



## PETANQUE IN CANBERRA & THE LOCAL REGION NEWSLETTER

# New Club Kit

# Ivo's corner



Packed up and folded away for storage



Set up and ready to go!

New lighting fixture that Rob built. We now have a second trolley as part of our expanding club kit. This trolley is fitted with a telescoping post and a cross bar with two battery powered lamps (soon there will be 4 lamps) 4 simple telescoping outriggers stabilises the whole structure in case of wind. Set up takes about two minutes and when done about the same time to pack up. Simple and effective giving us mobile lighting for two doubles or triples games on a winters evening. As the lamps are at a max. 3m height the problem of looking into the lights whilst playing has been dramatically reduced. This will solve our twilight lighting issues till better solar lighting options become affordable and available. It's a stopgap measure but this will allow us to play and expand our twilight playing options considerably. Make yourselves familiar with its simple operation and setup and use it often!

## The 3 Rob's;

It's easy folks, I have found a solution to sort them out.

1. New boy, 'Helena's Rob'
2. 'Kerry's Rob'
3. 'Robbie' or 'Mary's Rob'
4. Do not recruit anymore Rob's please!

## Lego Blocks;

I always reckon it's the little things that people do that makes a club great. Like 'Lego' blocks they are small but put together big things can be built. We are blessed in our club that we have talented and practical people who are willing and capable of doing things and build those 'Lego' blocks up. I could rattle off names of those who have contributed but most would be embarrassed if I did so. They know who they are and collectively we are grateful for their contributions over the years. However, occasionally we need to acknowledge and recognise individuals especially those who have joined us recently and for whatever reason have jumped in and contributed much. This time its Rob, "Which one?", I hear you yell, well its 'Helena's Rob'. We have 3 Rob's in the club but that is another story! Rob spent 5 hours doing the piste in one session which is about 4.5 hours longer than I would do it! The end result is an immaculate piste, almost too nice to play on really. He then went onto fix our storage door with new security steel angles, deleting a useless latch, repairing the door woodwork, adding a seal at the bottom to keep out the crap and giving it a fresh lick of paint. To break into our storeroom now requires a bazooka or explosives, all security issues are well and truly gone! Continuing the work rampage he then fixed the internal light and sorted out a bug infestation problem. Our trolley got a makeover as well with a new bracket to carry our scoreboard and he refreshed the text on the scoreboard. "Why?" you ask, because he can, and he wants to, and he likes what we are doing as a club. It's his way of contributing and adding to the 'Lego' block triumph that is our club. What can I say but thanks Rob, take it easy man, slow down so we can catch up, you are a Legend!



Our club trolley has had a makeover as well with a few add on features built in by Rob. No more tipping the box forward by accident as you handle the trolley, the box has now been secured to the trolley frame with a latch mechanism. The scoreboard is also carried on a new bracket as part of our Sunday kit. So we have boules, rings, scoreboard plus whatever else fits into the cabinet, the whole lot easily transportable to and from the storeroom to the piste.

## Umpires Corner *(Article by Smitty)*

As umpires we talk...about you :) One thing we have all mentioned to each other is the change in attitude around the piste in regards to rules. People are observing rules, discussing rules and playing to rules even on days that are not designated "play to rules" days. We think this is wonderful to see and a credit to the club.

Now this 'Boulesheet' topic. **Moving the boules.** What happens if a player moves or stops a boule?  
As always, rules are available in the PFA rules handbook, in this case Article 19, Article 21 and Article 27

First we will look at moving boules

- If you stop one of your own teams boules - it is dead...no argument, take it away
- If you are hit by one of your opponents boules - apart from indicating you are stood in the wrong place- the opponent can replay the boule or leave it in its current spot
- If you are hit by a boule that has been shot it can be left where it is, or the opponent can move it anywhere along its direction of travel assuming the original point was marked.
- If you deliberately stop any boule **from either team**...game over, you are disqualified along with your team.

Now what about if you move a boules, similar rules,

- You move one of your teams boules - That boule is now dead...It is removed from play, no arguments, no replacing it...you moved it, your fault...take it away.
- You move one of your opponents boules - The boule is replaced - **as long as it is marked**, and you are shown a yellow card (breaking the rules). If the boule is not marked it remains in its new position, but you will still get a yellow card.

It is on this ruling that the following advice is given.

- Don't walk through the middle of the boules on the piste
- Stand behind the coche or behind the circle at least 2m to the side
- Mark your key boules, without holding up play
- Don't point out suggested lines or target boules with your feet (or any other hard object - boules, hands, sticks), copy Lois, she always points out boules with her cleaning cloth, no risk to any boules.

## The French in Canberra

A new free magazine has been released in Canberra. It is called **Canberra en francais** and it connects France specifically with Canberra, demonstrating the many ways in which France and the French language have permeated the local culture. The editors have written:

***Written largely in French and English, its pages will tell the stories of Canberra's Francophones (French-speaking) and Francophiles (lovers of French) and will unveil for readers the hottest francophone destinations in and around our city.***

There are stories about local restaurants, personalities and events, but you can see for yourselves at [www.canberraenfrancais.com](http://www.canberraenfrancais.com)

I am sure that you will agree that the highlight of the magazine is the story about our petanque club and the picture of our members that would be proudly displayed on the mantelpiece of any French maison.

*(Article by Gary)*

## Community Rewards Program News!

Capital Petanque recently received advice from the Canberra Southern Cross Clubs (CSCC) about changes to the allocation of funds under the Community Rewards Program. In order to meet government requirements, the previous allocation based on 10 percent of the our expenditure on food and beverages at the club will now change to 7.5 percent. This still proves very worthwhile for our club. This financial year (2017 -18) we have currently received \$988.92 from the Community Rewards Program. A special thanks to our loyal members, who have been supporting Capital Petanque through the Community Rewards Program.

A note to new members - if you are a member of the Southern Cross Club of Canberra and would like to support our Capital Petanque Club, please request that your card is registered with Capital Petanque Club under the Community Rewards Program. This can be done at the reception of the Canberra Yacht Club. Just remember to swipe your card every time you make a food or beverage purchase at any of the Canberra Southern Cross Clubs and the Capital Petanque will receive 7.5 percent of your spend.

Most recently, in order to continue to receive support under the Community Rewards Program, it has been necessary for CPC to provide a further submission for the 2018 - 19 financial year. This was completed by our Committee Member, Robyn Cooper, and submitted in mid April. Based on last year, an announcement of the outcome of this funding round is expected in the new financial year.  
*(Article by Robyn)*

## Another Sunday on the paddock;

Sunday 29th April was a 'zinger', with 24 on the paddock, something we have not seen for a while. We have been scoring high teens in the last few months but for some reason this one brought out the tribe on mass. I am not sure why as the weather was suspect right from the very beginning starting with sun and pleasant temperatures and then rapidly downgrading and ending the session with a cold and very wet thunderstorm. Still, we started with 24 and after two games ended with 24. Pleased to tell you all that Robbie's better half, the lovely **Mary** has joined our club plus **Margaret** was seen to hand over money to our ever accepting Treasurer. I welcome both ladies to our club. I am not sure what the latest membership count is but it must be about 55 - 56 with more ladies than gents. Good stuff I say! We also have **Tracy** playing with us who unfortunately will only be with us for a month or so as she jet sets around the world. Tracy is the American lady who tried out her new gold colour ATX boules on Sunday. Nice to have you with us Tracy all be it for a short time. Also **Rohan** joined us and will for another couple of weeks. Rohan used to play with us while we were at the Yarralumla Primary School many years ago. Rohan is moving to Victoria so he is only passing through so to speak but good to see you again! There is nothing nicer than seeing a piste fully occupied with plenty of games going on at once. We rock on  
*(Article by Ivo)*

## Some verbal beauties;

Recently heard on the piste, a couple of zingers;

**"Give it a bit of welly!"** *Mary & Callum, it's a UK thing!*  
and this one,

**"Petanque, the best fun you can have with clothes on!"** *Anon! (Article by Ivo)*



## Presidents Report;

Hi All,

The Capital Petanque Club Committee recently sent round some training materials for the information of members, developed by Warren Sowter, ex National Team coach. These are excellent and full of advice about the game, technique, tactics and even strategy. It is this last bit that I often find most tricky. Whenever I come up against experienced players, they often seem to be drawing on a well of knowledge I just can't access. A bit like those excellent snooker players thinking about the next shot even before this ball is sunk. These experienced petanquers are counting balls, thinking about options and always focusing on how to maximise the points from each end or minimise the risk of losses. I guess the only way to garner this experience is to keep playing these guys.

But there is another option. Watch videos. I know a few of us already do this and, while the players and commentators are all speaking French (with a variety of accents!), you can still pick up key points. Watch these professional players, the best in the world, and think about why they choose to shoot here and point there. Sometimes you see them choose to shoot a boule a long way from the coche and you can see they planning on winning not one point but four! Some of these videos can be great entertainment and drama, as well as instructional. Do yourself a favour. Go watch and enjoy.

Youtube has lots of petanque videos but you can also look here:

[Pétanque - Apprentissage et technique](#)