

June
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

From Joanne our President

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Michael Lowe, recently. All our sympathies to Susan, family, and MCC friends, for their loss.

It was wonderful to welcome Felicity Wilson, to our club, to present our Community Grants Certificate. The grant has enabled the Committee to have sunshades installed on lawns 3 & 4. This will be much appreciated by members and visitors alike, during the summer months. Felicity is always a very welcome visitor to MCC, and her continued support is so very much appreciated. Thanks to Cali for organising the stunning morning tea, and thanks to those who contributed so generously to its success.



The AC Women's Singles Championship was hosted at MCC, and Fidy Westgarth again, as Tournament Manager, ensured the event was very successful. Live streaming of the finals and the very professional commentary attracted over 500 followers, and Mosman lawns looked spectacular. Congratulations to Joanne Brown as winner and Kate McLaughlin runner up.

Members will have seen painting of the clubhouse and Annex and work on the fencing of Lawn 3 has begun. The club will be very spick and span.

Our thanks to Gabrielle Ingate for the very generous offer of donating Gordon's hardly used Aspire Walker. Please see details included later in the newsletter.

Despite the rain, 12 interested local people attended the Come and Try Day, Sunday 29th June, 10 am to 1 pm. This was initiated by the Strategic Planning Committee, advertised mainly on Social Media platforms and in the tennis club. All our thanks to Monique Gingell, who organised the highly successful morning, and to those members who brought morning tea, and set up the clubhouse and the lawns.

Thanks to Chris Gingell, Michael Chang, Monique and John Fransen, who were great coaches. Lots of laughter, good fun.

As I conclude my term as President, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks for the privilege and honour, to serve the Mosman Croquet Club Members over the past three years. I am grateful for the support, encouragement and the treasured friendships which are so much part of our club. My heartfelt thanks to the Committee Members for their dedication and commitment, and the time they have given to support MCC and its Members, and to ensure that the best interests of Mosman Croquet Club and its members have been paramount in all decisions.

My sincere thanks to all our volunteers. We cannot run the club without your help. Without you, Mosman Croquet Club would not be the very successful club that it is today.

Take care,

Joanne

From Chris our Vice President and Membership Coordinator

Wet weather affected attendance at the Come & Try Day at our club on Sunday, June 28. Despite the wet, 12 brave souls from the general public were able to experience the fun of croquet in between frequent showers. Many thanks to the army of volunteers who set up the lawns, provided food and drinks, and coached those who attended.

Several members have asked me: why hold an Open Day when the club has a long Waiting List to join?

The answer is that a surprising number of people in the Mosman community have no idea there is a croquet club nearby, or even where to find it. The Open Day played an important role in creating awareness of croquet across all age groups and establishing the idea that croquet is a skillful, intriguing game which provides excellent social connection.

Anyone who attended the last Social Sunday at the club would have been impressed by the large number of members who played and then stayed on to share drinks and nibbles with fellow members. It demonstrates just how strong our croquet community has become.



If you have been up at the club lately, you will have noticed that new shade structures have been installed on the northern side of Lawn 3 and the southern side of Lawn 4. A grant under the NSW Government's Local Sport Grant Program 2025, supported by Felicity Wilson, our local member of Parliament, has made this possible. Felicity visited the club on 17 June to celebrate the funding of the shade structures on a 50:50 basis with the club.



I am currently compiling the results of a survey of new members over last 12 months, which asked them to respond to these questions: do you enjoy being a member of Mosman Croquet 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; and any other feedback?

I am pleased to say that all are enjoying the club and many "loving it". The new members particularly enjoyed the training they received before becoming members and acknowledge the help they have received from more experienced members since then. They would like more social games supervised by experienced players. Others have found our website difficult to log into and use. Many new members appreciate the efforts of friends, who proposed and seconded their membership, to settle into the club.

I will prepare a full report for the incoming club Committee to consider and take appropriate action.

We are also wrapping up the membership renewal season for the club. Five members have resigned or did not renew Full Membership of the club. It is also likely that some Full Members may switch to Social Membership. There is a relatively small number of Full Member positions to replace compared to previous years.

This too will be referred to the incoming Committee for action.

Chris Gingell



From Rob Wright our Games Captain

MCC Div 3 Pennants 2026

Mosman White and Mosman Blue both finished atop of their Group in Metro North Division 3 Pennants and will have home game semifinals to secure a place at the State Finals to be held in Nelson Bay.

Metro North Div 3	Tests			Matches		Games		Hoops			
	Wins	Losses	To Go	Wins	Losses	Wins	Losses	For	Against	Net	
Group N											
Mosman Blue	4	1	0	9	6	21	17	208	209	-1	
Warrawee	3	2	0	9	6	21	16	227	196	31	
Elanora Eagles	3	2	0	9	6	21	16	214	195	19	
Cheltenham White	3	2	0	8	7	21	17	215	198	17	
Manly Topez	2	3	0	7	8	17	18	188	195	-7	
Mosman Green	0	5	0	3	12	9	26	157	216	-59	
	11	14	0	36	39	89	93	1001	1000	1	
Group R											
Mosman White	6	0	0	16	2	34	8	271	178	93	
Elanora Kookaburras	4	2	0	13	5	31	16	282	223	59	
Manly Sapphire	4	2	0	9	9	25	24	274	252	22	
Chatswood	2	4	0	7	11	17	26	216	252	-36	
Holroyd	2	4	0	7	11	17	25	206	239	-33	
Cheltenham Blue	2	4	0	5	13	13	30	196	266	-70	
Killara	1	5	0	6	12	19	27	223	258	-35	
	21	21	0	63	63	156	156	1668	1668	0	
								25Jun2026 SA			
Mosman Blue finished first in Group N and will play Elanora Kookaburras in semifinal											
Mosman White finished first in Group R and will play Warrawee in semifinal											

Congratulations to both teams and best wishes for the finals.

Mosman Blue	Mosman White
Sue Clubbe (c)	John Cripps (c)
Jim Clarke	Richard Westgarth
Lorrie Clarke	Catherine Cripps
Libby Moline	Ian Cameron
Monique Gingell	Lindsay Wood
	Patricia Petterson

Also, thanks to referees Michael Chambers, Michael Morton-Evans and Michael Chang and Members who acted as timekeepers.

The introduction to Ricochet is progressing well, with seventeen members either already coached or scheduled for coaching.
Follow-up coaching will be arranged, and any members who missed the introductory Ricochet sessions are invited to register for the follow-up session.

Rob Wright
Games Captain
Coaching Co-ordinator

Steve Anthony
Assistant Games Captain

From Tony our Grounds Captain

Hoop Setting

Our lawns are a non-finite resource, but subject to extreme usage, great care needs to be taken to preserve the quality of the playing surface. Members are requested to take particular care when setting up the hoops and when taking down following your game. Should the hoops appear loose then they can be tightened with the Allen key that is located in each hoop box. Please remember to replace the Allen key back in the box after use. Should the hoop holes appear loose and the hoop not fit firm into the cavity then some repair is required by way of a small handful of sphagnum moss, place into the cavity and then a gentle tap down with the rubber hammer until the top of the hoop (or carrot) is level with the top of the lawn. The moss can be found in a bucket in the Annexe or on the shelf in the mallet room in the Clubhouse. Best use is to first dampen down with water and then apply to the hoop cavity as suggested. Should the hoop still appear loose then reapply as suggested.

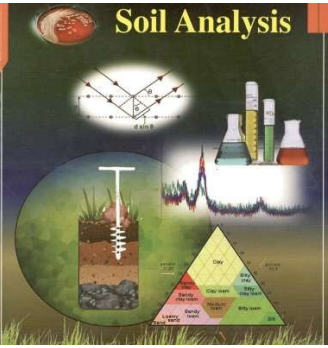


When we set up the lawns we plan for the hoops to sit just above the lawn surface. With continual removal the holes become worn and some repair is required. Please never hammer the hoops down into the ground as this will damage the cavity. A tight-fitting hoop is all that is required and the above recommended fix can be achieved by all members with a little skill and commitment.

Thank you

The Grounds Team

From Rob Boyer Grounds Team member



Soil Project

A recent comment was made by our vice president, Chris Gingell, that "the clubs most valuable asset were the lawns", was enough to initiate a detailed soil analytical program on all our four courts. The Grounds Group undertook a detailed soil sampling program in March which entailed taking five samples, at a depth of 100cm, from each lawn. The sealed samples were then dispatched to the Environmental Analysis Laboratory at the Southern Cross University in Lismore.

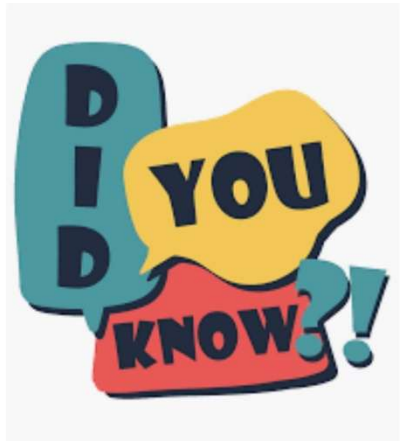
The laboratory has undertaken a detailed chemical and physical analysis on each sample with an extensive array of data, covering each lawn and is now available to the club for future attention and action. The report for each lawn covers the actual chemical and physical analysis with comments as to whether the levels are acceptable, deficient or even too high. It outlines the soil fertility constraints and subsequent recommendations or amendments to improve the soil fertility.

With the wonderful work and support from Scott and his team, recommendations from these reports are being addressed with granulated lime already applied to lawns 1 &2. Lawns 3 & 4 will also be treated with lime, but at a lower rate in the next couple of months to reach the desired levels.

Thereafter the desired levels of macro and micro elements in the soil will be addressed, with the applicable fertilisers, to again reach levels for sustainable and healthy lawns.

This will be an ongoing exercise with the current results being used as a Base case to compare with future analytical testing and results.

As an environmentally responsible club, to its members and to the Mosman community, this project will be rewarding to us all now and in the future.



Billy The Kid Played Croquet

Although croquet was well established in the UK during the mid-1800s, it was also popular in the United States.

It seems that one of its early players was William H Bonney, better known as Billy The Kid, an infamous and misunderstood gunfighter and outlaw. He was possibly introduced to the game by John Tunstall, an English rancher in New Mexico who had employed him in the late 1870s to protect his ranch against rival cattle monopolies.



The image on the left shows Billy The Kid playing croquet with his gang The Regulators. It was on a 4 by 5 inch tintype and was published in a first hand account, a book written by Sheriff Pat Garrett. He was the lawman (and friend) who later shot and killed the outlaw in July 1881. The tintype was then held by a single family for well over 100 years.

In 2010 it was bought in a California memorabilia shop for \$US2 by a collector who extracted the image on the right and was able to recognise and prove that it was, indeed, Billy The Kid. The collector, Randy Guijarro, then sold the tintype to billionaire, William Koch in 2011 – for \$US2.3 million.

Contributor: Richard Westgarth

Club Maintenance



John Fransen organised painting to be done. Painting commenced on fences and Annexe, painting to be done to Clubhouse which will be completed in time for the AGM.



A request from Rosie Portus the Community representative for RNSH Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee

The Arts and Culture Committee’s aim is to support patients, carers and staff through the inclusion of the arts. A program of live music performances take place in December and has become a much-loved tradition within the hospital community. Donations to the **North Foundation** and **The Wishing Well** would help keep this tradition alive.



With the cold weather upon us, you may need club vests, jackets or sloppy joes. To order, write your name to the list in the club house or contact **Madeleine Gray**.

Mobile: 0414531357

Email: madeleinegray@hotmail.com



- If hoop is loose use Allen Key, Spagnum moss.
- Look at poster for correct setting of hoops.
- Think one hoop ahead.
- When defending, place balls where opponents have difficult angles.
- Create multiple threats: Try to leave your ball where it can attack several possible positions rather than just one.



Rosie Mott would like some volunteers to help her clean the Annexe. Contact Rosie on mobile 0419019188 or email rosemarie.mott@bigpond.com.



Hot news. Another MCC win.
NSW AC Bronze Doubles. Congratulations Fidy.

Lynette Stewart & Fidy Westgarth	12
Fiona Gale & John Alexander	4
Peter Armstrong & Scott Marnane	7
Mary Lambert & David Rush	6

Finals	
Lynette Stewart & Fidy Westgarth	9
Peter Armstrong & Scott Marnane	3



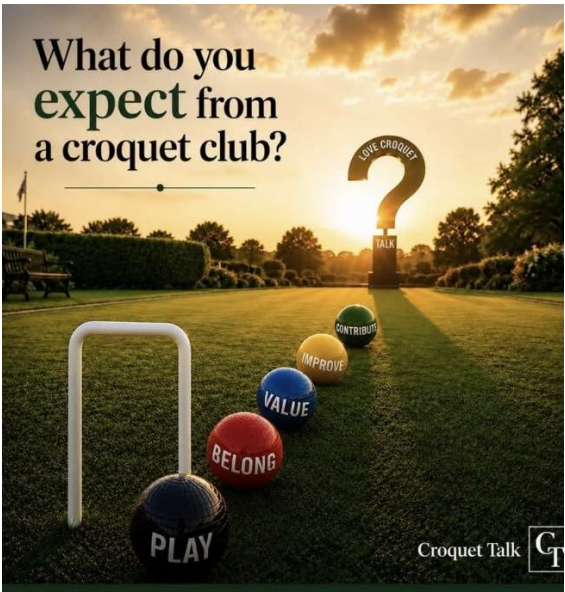
Gabrielle Ingate is donating Gordon’s state of the art walker to any member who needs it. Contact Gabrielle gingate@icloud.com.



- An important reminder to fill personal medical details.
- 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**, 5th July, the first Sunday of every month from 2.30 pm. Same as social Saturday.

Save the date:

- **AGM 11th July in the Clubhouse at 11 am.**



See You On The Lawns