



Port Macquarie Croquet Club
www.portmacquarietroquet.com.au



December 2023 Monthly Report from the Committee

The committee wishes you and your family a happy Christmas and a happy and healthy 2024

• President's Message



It's hard to believe that we're already into December and Christmas is fast approaching.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year. I look forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas afternoon tea next Tuesday, 3pm in the club house.

A good thing about the Christmas New Year period is that croquet at our club doesn't shut down or go on holidays. Croquet sessions will be as usual so many of us will continue to meet on the court.

Finally, I have an important date already for your 2024 calendar. Here it is!

On Thursday 15 February 2024, 9.00 – 10.30am you are invited to attend an:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION SESSION

followed by a Devonshire morning tea.

This session will provide opportunity for all members and especially new members to gain a better understanding of our club, its activities as well as providing opportunity for members to give input into the club's future planning. It would be so amazing to have your presence and participation.

Thank you everyone for your support of our club. As your president, I feel privileged to have your trust and look forward with confidence to all that we will do in 2024.

Take care

Jill

• Christmas Afternoon Tea



We look forward to seeing you for afternoon tea at 3:00pm on Tuesday 12 December. Please bring a few slices or biscuits to share. The trophies for all 2023 winners in club, MNCCC and State events will be acknowledged.

Afterwards you may like to play golf croquet or have a drink at The Westport Club.



- **South West Rocks Friendship Day**



For many years we have had annual Friendship Days with members of the South West Rocks Croquet Club. The threatened stormy weather held off and we played golf croquet and novelty events in the morning.

After lunch we played the knock-out challenge of Hurry Scurry which was won by Sue Moss and Graeme Woods (SWR).

Thank you to the members who helped the day to run so smoothly.



- **MNCCC Christmas Party and Delegates meeting**



Ten of our members represented our Club at this end of year function at Forster. Whilst the delegates of the Forster, Gloucester, Taree and Port Macquarie clubs worked out the program for 2024 the others played golf croquet. After lunch winners of the 2023 competitions were presented with their trophies.

Port Macquarie won the overall trophies for the Inter-Club (handicap) Competitions for Golf Croquet and Ricochet.



In the District Championships the winners were:

Association Croquet Division 1 – Sue Moss

Golf Croquet Division 2 – Chris Cox,
Tony Croft, Tony Earle

Ricochet: Division 2 – Tony Croft
Division 3 – Pam Wiemers.





▪ **Advantage Handicap Golf Croquet Singles Competition**

10 players competed in two 5 player round robins. In the semi-finals Jill Drury beat Eric Drury 7 – 4 and Tony Croft beat Stewart Sinclair 7 -1. In a hard fought final Tony came from behind to beat Jill 7 – 5. Congratulations Tony!



• **Open Golf Croquet Championship**

Five players, with handicaps ranging from 2 to 10 played in this level play round robin. John Hincks won his 4 games. Tony Croft was the runner-up with 3 wins. Thank you Jill Drury and Pam Wiemers for scoring. Bridget Earle was the referee.



• **Kelsall Shield**



This association croquet competition has been played between the Port Macquarie and Urunga Clubs since 1994. With declining AC numbers the format has changed to accommodate this change.

The format this year was two 2 hour 30 minute Handicap Singles and one Doubles games in the morning and afternoon. Port Macquarie just scraped in with 10 net

points - 3 games each.

Thank you to the captains, Sue Moss and Barb Piggott, for organising the day.

• **Grounds team report**

The grounds crew has carried out general maintenance during the month. They have rolled the courts, marked the lines, relocated the hoops and repaired rabbit runs and other damage.

New cappings for the shade shelters have replaced the old damaged ones.

Significant pruning of trees, tidying of garden beds and trimming of plants has taken place.

- **Willing and Able**

Thank you Marg Mackie for helping with the Friday Willing and Able group. Your help was greatly appreciated.



- **Come and Try**

Do you know someone who is interested in learning to play croquet?

If so, contact our coach, John Hincks on 0401 314 928, to arrange a free lesson. Please give John the name, mobile number and email address of the person.



- **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@portmacquariercroquet.com.au) and

Secretary (secretary@portmacquariercroquet.com.au). These will then be taken to the next committee meeting.

- **The Westport Club**

We are grateful to The Westport Club for giving us a cash grant, through Club grants, of \$1,500. This is to help with equipment and maintenance costs. We also have a \$500 In-Kind grant to use in the club.

Bridget Earle (Secretary)