



**MINUTES OF CROQUET SA BOARD MEETING
HELD ON OF 16th of June 2025
AT 4:30PM AT HUTT ROAD**

Present:

Kevin Le Poidevin, Paul Ensor, Tracey Sincock, Sally Harper, Karen Tierney, Jim Carter, Shirley Howlett.

Ansi Baumanis is an invited guest to present reports from the GC Committee, Health & Safety, and as Hutt Rd. Facilities Manager.

Apologies:

Kim Millhouse.

1. Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting:

Approved unanimously by the board.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

- Incident Report Glenunga

The incident report submitted by the Glenunga Croquet Club and tabled at the last board meeting will not be pursued further. No Public Liability Claim was made.

- Hot Weather Policy

To be discussed at future GC Committee next meeting. A motion will be put to the board for possible adjustments.

- Bank Account Access and Reconciliation

Change of signatures Bank SA is being pursued.

Jess will obtain application forms from Bendigo Bank for a working Bank Card for the Admin Officer.

- Sponsorship Proposal

Barry Hayden has confirmed Robert Brown is prepared to supply \$1,000 of sponsorship money, given that a small logo can be patched on the shirt sleeve of the GC state team. Paul moved that the sponsorship for the GC state team be accepted for this current year, with future sponsorship arrangements to be subject to Board consultation in subsequent years. The motion was seconded by Jim and unanimously approved by the Board. Croquet Australia to be consulted.

- Public Liability and Insurance

It was noted that all individuals not registered with SACA are covered for up to six appearances. Public liability applies in instances of club negligence; the use of visitors' books and QR code check-ins was discussed in this context. Clarification is to be sought regarding insurance coverage for overseas social croquet trip.

- Dying hedge

See facilities manager report.

- No-trip markers

We wish to inform clubs that magnetic offside pegs are available from Manoli Flouras and Robert Brown.

- **Bar manager and responsible persons**

Ansi has confirmed his acceptance of the role of Bar Manager. A check will be made with Liquor Licensing regarding requirements for responsible liquor service at Hutt Rd. Karen is a current Bar Manager at North Adelaide and is willing to offer advice.

3. Health and Safety:

No outstanding health and safety matters to be discussed.

4. Reports:

4.1 Presidents Report

Presidents report was tabled. Jim moved that the report be accepted. Paul seconded. Passed. Fourth lawn feasibility study. The Board agreed to call for expressions of interest to undertake a feasibility study for the development of a fourth lawn.

Annual general meeting. The date for the 2025 Annual General Meeting was set for 29th August 2025. The motion was seconded by Tracey and passed unanimously by the Board.

4.2 Treasurers Report

The treasurer report was tabled. Tracey moved that the report be accepted. Sally seconded. Passed.

The treasurer moved that the proposed registration fees be accepted. Current fee's will apply for October to December.

Next year's Fees (January to December) will be based on Tracey's Budget but we wait to see if there are increases from Croquet Australia and Insurance.

Next year's Fees will be invoiced once the ACA component is finalized.

Proposed budget in treasurers report to be reviewed again in the light of expenditure for the current year.

4.3 GC Coordinator Report

The GC coordinator report was tabled.

4.4 AC Director Report

The AC director report was tabled. Seconded by Sally. Passed.

AC director to follow up AC handicapping.

4.5 Sports Development Report

The sports development report was tabled. Seconded by Paul. Passed.

4.6 Facilities Manager Report

Facilities managers report was tabled. Shirley moved that the facilities report be accepted. Paul seconded. Passed.

The Facilities manager is authorised to proceed with calling for expressions of interest for a new greenkeeping contract, including options both with and without line marking. The Board will further consider the Facilities manager's recommendation regarding the purchase of a line marking machine once a greenkeeper is appointed and cost assessments for the new lawn maintenance contract are complete.

The Board agreed that if there are five sets of balls surplus to SACA requirements, these may be offered for sale to clubs at a price of \$100 per set (or nearest offer).

The Board determined that expenditure on new tables and chairs is not necessary at this time. Facilities manager left the meeting at 5:45pm.

5. General Business:

5.1 Cost of Spring and Autumn Pennants Investigation

Paul moved that pennant fees be reduced to \$10; the motion was declined by the Board. An amendment was proposed by Paul to reduce the fee from \$45 to \$25. The amended motion was approved by majority vote. This will mean a loss of income to Croquet SA. An adjustment in fees will be necessary likely to be \$1.

5.2 RevSport

Ongoing.

5.3 Marion Croquet Club

The Board acknowledged the need to obtain costings and proceed with grant applications to determine the feasibility of developing the Marion Croquet Club. The Board expressed support in principle for this initiative. Kevin will undertake further discussions to advance the matter.

5.4 Accommodation interstate shield

The Board approved \$600 deposit for accommodation for the Inter State Shield. An appeal over the Process of Selection will hopefully be resolved before this is done.

5.5 Printing policy

To be discussed at the next board meeting.

5.6 Barry Jennings Letter

Barry feels that Dawson Balls are not good enough. He feels they are not round and they vary size in the sun unusually the red and yellow seem to swell.

Board decided the issue is with the hoop setting. Fletcher balls are far too expensive to consider. We will ask the opinion of James Temlett. Kevin to answer Barry.

6. Any Other Business:

6.1 GC state team for ISS

Regarding the GC State Team for ISS, it was noted that the formal appointment of the state team has been deferred pending an appeal to the GC Selection Committee. Three of four positions have been confirmed.

7. Next Meeting:

The new board meeting will be held on the 14th of July at 4:30pm.

Meeting closed at 6:15pm.

Reports presented at the meeting

President's Report June 2025

Ansi and I met with Ray Scheuboeck and Ben from the Adelaide City Council in response to our letter to the Honourable Mayor of ACC in relation to our desire for a 4th court of a similar acceptable standard. They were both positive, constructive, and helpful. They both pointed out that the decision was not theirs to make, but they would help in presenting our case. Ray will supply details of 2 companies that we could ask to provide feasibility studies. This, will be expensive and possibly up to \$10k. This however, will be necessary in order to present our case. The eastern side seems the only practical direction. Big trees are in the vicinity. We would need to avoid them. We should consider a North/South court and an East/West court extending from court 3. We could be wasting our money, but if we are serious we need to present a compelling and costed argument. Obviously the Mayor is interested, or Ray and Ben would not have been sent to us.

We have been trying to sort out Jess's phone in regard to ongoing payment. Also we need to change signatures over and provide a bank card for Jess as she needs to pay for things from time to time.

We need to include items for inclusion in the 2025/26 Budget and finalize it as well as fees for next year. It's obvious that we need to charge a catch-up 3 months fee to members so we fall in line with CA, RevSport and Insurance. We would then charge for the calendar year of 2026. This just has to be done. Because of the loss of \$20.5K grant money and increases from ACC, we will probably make a loss for this year. Because some things have increased in cost, there will be some increase in fees. ACC now charge rent on every square metre of internal floor space including the shed, they charge a lease for each lawn and a share of insurance for the building. This is reviewed every year under the current agreement on February 28. We currently have a 3 year agreement. Of course the review is likely to increase costs each year. We currently pay \$3.75k.

We need to set a date for our AGM in order to follow correct procedure from the constitution , this needs time and preparation. I have included the relevant part of the constitution below.

We have strong leadership in Association Croquet so, over a period of time, we will see some improvements which will be wonderful because AC is a great game. *Greg Rowberry* has agreed to be the *Coaching Coordinator*. Being a coordinator means he will delegate our panel of coaches to run sessions. *Shirley Howett as AC Director* is gaining confidence in starting initiatives. We will have a development program for men and women where coaches will be allocated to training sessions. This will lead to developing players which will lead to more people being available for state teams. *Joan Kelly as Events Manager* continues to magnificently organize pennant programs and various tournament events. *James Temlett as Referees Coordinator* is running sessions to introduce more referees. More referees will mean a greater understanding of the rules by the players. He will ensure that current referees have their "Working with Children" qualification and any other requirements. Things are definitely looking up.

AC Director Report June 2025

At our last meeting Greg Rowberry presented a report outlining the current coaching situation. There is a need for people to update their qualifications, and this is to be addressed as soon as possible. No application for State team coach has been received, but Greg has identified a number of coaches to work both with the state squad and possibly two development squads. Greg's enthusiasm and organizational skills will bring AC croquet back to life. Details of the information can be found in the latest Hoop Points. The selectors are in the process of choosing the state squad and the development squad will follow.

James Temlett has arranged two sessions for referees/ umpires on August 9th and 10th at Norwood.

The question of allowing a mentor to work with division 3 Pennant teams was discussed. Feedback from all clubs involved indicated little support. The AC Committee felt that the majority of players were experienced enough to make on court decisions, and that additional coaching should occur at club level.

Facilities Managers Report June 2025

Front Door Lock

When accessing the clubroom last Monday afternoon, it was found that the front door could not be unlocked. The original cylinder fell apart. Andrew from Metro Locks was engaged to replace the cylinder in the front door.

Drainage

Adelaide City Council engaged a contractor to alleviate the flooding of the courts by installing new 90mm downpipes and running the downpipes underground around to the back of the clubroom into the parklands.

Upon inspection of the completed works, it was noticed that a downpipe had been removed from the eastern end of the guttering. The downpipe hole had been covered with a metal sheet. Originally, the footpath below had been marked and dug out, and new concrete had been laid. It is unknown why the downpipe was removed.

During the rain on Saturday, 7/06/2025, it was noticed that the water was overflowing the gutter at that site.

I have contacted the Team Leader at ACC in Jamie Stefenato's absence and have arranged for him and the contractor to meet me next Thursday at 9.00 am to discuss any remedy and hopefully why the downpipe was removed.

Green Keeping Contract

The green keeping contract is up for renewal at the end of June 2025.

I would like the Board's permission to obtain a green keeping quote from the same contractor that North Adelaide has been using for their green keeping. I believe that their quality of work has been an improvement over the previous contractor and that North Adelaide Croquet Club have had considerable savings on their cost.

Norwood has expressed an interest in that they may also ask the contractor for a quote. With the possibility of at least three clubs coming together (North Adelaide, Norwood and Hutt Road), it should be possible to reduce costs further, rather than going alone.

Another option would be to place an advertisement in the Advertiser asking for expressions of interest for the green keeping at Hutt Road.

Dying Hedge

A meeting was held with the Adelaide City Council's Horticulture Team Leader. to see what could be done about the dying hedge in the southeast corner of the lawn.

The hedge had reached the end of its useful life and would not regenerate, even with extra watering. After consulting with his manager, it was proposed that they remove the dead hedge and install a temporary fence with green shade cloth until new plants were tall enough to provide security.

Sale of Old Balls

There are approximately five sets of old croquet balls (first and second colours) that are in excess of our needs. I ask for the Board's approval to offer these for sale to clubs.

Suggested price to be \$100 per set of four balls.

Budgeting for the future

It has come to my attention that there has been no proactive approach to budgeting for future expenditures in maintaining the Hutt Road lawn and clubroom. Rather, it has been ad hoc. Therefore, I would like to propose the following:

- 1. A new ball replacement program.**

At least one set every two years. Currently, we have three sets, one set for National competitions, one set for SACA Competitions, and one set for daily use. I would suggest that these balls are rotated e.g. Daily balls are retired and sold to clubs, the SACA balls moved to daily use and the National Balls moved to SACA competition use.

- 2. Top Dressing of the Courts**

The condition of the courts has become quite uneven, with balls deviating quite considerably. There has been no top dressing of any court in the last seven years or more. The high standard needed for National events and SACA events is a must. It

was suggested that the lawn needs to be top-dressed as a whole, not one court at a time. I would suggest that light top-dressing annually is appropriate, with a faster recovery time rather than trying to top-dress with a heavy coat and having a longer non-playable time.

3. New State Flags and Flag Post Extensions

As reported in a previous Facilities Manager's report, the damaged flags need to be replaced before the next CA's Interstate Shield. Due to the boxthorn hedge growing higher, the height of the flag posts is not high enough to stop the flags from being caught on the thorns. To rectify this problem a section of the flag post can be added to increase the height. We have three years to budget for this.

4. Line-Marking Machine

I would like to propose that we purchase a line marking machine, which would enable us to line-mark our courts as needed. Currently, if line marking is needed, I have to notify the contractor to come and do it. This takes time and may not be done before a competition starts.

A line marking machine that uses spray cans of paint may be purchased costs approximately \$525.00. Cans of paint cost approx. \$13/can. Line marking machines that use liquid paint start at approx.. \$2,800.00.

5. Lease Payments

Under the new lease from Adelaide Council, we now have to pay a lease. I am not sure it this has been budgeted for.

New Tables and Chairs

The age of the tables and chairs in the clubroom is showing its use-by date has been reached. We need to consider budgeting for replacements before any of the plastic chairs become brittle and collapse under somebody. The tables are very shabby and are difficult to maintain in a clean state. The metal framed chairs have become very rusty. It is recommended that a replacement program is budgeted for.

RevSport Report

Board Meeting Friday May23 2:30pm at South Terrace Clubroom.

Topic: Rev Sport Update and Decision making.

Present: Paul Ensor, Sally Harper, Jim Carter and Kevin Le Poidevin

A quorum of 4 board members were present.

Presenters were David Magee and Graeme Thomas

Members were brought up to date with the progress so far and shown what a club portal will look like.

3 motions were moved and accepted.

Very healthy dialogue and questions occurred around Business Rules decisions that are required to onboard the Revolutionise Sport system.

Motion 1

That mandatory membership registration payment (ie "pay before you can play") is not expected in 2026 but will be expected in 2027.

Motion 2

The default format of having to provide name and date of birth to provide access was decided but sometime in the future extra security may be added.

Motion 3

The priority is for members to enter their own data and pay.

Helping another member or group within a club is acceptable.

If necessary a designated person within a club may enter bulk details for members and help with payment.

If a further option is needed, a spreadsheet and payment may be made to our administration officer.

These options may be necessary especially in 2026.

In the context of Rev Sport business rules, motions 1,2, and 3 above responded to the Rev Sport questions and SACA board responses.

The exact Rev Sport questions and board responses which were communicated to RevSport are listed below.

Will you be enforcing payment of membership fees at the point of registration?

The SACA board decision is that we will not be enforcing payment of fees at point of registration.

Please advise on the following questions:

1. Would you like the additional security layer 1?
2. Would you like the additional security layer 2?
3. Would you like additional security layer 1 & 2?

SACA decision,

No, to all options above.

Please advise on the following questions:

1. Can clubs add members manually one at a time?
2. Can clubs bulk renew members from a spreadsheet if the member exists currently in revolutioniseSPORT?

SACA decision,

Yes, to both questions above.