



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CROQUET ASSOCIATION INC.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 10.00 AM

1. **Those Present.** Maree Skinner (President and Chair), Eileen Ferguson (Vice-President), David Taylor (Treasurer), Cathy Leske (Executive Director), Sally Harper (Director Sport Development), Claire Wilson (Director Golf Croquet), Mark Prater (Director Association Croquet) Kay Chynoweth (Director Headquarters), and 26 delegates as per attendance record.
2. **Apologies:** Naracoorte, Moonta, Jamestown, Norwood, Whyalla.
3. **Minutes of Previous A.G.M.** held on 24th September 2012. Moved, Maree Skinner seconded Janet Eckert *that Minutes be accepted*. Voted, **carried**.
4. **President's Address.** Attached.
5. **Reports (all attached):**
 - a. Vice-President
 - b. Executive Director
 - c. Treasurers Report and Ratification of fees
Moved David Taylor seconded Gavin Bow: *"that the accounts as presented be adopted"*. Voted, **Carried**.
Proposed fees for 2013-2014 – City \$88-00, Country \$63-50, Juniors (under 18 years as at 1/7/13) –Nil.
Ratification of Fees for 2013-2014: Moved David Taylor seconded Bill Armstrong *"that recommended fees above be adopted"*. Voted, **carried**.
 - d. Director Association Croquet Report
 - e. Director Golf Croquet Report
 - f. Director Sport Development Report
 - g. Director Headquarters Report
 - h. Junior Sport Report

Maree Skinner reminded everyone that there are several committee member positions that are vacant. They are; AC Coaching Coordinator, Housekeeper at Hutt Road and Junior Sport Coordinator. Would members please think about helping to fill these positions?
6. **Election of Office Bearers:**
 - a. Vice-President: Nomination received – Eileen Ferguson (Salisbury). Maree Skinner thanked Eileen and declared Eileen Ferguson Vice-President.
7. **Election of Directors:**
 - a. Director Golf Croquet: Nomination received – Heather White (Brighton). Maree Skinner thanked Heather for her nomination and declared her elected.
 - b. Director Headquarters: – no nomination received. Position remains vacant.
8. **General Business**
 - a. That the existing Croquet SA Constitution be replaced with a new constitution.
David Taylor gave background. Brian James read a letter from Bordertown regarding unregistered players and the new constitution which requires all playing members of clubs to be registered. They requested that consideration be made to some alternative ideas to address the situation. The board has discussed registration fee structures for quite some time, and is aware that there are a considerable number of players who are unregistered. Cathy said the external consultant has indicated he could assist us with this. The board will continue to work on this issue.
Peter Rostron TTG said the change to the constitution regarding council had caused a lot of discussion at the club. He asked if nominations for positions could be received up until the commencement of a meeting. This was confirmed. Peter asked about Clause 19.1 and why the stipulation was that board meet only three monthly. David said this is a minimum and at present the board meets every month except January and there is no plan to change that arrangement.
Further discussion followed with comments from Salisbury, and queries from South Tce.

David Taylor said some copies of the proposed constitution circulated had formatting problems. He tabled a hard copy of the correct version and he proposed that the existing constitution be replaced by the version tabled with correction to Clause 18 Table of Contents, seconded Maree skinner. Voted 34 in favour, 1 against. (Two votes received by email from club secretary). **Carried.**

b. Any other business.

Bill Armstrong asked if a DVD of Robert Fletcher's winning game was available. Maree will investigate.

Janet asked if any knowledge of closed clubs would be sent to her.

Joan Collins asked about recycled water scheme at Hutt Road. This is being revisited by David Taylor and is progressing.

Appointment of Auditor – David proposed that Peter Gibson be appointed as auditor for Croquet SA, seconded Peter Rostron TTG. Voted, **carried.**

Cathy Leske thanked Claire Wilson and Kay Chynoweth for agreeing to become delegates for Mt Gambier and Tumby Bay.

9. **Close.** 12.30pm

_____ (Chair) _____ (Date)

CROQUET SA PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO AGM 2013

The past twelve months have been busier than ever. SA hosted the Eire Cup and associated events in March and saw Croquet Victoria's Robert Fletcher become World # one ranked AC player during those events. We are most grateful to everyone who worked so hard to ensure that the events were well organised and catered for. It is always a pleasure and a positive benefit for the state to host national championships. The ACA AGM was held at Hutt Road following the championships.

SA Country Week was hosted at Hutt Road from 27-31 May. Thanks to co-ordinators Di Helier (AC) and Judy Stewart (GC) and all who contributed to organising and playing in the event.

We have seen various SA players selected to represent the State and Australia, others have chosen to travel and participate in various national and international events. Congratulations to all of those players – your standard of excellence is an inspiration to all of us. It is now much easier for us to follow the various state and international championships with the Croquet Scores programme developed by Tim Murphy from Canberra.

Planning has begun for the National GC Gold Medal, Men's and Women's Singles and WCF Interstate Shield to be hosted in Adelaide in September next year. Thank you to Jane Lewis for taking the role of Chair of the Organising Committee.

Twelve months ago, I outlined the direction Croquet SA would be taking to review and modernise the Association, to promote the sport and to increase croquet membership. This process has required a great deal of consultation and many hours of work from all Board Members. I cannot thank each of you enough for the dedication you have shown to establishing a successful future path for Croquet SA.

Cathy, as our ED, works solidly in the background ensuring that the administrative needs of the Association are met in a timely manner. Cathy is also very pro-active and successful in seeking grants, looking for promotional opportunities and cultivating contacts within the media and the community to elevate the profile of the sport and the utilisation of the facility at Hutt Road.

Following the AGM last year we reviewed Croquet SA's strategic plan and the duties of each Board member were defined and in some cases expanded to reflect the increasing need for legal and procedural compliance in governance.

We applied for a grant under the Development and Inclusion Programme for an independent consultant to identify the areas we needed to concentrate on to achieve our goals and to source funding for the future development of Croquet SA. Our Industry Consultant (Jane Bartlett from the SA Office of Recreation and Sport) explained that whilst given favourable consideration, our application was unsuccessful due to limited available funds.

The ORS 360 degree Review (results published April 2013) was a valuable tool to assess how you, the players, perceive the Association and where we need to concentrate our efforts. Communication and lack of clear direction for the Association were two of the most important areas that were highlighted. I can certainly understand that in such a time of change and where the entire operation of Croquet SA is being reviewed, no clear direction may have emerged for Croquet SA. We will now work towards communicating a clear direction for the sport in SA and I hope this report will address that issue to some extent. There was also concern that we are behind in the area of Social Media. We now have an action plan to address the areas in need of work as identified in the Review.

In July, Cathy organised a meeting with Jane Bartlett and Dale Walsh from ORS to discuss the need for a business and marketing plan. Jane and Dale were satisfied that Croquet SA was already taking significant steps to review, develop and promote the sport and resolved that they would support a proposal from Croquet SA to secure funding from ORS to enable us to work with a consultant for the purpose of establishing business and marketing plans.

We were then contacted by Hans van Bavel from Delta Training and a meeting was arranged in mid-August. Hans determined that the starting point was for us to develop a new strategic plan and then follow-up with an operational and marketing plan that fitted the strategic goals of the Association. Hans prepared a Brief for ORS and we have been advised that we have been successful in securing funding for him to work with us.

I will be issuing an invitation to clubs in the near future to attend a strategic planning workshop hosted by Hans. It is important that clubs be involved in the development of Croquet SA's Strategic Plan – it is your Association and we all have a common goal in wanting to promote and develop the sport in SA. I would like to thank Cathy, in particular, for her initiative, support and motivation in getting this whole process off the ground.

The other major initiative this year has been the drafting of the new constitution. David Taylor is to be congratulated for taking on this project and the associated hours of consultation with interested parties in order to present a modern draft set of rules with which we may govern the Association. The document will go to a vote at this meeting.

Sporting organisations are required to have a range of policies and procedures in place. VP and Acting AC Coaching Coordinator, Eileen Ferguson agreed to take on the role of collating and assembling various policies and procedures. In the initial stages this task is quite onerous and we thank Eileen for her work.

As the Croquet SA designated contact, I am required to communicate with you regarding our Liquor Licence. We joined Good Sports last year and a Responsible Service of Alcohol Course was held at Hutt Road in January this year. I then successfully applied, on behalf of Croquet SA, to have an exemption granted from having to have a designated Responsible Person present at all times during the operation of the bar. All bar staff must have completed the RSA Course and appropriate signage is to be displayed. I drafted a risk management plan from a template in accordance with a direction issued by Consumer and Business Services.

Thank you to David Taylor, for being such a competent Treasurer and support and for keeping the finances of Croquet SA in fine balance.

I thank Mark Prater and Claire Wilson (Director's AC and GC respectively) and their various committees and volunteers, for all the hours of work contributed to the planning, performing draws for events, selection, coaching, refereeing, recording, handicapping and running of events in SA.

Claire is retiring and I wish her all the very best and thank her for all her hard work. Mark, you are staying on and are charged with continuing to entertain us with your wonderful sense of humour!

I have had the opportunity to work with Sally Harper (Sport Development Officer) as a member of her committee and when I accompanied her on visits to country regions. Sally has enormous energy and enthusiasm and has committed to several initiatives to put croquet 'out there' in the community.

It was a real pleasure to have attended meetings at Naracoorte, Snowtown and Whyalla to meet representatives from most of the country clubs in SA. These meetings enabled us to discuss issues pertaining to each club and region and to understand how Croquet SA can be more in touch with country players and provide services such as coach and referee training and help in local promotions where requested. Sadly, there have been a number of clubs that have closed due to low membership and increasing running costs. Thank you to Kay Chynoweth for taking on the role of Director HQ for the past two years. There has been a lot of work done at Hutt Road to accommodate championships and regular maintenance of the facility. Kay is retiring from the position and we are looking for another energetic person to take on the role. I wish you many happy hours of croquet at Victor Harbor, Kay.

I would like to mention Registration Officer, Norma Amey; Web Master Alf Schantl; Hoop Points Editor Barbara Gordon; Member Protection Officer, Robert Speer and Junior Sport Coordinator and Archivist Janet Eckert. Thank you all for the valuable contribution you make to the sport.

Thank you to the delegates from each club for attending Croquet SA Meetings and to the players in this state who enter events and provide the competitive and social camaraderie for croquet in SA.

I recently attended the GC National Championships in the Hunter Valley and had the opportunity to watch some excellent play and catch up with croquet friends and acquaintances from interstate. The ACA held a meeting with state delegates at Maitland following the championships and there was discussion regarding the development of the ACA Strategic Plan, governance structure of the ACA, frequency of meetings and a proposed national croquet tabloid. All states are embarking on similar projects to update strategic plans and promote the sport. Given the similarity of development it was generally agreed that regular meetings to discuss common issues would be beneficial to all and that once its Strategic Plan was in place the ACA would give consideration to such initiatives as appointing a National Sport Development Officer (as proposed by Croquet SA).

This past year has been a real challenge. We are working hard to achieve positive change for Croquet in SA. Change always creates work and understandably, a certain amount of unrest. Be assured that we are embarking upon the changes with the full knowledge, guidance and support of the office of Recreation and Sport and other organisations such as Sport SA, Good Sports and the Adelaide City Council.

Join us in developing and promoting this wonderful sport.

Maree Skinner
President Croquet SA

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT to CROQUET SA AGM 2013

Usually the key function of the Vice President is to deputise for the President, however over the last year the role has been expanded with other duties, with the Vice President taking on some of the tasks which needed doing but which weren't allocated to a particular Board member to carry out.

As part of assuming the Vice President's role at the AGM 2012 I agreed to become the policies officer, responsible for ensuring that any amendments to the constitution and SACA policies are incorporated into existing documents and that amended documents are published on the SACA website. A review of the policies was completed in November and the amended documents were subsequently added to the website.

In addition to this I have undertaken to be responsible for updating My RecSport, the online application whereby Sporting Associations report to the Office of Recreation & Sport. The My Rec Sport website has been updated with key personnel and after a lengthy process our organisation profile was completed. The grant report and other required policies have also been added to the site. Completing the organisation profile has highlighted some issues that SACA needs to address in the near future with regard to adopting/developing various policies, more detailed record keeping of participants in various programmes, detailed job descriptions, volunteer recognition/reward programmes and improvement of services to regional areas.

SACA has registered for the Starclub programme and I am overseeing our progress through this programme, to enable us to achieve Starclub status, which the Office of Recreation & Sport defines as "A well run club where quality coaches and officials work alongside valued volunteers in a safe and welcoming environment."

As a result of the unusually wet winter and its resultant problems in regard to player comfort, safety and potential lawn damage, the Board has decided that the inclement weather policy needs to be reviewed. So, over the next few months I will be reviewing SACA's weather policies, to see if any improvements can be made.

Leading up to the AC Australian Championships and Eire Cup in March I managed to get "conscripted" to the organising committee and offered to take & distribute minutes, but owing to a lack of other volunteers, ended up wearing several hats including Assistant Tournament Manager.

Throughout the year I have also continued to "hold the fort" in the absence of any takers for the position of AC Coaching coordinator, to see that Achievement Pins are still issued and coaches trained or reaccredited as required.

All in all about the only duty I haven't performed is the one that I, wrongly, assumed was the Vice President's key function; i.e. deputising for the President. All in all the year has been a baptism of fire and a huge learning curve, but I have enjoyed the challenge and look forward to continuing in the role for another term.

Eileen Ferguson
Vice President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT TO CROQUET SA AGM 2013

2013 has been the year of change.

Croquet SA has faced internal and external challenges that have driven this need for change. We have identified that we need to operate under a business environment to be competitive in our industry, and we have taken necessary steps to achieve this. We have set high standards in policy, effective governance, relationships and promotion. Some examples of our initiatives are:

- reviewed policies readily available for access on the website and have obtained free professional assistance to develop a strategic, business and communications plan;
- improved website and increased information and resources for members to download;
- improved communication with clubs and members via visits, mailing lists and member survey;
- provided practical support for clubs to improve their own processes via STARCLUB and information on website
- have joined social media and committed to major promotional activities to publicize croquet within South Australia.

It takes a lot of work to achieve the above, and I am quite certain that we have achieved more this year than ever before. Change is a necessary part of progression. I encourage clubs to embrace this change and to identify that it is necessary for clubs to follow this lead. STARCLUB is a good example of this.

In March a random sample of our players were given the opportunity to complete a survey to gauge the effectiveness of our organisation and to help us identify opportunities for improvement. The results of this survey have been received and analysed by the board. Specific opportunities have been identified and objectives have been set to achieve these goals. The major areas we will be concentrating our efforts on are:

- To set a clear direction for croquet in SA
- To raise awareness of croquet through effective promotion
- To expand the mailing lists enabling more widespread communication to players
- Club visits and forums to increase communication between clubs and Croquet SA
- Communicate detailed guidelines and information in relation to identification of talented players
- Development of new policies in relation to Volunteers, Disability Discrimination and dispute resolution.

I will be sending an action plan to all clubs within the next few weeks outlining the above and how the board is addressing these challenges.

Like clubs, Croquet SA has felt the consequences of challenging economic times, with decreased funding opportunities available to us as we all compete for the leisure dollar in the marketplace. We encourage clubs to take up this challenge by actively diversifying; by offering your facility for use by external organisations and community groups and promotion of croquet parties, by using other fundraising measures as outlined via emails, and documents posted under Members/Club Resources on the website. I would like to really encourage members to really read the club resource documents. They have been fully researched, carefully written and contain some very useful information for members to develop their club, fundraising ideas and how to run a successful promotion.

You may have noticed that communication by Croquet SA to members has been greatly expanded this year thanks to Mark Prater's initiative of the Googlegroup. I am now sending email that previously has been sent only to club secretaries to all members on this mailing list. This is so that more players can see the opportunities that are available, all the events, workshops and seminars that clubs, external agencies and Croquet SA are offering. If your club is having an event, I will no longer send fliers to the googlegroup. The reason for this is that it is important that the members of the group can identify *who* the email is actually from. It is defeating the purpose of the mailing list if Croquet SA sends out emails that don't relate to Croquet SA events. You just need to become a member of googlegroups and send your email to sacroquet@googlegroups.com. The list currently has about 150 members and is growing every day. We aim to have everyone on this list who has email, and I have requested that all clubs, when they receive their registration papers, to make a real effort to include all email addresses of their members.

As you will already know, three clubs are closing at the end of this month. Clare, Balaklava and Gawler have so few members that it has become unviable for them to continue. It is really unfortunate that this has to occur, and we want to work with clubs who have a low membership to increase their visibility in the community. A consistent approach is needed by clubs to maintain their status in the community, because it is very simple really, if you are not telling the community about yourself, they forget you are there.

I am always happy to help clubs who have an idea but need support to see it come to fruition. Communication is a two way street.

I would like to thank the board who have shown their support for my ideas to support the development of croquet in the community and in particular the President Maree Skinner I have worked with very closely this year. Croquet SA is indeed very fortunate to have Maree's expertise. Although we are not afforded the assistance from our parent body that many other sports obtain, we are taking significant steps to achieve the vision of the association outlined in the strategic plan, i.e., that the sport of Croquet is seen by the South Australian community as a desirable sporting, recreational and social experience.

The success of any new initiative relies on the involvement and enthusiasm not just of a few members who happen to also give their time as a board member, but of support from you all. So, I will be asking for your support, as we increase our profile. Just this week I have had contact with a *very* popular primary school childrens' television programme, who wish to film a segment for the show *Totally Wild*. A few weeks ago an Adelaide entrepreneur has asked if we would help people play croquet at a large public event in the parklands just before Christmas. These are fabulous opportunities that we will be involved in if at all possible. At this stage we have fifty people coming to Hutt Road for their Christmas Party and are about to letter drop 400 businesses nearby to make full use of this facility and introduce people to the game. These are just a couple of the negotiations I have been involved in recently. We are doing a lot, we are spending money. Croquet is a sport that has been just beneath the surface for a very long time, but that is certainly changing. People really want to do something different, and that's when croquet comes in. I am very positive about our future opportunities and the growth of croquet in this state over the next few years.

To create effective strategies in our planning, we need to draw much more information from clubs about them and what they are doing and we will be seeking that type of information. It is impossible for us to strategise when we don't really know what clubs are doing, and we also need a good knowledge of our membership database.

It's all about working together and I look forward to doing that over the coming year.

Cathy Leske
Executive Director

DIRECTOR SPORT DEVELOPMENT REPORT TO AGM 2013

The year seems to have got busier as time as gone by.

Thanks to the SD committee past and present members for their support and enthusiasm and all those keen croquet players with their ideas – keep them coming.

Eire cup media coverage was good considering the other sporting issues we were competing with, the Essendon drugs scandal was breaking and there was some cricket scandal/issue.

We scored in most Messenger press papers where there were state players, country and city; also ABC on line, Channel 7 news and Eileen was on the radio – 5AA I think. Those involved with the industry state we got good coverage.

We've added a few more articles on the web site regarding promotions marketing etc – let us know what you need.

The closure of clubs is distressing, Clare Gawler Balaklava. Currently there are a few that are marginal, but we can only help if we are asked. It's frustrating and sad to watch. However we had a hand in helping HBCC re-establish croquet at the bay.

I've continued with my monthly articles in Hoop Points, I'd like more feed back, I'm also sending them out on Google groups; not every one reads Hoop Points!

Currently we are involved in 3 promotions:

Firstly Active Ageing Australia (AAA) and their '5 for 10 program', which is 5 lessons for \$10. This is a federal government initiative, that, after a successful pilot program has now gained funding for 3 years. AAA does all the advertising and promotion, which is a godsend. The trial involved tennis, indoor rowing, dragon boat racing, surfing and a couple of others. Currently 5 clubs, Woodville, Salisbury, TTG, North Adelaide and South Terrace are trialing croquet in this program and we will watch and learn. We needed a catchy name for croquet to compete with the other sports that have names like Rusty Tennis and Fossil footy - so we are calling it Crafty Croquet – have a look on the AAA web site.

On 20th October the Veterans Health Network (VHN) are having a 'sports' day by the Torrens parade ground. This is a traditional 'have a go' promotion. We will have a demonstration area and players hovering to explain and gather names and phone numbers for those who are interested; lists will be forwarded onto clubs.

That promotion will in effect will be a trial run for the Sports Fitness and Health Festival on 7 & 8th Dec by the Torrens. The organisers expect 10 -12000 people to attend, all sorts of sports and activities will be on offer. I've booked a demonstration area for 4 x 1 hour sessions where we will inspire and enthuse people to try croquet. Again we will be collecting names and phone numbers for clubs to follow up.

The other promotions we have been involved with include the Every Generation grant, which was used by several clubs last year but I'm unsure of the uptake this year.

We also considered using the on line marketing sites e.g. Cudo and Living Social but after considering previous experience in SA and in other states we let it go, they're neither fund raisers nor effective membership drives. However I do think that there is a place for this type of marketing but with specific target groups in mind.

The most significant activity this year was meetings with clubs - Maree and I met with all but a few clubs. It was good to put faces to names and meet all those who are keen to see croquet grow. There were many individual club issues to be sorted but some themes emerged:

1. Most clubs wanted to grow but have tried a huge variety of membership drives with little success, but despite this a few clubs have had success and are growing
2. Most clubs wanted regional visits for coaching, and, updating and teaching new coaches/referees
3. I believe communication was the big issue. The comment of what does SACA do for us was often stated and if not spoken it was thought, I'm sure. But on the other hand SACA has little idea of what the club issues are, what clubs are trying out, what's been successful, what information clubs need, what other clubs around them are doing and the list goes on. Clubs say they're in the dark about what SACA does but SACA's knowledge of club activities is limited.

In a variety of ways we are addressing these issues:

With falling membership, as well as the promotions already mentioned, the Australian Sports Commission has published 2 papers this year that provides excellent information about how we should approach increasing club membership.

1. Market Segmentation for Sports Participation (March 13) which explores the different motivations, needs and barriers, for individuals being involved in club based sports.
2. The Future of Australian Sports (March 2013) which examines the trends in sport which will impact on long term policy and planning.

Both papers provide an excellent basis for planning our future and provide much food for thought and an indication how croquet will evolve.

Communication is being addressed in a variety of ways. Encouraging the use of electronic communication, and input from the business consultant, via the ORS funding. Depending upon what his agenda is I would like to have workshops next year where clubs get together to share ideas, brainstorm issues and communicate with one another and SACA so we can move forward together.

After meeting so many clubs I've drawn up a list of characteristics of those clubs that appear to be thriving.

- Essentially they are a social group having regular social get togethers e.g. sausage sizzles or barbecues, where club members and their families and friends enjoy one another's company; these events are also money raisers.
- These clubs play more than one code, that's very important.
- They're involved with community groups, schools and service groups etc. who come and play occasionally during the year, for a fee.
- They hire out their facility/clubrooms for parties, local business /birthday parties etc, for a fee.
- They aim to get their club in the local paper several times a year.
- All levels of croquet, whichever code, are played, so they cater for those who want a hit and giggle as well as those who want to be involved with competition.
- Essentially a friendly/welcoming/social place to be

Finally I'm still in the process of establishing a billeting officer. Country folk pointed out the costs in time and money when coming to the city. City players need return the hospitality which is offered by those in the country.

Also I'm starting negotiation with Adelaide Uni about forming a Uni croquet club.

So we've done a lot this year and have a busy couple of months ahead, I have to admit to being excited and nervous at the same time about the near future. You've got to be in it to win it.

Sally Harper

Director Sport Development

SCHOOLS AND DISABLED REPORT TO AGM 2013

It is now 13 years since Sth. Aust. started on their School's Program with Aussie Croquet.

When Jane Lewis offered me the chance to head this program I said I would and give it 2 years.

Within a few months I had taken a field Trip to East Murray Area School. This complex is in the middle of the Mallee area, About 70 kms below Loxton. The school is the centre for the local community for meetings and sports.

The students were from Kindy to yr. 12. The school had areas for all sports and soon found us a bit of lawn and we set up a court. 3 sessions were held that day for the upper grades. Glen had a mallet for the school in bits to show the teachers and the Tech.Studies teacher took measurements of the hoops and centre peg. This was to be the student's project for the term. We also had 2 sets of balls donated to us and we left these with them. All were gratefully received. A couple of months later I received a letter and photo of the new equipment in use, and it is still.

A local College came on board soon after this and we at Broadview Club, have had students from there each year for the past 13, and they are to come again next year.

Canvassing schools and getting the message over that this was a game that children can play and enjoy was not easy. Teachers that embraced it one year would move on and the new ones were not interested.

I had a wonderful group of players from different clubs come and help out when we went on metro and nearby trips. I thank everyone who helped, as you were important in getting this program going.

When working at one school there were two lads in wheelchairs who desperately wanted a go so we helped them. Glen came home and after a lot of trial and error he devised a mallet from a crutch so these students did not miss out.

In 2002 we had a wonderful day at Hutt Rd with students from 5 schools competing for medals. They ranged from yr.7 to 12.

Early in the work we went to KAURNA COLLEGE at Elizabeth and worked with the students there. Many couldn't understand us as they had only just come from the uplands in the top corner on the state. This did not stop their keenness to learn and the other kids translated for them. That was a real fun day.

SAPSASA offered to take us into their program so that was a big bonus, we also worked with ARCHPER on their sports days, these, had students from many schools metro and rural. These were very hard work for all our helpers, but the main exercise was to get the teachers and students interested in a new game.

Glen and I travelled over to Kimba on the west coast then to Cowell and Cleve. This was interesting and at Kimba we found that some students were using the court at the local CWA club. So were keen to show the ladies a new game.

Some years later a teacher who we taught at Cleve rang me asking for 2 sets of balls. He had taken the instructions we had left on making equipment to his new school at Minlaton and the students were all ready to go and only needed balls. These were bought from a club, and sent over.

Many day trips were taken to nearby schools in the mid north and up the river to Blanchetown, Morgan, Swan Reach and Berri. Most of these schools had disabled children so they were a part of our teaching.

Glen and I also went over to Kangaroo Island for 3 days. This was very enjoyable for us and the students.

The last long trip we did was up to Wilmington, Quorn, and onto Leigh Creek.

At Leigh Creek we set up on an oval as usual and the students had a WOW! of a time, especially the Children from a nearby mission. The Aborigine Children have a wonderful sense for sport.

We were fortunately to get a couple of Grants through the Office of Rec and Sport . The first went toward a computer for me and to help pay our travel. The second one was to supply 10 Disabled Units in the state with a set of equipment each. 8 of these sets went to country schools and the other 2 to city units. A very, worthwhile project.

Other schools,(around 30) have made their own gear and bought second hand balls ,made available by clubs a reasonable prices. Thank to those clubs.

Altogether there have been in excess of 360 schools, and around 36,000 students and teachers introduced to our wonderful sport. This includes the sports days which were not in the schools visited.

It is good to see that some clubs are now teaching Golf Croquet with great success. Good on you. It does not matter whether it is Aussie or Golf that you teach as long as the program can continue.

I would like to thanks all those who worked in their own clubs or with the teams over these years. Without your support it would have been impossible to cover the areas and schools that we did. I would also thankyou to the Board for their support, and being there when I needed a listening ear.

There are many amusing stories that I can tell of things that happened, and one day I will put them down in print.

After 13 years it is now time for me to bow out, Keep up the good work and remember your reward is the look of delight in a student's face when they make a hoop.

Thank you all again,

Janet Eckert

Junior Sport Coordinator

ASSOCIATION CROQUET DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO AGM 2013

At last year's AGM my predecessor Greg Rowberry, presented a negative picture of Association Croquet in this state. At that time, we had a coaching committee that had gone into recess, and a selection committee that would not select the state team. I don't want to open up old wounds, but I feel that I should let the meeting know how these issues were resolved. I would like to thank Maree Skinner for her leadership in addressing these issues, and I would also like to thank the other board members for their support whilst we worked through them.

Acting on advice, Maree and I

- Directed that a state team be selected in time for the Presentation day in December.
- Dismissed both the coaching and selection committees.

I believe that there were two reasons for the committee's recalcitrance.

Firstly, both committees had previously reported directly to the board, and not to the Association Croquet Director. I believe that they felt that they had been demoted.

Secondly the appointment of a state coach had been the cause of angst within the association croquet committee for several years

On a more positive side, during the last year the Association Croquet committee has achieved the following

- The state team performed well, coming within 3 games of second place in the Eire cup.
- Coaching and referees refresher courses have been conducted at SACA
- We have received good entries for the Saturday pennants.
- The night croquet for division 1 and 2 has been re-invigorated. We are expecting 4 div 1 and 5 div 2 teams to play in the night singles this year. For the night doubles in 2014, we will probably have 8 teams in a merged div 1 and 2 with advanced handicap play.

One of the main challenges for next year is to further rationalise the use of headquarter lawns. We plan to schedule spare days for pennants that have been postponed due to the hot weather policy or wet weather to Sundays instead of Saturdays, which will free up 3 weekends during the year.

Another problem is insufficient entries to run some of the events. Generally we have no problems filling the open events, but struggle with the other divisions. We plan to run these events on weekends next year, and also to amalgamate and convert them to handicap events.

Thanks to Barbara Hooper, Tim O'Leary, Harley Watts, Christine Prater, James Temlett, Doug Amey, Norma Amey, Chris Birdsey, Eileen Ferguson, Di Helier and Roger Buddle for their assistance during the year.

The following is a summary of what has happened with the Association Croquet since the last board meeting.

Selectors Committee

A state training squad practice was held on the weekend of August 31st and September 1st. Superb weather was enjoyed by the 18 players attending the practice. During the practice, a meeting of the players made the following decisions

1. The selectors to determine whether the state team should be 8, 9 or 10 players.
2. The selectors to appoint a captain and vice-captain
3. A travelling manager in Queensland is not required
4. The following weekends and locations for state team practices

December 14th and 15th (Presentation Day) at SACA

January 18th and 19th at Murray Bridge

February 22nd and 23rd at SACA

Handicap

Chris Birdsey continues to perform these duties – thanks Chris.

Referees

A reaccreditation course has been scheduled for October 18th at Naracoorte. Eugene Dunstan will publicise the course in the south east. We will place an article in hoop points, and place an email on the croquet list. Coaching will be offered on Sunday 19th.

Coaching

Nothing to report.

Events

We have caught up with the games deferred due to inclement weather.

We are planning to run an advanced handicap doubles tournament at SACA on November 30th and December 1st.

Entries have been received for night singles.

Mark Prater

Director Association Croquet

GOLF CROQUET DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO AGM 2013

Handicap	Metro	Regional	Players of both AC & GC	
			Metro	Reg
0	nil	nil		
1	1	1		1
2	3	1	3	
3	13	3	8	3
4	18	4	13	3
5	6	5	5	3
6	14	6	9	2
7	34	17	13	5
8	45	5	23	1
9	54	4	22	
10	133	31	19	9
11	48	4	3	
12	100	2	3	1
12*	78	32		
TOTAL	553	113	121	28
<p style="color: red;">NB: from 02/08/2010 to 29/06/2012 there are 194 Registered GC Players who have not had any adjustment to their Index or Handicap. (Probably only play socially.) Thanks to Handicapper Recorder Meredith Morgan for these figures. either don't play pennants,play only social</p> <p style="color: red;">NB: 12* indicates players when their Club has not notified an official Handicap</p>				

For comparison figures in my 2012 annual report showed 516 players were metro with 88 regional so there has been growth in Golf Croquet players who hold an official handicap. Totals have gone from 604 with handicaps last year to 666 with handicaps this year.

Golf Croquet is continuing to grow and thrive. There is always room for improvement and Committee members work tirelessly to promote Croquet.

With improved communications such as the SACA website, Hoop Points on line, Google Groups, the GC General List and Croquetscores all being readily available, people have access to information much more promptly than in the past. Individual and team performances are easily accessed while events are happening via Croquet Scores. Monthly reports to the Board go out to clubs with the minutes of the meeting so most of you will be familiar with what has happened. Over 130 players have requested to be on the General List for GC information.

Some of the highlights of this year include the following:

Phil Wise organised a very successful visit from Greg Bury (courtesy the ACA) who ran coach training sessions for two full days and awarded those who attended with an ACA recognised qualification. The SA qualification is still recognised until the renewal date is reached. These courses were very well attended.

Rules Days and Referee Training Days were organised by Bernie Pfitzner and were also very well patronised. Clearly players are seeking this education and more courses are in the planning stage. It is important that referees gain court experience by putting their names forward to referee games.

The running of Individual Events by clubs has been a big change. A training session was held early in the year and nine clubs sent along 16 representatives. Brighton, Glenunga, Hyde Park, Millswood, North Adelaide, Norwood, South Terrace and Hyde Park have all assisted by accepting the responsibility of running one, two or three events. This cooperation needs to continue and grow as it provides a framework so these events can be held. It is also useful for those assisting to develop their skills in organising events. Heather White took over the role of Events coordinator during the year and we all recognise that this role is the most important Croquet function. Without an Events organiser competitions would cease.

The State Team attended regular training days prior to representing SA at the Interstate Shield held in the Hunter Valley. We recognise and value their efforts in the extremely competitive and hard fought national challenge for the Interstate Shield. A Draft Copy of the proposed New Rules for GC has been circulated but there is still some way to go before they will be implemented.

Croquet SA has been granted the right to hold the ACA Golf Croquet Gold Medal, Men's and Women's Championships and the Interstate Shield from 3rd to 14th September, 2014. Following on from the AC World's 2012, the AC Eire Cup in 2013 this will give the golf croquet players a chance to experience, enjoy and assist with the organisation of a National Event. Many thanks are extended to the clubs who make their clubs available to ensure this event will go ahead. Adelaide is a popular state for events as the venues are within easy range of the city centre.

This is my final report. We are farewelling Sue Huddy who undertook secretarial responsibilities so efficiently, Michael Shanahan who looked after Selection and myself. Heather will be taking over as Director of Golf Croquet and Bernie Pfitzner and Phil Wise remain on the team. I am grateful to those on committees and to the many players who have been supportive of my actions in my years as Events Coordinator and then as Director of GC. Every good wish to the next GC team under Heather's leadership.

Claire Wilson
Director Golf Croquet

DIRECTOR HEADQUARTERS REPORT TO AGM 2013

1. Lawns:

We have been fortunate that the lawns have continued to be of a very high standard this year for the Eire Cup following the efforts made in 2012 for the Worlds. Because of the extremely wet winter we are now seeing some bad wear marks particularly in corner 4 and around hoops. It would be desirable to move the courts north or south after scarifying to enable the grass to recover. Scarifying will be done in January. SACA has agreed to pay for lawn clippings to be removed from the premises.

2. The commercial cleaner hired through Absolute Domestic is continuing to meet our needs and is very accommodating. The clubhouse is cleaned on Monday mornings fortnightly.

3.Repairs

Ladies Toilet hand basin taps – repair done has lasted considerably longer since the users have followed directions provided. Door closures are still on the 'in process of repair' list. Repairs to water pipes were done this year by ACC, an emergency decision when the pipes burst during Sat Pennants. There will be annual repairs and maintenance on the reticulation system prior to the beginning of summer. SACA has taken the option of doing/managing our own repairs rather than pay ACC to do it for an annual price.

4.Housekeeper

For most of this year this position has been unfilled. I have continued to make sure that adequate cleaning and catering supplies have been onhand. Volunteers have assisted from time to time cleaning the tea trolley, washing tea cups left by others, laundering tea towels at home, recycling cans for cash etc

5.Timer Clocks

I have written and spoken many times about the fact that timer clocks do not behave when left in the sun and rain.

6. Lost Property

The lost property bin is at the end of the passage to the toilets. The bin is full again. Check it out to see if anything is yours...or it will be disposed of.

7. Lack of help

The Association continues to need its members to be mindful of the efforts made by volunteers to have everything working when you come to play. Please help by doing your little bit.

9. Tasks to be completed by someone once weather fines up

1. Painting of yellow lines along cement borders – warning of possible hazard
2. Lowering of metal uprights holding the sleeper court surrounds...to be completed by David Watchman.
3. Hoops will need powder coating in the new year.
4. Decision and possible follow-up re the AG pipe for barriers following the current trial.

Kay Chynoweth
Director HQ

SA CROQUET ASSOCIATION INC

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR
ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013**

CROQUET SA FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30/06/13

		2012		2013
INCOME				
Registration Fees		78,860.00		82,100.00
<u>Income from Grants</u>				
Administration STEP grant	10,000.00		20,000.00	
Other grants	-	10,000.00	<u>2,000.00</u>	22,000.00
<u>Income from Events</u>				
Pennants (Association & Golf)	8,314.00		13,810.00	
Masters Games	1,235.00		-	
Country Week	-		545.00	
Other Competitions	<u>7,109.06</u>	16,658.06	<u>7,859.70</u>	22,214.70
<u>Income from World Championship</u>				
Bar sales	5,629.80		-	
Catering sales	7,407.21		-	
Flagpoles	52.00		-	
Meals (SACA)	3,850.50		-	
Recycling bottles & cans	108.10		-	
Qualifying Event	<u>300.00</u>	17,347.61	-	-
<u>Income from National Championships</u>				
Lawn Hire	-		875.00	
Formal Dinner	-		3,015.00	
Barbecue	-		765.00	
Bar	-		1,470.45	
Canteen	-		1,482.55	
Reception Reimbursement	-		700.00	
Raffle	-	-	<u>434.35</u>	8,742.35
<u>Income from Croquet SA Activities</u>				

Aussie Croquet	240.00		-	
Advertising	125.00		170.00	
Bar Sales	-		158.50	
Catering	-		68.15	
Clubhouse Sales	324.20		-	
Coaching	571.00		505.00	
Facility Hire	300.00		450.00	
Lawn Fees	85.00		755.00	
Referee Training	-		370.00	
World Championship Merchandise Sales	-		1,118.90	
Other Sales	<u>235.00</u>	1,880.20	<u>795.80</u>	4,391.35
<u>Income from Fundraising</u>				
Community Lottery	1,422.00		1,633.20	
Other Fundraising	<u>272.60</u>	1,694.60	<u>211.10</u>	1,844.30
<u>Other Income</u>				
Bank Interest	3,169.22		2,683.89	
Donations	62.00		-	
Website Income	110.00		-	
ACA subsidy	4,690.00		-	
Miscellaneous Income	-	<u>8,031.22</u>	<u>121.70</u>	<u>2,805.59</u>
TOTAL INCOME		<u>\$134,471.69</u>		<u>\$144,098.29</u>

EXPENSES

Fees Payable to ACA

Affiliation Fees	22,360.00		22,506.00	
Public Liability Insurance	<u>4,094.67</u>	26,454.67	<u>3,531.50</u>	26,037.50

Clubhouse & Office Expenses

Cleaning	640.00		1,701.10	
Electricity	956.32		2,215.31	
Employment Costs (Ex Director)	32,702.29		34,604.60	
Insurance	1,464.91		928.00	

Internet & Website	830.10		1,539.45	
Kitchen Purchases	403.39		1,097.18	
Lease	717.64		-	
Maintenance	99.00		360.99	
Office Equipment	196.18		805.00	
Petty cash	239.99		-	
Phone	1,077.55		1,283.47	
Photocopy	373.99		346.23	
Postage	788.45		893.00	
Printing and Stationery	1,429.45		1,158.17	
Sundry Office Expenses	160.19		150.00	
Sundry Clubhouse Expenses	<u>303.83</u>	42,383.28	<u>842.85</u>	47,925.35
<u>Event Expenses</u>				
Equipment	479.58		3,969.56	
Lawn Hire	75.00		75.00	
Trophies & Prizes	1,642.00		2,162.55	
Masters Games	385.20		-	
Other	<u>49.92</u>	2,631.70	<u>133.20</u>	6,340.31
<u>World Championship Expenses</u>				
Bar Purchases	2,914.01		-	
Catering Purchases	3,104.71		-	
Meals (SACA) Purchases	3,097.25		-	
Other Expenses	<u>262.34</u>	9,378.31	<u>-</u>	-
<u>National Championships Expenses</u>				
Formal Dinner	-		3,088.00	
Barbecue	-		354.25	
Bar	-		532.60	
Canteen	-		492.95	
Raffle	-		126.00	
Reception	-		219.75	
Other	<u>-</u>	-	<u>14.00</u>	4,827.55
<u>Expenses from Croquet SA Activities</u>				

Aussie Croquet	441.00		113.72	
Coaching	645.45		712.30	
Facility Hire Expenses	-		200.00	
Publicity and Promotion	87.00		426.75	
Referee Training	-		712.60	
Purchases for Resale	<u>385.80</u>	1,559.25	<u>661.81</u>	2,827.18
<u>Grounds & Greens Expenses</u>				
Lawn Maintenance	25,098.44		19,002.50	
Licence Fee	-		720.00	
Repairs	1,422.89		1,435.50	
Water	5,527.50		6,990.25	
Sundry Expenses	<u>1,105.43</u>	33,154.26	<u>39.43</u>	28,187.68
<u>Other Expenses</u>				
Bank Fees	52.70		41.62	
Honoraria	1,025.00		1,245.00	
Liquor Licence	2,069.49		925.10	
New Furniture & Fittings	3,632.15		-	
New Clubhouse Items	1,124.59		-	
State Representation	7,096.84		6,117.73	
Sundry Board Expenses	-		520.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,887.88		591.60	
Capital Works Expenses	<u>1,835.90</u>	<u>18,724.55</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,441.05</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$134,286.02</u>		<u>\$125,586.62</u>

SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

TOTAL INCOME		\$134,471.69		\$144,098.29
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>\$134,286.02</u>		<u>\$125,586.62</u>
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<u>\$ 185.67</u>		<u>\$ 18,511.67</u>

BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION

Bank Account Opening Balance as at 01/07/12	48,452.75
Income for Year	144,098.29
less Expenses for Year	<u>125,586.62</u>
Bank Account Closing Balance as at 30/06/13	<u>\$ 66,964.42</u>

Cheque Account	3,326.11
Express Saver Account	33,638.31
Term Deposit	<u>30,000.00</u>
	<u>\$ 66,964.42</u>