



# NEWSLETTER

February 2022

We hope everyone has had a wonderful time with family over the Christmas New Year period and we welcome you all back to the club for a busy year ahead.

## COVID UPDATE

We have been so very fortunate that over the last 2 years of this COVID pandemic, we have only now had two mild cases reported recently.

The Committee thanks all our members for taking care when at the club, socially distancing, sanitizing etc, however, we do ask that if **are not well please do not come to the club.**

Restrictions still apply inside the Clubhouse and Annex where masks are to be worn.

**Please sign the Attendance Book when you arrive at the club or Annex** - this was invaluable when we had to notify members who had been at the club during the recent cases of Covid.

## CLUB MAINTAINANCE

During the holiday period our volunteer members have been busy catching up on long overdue maintenance to the club.

The exteriors of Clubhouse and Annex have been washed, cobwebs removed and the Annex gutters that were full of leaves and debris have been cleaned. The benches and table outside Clubhouse have been gurneyed and cleaned of mildew, and sanitizer splashes.

Thank you Michael Chambers, Peter Stevens, Lindsay Abbott and Les Jackson for all their hard work.

Members have reported difficulty locking the Annex door recently and we thank John Fransen for replacing the faulty lock and ask members to firmly close the door when locking at the end of the day.

## LAWNS

**ON WED FEB 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8.30am** our Club Captain, Alison and Grounds Captain, Greg will be demonstrating the correct way to put in the hoops, how to care for the lawn, what is sphagnum moss and how to use it plus some DO's and DON'T'S (divots).

During the past few weeks, with Omicron rampant, we have allowed members to leave the hoops up during the day on lawns 3-4 to reduce contamination.

All hoops, balls **are now to be returned** to equipment boxes if there are no members waiting for a game. Sanitisers, for member use, are provided on all lawns.

Lawns 1 and 2 have now been marked and are open and ready for the busy year.

Thank you, Greg Breden and his Grounds team, assisted by Tony Michaels

Greg is developing a Team of 5 members to assist with the lawns. To date De Howarth, Peter Stevens and Lindsay Wood are assisting. If any other Club members are interested in joining his Team please speak to Greg or telephone him on 9969 6732.

## **CLEANING**

As lawns 1-2 have been closed for 5 weeks, and the clubhouse not used, the cleaners were stopped and volunteers have been cleaning the Annex each week.

The Clubhouse was also cleaned thoroughly on Friday ready for members to use now that Lawns 1-2 are open.

## **We remind all members that when inside clubhouse or Annex masks must be worn,**

Thank you cleaning team - Catherine Cripps, Janet Bicket, Michael and Kate Chambers and Cali Craig, for a wonderful effort.

## **FENCES**

There are small areas of rust appearing on parts of our boundary fences.

Our "Mr Handyman" Dennis Paton has offered to take on the painstaking, time consuming task of sanding down, prepping and finally painting the affected areas.

## **BOUNDARY AND LAWNS 1-2 UPDATE.**

Bouquets to our Sub Committee, David McGrane, Chris Gingell, John Fransen and Greg Breden.

This Sub Committee has been meeting, sometimes twice weekly, and have put in many long hours of investigative work, obtaining Geo tech and Engineer reports, addressing Member safety concerns, costings, budgets and obtaining horticultural advice re suitable hedging plants.

Acutely aware of the timing conditions of the grants monies they will be forwarding their report to the Committee for discussion at our February management meeting.

We will keep members informed of progress in this regard.

## **OPENING OF LAWNS MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>**

Mark this date in the diary as it is a fun day with games and hopefully BBQ.

We shall be raffling a new PFC croquet mallet which has been generously donated by Peter Coles to assist us in our fundraising.

Tickets will be on sale in the clubhouse from this week.

## **‘NEWS FLASH’ - NEW BOOKING SYSTEM**

We now have a new lawn booking system.

The new system has been selected by the Committee because it was specifically designed for croquet clubs. Manly clubs around the world and in Australia have adopted it. It is similar to the old system and members should find it easy to use. It will also give the committee greater flexibility in adapting the system to meeting the changing needs such as we have experienced during the pandemic.

The system will show regular Club bookings, other events and Open Play as before. Initially members **will only be permitted to make bookings for competition matches**.

To access the system and booking instructions click the LAWN BOOKING SYSTEM button on the home page of our website.

To go to the booking system now click [HERE](#)

A really big thank you to Ron Humpherson for all his computer knowledge in getting this system up and running.

For any queries regarding the system, please contact Penny Paterson at [info@Mosmancroquet.org.au](mailto:info@Mosmancroquet.org.au).

## **GC NEWS**

First off, congratulations to our Division 1 GC Pennants Team who are now the 2021 NSW runners – up! Alison, Lyn, Denis and Vaughn have put together an excellent performance over a relatively brief period to show that, with leadership, Mosman Croquet can make it to the top. We are confident that we can go one better.

Back on earth, some more top players are about to start our first club competition for 2022 - the GC Top 10. This event will help develop a larger cohort of possible state titleholders. It is a 19 hoop handicap competition for the top 10 players who accepted an invitation sent (this year) to players with a handicap of 6 or below.

Then, we have a competition for everyone. The Gibson Trophy is our new GC handicap club championship. Invitations have been sent to everyone to play in this round robin event over three months. However, because we only have a limited number of lawn hours the competition will be open to the first 40 entrants. You can do this on the club website (@ Playing Information / Club Tournaments / Tournament Entry (Gibson Trophy).

With the number of competition games coming up (45 Top 10 and possibly 140 Gibson Trophy) we need to be very organised with our lawn bookings.

As mentioned previously, the new booking system is up and running so please use this when making bookings for competitions.

And finally, we wish our Division 2 GC Pennants team all the best in their upcoming NSW finals. This will finish 2021 pennants for us, just in time for the 2022 Division 2 and 3 pennants which is starting on 1<sup>st</sup> April. If you want to play now is the time to start your preparation.

For all GC enquiries, email Richard Westgarth: richard@westgarth.com.au

## All lawns open, looking good, and better than others



### MEM CHALLENGE

As reported recently we have our first “MEM Challenge” happening on 14 and 15 February for Manly, Elanora and Mosman GC Division 3 players. We wish the Mosman players all the best and look forward to one of them bringing home the trophy.

### AC UPDATE

The **AC Programme** starts with the Bronze Championship in March, then the Club Championship follows in May/June.

**The 2022 Eire Cup** Unfortunately due to the Covid situation in NSW, both WA and Tasmania have withdrawn. The competition will therefore be held at Royal Sydney and Tempe and Mosman’s lawns won’t be required.

### UP AND COMING COMPETITIONS

If you want to be a “competitive player” or already am one, have a look at the Competition Schedule on our website, choose the competitions you want to play, check your availability and set a plan.

You should also look at the Croquet NSW website and see what other events are coming up – a great way for a few days away, some good croquet and getting to meet new people. For Croquet NSW competitions however, you need to “get in quick” as they get booked up, particularly now that many players are not having overseas holidays and are looking for things to do closer to home.

### COACHING UPDATE

We have eight GC coaching sessions over the next two months, which have been very well subscribed. We are trying to cater for all levels, and are very fortunate to have so many

experienced members offering to help. Anyone still keen to register for a particular session should contact Michael Chambers. <[emailthedoc@yahoo.com](mailto:emailthedoc@yahoo.com)>.