



CROQUET VICTORIA

ANNUAL REGIONAL REPORTS

1 APRIL 2025 to 31 MARCH 2026

The Victorian Croquet Association Inc.

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VICSPORT

BALLARAT & DISTRICT CROQUET ASSOCIATION

Sadly, clubs have lost some long-time members due to ill-health. The AC players, particularly, were the hardest hit with illness and hospital this winter. We miss Ian and Anne McKee who are such long-time AC club members. The others are on the mend with new knees and hips. It seems we might be able to field a good team in the Geelong Challenge next month.

Western was very successful in Seniors' week with recruitment. Alexander seems to add a new player each week including a newcomer from England who is a -2. There are over 130 members in the region. They are generally retirees and we have no juniors playing

The B&DCA Open Doubles and Singles, Xmas in July, Season Opening, the Beaufort and Western Social days, the Wimmera and the Geelong Challenges were all events with good attendance. Because we have only two clubs to field teams, Pennant has become impossible. We have replaced Pennant with Cross-town challenges which have been much enjoyed. Alexander has introduced a singles and Double tournament for players 9 to 16. The number of entries shows that players are interested in trying some competition. The report will be next year!

Lack of GC referees has been an ongoing problem. With the help of Croquet Victoria we plan to hold a workshop next year with a Referee/Examiner. Hopefully there will be some who become enthused about the rules and then pass the exam. At least self-refereeing would improve.

Lawns are in focus because the AC Country Regionals will be hosted by our region next March. The 4 Alexander lawns were fully renovated last December are to have the final push next month. Yea! Goodbye to moss! Western's two front lawns are in a similar position and their third lawn will be totally renovated. We share the same greens -keeper!

Preparations are well underway for the Country Regionals. The invitations will be out shortly. Ballarat is the place to be next March.

BAYSIDE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

1.1 Clubs & Membership

5 clubs, Brighton (B), Elsternwick (ELS), Elwood (ELW), Frankston (F), & Sandringham (S), with memberships ranging from 22 to 80 with a regional total of 263 adult members. No clubs have junior members.

1.2 Games Played

Association is regularly played at 4 clubs, (B, ELS, ELW & F) with the first 3 fielding Pennant teams.

Golf Sandringham fields 4 teams in South East Metro Region competition & social golf is played at 4 clubs (B, ELS, F, S)

Ricochet is the major game played at Elwood where there is an increasing number of players also taking up Association.

2. Challenges

2.1 Region

Viability of the Region. Due to the small number of clubs and lack of a common game involving all clubs there are no regional competitions and little sense of belonging amongst club members, resulting in lack of nominations for Regional Office Bearer positions. The forthcoming AGM in September will be critical to determining whether the region can continue in its current form.

Umpires, Referees & Coaches. Previously reported issues with recruitment, development & accreditation continue.

2.2 Clubs

Facilities.

Elsternwick has a serious and potentially very expensive issue with the club house roof. Until this is rectified and a 5 year Business Plan is adopted Glen Eira council will not renew the Club lease.

Elwood is still awaiting a contract & final date for their temporary relocation to Brighton during the club house demolition & drainage works by Melbourne Water and club redevelopment by Port Phillip Council.

Frankston is enjoying their renovated club house following major work to repair termite damage.

Maintaining Membership

The stable annual membership figure hides the constant, significant efforts required to recruit new members to replace losses of up to 15% due to attrition rates of older members and some club specific factors.

3. Other Initiatives.

3.1 Region

Building relationships

Two successful Snake in the Grass Social Days have been held to develop relationships between clubs.

Administration

Adoption of a Club Report template to assist club representatives to keep the Bayside Region Committee informed of challenges and initiatives.

3.2 Clubs

Support for Elwood

Brighton & Elsternwick clubs offered to host Elwood for approximately two years whilst Elwood is being demolished and rebuilt due to major storm water drainage works on Elwood foreshore. This commitment of these clubs to the good of croquet even when it would involve some limitations on playing opportunities for their own members is greatly appreciated by Elwood.

Recruitment

All clubs promote the game and club membership through open days, learn to play programs, social media, & signage. Programs for U3A members, and during the Seniors' Festival conducted by several clubs have been popular but have not resulted in many new memberships.

Inter club events.

Brighton, Frankston & Sorrento play an annual Heritage Event played over 6 weeks and several clubs invite others in the region to participate in social events or club competitions.

Finances

All clubs supplement members' subscriptions with fund raising activities including seeking grants from a variety of organisations to support capital works, Learn to Play programs and membership development events.

EASTERN METRO CROQUET ASSOCIATION

The six EMCA Clubs are all in healthy condition. Total membership is 385. It is pleasing to note that a long-awaited upgrade is planned for Ivanhoe Park, though Lilydale still harbours hopes for a second court. GC remains the predominant genre at clubs, though Kew plays 4 varieties of Croquet and MCC continues to be predominantly AC.

IVANHOE PARK

Current membership has fallen from 80 to 74 due to ill health and the passing parade. One of Croquet Victoria's objectives is to attract younger members. Ivanhoe Park Croquet Club (IPCC) is keen to dovetail into this. IPCC is continuing to organise Come & Try days and regular U3A classes.

Last year we ran a strategic planning session that resulted in a 5-year rolling strategic plan which has proven very useful for engaging with the council.

It was sad to honour Owen Edwards by naming a court after him and his admission to Australian Croquet Association's Hall of Fame.

Members who have represented Victoria: Helen Gammon recently defended her state title coming third in the Victoria GC women's singles. Rob Young represented EMCA in the regional GC competition coming second in Division 2.

In addition to our popular webpage, we have initiated a successful monthly newsletter and Facebook page.

Court improvements: The council has installed new gates to allow access for machinery to level the courts during the spring season.

Grant monies: After many years of lobbying various sources, the club has been promised funds to install lights and upgrade club facilities. The work will be managed by the council. Fingers crossed!

KEW

Kew Croquet Club is in excellent condition:

- 87 members;
- A 5-year lease was signed with Council for our facilities and courts;
- A new Gardener & Greenkeeper was appointed;
- A Standard Hire Agreement is now in place. Thank you to Ringwood CC for providing assistance.
- A review of Golf Croquet handicapping procedures was undertaken with changes now in place.
- Strategic Planning: The 'Aspirations & Priorities 2025-2028' document was developed based on member feedback. It will assist planning for the durability and sustainability of the Club, and it will also be useful when applying for grants and to develop a Sponsorship program.
- Philip Brown was awarded the Heritage Badge.

Approximately 25% of our members are involved in competition play beyond the Club and/or representing the Club. Four varieties of Croquet are played.

- **Association Croquet**-This is a combined team with Brunswick CC in Div 3 & 4
- **Gateball**-Victorian Gateball Championships-(2 teams), Asian Gateball Championships – (3 members of Kew in the teams)
- **Golf Croquet**-Level Play Div 1 (The Associates): Div 2 (Kelpies & Devils), Advantage Play (1 team)
- **EMCA Regionals** - 8 members competed.
- An **AC tournament** in April was hosted and organised.
- Three **Lightning GC Challenges** were held at the Club; 16 members competed on each occasion with Ivanhoe Park CC and Ringwood CC members joining in the last Challenge.

AC coaching for those new to the game was held at the Club in 2024 for around 20 people. Four sessions were held by Club members in April/May: 'Introduction to Association'. About 7 players took up this opportunity.

A half day course on the rules of GC was conducted by John van der Touw in December 2024. Seven members went on to engage in the Refereeing course conducted by John.

A Handicapping course was organised by David Pryor on behalf of EMCA. Maurice Cevaal-Hewitt, State Handicapper of GC conducted the course.

LILYDALE

The Lilydale Croquet Club currently has 37 registered & financial members for the 2025-26 season.

Our only court is scheduled to undergo substantial renovation works at the end of Winter which, depending on weather and growing conditions, will render the court being out of action

for 4-6 weeks. As a consequence of this, the club will not be in a position to participate in the SE Metropolitan Spring Shield 2025 Competition.

Due to the resignation of previous representative, Murray Howlett, the club currently has no representative on the EMCA Committee, as I am sure that you are aware. The Committee is in the process of canvassing members to apply for the EMCA Representative Committee position but is yet to make an appointment.

The club continues in its extended and on-going campaign to lobby the Shire of Yarra Ranges in an effort to obtain a second regulation sized court, along with a long overdue up-grade of general facilities and amenities for our members and visitors.

Craig McCracken, Secretary, Lilydale CC

MCC

Current membership is 82 and is stable. While it is usual for there to be less activity in the winter months, this year we have had good numbers at regular club days. Finances are in good shape with a small operating surplus.

We expect to have 3 or 4 teams in the Division 3 and 4 AC Spring pennant competition starting in October.

Court upgrade works are complete. The last activity (provision of artificial grass on paths and as a boundary cushion) were completed in July. One court has had further laser levelling and the other court is programmed for similar work in Spring. We will address the need for additional seating/shelters over the coming months.

The AGM is set for 5 October. At this meeting a new Chair will be elected to replace Wayne Lewis as the Croquet Constitution limits the role to a maximum of 4 years.

Our Open Tournament is scheduled for 14th to 24th August. Entries are good across all 4 divisions especially from other clubs.

The Club is in the process of documenting club history between 2001 and 2025. This represents the period when MCC took over the Glenferrie Hill Recreation Club in 2001 and later, when Croquet became an MCC sporting section in its own right in 2008, up to the present day.

Wayne Lewis (Chair)

MONASH

Members 47 & 2 Associates - 49

Tournaments

Helen Edwards came 2nd in Division 2 of the Lakes Entrance Singles Tournament. We have 4 members playing in the Victoria GC Women's and Men's Singles this weekend.

As well as our monthly coaching, John V has been giving extra coaching to some of our members.

We have moved both of our Courts up to our new grass areas. Now waiting for spring rain and growth.

Social

We enjoyed a Pizza dinner, followed by play with 'Glow Sticks' in June. Also in June we started our monthly winter Soup lunches.

Our **AGM** was held on Tuesday 15th July with an excellent attendance of 30 members. Kaye Molyneux President, Helen Edwards Secretary, Selwyn Tucker Treasurer, and five general committee members.

Our mid-winter lunch was also held in July at the Wheelers Hill Hotel.

A date for your diaries: Monash CC is holding the Bear Cup on Saturday 4th October commencing at 1.30pm. More details to follow.

Gail Carruthers & Kaye Wood

RINGWOOD

RCC's membership is steady, at 56, with good attendance for regular social play and for a variety of social events. Our Opening day was well attended, guests including Kate Patrick, Michael Sukkar and our local Councillor, Kylie Spears.

Betty Moran was awarded Life Membership at our AGM.

The club entered 3 teams in the Autumn and 2 teams in the Spring Metro Golf croquet competition. One Association (Division 4) team was entered in Autumn and Spring competitions.

Ringwood is struggling to maintain AC play at the club but were pleased to combine with Kew CC to hold an AC Tournament.

We also held our inaugural Ringwood Golf Croquet Level Play singles Tournament and hosted (in conjunction with Ivanhoe Park CC) the EMCA Regional GC competition prior to the Regionals Competition.

Individual members have competed at VCC and around the State, and have had some winner and runner up successes. Phill Shattock was the stand out, winning the Division 3 President's 8s competition.

Our Golf Croquet Referees have been in great demand, both at VCC and a number of local clubs.

Substantial court maintenance was completed successfully, and then we were struck with nostoc (fungus) infestation, which has brought about closure of courts while being treated.

Croquet lessons have been conducted for two Secondary Colleges.

We received a grant from Bendigo Bank to purchase a set of balls.

Kay Spiers, Julie Sloan

GEELONG CROQUET ASSOCIATION

The Geelong Croquet Association covers five clubs – Belmont, Colac, Drysdale, Eastern Park and Queenscliff totalling 255 members – this is approximately 10% increase to last year and not including the 25 unaffiliated QCC Social Members.

Most members play Golf Croquet with a small percentage of Belmont, Eastern Park and Colac members playing Association Croquet. As per last year, there is currently no active promotion to raise awareness or participation by any club. Adding to the mix, unfortunately Ricochet is losing interest with last social play day actually being cancelled.

The most popular regional events are the GC Social Days – they are well patronised and supported, to the point where local members cannot enter, although member numbers are slowing increasing for competitive play. As referenced earlier, with the increase in club membership and encouragement, this has had a flow-on to increased tournament participation by members – a positive sign for the balance between competitive and social play.

All clubs are active in social media – some more than others. Currently clubs promoting 'Come and Try' Days during the Seniors Festival Month which has a positive effect raising

croquet as a sport, but effort is still required by some clubs to raise brand awareness within younger demographics.

The region is gearing up to the AC Open to be held on Melbourne Cup Weekend, 1-4/11/25 at Belmont and Eastern Park.

There are still insufficient referees for the area especially for Golf Croquet. Belmont does not have a GC Accredited Coach, however Colin Menzies (Drysdale and Queenscliff member), is making an impact with his Coaching Sessions at Drysdale and Queenscliff, as evidenced in tournament placegetters.

Thank you to Croquet Victoria for the providing soil testing of the lawns and the good advice and decision offered by the Soil Testers to improve and/or maintain the lawns. The Shire of Colac Otway assisted Colac with their lawns which are still having ongoing issues.

Croquet Victoria Heritage Badges were presented to all clubs and region recipients: - Belmont – Robert Shinnars; Colac – Ruth Crabbe; Eastern Park – Carmel Terrington; Queenscliff – Ann Drayton; GCA – Eileen Gough

Belmont requested and was offered by CV a TMA GC Novice Workshop – 3rd Session to be completed on 12-13/11/25 – this workshop was opened to the region and was well attended and received. Special thanks to Kevin Beard and supporting coaches. Eastern Park intend to schedule their TMA AC Development Workshop later in the year.

Colac has received grants from business and community service organisations which have provided them with health and sporting equipment. Drysdale was successful in obtaining funds through the CV Development Initiative Fund.

Life Memberships for 2025-26 were presented by their clubs to Gillian Horvath (Drysdale) and Tony Pye (Eastern Park).

Like most clubs motivating members to take an active role in how their club is run, is an ongoing challenge. We are currently looking for a CV Alternate Director.

Janelle Morris GCA Regional Director

GIPPSLAND CROQUET ASSOCIATION

Gippsland Croquet Association and its clubs are in a sound position. All clubs reporting back to me have held successful tournaments (or are ready to do so following required maintenance to their grounds), steady memberships and are financially secure (enough). Living Turf assessments of courts has been appreciated, with several clubs factoring their feedback into court management plans.

One club, Traralgon, has indicated they will not field Golf Croquet pennant teams this coming year due to what they consider to be “excessive travel”. The Association considered creating three separate divisions to ease travel concerns, but this was voted down as impractical at a recent Association meeting.

Gippsland Croquet Association is to hold a “newbies” tournament where new players will be informed about on and off the court etiquette, handicaps, scoring, rules etc. This will be modelled on the successful Mornington event held last year. Following on from this, Wonthaggi has proposed a handicap 12+ Handicap Doubles tournament in April 2026.

Individual club reports follow:

Morwell Croquet Club

Morwell has experienced a good year in as much as we have seen an increase in membership, finances and sponsorship.

The club is thriving at present with the influx of new members who, although social players only, hold a good club ethos and are very willing to assist at any given time.

Tournaments have appeared back on the calendar for our club and hopefully in the not-too-distant future we will be able to incorporate some more fun/social days and perhaps interclub challenges.

Bairnsdale Croquet Club:

Currently have 84 affiliated members.

- Predominately Golf Croquet with an introduction trial of Ricochet underway.
- Only have a small number of competitive players that play pennant and enter tournaments (Approx ~ 12).
- We have 2 major tournaments each year, Singles and Doubles. In 2025 we are also running a 19 hoop tournament and if successful will continue to run this in the future.
- We aim to have 2 pennant teams each year. However we do have difficulty in having a suitable pool of emergencies to support the pennant teams.
- The majority of players play in social games 2 to 3 times a week.
- The Croquet Club is open 6 days a week, with 3 days nominated as club days. The remaining days are for coaching and practice.
- We have 4 courts and have recently had some work done as part of a long term improvement plans to one lawn which will allow us now to use all 4 courts for events.
- Lawn's maintenance is done by the bowling club with some assistance from a small number of club members who do all the hoop changes and line markings etc.

Wonthaggi Croquet Club

We have approximately 32 members, with 20 playing regularly during our three club days each week. The club is represented at most Gippsland tournaments, and further afield including Geelong, Deniliquin, Albury, Boort, Rich River and Victor Harbour to name some. We will be holding our AGM in May, with some executive members retiring after "doing their bit" over the years. Special mention must be made of Paul Andrews and Gerry Kool (Treasurer and President respectively). They were both fully committed over the years in securing Council support and funding for our new Pavillion and have been stalwarts of the clubs for a long time.

The club holds three external tournaments each year. This coming 2025-2026 season will see a singles and a doubles tournament, plus a new tournament for "newbies" and those handicapped 12+.

The club's finances are sound, although we expect a large expenditure on ground maintenance with scarifying and related works to be carried out later this year. Drainage issues also need addressing, with flooding of Green 1 happening following heavy rains. This is being investigated at present. The Living Turf courts assessment, along with input from our greens consultant has been greatly appreciated.

Tom Lacey has conducted two referee practical exercises in Leongatha, assisting three members who are undertaking a referee's course. He is also carrying out similar exercises with interested Wonthaggi club members.

Traralgon Croquet Club

47 members

We play Association, Golf, Ricochet, and Aussie. We have about 6 members play Association regularly.

Social play days are Tuesday and Saturday afternoons, Ricochet on Thursday Mornings and Aussie once a month on Saturday morning followed a pie lunch. We also play Twilight on Wednesdays during the day light saving days.

We have 2 golf tournaments, 3 Association tournaments and 1 Ricochet tournament a year. The Golf tournaments are filled but Association and ricochet struggle.

We have 1 coach level 3 in Shane Downie and he has offered to coach and Gippsland Clubs. Additionally, we have 2 trainee golf referees and an Association referee.

We have 4 lawns that after 2 years of lots of volunteer labour and a turf professional is in top condition.

We have a few members who play tournaments regularly.

Challenges include getting volunteers to run the club and maintain the lawns. The travel for Golf Pennant to East Gippsland which we are not taking part in this year. Last year was 6 days of travelling up to 2 1/2 hours. Making it 12 hour days with travelling and play.

Warragul Croquet Club Report 2024-2025

MEMBERS: Currently 27 members.

COURTS: The top court has continued to cause problems for us. We took part in the VCA soil testing program. This proved invaluable to us. Dylan McMeekin from Living Turf, who conducted the testing, has continued to advise us with what is needed for the court's recovery. One of our members, Heather Lees, has worked closely with Dylan on this project. It's in much better shape than it was and should be right to play on for our singles tournament in early May. We have had several working bees to do the work since the start of the year and during this time we have been only able to use one court. Kelvin Marriott, from Drouin C.C., has been great in assisting us.

PENNANT: Unfortunately, we were unable to field a pennant team this past season due to a lack of numbers wanting to play.

TOURNAMENTS: No tournaments last year due to the works carried out on the retaining wall and the condition of the court.

SOCIAL DAYS: We have two challenge days per year. Twin Towns against Drouin – won by Warragul – and the Twin W'S Challenge against Wonthaggi – won by Wonthaggi. We are hosts for this year's competitions.

Come and try days haven't been fruitful.

We celebrated our 120th anniversary last year. The weather was unkind to us but it was enjoyable day.

ISSUES: I've attended the Secretary's zoom meetings that have been held over the last year – these have been informative. As well as these meetings, I've attended a couple of Child Safe Policy zoom meetings. This policy continues to be frustrating. Not all clubs seem to be represented at these, and at the last one I attended, a couple of clubs were excused from the meeting on the basis that they don't have junior members or have children visiting their clubs. I thought that all clubs were expected to comply with VCA's policy on Child Safety because it is a State Government initiative but apparently, not the case!

Sale Croquet Club

Sale Croquet Club currently has 26 members, including seven who have joined over the past year. This returns the club to a similar position it was in 2-3 years ago before ill health, age

and death reduced our numbers to the low 20s. We also have three Bairnsdale members who are associate members of our club and who play regularly.

Golf croquet is played by all but two members who are association-only players. Four or five of our members play both formats. Most of our members are retirees with only three still being in the workforce. We have four qualified golf croquet referees and one former referee within our ranks.

We have been unsuccessful in attracting younger players despite hosting croquet days for both Gippsland Grammar School and Catholic College Sale Year 10 students for many years.

The club is in a strong financial position, having set aside enough funds to cover the replacement of our court mower when this has to be replaced in a few years.

Maintaining our courts has been difficult because of a major rabbit plague in the vicinity. Baiting and fumigating the burrows has had limited success. The rabbits continually scratch holes, defecate on the courts and nibble the grass down to the roots. An influx of purple swamp hens, ibis, crested pigeons and magpies also result in some minor court damage

During the past year the club has promoted its come and try day and twilight competition heavily in the local paper and on several Sale Facebook sites. The greater awareness of the club through these promotions and also recording member successes in the local paper and the club Facebook page have resulted in a few new members. We hosted a local primary school Christmas break-up where teachers played a few games before heading off for dinners, a Rotary night, and also a group of RAAF trainees.

The club has a good relationship with Wellington Shire Council which owns our premises. Members volunteer to assist where they can, but many are limited with what they can do due to age and health issues.

The club takes child safe policies seriously but with no junior programs, its only contact with minors are the school visits which are overseen by members with WWCCs.

The club holds an association tournament, and golf croquet singles and doubles tournaments each year and these are always successful, using with more entries than available places. About 10 of our members compete at tournaments elsewhere and all have had some success, either as winners or runners-up, during the past year.

Lakes Entrance Croquet Club

- a) Number of club members, and codes played
37 members Golf Croquet only
- b) Any significant movements up or down and if any particular reasons e.g. good success at come & try days, problems at a club causing loss of members.
Late last year, the local Lionesses held a Community Group Day- featured all sports, special interest clubs, singing groups, senior citizens, U3A and emergency services- LECC promoted our club and a come try day- gained some interest, and will participate again in this now to be annual event. WORD OF MOUTH IS STILL PROVING TO BE OUR BEST PROMOTION OF CROQUET.
Aging and resulting infirmity is the main issue for membership- hence the need to encourage younger participants. Have advocated to hold play days out of business hours- not receiving much take up on that, members like the way things are done now ie weekday and Sunday mornings.
We promote all events in our local newspaper- providing articles and photos.
- c) Juniors' involvement

- No juniors. Have had local secondary college students a few times- resounding lack of interest in them wanting to return. Have contacted 5 primary schools in our local catchment area- targeting grades 5 & 6, have had zero response from the schools
- d) Level of coaches and referees
2 coaches and 2 referees at present
 - e) Financial position
Quite a healthy situation, even though we invested our own funds, having not succeeded in gaining a grant or 2, into building an office space and 2nd toilet.
 - f) Court quality
Our 3 courts are in good shape- our Club captain aided by members, maintains the courts fully- mowing, watering, fertilising etc dethatching is done by an outside contractor but assisted by club members to reduce the cost.

Development and Policy Check

- g) Involvement in Croquet Victoria activities eg. Together More Active Player development workshops,
Keen to participate in these- have indicated best in early 2026.
- h) Child safe compliance
Have a member handling this area- not particularly relevant though given the lack of youngsters attending our Club

Notable Successes

- i) Events held – tournaments, pennant,
Our tournaments are always filled quickly and waiting lists come in to play

Pennant was a great coup for LECC this year- trust we can field two teams again.

GOLDFIELDS CROQUET ASSOCIATION

Goldfields CA has had to deal with many issues in 2025 but has continued to offer many opportunities for play for members.

The death of Graeme Jones, from Maryborough, in December 2024, has deprived Goldfields of much expertise. Apart from being a quality player he was instrumental in organising the training of referees and coaches, as well as running coaching programs with Peter Martyn, and other qualified referees.

Level 1 coaching is again being offered for members, and members from other associations, in early 2026 by Peter Martyn and qualified helpers.

Bendigo CC has moved from their grounds at the end of April .to the old VRI Bowls greens while their upgrade to new courts is proposed. While courts are smaller, membership has been maintained and other clubs were happy to play pennant there. Unfortunately the upgrade has not started.

Goldfields runs championships for Division 1, 2 and 3 players. Our representatives were very successful at the VCA Regionals.

GCA uses Advantage play for Handicap events.

GCA runs the Hetty Veldman trophy for doubles play in the Association. Bendigo were successful.

This year Goldfields CA hosted the Central Victorian Challenge where doubles team from Goldfields CA and NDCA clubs competed. Maryborough were successful

Goldfields CA ran a spring pennant competition where NDCA clubs were also invited to participate.

Kyneton, Quarry Hill and Maldon joined our clubs. The winners were Division 2 Castlemaine and Division 3 Kyneton Yellow.

Unfortunately our presentation day was prevented by a Total Fire Ban.

Maryborough VRI Croquet Club Report

- Membership is on the rise with the potential of another 3-4 members.
- Our "Family Friendly Fun Nights" held on 3 Tuesdays nights in December and 3 Tuesday nights in February have created a great deal of interest among all age groups.
- The Club is committed to community involvement with participation in a number of events and hosting of Schools and volunteer groups including the Art Gallery, Library and Tourist Information volunteers. Apart from the chance of picking up a few new members these activities have certainly raised our profile in the community
- The Council has applied for funding to upgrade our club house facilities and construct long needed toilet facilities. These improvements are long overdue.
- Our lawns are slowly recovering after infestation of African Black Beetle.
- Our Club was saddened by the passing of Graeme late last year. Graeme was Captain, Referee, Coach and Treasurer. Big shoes to fill but the Club is slowly recovering.

Castlemaine Croquet Club

Castlemaine C.C. is part of the Castlemaine Bowling Club. It currently has 26 members and possibly up to 6 more ready to join in the New Year.

Castlemaine has one A-court which is used officially for GC on a Tuesday and Thursday and AC on a Wednesday. Coaching beginners regularly occurs on a Monday and a relaxed social game has begun on a Friday afternoon.

Two members have actively and enthusiastically organised some very successful PRIDE "Come and Try" days at the club with bunting, music, open bar and BBQ after play. It is believed that more new members will come through these events. The latest event will be on Sunday 14th December.

We have also had other organisations (historical society and physiotherapy organisation) ask to come along for a supervised fun event. The above events will bring in additional and welcome money for the club.

Another member, with the main responsibility of maintaining our court, has put in a lot of effort this year and has enlisted the assistance of a specialist in raising the standard of court through scarifying, spraying for beetle, ants and fungus and top dressing.

The subject of being limited to one A-court is often raised and being a part of the Bowling Club makes the prospect of us possibly moving to another venue complicated.

2025 has been a very successful year for the club.

Eaglehawk Croquet Club 2025 report.

Eaglehawk currently has 34 members many of whom play 2, 3 + times a week. Golf Croquet is played Wednesdays (club comp) & Saturdays which includes 4 free come and try days which has resulted in a number of new members. Snake in the grass is played on Mondays and proved very popular. During daylight saving twilight gc is also played on Tuesdays.

Members regularly visit other clubs for their social days and also participate in a 6 week pennant competition .

Club is in good financial position & recently purchased a new roller for courts. Weeds are an ongoing problem, and courts will be scarified and worked on during holiday break. Members are always willing to pitch in. Club has applied for soil testing through croquet vic and hopefully will receive valuable information to further improve courts.

It was a busy year with 27 school group sessions including 3 secondary colleges ranging from 1 session per week for 2 weeks to 2 sessions per week for 6 weeks. A local primary school also came for 1 day. 4 coaches plus quite a few other members all with WWCC covered the sessions which have been a good source of revenue for club. 2 secondary colleges have already booked in for sessions in 2026.

A fortnightly session ran throughout year for “ Access all Abilities “ group plus their carers. These loved the sessions and showed noticeable improvement. So keen were they that they bought a mini croquet set for use indoors.

The local Probus club had their Xmas breakup at E/H club and enjoyed a game of golf croquet with members followed by a lovely spread of savoury and sweet fingerfood, resulting in the club also gaining a couple of new members.

GOULBURN VALLEY CROQUET ASSOCIATION

The GVCA currently has 307 members, being 1 'l more than last year.

The GVCA has a very pro-active media officer who has written and photographed articles in Local. newspapers and a spot on local TV with filmed croquet events and results from the region.

The GVCA website is also ably run by 2 members.

The inter-school GC tournament could not be held this year due to organising problems. Schools were unable to agree on a common date. It is in the planning stages for next year with Shepparton running the event.

GVCA events for the 2024-25 season:

AC singles tournament held at Rich River

GC singles tournament held at Deniliquin

AC Champion of Champions held at Rich River

GC Champion of Champions held at Rich River

AC pennant with the final held at Shepparton (Quarry Hill joined us for the pennant season)

GC pennant with the final held at Numurkah

The GVCA has taken part in an inter-regional challenge against NEDCA winning for the 6th consecutive year.

The GVCA has entered full teams in the AC Victorian Country Regionals and the Victorian GC Regionals We have also run a successful Bunnings BBQ.

Trish Pedrotti GVCA Regional Director

Club reports in alphabetical order

Deniliquin Lawn Tennis Croquet Club

Code played: Golf Croquet

30 playing members

2 members play association croquet as associate members of another club

Membership changes:

Minor reduction this year

Recruitment strategies:

Targeted word of mouth recruitment

Weekly media promotion

Facebook inclusion

Junior involvement:

Annual High School session

Coach and referee position:

Currently do not have a coach position

One member is an accredited referee.

Financial position:

Club is in a good financial position, sharing responsibilities with the Tennis club.

Court quality:

There are six croquet courts shared with tennis courts during tennis season Courts are in a good condition sharing maintenance with the tennis club.

Green keeper has recently resigned

Advice taken from outside source.

Grants applied for:

No grants applied for during 2025

Tournament sponsorship - local business sponsorship value 52,000

Council Liaison:

Relationship with Edward River Council and local businesses is good

Meetings held at RSL club

Croquet members sit on the board of the Tennis club (mother club)

issues affecting the club:

Ageing membership

Lack of an appointed coach

Moves are being investigated to install lights with potential for twilight sessions - increase member participation. (Positive move)

Senior member has instigated an introduction to croquet sessions for potential new members.

Volunteer engagement:

Court participation in line marking

Court preparation for tournaments and playing days

Catering commitment with Tennis Club Ute Muster fundraising activity.

Tournament management.

Catering for club functions.

Club executive commitments.

Policy and development

Adopted Child Care Policy and Diversity Equity and Inclusion Policy

Adopted complaints procedure - Sport Integrity

Monthly meeting structure to include policy adoption

Attendance at GVCA meeting structure.

Notable successes:

Operating the Annual Long Paddock classic tournament.

Participating in GVCA tournaments

Participating GVCA NEDCA competition

Two members playing Association Croquet as associates with other clubs

Members participate in regional social days

ECHUCA MOAMA CROQUET CLUB 2025

MEMBERSHIP:

EMCC has 26 members and 1 Associate member. We mostly play Golf Croquet, with a few members playing Association one day a week.

Our membership has remained stable with new members joining by word of mouth or Come and Try Days. We held a Come and Try Evening with a BBQ tea which was a lot of fun and three people expressed further interest. During the year we get a number of visitors and return visitors from other Clubs who come and enjoy a game with us.

COACH AND REFEREES:

We have one coach and one referee. This is ample for our Club as we have not run any Tournaments or Social Days this year.

FINANCES:

Our Financial position is very stable so at this stage we have no need of any fund raising. As we hire our courts from the Echuca Tennis Club we have no control over maintenance of the Courts. However, the Tennis Club keeps them in good condition for us.

This year we applied to the Sports and Recreation Victoria for an equipment grant and was successful in securing it. This money was used to purchase 2 sets of new balls.

SPONSORSHIP:

Our uniforms are sponsored by Moama Bowling Club and The Busy bean Coffee shop sponsors us for a weekly prize.

PENNANT AND TOURNAMENTS:

Our Pennant team was very successful Last year, just getting beaten in the Grand final, however this year due to illness and lack of availability we have not been able to enter a team. Hopefully this will change for next season.

Our members attend tournaments and social days regularly at other Clubs in the region, usually with some great croquet played.

EUROA CROQUET CLUB

Euroa Croquet Club was established in 1905. It has two full size courts that are maintained by club members. After floods in 2022 we lost use of the Clubhouse for over a year and members worked to get the courts back to reasonable playing condition.

Membership

Currently our membership stands at 33 gradually increasing since 2017 where our membership had dropped to below 17.

Our game days are held weekly on a Wednesday from 9-30 am to 12 noon. A couple of years ago the club started a Social evening come and try every Friday afternoon from around 4pm onwards with drinks and nibbles afterwards.

This has been successful and has attracted 3 young players from Argentina who were working at the local horse stud and came to join us every Friday for a while. Recently a member had a relative from New Zealand staying for 5 weeks and he attended not only our Wednesday game days but also our Friday afternoons. We have held other come and try days but our Friday afternoon seems to be the most successful in attracting people for come and try and a bit of socialisation. We have gained a couple of new members who had purchased from raffles that we have held.

Games Played.

The Club plays Golf Croquet almost exclusively, a couple of our members tried Association croquet and ricochet but there wasn't enough interest from other members to continue.

We do not have junior members but annually between 3 other clubs we hold an interschool competition. Our Euroa teams have had success in this competition.

Club issues:

The club was successful in applying for a Council grant and also an Inland Rail grant.

The club has 2 teams in the GVCA pennant tournaments and usually finish in the top 4.

In 2022, 16 members from our club made a trip to Boort Croquet Club and had a most enjoyable day with their members. We have finally been able to reciprocate and will host 11 members of the Boort Croquet Club at Euroa on 8th September 2025.

At our last meeting 2A.8.2025 our financial balance was \$17,199.04.

KYABRAM CROQUET CLUB

29 members, 27 members play golf croquet. 2 members play association.

Membership changes.

Memberships increased, with social memberships being introduced this year giving more choices.

Talking to people about croquet / putting flyers up around town. Pictures and articles on Facebook.

Seniors come and try posters in shops.

School Involvement

Students from local and surrounding schools come and learn how to play.

Level of coaches and referees.

One player coaches AC.

Financial position is good.

Courts

2 A sized courts, 4 B sized courts

Grants Applied for

Campaspe Shire \$4,000 to replace tights. (LED)

Sport & Recreation \$1,000 Uniform rain Jackets.

Sponsorship.

Farrier Vet

Brady Electrical.

Local Business donate prizes for social day raffles.

Volunteer involvement

Upkeep of the grounds and gardens, marking lines, general maintenance.

Notable successes

Social days with full complement of 32 outside players X 4 social days

Victorian AC Women's Championship Kerri-Ann Organ (Kyabram)

Help wanted

How to get younger members

MOOROOPNA CROQUET CLUB INC.

- Membership 59. We have had some retirements and new members keeping our membership numbers stable.
- At the start of the school year (4-6 sessions) and toward the end (4 -6 sessions) we take year 9-10 students from the Greater Shepparton Secondary College.
- One coach, Loretta Gawne. Level 1
- No referees
- Sound financial position
- Our courts are in good condition.
- John Young our Publicity officer has done a great job in promoting Croquet in the Shepparton News and Win TV
- Vic Sports Grant - successful. Purchased sets of primary colour batts
- Mooroopna businesses volunteer gifts for our raffles on our social days
- We don't have any sponsors
- It is difficult to recruit members for positions on the committee, but we have many willing members who offer to help on social days, gardening and cleaning roster.
- We held a successful coaching programme with Maurice Ceva-Hewett. 8 members took part.
- CPR Training - We had 4 members complete their training on March 25th 2025
- We ratified the Croquet Victoria document and are encouraging members to obtain a WWCC. 13 Members now have WWCC.
- We are taking part in GC Pennant but not AC this year due to lack of numbers with people being away. Only one AC social day this year. We also hold a GC Soup and Bun Day, GC Social Day, AC and GC Saint Patrick's Day and AC and GC Australia Day Social Days.
- We hold interclub tournaments such as the "Sheep Dip Cup" against Euroa and the "Causeway Challenge" against Shepparton.
- A few of our members have had successes at tournaments, John Young, Taryn Arho and Loretta Gawne - GC Regionals. Veronica Richardson AC Regionals - won Div 4 Champion of Champions. John Young, Geoff Richardson, Taryn Arho.
- Mooroopna Croquet Club celebrated their 80th birthday in May this year (one year late due to our clubrooms not being available from the floods) Past and present players were invited to an afternoon of croquet and Afternoon Tea. The Birthday Cake was cut by Life Members Beryl Gerrish, Helen Wrest and Jeanette Hatt.
- All members are enjoying the social and friendly aspect of the game of croquet. A group of members take part in local club social days.

Dot Brown, Secretary

NUMURKAH CROQUET CLUB

- Number of members - 26
- Codes Played -Association, Golf, Ricochet.
- Movement in membership - like many clubs we have a number of members who have not re-joined either because of ill health, moving away from the area or just no longer interested. We lost two of our stalwart Association members to ill health.
- Juniors involvement - N/A
- Level of coaches and referees - N/A
- Financial position - Solvent
- Court quality - Excellent always available for finals of Pennant.

CLUB ISSUES

- Successful recruitment and publicity activities
- Grants applied for and received- \$1000 from Sports Victoria for club shirts and New sponsorships - N/A

- Relationship with Local council ongoing
- Volunteer engagement - N/A
- Any skills/expertise/interests that your members have that they would Like to volunteer to use within your region or Croquet Victoria. - No

DEVELOPMENT and POLICY CHECK-IN

- involvement in Croquet Victoria activities - No Child safe compliance - up to date

NOTABLE SUCCESSES

- Events held - GVCA GG Pennant team / social day o Member tournament successes

ANY HELP WANTED

- Any issues the club is facing- Dwindling numbers
- How can Croquet Victoria, other clubs or regions help your club or region?
- Attend functions

RICH RIVER CROQUET CLUB

Rich River Croquet Club has currently 55 members.

Play days are Golf Croquet-Tuesday and Thursday and Association Croquet - Wednesday and Saturday. The Association Croquet numbers have increased over the past two seasons. 12 members are now playing AC regularly and 2 teams have been entered in the Pennant Competition this season. Once a month, Kingball is played, which combines techniques

from both codes. Regular Come and Try Days are held over the year which bring a small number of people requesting coaching. Our coaching team of Russell. Smyth, Cherie Lessing and Sandra Retallick serve the club well. Sandra has great success with Moama Grammar Students who come for coaching as part of their PE Program in June. RRCC is fortunate to have a number of qualified referees in both Golf Croquet and Association Croquet. The club has 5 courts which are maintained by the RRGCC Greens Managers. Once a month, the President of RRCC and the Greens Manager RRCC meet with the Golf Club team to discuss issues and maintenance. From the end of October to the end of January, the courts will be closed for resurfacing. We are in the process of organising some trips to our regional clubs over that time.

Echuca Moama Croquet Club, Deniliquin and Kyabram have kindly offered to have us visit for social play.

As mentioned above. RRCC is an Integral part of the Rich River Golf Club which allows us to be included in their Newsletters and Christmas Activities. Croquet is often part of the Christmas break up for businesses in the district. In October, as part of Seniors month. a Twilight Event is held for members and friends. Recently, Lucinda. The Marketing Manager assisted with the poster for the Co[ours for Cancer Charity Day. The local paper - Riverine Herald has a weekly report on social play for both GC and AC plus a write up for the Pennant teams. When major events are held, a reporter and photographer will attend.

RRCC hosted a very successful Together More Active Player Development sessions from December to March. 12 players from Echuca Moama CC, Deniliquin CC and RRCC attended the sessions. Alt reported that they had increased their skills and confidence in their game. Many thanks to Maurice and Sarina for their time and expertise. We are really fortunate to have a range of players who are able to assist with Clarification of the rules and on normal pay days will often explain when obvious mistakes are made. Many of our players have Working with Children NSW registration but at this stage we do not have a Child Safe Champion.

Over the season RRCC has three major tournaments - the Association Croquet ANZAC Classic Singles, Rich River Golf Croquet Doubles and the Rich River Golf Croquet Singles.

The Golf Croquet Social days are held in March and July with the Annual Charity Day held in Late August. In house competitions are held over the year - The Golden Mallet where the winners of GC Singles monthly winners play over two days, The Vincent Shield is a High Low Draw for partners honouring Mae and Roy Vincent two stalwarts of the RRCC and the John Ketty Kingbatt Trophy played early in the year. Over the year there has been some really outstanding croquet played. Exciting to see 11 of the top national players play in the August GVCAAC Tournament as they prepared for the World Championships later this year. This year RRCC have two AC Pennant teams and one GC Pennant team playing in the GVCA Competition.

Finally, thanks must go to the Committee and members for their commitment to RRCC.

Happy Hooping
Marg Kennedy
RRCC Secretary.

SHEPPARTON CROQUET CLUB

As at close of financial year 31/12/2025

Members 49

Associate 4

Life Members 2 inactive 1 very active

Social Days

- Jan 2nd Start the year with croquet
- June Solstice/Soup and Bun July Xmas in July
- Oct Octoberfest
- Nov GV Fruit Bowl Tournament

In 2025 we continue with the GV Fruit Bowl Tournament, and again we were able to get clubs from outside the GVCA and NEDCA, and this year's Tournament appears to have a lot of interest from around Victoria.

All Social Days have been very well attended by visiting club members, and members of our club are keen to attend other social days in the region

The Club runs 2-3 Bunnings BBQs at approximately 4-month intervals for the purpose of raising funds, and in 2025 these continue with increased revenue.

We saw an increase in club membership of 9 with a loss of 4 over this time.

Again, in October our club participated in the senior's festival, which holds events held around the state. These events introduce participants to new experiences and sports to those who are interested. Most of our new members resulted from this event.

In the first half of the year the Shepparton Club hosts the year 10 students from the Grammar School, who participate over 6 weeks with two groups of approximately 20-24 students each session. Those students really enjoy their time with us (we look to the future)

Unfortunately, we were unable to continue with the interschool comp due to lack of communication between clubs involved.

The Shepparton club has 18 members with a WWCC.

We have two Golf Croquet Pennant Teams. One Golf Croquet team the Kookaburras, have reached the Grand final for 2025.

Shepparton also hosts the GVCA Champion of Champions in March.

Shepparton run 2 twilight competitions, Spring for 10 weeks , a break over the Christmas period, and Summer which is longer and moves into autumn. These are very popular competitions with members participating from around the GVCA.

Recruitment still remains mostly word of mouth, although the game is back being promoted on Win News with pennant results on a Tuesday evening. Along with regular reporting in the local paper.

Shepparton has 2 qualified umpires to assist and 1 level 1 GC coach.

The members in Shepparton are very active with volunteering when activities require with a possible 80% involvement from members.

Our court quality is excellent, thanks to our Green Keeper Bill Daunt and our Clubs greens/maintenance officer.

Shepparton has a compliant Child Safe Policy which is reviewed annually.

The Clubs running costs continue to rise and we are facing an issue with our lights as they age. It is becoming difficult to source parts and globes, these older lights cost a lot to replace and to replace the globes due to their height, is becoming prohibitive.

Total Expenditure for the maintenance of our Greens for the year ending 31 March 2025 was \$17,302. Approx. \$900 less than the year 23/24.

With an overall loss for the Club for the year of \$3407.41,

MURRAY VALLEY CROQUET ASSOCIATION

The 6 clubs in our Region are Boort, Charlton, Mildura, Red Cliffs, Swan Hill and Wycheproof. The following are responses from each club.

Boort:

- Boort Lakeside Croquet Club has 34 members – Male: 9 Female: 25. 2 members are Association players, though all play Golf Croquet.
- We have lost two members to another club and one member has gone into care.
- The club has no juniors at this stage although the Boort Secondary College and Charlton College visit as part of their sport curriculum. Occasionally a member will bring a grandchild along and they join in on social day play.
- We have four members who have qualified as referees. As well as refereeing for tournaments, pennant, and social play they run regular coaching/information sessions
- The club is in a good financial position.
- The Croquet Courts are in excellent condition, however there is an ongoing threat of damage from our local corellas
- We have been successful in applying for grants of \$1000 to go towards new uniform jackets, Local Shire grant to the value of \$625 and a grant from the local Grain growers Co-op of \$2500 to help the club.
- We maintain a good relationship with the local council. All our members are fully engaged as Volunteers at the club. Voluntarily providing hospitality to the club and visitors, organising play, social days, tournaments and cleaning. Members are always willing to give a hand locally and committed to the local community in many aspects, however, not generally willing nor having the capacity to branch out wider.
- We have been involved with the Together More Active Player development workshops and court soil testing (as above)
- Child safe compliance. We have an appointed a Child Safe Officer (Delma Pappin) and are compliant with the policy.

NOTABLE SUCCESSES:

- Events held:
- very successful Golf Croquet (March 2025) and Association Croquet (October 2025) tournaments held
- Pennant: Boort entered two teams in the MVCA Pennant season. The count came down to hoops and Boort White pipped Boort Blue at the post by two hoops 634 to 632.
- Social Days with other clubs – 11 of our members travelled to Euroa to participate in a social day which was a reciprocal visit; Bendigo Croquet Club visited us on Bendigo Cup Day which has become an annual event with the two clubs alternating hosting.
- Hosting a night of family fun and croquet for players and their families who have come to Boort for the Easter Tennis Tournament.
- Supporting school groups from Boort and Charlton schools as part of their school sports curriculum.
- The club is going well and not requiring any help in the immediate future

Charlton:

Charlton Croquet Club continues with a steady membership of 20. We play 2 sessions a week in Association Croquet and 2 in Golf Croquet all year round with an extra session for both codes in the summer when we play under lights at evening.

- Our courts are in fairly good order with a good greenkeeper looking after them. We are holding our own financially and most of our bigger maintenance is cared for by the local shire as we are on Shire property.
- We are very active in the Murray Valley Croquet Association, joining in Round Robin Days and fielding teams in Pennant Competition. We had one team in GC this year and AC played a sort of Round Robin Day instead of Pennant because of the difficulty of some towns to field a team.
- We have a comprehensive folder of policies which are reviewed regularly and have an up to date Child Safety policy even though we don't have children playing regularly. We usually have some supervised by teachers groups of school children once or twice a year to have a bit of a try at croquet.
- We held a successful Tournament that attracted entrants from many different clubs. It was held over 2 weekends so they could accommodate numbers.
- One of our members Lindsay and his wife Naomi have been competing successfully in quite a lot of State level events. Lindsay represented Victorian in a team that played in the Eire Cup in Adelaide and won the event.

Mildura:

- Mildura Croquet Club has a membership of 34 (11 Male, and 23 Female, including 2 Under 21 Males) and only play Golf Croquet. We are happy with our membership and always have new members coming along. The club has taken the position of paying the membership of the 2 new under 21 boys, as an incentive to help them.
- **Of note:** We have Stella Barnes who has recently turned 100 and is still an active player. We would be interested to see if any other members in clubs are in this unique position.
- We have 1 x level 1 coach and 1 x level 2 coach. Financially, our club is doing well and our court quality is not to bad.
- Recruitment of players is by word of mouth and we are always open to welcome any community groups. We have a good relationship with our local council and they continue to work with us.
- We have been involved with the "Together More Active Player development workshops, court soil testing"
- Child safe compliance is always present.

- We held coaching at the club and this was a large success
- 2 Players have had some successes and numbers attending tournaments are increasing
- Our club is facing the issue of SHADE AND SMALL CLUB ROOMS
- We think clubs need to be open to help when perhaps they believe all is well in their patch.

Red Cliffs:

- We have 22 members, 17 female, 5 male. Code played is Golf Croquet.
- Our membership has increased from a year ago, with no juniors. We have a Level 1 coach and no referee. Our financial position is stable

Notable Initiatives.

- We have increased the number of game days to 2 per week, now playing on a Sunday morning as well as Thursday morning.
- The club held two sessions of how to play croquet with the Red Cliffs Secondary school early in the year. The kids that participated thought it was great fun and I think our members got a lot out of it also in showing them how to play the game.
- The club has purchased a first aid cabinet to treat minor accidents. The cabinet has been hung on the wall next to the D Fib to make it visible to everyone.
- The club at the last General meeting created a new position for a Special Events and Promotions Organiser. The club has held a raffle event to help raise funds for the club and is considering holding other events to raise the club's profile in the new year.
- Over the last few months, the club has been doing a maintenance upgrade of the equipment. New peg stands have been made and the hoops and centre pegs have been painted with new transfers. The clubs' seats and seating shelters have also been getting a new paint and repair which is almost finished. The club put on a Working Bee in which most members pitched in to help.

Development and Policy.

The Level 1 coach has put together two coaching mornings for the club members during the year, with more to take place in the new year.

Successes:

- We have not held any tournaments yet but are hoping to hold and run a Round Robin event in the new year.
- No members have been away to tournaments over the past year.

Help and Issues

- We will require help in setting up, publicising and running the Round Robin, and other future tournaments.
- A number of players have flagged an interest in learning how to play Association Croquet. If there are any coaching programmes like the golf croquet ones, Red Cliffs and Mildura would be interested in holding a combined coaching session.

Swan Hill Lawn Tennis and Croquet:

- We have 10 Female 2 Male 1 Junior Male. All can play GC but only 4 play AC.
- Gained 2 new members from another club. It looks like we will lose 2 who are unwell and unable to play. One new member joining in the new year.
- We have one junior, who does not come very often
- New male member has been a coach and referee but has let it lapse
- The Club finances are good. The club is in the process of purchasing 2 sets of quadway hoops and associated equipment requirements
- Court quality - Excellent – We are part of the Tennis club with a full-time greenskeeper
- Child safe compliance - All policies are in conjunction with tennis club

- Have come and try days etc, they seem interested but we have trouble getting them back

NOTABLE SUCCESSES:

- We hold a successful annual AC winter tournament and 2 successful GC Social days per year, and participate in the Murray Valley GC Pennant
- Lois has had success in AC and GC tournaments and Darren in local AC winter tournament

Help: How to encourage people to play croquet and keep coming along

Wycheproof:

- We have 12 members (including 8 female and 4 male) with others playing socially when they can find the time, so we are hopeful of increasing membership. Members play Golf Croquet only every Wednesday and on some Saturdays.
- We have a couple of new members over recent times
- Financially, our club is going OK
- We have a new Greenskeeper and our courts are .
- The local Shire Council and our club work well together and we have a good relationship.
- Our players are very content with their croquet and are enjoying the sport.
- Thanks to Croquet VIC, we utilised the soil testing service and received excellent advice from the "Living Turf" company.

NORTH EASTERN DISTRICT CROQUET ASSOCIATION

NEDCA has fourteen clubs and 359 members. Three clubs generally consider themselves social clubs. Distance from other clubs is a factor.

Referees & Coaches

Referees	Association Croquet	Golf Croquet	Ricochet	Gateball
	5 listed, none active	7	4	0
Coaches	1	7	2	1

Competitive Events

The NEDCA region hosts three competitive events open to members from other regions.

Social Days

The NEDCA Region hosts two social days but eight of our fourteen clubs host one or two social days each year. A very busy calendar.

The region is in a sound financial position. The challenges we face are:

- filling Regional Committee of Management Positions
- serious lack of Golf Croquet Referees
- engaging with all clubs in such a large region

Club Reports

Albury Croquet Club:

Albury Croquet Club membership is usually quite stable, and our members enjoy social play four days a week. We have four coaches and one referee.

We hold about six all day competitive events a year and also have a monthly hoop count winner. At the AGM we award the Jardine Llyod Perpetual Trophy to the whole year's hoop count winner.

We have not applied for any grants

We get many requests from outside groups to hold social days, particularly near Christmas but only accept requests from small groups that do not want access to alcohol.

Beechworth Croquet Club:

Membership has grown by 25% in the last twelve months bringing our club numbers back to consistent membership of 29 +/- . More interest for male membership numbers.

Active social play

Members and potential players enjoy Monday Twilight play of 1 – 3 games, under lights during summer, with BYO snacks. Tuesday and Thursday mornings our players can opt for 1 – 4 games depending on their schedules.

More disciplined training on Saturday mornings with 3 -4 games Pennant format. Sunday afternoons in winter, has a smaller following but, engages family members who enjoy the more relaxed session.

Group Croquet Social Events are booked to suit the needs of the non-members. We offer guided Croquet for these groups who enjoy a game as an add on to their occasions. These gatherings attract a younger cohort of players, still in employment, and assists in debunking the myth that Croquet is for old people. They have the option to self-cater drinks and nibbles and socialise on the deck while not playing.

These groups have developed into repeat bookings each year and are a profitable short, sharp and simple fundraiser for our club. Numbers per group are generally 15 – 50 players and onlookers.

Seniors Month activity – Two days were utilised for this purpose last October. Special morning tea offered as a “meet and greet” followed by “playful croquet” with much laughter and enjoyment. We have 3 new members and commitment to join from 3 others.

Social day for regional clubs our members are keen participants in social days. Our Social Day in October was well attended. Members take their mallets on holidays to play whenever there is an opportunity to visit a club on their travels.

Coaches and Referees are represented by one accredited Coach and one Coach in training. Players with former experience as Coach or Referee still contribute to the strengthening of player skills. Our experienced players readily assist newcomers in their Croquet development on and off the courts.

Competitive events held. Our club hosted 3 of the 2024 NEDCA Pennant matches and will do so again this year.

Competitive successes. Runners up in the NEDCA GC Pennant. One hoop denied our holding the Shield for the 3rd year in succession. Members have competed in GVCA vs NEDCA inter-regional event, NEDCA Regional Qualifiers, NEDCA Singles and NEDCA Doubles.

Successful grant applications.

TMA player development 6 day program commencing in June, 2025. Indigo Shire Seniors Month funds - \$200 received.

Sponsorships and in-kind assistance as part of other grant funding sources.

Club Facilities. Beechworth Senior Citizens Club continues to provide us with the use of the club facilities as our Club base. This is in conjunction with seven other community groups. Indigo Shire “Mountains to the Murray Rail Trail project”. Inclusion of an upgrade of our court fencing was achieved as part of the adjacent Rail Trail beautification process.

Indigo Shire Asset Management grant – allows us to reclaim some expenses.

Beechworth Prison Community Team - Gardening provides regular assistance with having verge areas mowed and whipper snipped, hedges pruned, grass clippings and leaves taken off site and paths cleared. This is an invaluable benefit to our club. Club members maintain the Playing Greens. Quarterly chemical applications provided by a contractor.

Sponsorship from Indigo Real Estate continues with display of signage for an annual financial contribution.

Challenges. Members reluctant to take on leadership roles on committee.

Ageing sprinkler system is becoming costly battling with invasive tree roots. This year we have had a \$2000+ water bill over winter. Indicative of a large leak. Seven root intrusions fixed. Plumber contracted an expert water detector who found our boundary irrigation pipe was leaking into an old agriculture drain and would never have been obvious by surface observations. Another large bill to come.

An increasing number of our members are taking on family caring roles, but continue to play whenever they can.

Post Covid international travel catch up sees many players unavailable for some months.

In closing, the versatility of our members, their varied backgrounds and experiences, continue to benefit our club. We have a good mix of social and competition players.

We were pleased to be able to award a "Heritage Badge" to the earliest registered player in our club.

Benalla Croquet Club:

We currently have 25 Members. It can be quite challenging at times getting new members, we have lost a few & have picked up a few members at Come & Try Days. We had a Come and Try day late last year and got 5 new members from that day which was good. A regular 70% of our 25 members play golf croquet each Tuesday and Thursday. A mix of singles and doubles, level play and handicap play are enjoyed each month. Members enjoy attending local social days and participating in Pennant. Some members also enter tournaments locally and interstate.

We are currently running a successful four-week introductory course to croquet through U3A. It began on 25th January. We had 18 people register to date 9 people turned up and has shown lots of interest to continue. We are hopeful that the remaining weeks will see an increase in attendance. The feedback from participants has been very positive. The introductory course aims to familiarise new players with the basic rules and techniques of croquet, making it an enjoyable and accessible sport for all age groups.

In April we hold the first of our Golf Croquet Social Days for 2025 and in May we are hosting an inaugural two-day Open GC Singles Tournament for NEDCA.

A monthly newsletter keeps (members up to date with croquet news, showcasing our terrific workers and celebrating our members' achievements).

We have two qualified GC referees but no qualified coaches.

We have not applied for any grants in the last two years, we applied in 2023 and were successful in receiving \$780.00 to buy new mallets

Bright Croquet Club:

Not really good news to report this year, our membership has fallen away to 28 and we are lightly to lose two more members soon. Trouble is with husband & wife joining, they leave together.

The Alpine Shire has decided that because we play on Crown Land, they are entitled to 'tax' us to the tune of \$250 per year, with another 147 clubs in the shire facing the same. It a good money raiser for the Shire. Our Memorandum of Understanding with the Shire first written in 2013 and reviewed every five years has virtually been scraped and we are now begging a meeting with the Shire, but they don't seem interested in speaking to us.

Our next AGM we will have to think of raising our fees (both green and membership) considerably.

Cobram Croquet Club:

Membership dropped from a high of twenty-One last year down to sixteen. Due mainly to people who joined last year but moved away or just didn't continue to play.

We are playing each Monday and Thursday morning. Trialled an earlier start of 7.45 during the hotter weather which proved popular.

There are no accredited coaches or referees at our club.

We haven't held any competitive events but are hosting the NEDCA Autumn Social Day this year.

No grant applications.

Note: We have attracted some sport tourism ie. this year we have a group of forty tennis players who holiday in Cobram and participate in other activities while they are here. We hosted them last year to a successful afternoon where they played an adapted version of Golf Croquet.

They are coming back this year and we also have two Probus clubs booked in for similar events.

Howlong Croquet:

- Currently we have thirty Full Members and seven Associate Members
- Social Play is on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
- We have one Level 1 & two Level 2 Coach
- Competitive Days
 - We held our first Doubles Championship last year and there is one scheduled for later this year
 - Our Inaugural Singles Championship will be held at the end of March
 - We compete against Wagga, Wodonga & this year we will have Twin City as well
 - Three Social Days - Inter-Club, St Pats Day & Soup and Bun Day
 - Hold a Twilight Croquet & BBQ once a month
 - Any grants are enacted through the Howlong Golf Resort

Twin City Croquet Club:

In the past year Twin City has hosted a successful social day (May 2024), a five-day boot camp (May 2024), many coaching sessions and a national event (October 2024).

We have a cordial relationship with our landlord and no financial concerns.

Despite being a small club - fifteen in total - our referees and coaches support our region and state organisations.

Hosting events are challenging with such a small membership and the members get piqued playing the same opponents every day.

Wodonga Croquet Club:

Wodonga's membership has increased for a third year in a row and now numbers 61. The growth is a reflection of the success of our Come and Try days along with the usual capricious elements (for example, people driving past the courts and thinking that that looks interesting). The majority of members match the age profile for many clubs (i.e. retirees), although we do have a member in their 30s and some in their late 50s and early 60s.

Attendance varies across the three days the club plays (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays). On average, attendance hovers around the 26-30 mark, although the members attending vary day by day and week by week. Looking at the attendance book, roughly 70% of the club's members play at least one day each week.

The club offers regular coaching sessions for newcomers (and established members who might be interested). They are taken through the basics of the game followed by sessions that introduce new members to matters like strategy, being aware of having a partner and

ignoring the siren call of the hoop when strategy is more likely to secure the hoop for the partners.

Some of our club members attend the various social days organised by clubs affiliated with NEDCA and some have played in Wagga Wagga's 3-way competition. Members have participated in the NEDCA v. GVCA Tournament, the recent Golf Croquet Qualifiers (held at Wodonga) and Pennant, with Wodonga winning the competition in 2024. And the club has initiated an annual Howlong v. Wodonga tournament.

The club hosts Family Days where members bring along family members to play a game. If they plan it properly, they are also welcome to the club's monthly sausage sizzle, held on the last Thursday of every month.

The club has been successful in securing grants from the state government to subsidise the cost of a shirt and a jacket (complete with the club logo) for new members, and has continued those subsidies from club funds when the government grants have been exhausted. The club also secured a grant from the Wodonga City Council to help with costs for our upcoming Gala Day in April 2025.

One of our members attended the NEDCA workshop on Handicapping held at Albury Croquet Club.

Wodonga maintains both a Facebook page and a website, and amended the club's Association rules in January 2025.

The club's financial position is sound.

Yarrawonga Mulwala Croquet Club:

Membership, our membership remains fairly stable. During March we have run a membership drive promoted in our local area, the result has been very successful with a lot of interest. We are hopeful of increasing our membership as a result of this drive by 8 - 10.

Active Social Play is well supported by our members.

Coaches/Referees we do not have anyone holding these positions in our club

Competitive Events. We hold a Monthly Medal tournaments on the first Thursday of the month with all monthly winners playing off for the Medal of Medals in May. We also have our Club Championships Annually.

Grant Applications: As are part of the Yarrawonga Golf Club Resort which is not a "Non Profit" Association we are unable to apply for grants.

NORTHERN DISTRICT CROQUET ASSOCIATION

Membership numbers are remaining steady at a region total of 171. Quarry Hill has 54 members and continues to attract new ones. Macedon Ranges, with 35 members, has lost a few members through relocation and illness. Golden Square is a success story with 22 members after very low numbers several years ago. Numbers at Kyneton (32) and Maldon (28) remain healthy.

Quarry Hill reported good attendance through winter, holding regular soup and bun days that were successful for socialising and fundraising. A footy colours day was held on the Grand Final Day holiday in September. Gateball sessions have been held on Thursday afternoons. Quarry Hill hosted its annual GC singles tournament from 14th to 19th October with winners: Division 1 - Richard Parkes (Williamstown), Division 2 – Michael McLean (Golden Square) and Division 3 – Adrian Pike (Ballarat Western).

Quarry Hill continues to be a regional hub for AC with a small band of enthusiastic players turning up at each session. Quarry Hill entered a team in the AC Goulburn Valley Pennant and were the winners – the grand final team being Bernie Lacey, Lois Kirk, Chris Eiffert and Bruce Shaw. An AC tournament for Division 3 and 4 players was held at Quarry Hill on 11th and 12th October. Kyneton's Damian Hadfield won Croquet Victoria's AC Tregallas Trophy for players in handicap ranges 6-10.

Kyneton is preparing for the club's 150th anniversary celebrations in 2026. Kyneton ran a Come and Try activity for school children during the July holidays, with 4 sessions run over 2 weeks. Unfortunately the Kyneton Daffodil Festival Come & Try day was cancelled due to rain. Kyneton has held social days with Golden Square, Macedon Ranges, Castlemaine and Quarry Hill. Another successful Kyneton Hi & Low Doubles Tournament was held on Friday 26 September with Ian Potter (Boort) and Lynne Breen (Golden Square) the winners. Kyneton also welcomed players from around the state to a GC Social Day on 8 October.

Maldon celebrated its centenary with social events in March and April 2025. The club's only surviving Life Member, Mrs Lillian Long attended a centenary lunch and spoke of her memories of the club. Sadly Mrs Long passed away several months later. Coaching of Maldon Primary School students was run over a 5 week period in October and November.

Macedon Ranges held its annual social day in March. The club is planning to have lots of fun days and introduce friends and family to croquet.

NDCA ran an autumn pennant competition this year. Two Division 1-2 Quarry Hill teams contested the final with Chris Eiffert and Gayle Deary defeating Col Scott and Bernie Lacey. Kyneton's Margaret Parker and Deb Bosman won the Division 3 title defeating Maldon's Gary Dykes and Rod Bennett. Quarry Hill, Maldon and Kyneton entered teams in Divisions 2 and 3 of Goldfields region's spring pennant competition.

Kyneton has commenced work on upgrading of toilets and mallet room (\$17K) with plans for painting clubhouse, fence and shelters. Macedon Ranges report that their lawns have improved a lot with some help from Eynesbury Golf Club. Quarry Hill have recently undertaken lawn scarification works.

SOUTH EAST METRO CROQUET ASSOCIATION

None provided.

SOUTH WEST CROQUET ASSOCIATION

Membership is currently as follows;

Club	Members
Hamilton	50
Koroit	15
Portland	44
Terang	28
Warrnambool	45

Growth in membership has been most noticeable in Hamilton linked to an active social program (twilight events with barbeques etc). Portland and Warrnambool have lifted membership slightly while Terang has maintained numbers despite attrition of aged players.

Other Matters

Playing Conditions – Hamilton is dealing with the paradox of managing a major rebuild of its lawns while keeping a record number of active members happy with access to the lawns. This summer has left the playing areas in a sad condition. A curator has been engaged. The

Portland lawns were spared from an outburst of vandalism in the Portland Botanic Gardens. Except for Hamilton all other lawns have survived the summer and are in good shape. Playing Activities – some fund raising and competition days faltered (particularly AC events). GC surged with a successful 3 days in Warrnambool with 40 players registered including two teenagers from Casterton. There is to be a concentrated effort to revive regional competition during the latter part of the year.

Rebuilding the Skills Base – the work of CV is appreciated. The region looks to benefit from two workshops on Umpire training. The program was well supported across the region and Kenn Boal worked his magic. Thanks to CV and the Together More Active funding support.

Finances – the region does not run a huge regional budget but fund raising activities meant that \$700 was able to be provided to a regional player to assist in defraying costs in participation in the Australian Gateball Team World Cup challenge in China. Most clubs are successfully gaining access to grants and minor sponsorships. Clubs await the opportunity to develop submissions under the Development Initiative Fund soon to be announced.

Russell Worland

South West Regional Director April 2025

WESTERN METRO CROQUET & MALLETSPOUNTS ASSOCIATION

Club	Total Members	Affiliated Members	Associate Members	Under 21 Members	Active Coaches	Referees
Essendon		75			1 AC	2 AC, 2 GC
Brunswick	71	67	3	1	3 AC, 2 GC	2 AC, 3 GC, 1 GB
Williamstown		61			1 AC, 1 GC	3 GC
Brimbank	26	21	5			

Metro Croquet and Malletsports Association (WMCMA) comprises four clubs – Essendon, Brunswick, Williamstown and Brimbank. The first three clubs are two-court venues and Brimbank is located at the Victorian Croquet Centre, Cairnlea (VCC) with limited court access on days when VCC is hosting croquet events and unlimited access at other times.

Essendon

We play GC, AC and Gateball. GC is played by most players.

We hold an Annual GC Tournament which is open to members of other clubs.

Recruitment

Our recruitment is still through the U3A program, and this continues to bring in new members each year.

Notable Successes

- We hold several popular inhouse competitions over the course of the year – about half our members participate. These are handicap doubles competitions and have provided the following benefits to the members & club:
- Use of handicap cards gives our members a handicap that reflects their true ability
- and allows them to easily and confidently compete in other Croquet Victoria and affiliated clubs tournaments.
- We use a referee which helps teach our members the rules and ensures they are used to the application of them.
- When pairing up our teams we try to team an experienced member with a less experienced one which provides great teaching and mentoring for our newer members.
- Members play with & against other members that they may not usually play which

- has helped us create a very social and welcoming club environment.
- This has led to an increased participation by our members in the inter-club level play & handicap shield seasons
- Elaine Coverdale and Owen Dickinson continue to be regular State Team members and Winners or Finalists at Victorian GC and/or AC Championships.
- Owen Dickinson won the Australian Ricochet Singles Championship. He also paired with Kevin Beard (Brunswick) to win the Doubles Championship.
- We continued our club maintenance program by obtaining a grant from the Essendon Football Club to replace our sprinkler heads and level the heads with the courts, as well as general sprinkler system maintenance.
- A high involvement of members as volunteers

Brunswick

- We play AC, GC and Gateball
- We continue to present the Electric Light AC Carnival, a competition almost as old as electric lights.
- The lawns have been scarified and cored (December) and are presenting very well – some rain would help
- Grants have been applied for in 2025, a capital works grant to update our outside toilets (outdated 30 years ago), and an equipment grant to purchase 2 sets of new balls. At this stage we do not know the results of our applications.
- The uneven and hazardous paving has been removed and replaced with a new level concrete paved area. New tables and stools have been bolted to the concrete. We hope this will improve drainage.
- Regular GC coaching is conducted at various times during the year. Some aimed at competition players and some at beginners/new players.
- AC Beginner coaching is planned to begin early 2026 on Monday evenings under lights.
- U3A coaching and playing classes are conducted twice during the year.
- Membership has grown slightly over the year – new members balancing out members not continuing membership.
- A highly successful Invitation GC Carnival sponsored by the Community Bank Keilor East was again run. Prizemoney was enabled by the generous sponsorship.

Notable Successes

- Greg Hill and Lachlan Berryman (Associate) are regular AC State Team members and Winners or Finalists at Victorian and National AC Championships. Both represented Australia in the AC World Championships in Florida in October 2025.

Williamstown

- The Williamstown croquet club (WCC) supports players of Golf, Association and Gateball forms of the sport, with most members playing Golf Croquet. We are also seeing a growing interest in Association Croquet, with 8 regular players and 4 attending coaching sessions led by Jock Capobianco.
- Inter-Club Competitions
- We won the 2025 GC Spring Shield. We were also successful in the GC Level Play, Div 2 competition. We are planning to field Level Play Div 1 and 2 teams as well as 2 Shield teams in the 2026 Autumn competition. Involvement in these competitions has surged over

the last few years. This has resulted in a noticeable improvement in the general quality (and enjoyment?) of play across the membership.

- In AC, we haven't fielded any Pennant teams since before COVID. With the growing interest in AC this year, we hope to field a team in the Div 3 or 4 Autumn competition.

State Representatives

- We have 4 members selected in the squad for the ACA GC Interstate Shield to be held in Sep; namely Claire Keating, Felix Gelman White, Richard Hingst and Richard Parks.
- Felix has also been selected as a member of the Victorian Eire Cup for the national AC championships to be held in April.

Club Centenary

- The Club was formed on 18th October 1926 and opened for play in 1928. The Pavilion was opened in 1929. Planning for our centenary celebrations will kick off shortly.
- Club Administration System
- We have set up our Club website in revSport which includes membership and venue booking enquiry forms. We are starting to investigate additional capabilities around invoicing for tournaments and membership. We are using Zoho Books for accounting and financial reporting.

Brimbank

- We play GC with no one showing interest in AC.
- Memberships from Maribyrnong Park finished at just 2
- Due to health issues with 2 key leaders in the club, has meant we had little opportunity to do club planning or promotion.
- Kevin Beard has been put forward to help build Brimbank into a stronger club located at VCC.
- We would like to develop a membership drive to grow the game and our club.
- Given most of our members are 80+ work on growing the Club may have to come from a professional body at a cost to us or VCA
- We can help with functions when VCC gears up to accommodate them.
- We play in the GC Shield competition within our region
- Our region has made \$500 available to us to help do promotions (open days). We will probably need another \$500
- We have been successful in obtaining 1 small council grant in the past year.
- We (are ready to) assist VCA/VCC in volunteer work where we can.

Courts available on a Saturday or Sunday are rare and we really do need to have our court hire/court rental reduced to compensate.

WIMMERA CROQUET ASSOCIATION

The Wimmera has now been reduced to just 2 clubs, Dimboola and Horsham with Casterton now just playing social croquet amongst themselves. I believe the two younger competitive players have moved to Portland.

Wimmera continues to hold annual singles and doubles championships, and the pennant season is currently underway, 4 teams from Horsham and one from Dimboola. There is also an Autumn mixed competition held from April to May which is more of a social event. Teams are a combination of Horsham and Dimboola players.

This year Charles Rees stood down as president with Rachel Cousins elected as the incoming president. Donna Frost remains secretary and Robyn Goodwin as Treasurer.

Both Wimmera, Dimboola and Horsham joined the Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly this year, it is a non for profit organisation dedicated to supporting the growth, development and promotion of sport and recreation at the grassroots level in the Wimmera region. They have been helpful in advertising the Horsham Come and Try day held during seniors week, help

with self-reporting tax, and have interesting workshops. The Horsham club secretary attended the Child safety session held at the end of September.

Dimboola

Dimboola Croquet Club had 26 players at the beginning of the year but has lost 7 players (5 to relocating and 2 passing) at the time of report there are 19 players. The code played is Golf Croquet.

There are no junior players.

The club is in reasonable financial condition.

The court has been scarified and is in reasonable condition. Maintenance is left to one member (volunteer). The club participated in the soil testing which was on offer and have implemented recommended treatment.

The club has a good relationship with the council, paying no rates.

5 members participated in the TMA workshop run in Horsham and thoroughly enjoyed it

Horsham Croquet Club October

This year the club was saddened at the passing of Betty Etherton and Iris Williams and Kevin Geyer who had all been great contributors to croquet, and active in maintaining the club in Horsham.

Horsham currently has 50 members, plus 2 non-playing social members, currently there are no junior players but during third term we do have school children visit as part of their sports program. The Child safety officer has made good inroads into ensuring we respond to the Child safety Standards, some areas to work on but good progress to date/.

This year three members were awarded life memberships, Donna Frost, Lyn Creasey and Jenny Pipkorn who have all contributed greatly to the club. A certificate of appreciation was also given to past member Ella Lister and was celebrated with a lovely afternoon tea and presentation.

Horsham have a core group of members who travel to outside tournaments with some success and enjoy attending them.

Members also had the chance to participate in the TMA workshop which was thoroughly enjoyed with noticeable improvement to play. Many thanks to Maurice and Sarina Cevaall-Hewitt. The club continues to hold practice sessions with drills one Wednesday every month.

The Horsham tournament will be held at the end of October and again filled up very quickly, it is 3 days with doubles, singles and high/low doubles.

Horsham holds 3 regular play days (Golf Croquet), with one day for social play and the other 2 which count towards club aggregate. Alternating every week between level play and handicapped play

The club participates in pennant at this time of year against Dimboola, and a friendly mixed competition in Autumn with Dimboola players

The club is in a good financial position. This year we received a grant from Horsham Sports and community centre that is allowing installation of a sprinkler system on a small patch of lawn between car park and courts lawn to make things easier for members.

Our courts are managed by members and we have regular assessments of our courts by agronomists and they have reported that the courts are in good condition. We have 4 courts but during the tournament we expand and are able to use the tennis courts for 4 extra courts.

The club is situated on crown land, currently we don't have a lease so are limited in regards pursuing upgrades like ensuring toilets are accessible to wheelchairs etc. the council has done some repair work for us, on the building and garden beds.

During the Christmas period we generally have 2 to 3 work groups use the facilities for xmas functions, Horsham provides the equipment and members are there to guide them through how to play, this hopefully broadens the amount of people that are aware of croquet.

The club continues to hold a Come and try day during seniors week, this year advertising supported by the Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly.

Rachel Cousins

Director

Wimmera Region