

# Port Macquarie Croquet Club

[www.portmacquarietroquet.com.au](http://www.portmacquarietroquet.com.au)

## July 2025 Newsletter

The AGM is over for another year and we welcome the new committee to lead us in achieving the objectives of the club. More than 30 members were present.

President	Jill Drury
Vice President	Geoffrey Chessor
Secretary	Kay Craig
Treasurer	Graeme Whyte
Association Captain	Bridget Earle
Golf Captain	Stewart Sinclair

To assist the committee the following members have been appointed to these non-committee positions –

Association Croquet Vice-Captain - Sue Moss

Golf Croquet Vice-Captain - Tony Croft

Public Officer – Geoffrey Chessor

Delegate to Croquet NSW – Unfilled.

MNCCC Delegates (2) - Bridget Earle and Robyn Clarke

Membership Officer – Unfilled.

Stores – Jo Ireland

Club Coaches – Bridget Earle, Pam Wiemers, John Hincks and Tony Croft

Editing Newsletter – Pam Wiemers

Croquet Booking Administrator – Tony Croft

Website Manager – Tony Earle

PMCC Facebook Administrators – Tony Croft and Bridget Earle

Grants Working Group Coordinator – Robyn Richardson

Grounds Working Group Coordinator – Eric Drury

SOFUN Working Group Coordinator – Donna Sinclair

Welfare Working Group Coordinator - Judith Wallis

Trophy Engraving and Sign Writing – Captains

Association Croquet Carnival Manager – Sue Moss

Golf Croquet Carnival Manager - Stewart Sinclair

As well as the above there are many members who volunteer to do the tasks that are not assigned but are required to run a successful club such as empty the dishwasher and clean the kitchen benches, weed the gardens, replace the toilet rolls, set up the courts, keep the sign on books ruled up etc. etc. etc. All members can help with any of these and other tasks.

Some snippets from the 2024-2025 committee annual reports. The full reports are attached to the Minutes of the meeting for your perusal.

- President Jill thanked the many volunteers who helped throughout the year and welcomed the 25 new members who joined in the last 12 months and that 6 of those members were in attendance
- The club made a profit of \$10,137.15 this financial year
- The Buller street garden is underway with timber edges and plantings of Callistemon St Mary McKillops and Callistemon Taree Pink. If you would like to donate a plant or even some garden stakes please see Eric D
- Our membership stands at 86. The increase in membership can be attributed to the invitation to service clubs to “Come and Try Croquet” as part of their activities.
- Grants of \$1500 from The Westport Club and \$1000 from Port Macquarie Hastings Council was received towards the preparation and running of the Association and Golf carnivals. Other grants submitted for club house repairs and lawn top dressing were not successful however the Grants Group will continue to search for grant opportunities.
- Ricochet is starting up again on Thursday mornings
- There were 12 draws of the lucky numbers in the last 12 months raising \$600 and Hit the Peg raised \$98.30
- In July 2024 SoFun subsidised a members luncheon at The Westport Club who in turn provided the venue free of charge
- The SoFun group organised 6 croquet activities for members, family and visitors during the past 12 months.
- Clients from Willing and Able continue to enjoy their croquet
- Not all MNCCC games have been completed due to wet weather and some clubs do not have AC and RC players

Mid North Coast Croquet Council (MNCCC) comprises four clubs, Gloucester, Taree, Forster and Port Macquarie and a round robin competition is held each year in Association, Golf and Ricochet with district championships held at the end of the year.



On Thursday 17 July Port Macquarie hosted Forster in a golf competition. As usual all games were played in good spirit, fun and competitiveness with many games being very close. Port retained the Merv Clarke Trophy and



this was presented by Robyn to games captain Stewart. Some players playing their first competition overcame their nerves and to all players from both clubs –Well done



Another exciting event took place on Wednesday 16th when Kate McLoughlin and Peter Freer both very experienced players and coaches visited Port

Macquarie to provide coaching in Association and Golf Croquet under the CNSW Player and Coaching Education (PACE) program. The coaching for golf was restricted to division 1 and 2 players. Further coaching will be arranged for division 3 players. Visitors from Forster and South West Rocks participated in the day. CNSW funded the day with our club benefiting by \$250 as well as the participants gaining some wonderful tips that should improve their games. It was also a benefit to coaches Tony, Bridget and Pam in the resources provided and the coaching techniques used by Kate and Peter.



Again a big thank you to members who helped out on both days. Our club has a very high reputation for being well organised, friendly and welcoming and it is not something that can be achieved or maintained by one or two people. Congratulations.

Two of our senior ladies have decided to give up playing croquet and sold their mallets and donated the proceeds to the club. Thank you Janet and Jean, Karen and Margaret are the proud new owners.

## **Ricochet is going ahead**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August**

**9am**

**Look forward to see you there.**

**Don't forget to register online.**

Six club mallets including Wendy's have been taken to the Men's Shed for a facelift with a revarnish and new grips. With many visitors to the club it is important that members mallets left at the club are easily identified so that they are not used by our visitors.

The working bee to tidy up the club house was well attended and the ladies had a good clean out of unused items. It was decided not to wash the curtains as they were likely to fall to bits. Barb has volunteered to make new ones so watch this space or the windows.

The SoFun Group have started a sale of books to raise extra funds for the club. So before you clean out your bookcase there is only room to have about 20 books, see Donna to find out if SoFun is accepting more donations.

A Lost Property Tub and Clothing Bin has been established and each is located in the clubhouse. Please place any lost property in the Tub so that the owner can collect their items. The Clothing Bin is for croquet clothing donated that members no longer require, these items are free or a donation can be made to the club.

To play in a competition you need to have a handicap but you don't need a handicap to play (the balls, mallet and lawn often provide a handicap) Talk to the captains if you would like to be given a handicap score.





Being a member of Port Macquarie Croquet Club Inc. you are affiliated to the State and National Croquet Associations. Check out their web sites for events and newsletters.

<https://www.croquetnsw.org.au/> <https://www.croquet-australia.com.au/>

DID YOU KNOW that you are always welcome to play croquet anywhere within Australia, so take your mallet on holidays with you. We often have players visiting from other clubs, this month we welcomed visitors from Orange and Hobart. Some of our members go farther afield with Judy and Yvonne touring Norfolk Island on a croquet holiday, Pam to Samoa and Stewart wants to play croquet at the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club



#### ASSOCIATION DIVISION 1 CLUB CHAMPIOPNSHIP

In a 3 player round robin Robert Kemp, Sue Moss and Robin Shenton each won one game. On a countback Sue Moss came first. Congratulations Sue.

The club open championship is in progress and the handicap singles competition will start in November

Platinum Division 1 (handicap 4.5 and under)

Gold Division 2 (handicap 5 to 8)

Silver Division 3 (handicap 9 to 12)

Bronze Division 4 (handicap 14 to 24)

A regular feature of the newsletter will be some coaching tips, rules and upcoming events.

#### COACHING

Bridget Earle, Pam Wiemers, and Tony Croft are accredited golf coaches and are happy to arrange coaching with any players who may like to have some coaching. Tuesdays, Thursdays or Sundays are probably the best days for the coaches. John Hincks is unavailable for coaching until further notice

#### COURT ETIQUETTE

If we all take that little bit of extra care to ensure that our court etiquette is maintained, we will continue to have enjoyable croquet games.

- Be prompt to start of your game, arrive 15 to 20 minutes prior to the scheduled time
- If play has started, walk around the boundary to reach your allocated lawn, toilet or clubhouse, not across a lawn in play
- When playing on a double-banked court, try be aware of the other game and how you may affect their play.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### AUGUST

Monday 27 July to Friday 1 August AC carnival at Port Macquarie

Sunday 3 August MNCCC Golf Croquet against Gloucester at Taree

Saturday 23 MNCCC Ricochet at Forster

Wednesday 27 MNCCC AC at Port Macquarie

### SEPTEMBER

### OCTOBER

Sunday 5 MNCCC GC at Taree

Monday 13 to Wednesday 15 GC Carnival at Port Macquarie

### NOVEMBER

Sunday 30 MNCCC presentation of trophies and Christmas Lunch at Gloucester



To all the members having a birthday in August, HAPPY BIRTHDAY

and those who are not in the best of health, get well wishes go to you

FROM ALL OF US



Happy Hooping

Pam

PS: all contributions to the newsletter will be welcomed.