



## February 2024 Monthly Report from the Committee

### • February President's Report



February already! It's wonderful to see so many names already down to attend the **Information and Discussion Forum this coming Thursday, 15 February 9.00am**. If your name is not on the list inside the clubhouse, please consider putting it there. You are as important as any other member of our club, and this is a great opportunity for **you** to participate and to share **your** ideas. Put aside the time to **come and greet, meet** and, yes **eat**. We already have the scones, jam and cream organised for our Devonshire tea. I sincerely thank those people responsible.

- I've tried to come up with an acronym for the purpose of the occasion using the word croquet.
- **C**ommunicate – for understanding.
- **R**evision – in order to move forward.
- **O**pportunity – to learn and contribute.
- **Q**uestion – for clarification.
- **U**nite – we're all in this together.
- **E**njoy – coming to play croquet.
- **T**eam building – so we all feel empowered.
- I look forward to seeing **you** on Thursday 15 February, 9.00am.

Jill

### • Association Croquet Division 4 Championship

Jill Drury and Tony Croft competed in this best of 3 games championship.

Congratulations Tony on winning in 2 games: 21 – 9 and 19 – 9.

### • Recent changes in club administration

- Pam Wiemers is now the club Treasurer and
- Tony Croft is administering the booking site.

### • Sunday Golf Croquet Starting Time

Until the end of Daylight Saving Time the golf croquet starting time on Sunday will be 8:00am.



- **Know your PMCC website**

We have an excellent website, created by Tim Woolford-Smith.

Under Club Business you will find:

- The monthly reports that are added every month
- The winners of all Trophies for 2023
- The updated Fees Policy is under Club Policies and Forms
- The 2024 Club Calendar.

- **From Your Golf Croquet Captain**

Embrace the rules and enjoy the game

When I first started playing croquet there were a few things that I was getting pulled up on that I didn't understand. Once I realised these rules, and that they are part of the game, I decided to embrace them and get on with playing the game. I still now and then make mistakes but not so many. When I do, I take the penalty and move on. All are part of the game and I continue to enjoy this wonderful game of Golf Croquet.

There are 4 things that seem to be contentious when playing Golf Croquet:

1. Double tap – when you hit a ball twice in the one stroke
2. Crush shot – when the mallet, the ball and the hoop are all touching during the stroke
3. Bevel Shot – when you hit a ball on the EDGE of the mallet and NOT the face of the mallet.  
PENALTY: The non offending team or player can choose to replace the balls or leave where they are. A hoop scored doesn't count unless for the non-offending team or player. If replaced, no point is scored.
4. Offside rule – when your ball hits no opposition ball or roquets off your partner ball and then goes past the halfway line to the next hoop you are offside.  
PENALTY: the non-offenders choose which penalty area you play from.

John Hincks will be doing a small explanation of these 4 rules at the start of some of the GC play during February. If you miss them and would like to know more speak to any of the referees and/or coaches –Trevor Thornton, John Hincks, Chris Cox, Pam Wiemers and Bridget Earle. They would be happy to help.

Just a reminder that there are 2 other forms of Croquet on Wednesdays and Saturdays - Association and Ricochet. If you want a bit more of a challenge, then give them a go. You can contact me if you'd like to try.

Happy Hooping.

Tony Croft GC Captain

- **Participation in MNCCC events**

Tony Croft has put up a notice asking for expressions of interest in being part of our team for the first golf croquet match. The 3 Inter-Club matches are:

- Port Macquarie v Gloucester at Taree on Sunday 17 March (PM host)
- Port Macquarie v Taree at Port Macquarie on Sunday 14 April
- Port Macquarie v Forster at Forster on Friday 26 April.

- **From Your Association Croquet Captain**

With all the festivities behind us, 2024 brought with it a fresh round of competitions. I am pleased to say that the 4<sup>th</sup> Division Champion is Tony Croft with Jill Drury Runner-up. Great play from both of them, and showing a lot of promise for the future. The Handicap Singles and Doubles Competitions are also underway with only a small number of games outstanding in each. Soon we will be able to compete in the other divisions. I am very pleased with the progress we have made when compared with previous years.

Our numbers may be small, but we are an enthusiastic group, so I am inviting anyone who may be interested in AC to come down on a Wednesday or Saturday morning and be talked through a game. You never know, it might be a game for you.

Sue Moss



- **HELP NEEDED in the grounds**

Tony Holmes has resigned from the grounds crew. The committee is appreciative of the great work done by Tony.

Having no paid groundsman at the moment, Eric Drury and Steve Evans are working very hard with mowing, whipper-snipping, line marking and hoop moving. Julie Bullivant's husband, Mark, has volunteered to help them. It is important that more members assist, even by being willing to be contacted occasionally when extra help is needed. If you are prepared to help please contact Eric Drury.

The committee is negotiating the services of a contractor.



- **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 their name, mobile number and email address.



- **Practice**

All players who practise are asked to register in the **PRACTICE BOOK** which is on the table just inside the clubhouse.

Practice is when you are playing by yourself and no fee is incurred. With two or more players you are playing a game and the green fee applies.

You may still book on the booking-site, if no-one is booked on the court, but write in the Practice Book as well. Thank you.

- **Ball markers**

John Hincks has bought ball markers for members to buy. A packet of 4 costs \$1. Please purchase from John.



- **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.

- **Check this box**

It is easy to leave your drink bottle at the club. Please look in the box on the table. The box also contains ponchos for you to borrow.



- **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.

- **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.

- **The Westport Club**

We are grateful to The Westport Club for the support they have continued to give us over many years. We encourage all members to become social members of The Westport Club, at minimal cost.

Bridget Earle (Secretary)