

MALLETSports

The Voice of the Victorian Croquet Association Inc.

 CROQUET VICTORIA

July-Aug 2021

Doing Our Bit to Spread the Message in Schools

'We need to get croquet into the schools' we were told by Croquet Victoria. Always keen to carry out the directions of the state body, Kyneton Croquet Club swung into action. Both local secondary colleges were contacted. In mid-March, back came the reply from Kyneton Secondary College, 'We would love to give students the opportunity to give croquet a go.'

With term 1 almost over, it was decided to start on 10th May; it would last for one week, there were to be four classes of Year 10 students who would all come for one session. That then got put back to start on 26th May.

The day arrived and we had the first session; the next morning we received an email from the Physical Education Coordinator, 'The students really enjoyed it yesterday. We spoke as a department last night and wondering if we could do the same next week. Do you think it is worth them doing two sessions or do you think one is enough?' We weren't going to miss an opportunity like that!

As we prepared for the second class to come for their lesson that day, the state was suddenly thrown into a Covid lockdown for one week and the lesson had to be cancelled. The College weren't going to let this put an end to the lessons and asked if we could just put everything back one week. So, the following Friday another two classes came for their first lessons.

Unfortunately, the next week became unavailable as the whole school had other activities planned for the following week. Midway through the week, the worst storm in living memory hit the region causing huge damage throughout the Macedon Ranges and leaving much of the area without power, in some cases for over two days.

With the clean-up still going on the following week, the croquet sessions had to be further postponed. Finally, in the last week of term before the mid-year school holidays, we welcomed the students back again for what should have been four more sessions.

We're now in mid-winter and this is Kyneton. After two sessions the rains came again, and the lawns were soon under water and so what was supposed to be eight sessions of croquet over two weeks finished as five sessions spread over seven weeks.

In all, over 70 students did at least get an introduction to croquet. We had one student say she really wanted to come and play, and a few others expressed some interest in the sport. However, with the lawns now completely soaked and no end to the rain in sight, it may be a long time before we're back on the lawns. Whether any of the students will be able to retain their interest when things get better is only something we can hope for.

On one positive note, when Croquet Victoria ask us at the end of the year what we've done to promote our sport, at least we know we'll be able to tick one box!

Graham Smith Kyneton CC

Patron:

The Honorable
Linda Dessau AC,
Governor of Victoria

In This Issue

Spreading the Message in
Schools

Presidents Report

Management Report

Rich River Association Classic

Publicity for the TMA project,
update for Malletsports August
2021

Resurgence of interest in
Association Croquet

Horsham C C's Opening Day

Little ladders can cause damage

Under 21s Weekend
24-26th September 2021

Wow!
Croquet Victoria & FoxSports
to live stream a series of top
events this year.

Upcoming Events at
VCC and around
Victoria

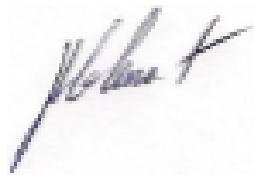
Presidents Report

Since my last report, in the May/June issue, we have held our AGM and I wish to re-iterate my thanks to Claire Keating for the work she is doing as Treasurer, in ensuring that our accounts comply with all requirements and accurately reflect our position, to Sarina Cevaal-Hewitt who continues to keep us up to date with Covid restrictions and to all Directors, committee members, appointees and volunteers.

I also wish to thank Lorraine Gutcher, who stood down from CoM after five years, effectively halving her workload by re-assuming the position of Gippsland Regional Director, and Kevin Beard who agreed to serve as the independent scrutineer for the CoM elections.

A matter currently facing associations like ours is the recent requirement for those receiving Victorian government grants to provide services to children to hold specific insurance cover against child molestation, to \$10 million for any one incident, or to \$20 million p.a. A check with Regional Insurance Brokers, who arrange the Croquet Australia insurance policies, reveals that this is expressly excluded from our policies. This, with the support of Croquet NSW, has been raised with the Croquet Australia Board, which is pursuing the matter and I will ensure that clubs are kept informed. In the meantime, I encourage any club which has children attending, in any capacity whatsoever, to ensure that its child safety policy and procedures are well documented, understood and adhered to by all members.

We are all aware that lockdowns and travel restrictions, both interstate and intrastate, are causing the deferment or cancellation of tournaments at club, region, state, national and international level. The WCF GC Championships scheduled for NZ in February 2022 are now to be held in England in August 2022. We are still working towards hosting the MacRobertson Shield at VCC in November 2022 with the hope that by then Covid will not be a factor. In the interim, it is a matter of grasping every opportunity to hit a ball (preferably through a hoop, or a series of hoops). I wish you all the opportunity to do so, soon.



Jim Clement
VCA President

Cancellation of Croquet Australia Events for Remainder of 2021

The Croquet Australia Board has resolved to cancel all of the remaining events for 2021, due to uncertainty caused by Covid and the resulting border restrictions.

The specific events are:

- The GC Handicap Doubles and Singles, scheduled for Twin City CC, Albury, in September
- The Presidents AC Eights, scheduled for VCC in October
- The AC Open Doubles & Singles, scheduled for VCC in November.

Jim Clement
Secretary to the ACA Board
+61 409 115 647

Management Report

COVID: Changes to restrictions, both in Victoria and NSW, are advised as soon as we are aware of them and Kate Patrick and I can interpret them (and reach agreement) for the playing of croquet. It does seem never-ending at the moment. There seems to be a constant stream of cancelled event notifications. Thank you to all croquet club members who abide by the restrictions in place on the day. No croquet club has been listed as a hot spot or fined that we are aware of. Looking forward to returning to croquet without COVID Check-in Marshals, mask wearing and social distancing.

CROQUET VICTORIA

Croquet Victoria Meeting Minutes: All Minutes are available for viewing or download at:

<https://croquetvic.asn.au/minutes.php>

Merchandise Officer: Golf Croquet Rules books can be ordered from merchandise@croquetvic.asn.au

Annual Club Survey: All clubs have now completed this survey. The updates all clubs submit allow us to provide information to local government authorities when requested.

Handicaps: All anomalies now addressed. Thank you to Club Secretaries/Handicappers who assisted to address these anomalies.

Tournaments Awaiting Results: If your club scheduled a tournament which was cancelled due to COVID please ask the Tournament Manager to delete the tournament notice. If you have any queries, please contact me.

Club Child Insurance: The President is now following up this matter with Croquet Australia.

Fernside Croquet Club: Fernside is a homestead that is made available to OTIS guests (otisfoundation.org.au) thanks to the generosity of the Johnstone family. The response from Victorian croquet clubs to the request for donated equipment to refurbish the croquet courts was incredibly generous. Hoops, corner posts, center pegs, mallets and balls all now ensconced at Fernside for the use of those using the homestead as a retreat during their recovery from cancer.



Supporters testing donated equipment



Idyllic setting at Fernside

Croquet Victoria Meetings: We continue to hold our meetings via Zoom. Whilst this format can be challenging, we are happy to provide training so that Directors and Sub-Committee members can contribute to meetings.

Appointed Officer/Sub-Committee Vacancies:

Vacancies remain for the State Coordinators of Association and Golf Croquet and Complaints Officer.

Also, for places on several sub-committees:

- Marketing & Publicity Sub-Committee (1)
- Strategic Plan Implementation (1)
- Council Nominations (5)
- Victorian Croquet Centre (2)
- Finance (2)
- Child Safe (5)

Terms of reference are available on the Governance tab of the Resources section of the website.

Enquiries would be welcomed from any member who is interested in one of these positions.

Jana Cresswell

VCA Secretary

Rich River Association Classic

The Rich River Association Classic was played over six days in early May, in four divisions according to handicaps. Division 1 was played in beautiful sunny conditions with a full field of 16 players, all of whom rank very highly in the Australian croquet rankings, with some in the top 10% of world rankings.

As expected, spectators were treated to a very high level of play, which was in two blocks with block leaders playing a decider.

Block 1 was won by Greg Hill of Brunswick with 7 wins out of 7 games and a nett hoop total of 101. He pegged out in all but one of his games. Robert Fletcher of Ballarat Alexandra was runner up with 6 wins and 121 nett hoops.

In Block 2 Dwayne McCormick of Norwood and Chris Grant of Ringwood tied with 6 wins, and Dwayne took winning position with 97 nett hoops against Chris's 59.

Greg was the winner of the playoff, and **Division 1**, pegging out to beat Dwayne 26 hoops to 13.

Division 2 on days 3 and 4 saw eight players with handicaps of 4 to 9 compete.

The winner was Chris Eiffert from Quarry Hill Croquet Club. Chris played exceptionally well over both days, only losing one game out of seven, pegging out five times in her six wins, and with a nett hoop score of 97.

Runner up was Paul Ryan of Melbourne Croquet Club. Paul won five out of seven games, pegging out three times, and had 72 nett hoops. Close behind was Cheryl O'Dwyer of Yarrowonga who had also won five games and pegged out three times, losing runner up position with 51 hoops.

Competition on the last two days was for Division 3 handicap range 10 to 14, and Division 4 handicap range 16 to 20. The breeze was strong and very cold on Wednesday, but Thursday turned out to be an ideal croquet day for the close of the tournament.

Division 3 Beth Lewis of Ballarat Alexandra and Russ Smyth of Rich River faced each other in their last game of the tournament, each having won all four of their previous games. In the decider Russ played well, pegging out to beat Beth 26 hoops to 8, and making it the third game in which he had pegged out. Trevor Taylor of Melbourne Croquet Club finished in third spot, having won three games out of five.

Division 4 had eight competitors, each playing six games. The winner was John James of Deniliquin who played consistently over the two days to win all six games. Runner up was John Murdoch of Quarry Hill who also played well, only losing one game for a total of five wins. Close behind was John Young of Shepparton on four wins, having pegged out in two of those games and with a nett hoop score of 61.

The Club appreciated the efforts of Tournament Manager Marjorie Grant, the referees and club members who put in six very long days and hope to see everyone back next year.

Di Smyth



Publicity for the TMA project, update August 021

The aim of this project is to provide croquet players with the confidence and skills to become more competitive at a higher level in their sport, by offering a series of intensive planned coaching workshops to an interested group. It is hoped that they will enter competition with the goal of improving and enjoying the games as they progress.

Plans for beginning the coaching workshops for this project are continuing despite lockdown halting the initial commencement. The first of the planned two-day Golf Croquet workshops will be presented at Novice level in Boort and Developing level in Bairnsdale, with thanks to those clubs for offering to host. Lead coaches for Golf Croquet will travel to these regions in September for the first workshop and return for the next two in the series in December and March, giving time between workshops for the participants to work on their new skills and try them out in competition. It is expected that about 15 players will be included in this series, with further places to be offered at other host clubs in future rounds.

For Association Croquet, the initial workshops will be at Charlton and Elwood host clubs, thanks to those clubs as well. The dates are still to be confirmed but expected to be September followed by January and April. Participants will be asked to apply by an online survey which has been prepared and will be available when the dates are finalized.

More clubs have been asked to indicate if they would like to host further workshops at either Novice or Developing levels and depending on survey responses and numbers, they will be allocated a place on the calendar. We look forward to seeing the growth of competition with the enthusiasm of participants in each area that the coaches can reach during this project's timeline, and beyond.

Tricia Devlin, for Working Group, TMA Croquet Victoria Player Development Project.
Together More Active, funded by the Victorian Government, Sport and Recreation

Resurgence of interest in Association Croquet

There has been a steady decline in Association Croquet player numbers in the GVCA and surrounding regions in recent years, and Kenn Boal has decided to do something about it.

Kenn has been sharing his love of AC on Wednesday mornings at Rich River Croquet Club, attracting new players and helping existing players improve their skills. Kenn's sessions aren't restricted to Rich River members, and with steadily increasing numbers he has created quite a resurgence of interest in the game.

Kenn is also involved as a lead coach in Croquet Victoria's new Player Development Project, where Kenn and Stephen Forster are leading workshops to help novice and developing competitors improve their competitive play in Association Croquet.

Enrolments for these workshops are now open, via <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PDP21MS>

novice competitor workshops (led by Stephen) start at Elwood on 16 and 17 October

developing competitor workshops (led by Kenn) start at Charlton on 21 and 22 September.

Anyone who is interested in competing in Association Croquet is welcome to register their interest – another round of workshops will be held at another venue next year.

Keep up the good work Kenn!

Russell Smyth and Kate Patrick



auscroquetco@gmail.com

New website: dawsonballs.com

Dawson 2000
international mkII croquet
balls

Association clips
Golf clips
Centre pegs
Cotton flags

Mallets available contact
Bryan Dawson
Pictures and phone
number on website

Requests for quotes can
be made
via email or website

www.woodmallets.com

WOOD MALLETS

World renowned croquet equipment

Mallets made to order in NZ.
Delivered by post.
Balls, Championship hoops,
mallet bags, etc.

Victorian Agent.

Jim & Val Saunders
8 Terrigal Court
Leopold
Victoria 3224

Phone: 61 3 5250 5250
ourjives@bigpond.com

Horsham Croquet Club's Opening Day

On Thursday 19th August Horsham Croquet Club held their Opening Day for the Season of 2021-22. Members were welcomed to enjoy their games of croquet while they are still able and allowed to do so. John Pipkorn, one of our dedicated and respected members of the club, serving over 15 years of membership ran the first hoop of the season.

Twenty-seven members played varying amounts of games, two 13 hoop games were played before lunch and one after (changing partners each game), which was followed by a lovely afternoon tea supplied and served up by our members. Such a beautiful day sitting around outside eating and chatting together.

All games were closely contested even young Pat and Max were seen doing some excellent hooping. Captain Marj. announced a 3 way play off for 3rd. Division's result.

Division 1- Winner-Glenn Price

R/Up-Ian Rees

Division 2- Winner-Robyn Goodwin

R/Up David Wortley

Division 3- Winner-Brian Drendel

R/Up-Denis Drendel

Thanks to all who played and organized such an enjoyable day for our opening day of the season, it was heart-warming listening to the laughter and seeing People enjoying themselves again.

Betty Etherson President Horsham CC



Little ladders can cause damage

This edition of Malletsports is being produced from a hospital bed in the Queen Elizabeth in Eyre Street.

To all Malletsports readers out there, please keep off ladders.... even those little three step ones.

I thought I was on the bottom step of one of these when in fact I was on the next to bottom step and that made a huge difference!

My pelvis was broken in two places, I also scored some impressive bruising. The result being that I will be laid up for some weeks.

Goes to prove that the ladder doesn't have to be high to do damage, so please take care!!

Cheers your Editor

POTTER MALLET

Making croquet mallets is my hobby.

Every mallet is handcrafted to release its natural beauty of grain, texture and colour. Most are of redgum (milled in the 1950s), others are of sycamore, elm, black wattle etc. Grip are of a wide variety of texture, colour and pattern. All mallets are therefore individual and very unique.

ALL MALLET - \$120



All enquiries to the Mallet Man

Terry F Potter

Villa 217, 330-380 McIvor Hwy,
JUNORTOWN, Vic 3551

ph: 03 4433 8617, email: pottermallets@gmail.com

Web: 'Potter Mallets', for latest brochure and info

Now sold to members of more than 60 Clubs in Vic, NSW.

Please be assured that every sale means that I can now enjoy another unique Potter Mallet.

Under 21s weekend 24-26 September 2021

CROQUET: the next big hit



WHAT'S ON – approx times

Fri 24 Sept **Coaching 1 pm – 5 pm**

Be coached by leading Victorian players

Sat 25 Sept **GC doubles 9 am – 5 pm**

Play doubles with leading Victorian players

Sun 26 Sept **GC singles 9 am – 4 pm**

Show what you can do! Players to be grouped by age and/or experience.

WHERE

Victorian Croquet Centre
65 Nobel Banks Drive, Cairnlea, Victoria 3023

WHO CAN ENTER

Interested players aged between 11 and 21 as at 1 January 2021.

COST

\$20 for the three days.

WHEN TO ENTER

Entries close Friday 3 September.

Expressions of interest welcome now!

Entry form from Kate Patrick, Under 21 Coordinator,
u21coordinator@croquetvic.asn.au

SMALL PRINT

Competitors aged under 18 at the time of the tournament must provide parental/caregiver consent with their entry.

Refreshments will be available. You will need to BYO lunch.

Requirements for Working with Children checks will be fully complied with.



USEFUL INFORMATION and CONTACTS

Conditions of play

Funding support

Entry form

Billeting

Kate Patrick, Under 21 Coordinator,

email u21coordinator@croquetvic.asn.au

Local motels

<https://croquetvic.asn.au/accommodation.php>

Wow!

Croquet live streamed via Kayo

Croquet Victoria has achieved an agreement with FoxSports which gives FoxSports a license to broadcast eleven days of live croquet competition during 2021 via its subscription subsidiary Kayo. The license fee covers both the cost of the live streaming by broadcast partner MySportLive, and costs involved in providing the commentary, which is to be anchored by Gareth Denyer (NSW).

Croquet is one of a group of niche sports which Kayo will be featuring. The others are Dragon Boat, Fencing, and Ultimate (team frisbee).

The first day of live streamed croquet competition via Kayo was successfully completed on Saturday 10 April. This was Day 2 of the Victorian GC Bronze Medal.

Matches which were live streamed included

Jack Williams vs Kevin Beard (a young contender Vs the top seed)

Jack Williams vs Owen Dickinson (the last two undefeated players in the block).

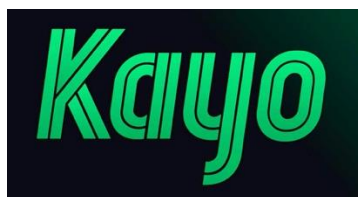
The commentary team was led by Gareth Denyer, with Pete Landrebe, Kate Patrick and Tricia Devlin. A running sheet and background information were provided by Sarina Cevaal-Hewitt.

This is an opportunity for people who don't know about croquet to watch high level play on mainstream media.

Also, an opportunity for croquet players to watch professional footage of the best players in Australia in competition.

Anyone interested can sign up to Kayo Freebies at no cost, by going to kayosports.com.au/freebies. The Bronze Medal games can still be viewed. Pass it on!

Kate Patrick



Upcoming Events at Cairnlea

Sept

24-26 VCA GC Under 21; range -6 to 20 Kate Patrick 0403 108 215

Oct

2-3 VCA Women's Invitation; range -3 to 20 Brian Reither 0488 539 000

2-3 VCA Selector's Invitation; range -3 to 20 Brian Reither 0488 539 000

8-11 ACA President's 8s; range -3 to 20 ACA 0457 678 380

12-14 VCA Country Week; range -3 to 20 TBA Brian Reither 0488 539 000

Association Tournaments Around the State

Aug

28-29 VCA Carnival of Croquet; range -3 to 20 Brian Reither 0488 539 000

28-30 Warrnambool; range 5 to 20 Margaret Kelson 0418 614 937

Sept

3-5 Brighton; range -3 to 11

6-7 MVCA@ Boort; range -3 to 20 Ian Potter 0427 554 252

10-12 Brighton; range 12 to 20 Lesley Cavalier 0413 180 869

825

27-29 Kalimna Park; range -3 to 5 Lorraine Bald 0438 825 486

Oct

2-3 Boort; range -3 to 20 Ian Potter 0427 554 252

2-3 Drouin Singles; range 10 to 20 Jenny Leasing 0439 377 879

16-17 Quarry Hill T'ment; range -3 to 5 Lois Kirk 0400 060 346

Golf Croquet Tournaments Around the State

Aug

28-29 Murray Valley CA Boort; range -6 to 20 Ian Potter 0427 554 252

28-29 VCA Carnival of Croquet; range -6 to 20 Brian Reither 0488 539 000

Sept

4-5 Leongatha Singles; range -6 to 20 Nanette Meredith 0412 187 608

11-12 Drouin H'cap Sgles; range -6 to 20 Heather Bullen 0407 821 650

18-19 Lakes Entrance Dbles; range Rhonda Smith 0432 350 224

26-27 Morwell Singles; range -3 to 20 George Harris 0412 809 752

Oct

2-3 Region Ballarat & Dist CA. Ballarat Alexandra. Brian Reither 0488 539 000

8-10 Rich River Sgles; range -6 to 20 Bev Floyd 400 799 987

12-14 Quarry Hill T'ment; range -3 to 5 Irene Murdock 0432 592

022

13-15 Horsham Open; range -6 to 20 Rae Hill 0428 504 733

Gateball Tournaments for 2021

Aug 28-29 VCA Carnival of Croquet; range 0 to 0 Brian Reither 0488 539 000

Ricochet Tournaments for 2021

Aug 28-29 VCA Carnival of Croquet; range 0 to 0 Brian Reither 0488 539 000

Contacts

State Coordinator - Association Croquet

VACANT

associationcroquet@croquetvic.asn.au

State Coordinator - Golf Croquet

VACANT

golfcroquet@croquetvic.asn.au

State Coordinator - Gateball Philip Brown (Kew)

(03) 9571 4395 gateball@croquetvic.asn.au

Assistant State Coordinator – Gateball

Anthony Dask (Elsternwick) 0435 806 079

gateball@croquetvic.asn.au

State Coordinator – Ricochet

Maurice Cevaal-Hewitt (Twin City)

0409 362 947 ricochet@croquetvic.asn.au

State Coordinator of U21 Croquet Kate Patrick

(Brunswick) 0403 108 215

u21coordinator@croquetvic.asn.au

State Coordinator of Referees - AC Brian Foley

(Sandringham) (03) 9584 8405

acreferees@croquetvic.asn.au

State Coordinator of Referees - GC

John van der Touw (MCC) (03) 9803 3433

gcreferees@croquetvic.asn.au

State Coordinator of Coaching Ruth Duffy

(Corowa Civic) (02) 6033 3864 - 0418 415 368

coaching@croquetvic.asn.au

Club Development Officer

Kate Patrick (Brunswick) 0403 108 215

clubdevelopment@croquetvic.asn.au

Handicapper - Association Croquet

Doron Gunzburg (Essendon) 0419 616 563

dgunzburg@hotmail.com

State Handicapper - Golf Croquet

Maurice Cevaal-Hewitt (Twin City)

0409 362 947 handicapsgc@croquetvic.asn.au

Association & Golf AHS1s: following AC & GC

tournaments, and handicap updates, send AHS1

forms to State Handicap Recorder

Ian McKee (Ballarat Alexandra) 0403 390 108

PO Box 359W Ballarat West Vic 3350

handicaprecorder@croquetvic.asn.au

Malletsports Editor: Rosalie Newman

malletsports@croquetvic.asn.au

News items:

news@croquetvic.asn.au

Marketing queries marketing@croquetvic.asn.au

Complaints Officer - VACANT

complaint@croquetvic.asn.au

Supported by Sport and Recreation Victoria



Disclaimer: Opinions expressed in MSV do not necessarily reflect those of Croquet Victoria. While every care is taken to ensure accuracy of information, no responsibility is accepted by MSV or Croquet Victoria for errors that may occur inadvertently

ABN 91 903 271 264,
Incorporation no A0001530E
ISSN 2652-2705 Correspondence
to secretary@croquetvic.asn.au