



February 2022 Monthly Report from the Committee

• **Etiquette**

During the last two years, at the beginning of some sessions, Trevor and John have spoken about various aspects of etiquette.

Just a few reminders:

- Be quiet and still when a player is preparing to stroke the ball
- Keep discussions quiet and to a minimum
- Where possible move promptly to your ball for your next turn – unless it lies ahead of play
- Ask players, from either game when double-banked, to stand clear of your line of sight particularly when attempting a clearing shot
- In double-banked games be aware of the state of play of the other game. Be prepared to mark balls when requested. Use good judgement when games need to be stopped because they are crossing between hoops.

• **2021 Croquet NSW Golden Mallet Award**

The 2021 Golden Mallet Award was awarded jointly to Barb Piggott, from Urunga, and Marion Davies, from Toronto. This is awarded for exceptional contributions and achievements to croquet during the year.

Many of us have benefitted from Barb's generosity. She is well known at our club as she has run workshops for us in both coaching and refereeing. She is an examining referee in both golf and association croquet. Barb has also been our tournament referee at recent association croquet tournaments. Barb is a worthy recipient of this award.



• **Ricochet**

Nine players turned up to the Introductory Session on Wednesday 2 February. Six of them were new to the game.

The session was divided into 3 parts:

- Introduction inside the clubhouse using whiteboards and handouts
- Skills practice on the lawns
- Playing a game.

Recently Sue Moss and Bridget Earle have been re-accredited as ricochet referees. Contact Bridget if you are interested in learning to play ricochet.



• **The golf croquet draw**

A few of the committee members are working on the draw procedure for golf croquet. When it is finalised it will be available for all members.

- **Golf Croquet Competitions**

The first competition will be the Over 80s handicap competition.

This will take place on Thursday 10 March and possibly Thursday 17 March.

Entries are required by Monday 28 February.

- **Advantage Golf Croquet for handicap play**

We will be trialling this method for golf croquet handicap play in all handicap competitions this year. It has been used by most of the World for some time.

It does away with having extra strokes that often cause higher handicapped players stress. Handicaps are used to determine starting scores. It appears to be a fairer method for players of all levels.

If you would like to find out more about this I will email information to you.

- **MNCCC Competitions**

Your captains will be looking for expressions of interest in playing in the inter-Club competitions.

Golf Croquet

- Friday 1 April v Forster at Forster
- Sunday 10 April v Gloucester at Taree (PM host)
- Sunday 1 May v Taree at Port Macquarie.

Association Croquet

- Friday 8 April v Taree/Gloucester at Taree (PM host)
- Wednesday 27 April v Forster at Port Macquarie.

Ricochet

- Sunday 3 April v Taree/Gloucester at Taree
- Saturday 14 May v Forster at Forster.

- **Provisioning**

For a couple of years we have not used the clubhouse because of covid-19 concerns. Denise Franklin will now be making our purchases.

Some time ago the committee decided not to buy biscuits. However, the remaining wrapped biscuits will be used up. Denise's main purchases will be coffee sachets, tea bags, sugar sachets, milk, paper towels and handwash for the clubhouse and the amenities block, dishwasher tablets, insect repellent and sunscreen lotion. Stephen, our cleaner, buys cleaning products.



- **Unidentified Green fee deposits**

It is easy to identify payments made by bank transfer. It's not so easy with bank deposits - most banks only allow identification with numbers (most people give their date of birth).

At the moment we have not identified the person who made the deposit of \$100 on 12 January - Deposit 000012. Please check if it was you.

- **Corellas**

One afternoon Tim arrived at the courts to find a flock of corellas frolicking, fighting and digging up the lawn. He rolled balls into their midst and watched with interest.



- **Lawn Maintenance**

Shortly, when the courts are dry enough, Shorty will groom the lawns. In future, he will endeavour to groom the courts in October and April.

- **Defibrillator**

The defibrillator will be kept inside the clubhouse. Before each session it is to be moved out onto the table on the verandah for the duration of that session. It will then be returned to the clubhouse.

This process has worked well – thank you for your co-operation.



- **Hydration**

During the warmer weather it is very important to keep well hydrated. It is good to see most members with their own water bottle. A hat and sunscreen are also advisable. A wet towel or neck-tie worn around the neck can help to keep you cool.

- **Membership of the Westport Club**

For many years the Westport Club has supported our club. As well as financial donations most of our indoor and outdoor furniture was donated when they upgraded their club.

This year they will again give us money for equipment and maintenance.

We encourage our members to become social members of the Westport Club, at minimal cost, and enjoy their facilities.

Stay safe.

Bridget Earle (President)