

**Australian Croquet Association
61st Annual General Meeting 2010**



COUNCIL MEETING

To be held at

The Victorian Croquet Centre

65 Noble Banks Drive, Cairnlea Victoria 3023

**Monday 29 March 2010
10.00am**

**Australian Croquet Association
61st Annual General Meeting 2010**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome by President**
- 2. Roll call including names of proxy delegates**
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting**
- 4. Business arising from the minutes**
- 5. Correspondence**
- 6. Reports**
 - i. Executive.
 - ii. Appointed Officers and Committee Reports.
 - iii. State Reports
 - iv. Business arising from reports
- 7. Finance – Treasurer's Report, including receipt of the 2009 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report**
- 8. Format for GC Interstate Shield**
- 9. Review of ACA Constitution**
- 10. a. Motions for amendments to the Handbook
b. Other Notices of Motion**
- 11. Finance - Approval of 2010 Budget, including approval of the Schedule of Fees, Payments and Honoraria and receipt of the Schedule of Entry Fees and Prizes.**
- 12. Players' Meeting recommendations**
- 13. Australian Croquet Championships review of arrangements for 2010 and 2011**
- 14. Other Business of which due notice has been given**
 1. Funding Australian Croquet – a discussion paper.
 2. Format for GC Interstate Shield.
- 15. Appointments**
- 16. Election of Office-Bearers, Committees, Panels, Representatives, Honorary Officers, etc.**

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Agenda Item 3 - Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting held at The Master Builder's Association 52 Parramatta Road, Forest Lodge NSW 2037 on Monday 30 March 2009 at 10.30am.

A copy of the minutes is provided with the Council Pack and has also been published on the ACA Website since May 2009.

Motion

That the Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting held at The Master Builder's Association 52 Parramatta Road, Forest Lodge NSW 2037 on Monday 30 March 2009 be accepted as a true record.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Agenda Item 4 - Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

Business arising from the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

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.

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Agenda Item 6 i.

ACA President's Report

The President's Report has been circulated.

Motion

That the President's Report be accepted.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Agenda Item 6 ii.

Appointed Officers and Committee Reports

The Appointed Officers and Committee Reports have previously been circulated

Motion

That the Appointed Officers and Committee Reports be accepted.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

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Agenda Item 6 iii.

State Reports

State Reports have previously been circulated

Motion

That the State Reports be accepted.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Agenda Item 6 iv.

Business arising from reports

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Agenda Item 7

Finance – Treasurer's Report, including receipt of the 2009 Financial Statements and Auditor's Report".

A. That the Treasurer's Report for 2009 be received.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

B. That the Financial Accounts for 2009 be accepted

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Agenda Item 8 - Format for GC Interstate Shield

Documentation has been circulated and there has been a teleconference with regard to this item.

Agenda Item 9 - Review of ACA Constitution

Jim Saunders has taken over the Constitutional Review.

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Agenda Item 10 - Notices of Motion

10a Motions for Amendments to ACA Handbook

Submitted by Executive

Motion: It is moved that the following amendments be made to the ACA Handbook.

Amend 7.3.2

At present 7.3.2 reads:

7.3.2 Treasurer's Account, which will be used to make payments on a day-to-day basis. This account will be reimbursed only from the General Account and may never hold more than ten thousand dollars or such other amount as may be approved at a General Meeting. The signatory shall be the Treasurer.

Proposed Amendment:

7.3.2 Treasurer's Account, which will be used to make payments on a day-to-day basis. This account will be reimbursed only from the General Account and may never hold more than fifteen thousand dollars or other such amount as may be approved at a General Meeting. The signatories shall be the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer, either one to sign.

Rationale: In 2009 the Treasurer needed to reimburse the Treasurer's Account on twenty-one (21 occasions including three (3) times in October and three (3) times in November. Each time it was necessary to provide a Treasurer's Report to the Executive and normal payments were disrupted for a week while a cheque was posted to a second signatory for counter-signing and deposit and then waiting for it to be cleared. By increasing the amount to \$15,000 it is expected to reduce the frequency of disruption to about once a month. A new position of Assistant Treasurer is recommended and that person will need to be a signatory to be able to act in the absence of the Treasurer.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Amend 7.5

At present 7.5 reads:

7.5 The Treasurer shall maintain within the books a Tours Fund, which shall be credited with Tours Levies received from States and from which expenses are debited for the MacRobertson Shield, Trans-Tasman and WCF World Championship events and other international events approved by the Executive Committee.

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Proposed Amendment:

7.5 The Treasurer shall maintain within the books a Tours Fund and, separately, a Hosting Events Fund. The Tours Fund will be credited with Tours Levies received from States and from which expenses are debited for the MacRobertson Shield, Trans-Tasman and WCF World Championship events and other international events approved by the Executive Committee. The Hosting Events Fund will be credited with Hosting Events Levies received from the States and from which expenses are debited for hosting international events and national events as approved by the Executive Committee."

Rationale: This requires that the Hosting Events Levy be separately identified and accounted for, as suggested at the 2009 Annual General Meeting of Council.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Amend 25.6.1 (commences "The Honorary Treasurer shall')

25.6.1.2 reads

".2 attend to payment of all accounts at the direction of the Council or Executive Committee, or in extra-ordinary circumstances, the President.
Signatories for this purpose always shall be the President, Senior Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, with any two to sign;"

The last sentence should be deleted and replaced by "See clause 7.3 for accounts and signatories;"

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

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Amend 25.6.1.6

25.6.1.6 reads:

"6 recommend to the Council or Executive Committee the lodgement of funds to ensure suitable return on funds held within the guidelines of Trustee Investments."

That should be deleted and replaced by "invest surplus funds in accordance with clause 7.4;"

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Amend 25.6.1.11

25.6.1.11 reads:

".11 manage the insurance policies and programs, and"

That should be deleted (and inserted in Hon Sec duties, see below) and replaced by "ensure that monies collected for the International Events Fund (Tours Fund) and the Hosting Events Fund are identified separately within the accounts;"

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Amend 25.6.1.12

25.6.1.12 reads:

".12 perform other duties as may be required."

That should be re-numbered as 25.6.1.13 and the following inserted: "25.6.1.12 maintain a record of all property owned by the Association including trophies, playing equipment, gateball equipment and office equipment;"

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Moved	
Seconded	
	Carried Defeated Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

A new sub paragraph should be inserted in the Honorary Secretary's duties:

"**25.5.28** supervise the Insurance Officer in managing the ACA's risk management and insurance policies and programmes;"

Moved	
Seconded	
	Carried Defeated Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Rationale for the amendments to clauses 25.5 and 25.6

These amendments reflect changes to clause 7 and changes in responsibilities which have been in place for some time. The changes will bring the Handbook up to date with administrative practicalities.

Amend 28.12

At present 28.12 reads:

28.12 Australian Gateball Promotions (AGP)

Proposed Amendment:

28.12 Gateball Australia

Rationale: The registered name of Gateball has changed.

Moved	
Seconded	
	Carried Defeated Deferred

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Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Insert the following new sub-paragraphs:

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."

Rationale: This corrects an omission in the Handbook. It allocates similar duties to those of the Official Representative on the ILC.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

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"28.19 Assistant Treasurer

The Assistant Treasurer shall:

- .1 assist the Treasurer and understudy him;
- .2 be aware of systems, procedures and the current position on all financial matters,
- .3 retain electronic copies of the Association's accounts as back-up to the Treasurer;
- .4 perform duties allocated by the Treasurer, such as stocktakes, etc."

Rationale: The requirement is to have someone who is aware of systems, procedures and the current financial position and able to deputise if the Treasurer is ill, overseas, resigns or dies.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Amend 51.17

At present reads:

51.17 Players and Officials must wear suitable, predominantly white, sportswear, or their approved club or state uniform. The Executive Committee may amend these rules if necessary. Appropriate footwear must be worn

Proposed Amendment:

51.17 Players are to wear predominantly white clothing and appropriate footwear. Club, State or National Uniforms are also permitted. Predominantly white clothing is defined in WCF Sports Regulation 22.5.6 which states: "Predominantly white means any article with more than 75% of its surface area white. Clothing which does not meet this criteria, will be subject to rejection as unacceptable. White means white, not grey/off white. This condition does not apply to wet weather clothing, hats or caps." A player presenting at the venue in unsuitable attire will be given the opportunity to dress appropriately or will not be permitted to participate in the event. See TR 24.

Rationale: The ACA feels that this clause requires more precise definition to enable TM's to effectively deal with players who do not abide by the dress code.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

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Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Amend Clause 51

No changes are proposed to 51.1 to 51.7. **Proposed amendments are shown in red.**

51.8 All players must furnish the Tournament Manager with the address and telephone number at which messages may reach them during the event. **See Tournament Regulation (TR) 24;**

51.9 Regulation hoops and ACA approved balls, either primary, secondary or tertiary colours, shall be used;

51.10 Courts on which the tournament is to be played may be available for practice a few days before the tournament commences at the discretion of the club concerned;

51.11 Matches shall begin daily at 8.00am unless otherwise decided by the Tournament Manager following consultation with the ACA Events Manager;

51.12 Any player not in readiness to commence play at the appointed time may be disqualified at the discretion of the Tournament Manager. **See TR 24 ;**

51.13 Players shall play at the venue and on the courts allotted. Players must report to the Venue Manager on arrival and before leaving the venue. **See TR 24;**

51.14 After the toss players are permitted a five minute warm up with the balls to be used in that match and on the court to be used. **See TR 24;**

51.15 On courts being used for the tournament for the day, players may only practice at the discretion of the Venue Manager. **See TR 24;**

51.16 Players may be allowed breaks between games as determined from time to time and published in the Tournament Conditions, approved by the Executive Committee for each competition conducted by the Association **See TR 24;**

51.17 Players and Officials must wear suitable, predominantly white, sportswear, or their approved club or state uniform. The Executive Committee may amend these rules if necessary. Appropriate footwear must be worn. **See TR 24 and see proposed amendment to this clause on previous page;**

51.18 Players withdrawing from an event are entitled to a full refund until the closing date for entry. Players withdrawing after the closing date are entitled to 50% refund of the entry fee. The refund does not include the administrative fee. **See TR 24;**

51.19 The Tournament Manager in consultation with the Events Manager may make any judicious alterations to the program, draw or other arrangements as are necessary in order to complete the Tournament in the time available.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

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Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

ADD NEW CLAUSE 65A:

65A CONDUCT OF SPECTATORS

A match in Association Croquet is intended to be a contest between the skills and intellect of the players alone. Spectators are to avoid giving advice to players during a match, either deliberately or by mistake. To avoid misunderstandings they should not position themselves near a player or remain nearby if they could be thought to be offering advice. Infringements may be dealt with by the Manager and could result in the offender being required to leave the venue.

Rationale: This change is the result of an investigation into a complaint arising from Australian Open Championships in 2009.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

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10b The Executive also submits the following Notice of Motion

That Association Croquet referees for all ACA Events, excluding Handicap and Golf Croquet Events, be “Referees on Request.”

Rationale: To accord with current International practice, the current ACA Policy is to appoint Referees on Request to all ACA Events excluding Handicap and Golf Croquet Events. This practice is supported by Law 55 of the current (Sixth Edition) of the Laws of Association Croquet which requires that where the interpretation of a law is uncertain, reference should be made to the Official Rulings on the Laws of Croquet (ORLC). The ORLC ruling is that where no definitive ruling is available players and referees “should have regard to the traditions and spirit of the game” and that players acknowledge the Official Rulings of the Laws of Croquet (ORLC).

ORLC 50.1 (re Law 50 Advice and Aids) states:

“50.1 This law deals with the issues raised when a third party interferes with a game by announcing that an error has been committed which has hitherto been unnoticed by both players. The settled policy is that croquet is a private contest between the players and that a game should not be influenced by the eyes, ears or intelligence of other people”.

It is the duty of referees to act only in respect to matters on which they are requested otherwise the outcome of a game may be unfairly influenced. We seem to have drifted away from the original intent of the game. The practice of appointing Supervising Referees was originally intended for games between high handicapped players only and is only used in Australia.

For ACA events it is proposed that there are three referee categories. These are:

RoR Referee on Request . Is available to be called before a questionable stroke is to be played or after a stroke has been played. The referee has no power unless called by a player or players.

SuR A Supervising Referee is to be assigned to be in charge of several games and allows the referee to intervene if there has been an infringement of the Laws.

This status is only to be used where high handicap games are being played (e.g. 10 to 20 handicap range).

RiC Referee in Charge. As the title implies this category refers to a referee in charge of one game only and requires the referee to act as a vigilant adversary for both sides. **This status only to be used on request of one of the players or the Tournament Referee for a particular reason.**

Players as Referees. In accordance with Law 48 the players themselves are required to be joint referees.

There has been a growing trend for more intervention by referees who are attempting to rectify perceived errors of play not in accordance with the Laws of the game. Most often such errors are unrealised by the player.

There are several problems

1 The trend for TR's to appoint Supervising Referees (in Charge) SuR, to games at all levels.

2 Unappointed (but qualified) 'Referees' (acting as pseudo 'Spectator Referees') are intervening to rectify errors that they have observed (or think they have observed) from the sidelines

3 Referees when appointed as Referees on Request RoR acting as SuR.

If Australia is to compete on the international scene our players need to play the game the same way and under the same conditions as all the other countries. We need to use the same officiating methods, policy and practice. Maybe we can contribute to a worthwhile change but we will be in grave error if we adopt a different

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officiating policy and ethics from those used by the other ILC countries. If Australia wants to make a change it should be done by way of a recommendation to our Laws Committee Representative to try to influence other countries. If we go it alone we would seriously disadvantage our players in international events. If we wish to attract international events and continue to be recognised as a suitable venue for international events we need to be perceived as mature in all aspects.

Moved			
Seconded			
	Carried	Defeated	Deferred

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

Agenda Item 11

Finance - Approval of 2010 Budget, including approval of the Schedule of Fees, Payments and Honoraria and receipt of the Schedule of Entry Fees and Prizes.

A. Motion: That the Schedule of entry fees and Prizes for ACA Events 2010 be received.

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

B. Motion: That the 2010 Budget and the Schedule of Fees, Payments and Honoraria 2010 be approved.

Voting

Carried unanimously			
Queensland		Western Australia	
New South Wales		President	
Victoria		S/Vice President	
Tasmania		Treasurer	
South Australia		Vice President	

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Agenda Item 12 - Players Meeting Recommendations

Minutes attached.

Agenda Item 13 - Australian Croquet Championship arrangements for 2010 and 2011

A Calendar will be supplied at the AGM for discussion.

Agenda Item 14 - Other Business of which due notice has been given

Funding Australian Croquet

A discussion paper has been circulated to states.

Agenda Item 15 - ACA Appointments

No appointments are required to be made by Council.

Events Manager	Steve Jones
National Coaching Director	John Riches
National Director of Refereeing	Vacant
National Director Gateball	Gilon Smith
Magazine Editor	Carolyn Ribone
Magazine Subscriptions Manager	Carolyn Ribone
National Director Golf Croquet	Anne Quinn
Equipment Officer	Shirley Hallinan
Librarian/Archivist	Vacant
Insurance Officer	Jim Saunders
National Handicapper	Stephen Meatheringham
Member Protection Officer	Maree Skinner
National Schools Coaching Director	Vacant
Aus Rep on International Laws Com	Max Hooper
Aust Rep WCF GC Rule Com	Tony Hall

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Agenda Item 16 - Elections

Executive Committee

The following nominations have been received within the requisite constitutional timeframes.

President Max Murray (NSW),

Treasurer Tony Hall (NSW)

Snr Vice President Steve Jones (QLD),

Vice President Anna Miller (VIC)

Honorary Secretary/ Executive Director Maree Skinner (SA)

Accordingly the nominated officers for all positions are duly elected.

Selection Committee – 3 positions

Nomination within the constitutional timeframe:

Trevor Bassett (VIC)

Two positions to be nominated from the floor. A secret ballot will be conducted if more than two candidates are nominated.

Peter Landrebe (NSW) as the most recently elected Australian Captain of the MacRobertson Shield Team is automatically appointed to the Selection Committee. The ACA President is ex-officio on the Selection Committee but has no vote.

Elected

Name	State
Trevor Bassett	NSW

Laws Committee – 3 positions

Nominations within the constitutional timeframe:

George Karoly (VIC)
Ken Hopkins (VIC)

Elected

Name	State
George Karoly	VIC
Ken Hopkins	VIC

One position to be nominated from the floor. A secret ballot will be conducted if more than one candidate is nominated.