

CANBERRA CROQUET CLUB



Annual Report 2009

Canberra Croquet Club Incorporated

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Annual Report

This report is presented to members in accordance with section 73 of the Associations Incorporation Act 1991. Attached are the following:

1. The Auditor's Report
2. The statement of accounts for 2008/2009, comprising the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure and the Balance Sheet.
3. The budget for 2009/2010.
4. The Report for 2008/209.
5. The Minutes of the 2008 AGM.
6. Competition winners for 2008/2009.

The names of the Committee members for the year 2008/2009 were:

Peter Freer	President
Stephen Richards	Vice-President
Roger Timms	Secretary
Jim Payne	Treasurer
Stephen Meatheringham	Captain
Yvonne Brereton	Committee Member
Tim Goodland	Committee Member
Tim Murphy	Committee Member
Elizabeth Mountain	Immediate Past President

The principal activities of the Club, which have not changed during the year, are the playing of croquet by its members, and supporting and fostering the game in the community.

During the year, the excess of expenditure over receipts was \$4,012.64 and members accumulated funds decreased by \$2,741.12.



Peter Freer
President



Roger Timms
Secretary

**Auditor's Report to the Members
of Canberra Croquet Club Incorporated**

I have examined the accounts and records of the Canberra Croquet Club Incorporated and have audited the financial transactions recorded therein.

In my opinion, the Balance Sheet and Statement of Receipts and Expenditure present fairly the financial position of the Club as at 31 May 2009 and the result of its operations for the year ended on that date.

1 June 2009


A T Dahl CPA

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for Year Ending 31 May 2009

RECEIPTS

Bank Interest	53.73
Canberra Open Tournament	1,545.00
Coaching	711.00
Donations	517.00
Easter Tournament	704.50
Equipment Hire	6,540.00
Gateball Tournament	0.00
Green Fees	261.50
Shop	182.10
Subscriptions	17,449.00
Yearbook, Croquet NSW	70.00
Miscellaneous	899.00
TOTAL	28,932.83

EXPENDITURE

Affiliation Fees	1,956.00
Canberra Open Tournament	765.49
Cleaning and Rubbish Removal	1,345.10
Clubhouse Maintenance	12,298.44
Coaching material	300.00
Court Maintenance and Improvements	6,746.01
Easter Tournament	196.27
Electricity	571.00
Equipment	0.00
Gateball Tournament	0.00
Gratuities	100.00
Housekeeping	717.63
Insurance	1,596.43
Library, Magazines & Journals Books	195.00
New Members' Expenses	217.80
Postage & Stationery	64.90
Rates and Rent	2,777.08
Shop Stocks	143.05
Telephone	805.67
Trophies, Engraving and Gold Lettering	923.05
Yearbook, Croquet NSW	70.00
Miscellaneous	1,156.55
TOTAL	32,945.47

Operating Surplus/(Deficit) -4,012.64

Bank Account Details

CHEQUE ACCOUNT

Opening balance	5,324.57
2007/8 cheque o/s	-147.89
Operating Surplus/(deficit)	-4,012.64
Transfer from Term Deposit	10,000.00
Transfer to Term Deposit	0.00
Unpresented cheques	1,201.92
Deposits not yet banked	-38.50
Balance at 1/5/09	12,327.46

TERM DEPOSITS

Opening balance	51,617.08
Interest	2,944.52
Bank charges	
Transfer from Current Account	0.00
Transfer to Current Account	-10,000.00
Balance at 31/5/09	44,561.60

Balance Sheet at 31/5/09

Members' Accumulated Funds

Represented by:

Current Assets

Commonwealth Bank Trading Account	12,327.46	
Commonwealth Bank Term Deposits	44,561.60	
Shop Stocks	2,907.00	
Total Current Assets		59,796.06

Fixed Assets

Croquet and Lawn Equipment at cost	10,365.10	
Less Depreciation	7,381.10	2,984.00
Trophies and Honour Boards		1,369.00
Other Equipment at cost	8,421.57	
Less Depreciation	5,592.57	2,829.00
Total Fixed Assets		7,182.00
TOTAL ASSETS		66,978.06

Current Liabilities

Deposits not yet banked		38.50
Unpresented Cheques		(1,201.92)

NET ASSETS		65,814.64
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BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2009-2010

Income

Bank Interest	\$50
Canberra Open	\$1,600
Coaching	\$600
Donations	\$400
Easter Tournament	\$600
Equipment Hire	\$6,500
Gateball Tournament	\$0
Green Fees	\$300
Shop	\$100
Subscriptions	\$18,000
Yearbook, Croquet NSW	\$100
Other	\$100
TOTAL	<u>\$28,350</u>

Expenditure

Affiliation Fees	\$2,200
Canberra Open	\$750
Cleaning and Rubbish Removal	\$1,800
Club-house maintenance	\$1,600
Coaching material	\$400
Court Improvements and maintenance	\$10,000
Easter Tournament	\$200
Electricity	\$700
Equipment	\$600
Gateball Tournament	\$0
Gratuities, Gifts etc.	\$120
Housekeeping	\$900
Insurance	\$1,800
Library, Magazines & Journals	\$400
New Members' Expenses	\$200
Postage & Stationery	\$300
Rent & Rates	\$3,000
Shop Stocks	\$200
Telephone	\$900
Trophies, Gold lettering & Engraving	\$1,500
Yearbook, Croquet NSW	\$100
Other	\$150
TOTAL	<u>\$27,820</u>
Surplus/(deficit)	\$530

President's Report (2008–2009)

This has been a year of consolidation, following the efforts of my predecessor, Elizabeth Mountain, in establishing and implementing a more structured planning framework for the Club's activities. We still face significant challenges - especially the continued shortage of water in Canberra's reservoirs, the related delay in renovating the Club's lawns, and turnover in Club membership.

On behalf of the members of the 2008/09 committee, I present the annual report, against the Five Year Strategic Plan approved in 2006.

Sustainable and Active membership

- **Recruitment and Retention**

Introductory Coaching

Our Introductory Coaching coordinator, Bob Gingold, reports that 17 people in 5 classes completed introductory coaching this year, with a further three currently doing the course. During the year 11 new members joined the club, including 2 gateballers. Only six of those completing the course during the year joined. One other is considering joining after attending the usual 2 post-lesson draws. There are currently 3 people waiting for classes, though they have indicated they are not available till summer.

We thank those who generously gave of their time to coach the classes, namely Yvonne Brereton, Ben Freasier, Richard Meacock and Stephen Meatheringham.

The mentoring program continues to assist new players settle into the club. It has not been easy to find people prepared to be mentors. Perhaps the title sounds too formal since informally members are generally helpful to new members.

Full-time students under the age of 25 years are now able to undertake the coaching at a reduced rate.

Come & Try

John Harris continued his contribution by arranging for 7 monthly Sunday Come & Try days this past year, running 6 while Bob Gingold ran another by himself. Numbers turning up continue to be unpredictable, despite the various forms of advertising utilised and the weather. A majority say they found out about the day from the Internet, some from the Canberra Times, and a few from friends within the Club. This year 54 people turned up with numbers ranging from 1 to 24. For the coming year Come & Try will be trialled every month when the courts are available.

Recruitment and retention therefore both remain as an issue, and we recommend that the incoming committee look at both issues as a matter of urgency.

- **Player Development**

Intermediate level coaching was offered several times during the past year. Attendance has been disappointing. Many members have asked for coaching at this level and the committee

does not understand why offers have not been accepted. We thank all those members who gave their time to provide coaching to our members.

The Club now supports members wishing to gain coaching and officiating accreditation by reimbursing associated costs upon successful completion of the accreditation processes. Eight Club members qualified as Beginner Coaches (Association Croquet) in April, as a direct result of this policy and the expertise of Stephen Meatheringham in providing the training.

The Playing Committee has continued to monitor handicaps (Association and Golf Croquet) of all members (competitive and social) in order to ensure that they accurately reflect playing standards.

A full-bisque Association Croquet "High Flyers" tournament (open to members on handicaps of 18 or higher) was successfully completed with 10 members taking part. This was run as a learning tournament with emphasis placed on encouragement and assistance to those players taking part.

- **Event Management**

Our thanks go to Stephen Richards for managing the Canberra Open; to Peter Freer and Brian Thomason for co-managing the Easter Carnival; and to Tim Goodland for organising the Annual Tavender Gateball Trophy.

Upon advice from Croquet Australia regarding insurance coverage the club has agreed that all hirings and coaching (Come & Try and Introductory lessons) must be coordinated by an accredited coach.

- **All mallet disciplines catered for**

Association Croquet, Golf Croquet and Gateball are established in the club's calendar in terms of scheduled draws and competition events. A Golf Croquet Club Championship and expanded Golf Croquet Handicap Singles Handicap Doubles events will be offered in the forthcoming year in order to further the development of Golf Croquet in Canberra.

Modifications and improvements have been made to the formats of most club competitions - such as tighter hoops for Division One, more freedom in scheduling of Club Championship matches, and the introduction of an impasse ruling for Association Croquet matches.

The club's internal competition program and external events have been well supported.

- **Acknowledge member contributions**

Once again we thank all of you who volunteered to do the many "little" things that have to be done to keep the Club operating - these include, but are not limited to, the vital contributions as lawn markers & rollers, housekeeping, looking after trophies and just pitching in when something needs doing.

Facility and Asset Management

- **Capital works - Clubhouse, lawns and equipment maintenance**

We finally re-painted the interior of the Clubhouse this year, and - while we had a painter - we carried on and painted the exterior and the flagpole as well. This has brought forward expenditure that was scheduled to be spread over several years, but has refurbished the Clubhouse for the foreseeable future.

We continue to monitor the impact of water restrictions on the lawns. Sufficient rain has fallen during the past 12 months, but the future remains uncertain with water. Consequently, the planned major lawn renovation has again been deferred.

As reported last year the hydrocotyl weed remains a concern as does the effectiveness of root barrier. Work is to be progressed regarding the root barrier.

Advocate and promote excellence

Our Gateballers continue to perform with distinction. The Canberra team finished runners-up in the Queensland Gateball Championships, and won its third consecutive NSW Gateball Championships. Gilon Smith and Daniel Casey also won the doubles competition in Sydney. Glen Whitehead and Tim Goodland were runners-up in the Victorian Gateball Championships doubles competition.

Stephen Richards again captained (non-playing) the NSW Association Croquet state team. Nerida Taylor and Tim Murphy were playing members of that team. Canberra players also played in a range of ACA and Croquet NSW competitions this year, as well as the South Coast Shield at Narooma.

Congratulations to Tim Murphy who received a wild card entry to the 2009 WCF World Association Croquet Championships (USA) in May. Tim also won the ACA Bronze Medal in NSW and followed that with the Australian Silver Medal at the 2009 National Championships.

Tony Hall was a member of the NSW Golf Croquet state team, and represented Australia at the 2008 WCF World Golf Croquet Championships (South Africa) last December.

- **Membership of other croquet organisations**

A strength of our club is the involvement of members in a range of croquet organisations. Tony Hall continues as the Australian Croquet Association (ACA) Treasurer. Stephen Meatheringham finished terms as ACA senior Vice-President and Chairman of the National Selection Committee. Stephen continues as the ACA National Handicapper. Peter Freer has been appointed as a member of the new ACA Events Management Committee. Tim Murphy is a member of the Croquet NSW Tournament Committee. Gilon Smith is the National Director of Gateball. Kimberlee Trent is a member of the Croquet NSW Gateball Committee.

- **Promoting Club and playing disciplines in ACT**

Club members have represented the Club at several ACT sports events, mostly aimed at coordinating sports planning and administration. Negotiations continue with the National Capital Authority over rehabilitating the lawn at Old Parliament House and allowing the Club to use this to complement our existing lawns, particularly when our lawns are out of action for annual maintenance, but chances for a satisfactory outcome are low. The Club is also helping Goodwin Nursing Home with the establishment of croquet there as an activity, in the hope that this might grow and create another croquet club in Canberra.

- **Establish links with other clubs in the region**

Canberra continues to be active in developing playing relations with other clubs in our region. This includes Golf Croquet visits with Young; fielding a combined Canberra/Queanbeyan team in the South Coast Shield down at Narooma/Dalmeny; and ensuring that the Club is represented at Croquet NSW Council meetings (which provides a good opportunity to also talk to representatives from the other clubs in our region).

- **Social activities**

The club continued to provide social activities for members such as monthly barbeques in conjunction with the first Saturday of the month afternoon draw. Queanbeyan members are invited to these.

The Club continues to hold other functions such the Annual Dinner at the Hyatt in May, and the Christmas Party (which had to be hurriedly relocated into the Grattan's double garage, due to very inclement weather last December).

Governance and Financial Management

- **Finance**

After several years unchanged, we recommend a (small) increase to subscription rates by \$10 pa to \$240 pa in 2009/10.

It is anticipated that a number of members will not renew in 2009/10 and steps need be taken to replace these members in order to reduce pressure on future annual subscriptions.

The loss of all lawns over the annual maintenance period is holding back income from hirings. The committee is considering alternative solutions to this problem.

The 2008/9 budget included an allocation for the painting of the inside of the clubhouse. During the year the committee decided to complete all painting i.e. inside, outside and the roof. Special thanks to Roger Timms who organised this task and to his merry helpers for all the work they put in packing and unpacking. The cost of the painting was such that it was necessary to access funds from the investments. It is for such work that the investment funds are accumulated.

Additional expenditure on the lawns was allocated for renovation of the western boundary of lawn 3 and root barriers in 2008/9. This work was not completed and the allocation is carried forward to 2009/10.

Alan Dahl has indicated that he is happy to remain as Auditor for 2009/10. Alan's fee is now \$120.

Membership is currently 80 full members (including two Life Members) plus 8 social members.

- **Administrative efficiency**

All committee positions were filled at the last AGM, and the committee system worked well this year. My thanks go to them all, and particularly to Peter Tavender for stepping back into the Treasurer's position when Jim Payne took early leave to travel interstate.

This year we clarified which decisions the Executive will handle between committee meetings; and also established a new bank account to allow the Treasurer to use electronic banking (ie under a single signature, but with appropriate oversight to protect the Club against fraud).

The Playing Committee also worked well, under the able leadership of Stephen Meatheringham, who steps down as Club Captain with our thanks for his deft handling of the role. Fortunately Stephen has agreed to continue looking after the lawns in liaison with our greenkeeper, although Stephen is always on the lookout for an apprentice

- **Succession planning**

As Elizabeth noted last year, this is challenging for any organisation and this Club is no exception. We do not have enough members that you can simply join and just play - particularly since a number of our most experienced members have well and truly reached their 7 year limits.

Please consider taking on a role, since it will all work so much better if everyone does something (no matter how small) and helps to spread the load.

- **Club sustainability**

I conclude by noting that the Club remains strong. We face challenges, but we have adequate financial reserves, and the people to continue the success we have enjoyed in recent years. I look forward to sharing these with you in the coming years.

Peter Freer
President
June 2009

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
CANBERRA CROQUET CLUB INCORPORATED
1.30PM SATURDAY 5 JULY 2008
AT THE CCC CLUBHOUSE**

Draft Minutes

1. Opening

The President, E Mountain, took the chair and opened proceedings at 1.30pm by welcoming members to the 80th Annual General Meeting of the Canberra Croquet Club (CCC) Incorporated; and inviting their attention to the agenda and associated CCC annual report.

There were 36 members present who signed the Attendance Book held at the clubhouse.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from P Freer, P Tavender, S Richards, B Edwards, B Dixon, M Galloway, L Magee, M Eggleton, J Bowen, E Anstee and K Clarke.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held 7 July 2007

Motion: That the minutes be accepted as a correct record.

Moved: P Hardiman, seconded: T Hall - carried.

4. President's Report

The CCC 2008 Annual Report document contained the President's Report for 2007-2008, which was based on the outcomes achieved under the club's ongoing strategic plan. The President spoke to the highlights of the report, including the playing, coaching and financial aspects.

Motion: That the President's Report be accepted.

Moved: E Mountain, seconded: T Murphy - carried

5. Captain's Report

The Captain's Report formed part of the President's Report, already considered under agenda item 5 above.

The President thanked the Captain, S Meatheringham, for his contribution to club activities over the past twelve months.

6. Presentation of Audited Statement of Accounts and Auditor's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, the President spoke briefly to the statement of accounts, auditor's report and budget for 2008-9 as contained in the CCC 2008 Annual Report.

Motion: That the report be accepted.

Moved: S Meatheringham, seconded: T Hall - carried

7. Determination of the Membership Fee for the year 2008-9

Motion: That the annual membership fee for 2008-9 remain unchanged at \$230.

Moved: E Mountain, seconded: T Hall - carried

8. Appointment of Honorary Auditor

It is understood that Mr Dahl has indicated a willingness to remain the Honorary Auditor.

Motion: That Mr Dahl be retained as honorary auditor.

Moved: E Mountain, seconded: T Hall - carried

9. Nomination of Patron

The meeting agreed that the Hon Margaret Reid be invited to continue as club patron.

10. Consideration of motion moved under Rule 15 of CCC Inc. Rules

There were no motions received for consideration by members at this meeting.

11. Election of Office Bearers

No position was contested. At close of nominations, nominations had been received for positions as follows:

President	P Freer
Vice President	S Richards
Treasurer	J Payne
Secretary	R Timms
Captain	S Meatheringham
Committee Member	T Goodland

These persons were duly declared appointed.

Nominations for the remaining two positions were called for from the floor, with the following persons being appointed:

Y Brereton	Committee Member
T Murphy	Committee Member

The President congratulated the incoming Committee members on their appointment.

12. Election of Members to the Playing Committee

The Playing Committee membership comprises:

Captain (Chair and Playing Committee representative on the main Committee)
Vice Captain (alternate representative on the main Committee as required)
President (Ex-Officio)
Coaching Coordinator
Members x 2

Nominations were received before the meeting as follows, with no positions being contested:

Vice Captain	G Diprose
Coaching Coordinator	B Gingold
Playing Committee Member	B Freasier

Nominations for the remaining position as committee member were called for from the floor, with the following person being appointed:

J Pask Committee Member

The President congratulated the incoming Committee members on their appointment.

Life Membership

At this point the President took the opportunity to thank Peter Tavender, long serving Treasurer and Committee member for all his efforts on behalf of the club over the years; and in recognition of his contribution proposed:

Motion: That P Tavender be offered CCC life membership.

Moved: K Gilmour, seconded: H Clark - carried

13. Closure of Meeting

The President thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 1.45pm.

The Canberra Croquet Club Competition Winners 2008-2009

Event	Winner(s)
Association Croquet	
Handicap doubles	Stephen Meatheringham & Pat Hardiman
Handicap singles	Tim Murphy
Veteran's Handicap singles	<i>insufficient entries</i>
Canberra Open	
Winner Open	Simon Watkins (VIC)
Y	Alan Honey
Plate	Jim Nicholls (NSW)
Senior Citizen's Handicap Singles	Bob Gingold
Margaret Reid Trophy (High Low doubles)	
Senior	Chris Wilson
Junior	Yvonne Brereton
Easter Carnival	
Block	Jonathan Bowen
Block	David Simmonds (NSW)
Club championship	Tim Murphy
Presidents' Day (High Low doubles)	
Senior	Bruce Caldwell
Junior	Bruce Edwards
Women's' Singles	Nerida Taylor
Division Advanced Singles	
Div 1	Tim Murphy
Div 2	Peter Freer
Div 3	<i>insufficient entries</i>
Div 4	Eddie Kowalski
Blackall Cup	Canberra
Golf Croquet	
Handicap Singles	Peter Freer
Handicap Doubles	
Senior	Richard Meacock
Junior	Pat Hardiman
Gateball	
Doubles event	Stephen Richards & Michael Hunter