



Name Kate Patrick
Position President
Date June 2022

Vision for croquet

Croquet could be

- played by more people – young and old
- better known
- more widely recognised as a challenging and intriguing game, sport and recreation.

It's my hope that over the next few years Croquet Victoria will

- involve more people in planning for the future
- invest more in developing coaches and referees
- work to ensure coaching and playing opportunities are available to suit all members in all clubs.

Another significant issue for croquet is the future of the Victorian Croquet Centre. The VCC is a great facility, but it is expensive to maintain. If Croquet Victoria can afford to keep it open, with volunteer support, I would like to see it used by a wide range of members. I am not sure it would actually be feasible to sell - it could be that the land on which it is built will be so expensive to remediate that selling would be foolish. I am currently a member of the VCC Futures Working Group which is developing an options paper for discussion by members and decision by Regional Delegates.

What I can contribute

I am committed to working with and involving members. I seek to lead Council in a way that involves both Directors and members in actively planning and working for developments in croquet across Croquet Victoria.

This has been my approach to my various roles with Croquet Victoria, which have included

- Club Development Officer
- Under 21 Coordinator
- member of the Child Safe sub-committee
- convenor of the Marketing and Publicity and Strategic Plan Implementation sub-committees
- convenor of the Strategic Plan Development working party.

I have served as a Director over several years: as Regional Director from 2013 to 2018, and as Vice President from 2015 to 2020.

During my involvement with Council I have been particularly involved in planning, marketing, and support for members.

Key achievements:

- \$238,000 in successful grant applications (including a one-year contract for live-streaming on Kayo contract) - supporting core business, player development, and forward planning
- resources to help clubs [grow membership](#) and improve facilities, including the Croquet Facility Guide, which has been distributed to local government across Victoria and southern NSW
- a sustained and systematic approach to planning – see croquetvic.asn.au/PlanningForCroquet
- 30 million views for croquet stories arising from a publicity campaign for the GC Worlds
- with Sarina Cevaal-Hewitt and other Marketing and Publicity sub-committee members, an active network of club publicity officers

As a Council member, other projects I have participated in include:

- the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- development of Child Safety policies for Croquet Victoria and for member clubs
- a working party considering how to tackle the Victorian government's requirement that state sporting association boards include at least 40% women.

Background / expertise

I have been involved at peak level with several organisations, large and small, including the RMIT Academic

Board, primary and secondary school councils, the National Tertiary Education Union, the Victorian Council of State School Organisations, and the Victorian Recorder Guild.

My experience of leadership includes:

- commitment to a grass roots perspective as a key to developing the big picture for the whole organisation
- leading and energising voluntary organisations
- developing and evaluating policy and policy implementation
- proposing initiatives, obtaining grant funding, and steering the significant projects which resulted
- working with groups on developing and implementing plans for the future

My work has been underpinned by the skills and insights I have developed from my formal academic qualifications: PhD in education, MA in history, Graduate Diploma in Sociology.

Interest and/or involvement in the sport

When my husband and I retired we decided on croquet as our retirement sport, and joined the Brunswick croquet club. Having occasionally played AC as a summer sport, we learnt to play GC. We have been part of a revived Brunswick presence in the Metro GC Shield – this season Brunswick had several teams in the competition – and I play in the Metro AC Pennant. I am accredited as a Level 2 coach in the new coaching system in both GC and AC. I am also an active referee in both GC and AC, at local, state, national and (in AC) international levels.

As President at Brunswick, I led the revival of the Brunswick club, which grew from 15 members when we joined in late 2011 to 50 members in 2015. I have now stepped down as President; I continue to contribute to the club.

Kate Patrick
25 October 2022