

THE Croquet Australia BULLETIN

September 2023

ACA ANNOUNCES NEW LOGO

After considerable feedback from all the States and Codes the ACA Board has chosen the brand logo below as the new ACA logo.



A strong desire of this project was to have a common brand and logo for the sport, ideally adopted by the ACA and all States, that could also be interchangeable for Gateball. However, we understand that not all States may choose to adopt the new logo.

Below is a copy of the proposed State logos if any of States wish to adopt the new brand logo. Those States that do wish to adopt the new brand logo will be provided with a full Style Guide of their State logo in all different file types and formats for printing and digital use as part of the project scope. This will be provided to all States free of charge until a specified date (likely end of September). Should a State wish to adopt the new brand logo at a later date, there may a fee of up to \$800-\$900 to request the logos and Style Guide outside of the project timelines which are to be advised by the designer.



ACA anticipates that some Clubs (Croquet and Gateball) may also wish to request to use the new brand logo with their own Club name and colours. The ACA would certainly support such a request as this will only strengthen the brand, profile and unity of the sport. Please see below for a proposed version of the Wagga Croquet Club logo.



ACA APPOINTS NEW ASSOCIATION CROQUET HIGH PERFORMANCE MANAGER

ACA is pleased to announce the appointment of Simon Hockey to the role of Association Croquet High Performance Manager. Simon comes with a wealth of experience as an elite player, coach referee and selector. He has devoted 37 years to the sport of Croquet and has a passion to educate and teach AC players the finer points of the game. Currently, he is a member of the AC Selection Committee, as well as a former Australian Player Coach and Referee.

A highlight of Simon's playing career was winning the MacRobertson Shield as part of the Australian Team in 2017. He has a strong desire to regain the shield and for Australian to be a force in International Croquet.

ACA would also like to thank outgoing AC HPM, Peter Landrebe for his tireless efforts in the role. Peter has been the AC HPM for several years and has developed and mentored countless players as well oversee the successful 2017 Australian MacRobertson Shield Team. We wish Peter all the very best with his future endeavours.



EVENT FEES

ACA can confirm that the entry fees for the 2023 GC Bronze / Gold Medal will be \$90 per player. The States should charge each player \$90 and the ACA will invoice the States \$30 per player.

MELANIE WOOSNAM RESIGNS AS CROQUET AUSTRALIA CEO

After almost nine months at the helm, Croquet Australia Chief Executive Officer, Melanie Woosnam has announced her resignation from the role. Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, Mel has made the difficult decision to step down from her position as CEO.

During her short time as the inaugural CEO of Croquet Australia, Mel provided clear direction and support to the Board, Staff and Volunteers through enhanced processes and procedures, enhanced governance, compliance, HR and financial management. She was also integral in improving stakeholder engagement, communication and relationship building with members, State Associations, governing bodies, Government and the Australian Sports Commission (ASC).

ACA President, Jim Nicholls said "As CEO, Mel's experience and knowledge as a CEO has been invaluable in assisting Croquet Australia continue to improve our governance, financial management and HR processes and procedures. She has also built a positive relationship with the Australian Sports Commission to retain our status as a recognised sport, and will assist our transition to a company limited by guarantee which will position us well for future funding opportunities.

Mel has worked closely with Sport Integrity Australia, the National Sports Collective and other National Sporting Organisations (NSO) to help raise the profile and professionalism of Croquet Australia.

She has also assisted in securing additional event funding from Local and State Government to deliver

National and International events. Her knowledge of the sports industry and the strong relationships she has developed with members and key stakeholders has assisted ACA to improve its professionalism, build our profile and increase our influence as an NSO. Mel's experience, knowledge and integrity have been of great support to the Board, Staff, members, and our key stakeholders. On behalf of Croquet Australia, we thank her for her contributions and wish her every success for the future."

"Whilst I was only in the role a short time, it has been a privilege to have worked as the first ever CEO for Croquet Australia alongside some very passionate and dedicated people at all levels of the sport. The croquet and gateball communities across Australia are a very tight knit, loyal and dedicated group and it has been a delight to work with volunteers, administrators and supporters to deliver some key projects. Some of these included securing the business name 'Croquet Australia', developing a new brand logo for the sport, laying the foundations to create a collaborative whole of sport strategy for croquet in Australia, migrating to a National Database platform including website and competition management functions, launching a new Learning Management System, and establishing working groups to review ACA events and tournaments, and conducting a review of ACA and National Integrity policies.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Board, Staff and the wonderful Volunteers within the ACA to progress the sport, however, due to personal

MELANIE WOOSNAM RESIGNS AS CROQUET AUSTRALIA CEO (cont)

circumstances, I must step back from this role and spend some time with my family. I leave knowing that Croquet Australia is well placed to continue a bright and successful future," said Mel Woosnam.

The Croquet Australia Board have undertaken a recruitment process for Mel's replacement. The Board will discuss

and announce the interim arrangements shortly.

Croquet Australia would like to extend their sincerest thanks to Mel for the leadership, professionalism and hard work she has contributed to the organisation during her tenure and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.



ROBERT FLETCHER SUCCESS IN ENGLAND

ACA would like to congratulate Robert Fletcher on taking out the 2023 British GC Open. Robert defeated Reg Bamford of South Africa, 7-0 & 7-5 in the final. Robert began his Championship campaign with wins over Richard Bilton and Aston Wade of England before beating Stephen Mulliner, also of England 7-5 & 7-5 to qualify for the final.

Adding to his singles title, Robert teamed up with Englishmen Dominic

Nunns to win the Doubles event. The Fletcher/Nunns combination were successful in the final over Stephen Mulliner (England) and Jenny Clarke (New Zealand) 7-6, 4-7 and 7-3.

Adding to his GC success, Robert teamed up with Englishmen, Stephen Mulliner to take out the British AC Doubles Championship. He followed this up by making the semi finals of the WCF AC Open Championship.



AUSTRALIAN GATEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

It has been several years since the Gateball players in Australia have had the opportunity to play with international competitors and they are excited to be welcoming them back to the Australian Gateball Championships for 2023. The event will be held on the 7th to 10th September at the Wodonga Croquet Club, located at the Wodonga Tennis Centre.

Teams from Japan and India will join Australian teams from Queensland, Victoria, NSW and South Australia.

The World Gateball Union President, Mr Keiichi Imagawa, will be attending the event and a celebration dinner marking the 20th anniversary of Gateball Australia's membership of the World Gateball Union will be held at the Commercial Club in Albury.

Gateball players are looking forward to welcoming back old friends and making new ones. Spectators are also welcome at the event from 8.30am to 4.00pm.