



Minutes of Croquet Victoria Council Meeting
held Monday 21 September 2026 via zoom

1 Attendance

1.1 Present:

1.1.1 Directors:

Kate Patrick (President)	Wayne Lewis (Vice President)
Sarina Cevaall-Hewitt (Secretary/NEDCA)	Robin Russell (Treasurer)
Alister McDougal (Member)	Ian Potter (Member/Murray Valley)
Rita Jenkins (Member)	Treesh Reeve (Bayside)
Wayne Worlidge (EMCA)	Janelle Morris (Geelong)
Judy Hodder (Gippsland)	Damien Hadfield (NDCA)
Trish Pedrotti (Goulburn Valley)	Terri Manwaring (SEMCA)
Bill Gardner (SWCA)	vacant (Wimmera)

2 Opening/Declaration of Interest

The President opened the meeting at 6.31 pm, acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which we meet today, paying her respects to elders past, present and emerging.
There were no declarations of interest.

3 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Council Meeting

<https://croquetvic.asn.au/minutes/20260817Council.pdf>

Resolved that the minutes of the Croquet Victoria Council Meeting held 17 August July 2026 be adopted as a true and correct record, noting that advised potential conflicts of interest were dismissed.

3.1 Business Arising from Minutes of Previous Meetings:

3.1.1 Understairs Storage at Victorian Croquet Centre:

Now completed.

4 Adoption of Financial Report

Attached as Annex A

Resolved that the Financial Report be adopted.

Resolved drawdown of \$50,000.00 from JBWere cash account to Croquet Victoria's trading account .

4.1 Business Arising from Financial Report:

4.1.1 Tracking Sub-Committees and Appointed Officers:

The Treasurer reported that expenditure was now grouped and requested Sub-Committees and Appointed Officers to advise of changes they wished made.

4.1.2 Bassett Gate:

Resolved that the Council agrees to the installation of the gate.

5 Consent Items

5.1 Secretary's Report: including correspondence:

Attached as Annex B

5.2 Sub-Committee Minutes Received and Distributed

Finance Sub-Committee Minutes: 7 September 2026

5.3 Regional Reports: B&DCA

Attached as Annex C

Resolved that Consent Items be accepted.

6 Business Arising from Consent Items

6.1 Secretary's Report:

Finance Sub-Committee Gender Balance: **Referred to Nominations Sub-Committee**

The Secretary emailed Directors that a majority vote re: Development Initiative payment to Elsternwick Croquet Club was reached on 5 September 2026.

6.2 Warrnambool Croquet Club (late correspondence):

Resolved that Croquet Victoria provide a Letter of Support to Warrnambool Croquet Club's request to Warrnambool City Council to seek access to water supply for court maintenance.

Action Secretary

6.3 Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club:

Request to hire mallets and balls approved.

7 General Business

7.1 Matters for Decision:

7.1.1 VCC Sub-Committee Terms of Reference:

Ongoing.

7.1.2 Business Risk Assessment: Status of review by the responsible areas.

Ongoing.

7.1.3 Appointed Officer Nominations:

The Nomination of Philip Brown as the State Coordinator of Gateball was endorsed.

7.1.4 Sub-Committee Nominations:

The following nominations to the Tribunal Panel were endorsed:

- Julie Gray, Marjorie McKenzie

The following nominations to the Website Working Group were endorsed:

- Rita Jenkins, Bill Gardner, Wayne Worlidge, Clare Newton, Janelle Morris.

7.1.5 Tribunal Member website information:

Ongoing.

7.1.6 Establishment for a Website Working Group:

Terms of Reference for Website Working Group can be found at:

<https://croquetvic.asn.au/documents/Website%20Working%20Group%20Terms%20of%20Reference.pdf>

7.2 Matters for Discussion:

7.2.1 Secretaries Duties:

Ongoing.

7.2.2 Reimbursement Kilometre Travel Rate Review:

Resolved that the Reimbursement Rate for vehicle use be .40c per kilometre from 1 October 2026. Review of this rate in yearly budget.

7.2.3 Bullying & Harassment Online Module:

Replacement Module still under review. Possible alternative online module too complicated.

8 Other Business

8.1 Other Matters:

8.1.1 VCC Business Plan Working Group:

Ongoing.

8.1.2 Webmaster's Backlog:

This matter is being addressed.

8.1.3 Director Profile Updates:

Three Directors yet to provide a Director's Profile.

8.1.4 Circular voting procedures discussion:

Discussion re validity of this procedure,

8.1.5 RevSport removal of Google Advertisements on Club Webpages:

Resolved that upgrade to revSport club webpages (to remove Google advertisements) be covered by Croquet Victoria, for those clubs who have not already take up this option.

Action Secretary

Sarina Cevaal-Hewitt and Damien Hadfield voted against this motion.

8.2 Meeting Recap:

- JBWere Drawdown approved
- Nominations to Appointed Officer/Working Groups endorsed
- Bassett Gate approved
- Fuel Reimbursement Rate increase approved
- Transition from MYOB to XERO completed

9 Close Meeting 8.36 pm

10 Next Council Meetings 2026/2027

2026

October	Monday	20	6.30 pm	Zoom
November	Monday	16	6.30 pm	Zoom
December	Monday	14	10.30 am Face to Face at Cairnlea	

2027

February	Monday	15	6.30 pm	Zoom
March	Monday	15	6.30 pm	Zoom
April	Monday	19	6.30 pm	Zoom
May	Monday	17	6.30 pm	Zoom
June	Monday	21	10.30 am Face to Face at Cairnlea	

Annex A Financial Report

Annex B Secretary's Report

Annex C Regional Report

Treasurer Report August 2026

The MYOB to Xero migration has been completed. All transactions for FY 2027 to date have been loaded to Xero to enable full year reporting from the system. There is still some fine tuning required with the reporting but bank accounts reconcile and the full budget for FY 2027 has been loaded.

Croquet Australia affiliation fees of \$109,875.43 and Croquet Victoria affiliation fees of \$96,691.18 have been received. Also \$5,880.00 Brimbank contribution.

Approximately \$7,000 was spent on Repairs and Maintenance in August, mostly plumbing repairs. A progress payment of \$2,614 was paid for the under-stair storage and \$4,233 for cubby shade replacement. In September there will be more R&M expenditures, with over \$14,000 for roof repairs. If all the shade cloth replacements are completed the cost is likely to be an additional \$64,000 compared to budget estimate of \$25,000.

Bank balance in the operating account at 31st August was \$145,303.44.

At 31st August the grants account balance was \$23,332.76.

The net market value of our investments was \$6,536,296.40 (last month \$6,586,117.18), yielding an estimated \$255K in annual income. Our JB Were cash balance was \$274,391.54 (\$254,985.60 last month). Finance Committee agreed a JB Were recommendation to invest \$200,000 of the cash in domestic and international infrastructure assets.

Balance Sheet

Victorian Croquet Association Inc.

As at 31 August 2026

Account	31 Aug 2026	31 July 2026
Assets		
Bank		
Victorian Croquet Assoc Grant Account	23,332.76	23,332.76
Victorian Croquet Association	145,303.44	112,161.97
Total Bank	168,636.20	135,494.73
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	29,309.33	74,544.95
JB Were Investment Account	6,536,296.44	6,503,116.04
Total Current Assets	6,565,605.77	6,577,660.99
Fixed Assets		
Building at Cost	3,331,836.00	3,331,836.00
Cairnlea Land and Site Works at Cost	1,980,368.00	1,980,368.00
Accum Depreciation for land and building	(1,676,838.00)	(1,669,867.00)
Plant & Equipment	319,420.31	312,574.17
Less Accumulated Depreciation Plant & Equipment	(183,320.98)	(183,320.98)
Total Fixed Assets	3,771,465.33	3,771,590.19
Total Assets	10,505,707.30	10,484,745.91
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	11,741.54	5,571.89
Grant In Advance	22,532.76	22,532.76
GST	11,092.77	10,869.49
Total Current Liabilities	45,367.07	38,974.14
Total Liabilities	45,367.07	38,974.14
Net Assets	10,460,340.23	10,445,771.77
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	606,500.05	591,931.59
Retained Earnings	1,136,059.08	1,136,059.08
General Reserve	7,703,572.44	7,703,572.44
Special Funds	50,613.60	50,613.60
Asset Revaluation Reserve	963,595.06	963,595.06
Total Equity	10,460,340.23	10,445,771.77

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Croquet Victoria Membership

3100 (10 September 2026)

Social Media

The livestreaming of the recent Golf Croquet Gold/Silver Medal, Men's & Women's Golf Croquet Championships and the Interstate Shield has continued to an increase in the following to (at 10 September 2026):

Facebook followers: 1545

Facebook views (during the past 28 days): 95323

Youtube Subscribers: 459

Club Map

Attended a free Club Map webinar. They shared a free report titled Clubs in Crisis which I can share if requested. Club Map will (for a fee) work with an organisation to increase membership and develop forward planning. For an organisation that has over 75 clubs the cost would be in the area of \$30,600 for which they guarantee a 50% increase in membership for a twelve-month program.

Balance the Board Survey completed quarterly

Gender Balance:

<https://sport.vic.gov.au/resources/national-gender-equity-in-sports-governance-policy>

State sporting organisations in Victoria are already required to reach this target to be eligible for key government funding programs.

It will be expanded to include 2 new requirements, in line with the National Policy:

- board leadership: for either a chair or deputy chair role to be held by a woman
- key sub-committees: for larger organisations, board sub-committees relating to nominations, and audit and risk, will also be required to have a minimum of 40% women members.

Timeline:

The 40% requirement for women directors on boards is already in place, through Balance the Board.

From 1 July 2027, state sport and active recreation organisations will be required to comply with the new requirements on board leadership and key sub-committees to remain eligible to apply for key community sporting funding programs from the Victorian Government.

The survey included a question about the gender balance of our Finance Sub-Committee, which currently is six males with a female President (ex-Officio).

Our Risk & Compliance may also need to meet gender balance, currently two males, one female and a female President (ex-Officio).

Annual Club Survey

With the disaffiliation of Walla Walla Croquet Club, we now have 85 clubs across 14 regions. Three clubs yet to complete the survey. Beaufort, Corryong and Portland Croquet Clubs.

Regional Reports to Council 2026 -

19 October 2026	Ballarat, Geelong, Goldfields, Wimmera
14 December 2026	GVCA, NDCA, Murray Valley



Secretary

Correspondence September Council Meeting	
In - Email	
6 Aug 2026	Croquet Australia - advice of recruitment process for Administration, Communications & Marketing Lead.
21 Aug 2026	Croquet Australia - call for Nominations Committee Chairperson
25 Aug 2026	VicSport - State of Victorian Sport & Recreation Report
4 Sept 2026	Croquet Australia - State Affiliate Information Update
8 Sept 2026	Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club - request to hire croquet equipment
Various	Vicsport eBulletins, SRV Grant opportunities, Gateball emails, club's issues with revSport, Association Croquet State Team Squad acceptances, support letter to Athlete Travel Grant application
Out Email	
Various	distribution of eBulletins, distribution of Croquet Australia information, answering requests for information from regions and clubs to migrate to revSport.

Ballarat and District Regional Report

B&DCA is one of the smaller regions with four active clubs: Ararat Alexandra 15 Members), Ballarat Alexandra (58 Members), Beaufort (14 Members) and Ballarat Western (59)Members.

Lawns

This year Clubs have had various successes with lawn management.

*Ararat now has 2 lawns in good playing condition. Plans are in hand with the Council to refurbish a third lawn when the weather is suitable.

*Beaufort successfully applied for funding for a new mower.

*Ballarat Western undertook a major refurbishment of their three lawns. This was very successful until a murder of crows decided to dig holes everywhere. This incurred further expense and a lot of hard work by members.

* Ballarat Alexandra closed for 5 weeks in late November/December to complete very successful work on their 4 lawns bringing them to an excellent standard. Some further few days' closures happened in late winter due to some flooding which caused unsafe surfaces on two lawns. A new pump was installed and the problem was fixed.

Membership

The four clubs have reported growth in membership. Many new members are playing successfully in tournaments. The higher ranks have been boosted, too. Once again, active recruitment at Seniors Week, Come and Try days and Bring a Friend events have proved successful. It is particularly exciting that at least 4 players have been learning Association croquet. This activity hopefully foretells greater participation in the AC events.

Events

The B&DCA Opening day was well-attended. Thirty- six members from the 4 clubs had a friendly social day. The Croquet Victoria President ran the first hoop to hearty applause. This event has become quite a feature of our calendar for the regulars.

The inter- city GC competitions with Geelong and Wimmera were competed in good spirit. Ballarat took home the Wimmera shield which was played at Horsham this year. Geelong finished with a win in the home and then the away competition. Although we lost the wins, the hoops count was quite commendable. We were able to field a team to play in Section 1, the Austen Cup with some success.

The AC and GC Championships are big events on our calendar. There was stiff competition in the 3 GC Divisions. We congratulate Darren Lester (Ararat), David Searl (Alex.) and Yong Teck (Western) on winning their divisions. Unfortunately, David was not able to go to Cairnlea to play in The GC Regionals but we were ably represented By Virginia Rowe who stepped in to the breach. We ended very respectably 7th of the 14 competing regions. Division 1 of the AC Championships was won by Tony Chew and 2 by Elaine Leviston. David Johnston and Darren Lester added to the team that played in the AC Regionals.

Other activities

The support of Croquet Victoria's Strategic Development Fund to address a difficulty mentioned in the 2025 report, namely the lack of qualified referees in GC, enabled us to hold the first two days of a 4 day workshop with the State GC Referee manager, Joh Van der Touw and his assistant, Jean Deacon.

The first day saw 25 attendees from Ballarat Western, Ballarat Alexander, Ararat, Beaufort, Dimboola and Belmont. On the second day, there were 17 attendees. It was disappointing that 2 others from Horsham were not able to attend for medical reasons. The Belmont attendee filled one of these places.

The catering by the Beaufort CWA ladies on the first days of each event was very much appreciated. The second day's luncheon was supplied by Ballarat Alexandra.

The players ranged from Handicap -2 to 14. worked hard for the two days. John encouraged questions and everyone stayed really engaged. The practical examples made all clear! He also spent some time translating the language used in the rule book so that rules became clearer for all but especially those who are thinking of referee accreditation. Definitely four, and perhaps six indicated that they will have a go. John's knowledge and

ability is, of course, second to none, and the group really appreciated the professional interactions with us all.

The Roadshow was another successful event Organized by Kaye Patrick and Treesh Reeve which was held at Selkirk Stadium's (the home of the Ballarat Miners) meeting rooms. The attendees very much appreciated that their opinions about future directions were considered and also that many for their own difficulties were solved especially Colin's solving of their IT problems.

B&DCA is one of the smaller regions but we are here!

Patricia G Smith

Regional Director