

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

# **CROQUET AUSTRALIA**

*Minutes of the 62nd Annual General Meeting  
Held at the Eastern Shore Croquet Club,  
57-61 South Street,  
Bellerive, Tasmania  
On Monday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am*

**Present:**

President	Max Murray
Senior Vice President	Not in attendance see below
Vice President	Anna Miller
Executive Director / Secretary	Gail Farr
Treasurer	Tony Hall

**Delegates:**

NSW	Robyn Wallace	Pam Gentle
SA	Neil White	Wendy King
QLD	Ross Preston	Valda Wintzer
WA	Susan Sands	Susan Sands (Proxy) for Alan Sands
VIC	Mike Cohn	Jim Clements
TAS	Ian Smith	Graeme Denehey

**Apologies:** Alan Sands (WA)  
Steve Jones (proxy to Max Murray)  
Snr Vice President

**Observers:** Liz Fleming, Bruce Fleming, Peter Landrebe Rosemary Graham, Jean Murray, Anne Quinn, Alison Sharpe, Greg Diprose

***Agenda Item 1 - Opening***

President, Max Murray opened the meeting at 10.02am, welcomed the attendees to the meeting and asked the ACA Officials and Delegates to introduce themselves.

***Agenda Item 2 - Roll Call***

The President, Senior Vice President, Vice President, Treasurer, Executive Director / Secretary and all Delegates were present.

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

**Agenda Item 3 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the 61st Annual General Meeting 2010 held at The Victorian Croquet Club, 65 Nobel Banks Drive, Cairnlea, Victoria on Monday 29th March 2010 at 10.02am.

A copy of the minutes is provided with the Council Pack and has also been published on the ACA Website since May 2010.

The address of the Victorian CC in the Minutes from the Previous AGM to be rectified to show the correct address for The Victorian Croquet Club to be 65 Nobel Banks Drive, Cairnlea, Victoria not 64 Noble Banks Drive, Cairnlea, Victoria.

**Motion:**

That the Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting held at The Victorian Croquet Club, 65 Nobel Banks Drive, Cairnlea, Victoria on Monday 29th March 2011 be accepted as a true record.

Moved	Ross Preston (QLD)		
Seconded	Ian Smith (TAS)		
	Carried		

**Voting**

Carried unanimously	Yes
---------------------	-----

**Agenda Item 4 - Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

No business arising

**Agenda Item 5 - Correspondence**

The Executive Director reported that correspondence had been dealt with during the year. Correspondence is available for perusal in electronic format upon request.

**Agenda Item 6 i.**

**ACA President's Report**

The President's Report has been circulated.

Max Murray explained the following items in his report:

- Relationship with the Australian Sports Commission and funding from ASC.
- Importance of ACA having a National Office.
- Jiminey Wicket programme and why this program does not suit the ACA.

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

**Agenda Item 6 ii.**

**Appointed Officers and Committee Reports**

The Appointed Officers and Committee Reports have previously been circulated

**Agenda Item 6 iii.**

**State Reports**

State Reports have previously been circulated

**Motion:**

That the President, Appointed Officers, Committee and State reports be accepted.

Moved	Mike Cohn ( VIC)		
Seconded	Pam Gentle (NSW)		
	Carried		

Voting

Carried unanimously	Yes	
---------------------	-----	--

**Agenda Item 6 iv.**

**Business arising from reports**

**Agenda Item 7**

**Finance - Treasurer's Report, including receipt of the 2010 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report".**

Tony Hall spoke to his Report. He was pleased to report a slight surplus of \$2977

for 2010 which was identified in the Income and Expenditure of the Auditors Report.

This surplus was due to:

1. Some of the committees not spending the money allocated to them.
2. increase in Tournament fees which is shown in the ACA Tournament Report.

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

3. Savings in accommodation costs for the 2010 MacRob in England which is shown in the Hosting Fund and International Events Funding reports.
4. Balance shows a slight Profit which is similar to the 2010 Balance Sheet.
5. Magazine continues to make a loss with this years being \$5000.00
6. A recommendation was made by the Treasurer to increase magazine subscription fees from \$38.00 to \$40.00 per annum. This increase has already been agreed by the ACA Executive. The increase is supported by information received from a survey circulated late last year by Max Murray.
7. Treasurer also recommended an increase in affiliation fees of 7.5% from \$21.00 to \$21.50 for 2012.
8. Investments have a slight increase in interest this year compared to previous year due to the losses suffer by the Financial Crisis.
9. Reserves are sitting at \$125,000.00 which is only 60% of annual turnover. Not-for-profit organizations such as the ACA should, ideally, have reserves of about 200% of annual turnover.

The Investment policy is amended and updated on the website frequently.

Tony thanked Maree Skinner (for prior to June 2010) and Gail Farr and Carolyn Ribone for banking subscriptions and entry fees.

Tony formally thanked the Auditor and hoped that the states were not inconvenienced by the short notice and distribution of the Financial Documents.

Tony also stated that he was still looking for an assistant treasurer so that he can train them to take over the position of Treasurer.

**Motion A. That the Treasurer's Report for 2010 be received.**

Moved	Tony Hall (ACA)		
Seconded	Robyn Wallace (NSW)		
Carried			

Voting

Carried unanimously	Yes
---------------------	-----

**Motion B. That the Financial Accounts for 2010 be accepted**

Moved	Tony Hall (ACA)		
Seconded	Susan Sands (WA)		
Carried			

Voting

Carried unanimously	Yes
---------------------	-----

# Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011

## Agenda Item 8 - Review of ACA Constitution

A first draft of a revised Constitution has been issued by Jim Saunders. The initial comments have been supportive and there have not been any major negative comments. Further work will be undertaken to include other comments received with a view to introduction of the revised Constitution sometime this year.

Any further discussion is welcomed.

Work on the document is continuing. Jim Saunders could not join us today but is proceeding to fill out the detail.

Max Murray recommended to the incoming committee that once Jim Saunders finishes the revised constitution that the Council meets to consider and accept the revised constitution.

## Agenda Item 9 - Notices of Motion

### 9a Motions for Amendments to ACA Handbook (But first see Notice of Motion 9g P25);

The meeting's attention was brought to Motion 9g in relation to the High Performance Manager as a decision needed to be made on the motion prior to moving onto the changes in the ACA Handbook.

#### **9 g. Motion -Executive Committee - Australian Team Coach.**

That the present position of Australian Team Coach be abolished and replaced with a position of High Performance Manager (HPM). A Manager responsible to the HPM to look after team matters other than team performance matters will also be appointed as appropriate.

The duties of the new position are shown above as part of the complete amendment to Clauses and Conditions in the Handbook:

#### **Rationale.**

The Executive Committee is unanimous in the view that the main requirement(s) for Australian Teams are not in basic coaching of stroke making, hoop running, croquetting etc. It is our view that the Australian team requires a high performance manager who understands tactical/technical issues and has the respect and confidence of the team.). He/she would require a good understanding of the sport and the requirements for appropriate dieting and other aspects like the importance of sports psychologists. The position of Manager is to administer the team and permit the HPM to concentrate on their performance. The traditional coaching role would be undertaken by the players.

An integral part of this concept is that Australia will form an international squad which will meet and train on an "as required" basis taking advantage of opportunities to meet at ACA senior events as a means to minimise expenses.

## Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011

This change is recommended by the “wash-up” meeting of the 2010 MacRobertson Shield team and is in accordance with many other sports.

The Victorian Croquet Association asked it be noted that they were not happy with the title High Performance Manager. This was duly noted by the meeting.

Moved	Tony Hall		
Seconded	Susan Sands		
	Carried 10 votes to 2	Defeated	Deferred

### “That the Council approves the following changes, submitted by the Executive, to the ACA Handbook”

Council is advised that, as forecast in the context of the revised constitution, the ACA Handbook will be divided in two sections:

1. For matters related to the constitution only; and
2. For matters relating to ACA events.

Both changes are planned to be undertaken during 2011/2012 and at that time all ACA events will be included.

The executive proposes the following ACA Handbook clauses and conditions be amended. The rationales are self-explanatory except where included.

- 2.4 Add “and the World Gateball Union”
- 3.1 Insert “Croquet Australia” in the list of alternatives to the full title.
- 6.1.1 Delete “Australian Croquet Championships” and insert “Interstate Cup” in specifying when the AGM is to be held.
- 6.1.2 Delete “six months” and substitute “three months”. Delete “by post”. (Rationale for these changes and in 6.1.4 and 6.1.6 below is that email has made such long time frames and post unnecessary.)
- 6.1.3 In the last dot point delete “Australian Croquet Championships arrangements” and insert “Arrangements for all ACA events for the following two years”. (Rationale: We need to be two years in advance so States can plan one year in advance.)
- 6.1.4 Delete “one hundred and twenty days” and insert “sixty days”.
- 6.1.6 Delete “by post” as email is sufficient.
- 7.10 Delete “a suitable and competent person as honorary auditor to the Association” and insert “an auditor” as an accounting firm is now employed for the task.
- 13.2 Delete “one hundred and twenty days” and insert “sixty days”.

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- 13.3 Delete “90 days clear” and insert “30 days clear for meetings other than the AGM”
- 25.1.7 Delete “one hundred and twenty days” and insert “sixty days”.
- 25.5.21 Delete detail relating to Australian ranking lists which have been superseded by World Rankings and insert “Reserved”.
- 25.6.1.1 Delete “for same” and insert “if requested”. (Rationale: Receipts are now unusual and the Treasurer should not be directed to always issue them)

**27.2 Tournament Committee**

The Committee shall:

- 1. be known as the Tournament Committee;
- 2. in the case of the Australian Croquet Championships:

**27.2.1 Currently reads:**

- 1. The committee shall consist of the ACA Events Manager, Tournament Manager, Assistant Manager, Tournament Referee and the President of the State Association holding the event or the President's delegate. The ACA Events Manager is not required to attend meetings and shall work with the Committee by phone/ fax and email;
- 2. the Tournament Manager shall be an affiliated or registered member of the Host State Association and Council shall be formally advised of the appointment at the AGM of the preceding year;
- 3. Assistant Manager may be nominated by the host State Association;

Amendment to read: (Deleting the reference to ACA Events Manager)

- 1. The committee shall consist of the ACA Representative (if available) Tournament Manager, Assistant Manager, Tournament Referee and the President of the State Association holding the event or the President's delegate.
- 2. the Tournament Manager shall be an affiliated or registered member of a State Association;
- 3. Assistant Manager may be nominated by the host State Association;

**27.2.2 Currently reads:**

- 27.2.2 For all other events the committee shall comprise the Events Manager, Tournament Manager Assistant Manager, Tournament Referee and, if a handicap event, a Tournament Handicapper - see Australian Tournament Regulations;

Amendment to read: (Deleting the reference to ACA Events Manager)

- 27.2.2 For all other events the committee shall comprise the ACA Representative, if available, Tournament Manager, Assistant Manager, Tournament Referee and, if a handicap event, a Tournament Handicapper - see Australian Tournament Regulations;

**27.5 Delete existing and insert:**

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

**27.5 Selection Committees**

- .1 The Committees shall be known as the Association Croquet Selection Committee (ACSC) and the Golf Croquet Selection Committee (GCSC) ;
- .2 The ACSC and the GCSC will consist of the President (ex-officio, see 25.5.4 below) the HPM and three elected members plus the most recently appointed Captain of the relevant Australian AC or GC Team (where available) unless he or she is an elected member of the relevant committee.
- .3 Three members of each Committee will be elected at the Annual General Meeting of Council and must have specific recent skills appropriate to the duties of the Selection Committee;
- .4 The President who will not necessarily be required to attend Committee meetings and will not have a vote thereat.
- .5 Any member of the Committee will stand aside from the Committee's deliberations if the Committee is considering either the Committee member or the Committee member's close friends and family for selection. The President shall have sole discretion in determining this issue.
- .6 The Committees shall report to Council at the AGM and other occasions as required through the Chairperson or nominee;
- .7 The Committees shall be solely responsible for the selection of:
  - .1 players and any reserves, if necessary, for international and national events or squads in terms of the selection policy approved by the Executive;
  - .2 seeded players for any Australian event;

**The Clause 27.5.1.8 will be deleted.**

1. The Executive Committee shall appoint two people who have recent Golf Croquet specific skills to assist the Chairman of selectors to select players for all relevant Golf Croquet Events at such times as may be required.

- 27.5.2 The Selection Policy approved by the Executive shall be published by the ACA Secretary and forwarded to members of the Association. The Selection Policy will be effective one month from the date it is forwarded to members. Any changes to the Selection Policy, approved by the Executive, will be effective one month from the date of notification to members.

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- 27.5.3 The ACA Secretary shall ensure that the selectors have been provided with details of events for which selections are required and, where possible, the results of relevant events.
- 27.5.4 The Chairman of Selectors, on behalf of the relevant Selection Committee, shall advise the ACA Secretary the names of players selected, in terms of By- Law 27.5.1.7. The ACA Secretary shall advise the players concerned, or delegate another person to do so.

**Rationale**

The States have recently unanimously voted to establish a separate GC Selection Committee. The ACA Handbook needs to be amended to implement the decision.

27.7 Delete “Events Manager”.

27.8 Refereeing Committee currently reads:

**27.8 Refereeing Committees**

The Refereeing Committee shall:  
consist of the National Director of Refereeing and relevant State Director of Refereeing (or equivalent) appointed by each State;

- .1 assist the National Director of Refereeing in the performance of his/her duties; participate in the appointment of examining referees in each State in accordance with the Australian Refereeing System.
- .2 in conjunction with the National Director of Refereeing be responsible for: Indented 4,5, as a,b,c,.
- .3 compilation and distribution of question papers for the Australian Referees Examination to all Examining Referees through the Chairman of each State Panel;
- .4 the conduct of examinations for referees through State/ ACA Referee Examining Panels,
- .5 refereeing at international tournaments and may recommend other qualified referees to referee at such events.

Amendment to read: (To include reference to both AC & GC National Directors of Refereeing)

**27.8 Refereeing Committees**

The Refereeing Committees for Association Croquet (AC) and Golf Croquet (GC) shall consist of the relevant National Director of Refereeing and the equivalent State Directors of Refereeing (or persons performing that function) appointed by each State.

The committees will:

- .1 assist the National Director of Refereeing in the performance of his/her duties;
- .2 participate in the appointment of examining referees in each State in accordance with the Australian Refereeing System.
- .3 in conjunction with the National Director of Refereeing be responsible for:
  - a) compilation and distribution of question papers for the Australian Referees Examination to all Examining Referees through the Chairman of each State Panel;

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- b) the conduct of examinations for referees through State/ ACA Referee Examining Panels,
- c) refereeing at international tournaments and may recommend other qualified referees to referee at such events.

28.2.6 Delete “Australian Institute of Sport” (Rationale: It is now part of the ASC)

28.15 Delete “ACA Events Manager” and insert “Tournament Manager”.

28.5 Delete existing detail and insert:

28.5 National Directors of Refereeing

There shall be a National Director of Association Croquet Refereeing (NDACR) and a National Director of Golf Croquet Refereeing (NDGCR) who shall, each in their own sphere:

- .1 develop, co-ordinate, implement and review courses at all levels in accordance with the Australian Refereeing System;
- .2 maintain liaison with State Directors of Refereeing (SDR) or their equivalent.
- .3 maintain an up to date register of referees and umpires as supplied by each SDR;
- .4 develop and arrange training activities for referees, and activities for those who may referee at national championships and international events;
- .5 chair the ACA Referee Committees (27.8);
- .6 report to the ACA AGM and on other occasions as required;
- .7 in conjunction with each SDR encourage and promote the recruitment of new referees and umpires;
- .8 be the Tournament Referee (TR) at International events held in Australia or appoint same and appoint the TR at all ACA events;
- .9 in conjunction with the relevant Refereeing Committee be responsible for:
  - a. compiling and distributing question papers for the Australian Referee Examinations through State Directors of Refereeing; and
  - b. establishing and implementing appropriate quality control procedures covering the examinations.

28.8 Insert as a preface: “The position of Events Manager is not filled at present due to the costs involved, however the duties previously performed are listed below for reference in case circumstances change”.

28.10 Delete existing text and insert the new text below. See agenda item 9(g) for the rationale. This detail is included here to ensure that all amendments to Clauses and Conditions are considered.

**28.10: The High Performance Manager**

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- 28.10.1 ACA will from time to time call for applications from persons interested in being appointed a High Performance Manager (HPM) for the Australian team/squad. The HPM will be involved in the preparation of national team(s)/squad(s) for specified events, and will last for a specified time;
- 28.10.2 Desirable skills and experience of the appointee should include some or all of the following:
- .1 previous playing, team coaching, or non-playing captaincy experience in the MacRobertson Shield;
  - .2 demonstrated ability and experience in consultative relationship building and people management;
  - .3 demonstrated experience in team coaching or captaincy of state or national teams;
  - .4 demonstrated experience of successful team participation as a player or coach;
  - .5 a current Level 1 Coach accreditation under the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme;
  - .6 demonstration of the use of current appropriate qualifications and accreditation, or demonstrated ability in sports teams psychology and nutrition relating to high performance team management.
- 28.10.3 The HPM shall;
- .1 be responsible for the training program of national team/squad members, and may co-opt others in various states to assist. The HPM is encouraged to work together with the personal coaches of team/squad members where they have them;
  - .2 communicate with team members on all topics relevant to high performance team management such as:
    - Team harmony
    - Team building
    - Playing in a team environment
    - Psychological aspects
    - Nutrition
    - Doubles play
    - Playing under pressure
  - .3 liaise with the captain and team/squad members regarding assessment and training for team and individual playing tactics, opposition strengths and weaknesses, and any other external playing factors;
  - .4 communicate with team/squad members, monitor their progress, and report to the Executive Committee on any aspect which the HPM considers to be unsatisfactory during the time of team preparation;
  - .5 make such arrangements as are necessary to concentrate the national team/squad for practice sessions, subject to the availability of funds;

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- .6 during the period of the event, subject to the availability of funds, be present at matches to the maximum possible extent, and be responsible for all matters relating to the play, team performance and off-court organization (in conjunction with the team manager). If the HPM is present the captain shall consult with the HPM and the captain shall decide (within the limits of the regulations governing the competition) which team members are to play on any particular day, how they are to be paired for doubles games, and their order of merit;
- .7 within one month after the completion of the competition, submit a written report to the Executive Committee, and also a report to the Selection Committee for reference in respect of future selections. Copies of both reports should be made available by the Honorary Secretary on request to any team member or state association. Should a situation arise where a confidential addendum to the report needs to be written it shall go to the President and Honorary Secretary of the ACA only;
- .8 organize a debrief session for the entire team plus the ACA President and psychologist to discuss problems and plan for the future.

28.10.4 The HPM will be a voting member of the Selection Committee.

28.12.4 Delete the last sentence, which is not necessary. (It assumes affiliation fees are collected from players by the ACA).

**28.15 National Director of Golf Croquet**

The National Director shall:

- .1 coordinate golf croquet activities across Australia;
- .2 monitor and promote the growth of golf croquet in all States in Australia and when funds are available negotiate with State Associations to make interstate visits to assist local endeavours when invited;
- .3 liaise with the ACA Events Manager to offer assistance with the running of the national golf croquet events;
- .4 liaise with the ACA National Coaching Director and National Director of Refereeing regarding golf croquet issues;
- .5 liaise with all golf croquet State Director/Coordinators, and encourage all States to appoint someone to this position;
- .6 provide a report on golf croquet activities to the Executive Committee as requested and to the Annual General Meeting.

Amendment to read:

28.15 National Director of Golf Croquet

The National Director shall:

- .1 coordinate golf croquet activities across Australia;

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- .2 monitor and promote the growth of golf croquet in all States in Australia and when funds are available negotiate with State Associations to make interstate visits to assist local endeavours when invited;
- .3 liaise with the ACA Tournament Committee to offer assistance with the running of the national golf croquet events;
- .4 liaise with the ACA National Coaching Director, the National Director of Golf Croquet Refereeing and the Australian Representative on the WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee regarding golf croquet issues;
- .5 liaise with all golf croquet State Director/Coordinators, and encourage all States to appoint someone to this position;
- .6 provide a report on golf croquet activities to the Executive Committee as requested and to the Annual General Meeting.

**28.18 currently reads:**

**28.18 Official Representative on the WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee (GCRC)**

*The Official Representative shall;*

- .1 represent Australia on the WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee;
- .2 liaise with the ACA Executive, Laws Committee, National Director of Refereeing and other relevant officials on issues that may be dealt with by the GCRC;
- .3 advise the ACA Executive and Laws Committee of proposals by the GCRC to seek amendments to the WCF Golf Croquet Rules;
- .4 ensure that the WCF Golf Croquet Rules (including the Regulations) and Commentary are made widely available in Australia;
- .5 report to the Annual General Meeting.

Amendment to Read: (insert National Director Golf Croquet Refereeing to point 2.)

**28.18 Official Representative on the WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee (GCRC)**

*The Official Representative shall;*

- .1 represent Australia on the WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee;
- .2 liaise with the ACA Executive, Laws Committee, National Director of Golf Croquet Refereeing and other relevant officials on issues that may be dealt with by the GCRC;
- .3 advise the ACA Executive and Laws Committee of proposals by the GCRC to seek amendments to the WCF Golf Croquet Rules;
- .4 ensure that the WCF Golf Croquet Rules (including the Regulations) and Commentary are made widely available in Australia;
- .5 report to the Annual General Meeting.

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

28.19 Insert additional sub-para in the duties of the Assistant Treasurer:  
“.5 advise the Executive Committee on financial matters in the absence of the Treasurer.”

51.2 Delete “Interstate Cup Competition” and insert “Interstate Cup or Interstate Shield competitions”. Delete “the Australian Medal Competition” and insert “either of the Australian Medal competitions”. Add “and 56A” after “56”.

51.3 currently reads:

51.3 Trophies:

- .1 Should an overseas player win an event, any perpetual trophy shall remain in Australia in the custody of the Secretary of the ACA;
- .2 Trophies must be returned, carriage paid, to the Manager of the Tournament, in good order, not later than the first day of the next annual event. Engraving is the responsibility of the recipient;

Amendment to read: (addition to point 2 of this clause)

51.3 Trophies:

- .1 Should an overseas player win an event, any perpetual trophy shall remain in Australia in the custody of the Secretary of the ACA;
- .2 Trophies must be returned, carriage paid, to the Manager of the Tournament, in good order, not later than the first day of the next annual event. Engraving will be arranged by the recipient after first obtaining the agreement of the ACA Executive Director to any relevant costs.

51.4 Amend to read “Entry fees are confirmed by Council at the AGM and must...” (Rationale: The Council no longer determines them.)

51.5 Amend to read “All events shall be played under the current Laws of Association Croquet and Australian Tournament Regulations or the current WCF Golf Croquet Rules and Regulations unless otherwise provided for.”

51.6 Delete “by the Events Manager”

51.14 Insert at the beginning “In Association Croquet,” as a five minute warm-up is not always appropriate in Golf Croquet.

51.19 Delete “in consultation with the Events Manager”.

**55** Delete “There is no Condition number 55” Insert; as below

**“55 THE GC INTERSTATE Shield “**

55.1 There shall be an event known as “The GC Interstate Shield” for which a perpetual trophy known as the WCF GC Interstate Shield is provided;

55.2 The event shall be open to those States that are members of the ACA;

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- 55.3 There shall be no contest unless there are at least three entries;
- 55.4 One team may be entered from each State. States shall be allowed to name no fewer than 8 players (4 men and 4 women) or more than 10 players (5 men and 5 women). Reserves are permitted under Clause 55.8 below. If one or more State is not able to provide a full team of four men and four women, but can provide at least two men and two women, the Host State, in consultation with said State, may provide additional players to make up a full team and allow the State to participate;
- 55.5 A list of team members shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary at least one month prior to the commencement of the event;
- 55.6 A playing or non-playing Captain shall be appointed by each State and the Honorary Secretary advised accordingly;
- 55.7 The draw will be seeded from the results of the previous Interstate Shield and tests will be played as follows :
- Day 1 : Team 3 vs Team 5, Team 1 vs Team 6, Team 2 vs Team 4  
Day 2 : Team 1 vs Team 4, Team 2 vs Team 5, Team 3 vs Team 6  
Day 3 : Team 4 vs Team 6, Team 2 vs Team 3, Team 1 vs Team 5  
Day 4 : Team 2 vs Team 6, Team 4 vs Team 5, Team 1 vs Team 3  
Day 5 : Team 1 vs Team 2, Team 3 vs Team 4, Team 5 vs Team 6
- 55.8 On the day scheduled for any test:
- 55.8.1 the name of the players, order of play, including doubles pairing, shall be notified by each Captain or Vice Captain to the Venue Manager or Assistant Venue Manager at least 20 minutes before the commencement of each test. In each test only four men players and four women players can be selected to play singles but the players selected to play doubles can be different members of the team from those playing singles. The order of play for singles games shall be in accordance with the World Ranking List;
- 55.8.2 individual members of teams may be varied for each separate test. Apart from the arrangements permitted under 55.8.1, individual members of a team may not be varied during one test, unless a player shall be incapacitated by sickness or accident. In such event, a reserve player may fill his or her place in the team for any match not already commenced in such test except for the second round of singles. The second round of singles must be played with the same players who played in the first round of singles of that test. If a player is not available for the start of the second singles match in a test then a forfeit will be awarded. If the match is started but is unable to be completed then it will be conceded. Such substitution must be reported to the Captain of the opposing team and be sanctioned by the Venue Manager in consultation with the Tournament Referee or Deputy Tournament Referee at the venue.

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- 55.9 Each team shall be entitled to nominate one or more players, any of whom may, prior to the commencement of the test, act as a substitute for a player. If the occasion arises that no substitute is available, a reasonable time shall be allowed to obtain a substitute, and the Team Schedule shall be adjusted accordingly. If the team concerned is unable to nominate a substitute within the given time, the singles game for that player shall be forfeited (7-0, 7-0)
- 55.10 Each team shall play every other team once. A test shall consist of twenty matches, four mixed doubles and sixteen singles. Doubles shall be played first then the singles according to 55.11, women versus women and men versus men.
- 55.11 Matches, each of two 13-point games, shall be played as follows:

Court 1: MA1 & WA1 v MB1 & WB1, MA1 v MB2, WA1 v WB2, MA2 v MB2, WA1 v WB1.  
Court 2: MA2 & WA2 v MB2 & WB2, WA2 v WB1, MA2 v MB1, WA2 v WB2, MA1 v MB1.  
Court 3: MA3 & WA3 v MB3 & WB3, MA3 v MB4, WA3 v WB4, MA4 v MB4, WA3 v WB3.  
Court 4: MA4 & WA4 v MB4 & WB4, WA4 v WB3, MA4 v MB3, WA4 v WB4, MA3 v MB3

- 55.12 Should a team be unable to complete all tests of the competition, scores for and against that team shall be deleted from all results.

The winning team shall be decided as follows:

- 55.12.1 in each test, the team that wins the most matches, but:
- .2 if matches are equal, the team that wins most net games;
  - .3 if scores are still equal, the team that wins most net points;
  - .4 if scores are still equal, the match shall be a tie and each team shall score half (1/2) a point;
  - .5 the team winning the test shall score one (1) point.
- 55.12.2 the winner of the Interstate Shield shall be the State Team scoring the greatest number of tests;
- .1 if tests are equal, the team that wins most matches;
  - .2 if matches are equal, the team that has scored the greatest number of games during the tests;
  - .3 if games are equal, the team scoring the greatest number of net points in the tests;
  - .4 if the number of net points in the tests are equal, the winner shall be decided by the result of the match already played between the teams involved in the tie; if (55.12.2.3) above were a tie, the trophy shall be shared.
- 55.13 The Tournament Manager shall be authorised to use as many courts as may be necessary to ensure that as far as possible, each Interstate Shield test is completed in one day.”

**“Condition 56 AUSTRALIAN MEDAL COMPETITION”**

**Australian Croquet Association**  
**62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

56.8 Hoops for this event shall be set with an internal width, at half ball height, of 3 11/16 inches with an upward tolerance of 1/32 of an inch.

Amendment: Delete 'an upward tolerance of' and insert ' a tolerance of plus or minus'.

56.9 and 56.10 Delete existing text and insert:

“56.9 The winners of the Australian Bronze Medal from each of the six states are expected to play in a double round robin event held annually at the time and location of the first half of the Australian Championships. The winner of this event will receive the Australian Gold Medal and the second placed player will receive the Australian Silver Medal. This double round robin event will be played under similar conditions as the Bronze Medal competition.

56.10 The Australian Gold Medal event will be played over three days in conjunction with the Interstate Cup event. Conditions 56.3 to 56.5 and 56.8 above and the following conditions apply to the event:

1. it will be a seeded event..
2. it will be played as a double round robin event with games played in the first round to be given priority in completion before the commencement of second round games.
3. players will toss a coin to determine the choice of the lead or balls in terms of Law 8(a) for games in the first round. For second round games between the same opponents the loser of the toss in the first round game shall be deemed to have won the toss for the second round game.”

Rationale: To correct the English, to make the requirements conform to our standard conditions for hoops and to revert to a seeded event so that the outcome is not sometimes determined before the last day.

**Insert a new Condition:**

**“56A AUSTRALIAN GOLF CROQUET MEDAL COMPETITION”**

**Preamble**

An event, the Australian Golf Croquet Bronze Medal Event shall be played for in each state. The winner of this event shall be expected to play in the Australian Golf Croquet Gold and Silver Medal event at the annual Australian Championships at which the winner will receive the Australian Golf Croquet Gold Medal and the second placed player will receive the Australian Golf Croquet Silver Medal. The six state winners will be presented with their Australian Bronze Medals at this time.

56A.1 each state shall select between six (6) and ten (10) players to compete in the Bronze Medal event held by that State. States shall select the best available players to play in the events. In order to determine the best available players State Associations shall consider the results of the following types of events played under Golf Croquet Rules in which their affiliated players have participated:

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- 56A.1.1 International Championship Events played in any country that include open events, invitational events and representational events
- 56A.1.2 Australian Championships that include Australian Open events and Interstate Shield.
- 56A.1.3 State Championships
- 56A.1.4 Regional Championship Events deemed by the State Association to be significant to their State. All of the above shall be considered and no one event shall be regarded as a pre-requisite to selection. A prime factor in selection shall be a player's world ranking that is derived from the results in all the events mentioned above.
- 56A.2 A seeded draw shall be used and the latest World Ranking List at the time of the draw shall be used to seed players. The seeded draws for the various numbers of entries is as follows.

The seeded draw for 6 players:

Round 1	3 v 5	1 v 6	2 v 4
Round 2	1 v 4	2 v 5	3 v 6
Round 3	4 v 6	2 v 3	1 v 5
Round 4	2 v 6	4 v 5	1 v 3
Round 5	1 v 2	3 v 4	5 v 6

The seeded draw for 8 players is as follows. This can also be used for 7 players.

Round 1	1 v 8	4 v 5	3 v 6	2 v 7
Round 2	4 v 6	1 v 7	2 v 8	3 v 5
Round 3	2 v 5	4 v 8	3 v 7	1 v 6
Round 4	3 v 8	2 v 6	1 v 5	4 v 7
Round 5	1 v 4	5 v 8	6 v 7	2 v 3
Round 6	5 v 7	1 v 3	2 v 4	6 v 8
Round 7	1 v 2	5 v 6	7 v 8	3 v 4

The seeded draw for 10 players is as follows. This can also be used for 9 players.

Round 1	1 v 10	5 v 6	4 v 7	3 v 8	2 v 9
Round 2	2 v 8	1 v 9	5 v 10	4 v 6	3 v 7
Round 3	3 v 6	2 v 7	1 v 8	9 v 10	4 v 5
Round 4	4 v 10	3 v 5	2 v 6	1 v 7	8 v 9
Round 5	7 v 8	4 v 9	3 v 10	2 v 5	1 v 6
Round 6	1 v 5	6 v 7	4 v 8	3 v 9	2 v 10
Round 7	2 v 3	1 v 4	5 v 9	7 v 10	6 v 8
Round 8	6 v 10	2 v 4	1 v 3	5 v 8	7 v 9
Round 9	6 v 9	8 v 10	5 v 7	1 v 2	3 v 4

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

Each player shall play each other player once in a best-of-three or 2 game matches.

- 56A.3 the games shall be un-timed; however the Tournament Manager may impose a time limit in terms of the second part of Regulation 2(d) of the Rules.
- 56A.4 any competitor forfeiting a game shall be scratched from the competition and all scores for and against shall be deleted from all results.
- 56A.5 the winner and other positions in each block shall be determined in accordance with the ACA Regulations for Tournaments.
- 56A.6 Each State may select the dates on which the event shall take place but the event shall be completed prior to the closing date for Interstate Shield entries. Results shall be sent to the ACA Secretary.
- 56A.7 the entrance fee is determined by the Executive and advised to Council. Half of such fee will be retained by the State, and half will be sent to the ACA.
- 56A.8 Hoops for this event shall be set with an internal width, at half ball height, of 3 11/16 inches with a tolerance of plus or minus 1/32 of an inch.
- 56A.9 the winners of the Australian Golf Croquet Bronze Medal from each of the six states shall be expected to play in a round robin event held annually. The winner of this event will receive the Australian Golf Croquet Gold Medal and the second placed player will receive the Australian Golf Croquet Silver Medal. This round robin event will be played under similar conditions as the Golf Croquet Bronze Medal competition.
- 56A.10 The Australian Golf Croquet Gold Medal event will be played over three days. Conditions 56A.3 to 56A.5 and 56A.8 above and the following conditions apply to the event:
  - 56A.10.1 it will be a seeded event
  - 56A.10.2 it will be played as a round robin event.”

Rationale: This effectively solves the problem that had arisen because of a disputed format for the GC GM and has similar conditions as those for the Association Croquet Gold Medal.

57 Amend to read as follows (to update and include detail of the HPM):

**57 CONDITIONS FOR REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES**

- 57.1 In accepting invitations to represent Australia in official croquet contests with other countries, the following dress conditions apply:
  - 57.1.1 Official occasions - walking out uniform: approved uniform to include Green (BCC 25) blazer and tie (tie as supplied by the ACA for men only);
  - 57.1.2 Players uniform: Approved sports attire, flat soled shoes and a hat optional;
  - 57.1.3 A Management Committee will be established for each International Team event consisting of the HPM (Chair), Captain and

## **Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

Manager, and will be responsible for all team matters from the inception of the initial squad or team to the end of the event (including final debrief); the Manager and Captain will be appointed by the ACA;

57.2 The Honorary Secretary will assist the Manager in the organisation of all team travel, accommodation arrangements and all matters concerned with the tour in general including itinerary, fixtures - liaising with the Honorary Secretary and the appointed organiser of the host/visiting team as necessary.

### **57.3 High Performance Manager's Duties**

57.3.1 Where the HPM accompanies the team, the HPM is to be responsible for, in consultation with the captain, the duties listed under 57.3.2 and 57.4.1.

57.3.2 The duties of the HPM are listed in By-Law 28.10;

### **57.4 Captain's Duties:**

57.4.1 After consultation with the High Performance Manager (HPM), if present, to be responsible for the placement of players in order of play for singles and doubles, including pairings;

57.4.2 To assist and cooperate with the HPM in practice sessions prior to commencement of the event/tour and in particular during the event/tour;

57.4.3 To take a lead in the discussion and execution of tactical situations to be adopted by the team and individual players;

57.4.4 To be present at the draw for play and any meetings or functions concerned with the conduct of matches;

57.4.5 To be responsible for the general conduct of players on the lawns and to represent players' areas of concerns if considered warranted;

57.4.6 To be the team's representative and spokesperson at official functions;

### **57.5 Manager's Duties:**

57.5.1 During the tour to be responsible for all administrative matters concerned with the smooth running of the tour - attending to any problems that may arise on behalf of team members;

57.5.2 Prepare match reports on each match played and a report on the tour overall - to be sent to the Honorary Secretary;

57.5.3 To cooperate with and assist the team captain as required;

57.6 Team members are required to cooperate with and assist wherever possible the HPM, captain, and manager in the execution of their duties, and generally contribute to the success of the tour on and off the lawns;

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

57.7 Official Functions: Team members are required to attend all official functions.

**57.8 GUIDELINES FOR REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES OVERSEAS**

57.8.1 The International Committee is responsible for recommending to the ACA proposals for the staging of international team events.

57.8.2 The Management Committee will be responsible for all team matters from the inception of the initial squad or team to the end of the event (including final debrief);

57.8.3 The Honorary Secretary shall:

- .1 act as the primary link between the ACA and the national body of the host nation;
- .2 ensure that the ACA is represented during the tournament by an official; where no official is present, the HPM or the captain may be appointed the ACA's representative;
- .3 advise players of their invitation to be a member of a representative team, and the HPM, and/or the Manager of his/her appointment;
- .4 arrange for players and officials to complete an indemnity form;
- .5 receive daily progress reports from the HPM and aim to achieve press coverage through the use of AAP etc;
- .6 advise state associations and other interested people of results;
- .7 ensure a manager is appointed and, in conjunction with the manager, make all travel, accommodation and administrative arrangements for the team;
- .8 in consultation with the International Committee, provide the ACA's response on "Regulations for the Competition" prepared by the host nation.

57.8.4 The Manager shall:

- .1 arrange travel from the team member's town of residence to the venue and return in conjunction with the Honorary Secretary.
- .2 Team members should travel together as a team if practical to do so. If the team does travel together, all members should wear the official team uniform;
- .3 every effort should be made to ensure that the best possible price is obtained having regard to the standard of travel e.g. group discount etc. Where possible travel should be with the ACA approved carrier, with players taking advantage of "frequent flyer bonus points". It is expected that any points credited from travel paid for by the ACA would be redeemed as part of ACA activities e.g. training camps etc;

**Australian Croquet Association**  
**62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

- .4 arrange motel type accommodation on a twin-share basis with single room sleeping accommodation where practical. The accommodation should be about 3-star standard, clean, with a laundry on the premises and preferably close to the courts. Single accommodation supplement is at individual expense. Check with players with whom they would prefer to share accommodation;
- .5 if possible, attend any training sessions prior to departure to ensure a close working relationship with the captain, HPM and players.
- .6 ensure adequate transport facilities are provided to and from the airport (usually arranged by the host nation) and between the motel and the courts.
- .7 from the time of meeting prior to leaving Australia, to the time of return to Australia, be the agent of the ACA under the overarching direction of the HPM in all matters relating to the welfare and conduct of the team on tour. All the Manager's instructions in this regard shall be promptly observed and adhered to.
- .8 apply and enforce any additional rules which in the Manager's opinion are necessary for the efficient management of the team or individual members notwithstanding any rules set down in these guidelines or the Handbook.
- .9 be authorised by the ACA and in conjunction of the HPM and the captain, to impose any disciplinary action on any member of the team whose conduct is such that it will impair the good name of the ACA. In this regard, the Manager may co-opt other appointed officials or members of the Executive Committee who may be present.
- .10 ensure that a team photograph is obtained during the event.
- .11 obtain from each player a completed medical form. This will only be kept by the Manager in case of emergency and will either be returned to the player or destroyed at the completion of the tour.
- .12 obtain from each player a recent photograph and playing history, to be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary for inclusion on the program.
- .13 ensure players have clean and well presented playing clothes every day during the event.
- .14 arrange for accounts for payment to be passed to the Honorary Secretary for endorsement and then to the Honorary Treasurer for payment. A cash advance may be provided if required.
- .15 purchase, on behalf of the ACA, appropriate mementos for exchange between the opposing players and/or team.
- .16 fax or email to the Honorary Secretary a daily summary of results and any story of the days play during the event.
- .17 provide a report to the Executive at the completion of the tour and include any necessary recommendations. Should a situation arise where a confidential addendum to the report needs to be

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

written it shall go to the President and Honorary Secretary only.

57.8.5 Players shall:

- (a) be encouraged, with the support of their own club, to obtain media coverage of their own selection and to heighten the profile of the sport in their own area.
- (b) advise the Honorary Secretary of the name and address of local newspapers who are to be given progress reports.
- (c) forward copies of any coverage to the Honorary Secretary.

58 Insert preamble under the heading: “The following is to apply to all ACA events.” (Rationale: This is an interim amendment until all the new ACA events are detailed.)

59 Delete 59.2 adopting penalties for officials who accept payments. (Rationale: The distinction between amateurs and professionals in sports has been discontinued and this provision is no longer appropriate.

63 In the reference to the ACA Anti-Doping Policy delete “was adopted 24 December 2004 and is effective 1 January 2005” and insert “was approved on 23 December 2009 and is effective 1 January 2010.”

64 Delete “Australian Team Coach” and insert “High Performance Manager”.

Moved	Tony Hall (ACA)		
Seconded	Ross Preston (QLD)		
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously	Yes
---------------------	-----

**9 b Motion - Victoria - Disciplinary Penalties**

That ACA and all member associations, when advised of the finding and penalties of duly constituted tribunal of other associations concerning individual members, comply with and enforce such finding and penalties as if they had been issued by a duly constituted tribunal of that association.

**Background**

Victoria recently had a Disciplinary Tribunal find against a member and imposed a penalty of not participating in VCA or ACA events for a period of three (3) months. This penalty, rather than a three month suspension of affiliation, was imposed in order that the member could continue to play and train at his club.

**Rationale**

## Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011

ACA is, according to its own Constitution, a union of state associations. For a union to function properly, each member must recognise, accept and if appropriate enforce decisions of other members of the union.

### ACA Executive View

ACA Executive Committee view is that the application of this motion would require any State considering any such action against one of its members, to first seek and get the agreement of all the States to the proposed penalty. The Executive Committee strongly recommends not proceeding with this motion as it would be impossible to apply.

Mike Cohn advised the meeting that the motion arose from an independent tribunal, including a barrister, formed in Victoria to investigate behaviour of a player. Instead of suspending the player the tribunal applied banned the player from playing in any ACA or VCA events for a period of three months, this penalty was applied rather than suspend the player for this period of time.

Mike Cohn expressed that we need to respect each other's logic behind the decision.

The ACA Executive view was that there were problems with this procedure.

Moved	Mike Cohn		
Seconded	Jim Clement		
	Carried	Defeated 10 votes to 2	Deferred

### 9c. Motion - Victoria - Association Croquet Handicap Changes

#### Motion

That ACA reinstate the system in which handicaps change after the completion of an event in Association croquet, rather than after each game.

#### **Background**

The long standing system, in which handicaps changed at the completion of an event in Association Croquet, was altered by the ACA Executive in February 2010, without the concurrence of Member Associations.

#### **Rationale**

A year's experience of the 'new' system has highlighted a number of problems. Changing handicaps after each game causes unnecessary confusion, causes difficulties for tournament managers in terms of time management (as often 3 or 4 games are played in a day in Victoria) and is a disincentive for some players (particularly those on higher handicaps). In fact it has actively discouraged people from entering tournaments in this State (e.g. if they are near a trigger point to go backwards they are worried they may lose only the first game in an event and then they will have to gain 50 points or more to get back to the handicap on which they started) . Australia is now out of step with other major croquet countries in this

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

respect. The alleged advantages of the change are far outweighed by the disadvantages.

**Comments from the National Handicapper - Stephen Meatheringham.**

I am rather surprised that the issues raised in the motion from the VCA to the ACA AGM were not raised by the Victorian State AC Handicapper, Doron Gunzburg, via email to myself and other state handicappers. It would have seemed worthwhile for that to occur in order for Victoria to gather information as to whether their observations were repeated in other states.

It is widely accepted that a player should play off a handicap that is as accurate as possible in all games. Changing a handicap as soon as a trigger point for a different handicap is reached makes sense. Waiting until the end of tournament or match does not. Association Croquet moved to the system used by Golf Croquet. There has been little, or no, comment regarding the method used for Golf Croquet.

In the VCA motion the statement “The long standing system, in which handicaps changed at the completion of an event in Association Croquet ...” is not completely accurate. It was for events which were not long-running. That is, for those events played over consecutive days. Moving to enable a change in handicap at the end of a game removed this inconsistency between different types of events. I fail to see how “Changing handicaps after each game causes unnecessary confusion, causes difficulties for tournament managers in terms of time management (as often 3 or 4 games are played in a day in Victoria) and is a disincentive for some players (particularly those on higher handicaps)”. Players know what their handicap is; they know what their index value is; and they know how far they are away from a handicap change. Where does the confusion come in? There is no “difficulty for tournament managers in terms of time management”.

The tournament manager is not involved in tournament handicapping issues; the tournament handicapper is. It takes only about a minute for a tournament handicapper to check and approve a handicap change. Indeed, the Handicapping Regulations in item 5.3 state, regarding player responsibilities, “have the Official Handicapper check and sign their card confirming the change before playing any other games or as soon as practical”. It would be normal for a best-of-X games match to be completed before signing off a change unless the players had a break. The wording “or as soon as practical” is relevant.

The VCA point about the timing of any handicap change being a disincentive for players to enter an event gets trotted out with some monotony. It is just as much an incentive to enter an event and know you only have to win the first one or two games to improve. If states or clubs have problems with their members continually going backwards in handicap maybe they need to

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

look at coaching to improve their standard of play. Every player should be playing off a handicap that gives them something like a 50% chance of winning each handicap game played. They should not play off an artificially high (or low) handicap so that they and their opponent exchange too many (or few) index points. All players should be positive about their handicap and understand its function. I disagree with the statement in the VCA proposal - "The alleged advantages of the change are far outweighed by the disadvantages". I do not believe they have demonstrated with examples any disadvantages that have occurred as a result of the revision. The VCA motion is vague, gives no specifics, and seems simply to echo Doron Gunzburg's personal opinion regarding this matter expressed before the changes were made to the system.

The ACA Executive Committee View.

The Executive Committee considered this matter at a recent Committee meeting and reached the conclusion that it agreed with the views expressed above by the National Handicapper.

The Committee considers that in the interests of fairness handicaps should be amended as soon as players reach a trigger point.

Moved	Mike Cohn		
Seconded	Jim Clements		
	Carried	Defeated 10 votes to 2	Deferred

**9d. Motion- Victoria - Golf Croquet Handicapping**

That the following changes be made to the Golf Croquet Handicapping:

1. Handicap 12 should be for a new player only. Once a player is able to play a game of singles they should be reduced.
2. Once a player reaches a handicap of 10 they should not go back to 11 or 12 but their index may remain at 100.
3. Once a player on a handicap of 11 or 12 enters an open tournament their handicap should be automatically reduced to 10.

**Rationale:**

The range 12 to 0 is proving to be unfair to players on lower handicaps in a 13 hoop game in an open competition and in pennant.

These changes will bring Golf Croquet into line with Association Croquet regulations that have been tested over many years.

**Comments from the National Handicapper - Stephen Meatheringham**

As with the VCA motion regarding AC handicap changes I am again surprised that issues raised in this motion from the VCA to the 2011 ACA AGM were not raised by the Victorian State GC Handicapper, , via email to myself and other state handicappers. It would have seemed worthwhile for that to

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

occur in order for Victoria to gather information as to whether their observations were repeated in other states.

It is widely accepted that a player should play off a handicap that is as accurate as possible in all games. To suggest, as the VCA does in point 1, that as soon as a player is able to play a game of singles their handicap should be reduced is very strange. Why would a player, most probably new to the sport, be handicapped (pun intended) by having their handicap reduced perhaps to a point where they can no longer win? That could be a huge disincentive for them.

The point in the above paragraph is equally valid and covers point 3 of the VCA motion where they say a player should be reduced to a handicap no higher than 10 as soon as they enter a tournament. That is wrong. They need to play off a handicap that gives them approximately an equal chance against an opponent in a handicap game.

In fact, VCA point 2 is covered by the identical argument as above.

The VCA rationale is incorrect in both items mentioned.

They say *“The range 12 to 0 is proving to be unfair to players on lower handicaps in a 13 hoop game in an open competition and in pennant.”* To me this perhaps suggests that players are on wrong handicaps. Are some lower handicapped players on handicaps that are too low? That is an equally valid assumption. I am not aware that their observation is seen in other states. Indeed, from the recent ACA GC rule change trial the ACA stated *“It has been apparent for some time that lower handicapped players have a better than even chance of winning under the conditions of Rule 16(d)”*. It is my understanding that the ACA (and a number of other countries) believe exactly the opposite.

The second comment in the VCA rationale *“These changes will bring Golf Croquet into line with Association Croquet regulations that have been tested over many years”* is wildly inaccurate and makes me wonder which version of the AC Handicapping Regulations the VCA is referring to! In March 2010 the ACA moved away from the artificial lowering of AC handicaps for players on 22 and 24 when they started playing regularly or entered competitions specifically to ensure that those players played off appropriate handicaps. Handicaps above 20 are used by clubs and are not part of the National Handicapping System. There is no need envisaged to stop GC players on handicaps of 11 or 12 from taking part in the National Handicapping System.

**ACA Executive View**

The ACA Executive Committee supports the view of the National Handicapper.

Moved	Mick Cohn		
Seconded	Jim Clements		
	Carried	Defeated 10 votes to 2	Deferred

**9 e. Motion - Victoria - Amendment of Golf Croquet Rule 14**

**Motion 1**

**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

That the ACA WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee representative proposes the following amendments to Golf Croquet Rule 14 when the next version of the Rules is being prepared:

14(b) "When a referee is in charge of a match and a player behaves in any of the unacceptable ways the referee is to warn them not to breach the provisions of this rule again. If a player of that side again behaves in any unacceptable way the referee is to repeat the warning and the next player on the offending side loses their turn. If a player of that side behaves in any unacceptable way for the third time for that side, the referee is to stop the match and the match is awarded to the opposing side. In this case the score in the game in progress is recorded as the winning total (4, 7 or 10) to the winner and the score already recorded by the loser when the game is stopped. Any subsequent games in the match are lost to zero."

**Rationale**

Under the present rules a player (or side) can behave in all of the unacceptable ways without penalty. This amendment means that players must be aware of and abide by the provisions of Rule 14(a). If they behave in any unacceptable ways twice, they lose a turn, and if thrice, they lose the match.

**Victoria withdrew the motion**

**Motion 2**

That, if the preceding amendment is accepted, the ACA WCF Golf Croquet Rules Committee representative proposes the following amendments to Golf Croquet Rule 14 when the next version of the Rules is being prepared:

The following is added at the end of Rule 14(b) above:

"Behaviour in any unacceptable way is cumulative not only during a game, but also during a match. (Therefore, if a player is warned twice under this rule in the first game of a match and subsequently behaves in an unacceptable way during the second game of that match, the referee is to stop the game and the match is awarded to the opposing side.)"

The ACA Executive Committee view to both motions.

The ACA representative on the WCF rules committee is reasonably supportive of the proposal and would be happy to refer it to the GCRC. However Australia's representative on the GCRC would resist any attempt to direct him in the considerations of the GCRC.

**Victoria withdrew the Motion.**

**9 f. Motion - Queensland - GOLF CROQUET DIVISIONAL PLAY**

It is recommended that golf Croquet is divided into two divisions for CAQ events:-

- Division 1     Handicap 0-4
- Division 2     Handicap 5-10

Also Match Players should have a handicap of 10 or lower to enter CAQ or ACA events and that their index should not fall below 100.

## **Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

### **RATIONALE:**

The Golf Croquet situation exists where the tournaments are open to all players, resulting in a wide range of handicaps and it has become evident that the better players are becoming reluctant to enter handicap events as they are giving too many extra turns and in level play events they lack the challenge of playing against players of similar standard.

Association croquet does not have this problem as the range of handicaps has been broken into divisions where the better players from Division 1 do not meet the players from Division 4.

The Handicap and Selection Committee feels that if Golf Croquet was divided into two divisions it would allow all players to compete against players of similar standard and perhaps encourage the better players to enter more handicap events.

It is suggested that two separate divisions would allow fairer competition for all layers and as one of the duties of the Handicap and Selection Committee is to determine ranges of handicaps for divisional play in ACA and CAQ events. We recommend that Golf Croquet be divided into two divisions for Match players (as above). It is also noted that other states have also adopted similar handicap ranges of play.

It is further suggested that as Social Players start on a handicap of 12 they should be classified as Match Players when they enter a competition and that they should have a handicap of 10 or lower to enter. Also their index should never fall below 100.

Submission submitted by Croquet Queensland Handicap and Selection Committee ratified by Croquet Queensland Management Committee.

**NOTED:** this approval is being submitted by the Handicap and Selection Committee and the Director of Golf Pam Shepherd, is also in favour of divisional play as above.

### **Comments from the National Handicapper – Stephen Meatheringham**

The first part is not for the ACA AGM. It says, in part "It is recommended that golf croquet be divided into two divisions for CAQ events". Qld can arrange their own events to suit its own requirements.

The second part of the motion says "Also Match Players should have a handicap of 10 or lower to enter CAQ or ACA events and that their index should not fall below 100."

Again, the ACA is not concerned in the CAQ part of that sentence.

My reading is that the motion then reads something like:

"Match Players should have a handicap of 10 or lower to enter ACA events and that their index should not fall below 100."

The first part of that is a policy decision for the ACA if they wish to restrict players who are able to enter GC events. I won't comment on that.

The CAQ paper does ramble on in the Rationale where it says:

"It is further suggested that as Social Players start on a handicap of 12 they should be classified as Match Players when they enter a competition and that they should have a handicap of 10 or lower to enter. Also their index should never fall below 100."

This does not form part of the motion.

## Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011

The only part I see that needs commenting on by the National Handicapper is "that their index should not fall below 100."

My comments on that are identical to what I said in reply to the VCA GC Handicapping Motion (24 November 2010). A player should play off a handicap that gives them approximately an equal chance against an opponent in a handicap game.

### Executive Committee View

The ACA Executive agrees that for other than Handicap events, GC players should have a handicap of 10 or lower. Other than that the Exec Committee agrees with the National Handicapper.

### Queensland withdrew the motion

### Agenda Item 10

#### **Finance - Approval of 2011 Budget, including approval of the Schedule of Fees, Payments and Honoraria and confirmation of the Schedule of Entry Fees and Prizes.**

Treasurer spoke to his reports on budget.

**Motion 1.** That the schedule of Entry Fees and Prizes for ACA events for 2011 be confirmed.

Moved	Tony Hall		
Seconded	Max Murray		
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously	Yes
---------------------	-----

**Motion 2.** That the draft Schedule of Fees Payments and Honoraria be approved.

Moved	Tony Hall		
Seconded	Max Murray		
	Carried 10 votes to 2	Defeated	Deferred

Neil White SA commented it is hard on the States to keep increasing fees because they are running the risk of losing clubs and SA recommends that all fees should only be increased by the CPI only.

**Motion 3.** That the draft Budget be approved.

Moved	Tony Hall		
Seconded	Max Murray		
	Carried 10 votes to 2	Defeated	Deferred

#### **Agenda Item 11 - Australian Croquet Championship arrangements for 2011 and 2012**

## Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011

Calendar available on the ACA website and will be supplied at the AGM for discussion.

- WA have bid 2015 GC Gold Medal, ISS and M&W singles. Offer was accepted.
- Ian Smith – 2011 AC Handicaps says Tasmania in October and delete Hobart. Same thing for 2012 Tasmania.
- AC Patrons Trophy needs dates NSW will provide.
- Susan Sands stated that WA will not hold the GC Handicap events anymore and if the new ACA executive committee will take this on board.

Motion: That the ACA Calendar be accepted.

Moved	Mike Cohn		
Seconded	Neil White (SA)		
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously	Yes
---------------------	-----

### **Agenda Item 12 – Other Business of which due notice has been given**

There was no other business

### **Agenda Item 13 - ACA Appointments**

<b>National Coaching Director</b>	John Riches
<b>Librarian</b>	Vacant
<b>Archivist</b>	Vacant
<b>National Director of AC Refereeing</b>	Don Close
<b>National Director of GC Refereeing</b>	Gordon Matthews
<b>Equipment and Sales Officer</b>	Shirley Hallinan
<b>Events Manager</b>	Vacant
<b>Magazine Editor and Magazine</b>	
<b>Subscriptions Manager</b>	Carolyn Ribone
<b>High Performance Manager</b>	Peter Landrebe acting HPM
<b>National Director of Gateball</b>	Gilon Smith
<b>Aus Rep on International Laws Com</b>	Max Hooper
<b>National Director of Schools Croquet</b>	Lowen Clarke
<b>National Director of Golf Croquet</b>	Anne Quinn
<b>Insurance Officer</b>	Jim Saunders
<b>National Handicapper</b>	Stephen Meatheringham
<b>Aust Rep WCF GC Rules Com</b>	Tony Hall
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
<b>Member Protection Officer</b>	Vacant
<b>Honorary Solicitor</b>	TBA

## Australian Croquet Association 62nd Annual General Meeting 2011

Susan Sands from WA proposed that the ACA should have an MPP Information officer. Susan Sands proposed that the name of the Member Protection Officer be changed to Member Protection Information Officer. This was unanimously supported by the council and will require an amendment to the Protection Policy.

Motion: The ACA appointments above be accepted.

Amended to the motion: that we change Member Protection Officer by inserting Member Protection Information Officer.

Moved	Pam Gentle		
Seconded	Max Murray		
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously	Yes
---------------------	-----

### **Agenda Item 14- Elections**

#### **AC Selection Committee – 3 positions**

**Nominated within the constitutional timeframe:**

Trevor Bassett (NSW)  
 Martin Clarke (WA)  
 Peter Landrebe (NSW)

Although Peter Landrebe (NSW) as the most recently elected Captain of an Australian Team would be automatically appointed to the Selection Committee, he has nominated to become an elected member. The ACA President is ex-officio on the Selection Committee but has no vote.

**Elected**

Name	State
Trevor Bassett	NSW
Martin Clarke	WA
Peter Landrebe	NSW

#### **GC Selection Committee – 3 positions**

**Nominated within the constitutional timeframe:**

John Compton (NSW)  
 Brian Hadley (WA)  
 Gordon Matthews (QLD)

**Elected**

Name	State
John Compton	NSW
Brian Hadley	WA
Gordon Matthews	Qld

#### **Laws Committee – 3 positions**

**Nominations within the constitutional timeframe: Nil**



**Australian Croquet Association  
62nd Annual General Meeting 2011**

Tony Hall on behalf of the ACA thanked Max for his work over the time and made a presentation on behalf of the ACA.

Meeting closed at 12.25pm