



March 2024 Monthly Report from the Committee

- **March President's Report**



Welcome to autumn everyone. The cooler evenings and mornings have been welcomed but I believe we can still expect some hot days. We are all looking forward to feeling less humidity when playing.

Firstly, I wish to thank again all those members who attended the information and discussion forum. Approximately 80 brainstorming ideas were put forward and 37 members put their names down to help. Your help and ideas are always welcome. Four working groups have been established. Please send ideas or offer of help to the coordinators of these groups. They are:

1. **Grants working group** – Pam Wiemers coordinator.
2. **Grounds/Gardening working group** – Eric Drury coordinator.
3. **Social/Fund Raising/Promotion and Publicity/New Members (SFRPNM) working group** – Donna Sinclair coordinator.
4. **Welfare** working group – Judy Wallis coordinator.

These groups have already been proactive in moving forward with some brainstorming ideas. This month's committee have endorsed a number of these. You will be informed shortly of some of them.

Twelve people have indicated that they are happy to be contacted when catering is required. Please contact me if you are willing to be added to the list.

We are also looking at having a session marshal for each croquet session. Trevor Thornton has volunteered for the 9am Tuesday and Friday GC sessions. The session marshal would be responsible for opening & closing of the clubhouse, seeing that the hoops are set up and for doing the draw. Please consider if you would be prepared to do this at one of the sessions where you play. I will be asking members if they would assist in this role. The session marshal will ask another player to do these duties if unable to attend.

A positive outcome regarding the tenure of our lease has been guaranteed by council staff when they met with club members. Some members from the working groups along with myself will meet with Karen Faichney, Community Engagement Manager of The Westport Club this week. We hope to not only establish a firmer relationship with the club but to explore possible avenues TWPC can assist our croquet club.

Thanks again.
Take care,
Jill

- **Daylight Saving Ends on Sunday 7 April**

The mid-afternoon session times until 6 October will be:

Tuesday	Golf Croquet	3:00 – 5:00pm
Thursday	Ricochet	2:00 – 4:00pm
Friday	Golf Croquet Singles	2:00 – 5/6:00pm



- **Sunday Golf Croquet Starting Time**

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

- **From Your Golf Croquet Captain**

REMINDER for all players

Hi all.

At the end of your session for Golf croquet, be part of the team and double check that everything has been turned off or has been closed or put away. In the last few weeks things have not been turned off, put away or closed from time to time.

Examples: mallets, glasses of water and the notice board have been left out. The latest was the Defibrillator.

So **PLEASE** just double check, and sign out whenever you lock up at the end of the session.

Happy Hooping. Tony Croft GCC

- **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.

- **Grounds and Maintenance Report**

Nathan Day (All Star Lawns, Port Macquarie) has been employed to attend to the areas outside the courts and fence surrounds. In the absence of a paid groundsman the grounds crew, particularly Eric Drury and Steve Evans, have worked hard with mowing, whipper snipping, line marking, hoop moving

For a full report see the March minutes and reports in the third drawer of the filing cabinet.

Alternatively, you may ask me to send an electronic copy by email.

- **Willing and Able**

On Tuesday 27 February a group from Willing and Able, together with 3 carers, enjoyed playing golf croquet with Eric Drury and me. We now have a few people who have volunteered to help at these 1 to 1½ h sessions. The next visit will be on Friday 15 March.



- **PMCC Facebook page**

The committee has decided to create a club Facebook page. If anyone is willing to set this up and become the administrator please let me know (SMS on 0412 023 232 or email to bridget@earles-paradise.com).



- **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.



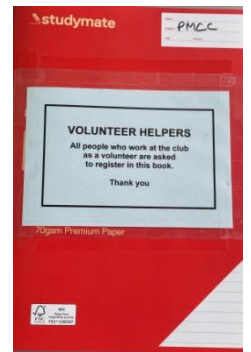
- **Mallets**

Mallets may be stored in the overhead racks. If you would like a dedicated space please let me know so that I can print a named label for you.
 Please do not leave your mallet near the corner cupboard. Any mallets left there will be put into the equipment shed.

Note that mallets are not covered by the club insurance.

- **Club Volunteer Helpers**

All members who do voluntary work in the clubhouse or around the grounds are asked to fill in their details in the voluntary helpers book. This needs to be done every time and is mainly for insurance purposes.



- **Cleaning the clubhouse**

The committee is still trying to find a cleaner.

- **Inspection of the clubhouse building**

The clubhouse is an old weatherboard building that needs regular checks for dry-rot. If you know of a person who can do this inspection, possibly a builder, please let me know.

- **Ball markers**

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



- **New members**

We are a caring community. Please try to make all new members feel welcome and help to make them feel comfortable in the club.



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- **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.

- **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@portmacquaricroquet.com.au) and

Secretary (secretary@portmacquaricroquet.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)



The beautiful 'Blue for You' rose, near the front gate, was donated by Doug Parkinson in 2015.