

May
2026

Mosman Croquet Club Newsletter



President
Joanne Nimmons

Vice President
Chris Gingell

Treasurer
Michael Chang

Secretary
Tim Cormack

Games Captain
Rob Wright

Grounds Captain
Tony Michaels

General Committee
Rob Boyer
John Fransen
Monique Gingell

Sub-Committees:
Games
Grounds Group
Housekeeping & Catering
Events Management
Strategic Planning
Membership Review
Strategic Planning

Property manager
John Fransen

GC Referees
Michael Chambers
Michael Chang
Michael Morton-Evans



Upcoming Events 2026

Pennants
Div 2 and 3
March – July

**Div 3
Championship**
June

AGM
11th July

**AC Bronze and
Silver Club
Championships**

From Joanne our President

Dear all,

It was a privilege for MCC members to share Robert Gibson's wake with Mary and Robbie, and the Gibson family and friends, on Tuesday May 5th. A sad but up lifting and warm farewell to the much-loved Robert Gibson.



We look forward to a morning tea with Felicity Wilson, on Wednesday 17th June, at 11am. Felicity will present the club with the Grant Certificate for new shade structures on Lawns 3 and 4, which MCC was awarded. Cali Craig will organise catering, and we thank her for doing this. Felicity is a great friend to Mosman Croquet Club and we are pleased to use this opportunity to thank her for her continued interest and support.

Thanks to Steve Anthony and Fidy Westgarth for organising and managing the MCC Gibson Trophy, 2026. A very successful event thanks to all involved: the catering team, the timekeepers and the referees. Also, thanks to Tim Cormack for great BBQing on our new BBQ.

Thanks to all new members who are in the process of completing Chris Gingell's survey regarding their experience at MCC. This will do much to inform the new committee about how our new members' interests are best served in the future.

Special thanks to Michael Chang, representing the Strategic Planning Subcommittee, for producing the new charter which can be found on the club's website. The club's mission statement as stated in the charter, is **“to encourage participation and enjoyment in playing croquet within a welcoming and friendly environment that values fairness, openness and shared accountability”**

Congratulations to Aniko Osvald who has been selected for the NSW Golf Croquet State Team for the upcoming Inter State Shield.

The Committee is organizing a Come and Try Day scheduled for 28th June; volunteers to help on the day will be needed.

Take care,

Joanne

From Chris our Vice President and Membership Coordinator

I have established two Mosman Croquet Club social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram. The aim is to establish Mosman as a prominent croquet club domestically and visible in the Lower North Shore community.

Croquet is a wonderful game but many people either know little about it or have preconceived ideas about it appealing to only a certain generation. Through our social media accounts, Mosman will be helping to educate the public that croquet involves physical activity, strong strategic thinking and social connection. If you would like to check out the social media accounts, please use these links:

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61587373413133>

Instagram:
https://www.instagram.com/mosman_croquet_club?igsh=MWoyYmp6Y2tub2RtNQ%3D%3D&utm_source=qr

Your comments and suggestions are very welcome.

I am currently collecting feedback from new members who have joined Mosman over the past 12 months. They have been asked: Do you enjoy being a member of the club? What has worked well? What could be better? Have the members who proposed and seconded your membership helped you to settle into the club? Any other feedback? The Committee looks forward to reviewing and acting on the results of the survey.

Mosman has a very proud reputation for members pitching in to help in the running of our club. A recent example was the working bee to prepare the club for Robert Gibson's wake.

Working Bee



From Rob Wright our Games Captain

Have you had an unjust handicap result?

Since becoming the Club's Handicapper, I have been reading the rules and obligations of a club handicapper. Over the years I have often heard or been involved in a discussion about handicapping - about how a member's handicap does not reflect their true handicap – either too high and should be lowered, or too low and should be higher.

A player with a low handicap indicates they are a better player than someone with a higher handicap.

Why do we have a handicap system? There is only one reason – to make a handicap competition event equal for all who enter.

In every competition, whether handicap or non-handicap, your game results are recorded on your handicap card. Over time, those results move you towards the trigger point for a new handicap level.

In competition games, a larger difference between your handicap and your opponent's means a wider spread of index points are given for a win and loss.

Now the \$64 dollar answer to the question posed in my heading.

Let us assume you have a low handicap level, and your next competition game is with someone who has a handicap much greater than your own. This player has been rapidly improving.

Your opponent wins, and you feel their handicap hasn't kept pace with how well they're now playing.

What you may sense is an unfair handicap result has resulted for yourself with relation to index points. You lose a much greater number of index points than you would have had if the player had a handicap closer to your own. This means you are further from your goal of having a lower handicap.

Fortunately, the Golf Croquet Australia Handicapping Regulations allows the Club Handicapper to amend Handicaps as necessary for players who have a handicap rating that no longer reflects their true handicap level.

Rob Wright

Club Handicapper

The Gibson Trophy 2026

Congratulations to **Gill Burke** for winning The Gibson Trophy, on 17 May.

Twenty of our club members competed in this handicap, singles advantage play one-day GC event held under the new Target Scores model. The 20 participants, with handicaps ranging from 3-16, were organised into four blocks and each person played 4 games limited to 55 minutes to determine who would play off in the semi-finals. Using the Target Scores method allowed for differences in handicaps.

The semi-finals were played by **De Howarth** versus **Kathy Abbott** and **Gill Burke** versus **Lindsay Wood**. The games were close and gripping to watch. De Howarth and Gill Burke won their semi-finals and played out the final in front of an enthusiastic audience. Results of all games can be seen on CroquetScores.com, or on the MCC website at: https://www.mosmancroquet.org.au/_files/ugd/cbbae5_e02a642129c243dc9b52ae7e15c71859.pdf

The tournament was friendly but competitive, and players and workers all had lunch together organised by **Helen Clugston** and **Belinda Kerr** and their team of helpers. Also, thanks to **Tim Cormack** who ably mastered the new club BBQ, and provided lunch on time as well as competing in the tournament.

We were delighted to have **Mary Gibson** there to see all the finals and present the prizes which her family had donated, as well as presenting the trophy to the winner. The spirit of Robert Gibson, recently departed, was ever-present and he was greatly missed.

Special thanks go to all the helpers and the competitors who made it such a great day. Thanks also goes to our referees Michael Chambers and Michael Chang.

Fidye Westgarth and Steve Anthony, Tournament Managers.

Photos of the Gibson Trophy Day



Club Maintenance



John Fransen continues with the maintenance of our club. Painting of the external surfaces of the main club house, Annexe and part fences will be carried out shortly.



Any members wishing to purchase club vests, jackets or sloppy joes, please write your name to the list in the club house or contact **Madeleine Gray**.

Mobile: 0414531357

Email: madeleinegray@hotmail.com



Colin Franklin's mallet went missing on Wednesday, 20th May. It was placed outside the clubhouse door. The mallet has an aluminum head with yellow tips with initials CFF engraved underneath. The handle is black with white band of insulation tape at top and black insulation tape 1 handsbreadth from the top.

**Please notify Colin if taken by mistake.
Mobile 0419218000**



New Choir Members Wanted

We have two MCC members who are part of the Cantorium Community Choir. The choir is looking for new members. Any voice range – soprano, alto, tenor or bass. Rehearsal is at the Mosman Croquet Club at 7 pm every Tuesday night during school term. All types of music including gospel and folk genres are rehearsed. Please come along and give it a try.

Contact Lindsay Woods
Mobile 0400220385



- Ensure your mallet suits your height and stance
- Replace worn grips
- Use balls that are clean
- For players with arthritis, a lighter mallet with comfortable grip and balanced head can reduce fatigue



- Members are receiving emails from info@mosmancroquet.org.au. This is not a scam! If you add this email address to your contacts as Info Mosman Croquet this should help avoid confusion.
- Lawn 4 is booked for a private function on Sunday 7th June 10 – 12.
- Some pharmacies recycle tablet blisters packs.



- Keep the club house clean after use.
- Indicate that dishwasher is clean when you turn it on.
- Empty dishwasher if sign says clean.
- **Social Saturday** starts from 1.30 pm. All welcome. Have a few games, bring drinks and nibbles, and join other members.
- **Social Sunday**, 7th June, the first Sunday of every month from 2.30 pm. Same as social Saturday.

Save the date:

- **Come and Try Day** scheduled for Sunday 28th June
- **AGM** 11th July.

• **WHACK IT** • **SMACK IT** •
SWING IT • **HOOP IT** • **TAP IT** •
MISS IT • **JUMP IT** • **HIT IT** •
GET IT • **LOVE IT** •

THAT'S CROQUET!

FRESH AIR • FRIENDS • FITNESS • FUN!



See You On The Lawns