



October 2023 Monthly Report from the Committee

- **Port Macquarie Golf Croquet Carnival**

The carnival was a great success, thanks to Jill's leadership and the excellent teamwork by so many of our club members. There has been a very positive response, by email, SMS and on Facebook. So many of the carnival players commented on our happy and successful carnival.

The carnival winner was Brenda-Lee Peet from Maitland.



- **President's Message**



As the president of the club, I'm realising more and more the value of delegating. You, the members responded so willingly to help make our recent golf croquet carnival such a huge success. Thank you again. We will be looking for assistance yet again for our **70th birthday celebrations** on Saturday 28 October. I will be asking members to assist with:

- Running of novelty team games
- Registering people, name tags, lucky door tickets
- BBQ cooks
- Kitchen/food helpers
- Cupcake makers
- Coleslaw
- Auctioneer for mystery auction
- Lucky door prize.

Don't hesitate to see me if you can assist.

Recent events have caused me to think about the need for volunteers to help run a great club such as ours. The saying, "it takes a village to raise a child" is also fitting to raising a club. It would be very helpful to have a person that could be approached to not just take on responsibility to organise club events but also to promote and fund raise, not alone, but with a band of helpers around them. Please think about your skills in the following positions.

- Publicity/Promotion officer
- Grants officer
- Social/fund organiser
- Catering convenor
- Social media officer – set up a face book page with help of The Westport Club.

I look forward to talking with you about ways you can assist our club.

Jill.

Success at Taree on Manning



Four of our members competed in the Golf Croquet Carnival at Taree in September. They performed very well, often in trying weather conditions – heat and very strong winds. Tony Croft won his Singles Block, winning all 7 games. Both Tony and Chris Cox and Donna and Stewart Sinclair came second in their Doubles Blocks. Congratulations Team Port Macquarie!



- **Daylight Savings Afternoon Starting Times**

During the warmer months we have later afternoon starting times. They are:

- 4:00pm on Tuesday afternoons for golf croquet
- 3:30pm on Wednesday afternoons for ricochet
- 3:00pm on Friday afternoons the golf croquet singles.

- **Club competitions and events in October and November**

Golf Croquet

- **Handicap Singles** on Fridays 13 and 20 October
- **Handicap Doubles** on Friday 3 and Tuesday 7 November
- **Open Championship** on Friday 17 and Tuesday 21 November.

Notices for entries for these competitions will be posted on the noticeboard. The closing dates are one week before each event.

- **Mid North Coast Croquet Council (MNCCC) District Championships**

Ricochet at Gloucester on Thursday 28 September

Tony Croft and Pam Wiemers won Divisions 2 and 3 respectively. Lyn Stewart from Gloucester organised the day and said that “Pam played in her convincing and consistent style” and that Tony, as a relatively new player, “displayed a comprehensive understanding of ricochet strategies”. Congratulations Pam and Tony.



Association Croquet at Taree on Wednesday 4 October

This was played on a hot and windy day. The three divisions played best-of-three games. The winners were: Division 1 - Sue Moss (Port Macquarie); Division 3 - Aileen Matlawski (Forster); Division 4 – Lyn Stewart (Gloucester).



Golf Croquet at Port Macquarie on Sunday 15 October

Division 1 – Sue Moss and Trevor Thornton

Division 2 – Chris Cox, Tony Croft and Tony Earle

Division 3 – Robyn Clarke, Jill Drury and Eric Drury

70th
Anniversary

- **Celebrating 70 years**

The 70th Anniversary of the opening of our clubhouse will be on Friday 27 October. The committee plans to celebrate from 3:30 to 6:30pm on Saturday 28 October.

Invitations will be sent to all members within the next few days. Members may invite family and friends. Numbers will be required – a notice will go up on the board shortly.



- **South West Rocks Friendship Day**

For many years our club has held Friendship Days with the South West Rocks Croquet Club. This year we are the hosts – on Friday 10 November.

It is always a good day with socialisation, golf croquet, novelty games, morning tea and lunch. Shortly, a notice will be put on the board for you to write your name if you wish to take part.

- **Coaching**

1. Potential New Members – Golf Croquet

- Interested persons can either get Bridget's contact number from the club website or be given her mobile number by a club member.
- Bridget briefly explains the game of croquet and the 3 codes we play at our club and explains that coaching with John Hincks will give basic skills for golf croquet, ricochet as well as association croquet. Name and contact details (mobile number and email address) are obtained and forwarded to John. These contact details are also forwarded to Tim so that he can register the person on the booking site.
- John is available to coach on a Monday and Friday morning. He gives 2 lessons covering basic skills and rules. The first lesson is free, the second \$8.
- After the 2 lessons, the person is invited to consider becoming a member of the club. Once an application is made, either online or by completing an Application for Membership form, it is given to the club committee to consider at their next meeting.
- In the meantime, the intended member is invited to partner with John in a game of golf croquet.
- Once the application has been accepted, the new member will be sent details about annual fees, court fees, uniform, session times, and asked for preferred name on badge and magnetic or pin attachment type.
- Bridget Earle is a back-up coach for John Hincks.

2. Intermediate Players – Golf Croquet

- Pam Weimers periodically holds 3 group sessions throughout the year. See dates on club noticeboard.
- Chris Cox will give individual coaching as requested.

3. Ricochet or Association Croquet

- People interested in learning the above codes will be referred to appropriate coaches, helpers and mentors of these games.
- **Ricochet:** Pam Weimers, Bridget Earle
- **Association:** John Hincks, Bridget Earle, Sue Moss, Tim Woolford-Smith

• **Golf Croquet Coaching with Pam Wiemers**

Pam will run another coaching clinic, covering the very important skills needed to improve your game. The three sessions will be held on Court 3 from 9:00am to 11:00am on Mondays 30 October, 6 and 13 November. Please write your name on the sheet on the noticeboard if you would like to attend.

• **Help with the 2024 Association Croquet and Golf Croquet carnivals.**

A few of our members have been running our carnivals for years. We are looking for members with new ideas. If you are prepared to help with the organisation of the carnivals please speak to Jill or Bridget.

- **Association Croquet carnival** – Monday 29 July to Friday 2 August
- **Golf Croquet carnival** – Wednesday 4 to Friday 6 September

• **Grounds team report**

The grounds stood up very well during the recent GC carnival. However, the dry conditions that we are currently experiencing will make it difficult to keep them in top form. The grounds crew has worked hard moving hoops, marking lines and rolling the courts. The courts and surrounds have been sprayed for weeds, so players should remember to wash their hands after touching the balls.

The committee is grateful to Tony Holmes, Eric Drury, Steve Evans and Tony Earle for their work on the grounds.



• **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.

• **Club Booking System - Top-up facility**

Don't forget to use the Top-Up facility after you have transferred or deposited money for green fees into the club's bank account. Thank you all for keeping abreast of the changes.

• **Please register to play whenever you go to the lawns**

This is essential for insurance purposes. If only one person is registered on a lawn for a session this is interpreted as practice and there is no lawn fee.

• **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 (president@portmacquarietroquet.com.au) and Secretary (secretary@portmacquarietroquet.com.au)**. These will then be taken to the next committee meeting.

- **Purchasing Croquet Socks**

John Hincks has organised the purchase of croquet socks. You need to fill in a form giving the size and style that you wish to purchase. There are:

4 sizes: 3-7, 7-10, 9-12, 11-14 and

3 styles: sockette (cuff 3 cm), bike (cuff 6 cm), athletic (length 14 cm).

All styles cost \$9.00 per pair.

John needs more orders before he is able to proceed.

- **The Westport Club**



Our President, Secretary and Treasurer attended The Westport Club's Celebration of Vision. It was a night where we all became aware of the generosity of Westport in supporting so many of the charities and groups in our area. Their vision is to "make a significant contribution to the quality of community life ... inspiring us to work tirelessly ... in creating vibrant, flourishing, and cohesive communities for years to come".

As an affiliated club, we are very grateful for the sponsorship and help given to us by The Westport Club. We encourage all of our members to join the club as social members, at minimal cost.

- **Storm Damage**

The recent gale-force winds dislodged the roof of the large shelter shed on Court 2. Fortunately no-one was hurt and there was minimal damage.

The maintenance crew of the Westport Bowls Club have offered to repair the shelter for the cost of materials. This is another example of the generosity of our neighbours.



Bridget Earle (Secretary)