



## May 2024 Monthly Report from the Committee

### President's Message



Unfortunately, rain has again stopped me from playing croquet today as it has 2 other times this week. I know that you have been affected also. Here's hoping for finer days ahead! This month I would like to encourage members to consider looking at the possibility of playing association croquet. The great game of golf croquet is the most popular game we play in our club. However, we do play association twice a week and ricochet once a week. I have been playing association for about 2 years now and I love it. If it hadn't been for the words, "Jill, it will take you about 2 years to get your head around the game", from Paul Mitchell a former member of our club, I would have given up after the first couple of games. I still have the highest handicap of those who play but I am improving. If you love a challenge like me, enjoy tactical play, consider playing this great game. If there are a few who would like to give it a try we could have a beginners group. Please contact Sue Moss, the captain or me if you are interested.

Finally, I would like to reinforce that if any member has a concern or complaint regarding the running of the club that you, PLEASE put it in writing and send it to the president or secretary. I do hear from time to time of discontent among members. As president this concerns me. Your concern cannot be addressed unless the committee hears it from you in person. It will be taken seriously and confidentially.

Thank you.  
Jill

- **May Special General Meeting – 9:00am on Thursday 30 May**

Please indicate your intention to attend this meeting on the notice on the table inside the clubhouse.

The main item on the agenda will be ratifying the schedule of fees for the next financial year. The committee has agreed on these fees. You have been sent the agenda, the schedule of fees, the financial report at the end of April and a budget for the 2024-2025 financial year. Only items on the agenda will be dealt with.

- **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will be held at 9:00am on Thursday 11 July. Notices of Motion must be received by the secretary by Thursday 20 June. There will be more details in the June Newsletter.

- **Working Bee**

There has been a wonderful response from members over the last few years. This year the committee has planned a working bee to start at 12 noon on Saturday 6 July. Just turn up with a bucket, brush and cloths. The inside of the clubhouse will be cleaned as well as the sheds. A few things need to be taken to the tip – please let me know if you can help with this.



- **Golf Croquet Coaching with Pam Wiemers**

Pam will run another 2 courses. Please put your name on the sheets on the outside noticeboard if you would like to attend.

**Course 1**

Friday 24 May, 11:00am to 1:00pm – Grip, Stalk, Stance, Swing

Friday 31 May, 11:00am to 1:00pm – Roquet, Stun shots

Friday 7 June, 11:00am to 1:00pm – Hoop running

**Course 2**

Tuesday 28 May, 9:00 to 11:00am – Grip, Stalk, Stance, Swing

Tuesday 4 June, 9:00 to 11:00am – Roquet, Stun shots

Tuesday 11 June, 9:00 to 11:00am – Hoop running

- **Reports from the Working Groups**

**SoFun Working Group**

**Coordinator Donna Sinclair**

- **50 Club raffle**

This has proved to be very popular and has now raised \$150 for our club. There have already been three winners of \$50 – Sue Moss, Bridget Earle and Mick Green.

- **Hit the peg**

Funds from this are slowly increasing!

The committee has approved the following initiatives:

- **Winter Solstice Croquet Day**

On Saturday 22 June - starting with a sausage sizzle at 12:30pm. You will soon be able to book in for this session on the booking site.

- **Open Sunday Fun Day** on Sunday 13 October

Friends, family and visitors will be welcome. There will be more information closer to the date.

**Grounds and Gardening Working Group**

**Coordinator Eric Drury**

This working group has continued to work very hard. They have plans for moving forward with improvements to the grounds.

- A draft Buller Street garden plan, with costings, was accepted by the committee. The grants committee will be asked to consider ways to move forward. They will apply for a grant for the proposed garden inside the Buller Street fence,
- The 2 banksia trees on the northern side of the courts will be removed..
- 4 new non-competition hoop positions will be placed in an East-West line at each of the competition positions.

*For full reports see the May minutes and reports in the third drawer of the filing cabinet. Alternatively, you may ask me to send you an electronic copy by email.*

- **PMCC information Pamphlet**

Pam Wiemers has prepared an information pamphlet to hand out to visitors or people watching over the fence. It gives information about the club and a brief description about the 3 games that we play. These pamphlets will be kept in holders in the clubhouse and the small shelter sheds on courts 2 and 3.

- **Results of Golf Croquet Team Matches**

We have had 3 very good results from handicap play matches held recently. There has been a great team effort.

**MNCCC Inter-club match against Taree at Port Macquarie**

In each of the 5 rounds there were 2 Singles and 2 Doubles games. Our team won 19 games to 1.



**Jim Hicks Golf Croquet Challenge - Port Macquarie v Urunga**



Jim was a long term member of both clubs. The trophy was donated by Barb Piggott from Urunga. In each of the 4 rounds there were 2 Singles and 2 Doubles games. Port Macquarie won 12 games to 4.



**MNCCC Inter-club match against Forster at Forster**

In each of the 5 rounds there were 2 Singles and 2 Doubles games, Our team won 13 games to 7, winning 9 of the 10 doubles games. It took us a while to adjust to their very fast lawns.



- **Association Croquet Division 2 Championship**

Robert Kemp and Eric Gadd competed in the best of 3 games competition. After both winning one game the final game was won by Robert: 18 – 26, 22 – 20, 18 – 12. Well done, Robert!



- **Association Croquet Division 3 Championship**

A 3 player round robin was played by Bridget and Tony Earle and John Hincks. The third game was pegged down last week due to inclement weather. A week later it was finished in the rain. Tony pegged out in both games: 26 – 11 and 26 – 15. Well done Tony!



- **Association Croquet Handicap Doubles**

In a 4 pair round robin our high handicappers were victorious. Jill Drury and Tony Croft won 2 games. Both have rapidly improved in this game and their handicaps have been adjusted significantly. Well done Jill and Tony!



- **Competitions in May and June**

Friday 17 May: GC Division 3 Championship  
 Tuesday 21 May: GC Division 3 Championship  
 Friday 7 June: GC Division 2 Championship  
 Saturday 8 June: MNCCC Ricochet v Forster  
 Tuesday 11 June: GC Division 2 Championship  
 Friday 21 June: GC Division 1 Championship  
 Wednesday 26 June: MNCCC AC v Forster

- **U3A Introduction to Croquet Course**



This is the first time that the club has run a U3A Introduction to Croquet course since pre-covid. The weather was not ideal for the first session but there was a break in the rain which allowed us some court time.

The 4 week course gives an introduction into the skills needed to play golf croquet and briefly covers the games of ricochet and association croquet. Jill Drury, Sue Moss and Bridget Earle are helping the group of 8 people to play this game we love.



- **Port Macquarie Croquet Club Facebook Page**

This page is going well and we already have 24 followers. Tony and I have made many posts. If you would like material posted send it to:

Tony Croft on SMS - 0401 558 585 or email to [tonycroft42@gmail.com](mailto:tonycroft42@gmail.com)  
 Bridget Earle on SMS - 0412 923 232 or email to [bridget@earles-paradise.com](mailto:bridget@earles-paradise.com)



**Port Macquarie Croquet Club**

2 likes • 4 followers

We are located at 15 Buller Street between the Scout Hall and The Westport Club. We have 2 full sized lawns and a half lawn. All are welcome to come and play.

Create

- **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.



- **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.

- **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.

- **Communicating with the Committee**

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 by email or mail to the:

President ([president@portmacquaricroquet.com.au](mailto:president@portmacquaricroquet.com.au)) and

Secretary ([secretary@portmacquaricroquet.com.au](mailto: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)