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December 2015 Newsletter No. 218



"I PLAY BETTER IN THE DARK" A fantastic night was had by all at the club's presentation evening culminating with a friendly hit under the new lights. It was certainly a time to celebrate with many successes and accomplishments by our members throughout the year.

Thankyou to Nola McRae and all her helpers who decorated the clubhouse and organised a wonderful spread of food.



Acknowledging her efforts in overseeing the refurbishment of the kitchen Margaret Priest was the recipient of the Bess Webster Memorial Award.



2015 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

As usual plenty of action on the lawn during 2015. It would be good to see a few more GC club championship events in future.

Event	Winner	Runner Up
Open Club AC Championship	Jim Nicholls	Peter Lloyd
AC Handicap Championship	Jim Nicholls	Bill Blowes
Half Court Levels	Bill Blowes	Peter Lloyd
Half Court Handicap	Peter Lloyd	Ruth Wilson
Gateball Doubles	Robyn Willis & Jim Nicholls	Margaret Priest & David Willsher
GC Doubles Competition	Eileen Zurbo & Gerry Arbuckle	Val Chapman & LenMcCallum
Best Break	Full court –17 Jim Nicholls	Half Court – 12 Bill Blowes

GATEBALL Jenny, David and Joshua Willsher travelled to Jamberoo along with Reigh and Bev McCoy from Young to play in the NSW Gateball Championships. Whilst only winning three of their 11 games the net points were extremely close for this result (only -13). This included very close games against the Japanese and Kew (the eventual winners). Given the strength of the other teams they were very happy with this result and look forward to more competitions in the future.

Joshua received a scholarship through Charles Sturt University to help with the costs of attending this event and the Australian Nationals event in September.

Great to see Tony Hall amongst the prize winners, coming second in the Gateball doubles. Tony, an octogenarian, has played in the Australian Nationals of Gateball, Association and Golf croquet this year.



Doubles Runners up: Tony Hall (Minus Glen Whitehead!)



NEW MALLETS The club has purchased 10 mallets from Star Mallets in Brisbane. We now have 20 “club” mallets which are primarily to be used for Come and Try sessions and corporate hirings.

With a variety of mallets now at the club this will assist new members in trying out different mallets before buying their own mallet.

CORPORATE EVENTS Croquet continues to be popular with 3 corporate bookings in the week leading up to Christmas. We will also be hosting a charity event in March, Mrs Australia Quest, to assist in raising funds for ovarian cancer.



NEW YEARS EVE

A social evening is planned for New Years Eve, Thursday 31 December from 7pm. The croquet club proves to be a good vantage point for the fireworks, and a lot less crowded than the Victory Memorial Gardens. . , along with The evening is free to members and includes a BBQ. BYO drinks.

COME AND TRY / MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2016

A number of groups have been identified for the potential of building our membership numbers in 2016.

Already Bill Blowes has demonstrated croquet to approximately 40 people at The Grange and has received a positive response. We will be inviting them to the club for an evening of croquet early in the new year.

Joshua Willsher will continue to promote Gateball within CSU and is planning on having regular Gateball sessions with the goal of having 5 – 8 regular players.

Demand for regular social competition play from attendees of Thirsty Crowquet has been building. Jim Nicholls will be working on a Thursday evening competition if there is sufficient numbers.

CLUB CALENDAR 2016 Club Captain Nola McRae will be working on the club's calendar of events over the Christmas / New Year period. With the increase in activity from bookings, and hosting of a number of events an online calendar of events has been added to the website.

This will make it easier for visitors to see our regular playing times as well as providing an easy reference and availability for corporate functions. The calendar can be printed, so updates will be on the noticeboard.

If you have people interested in having a function at the club, please contact Robyn Willis or Jim Nicholls to ensure details are updated in the calendar.

STARTING TIMES Please try and arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time to assist with setting up the courts and enable the coordinator to complete the draw and get play underway.

The screenshot shows the 'Event Calendar' for the Wagga Wagga Croquet Club, accessed in read-only mode. The calendar is set for the period from 6 Dec 2015 to 5 Dec 2016. The current view is for December 2015, grouped by month. The events listed are:

Date	Time	Event
Mon Dec 7	9:00 - 11:00	Association
Tue Dec 8	8:00 - 16:00	Lawn Maintenance
Wed Dec 9	9:30 - 12:00	Golf Croquet
Fri Dec 11	8:00 - 15:00 18:00 - 21:00	Lawn Maintenance Golf Croquet
Sat Dec 12	9:00 - 11:00 9:00 - 10:30	Association Gateball
Mon Dec 14	9:00 - 11:00	Association
Tue Dec 15	8:00 - 16:00	Lawn Maintenance
Wed Dec 16	9:30 - 12:00	Golf Croquet
Thu Dec 17	17:30 - 21:00	WW Council Social Club (Rob - Jim)

GET WELL SOON Aileen Munro and Ian Hayes have recently had surgery. We wish you a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you on the lawns soon.

CLEANING ROSTER If you are unable to clean when rostered please swap with someone else.

December Janet Terry and Divina Heine

January

Robyn Willis and Wendy Lloyd

FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING: Items discussed at the recent meeting were;

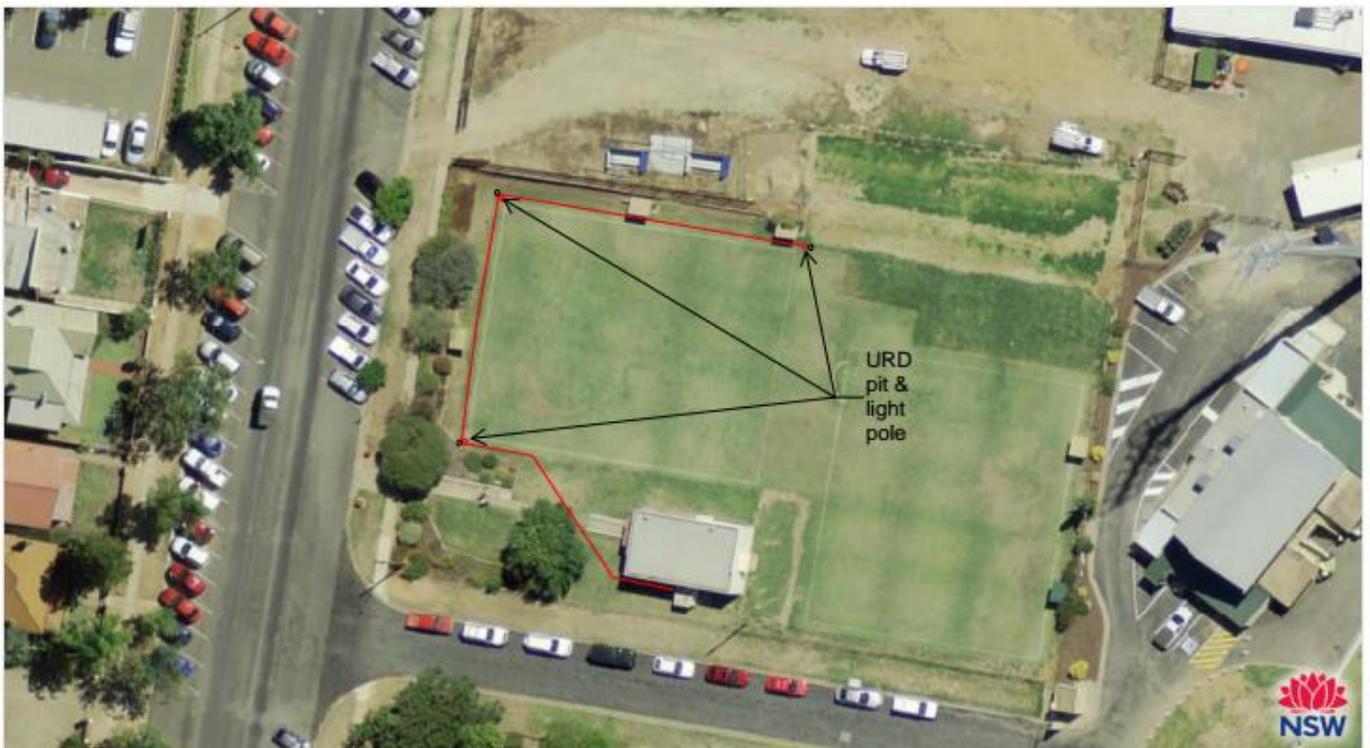
- Riverina Gateball Championship to be held on 3 – 4 September 2016
- NSW Silver Brooch (AC for handicap 7 – 10) to be held on 12 – 14 September 2016
- Discussed lighting, including obtain further quotes and impact on club finances.
- Wish List: Small storage shed behind shelter, seating under tree and at clubhouse.

SPECIAL MEETING 29 JANUARY 2016 – TO DISCUSS ADDITIONAL LIGHTS AND FEES

The committee has been exploring the possibility of installing more lights, primary around lawn 1, to enhance the basic lighting we have currently. Having received a quote, the club could afford to install the lights, however it would deplete the club’s funds in the short term. NSW Sport and Recreation currently have grants available which would obviously relieve the financial burden of this project.

As this is a major project which will impact substantially on the club’s finances the committee has called for an Extraordinary meeting on Friday 29 January at 5.30pm.

Whilst this meeting is an open meeting in which all members can forward ideas, ask questions and vote, the committee encourages you to openly discuss the lights and finances prior to the meeting.



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All the details of the lights, including quotes, correspondence and budget will be on display on the noticeboard for all members to read.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Special meeting (lights & budget)	Friday 29 January 2016	5.30pm
Committee meeting	Saturday 6 February 2016	11.15am
Committee meeting	Wednesday 2 March 2016	11.15am
Annual General meeting	Saturday 12 March 2016	11.15am