



December 2021 Monthly Report from the Committee



The committee wishes you and your family a happy Christmas and a happy and healthy 2022

- **Congratulations to all our members!**

Sporting clubs need to cater for all of its members. The pandemic has made this challenging at times. However, members happy with the regular weekly play and social interaction have turned up in good numbers. For others who enjoy different levels of competition our Captains, Sue and Warren, have organised both in-club and inter-club events. Members have responded very well to these and the team support for inter-club events has been excellent. Our results in MNCCC events in 2021 have been outstanding. In normal years we hold two carnivals – in association croquet and golf croquet. At least this year we were able to hold the association croquet carnival.



- **70th Anniversary Activities Day**

Instead of the usual Christmas lunch the committee decided to have a combined 70th Anniversary/Christmas Activities Day.

After a rather wet start we were able to run a First to the Peg Knockout competition on Courts 1 and 2. This was won by Jill Sargeant and Tony Gaudron.

Four novelty events were run on Court 3: Top Shot was won by Jill Sargeant; The Ladder by Tony Holmes; Hoop and Pooh by Bridget Earle and Spot the Hoop by Lesley Easton.



Members brought slices, biscuits, chocolate strawberries and tarts which were enjoyed throughout the day.

Warren Miller and Terry Murray did sterling work turning out the sausages on the barbecue while protected from the elements.

Del Hatton, granddaughter of the club's first Patron, Sabra Crisp, spoke about the early history of the club and the involvement of her family in the formation of the club in 1951.



- **Anniversary Raffles**

Thank you for your contributions for the Anniversary raffles. Meredith was able to make 15 prize boxes.

- **Croquet NSW Association Croquet Gold Brooch Competition**

Our club hosted this event for Croquet NSW. A significant factor was the weather: on Friday the severe rain and possible flooding did not eventuate; on Saturday the disastrous winds really affected the path of balls that were often blown way off course. Seven players played a Round Robin over three days. Four players had three wins and, on a count-back, the winner was Peter Richardson from Sawtell with Pam Gentle from Maitland the runner-up.



- **Congratulations, Gen!**

One of “our” lady bowlers, Genevieve Delves, has been appointed to the Board of Bowls Australia. Prior to taking up bowls in 2013, Gen played both Rugby and Soccer for Australia. Genevieve and Natasha are both in the current BCiB Australian Jackeroos Women’s squad. How great to have such elite athletes practising on our lawns. Congratulations!



- **Golf Croquet Handicap Singles Competition**

The semi-finals, between Jill Drury and Robyn Clarke, Tim Woolford-Smith and Keith Dalton, and the final will take place on Thursday 9 December, starting at 10:30 a.m. Spectators are welcome.

- **MNCCC District Championships**



Golf croquet: Sunday 7 November at Taree

Unfortunately we were unable to field a Division 1 team.

The Division 2 team of Terry Waterhouse (singles) and Bridget and Tony Earle (doubles) won their block, winning 5 games out of 6.

The Division 3 team of Jill Drury (singles), Warren Miller and Peter Drinkwater (doubles) won their block, winning all of their games.



Association croquet: Saturday 20 November at Port Macquarie

Local knowledge probably helped our 4 divisional players to win their divisions.



It was a most impressive performance. Divisions 1, 2 and 3 played best of 3 games. Division 4 played a Round Robin.

Division 1 – Robert Kemp beat Barb McTiernan (Forster) in 3 games.

Division 2 – Tim Woolford-Smith beat Bruce Byatt (Forster) in 2 games.

Division 3 – Eric Gadd beat Aileen Matlawski (Forster) in 2 games.

Division 4 – Tony Earle beat Janine Crellin (Taree) and Lyn Stewart (Gloucester).

A severe storm arrived about an hour after we finished playing.



• MNCCC Christmas Party and Trophy Presentation

On Sunday 28 November Jill Drury, Kay Craig, Tony and I attended the Christmas Party in Gloucester. Jill and I attended the meeting of delegates, where the program of district events for 2022 was worked out.



Gloucester members put on their usual delicious lunch. Port Macquarie won 8 of the 11 trophies presented.

Congratulations to all members who helped us to achieve these outstanding results – a real team effort.



• Ricochet

A few people have expressed interest in learning to play ricochet. It is a very popular game in many clubs and is played at all other MNCCC clubs.

We will start playing ricochet at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesdays, starting with introductory lessons. The first session will be at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday 2 February.

I have a couple of articles suitable for beginners. Please let me know if you are interested in learning to play ricochet - I will send you those articles.

- **Lawn Maintenance**

At present Shorty is waiting for grass to grow over the bare patches before he grooms the lawns. In future, we will endeavour to groom the courts in October and April.



- **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.

- **Weed Control**



Brian regularly sprays herbicides on the courts. After he has done this he will write a message in the signing-on book reminding people to wash their hands thoroughly.

You do not need to touch the balls during a game – move them with your foot or hit/trundle the balls with your mallet.



- **Membership of the Westport Club**

For many years the Westport Club has supported our club. As well as financial donations most of our indoor and outdoor furniture was donated when they upgraded their club. We encourage our members to become social members of the Westport Club, at minimal cost, and enjoy their facilities.

Stay safe and have a happy Christmas.
Bridget Earle (President)

