



February 2023 Monthly Report from the Committee

*The committee wishes you a happy and healthy 2023*

• Club Christmas Activities Day

Our members enjoyed the novelty events (zig-zag tunnel, top shot, corner lotto and the ladder) on Court 3, and the knock-out competitions on Courts 1 and 2. It was the first time that we have run Pirates, and the gateball bibs helped to identify players. Congratulations Jill Drury on winning the final. Jill made it a double, pairing with Kay Craig to win Hurry Scurry. Congratulations. It was good to see some of our fitter, younger members running around the court. Age was no barrier – Eric and Janet made it to the semi-final of Hurry Scurry.



Thank you Peter Drinkwater for organizing the sausage sizzle and Denis Lane for doing most of the cooking. Thank you Sue Moss for organising the lunch, with the help of Danuta Chessor and Dawn Lane.

All winners of the 2023 club competitions in golf croquet, association croquet and ricochet were acknowledged. It was a good day!

• Committee Changes

For personal reasons, Jane Martin has resigned from the committee. She was an excellent secretary and we thank her for her expertise, diligence and commitment to the club. Two additions to the committee are Denis Lane as Secretary and Steve Evans as Vice-Captain of Golf Croquet.



- **Participation in MNCCC events**

There are two types of competition each year in association croquet, golf croquet and ricochet – Inter-Club Handicap events in the first half of the year and District Championships in September and October.

Shortly, Chris Cox will ask for expressions of interest in playing in our golf croquet club teams. From these lists Chris and Steve will select our teams.

The Inter-Club GC competitions will be in the Advantage Handicap format, which was used in all of our club golf croquet handicap competitions last year. There will only be 5 rounds. Players may need to act as referees, scorers or time-keepers. Chris, Steve or Bridget can explain the process to you well ahead of the event.

- **Participation in CNSW events and other club carnivals**

Competing in these events is always challenging and a good way to hone your skills. It is always good to go with a group of players from our club and socialise with croquet players.

Chris has already contacted people about the CNSW Golf Croquet Bronze Brooch (handicaps 7 to 10) event to be held at Taree from 8 to 10 August.

Our Port Macquarie club will be hosting the CNSW Association Croquet Silver Brooch (handicaps 7 to 10) from 28 to 30 August.

To see a calendar of events go to the CNSW website and look under events for 2023 – CNSW events and Club events.

- **Competitions in February and March**

#### **Golf Croquet**

- Division 3 Championships on Fridays 24 February and 10 March

#### **Association Croquet**

Games are played on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

- Handicap Singles
- Handicap Doubles
- Division 4 Championships
- Division 3 Championships
- MNCCC match against Forster at Forster on 11 March

Captains will ask for expressions of interest in playing in the MNCCC competitions.

**Entering the Club Championships is a commitment to play.** Considerable time and effort go into making the draw.

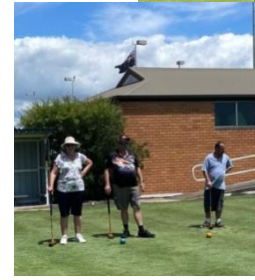
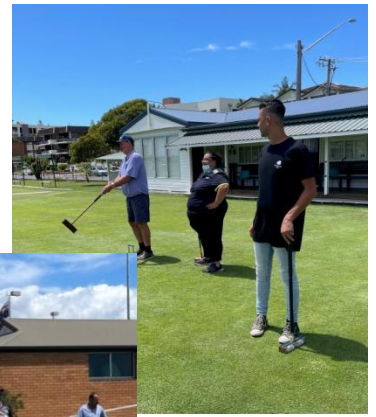
- **2023 Club Calendar**

The 2023 Club calendar is attached to the February Report email. There may be more competitions and events. You will be informed through the monthly reports



- **Willing and Able**

It was good to work with a group from Willing and Able. They were very keen, had already watched croquet videos and really enjoyed playing golf croquet. We would welcome them back at any time.



- **Gateball**



Our Wednesday gateball sessions are going well. Before the holiday period we had about 10 players each week. Thank you Robin and Sue Shenton for guiding us on our gateball journey.

We now have two courts marked for gateball. If you would like to have introductory lessons, or just watch, turn up for a 2:30pm start.



- **New Club Golf Croquet Competition starting in 2023**

The club will be running a 19 point golf croquet handicap competition this year.

It will be **First to 10 Points** Advantage Golf Croquet. The games will be untimed and will be held at 11:00am on Fridays and 2:00pm on Saturdays.

It is planned to start this competition on a Friday in April.

- **Welfare**

For many years Judy Wallis has sent cards or phoned members who are sick, recovering from surgery, incapacitated ... When Judy is away Del Hatton looks after welfare.

If you know of someone who is not well please contact Judy on 0417 135 115 or Del on 0422 090 8370, preferably by SMS. Thank you, Judy and Del.



- **Lawn Maintenance**

As well as mowing the lawns there is a considerable amount of work involved in looking after the lawns and grounds. The current working grounds committee is Brian Hardy, Steve Evans and Eric Drury. They move the hoops, mark the lines, weed the gardens, roll the courts and spray the weeds.

If you are willing to help in any way, please contact Brian, the Grounds Co-ordinator, on 0419 555 049.

- **Club Website**

Tim has spent a considerable amount of time reconstructing our club website. The previous one was maliciously manipulated. The new website is a work in progress and is developing very well.

Thank you, Tim. To view the website go to [portmacquarietroquet.com.au](http://portmacquarietroquet.com.au)

- **Club Hubs**

We received the 2023 Club Hub tranche of \$5,000 from Croquet NSW at the beginning of the year.

We plan to use Club Hub money to update our computer equipment – a club laptop, WiFi and a screen mounted on the wall.

Most of the Club Hub money spent so far has been involved in introducing gateball. We now want to involve local clubs in a variety of workshops for developing skills in GC and AC, preparing for or refreshing being an umpire, referee or coach in GC and AC.

Barb Piggott, who is an excellent presenter, is willing to run these sessions for us.

I will be contacting local clubs, mainly Forster, Gloucester and Taree for suggestions.

In recent years Barb has run workshops at our club for players from Gloucester in the south to Coutts Crossing in the north.



- **Emptying the dishwasher**

If you arrive early for your session, please check to see if the dishwasher needs to be emptied. There are two indications that it needs emptying.

Thank you for your help.



- **Fickle Weather**

We have our favourite weather apps – bom, WillyWeather, OzForecast ... These apps help us to make last minute decisions about whether or not to play.



© Can Stock Photo

- **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 around the neck or neck-tie can help to keep you cool

The Club does have a heat policy that you can find on the club website under Policies.



- **Drone Photos**

Brian arranged for Darrell Nash (Nashy) to take photos during play on Monday 8 January. Most were taken by a drone, others by a hand-held camera. They show our club setting on a clear sunny day, alongside the river and adjacent to The Westport Club.

85 photos can be viewed on [nashyspix.com](http://nashyspix.com) website. They may be purchased.

- **Committee Minutes**

The minutes of meetings are kept in a folder in the third drawer of the filing cabinet. They may be read in the clubhouse.

- If you have any concerns or suggestions please put them **in writing to the President and Secretary**. These will then be taken to the next committee meeting.

- **Unidentified Payments**

On 10 November \$50 was paid into the club account.

The reference was **DEPOSIT 0418400**

**Who are you?**

On 1 December \$50 was paid into the club account

The reference was **DEPOSIT PORT MACQUARIE NSW**

**Who are you?**

**Please indicate clearly your name and reason for deposit (eg green fees). If you are unable to do this send me an SMS on 0412 923 232.**

- **The Westport Club**

For many years The Westport Club has supported our club. This year they have given us \$4,000 for:

purchasing equipment

maintenance

in-house events

auditing.

We are very grateful for their support.

We encourage our members to become social members of the Westport Club to enjoy their facilities.

Bridget Earle (President)

