

PORT MACQUARIE CROQUET CLUB



www.portmacquarietroquet.com.au

March 2025 Newsletter

- **From the President**

- **Thank you, Bridget**

For 12 years Bridget has kept members informed of all our club's activities and policies through the monthly newsletter. That is a long time, how lucky have we been! Bridget has enjoyed this role but feels it is time to call it quits. Life is full of paradoxes; on one hand we are sad that this is happening but on the other hand we feel happy that Bridget will have more time to relax.

On behalf of our club, I wish to express a sincere thank you to Bridget for her outstanding contribution. Communication to what is happening in our club is so important to members. Bridget, you have had your finger on the pulse of the club's happenings and through your knowledge, dedication, insight, photography and reliability you have gifted us each month. Thank you.



- **Thank you, Hans**

Hans Bohlscheid has volunteered to take over the writing of the monthly newsletters. We look forward to reading these.

If you have material for the newsletter, please send it to Hans (newsletter@portmacquarietroquetclub.com.au).



- **From the Committee**

Etiquette and mobile phones

If you need to take a call during play promptly ask your partner to play your ball if needed. By doing so play can continue and you can take the call well away from the area of play.



- **SoFun Working Group (Coordinator Donna Sinclair)**

Join us for a fun afternoon on Saturday 19 April. Please book online, bring your own drinks and nibbles and wear your best Easter hat.

- **Grounds and Gardening Working Group (Coordinator Eric Drury)**

Update on Lawns Maintenance – As a Club we have been fortunate that our lawns have continued to be regularly mown whilst the Committee arranged for a new Groundskeeper. The Interim Greenkeeper has been Darren from City Bowling Club. Thanks Darren!

From Thursday of this week Nathan Day from All Stars Mowing will be commencing as our Groundskeeper regularly mowing the lawns as well as continuing to mow the surrounds. The Committee and Nathan have signed a contract for this extended role initially for three months at which time the contract will be reviewed. The Grounds and Gardening Group will supplement Nathan's role by continuing to attend to marking the lines, moving the hoops and various other necessary tasks in order to maintain and improve the lawns, surrounds and gardens.



(20 more pavers needed)

- **Daylight Saving Ends on Sunday 6 April**

The starting times of some sessions will change:

Sunday	Golf Croquet	9:00 – 11:00am
Tuesday	Golf Croquet	3:00 – 5:00pm
Wednesday	Ricochet	2:00 – 4:00pm
Friday	Golf Croquet Singles	1:00 - 3:00 & 3:00 – 5:00pm.



- **Forster Golf Croquet Carnival**



5 of our club members performed well in the 4 day golf croquet Singles and Doubles Carnival.

In the Singles Tony Croft won the top block on a count-back from Liz Woods from SW Rocks (8 games out of 11 each – Tony had 2 more net hoops). Robyn Clarke was 3rd in the next block and Donna Sinclair was 4th in her block.



They went well in the doubles also: Donna and Barry Rogers (EDSACC) won their block; Tony and Steve Wallace (Forster) came 2nd and Tracey Croft and Carolyn McNamara (EDSACC) were 3rd.

- **Novice Golf Croquet Round Robin**

Over 2 days 14 players competed in a 7 pair round robin, each playing 6 games. It was a great learning experience, in strategies and working as a team. Robyn and Ian Richardson were the top pair, winning 5 of their 6 games.

They were closely followed by Judy Avenell and Kate Collier. With the threatening forecasts and the wild weather that followed we were very lucky to play in fair weather. Special thanks to Donna and Stewart Sinclair, Trevor Thornton and Pam Wiemers.



- **Croquet Come and Try**

The Sofun group organized a Croquet Come and Try day on Thursday March 16 to coincide with Seniors Week. After all the rain, the sun shone brightly on the morning, and 20 people arrived at the club ready to test their ability. After greeting and background information on the Croquet club by Jill, and Tony giving instruction and demonstration on the game, we had five groups on the lawns under the supervision of Jill, Eric, Bridget, Robyn, Tony and Stewart. Everyone appeared to be having a jolly good time honing their skills.



At the conclusion morning tea was served and the morning was declared a successful event. A big thank you to all the members on the day for the contribution of morning tea treats, group helpers, morning tea providers, and mingling with our visitors. A great display of club unity and support for the Croquet club.

SoFun



- **Port Macquarie West Rotary Club Visit**

On Tuesday 25 February at 6pm approximately 16 members from the Port Macquarie West Rotary Club visited the club. Pam Wiemers and Jill Drury spoke to them briefly about croquet and the history of croquet here at our club. They were very interested in the photo from the clubhouse of the opening in October 1953 and that there were only women and how they dressed. They had questions to ask but were keen to get on the court and have a go. It was a fun time, many would have liked to have stayed on except that they had a dinner appointment at 7pm. We are not sure if we will gain any members from this group, however I am sure they will promote our club's presence by talking to family and friends about where the croquet club is in Port Macquarie and what fun they had.



- **Willing & Able**

Geoffrey Chessor who normally organises these events is away overseas for 2 months. Jill Drury has volunteered to do this until he returns in May. Please contact Jill on 0408 381 195 if you would like to assist on these occasions.

The times scheduled up until May are:

- Tuesday, 15 April – 7 people
- Friday, 18 April – 5 people.

Jill Drury

- **U3A Introduction to Croquet**

The 4 session course for Term 1 has been somewhat interrupted by inclement weather. Pam Wiemers has applied to run a course next term on Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00pm on 8, 15, 22 and 29 May.

- **Golf Croquet Coaching**

Our coaching team is Tony Croft, Bridget Earle, John Hincks and Pam Wiemers. We have recently introduced a few new people to golf croquet. Most of these have already become members. If you know of anyone who would like to learn the basics of the game of croquet please contact Bridget Earle by SMS on 0412 923 232 or email bridget@earles-paradise.com.

Tony Croft is prepared to coach people who would like to prepare for playing in MNCCC teams or in carnivals. His contact details are SMS - 0401 558 585 or email to tonycroft42@gmail.com

- **Coaching with Pam**

Pam Wiemers our treasurer is away until April. We wish her a happy holiday down on Kangaroo Island. In April Pam is offering 3 coaching session times. These lessons are open to beginners or members wishing to improve their skills.

Email Pam on, pmcctreasurer53@gmail.com if you are interested. The times are:

- Monday 7 April, 2-4pm
- Tuesday 15 April, 1-3pm
- Wednesday 30 April, 1-3pm

- **Coaching Availability**

Bridget Earle – SMS: 0412 923 232 Email: bridget@earles-paradise.com

Day	Monday	Thursday	Sunday
Time	3-5pm	1-3pm	1-3pm

John Hincks – Mobile: 0401 314 928 Email: johnhincks587@gmail.com

Day	Friday
Time	11am-1pm

Pam Wiemers – (for April) Mobile : 0403 412 284 Email: pmcctreasurer53@gmail.com

Day	Monday 7 April	Tuesday 15 April	Wednesday 30 April
Time	2-4pm	1-3pm	1-3pm

- **PMCC information Pamphlet**

An information pamphlet is available to hand out to visitors or people watching over the fence. These pamphlets are kept in holders in the clubhouse and the small shelter sheds on courts 2 and 3.

Please hand out to people showing interest.



- **Payment of Green Fees and Top-up facility**

This is a two step process:

1. deposit the money into our bank account (BSB 032 586 Account 249 968) either by direct deposit with G/Fees and your name as the reference or at the Westpac branch with your date of birth as the reference
2. log onto the Club Booking System and top up with the amount you banked and save the transaction.

If you have booked in and for some reason do not play then it is your responsibility to delete the booking prior to midnight otherwise you will be charged green fees for that day.

Bank deposits are reconciled with the top up record each month.
Any queries please contact Treasurer Pam.

- **PRACTICE**

You are asked to register in the Practice Book whenever you practice - you are no longer required to book in on the booking site. It is free when you are practising on your own. When playing a game with 2 or more people the normal lawn fee applies and you need to book in.

- **PMCC Facebook Page**

This page is going well and we have 50 followers already. Tony Croft and I have made many posts, both on the club site and the Croquet NSW site. If you would like material posted on the PMCC Facebook page send it to Tony Croft:

SMS - 0401 558 585 or

email to tonycroft42@gmail.com

- **Come and Try**

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

If so, contact Jill Drury, on 0408 381 195, to arrange a free lesson. Please give Jill their name, mobile number and email address.



- **Welfare**

Please notify Judy Wallis by SMS on 0417 135 115 or email on jewallis77@gmail.com if you know of anyone who is unwell or bereaved.

- **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.

Concerns or suggestions can be emailed to the:

President (president@portmacquarietroquet.com.au) and

Secretary (secretary@portmacquarietroquet.com.au)

These will then be taken to the next committee meeting.

Bridget Earle (22.3.2025)