



Minutes of Croquet Victoria Council Meeting
held Monday 18 December 2023 at Victorian Croquet Centre

1 Attendance

1.1 Present:

1.1.1 Directors:

Kate Patrick (President), Stephen Forster (Vice-President), Sarina Cevaall-Hewitt (Secretary/NEDCA), Claire Keating (Treasurer), Helen Worlidge (Member), Paul Coughlin (Member), Maurice Cevaall-Hewitt (Member), Deb Newbold (Director/EMCA), Pat Smith (Ballarat & District), Peter Binks (Geelong - part meeting), Tom Lacey (Gippsland), Ian Potter (Murray Valley), Paul Ryan (NDCA), Terri Manwaring (SEMCA), Russell Worland (SWCA- part meeting),

Secretarial Note: Peter Binks (Geelong) and Paul Ryan (NDCA) joined meeting via zoom.

1.1.2 Observers:

Wayne Worlidge (MCC).

1.2 Apologies:

Eileen Gough (Geelong), Jan MacDonald (Goldfields), Minn Stewart (Bayside).

2 Opening/Declaration of Interest

The President opened the meeting at 10.32 am with an Acknowledgement of Country and Respect for Indigenous Elders past, present and emerging.

No Director declared any interests that may have a bearing on carrying out their role impartially.

3 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Council Meeting:

Resolved on the motion of Paul Coughlin and Pat Smith 'that the Minutes of the Croquet Victoria Council Meeting held 16 October 2023 be adopted as a true and correct record'.

3.1 Business Arising from Minutes of Previous Meetings:

3.1.1 Lawn Management Proposal:

Existing Lawn Management Manual to be forwarded to Paul Ryan.

Action President

Reminder to clubs to complete online survey by 31 January 2024.

Action Secretary

3.1.2 Director Training:

Reminder to those Directors who have not yet completed training to do so by 31 January 2024.

Action Secretary

3.1.3 Child Safe Policy:

The President reported on the main issues discussed at the recent zoom meeting held for Child Safe Champions and club representatives. Many clubs consider compliance onerous.

3.1.4 VCC Futures Options Paper:

This paper to be distributed to Directors, regions and clubs in January after amendments to reflect discussion at meeting.

Covering document to include timeline to decision.

Action Paul Coughlin

11.27 am Peter Binks joins meeting

4 Adoption of Financial Report

Attached as Annex A

Resolved on the motion of Claire Keating and Maurice Cevaall-Hewitt 'that Financial Report be adopted'.

In response to questions from Directors:

- chart to be presented to future meetings detailing sources of income and areas of expenditure
- other investment managers could be considered.

5 Consent Items

- 5.1 President's Report: Attached as Annex B
- 5.2 Secretary's Report: including correspondence Attached as Annex C
- 5.3 CoM Report: 20230927CoM.pdf (croquetvic.asn.au)
- 5.4 State Coordinator of Coaching Report: Attached as Annex D
- 5.5 State Coordinator or Ricochet Report: Attached as Annex E
- 5.6 State Coordinator of Golf Croquet Handicapping Report: Attached as Annex F
- 5.7 State Coordinator of U21 Report: Attached as Annex G
- 5.8 Constitution Review Working Group Report: Attached as Annex H
- 5.9 Strategic Plan Implementation Sub-Committee Report: Attached as Annex I
- 5.10 Sub-Committee Minutes Received and Distributed:
Strategic Plan Implementation Sub-Committee: 30 October 2023, 13 November 2023
- 5.11 Regional Reports to Council: Attached as Annex J
- 5.12 Marketing & Publicity Report:
Marketing & Publicity Sub-Committee member, Helen Worlidge, relayed the frustration that Marketing & Publicity Newsletters are not reaching enough individual club members.
Directors to also receive future Marketing & Publicity Newsletters. **Action Secretary**
Connecting with members to be February 2024 Council Meeting Agenda Item. **Action Secretary**

Resolved on the motion of Russell Worland and Helen Worlidge 'that Consent Items be accepted'.

6 Business Arising from Consent Items

- 6.2 Secretary's Report:
Recent '16 Days of Activism' social media campaign resulted in some negative comments online.
Nuisance phone call numbers to be forwarded to Secretary for collating.
- 6.7 State Coordinator of U21 Report:
Thirty-two clubs reporting that they have or are planning croquet activities with school groups.
- 6.12 Marketing & Publicity Report:
Resolved on the motion of Paul Coughlin and Helen Worlidge 'that the email address, marketing@croquetvic.asn.au, be added to the Croquet Victoria website homepage footer. **Action Webmaster**

Lunch Break 1.00 pm to 1.30 pm.

Russell Worland and Peter Binks did not return to the meeting.

7 General Business

- 7.1 Matters for Decision:
- 7.1.1 Golf Croquet Regionals Guidelines/format update:
Resolved on the motion of Kate Patrick and Ian Potter 'that proposed new section 'Duration' be added to Victorian Golf Croquet Regionals as detailed in briefing paper.
Resolved on the motion of Ian Potter and Pat Smith 'that revised statement related to event referees be amended as detailed in briefing paper'.
Resolved on the motion of Tom Lacey and Ian Potter 'that Conditions of Play be amended as detailed in briefing paper'. **Action Secretary**
- 7.2 Matters for Discussion:
- 7.2.1 Governance Self-Assessment:
The meeting discussed the Governance Self-Assessment Report provided by Australian Sports Commission.

Resolved on the motion of Helen Worlidge and Paul Coughlin 'that the following be actioned:

- skills matrix be developed
- previous Council self-assessment be undertaken again - with added questions
- Treasurer to review Procurement Policy and related financial delegations'.

7.2.2 State Coordinator of Association Croquet - Handicapping:

The nomination of Mike Cohn as State Coordination of Association Croquet - Handicapping was endorsed.

7.3 Matters for Noting:

7.3.1 Status of Current Complaints:

Dealt with In-Camera.

8 Close 2.54 pm

9 Next Meetings

CoM	6.30 pm Wednesday 17 January 2024 via zoom
CoM	6.30 pm Wednesday 31 January 2024 via zoom
Council	9.30 am Monday 19 February 2024 via zoom
CoM	6.30 pm Wednesday 20 March 2024 via zoom
Council	9.30 am Monday 15 April 2024 via zoom
CoM	6.30 pm Wednesday 16 May 2024 via zoom
AGM	10.30 am Monday 17 June 2024 at Victorian Croquet Centre
Council	Monday 17 June 2024 at Victorian Croquet Centre
CoM	6.30 pm Wednesday 17 July 2024 via zoom
Council	9.30 am Monday 19 August 2024 via zoom
CoM	6.30 pm Wednesday 18 September 2024 via zoom
Council	9.30 am Monday 21 October 2024 via zoom
CoM	6.30 pm Wednesday 20 November 2024 via zoom
Council	10.30 am Monday 16/23 December 2024 at Victorian Croquet Centre

Annex A	Financial Report
Annex B	President's Report
Annex C	Secretary's Report
Annex D	State Coordinator of Coaching Report
Annex E	State Coordinator of Ricochet Report
Annex F	State Coordinator of Golf Croquet Handicapping Report
Annex G	State Coordinator U21 Report
Annex H	Constitution Review Working Group Report
Annex I	Strategic Plan Implementation Sub-Committee Report
Annex J	Regional Reports to Council

FINANCIAL REPORT NOVEMBER 2023

The following financial reports are attached:

- Summary Detailed Profit and loss for eight months ended 30 November 2023 against budget and prior year
- Balance Sheet as at 30 November 2023
- JBWere Monthly report Summary November 2023

Key points to note:

The Net Operating result at the end of November is \$53,641 compared to budget of (\$3,630) and \$147,009 at this time last year. The overall result is a surplus of \$67,726 compared to budget of \$27,160 and \$(28,015) at this time last year.

The main differences to budget are due to underspend on Administration (\$10.9k), Committee and Co-ordinators (\$11.6k), Repairs and Maintenance (\$19.6k) and VCC Court costs (\$14k), offset by lower Investment income (\$3.1k). The main differences from last year relate to lower Investment income (\$30k), higher administration (\$13.9k) and higher VCC Court Costs (\$19k).

Income

- a) The JB Were investment portfolio income YTD is \$113k, \$3.1k lower than budget and \$30k lower than last year. Based on forecast information provided by JBWere it appears that the difference to budget is mainly timing.
- b) The unrealised gain on the Investment portfolio YTD is \$14k, \$16k lower than budgeted but \$189k better than this time last year. There was a large positive movement of \$108k in the month, showing continued volatility in investment markets.

Expenses

- c) Administration charges are lower than budgeted due to continued lower Admin support than expected and some budgeted costs being paid from Grant money. However, as previously noted this has been partially offset by legal costs of \$6.6k relating to two tribunal matters.
- d) Committee and Co-ordinator spend continues to be below budget.
- e) VCC Building costs are lower than budgeted mainly due to less Repairs and Maintenance (\$19.6 k) which is a timing difference.
- f) VCC Court costs are \$14k lower than budget. Court assistance, fertiliser and chemical costs are lower than budgeted but this is partially offset by higher water cost than budgeted.

Balance Sheet

- g) Net Assets at 30 November were \$8,881,416 compared to \$8,645,867 at November last year. The movement in Net Assets for the eight months is an increase of \$67,726.
- h) See attachment for a summary page of the JB Were portfolio at 30 November showing the value of \$4,655,166 an increase of \$101,314 since the end of March.
- i) Accounts receivable is predominantly ACA Court Hire and Brimbank Club contribution fees.

Cash Outlook

The operating bank account is \$129k at month end. This compares to approx. \$177k at the same point last year. There is no foreseeable need to draw any amounts from the Investment portfolio in the next quarter.

Finance sub-committee report

The Finance sub-committee met on 11 December with the main agenda item being the first draft of 24/25 budget. There are a number of areas still to confirm and the budget is on track for the February Council meeting.

Claire Keating
Honorary Treasurer
12 December 2023

Victorian Croquet Association Inc.
Profit & Loss vs Budget and Prior Year
April 2023 To November 2023

	Selected Period	Budgeted	\$ Difference	Last Year	\$ Difference
INCOME					
JBWERE	\$113,525.62	\$117,200.00	(\$3,674.38)	\$144,395.66	(\$30,870.04)
VCA AFFILIATIONS	\$94,972.74	\$95,200.00	(\$227.26)	\$94,404.56	\$568.18
ACA AFFILIATIONS/INSURANCE	\$83,494.28	\$85,000.00	(\$1,505.72)	\$80,185.90	\$3,308.38
MERCHANDISE/PENNANT	\$1,029.48	\$1,600.00	(\$570.52)	\$3,914.09	(\$2,884.61)
TOURNAMENTS	\$5,418.05	\$6,905.00	(\$1,486.95)	\$7,290.54	(\$1,872.49)
Other Operating Income	\$72.89	\$0.00	\$72.89	\$370.00	(\$297.11)
CATERING/BAR	\$2,246.03	\$1,250.00	\$996.03	\$6,587.17	(\$4,341.14)
PREMISES/COURTS/RENT	\$17,331.82	\$17,150.00	\$181.82	\$31,944.38	(\$14,612.56)
BEQUESTS/DONATIONS	\$1,097.25	\$1,000.00	\$97.25	\$1,045.00	\$52.25
SRV GRANT -SVSR	\$45,251.68	\$32,100.00	\$13,151.68	\$24,039.17	\$21,212.51
Total INCOME	\$364,439.84	\$357,405.00	\$7,034.84	\$394,176.47	(\$29,736.63)
Gross Profit	\$364,439.84	\$357,405.00	\$7,034.84	\$394,176.47	(\$29,736.63)
EXPENSES					
ACA AFFILIATIONS/INSURANCE	\$85,047.95	\$85,000.00	\$47.95	\$78,400.68	\$6,647.27
ADMINISTRATION VCA	\$34,828.58	\$45,782.00	(\$10,953.42)	\$21,038.04	\$13,790.54
COMMITTEES	\$5,241.91	\$16,850.00	(\$11,608.09)	\$3,920.99	\$1,320.92
COUNCIL/COM travel	\$607.02	\$1,450.00	(\$842.98)	\$689.37	(\$82.35)
SRV GRANTS SVSR	\$38,857.46	\$32,000.00	\$6,857.46	\$23,493.76	\$15,363.70
TOURNAMENTS	\$2,894.13	\$3,240.00	(\$345.87)	\$2,379.05	\$515.08
MERCHANDISE/PENNANT	\$4,637.75	\$1,900.00	\$2,737.75	\$1,067.00	\$3,570.75
VCC BUILDING	\$96,433.80	\$118,623.00	(\$22,189.20)	\$92,653.13	\$3,780.67
CATERING/BAR	\$1,523.78	\$2,000.00	(\$476.22)	\$4,293.45	(\$2,769.67)
VCC COURTS	\$33,453.64	\$47,200.00	(\$13,746.36)	\$13,949.94	\$19,503.70
STATE TEAMS G & A	\$7,272.73	\$7,000.00	\$272.73	\$5,281.85	\$1,990.88
Total EXPENSES	\$310,798.75	\$361,045.00	(\$50,246.25)	\$247,167.26	\$63,631.49
Operating Profit	\$53,641.09	(\$3,640.00)	\$57,281.09	\$147,009.21	(\$93,368.12)
OTHER INCOME					
Unrealised fair value gains(losses)	\$14,085.66	\$30,800.00	(\$16,714.34)	(\$175,024.46)	\$189,110.12
Total OTHER INCOME	\$14,085.66	\$30,800.00	(\$16,714.34)	(\$175,024.46)	\$189,110.12
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$67,726.75	\$27,160.00	\$40,566.75	(\$28,015.25)	\$95,742.00

Balance Sheet

As of November 2023

ABN: 91 903 271 264

Assets**Current Assets****Bank Accounts**

Bendigo

\$129,327.05

Bendigo - Grants Account

\$8,000.00

Holding

-\$95.00

Total Bank Accounts

\$137,232.05

Petty Cash Float

\$1,043.52

Total Current Assets

\$138,275.57

Accounts Receivable**Accounts Receivable**

\$9,758.45

Total Accounts Receivable

\$9,758.45

JBWERE - Investment A/c

\$4,851,725.02

Fixed Assets**Cairnlea - Land and site works at cost**

\$1,980,368.00

Building at cost

\$3,331,836.00

Accumulated depreciation

-\$1,446,795.00

Plant & Equipment**Plant and Equipment**

\$197,539.01

Accumulated Depreciation

-\$166,484.98

Total Plant & Equipment

\$31,054.03

Total Fixed Assets

\$3,896,463.03

Total Assets

\$8,896,222.07

Liabilities**Current Liabilities****Accounts Payable**

\$3,600.00

Total Current Liabilities

\$3,600.00

Tax Payable**GST Collected**

\$5,056.93

GST Paid

-\$1,850.90

Total Tax Payable

\$3,206.03

Grant Liabilities**Grants Received in Advance**

\$8,000.00

Total Grant Liabilities

\$8,000.00

Total Liabilities

\$14,806.03

Net Assets

\$8,881,416.04

Equity**Reserves****General Reserve**

\$7,703,572.44

Asset Revaluation Reserve

\$974,117.35

Retained Earnings

\$93,965.46

Current Earnings

\$67,726.75

Special Funds

\$42,034.04

Total Equity

\$8,881,416.04



Report as at 30 Nov 2023

Portfolio Valuation

Issued by
JBWere Limited
ACN 137 978 360

Portfolio Summary

Account Number: M3787875F

Asset Class	Market Value *	Estimated Income **	Estimated Yield	% Of Portfolio
Cash	\$ 15,786.93	\$ 647.26	4.10 %	0.33 %
Credit	\$ 1,484,801.13	\$ 91,238.05	6.14 %	30.60 %
Equity - Domestic	\$ 2,219,226.64	\$ 106,829.90	4.81 %	45.74 %
Equity - International	\$ 1,131,910.32	\$ 24,459.23	2.16 %	23.33 %
Total Portfolio Value	\$ 4,851,725.02	\$ 223,174.44	4.60 %	100.00 %
Unsettled Transactions	\$ 0.00			
Net Portfolio Value	\$ 4,851,725.02			

Regional Summary

Region	Market Value *	Estimated Income **	Estimated Yield	% Of Portfolio
Domestic	\$ 3,494,259.33	\$ 184,537.14	5.28 %	72.02 %
International	\$ 1,357,465.69	\$ 38,637.30	2.85 %	27.98 %
Total Regional Summary	\$ 4,851,725.02	\$ 223,174.44	4.60 %	100.00 %

Defensive/Growth Summary

Defensive/Growth	Market Value *	Estimated Income **	Estimated Yield	% Of Portfolio
Defensive	\$ 1,500,588.06	\$ 91,885.31	6.12 %	30.93 %
Growth	\$ 3,351,136.96	\$ 131,289.13	3.92 %	69.07 %
Total Defensive/Growth Summary	\$ 4,851,725.02	\$ 223,174.44	4.60 %	100.00 %

President's report

BACKGROUND

Under the Constitution, the Committee of Management reports to Council via the President. Under the by-laws, the president is required to represent and promote mallet sports in all its forms throughout Victoria, to chair meetings of Council and CoM, and to attend meetings of sub-committees and working groups ex officio.

UPDATE

1. Matters from the Committee of Management

The November meeting of CoM considered

- Generating invitations to the Governor, who has agreed to be Croquet Victoria's patron. Regions and Tournaments and Fixtures to be asked to recommend occasions to which the Governor might be invited.
- Draft report from the VCC Futures sub-committee. Further discussed. Hopefully final version for consultation is on this agenda
- Response to Child Safe resources. Meeting the Child Safe standards is a challenging responsibility. Further online workshops to be held for club Child Safe champions.
- On-line course on managing situations involving inappropriate behaviour in the workplace (including clubs). An appropriate course has been identified and recommended to Directors. For discussion at this meeting.
- Together More Active grant conditions require Croquet Victoria to
 - continue to disseminate information on resources supporting the government's Fair Play and Access all Abilities policies
 - develop action plans on inclusion; gender equity; and reconciliationAction on these requirements has been referred to the Strategic Plan Implementation sub-committee.
- The process for appointing coaches to the State Teams and state squads. This was referred to the Selection Sub-Committees.

2. Promoting mallet sports

I recently attended two Vicsport events for state sporting associations. I connected with leaders of some of the "target sports" which appear in the same grouping in the school curriculum as croquet, such as archery and pistol shooting. Some years ago a working group brought these sports together to share plans and ideas. We are going to get together again. There may be some options for these sports to hold events at VCC.

3. Governance: complaints, self-assessment

COMPLAINTS We have still not heard that Croquet Australia has updated its complaints policies.

This agenda includes an in camera item on the complaints that Croquet Victoria is currently engaged with.

SELF-ASSESSMENT The ASC has now provided comparison data in relation to our self-assessment (first discussed in August). This is an item on today's agenda.

4. Representing mallet sports

Whenever possible I continue to attend the monthly Vicsports online briefings for state sporting organisations, regional sport associations, and the Victorian Institute of Sport. Information at these briefings is provided by VicHealth and Sport and Recreation officers.

5. Liaising with Croquet Australia and other states

I have met briefly with Kristie Middleton, the new CEO of Croquet Australia. There is a possibility that the newly appointed Operations and Administration Officer for Croquet

Australia may be available to act as organizer for Croquet Victoria in relation to our Together More Active program of activities.

A Special General Meeting of Croquet Australia was held on 1 November 2023. This was initially called to discuss the possibility of Croquet Australia becoming a company limited by guarantee. A decision on this is being deferred and the meeting became a general catch up. It included advice that Croquet Australia is raising its affiliation fees in 2024. Fees are to be reduced pro rata across the year: \$36 full year, \$27 members joining in the second quarter, \$18 members joining in the third quarter, and \$12 members joining in the fourth quarter.

6. Attendance at meetings

Since the last meeting of Council I have attended the following meetings *ex officio*: Strategic Plan Implementation (3); Tournaments and Fixtures (2), GC Selection (3), Marketing and Publicity (2), VCC sub-committee (1); Club Secretaries; Child Safe resources (1).

Kate Patrick
12 December 2023

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Croquet Victoria Membership
2980 (9 December 2023).

Club Secretaries Zoom Meeting

A meeting was held 6 December 2023. There does appear to be interest in club secretaries meeting quarterly. Perhaps the role of convenor for future meetings could be the Club Development Officer. Whilst this position is currently vacant, if this network of club secretaries was developed independently of the Croquet Victoria Secretary, then club secretaries could support each other in their role and collectively bring concerns about communications with the state organisation to the Croquet Victoria Secretary.

Athlete Travel Pathways

Submission for grant funding to support Eire Cup and ISS team not available for 2024.

Social Media Platforms update

Youtube

Comment from William Maxwell

Brilliant coverage, I have just found you channel, so catching up, keep up the good work, I'm a noobie to Golf Croquet practising out here in Mandura WA.

With thanks to MySportLive, Croquet Victoria has videos of the following events:

- 2021 Australian Golf Croquet Open Singles
- 2021 Brian Reither Association Croquet Challenge
- 2021 Owen Edwards Golf Croquet Challenge
- 2021 Victorian Golf Croquet Men & Women's Championships
- 2021 Victorian Association Croquet Open Singles
- 2022 Australian Golf Croquet Presidents Eights
- 2022 Australian Golf Croquet Open Singles

The above were the events broadcast via Kayo. Kayo has distribution rights for two years. Therefore, we should now upload the five 2021 events to our own Croquet Victoria YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/@CroquetVictoria1>

Facebook - 1181 followers - 16 days of activism media tiles posted.

Twitter - 76 followers

Instagram - 150 followers

Director Training

Of our current twenty Directors, nine have notified me that they have completed the Workplace Bullying and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace training module.

Annual Club Survey

We have nine clubs yet to complete this year's survey. No progress.

Croquet Victoria Logo

We are still waiting for the style guide prior to replacing the former logo on website, letterhead, social media etc.

Complaints

Three complaints are still ongoing.

Regional Reports to Council

19 February 2024	Gippsland, NDCA, Murray Valley,
15 April 2024	SEMCA, WMCMA, NEDCA
19 August 2024	SWCA, EMCA, Bayside
21 October 2024	Ballarat, Geelong, Goldfields
16/23 December 2024	GVCA, Wimmera

Jana Cresswell-Hewitt

Secretary

Correspondence

In Email	
2 Nov 2023	Peter Betson - Deputy Secretary DJSIR - 16 days of Activitism
16 Nov 2023	Change Our Game - Balance the Board response
19 Nov 2023	Gateball Referee Committee - referencing player behaviour
23 Nov 2023	SRV - Access All Abilities Survey
	Croquet Australia Ricochet Coordinator - Ricochet new rules posted to states early December
27 Nov 2023	SRV - notification that Athlete Travel Pathway team grant not available for 2024
Various	VCC utility invoices, Golf Croquet Regionals feedback, TMA Player Development Project hosting Eol's, notification of completed Director Training, Child Safe Club declarations and queries, Liquor Control Newsletters, Gateball Newsletters, Venue Hire enquiries, Golf Croquet State Team Squad acceptances, Complaint status,
Out Email	
29 Nov 2023	Club Secretaries - seeking croquet balls for lifestyle village
30 Nov 2023	Lester Hughes - response to previous query re State Team/Squad coaching
Various	distribution of eBulletins, Croquet Australia board Minutes, distribution of national event flyers, call for nominations to Strategic Plan Implementation Sub-Committee/Complaint Handler, complaint documentation,

State Coordinator of Coaching Report

I have been very pleased with the skills displayed.

Coach Accreditations during the last six months	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Golf Croquet	14	7	1	0
Association Croquet	1	2	3	0
Gateball		1		

No **Ricochet** coaches have been accredited during the last six months.

Three coaches have surrendered their accreditations during the last six months.

Coaches Awaiting Accreditation (includes upskilling):

Golf Croquet: 13

Association Croquet: 9

Gateball: 2

Coaches by code:

Golf Croquet (70) up from 50				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3P	
43	17	5	5	
Association Croquet (29) up from 27				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 4P
4	17	5	1	2
Ricochet Croquet (5) no change				
Level 1	Level 2P			
3	2			
Gateball (7) no change				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 2P	Level 3	
3	2	1	1	

Coaches by Region	Golf	Association	Ricochet	Gateball
Ballarat and District	4	1	1	0
Bayside	6	0	0	0
Eastern Metro	7	8	0	4
Geelong	3	2	0	0
Gippsland	5	0	0	0
Goldfields	6	1	1	0
Goulburn Valley	8	6	0	0
Murray Valley	2	0	0	0
North Eastern	8	4	3	2
Northern District	4	2	0	0
South East Metro	5	0	0	0
South Western	0	0	0	1

Western Metro Croquet and Malletsports	3	4	0	0
Wimmera	9	1	0	0
Total = 90 coaches with 111 accreditations	70	29	5	7

Forty-six clubs do not have an accredited coach in any code.

I have been involved with Golf Croquet Squad and Team Training sessions at the Victorian Croquet Centre.

There has been progress on access to the coaching resources on the Croquet Australia Academy website. The Croquet Australia administrator is collaborating with the oodo website master to eliminate errors. A further meeting is scheduled in the near future to organise testing of the website.

Maurice Cevaal-Hewitt

[illegible]

1	Queenscliff Croquet Club													1
Gippsland														
1	Bairnsdale Croquet Club	1		1										
1	Drouin Croquet Club													1
1	Korumburra Croquet Club													1
1	Lakes Entrance Croquet Club	2												
1	Leongatha Croquet Club													1
1	Maffra Croquet Club													1
1	Morwell Croquet Club													1
1	Orbost Croquet Club													1
1	Phillip Island Croquet Club													1
1	Sale Croquet Club													1
1	Traralgon Croquet Club													1
1	Warragul Croquet Club		1											
1	Wonthaggi Croquet Club													1
Goldfields														
1	Bendigo Croquet Club		1											
1	Castlemaine Croquet Club						1							
1	Eaglehawk Croquet Club	4												
1	Maryborough Croquet Club			1					1					
Goulburn Valley														
1	Deniliquin Lawn Tennis Club Inc Croquet Club	1	1											
1	Echuca Moama Croquet Club	1			1									
1	Euroa Croquet Club													1
1	Kyabram Croquet Club													1
1	Mooroopna Croquet Club		1			1								

[illegible]

Wimmera														
1	Casterton Croquet Club													1
1	Dimboola Croquet Club	4												
1	Horsham Croquet Club	4												
1	Kalimna Park Croquet Club	1			1									
89	111	43	17	10	4	17	5	3	3	2	3	3	1	46

State Coordinator of Ricochet Report

Activities since my last report to the 2023 Croquet Victoria Annual Report:

- amended Ricochet Rule Books are expected to be printed in December 2023
- Ricochet Croquet Handicapping Guidelines have been agreed by State Coordinators of Ricochet
- the scheduled September State Championships were cancelled due to lack of entries
- we have scheduled a Ricochet Division 2 Championship for 2/3 March 2024
- Ricochet Croquet was on offer for participants to try at the Carnival of Croquet 19/20 August 2023, it will be offered again at the Classic Fun Weekend 17/18 February 2024
- the Australian Ricochet Championships will be hosted at the Victorian Croquet Centre 27/28 April 2024
- Leongatha and Traralgon Croquet Clubs have Ricochet events in 2024.

As of 5 December 2023, we have five Ricochet Croquet coaches and six Ricochet Croquet referees.

Anticipating one more Ricochet coach and referee in the near future.

Maurice Cevaall-Hewitt

State Coordinator of Ricochet

**Annex F to
Croquet Victoria Council Meeting Minutes
18 December 2023**

State Coordinator of Golf Croquet Handicapping

Activities since my last report to the 2023 Croquet Victoria Annual Report:

I have received and dealt with only a few enquiries about Golf Croquet Handicaps via email.

A Golf Croquet Handicappers workshop was hosted by the Shepparton Croquet Club on Monday 4 December 2023. Fourteen attendees from Goulburn Valley clubs received a folder with resource materials and links to further documentation.



It is always surprising that so many club handicappers or players do not understand how to calculate the change to indexes for Golf Croquet level play doubles and assume it is the same as handicap doubles.

As yet there has not been many enquiries about Advantage Play.

Maurice Cevaál-Hewitt
State Coordinator or Ricochet

Under 21 Coordinator report

BACKGROUND

The task of the State Coordinator of Under 21 Croquet is to create and deliver a state program aimed at people under the age of 21 that will encourage, nurture and develop players in the sport of croquet. This paper provides a brief update on events since my last report.

UPDATE

1. Current Under 21 membership and support

There are now 12 affiliated members whose clubs have registered them as being aged under 21 – new members have been recruited at Kew, Quarry Hill and Ballarat Western. Current numbers by club are:

Casterton	1
Golden Square	2
Quarry Hill	1
Wonthaggi	2
Brunswick	1
Ballarat Western	1
Kew	3
Swan Hill	1
TOTAL	12

In addition, 32 of the 79 clubs who replied to this year's club survey indicated that they were either currently involved with schools or were planning to work with schools. I will be contacting these clubs to check how they progressed.

This year the Teachers' Games were held at Traralgon, and I understand the secretary there has encouraged entrants in the croquet competitions to contact their local club for coaching in advance of the Games.

2. Croquet Australia Under 21 championships and follow up

Two of our junior members played off in the ACA Victorian Under 21 Golf Croquet Bronze, for the right to represent Victoria in the national Gold Medal competition to be held at Maitland in January. The successful player was James Wombwell, of Casterton, who has been travelling to Portland to practice. Four Victorian members are entering the Under 21 singles and doubles Championships in Maitland which will follow the Gold Medal.

Croquet Victoria's budget includes funding for scholarships to support junior members entering competitions. Two of the families travelling to Maitland have indicated that they intend to apply for reimbursement of their costs (for Maitland and for the Bronze Medal) under the terms of this scholarship. I seek approval from Council for reimbursement consistent with the scholarship policy, up to our declared limit of \$1000 per player.

FOR APPROVAL

3. Child Safe policies and Child Safe champions

With support from Vicsport, Croquet Victoria now has a suite of resources to help clubs meet the requirements of the Child Safe standards (obligatory under Victorian law). Club representatives have started to meet via Zoom, and I am hopeful that the work they are doing will encourage their clubs to reach out to families in their local community.

Kate Patrick
12 December 2023

Notes on the Constitution Working Group Meeting

Held via Zoom at 7.30pm 20/11/2023.

A document from Russell Worland had been circulated to the working group prior to the meeting and was discussed.

It was the overall feeling from the working group that continuing with the aim to progress to a Board by way of changing the constitution was still worth pursuing. However, with the future of VCC still in the balance and waiting for a vote at a Special General Meeting to be held in April, now would not be a good time to present anything to members.

It was decided that the working group will continue to meet and develop documentation to take to members after the VCC future is decided. At this stage all discussion and documents will remain within the confines of the working group until such time as it is completed and agreed upon by members of the group.

It was noted that Council will shortly consider comparative results of a recent governance self-assessment and may also decide to repeat the Council member self-assessment conducted in 2021. This should generate some useful input for the group.

The group would be happy to incorporate additional member/s should anyone wish to nominate.

The group will meet again in February 2024.

Strategic Plan Implementation Sub Committee Report.

The current focus of the Sub-Committee is:

- how are we tracking with goals?
- what activities do we undertake in 2024?
- how best to progress action on set government actions related to the TMA Action Plan?
- discussion and planning on delivery of TMA funded coaching workshops?

CROQUET VICTORIA STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Sub-Committee has worked on 2 sections of the plan in relation to measuring progress.

Namely: Capability Development and
Membership/Recruitment/Participation.

To be addressed : Governance/Management, Financial Sustainability/Funding/Sponsorship and Image. Sub Committee Intention: to report to Council in February 2024.

TOGETHER MORE ACTIVE

Previously reported to Council the success of grant Application. \$20 000 per year for 4 years.
(see Council Meeting October 2023 President's Report)

The completed(TMA) Action Plan was submitted at the end of November 2023 to the relevant Government Body.

The focus on whatever is done is related to building the capability of the organisation.
Some objectives are: develop coach capability, develop player capability, train club handicappers, support early stages of implementing new child safe policy, build network of club secretaries , appoint an organiser to coordinate new training, coaching and networking activities.

Associated with this grant is the requirement to progress action on a set of state priorities. The Strategic Plan Implementation Sub-Committee has begun to discuss how these might be tackled.

- Access all abilities
- Fair play code
- Inclusion action plan
- Gender equity action plan
- Reconciliation action plan.

One action (agreed to at November CoM meeting) was to support the '16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence' by posting a news item on the Croquet Victoria website (including link to Facebook) and posting the social media resources provided to Croquet Victoria media platforms.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

Email, with attached information sheet, was sent to all club Secretaries asking for expressions of interest to host workshops.

Several responses of interest were received from both Metro and Regional Clubs across the state.

Aim (linking with player capability and to be completed in first half of 2024.)

- To complete a workshop already underway in Warrnambool (AC developing players) 4 sessions are complete, there are 2 sessions remaining.
- To hold a Golf Croquet (novice players) coaching workshop (6 days in total) Currently in discussion with a specific club and coach.
- Coach/es have been notified for their input.

More workshops will take place after June 2024 with the new round of funding becoming available. Clubs who have expressed interest will remain on the list as potential host clubs.

Deb Newbold (SPISC Convenor)

**Annex J to
Croquet Victoria Council Meeting Minutes
18 December 2023**



Ballarat & District Croquet Association Inc.

PO Box 359W Ballarat West 3350

ballarat.district.croquet4@gmail.com

President: Barbara Shannon Secretary: Gwen Hamilton

Treasurer: David Johnston

Report to State Council

We have become a Regional Association of 4 Clubs. The Constitution has been changed and now all members, rather than clubs, have voting powers.

The two Ballarat Clubs have strong memberships and support the other two in as many ways as possible. Though small in numbers, Ararat and Beaufort are making efforts to get more members. Ararat has embarked on rejuvenating their club room and a systematic program to upgrade the lawns. Ballarat Western is looking forward to the removal of the old fence and the painting inside and out of their heritage clubrooms. Alexandra is having the usual problems with moss. A wet spring hasn't helped the eradication program.

We have had to scramble to find teams for the biannual competitions with Geelong in Golf and Association. These days are important parts of the calendar and with by changing a date so that hip and knee surgeries are over and also, in one or two cases, having Geelong loan us a player. There is a similar problem with the Wimmera Challenge. We are considering changing the format and reducing the number of matches.

The association players continue to regard Country week as a must on the calendar although, once again, we have had to recruit players. This has been an informal arrangement. Golf croquet players have had mixed success at regionals. So far we have had umpires to fulfil or obligation in this regard but, owing to advancing years and the difficulty of the online exam we will be in trouble in future.

We have many players who are only interested in playing at their club. However there is a small number who enjoy the competition and social experience at Cairnlea and other clubs. We are proud of our state and national players and follow their successes with interest. We will need to think how we can support new coaches and referees because of losses in both areas. All things considered, BDCA is doing Ok.

Pat Smith

Regional Director.



Goulburn Valley Croquet Association Inc.

ACN: 0018125W
ABN: 88 228 960 992

The GVCA has 260 members there was a loss from last year of 10 members.

Next year we will be working to help our clubs get more members.

The golf croquet Pennants' teams have been trying the new handicap system.

Unfortunately, were not able to have the Interschool GC Tournament this year. Some of our clubs did have School Children trying out croquet.

We have been able to use newspapers to get information and photos on tournaments players also information of what has been happening in our croquet clubs.

Our GVCA website has also advertising our regions happening.

Marjorie Grant Director

Deniliquin Lawn Tennis Club Deniliquin Croquet Club

Number of players 25 – less than last year – some members have retired, some have ill health (may return)

Courts in excellent order. Share with the tennis club and have an excellent green keeper. Good communication with the tennis club committee. Club house is in fair order always need maintenance. No flood issues.

Pennant Deniliquin entered two teams in the GVSA spring tournament and one in the autumn tournament.

Tournament/social days Deniliquin ran a successful Long Paddock tournament over two days in August 2023. It was the first and we had a lot to learn!! We will be running the tournament again in 2024. We also ran a Social Day in 2023. Club members participate in the region by overseeing pennant coordination.

Other tournaments

Association croquet, we have 3 members now playing and 2 of them are playing pennant with Rich River.

A number of players participated in the tournament – Swan Hill, Boort, Albury, Echuca Moama Shepparton, Benalla and Quarry Hill.

The club had a member become an accredited referee.

Issues facing the club. Croquet is not growing in our area and the come and try days have not been successful.

Our biggest issue is recruitment.

In our area there is a perception that croquet is a geriatric sport.

Improved national sport image perhaps.

We need to look at the introduction to the club and play strategies for new members.

Night croquet would improve the attendance if we had lights.

Bobby Murphy Secretary

Echuca Moama Croquet Club.

Our numbers remain at 24. Not much to report from EMCC. We are running along smoothly. We have had a few new members but have lost a couple as well!

This year we have not run any Social Days or Tournaments as most of the Committee took off up North for extended Winter breaks; we have however, played inter club games with Deniliquin and Boort.

Our members always support other clubs' social days and Tournaments and enter golf Croquet Pennant team as well.

I think the only concern we have is re the expectation of umpire's qualifications. I will have to talk more to John Alstin about this as I am not fully across it, but I think it was getting all too hard. I'm not sure if any other clubs have found this as well.

Jenny van der Zande Secretary

Euroa Croquet Club

Membership 31 members. We have any golf croquet pennant. They are still waiting for their club house to be fixed from the flooding last year. **We would be interested to know how to improve our lawns.**

Kabram Croquet Club

Members 16. Is it better than last year? Two new members.

Courts aerating being done.

Our club is playing golf croquet pennant. We are running social days, no tournaments

Our players play in other tournaments.

Are you having Come & Try Days. We are organizing and come try day in 2024 for local bookkeepers from Cobram and Echuca bookkeepers' network. I am a member of the Echuca bookkeepers' network. We are also having a croquet club challenge between Mooroopna and Kyabram.

How can Croquet Victoria Help you? **I suppose there a wonderful support and resources go to centers.**

Leon Gebbing Secretary

Mooroopna Croquet Club.

The club membership has doubled in the past 2 years, from 24 members to 47 members, due to word of mouth, and members bringing their friends to have a go. We have had a few "Come and Try Croquet" days also with 3 or 4 people coming along.

We are still waiting for Shepparton City Council to inform us of when our clubroom will be rebuilt. It has been 12 months since the floods, and we are still in the "Donga."

We have not been able to conduct any social days as there are no facilities or room to accommodate any extras.

The club has entered a team in the GVCA Association Croquet Pennant this year, also a team in GVCA Golf Croquet Pennant.

Some of our members play in tournaments around the State and quite a few are going to Golf Croquet social days all around the Goulburn Valley and beyond.

Happy to see our club going forward.

Helen Wrest, Secretary.

Numurkah Club

We have thirty-four members, two more than last year.

Our courts are the best and perfectly maintained by our curator.

We were not affected by the floods nor was our clubhouse.

Numurkah had one team in the current Golf Croquet Pennant Competition and have combined with Shepparton to play Pennant in the Association Pennant Competition.

When you ask if we are growing as a club in our area I guess because we have two more members this year we have grown very slightly.

We tried to run a Social Day but have had to cancel again in September. The Social Day in May was a great success. This time Golf Croquet and Association combined to hold a Social Day, but entries were too dismal in both forms to run.

Numurkah players have made a point of going to other club Social Days and Tournaments, but it is the same few all the time.

Come and try Days were cancelled this year but have not been well supported by the community.

What can Croquet Victoria do to help?

Every year the proportion of our annual fees that go to VCA and ACA are questioned. Why do we need to send so much to them when the cost of producing and maintaining the first-class facility is ever rising?

Rhonda Geddes Hon. Sec. Numurkah Croquet Club

Rich River Croquet Club 2nd Nov 2023.

Rich River Croquet club has 49 members as of the 31st of October 2023.

A few of our older members are no longer on our list, and we have had 4 members transfer to other clubs. (Last season 57 members.)

The Courts were grossly overwatered due to an irrigation problem through March. This meant that large uneven patches appeared on 3 of the courts. In recent weeks major work has been done laying large pieces of turf into these areas which is anticipated to improve the surface. Our top court has also been resurfaced and will be available for play this month.

Association Croquet Pennant 1 team and Golf Croquet Pennant 2 teams. Also have 4 referees.

Association Croquet is having a resurgence at RRCC. Two players from Deniliquin CC have joined as Associate Members to play AC. Approximately 12 of RRCC are also 3 coaches.

RRCC runs successful Social Days. The Association Croquet ANZAC Classic attracts players from the region, Victorian and National players over 6 days in April. Golf Croquet has two tournaments – Handicap Doubles held in June and The Handicap Singles, including a High Low Doubles Day held in October. In 2024 The Regional Singles Championship in Association Croquet will be hosted 7 – 10 April.

We did have about 80 children one school play one game of croquet and from another school we had 13 children play 4 games each.

A number of our members play in Tournaments offered in and out of the Region.

Regular Come and Try Days are held over the year. In October these are run as registered Seniors Events and at other times of the year as a membership drive. Many moves from these then take advantage of coaching.

We would really appreciate if the GVCA would advertise and encourage regional players to support our Tournaments.

Croquet Victoria gives relevant updates re rule changes and information relevant to croquet. They give support through the distribution of information.

Will need to consider costs for regional players for events at Cairnlea as accommodation and travel expenses have increased. Also not having events on Grand Prix Weekend as reasonably costing accommodation was hard to find. Providing referees is also a problem as representatives are expected to provide them from their region. There could be some flexibility in sharing the job. Encourage younger players to become referees.

Marg Kennedy Secretary RRCC

Shepparton Croquet Club Inc – Annual Report to Croquet Victoria 2023

The Shepparton Croquet Club currently has 34 full members which is down 2 from the previous year. We have 3 associate members this year, down 1 from the previous year and our attendances are slightly up on the previous year over our three days of club play. We play all year round.

Courts and Surrounds

Our courts are expertly maintained and cared for by our professional greenkeeper. Our club is grateful to the members who put in many hours of work maintaining the gardens, line marking the courts, helping out with working bees when asked.

Social Media Profile

We have an active Social Media profile both a public and a private group. The public profile has many followers from overseas as well as locally.

Child Safety Standards

With the introduction of the 11 Child Safety's standards, our club has two members full accredited as Child safe Champions and our committee has been discussing one standard each at its monthly committee meetings, with only 5 left to complete. General meetings are following suit. It has endorsed and signed the VCA Annual child guarding declaration and adopted the relevant policies.

Social days/Tournaments

We are fielding entries from outside the GVCA area from across Victoria/NSW to play at our social days. 4 full-size courts at times bringing out third colours to give players a challenge as many have not played with third colours.

The club hosts around six social days a year and we thank those who help behind the scenes to make these events successful and enjoyable for the players. Some of our players play in social days within and outside our region.

A couple consistently play in tournaments across the state with some great outcomes. Our club will be hosting its first Golf Croquet Handicapped Doubles Tournament in November 2023 with a lot of work going in behind the scenes to make this possible by club members.

Sponsorships

This year we have actively sourced out sponsorship for some of our social days and our upcoming tournament for prize money and in-kind support of merchandise.

Pennant Competition

Two teams are currently playing in the spring golf croquet pennant season with rotations from a good fill in. list of available players. One of our pennant teams successfully made the finals last year. One association team is playing pennant made up of a combined team from another club due to dwindling association players numbers.

Come and try days.

The club was able to obtain sponsorship from our local Council to host four "Live Love Learn Golf Croquet" Friday sessions during the Seniors Festival Month of October. We have been pleased with the attendances to date,

hoping to gain some new members from this to welcome new people to the game.

This summer season we are hosting a pairs event on a Monday night twilight season to encourage people. after work or members who wish to play under the lights.

During the year, we had a member obtain level 1 golf coaching accreditation.

We acknowledge all the work the VCA has done to help grow the sport with zoom sessions for club secretaries, child safety, etc. plus valuable resources, and coaching.

Rita Jenkins Secretary

Shepparton Croquet Club Inc.