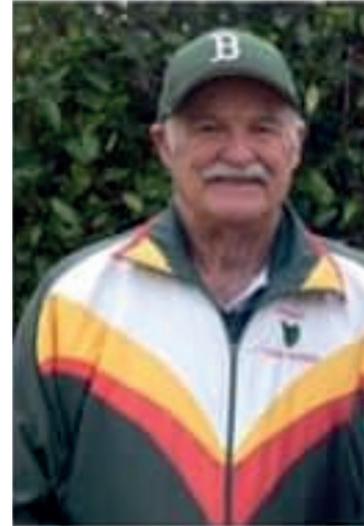
Congratulations to this year's Golf Croquet Bronze Medal Winners



Gary Phipps
Western Australia



Barry Jennings
South Australia



Ian Bassett
Tasmania



Jack Williams
Victoria



Lawrie Simpson
Queensland

New South Wales
Unable to compete
(due to COVID)



The ACA Board made a decision in late July that the National Championships including the Australian GC Gold and Silver Medals, Australian Men's and Women's Singles Championships and InterState Shield would be cancelled for 2021 (it was also cancelled in 2020). Our committee worked hard for nearly two years and were putting the final touches in place to make these Championships a huge success. Croquet players from all around Australia, committee members and followers were disappointed but knew this was the right decision.

Croquet Tasmania extends their appreciation to all the work of the co-ordinating committee, to our treasurer who was juggling the finances, to all the volunteers (referees, grounds staff, caterers and more) and to all the players including our own Tassie team who share our disappointment. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon.



Mallet sports in SA – A different view

Written by Karen Magee, Geoff Crook and Barry Haydon

Ricochet & Gateball played at Hutt Road on the Queen's Birthday Holiday

The Queen's birthday public holiday Monday provided an opportunity for 35 intrepid croquet players to try a new mallet sport – Gateball or Ricochet or both. [Ed: Members not from SA may not realise that these two sports are not regularly played in SA.]

The groups were almost evenly split across codes with 17 people trying Gateball and 18 giving Ricochet a go. There were slightly more in the morning perhaps wanting to get in before the bad weather arrived. The bad weather didn't arrive, fortunately.

After an initial introduction to the rules, everyone was invited to play a game (or in the case of Gateball 4 games!) [Ricochet is similar to AC in game duration while Gateball games stop after 30 minutes.]

Ricochet players were expertly coached by Eileen Ferguson and Jim Grindrod, with Gateball being overseen by Geoff Crook and Barry Haydon on one court and Peter Martyniuk and Peter Woodward on the second court.

All participants were enthusiastic and despite the threat of rain, all sessions were conducted

without wet weather gear, and everyone reported enjoying the fun sessions and all claimed they had learnt something during the session.

A big thank you to Karen Magee for organizing the event and to each of the coaches who gave their time to introduce Ricochet and Gateball to new players.

If you missed out, wish to know more about these intriguing games, or are visiting SA then you can play Ricochet at Brighton on Monday mornings or Aldinga on Saturdays at 1.30pm. Gateball is played at Hyde Park on Wednesday afternoons, Woodville on Tuesday nights & Mount Gambier on Mondays. Coaching can be provided if required. Please contact the clubs directly.



Hyde Park Croquet Club

Alfred James AC Invitational 17 – 20 June,
Adelaide SA. Article by Philip Hadley.
Event won by Simon Hockey

Of the eleven players in this event 4 were ranked in the top twelve in Australia which ensured many of the games were of a very high standard. One mistake and it was 'all over red rover' ! Play was conducted on three lawns, each with its own individual character and varying speeds, which meant players have to quickly adjust the strength of their shots from one game to the next. Given the time of year, the weather stayed tolerably fine after the first morning and with a little sun on the last day.

Not surprisingly the top four ranked players made it into the semi finals, with Edward Wilson defeating Dwayne McCormick in two games and Simon Hockey needing the best of three to beat Peter Landrebe to win the right to play off in the grand final.

The final looked to be going all Edward's way up until the middle of the second game. From that point, Simon seized his chance and triplepeeled



his way to two successive victories. The spectators were all captivated by the ball control demonstrated by these two players. The winner of the Plate was Mark Kobelt, who went through undefeated.

The event included full catering for all the players and officials and we hope that next year, with COVID-19 under control, it will be possible to invite more interstate players.



AC SELECTORS INVITATION

S/A AC Selection Committee

Seven men and six women participated in the AC Selectors Invitation event - David Short, Greg Rowberry, Mark Senior, Roger Buddle, Barry Jennings, David Wise and Ron Mc Bride were invited to play in the men's group - Virginia Arney, Shirlene McBride, Shirley Howlett, Tracey Sincock, Sally Harper and Di Helier made up the women's group. Some nail-biting "golden hoop" moments occurred in both groups. Barry Jennings notched up his first tournament triple peel and continued the excellent form he has displayed all year. It's nice to have David Wise playing in local tournaments. He is usually travelling and playing in overseas events at this time of the year. Mark Senior had to hit a critical full-court roquet to defeat David Short in a very close high standard match. Both Mark and

Greg Rowberry were in good form, only losing one game. The winner was Mark, who had a higher hoop point count than Greg, who was runner up. The women's group had some close matches and 'come from behind' winners. Virginia Arney, absent from competition and tournaments for some time due to injury and surgery, showed good form. It is nice to see her back playing again. Virginia was the winner with Shirley Howlett runner up - Shirley also had a good tournament. If she had won her last match against Sally Harper, she would have been the winner of the women's block - always next year, Shirley !! Thank you to James Temlett and Jim Curtis. They observed matches in their role as selectors and also donned referee jackets to share umpiring duties.



Golf Croquet

The Queensland Golf Croquet Team were unable to travel to Tasmania this year due to COVID, however that didn't stop us from having our own Interstate Shield format Match.

Two even teams were created by using the current world rankings and to make it as real as possible the results were entered into Croquet Scores.

The Blue Team were victorious after a very close and exciting battle.

Special Thanks for making the day a huge success must go to:

- The Windsor Croquet Club for hosting and providing a first class venue.
- Deirdre Giles for doing such a magnificent job in her role as Manager.
- Terry Ericson as the Head referee and providing loads of encouragement and support.
- Francesca de Wyt for all her work keeping us COVID safe and cooking/ preparing our celebration lunch.
- Bob Martin for ensuring all our communications were completed and supporting all Team Members.
- Gordon and Deirdre Giles for preparing the draw and arranging all the additional players.
- Mary McMahon for assisting with the planning and follow up.
- Cynthia Tacey for coming and supporting the team on and off the court.
- Aaron Green for coming and providing the team with some professional photos of the event.
- All the additional players for playing with the team at short notice.

I would like to also thank all the members of the 2021 Queensland Golf State Team for their enthusiasm, commitment and passion during all the Team Practice sessions.

I look forward to when we can represent and do Queensland proud.

Greg Bury

Press the link below to see the blues v Reds video <https://www.dropbox.com/s/vly7xwtaaycve26/Queensland%20Golf%20Team%20Blue%20v%20Red%20-%20FINAL.mp4?dl=0>



Bundaberg Croquet Club

It's our Birthday



As Covid restrictions prevented us from celebrating last year when we reached 120 years, we decided to have a small celebration today with current club members to mark 121 years. Club President Jenny Lee addressed the gathering and then our Life Members June Hutton and Cal Toft were asked to cut the Birthday Cake



Bruce Fleming in action at the recent Queensland Mens singles. Due to COVID this event will recommence on the 23 24 of October

100
The Croquet Association of Queensland wants to hear from you!

In 2022 CAQ turns 100. We invite all past and present members, volunteers, officials and friends to participate in our 100 year celebrations.

If you wish to share any memorable moments, croquet memorabilia or celebratory ideas we would love to hear from you.

caq100@croquetqld.org



Bribie Island Croquet Club held their annual Mary Masters Memorial event for Division 2, 3 and 4 Association Croquet players over the weekend.

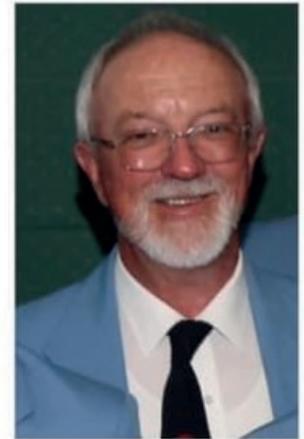
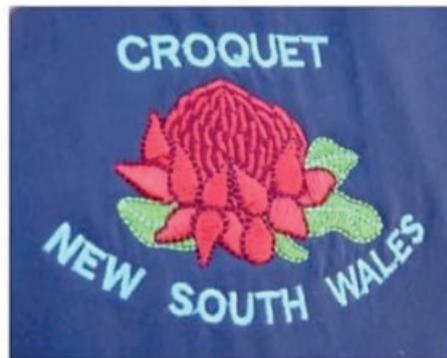
Eildon member Wade Hart was the winner in Div 2, with runner-up Helen Matchett (Caloundra).



Congratulations to Francesca de Wytt (Windsor) for winning the 4th Golf Croquet eights and Michael Young (Nambour) for winning the 3rd Golf Croquet eights .

New South Wales Team

(Clockwise from top left): Alison Sharpe (Captain), Derek Bull (Vice Captain), Rosie Landrebe, Peter Freer, Pamela Barnwell, David Scott, Kate McLoughlin, Kevin McGlynn, Gerda Lambeck, Peter Landrebe.



The first day of Urunga's 30th Association Carnival just happens to coincide with the 35th anniversary of the official opening of our Club.

Happy birthday Urunga Croquet Club.

Limited entries this year, but it is great to welcome back visitors after not being able to hold events in 2020.

Follow the results on CroquetScores.

Croquet Chats



Cooks River Croquet Club hosted its inaugural Croquet Chats last night with Alix Verge speaking about the 2009 GC World Championship and dialoguing with Alison Sharpe about the ways the top Egyptians play. It was a terrific meeting with great insights and videos and a wonderful way to bring people together especially as everyone is in Covid lockdown and not meeting up on the lawns.

Cooks River is hosting its second Croquet Chat on Saturday 25 September when Greg Bury, GM Australian Croquet Academy, is sharing his war stories and telling us about his croquet world.

The following week, 5 October, Keith Harvey of Toronto Croquet Club, supported by Chris Williamson, will present four short videos for discussion – “How to do angle shots”, “How to do blocking shots”, “What is Ricochet” and “What is golf croquet”.

Croquet Chats are a light evening zoom get together over a glass of wine, to keep connected, enjoy guest appearances of our stars with their war stories, see some ‘educational’ videos, with club updates and other fun stuff. We welcome guests so just let us know if you want to join and we can send you the link. [markwell.pauline@gmail.com]

VALE JIM HICKS

Jim will be missed in the croquet community. His expertise as a player, a coach and a referee was exceptional.

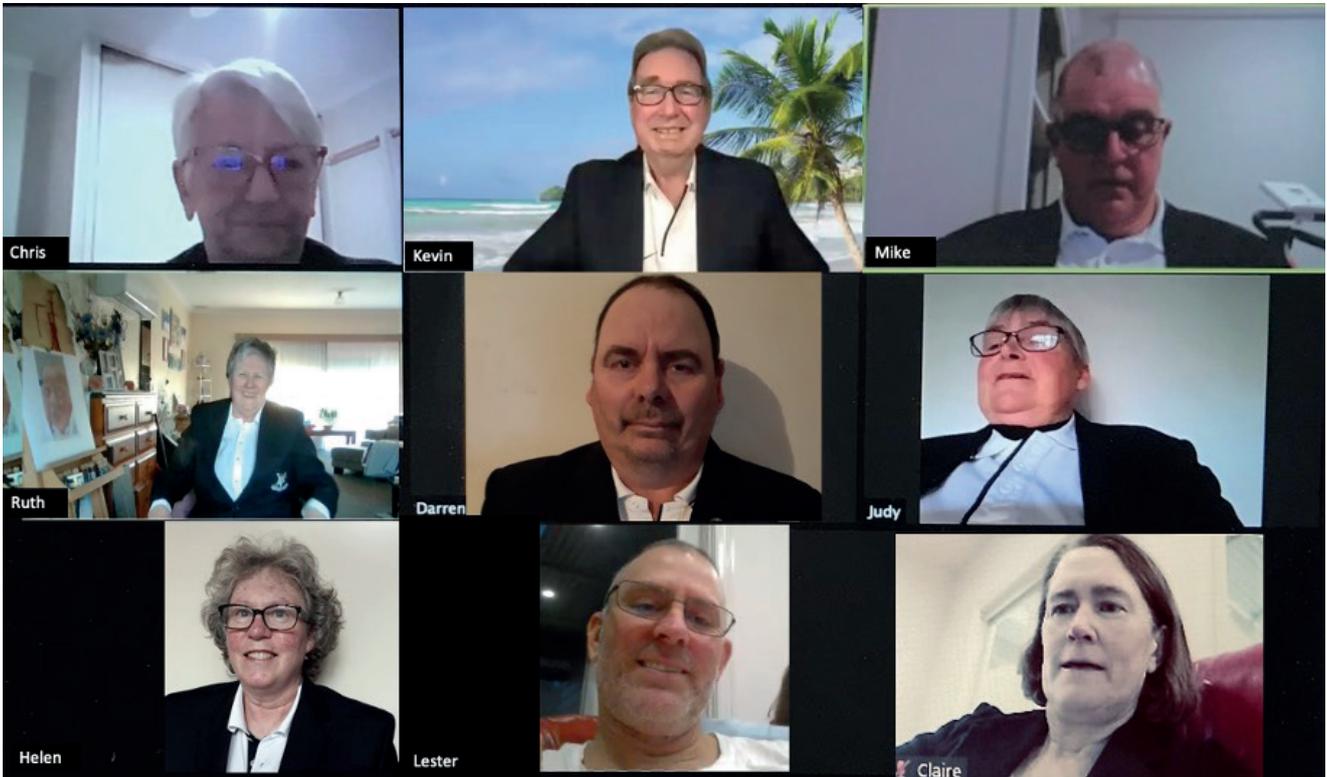
At the Port Macquarie Croquet Club we have been fortunate to benefit from his shared knowledge and skills. He was always very generous with his time.



Great to see Max Donati back on the croquet lawn and doing a magnificent job as Captain of the Byron Bay Croquet Club.

The 2021 Victorian Golf State Team

Chris Eiffert, Kevin Beard (captain), Mike McKenzie, Ruth Duffy, Darren McLoughlin, Judy Wembridge (vice captain), Helen Gammon, Lester Hughes, Claire Keating.



The Rich River Association Classic was played over six days in early May, in four divisions according to handicaps.

Division 1 was played in beautiful sunny conditions with a full field of 16 players, all of whom rank very highly in the Australian Croquet Rankings, with some in the top 10% of world rankings.

As expected, spectators were treated to a very high level of play, which was in two blocks with leaders playing a decider.

Block 1 was won by Greg Hill of Brunswick with 7 wins out of 7 games and a nett hoop total of 101. He pegged out in all but one of his games. Robert Fletcher of Ballarat Alexandra was runner up with 6 wins and 121 nett hoops.

In Block 2 Dwayne McCormick of Norwood and Chris Grant of Ringwood tied with 6 wins, and Dwayne took winning position with 97 nett hoops against Chris's 59.

Greg was the winner of the playoff, and Division 1. Pegging out to beat Dwayne 26 hoops to 13.

Division 2 on days 3 and 4 saw eight players with handicaps of 4 to 9 compete.

The winner was Chris Eiffert from Quarry Hill Croquet Club. Chris played exceptionally well over both days, only losing one game out of seven, pegging out five times in her six wins, and with nett hoops score of 97.

Di Smyth



Resurgence of interest in Association Croquet

There has been a steady decline in Association Croquet player numbers in the GVCA and surrounding regions in recent years, and Kenn Boal has decided to do something about it. Kenn has been sharing his love of AC on Wednesday mornings at Rich River Croquet Club, attracting new players and helping existing players improve their skills. Kenn's sessions aren't restricted to Rich River members, and with steadily increasing numbers he has created quite a resurgence of interest in the game. Kenn is also involved as a lead coach in Croquet Victoria's new Player Development Project, where Kenn and Stephen Forster are leading workshops to help novice and developing competitors improve their competitive play in Association Croquet.

Enrolments for these workshops are now open, via <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PDP21MS> novice competitor workshops (led by Stephen) start at Elwood on 16 and 17 October developing competitor workshops (led by Kenn) start at Charlton on 21 and 22 September. Anyone who is interested in competing in Association Croquet is welcome to register their interest - another round of workshops will be held at another venue next year.

Keep up the good work Kenn!

Russell Smyth and Kate Patrick



Congratulations Wilma Bath on your 100 years



This years winner of the Golf Croquet Open Singles Championship of Australia is Robert Fletcher defeating Gary Phipps 6/7 7/4 7/4 7/5



Congratulations Stephen on receiving your life membership Well done and well deserved

Cambridge Croquet Club

On the 28th and 29th of August the Western Australia Golf State Team took on the Western Australia Barbarians

The WA team were dominate on Day 1 winning 14 matches and continued their form into day 2 defeating the Barbarians 8-4.

Special thanks to the Cambridge Croquet Club for hosting the event.

All results can be found on the Croquet Scores link below

<https://croquetscores.com/2021/gc/croquetwest-wa-state-team-v-wa-barbarians>



Left to right: Chris McWhirter, Ben Brown, Gary Phipps, Janine McHardy, Maggie Cassell, Robyn Dart, Joyce Carbone, Brett McHardy, Alan Sands, Torben Bak – Absent Jennifer Brand

Croquetwest held the 2021 Association Croquet Champion of Champions event at Nedlands Croquet Club last weekend. Seven clubs from around the State were represented.



Nedlands, as always, did a great job managing and hosting the tournament.

In a high quality and tense final match Como Croquet Club's Jeff Newcombe narrowly won the Championship from Forrest Park's Ian Dumergue.

Jess also won the McBride Cup for being the City Champion. Eric Ayling from York Croquet Club won the Thorogood Trophy for Country players following an 'after the bell break' in a tight match with Max Wolfe from Moorabinda Croquet Club.

Check out our new logo



In Queensland, Jennifer Brand competed in the Windsor Cup. After a slow start on the Saturday, she won all her games on Sunday to claim the top spot in her block. I am reliably informed, 'First trophy I have won ... ever!'

Ben, greenkeeper for Como Croquet Club, and Alan discuss the grooming/verti-mowing for Lawns 1 and 2 on Monday 30 August. Approximately eight cubic metres of thatch was removed during the grooming.

Following the grooming, Ben commenced the aeration of the lawns on Tuesday and he will sweep and mow the lawns over the next few days. It is anticipated that members will be able to play on the lawns again on Saturday 4th.

In addition to the renovation on Lawns 1 and 2, Lawns 3 and 4 will be completely rebuilt during the next six weeks. The existing lawn surface will be poisoned then excavated to a depth of approximately 100mm. New topsoil will then be imported, spread and levelled, followed by laying of new turf. It is anticipated that these two lawns will reopen towards the end of December. The Club is really pleased to be able to undertake this work and

players are looking forward to the new flat playing conditions.

The project is supported by a co-funding arrangement, with grants provided by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (@DeptLGSC) and the City of South Perth via the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) initiative, and the balance from the Club. The Club extends its gratitude to these bodies for their assistance with funding of the project.



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- Flags - Marine Vinyl (no fading) and heat welded

References

The following clubs have already acquired sets: Burleigh Heads/Palm Beach; Caloundra; Noosa; Sunny Side (Bundaberg); Graceville; Cambridge (WA); Bribie Island; Bundaberg; SouthPort; Auckland (NZ); Lithgow (NSW); The Range Maleny; Read Park (SA)

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NORTHERN CROQUET IDENTITIES HONOURED

Two prominent Tasmanian croquet figures were honoured at the Annual General Meeting of the Northern Tasmanian Croquet Centre in August.

NTCC Chair Russell Reid made a presentation to Trevor Curtis Flynn who is retiring as NTCC Treasurer after holding that position since the Centre opened in July, 2011.

East Launceston's Lee Turner was unanimously endorsed by the NTCC Committee to be just the second person to be added to the Centre's Honours Board.

In her 20 years involvement with croquet, Lee has served at different times as Chair of the

NTCC, President of East Launceston and northern representative on the TCA Board.

Playing off a handicap of four, Lee was a member of the Tasmanian State GC team between 2012 and 2016 and a State GC selector.

She is a qualified referee and coach and has been Tournament Manager for Northern Regional Croquet.

One of her proudest achievements is developing the involvement of School for Seniors in croquet, playing under Lee's supervision at both East Launceston and the NTCC over the last 15 years.



ST HELENS WINTER WEEKEND

The St Helens Croquet Club's annual Winter Weekend was held in pleasant weather with 66 participants from clubs around Tasmania playing on 3 lawns. Dick Ruse from St Helens won the medal (31 points), from runners-up Anne Hughes (East Launceston) and Joy Mitchell (St Helens) on 29 points. Other winners were Glenys Lee-Archer (Devonport), Sue Dare (Royal Park), Kerry Donovan (Kingston), Carol Fox (George Town), Chris Draffin (Eastern Shore) and Judith Butler (Latrobe). More than 100 people attended the awards dinner on the Saturday night and the St Helens Winter Weekend is becoming a must on the Tasmanian croquet calendar.



TASMANIAN CLASSIC 2021

After 104 games played over 3 days "Roach's Approachables" defeated "Patsy's Perfect Posse" 3 Test to 1.





Lee Ford and Noel Davies (ESCC) are winners of the Tasmanian AC Hi-Lo Doubles held last weekend at the New Town CC. rob McAdam and Neil Pinkard (KCC) are runners-up.



Winners of the Tasmanian Open Mixed Doubles 2021 Lizzie and Ian Bassett from the Sandy Bay club



Trevor Curtis-Flynn and Lee Turner with NTCC President Russell Reid (centre)



Winners of the Tas Mixed Doubles 2021 B Grade winners Ben King (Eastern Shore) and Mary Roscoe (Sandy Bay)



Tasmanian croquet players are a hardy lot. Latrobe Croquet Club held their annual Winter Solstice Croquet (and mulled wine) under lights A short shower didn't dampen the enthusiasm.

Spring delight

CHECK YOUR SOIL PH BEFORE RENOVATION

So with winter behind us, most courts will show some signs of wear and tear and bare patches. Before any summer renovation happens, I would like to talk about the importance of Soil pH and the negative effect low soil pH can have on trying to grow grass. Soil pH is an important chemical property because it affects the availability of nutrients to plants and the activity of soil microorganisms. Some courts struggle to get grass coverage, sometimes attributed to very acidic soil. I recommend that soils should be checked around August every year, and if any adjustments are needed you can rectify them leading up to renovation time, this is so you have a good chance for grass recovery.

SO WHAT IS SOIL PH AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Soil pH is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of the soil with a scale of 0 to 14. The neutral point or balance for soil pH would be 7. As the number of the soil pH increases this indicates an increase in soil alkalinity. As the soil pH number decreases this indicates an increase in soil acidity. The ideal pH for most grass types is 6.5 to 7.0. This would be an optimum pH but different grass types can tolerate a range of pH levels.

HOW TO TEST SOIL PH

Its quit simple, just about any gardening centre sells DIY soil kits for around \$20.00 they are a good guide. If your soil tests indicate too much acidity, then you would need to add lime to increase the alkalinity to reach your target pH. The lime comes in 20-25 kg bags in a dg form, which broadcasts through a Scott's spreader. The pelletized lime easily dissolves with a follow up of water. If your soil test indicates too much alkalinity, then you would add Sulphur to increase soil acidity to reach your target pH. Please note that lime and sulphur can take up to 2-3 months (or longer) to react with

soil. The soil pH should be tested and treated again – so be sure to allow for this extra time if courts are to be



renovated. You will also need to work the lime or sulphur into the soil if possible, this can be difficult unless you aerate the courts beforehand but this will give the best and quickest results. It is highly recommended for a more accurate measure that a professional soil pH test be performed before you attempt to adjust your soil pH, and don't take a soil sample just after you have fertilized the courts as you will get a false reading. This soil test can usually be obtained through your Nuturf chemicals agent.

RAISING SOIL PH

Lime or dolomite is commonly sold as ground agricultural limestone. It comes in a lime dg form and it's easy to apply. It is considered a natural soil amendment rather than a fertilizer and furnishes important plant nutrients such as calcium and magnesium. Lime also reduces soil toxicity while promoting the regulation of nutrients such as zinc, copper, and especially phosphorous. Do not over apply lime to your soil as this will cause big issues with any crops including grass. Its best to spread it out over 3-4 months so the soil can adapt to the changing environment. A rule of thumb is also to never apply fertilizer and lime together as they can neutralize each other out, I like to give it a couple of weeks apart, just to be safe.

LOWERING SOIL PH

The lowering (acidifying) of soil pH is much more difficult and expensive than raising (alkalinity) soil pH. The Sulphur used to lower soil pH is different from the plant nutrient sulphur. Elemental sulphur can be added to soils that are too alkaline for plants that prefer a more acidic pH. This is a yellow powder sometimes referred to as "flowers

of sulphur” and is not nutritionally available to plants until it is oxidized by soil bacteria into the sulphated form. Do not confuse elemental sulphur with the sulphur contained in sulphates such as ammonium.

Fertilizers as acidifying materials. Sulphate is also present in ammonium sulphate $[(NH_4)_2SO_4]$ fertilizer, a common nitrogen fertilizer that acidifies soil. However, the ammonium in fertilizers, not sulphate, is responsible for the soil acidification. Ammonium containing fertilizers can acidify soil. This process is slow compared to acidification by the natural elemental sulphur.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR

September is nesting season and magpie and plovers can create a real problem. This recent season is a reminder of how vicious they can be.

We all have memories of clicking beaks around your ears and fluttering feathers is enough to send shivers down your spine. If you are unlucky enough to have a nest in a gum tree near you, coming to croquet can be a challenge and a

swinging mallet is no deterrent. Below is a picture of a maggie deterrent that I invented, I am hoping to see them at Bunnings.



TIP OF THE MONTH

Start treating for black beetle
They will start to lay their larvae in October.



A MESSAGE FROM THE ACADEMY GRANTS ADVISOR

Carolyn Ribone



It does not matter whether the project you are seeking funding for is minor or major - do not be afraid to ask for help! So much of this can be provided at no cost. Your local Councilor and State and Federal Ministers are all meant to work for YOU, so form a close association with them, ensure that they get to know your club so, when a grant becomes available, you are not going in cold. If a Letter of Support is required, ask the one most appropriate to assist, the more they know about your Club, the stronger that Letter of Support will be. Your State Sports and Recreation section (or its equivalent) is also essential as a contact -check out the contact in your area, their representatives are a goldmine as they care about sport in your community. I am also here to help so don't hesitate to contact -me if I can assist in anyway
Carolyn Ribone carrib@tpg.com.au



The National Coaching Update



The banner features the Croquet Australia logo at the top left. The main text reads "Start your coaching journey" in large white font. Below this is a large blue play button icon with the text "Watch the National Coaching Tour Video" underneath it. At the bottom is a yellow button labeled "Request Access".

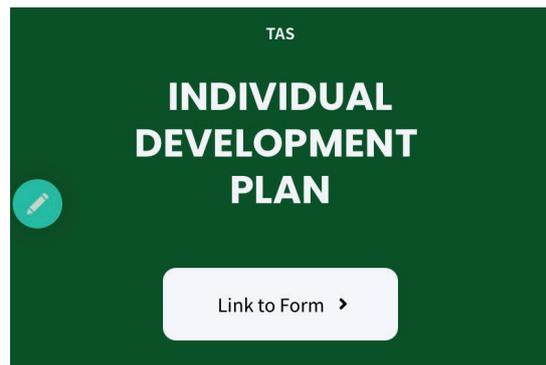
The National Online Coaching Platform was officially launched to all states on a Zoom meeting held on Tuesday 14th of September at 7.00pm.

All ACA certified coaches will now have access to all the online materials for the level they are certified for.

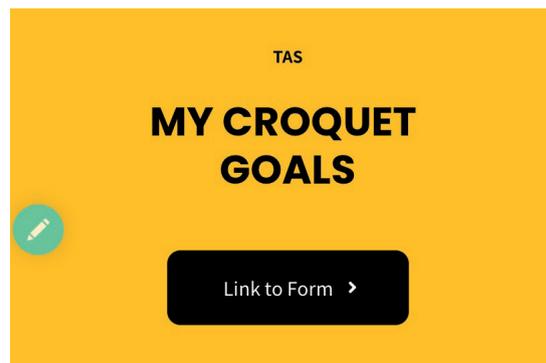
Some of these resources include :

- Professionally made skills and drills training videos
- Online Individual Development plans
- Online Goal Setting sheets
- Online Session Planners
- Online Log Books

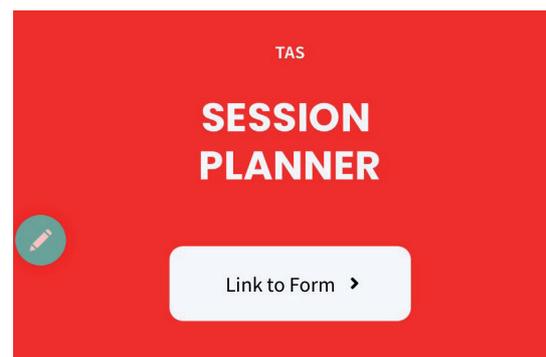
Apply to be a coach today and make a difference to someone's croquet career



A dark green card with the text "TAS" at the top, "INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN" in large white font, and a white button at the bottom labeled "Link to Form >".



A yellow card with the text "TAS" at the top, "MY CROQUET GOALS" in large black font, and a black button at the bottom labeled "Link to Form >".



A red card with the text "TAS" at the top, "SESSION PLANNER" in large white font, and a white button at the bottom labeled "Link to Form >".

Online and printable PDF's



The email content includes the Croquet Australia logo and the Australian Croquet Academy logo. The text reads: "CONGRATULATIONS ALL AUSTRALIAN CERTIFIED COACHES. Recently you received (or about to receive) an email inviting you to the new and exciting National Coaching Online Platform. On behalf of Croquet Australia we welcome and encourage you to use all the new resources available in this package. BEFORE REGISTERING please take the time to read the terms and conditions (all materials are copyright and cannot be copied or shared on social media). This platform is designed to assist coaches after they have completed the face to face training with a presenter. Need assistance? Want to go to the next level? Contact your State Coaching Coordinator. You are now able to print your National Coaching Certificate/s. These are designed to display at your club. The online logbook is also live and ready for use. We are proud to provide you with this world class Australian Made product and hope you enjoy making our players the best they can be." The email is signed by Greg Bury (National Coaching Coordinator) and Barb Piggott (Assistant National Coaching Coordinator).

Introducing John Hayes



australian
croquet academy



Over the next 3 months John will be working for Croquet Australia creating a new National Data base and rebuilding the National Website.

When completed and tested we will have one of the best National Sporting Organisations information and communication systems available today.

John has also just completed the new online Learning Management System for Coaches that is planned to be rolled out this month.

He is passionate about setting croquet up for success for tomorrow and many years to come

So who is John Hayes ?

I live in beautiful Tasmania, Australia, with my family and I'm a passionate sports lover, just like you. Sport has been a significant part of my life for over 40 years and I have been coaching, volunteering and working within Community & High Performance environments for over 25 years. The grey hair probably gives that away! I'm a volunteer board member for my local baseball league and still enjoy running around the diamond with my club. I love having my two assistants 'Bruce & Luna' (the happy hounds) helping me in on a daily basis. In support of them, my family and I are passionate advocates for greyhound adoption and rehabilitation, specifically for Brightside Farm Sanctuary in Tasmania. In my professional life I have worked across various

business sectors in senior management roles before moving full time into professional sports management and specifically, Coach & Athlete Development. I have been inspired by working with hundreds of coaches and thousands of participants at all different levels within Australia and abroad. Mums, dads, local volunteers, teachers, transitioning athletes, youth and professionals. All operating in various sporting environments but with similar issues and challenges. I've made the commitment to myself and our sports community to explore, experiment, learn and share with you what I find. Let's build a 'Cohort' of likeminded people who believe in helping others to make a difference. The Mission "Change culture and behaviour for positive sports experiences" Provide coaches, volunteers & participants of all ages and backgrounds with the development opportunities and the inspiration to be engaged in ways which are positive, accessible, and affordable. Sport's meant to be fun! I have a simple structured approach and you choose the path you want to take. Everyone, and every organisation is different. Let's work together and use the Power of Positive and make a difference.

John Hayes Founder Coaching Cohort



It is a huge thank you to John Hutchinson for creating the new Australian Croquet Academy animated Logo. John has done a magnificent job and it is greatly appreciated.

On Tuesday July 6 The Australian Croquet Academy had its first Half Yearly Presentation to all State Associations with the next one planned for Jan/Feb next year.

This event was designed to give all States an update on what has been achieved and an insight of what is planned for the future.

Topics included:

- An update of The Academy Development Plan.

- A review of Social Media resources that are now ready and how to use them.
- The Game Plan results and the relationship with SportAus moving forward .
- Information on the Youth Training Project.
- An update on the online newsletter.
- An update on the Coaching Learning Management System and other LMS opportunities.
- Website and data base proposals
- Additional Initiatives and opportunities
- The Australian Croquet Academy Priorities
- Q&A

Are you using Gameplan?

Hi I'm Marilyn Nelson from the Eildon Croquet Club in the Greater Brisbane area.

There's nothing special about me ... I love croquet and I want struggling clubs not to struggle and I want successful clubs to share their secrets so croquet can thrive and grow and so we can all continue to play this great game.

When Greg Bury asked Eildon to be a trial club for Gameplan we said yes because we knew that it's always possible to do things better.

About the same time, our local council (Moreton Bay Regional Council) started promoting Gameplan in their newsletter to community organisations so we thought we'd give it a go. You would have thought that Greg and SPORTAUS alone would have been enough for us!

Anyway, we have learnt so much about our members, our club and the things we do badly and the things we do well. We can't say that Eildon Club has been saved by Gameplan because we didn't need saving but by the end of this calendar year when a lot of the processes will be in place, we will be better placed than ever before. It is just about doing things better.

So, let's get you started on making your club better. IT'S FREE

<https://gameplan.sportaus.gov.au/>

All you need to do is register and set up your club.

The whole thing is menu driven. I have average computer skills. I have had no training and there will be lots of stuff that I don't do exactly how it

is intended but that doesn't matter. Eildon uses it in such a way it suits us. We have worked that out from using it over a period of time.

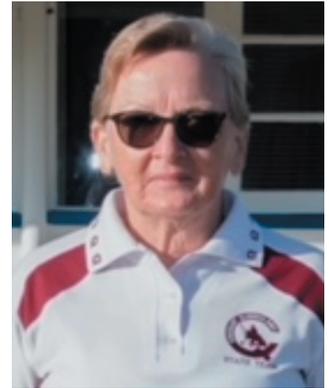
Get yourselves started, set up your club and then do the assessments. It's a good idea for the club committee to do the initial assessments as they are likely to know most of the answers off the top of their heads.

If you have any issues, contact me and if I don't know the answer, I'll find someone who does.

If you have any good things to say about it, let me know so we can share your experience with others.

Thanks to Tom from SportAus for help along the way.

Marilyn
mazda53@live.com.au



SPORTAUS
GAME PLAN



Kayo update

MAKING CROQUET VISIBLE – UPDATE ON THE KAYO INITIATIVE

The Kayo subscription sports channel claims over a million subscribers.

All of them now have access to three days of live-streamed croquet events, provided as “Kayo Freebies”, and accessible to anyone (even non-subscribers) – you can register for Freebies via <https://bit.ly/3xupj1t>, and search for croquet to view our 2021 events.

This came about from an initiative of Croquet Victoria’s Marketing and Publicity Sub-Committee, who hooked up with three other niche sports (Dragon Boat, Fencing, and Ultimate) and succeeded in a joint submission to FoxSports for funding to support live streaming via Kayo during 2021.

The croquet program of events has been supported by the Croquet Australia Board, and the Croquet Victoria organising group has expanded to include colleagues from NSW, Queensland,

and Tasmania [in relation to the Interstate Shield, now cancelled]. Thanks go to Gareth Denyer, our anchor commentator, Brian Reither and Kevin Beard in Victoria, Alison Sharpe and Peter Landrebe from NSW, Greg Bury from Queensland, and the Tasmanian team including Leigh Herington, Sylvia Wing and Rob McAdam.

COVID restrictions have meant that our intended program has had to pivot to local events in Victoria, but we are committed to providing quality live streamed croquet as soon as is practicable, subject to local lockdown restrictions and the availability of players.

Details of our revised program will be available on the Croquet Victoria website, <https://www.croquetvic.asn.au>, and on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/Croquet.Victoria.



‘SOCIAL MEDIA ...THE NEW WORD OF MOUTH’

Croquet Victoria has been exploring strategies for communicating with our communities – croquet players and potential croquet players – and working to change the image of croquet. Not forever doomed to be pictured in the background of an ABC news item about retirement.

We have joined the vast majority of internet users who are on board with Facebook. This gives Croquet Victoria – and clubs within Croquet Victoria – a channel for communicating directly with individuals, and for them to respond almost instantaneously to us. Two-thirds of our clubs now have Facebook pages, very often run by the club publicity officer.

How to use this channel effectively? For many of us this is a steep learning curve. Members of our Marketing and Publicity Sub-Committee have committed themselves to come to grips with

communicating via social media and investigating the use of social media for promotional purposes. We have appreciated the assistance of Croquet Australia and Jon MacFarlane of Kymodo Digital Marketing Agency, who have supported our endeavours by hosting Zoom workshops attended by representatives of Croquet Victoria and other croquet states.

We are also working closely with our network of club publicity officers, via a monthly bulletin and Zoom workshops.

Next steps involve collaborating with our club publicity officers on using the new promotional banners provided by Croquet Australia, focusing on the Boost facility provided by Facebook. We have arranged a Zoom session for publicity officers to discuss what’s involved, and we have already agreed with a couple of clubs to fund a

continued on page 24

continued from page 23

trial promotion using one of the Croquet Australia banners.

For many of us, social media is outside our comfort zone, but it is the future. We need to harness the power of social media to communicate with club members, recruit new members and connect with our local communities to share with

them the pleasures and opportunities available from playing croquet.

We will keep you posted.

Kate Patrick
Convenor, Croquet Victoria Marketing and Publicity Sub-Committee

FACEBOOK BANNERS UPDATE

The Australian Croquet Academy have now completed 15 Facebook Banners.

They are designed for clubs to use on their Facebook page and promote any events they wish to advertise. Special Thanks to Jon from KDM for completing this task

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MwTzUw9o1ua3TJVfAgegzAHq_n4mtne3?usp=sharing

WHAT IS IN THE CLUB SUPPORT SOCIAL MEDIA PACK?

KDM has partnered with Croquet Australia to offer a "Club Support Social Media" pack to all Croquet Clubs that are a part of the Australian Croquet Association.

The video content package includes the personalisation/club branding of two of the high quality marketing videos produced at the start of 2021 to promote the sport of Croquet to online Australian audiences on the internet and social media.

The video content packages also includes a custom created online form, marketing flyers and QR codes that can be used to drive new player enquiries, as well as booking of venues for various events.

The Club Support Social Media Package Includes:

- 1 x Club Branded Croquet Promotional Video (35 secs in length) – View Example [HERE](#)
- 1 x Club Branded "Come and Try Croquet" Video (15 secs in length) - View Example [HERE](#)
- 1 x Club personalised "Expression of Interest" online booking (for new player enquires and venue bookings) - View Example [HERE](#)



- 1 x Club personalised – QR Code based marketing flyer with unique QR Code, that links to the expression of interest form. View Example [HERE](#)
- 2 X Banner Images for use on social media for 'Come and Try Croquet' and 'Book a Venue'.

Total Cost of the Club Support Social Media Package - \$110 (including GST)

Additional options available to purchase:

- Promotional Video: Pro Version (+ \$25 extra) – 1 min in length (double the length of the original version) – View Example [HERE](#)

Club Branded "Book Your Venue" Video (+ \$25 extra) – 15 secs in length - View Example [HERE](#)

Place an Order for the Club Support Package [HERE](#)

If you have any additional questions on this offer, please email: Greg Bury at gregbury26@gmail.com

SO HOW DO I USE IT?

Personalised promotional videos

1 The 2 videos will end with the individual club details and a link to the online booking form.

These can then be used on the club's webpage and social media outlets.

Twin Rivers have plans to play it on the big screen at their local shopping centre.



2 Expression of interest template

This comes as a link or QR code and provides users with all the information they need to come and try croquet or book a venue.

This booking form can also be custom made for each club.

Please click on the link and test it

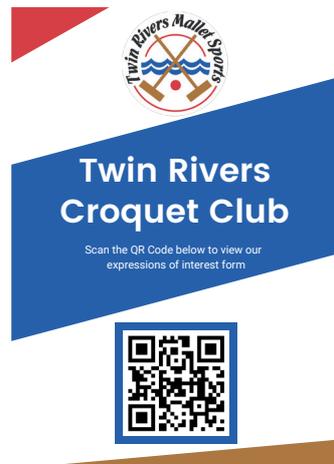
Online expression of interest and online Booking Form Example

<https://forms.gle/GXyCoz5QTaZbbotq9>

3 The handout

The Club name, logo and QR code for the Expression of interest are just simply added to a template

These leaflets can be used as a letter box drop, handed out in shopping centres or just given to anyone looking over the fence



4 QR Codes of the expression of interest for club signs

A QR code can be laminated or embedded into the Club sign so new people can simply scan the code and complete the Expression of Interest online booking form as they walk past the club.



KDM TEAM

The Team from KDM are here to help you



Also a special thanks to Gary Phipps for all his work behind the scenes.



Currently we are working on a National data base talking and working with the National website.

When completed ACA members will have a number of new resources and information services available.

These services will be under the headings of Club support, Player support and Coach/Referee support.

Some of the features that will be made available include :

- A complete online Learning Management System for Coaches
- Expert advice and service on how to look after your Lawn
- Introductory packs for non-croquet players
- Welcome packs for new members
- Templates and a how to guides for attracting sponsorship
- Information on how to apply for grants
- A National Calendar where you can view and enter all National and State events.

This list is still growing

Player Profiles and Wikipedia

It is so important to have a true and accurate record of our history and celebrate the success of our past and present players.

Gareth Denyer has produced a survey to help gather Player Profile information from anyone wishing to complete them

Gary Phipps has also kindly offered to assist The Australian Croquet Academy by making the profiles look professional and then loading them onto the new Australian Website.

An example of Gary's work can be seen below



If you would like your own profile please complete the below survey (with a still and action shot)

Croquet Profile

<https://forms.gle/XJi39yxR2z3xsRVP9>

There should also be a record of the service and achievements of all our volunteers.

If you know of someone who should have their volunteer services recorded please encourage them or fill in the survey below

Volunteer Profile

<https://forms.gle/VUjqxX5EeaXXeK2K6>



To help improve and sign off an Australian standard for outdoor croquet lights and assist clubs wishing to apply for a grant it would be great if clubs could complete the following survey.

<https://forms.gle/wXQ2nef7qpYSjB2N7>

Belmont Croquet Club



The Belmont croquet Club was originally situated beside the Barwon River and was subjected to periodic flooding.

When the Country Roads Board constructed the James Harrison Bridge over the river, both St. Stephen's Tennis Club, and the Belmont Croquet Club were required to relocate. After lengthy negotiations with the city of South Barwon and the country Roads Board, which began in October 1979, a new site was chosen in Francis Street.

The club celebrated its 70th Anniversary in February 1981, and on Wednesday 16 April 1986, a new shared clubhouse, with two croquet lawns on one side, and tennis courts on the other, were opened.

Association croquet continued to be played at the new venue, with a full schedule of club championships and competitions.

Minutes of a meeting held in October 1984, instructs that on Saturdays, Golf Croquet would be played until afternoon tea, followed by Association Croquet. The increased interest in golf Croquet led to more opportunities for the game to be played both socially and competitively.

Three competitions and Championships have been added over time. And now both forms of the game are recognised equally. Belmont members compete at all levels, International to local, in both games.

The greens have endured two notable droughts, in 1999 and 2006, when watering was done by dedicated members with hand held hoses. A sprinkler system was installed, and garden shed erected in 1987.

Stephen Forster has been our dedicated greenkeeper since 1991, and has been instrumental in improving the lawns to the wonderful standard we now enjoy. Resurfacing with Santa Ana was accomplished, with the assistance of working bees, in 2004 and 2005.

In 1980 there were 17 members, including 3 life members, by 2014 this had increased to 66 members, 56 full members, 7 dual members and 3 Life Members

While membership was flourishing in 2010, help was sought from the City of Greater Geelong to add a third lawn to the site. A grant of \$40 000 for this purpose was included in the City 2011-2012 budget. Additional works including a new large equipment shed with viewing veranda was provided by a club contributor of \$12,000. By Easter 2012, we were playing on the 3 lawns.

Many dedicated members, have overseen the relocation, development of games, accrual of equipment, improvement of lawns and setting up of management structures. All of this, with the expansion of three croquet lawns, has put the Belmont croquet Club in a great position for promoting croquet in the Geelong Region.

COLIN PICKERING A CROQUET CHAMPION 1934-2021

Born 19 July 1934

Resident of South Australia

Married with 4 children

Occupation sports Administrator Adelaide University

Other Interest Photography travel reading
woodwork and walking

Competitive sport Triple blue Athletics squash
tennis athletics hockey and croquet

Also played rugby badminton basketball volleyball
rowing and swimming

Colin Pickering represented Australia in the sport of croquet more times than any other Australian player over a period of 21 years from 1979 to 2000. This is a remarkable record especially since he only began playing Croquet in 1973(age 39), at Fitzroy Croquet Club, International competition

1 MacRobertson Shield

Represented 5 times 1979 (Vice Captain) in NZ.
1990 in NZ.,1993 in Aust., 1996 in UK. 1999
in NZ

2 Trans Tasman

1995 in Aust and 1999 in NZ

3 World Croquet Federation championships

Five times 1992 in the USA., 1995 in France, 1997
in Aust., 1998 &1999 in UK

4 Wine Country Invitation World Championship

Twelve times 1986-2000

5 International Invitational Events

1993 France 1997&1998 USA.

National Competition

1 Aust Open Singles

1997 1998 1999

2 Aust Open Doubles

1998

3 Aust Men's Singles

1998



State Competitions

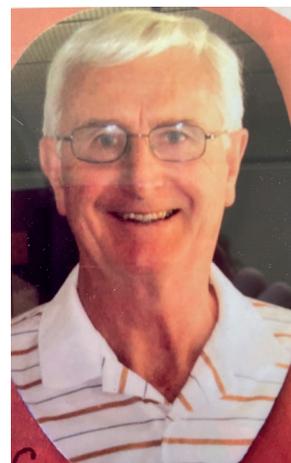
1 Member of the south Australian Team 13 times
1978-2000

2 State Open Singles
champion 1979 1985
1995 1996 1998

3 C.B Sharp medal
winner 1982 1997
1998 2000

4 Victorian Open singles
1989, 1990

Retired from Croquet
in July 2000.



WINNER OF THE 2021 PETRIE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD IS LAWRIE SIMPSON

Lawrie has been a volunteer and major contributor to the Eildon Croquet Club for many years. Well Done and thanks Lawrie. Your award is well deserved



Well done Cherry street for coming up with this great initiative. Well done Port Macquarie for implementing it.



Congratulations Kingston Croquet Club on running another very successful 19 point hoop competition. To check out all the action just click on the video link below:

Video of MCMF 19 Point GC Tournament Final available at <https://youtu.be/MhUG3i37MUK>



Coaching Corner with Greg Bury



SWING

The secret is to develop a consistent swing from the shoulders with no wrist action- not too fast or too slow, with a fluid motion.

The body should be still with little movement in the knees and hips. The grip needs to be consistent, not loose or too tight. Ensure that the head remains down, with the eyes on a spot just behind the striker's ball and that the follow-through is straight.

If a player has trouble with distance, review his/her stance and the amount of backswing/follow

through used. A heavier mallet may be needed. Distance is achieved more by the height of the backswing and forward extension of the arms than the amount of power applied during the swing.

Two hands working together at the top of the mallet shaft allows the mallet to do all the work. This also helps to eliminate any errors from forcing the mallet.

A good exercise is to swing at an imaginary ball before taking the shot. (like the golf players do)



CASTING

If a player is having difficulty with their accuracy, or not getting the required distance across the lawn, then casting could be an option (little or no break in the swing).

Used by a number of elite croquet players, casting allows the striker to get comfortable and

have a number of practice shots before playing the stroke.

This is also a good technique to use if a player is not following through with the hoop shot.



Passing Gates with John Parks



Trophies ready but event postponed

Australian produced trophies are a rarity these days. However, Gateball Australia has been lucky to have the services of Arthur Graham of the Newcastle National Park Club in its ranks.

The trophies were ready for this September's biennial event at the Gold Coast Performance Centre but has had to be postponed to April 2022. The team's trophy is the large one on the left. The keen eyed may notice that the next event will be the 11th and that Australian teams have only won twice. On both occasions Canberra were declared champions. Kew came close as runners up in 2019 and in April 2022 we hope that an Australian team can win again while also playing with overseas teams in the draw. The larger trophy on the right is to be awarded for the Australian Open Doubles event being held at the same time. The smaller trophies at the bottom are to be presented to the individual team members who are winners and runners up for teams and doubles. They feature mini mallets carefully crafted in green and gold resin.

Gateball Events for 2022

Each year the National Coordinator of Gateball coordinates when GB events are held in each state. State Championships in the major Gateball States are set in place first. Once this has been achieved State Coordinators of GB ensure that club events in their states are not played at the same time as

other events. In some states GB events are planned in conjunction with other codes played in those states. In others Gateball is left to choose its own times. It is important for Gateball that interstate attendance is encouraged at each State Championship.

Keiichi Imagawa re-appointed as the Chief Executive Officer for the World Gateball Union

Keiichi Imagawa has been reappointed to this role after many years of retirement. He played a major role in introducing Gateball to Australia and in "retirement" has spent time establishing the the game in Europe. His personable manner has won him many friends throughout the world. He has great vision for Gateball. With the Olympics coming to Brisbane in the next decade it is hardly surprising that players look forward to a day when mallet sports can also be included. It is worth noting that Keiichi was previously active in reaching out to the the World Croquet Federation in 2013 – unfortunately those contacts did not develop into any long term relationship. In a recent email Keiichi tells me:

"I believe that important thing is "Interchange of players between clubs, countries, continents" to expanding a sport widely. And "Setting a chance and a field" to meet together." Let us hope that while Keiichi is running the JGU/WGU is positive.



Keiichi Imagawa on a promotional tour to Beaune, Burgundy, France. The venue for the draw for the event was an organic winery belonging to the family of a French player!

Check out the new Aust Made Croquet/Gateball Simulator

Developed by Gareth Denyer

The original vision was to create a tool that would allow people to set up scenarios and judge the merits of particular lines of play. The overriding principle was that the outcome of a shot would not rely on 'computer' or 'gaming' skills and should only depend on the probabilities commensurate with the real life abilities of the player.

The simulator has been built using a Physics Engine called Unity. This type of software knows all the rules of forces, collisions, trajectories and friction - and it is what is used to make most computer games these days.

A 3D representation of the lawn, hoops and balls has been created in Unity, and this is where the shots are actually made and the outcomes are modelled. This is complemented by a 2D 'minimap' which is like a birds-eye overview of the court. Both the 2D and 3D allow the balls to be dragged into new positions and, thus, an infinite number of novel scenarios to be created.

To take shots in the simulator, the player first sets the desired aim and distance of the striker ball by dragging a target in either the 2D or 3D views. Whether the angle and pace of the shot are as desired depends on the player attributes which can be set for each ball and even altered during the course of a game. Once a shot is made, the Physics Engine takes over and faithfully executes the final outcome - whether it be a roquet, hoop run, or miss. Currently the physics system can reproduce the jump shots, and stun shots of Golf Croquet, and, in the future, it will be able to deliver the full range of association croquet rolls and splits.

Thanks to the enthusiastic input of several top players (especially Pete Landrebe and Greg Bury) the simulator has become more and more feature-rich and now has the ability to save positions and players in a database, a scoreboard, and the ability to replay particular shots. In this way, users can explore tactics by going through rapid cycles

of productive failure - all from the comfort of their lounge room and with no snapped mallets.

Although the foundations of the simulator have been established, it is still early days in the development process and we are keen for the tool to evolve in line with community input so that it becomes genuinely useful for players and coaches. So NOW is a great time to have a look and give Gareth feedback and suggestions. As an example, over the last few weeks, interest from the Gateball community and the contributions of Peter Freer and John Park encouraged the development of a Gateball version. This is now a quite usable product and represents a great way for beginners to experiment with the code as well as for established players to conjure up scenarios and experiment with strategies.

The current address to access the simulator is <https://garethdenyer.github.io/gc2/> but perhaps best to look at the overview in the YouTube video first https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smHI7pY_HUw

Although a formal networked 'multi-player' game has not yet been created, it is certainly a regularly requested feature and will happen soon. In the meantime, it is possible for two players sitting at the same computer to have a competitive match (indeed, with a little creative saving and reloading, even geographically separate players can alternate shots).

In addition to uses in coaching and strategic exploration, there are possibilities for the simulator to be used in training referees, in recording real games, and in providing a graphic accompaniment for commentaries on CroquetScores or live-broadcasts.





For all your Gateball
equipment needs

gateballsolutions@gmail.com
www.gateballsolutions.com.au

Keith Chur-Hansen is the Australian agent
for Sun Shine Ace products.
Email Keith at gateballsolutions@gmail.com



Find Us on Facebook:
[Facebook@gateballsolutions](https://www.facebook.com/gateballsolutions)

Parbery



Senior manager Annette Watson says she and colleague Brendan Egan have a wealth of experience in the not-for-profit sector.

AUTHENTICITY AND COMMUNITY

At Parbery, we're forging a new way of working, with a fresh approach to consulting. We're bringing people – and solutions – closer together, leveraging your knowledge and our experience across project and program delivery, procurement and contract management, organisational change, financial consulting, and everything in between.

- Change & Transformation Enablement
- Cost Estimation & Activity Based Costing
- Grant Administration & Management
- Procurement & Contract Management
- Financial Advisory & Assurance
- Business Advisory & Consulting
- Project & Program Management
- Strategic Communication & Engagement



Brendan Egan says Parbery is dedicated to the community in everything they do, with an ethos of being authentic and part of the community.

Successful communication is based on strong, authentic relationships.

That's why Parbery is more than a supplier, we're your partner.

We do it 'with' you, not 'to' you.

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