

Program

1. **First Tests: 12th – 16th November 2022**
 - 1.1. England v United States
 - 1.2. Australia v New Zealand

2. **Second Tests: 18th – 22nd November 2022**
 - 2.1. Winner of 1.1 v loser of 1.2
 - 2.2. Winner of 1.2 v loser of 1.1

3. **Third Tests: 24th – 28th November 2022**
 - 3.1. United States v team they haven't played yet
 - 3.2. England v team they haven't played yet

Sponsors

The Organizing Committee gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors:



The Victorian Government through the Significant Sporting Events Victoria grant program.



12th – 29th November 2022
at the
Victorian Croquet Centre

www.macrobotsonshield.com/



The World Croquet Federation (WCF) would like to thank the Australian Croquet Association and the Victoria Croquet Association for agreeing to host the 23rd MacRobertson Shield. The event represents the top tier of the WCF Association Croquet World Team Championship, the lower tiers of which were held in England in August with Scotland, Canada and South Africa proving victorious.

As well as hosts, Australia are of course the defending champions, having won the last event in the United States back in 2017. The Covid pandemic has meant they have had to wait longer than usual to defend their title. Our particular thanks go to all those involved in the complex planning and decision making that was necessary at the start of this year, to ensure that the event could go ahead. With the event now upon us we hope that it remains Covid free and everyone is able to focus on the croquet.

The Victorian Croquet Centre is no stranger to hosting World Championships and I am sure that all the players will enjoy playing at this excellent facility. We are very appreciative of the efforts of everyone that has helped to ensure the survival of this world class venue. We would also like to thank all the volunteers that will be involved over the course of the competition. Whatever your role the event would not be possible without you, thank you for your time and enthusiasm.

The strength of the four teams pays testament to the regard in which the event is held by the players. For many of those participating the MacRobertson Shield will represent the pinnacle of their career. I hope that you all play well and may the best team win!

Ian Burrige
President
World Croquet Federation

Results

Year	Location	Participants	Winner	Tests
1925	England	Aust, Eng	Eng	Eng 3, Aust 0
1927	Australia	Aust, Eng	Aust	Aust 1, Eng 1, tied 1 (Aust won on games 20-19)
1930	Australia	Aust, NZ	Aust	Aust 3, NZ 0
1935	Australia	Aust, Eng, NZ,	Aust	Aust 4, Eng 3, NZ 0 2 tied matches Aust v Eng)
1937	England	Eng, Aust	Eng	Eng 5, Aust 0
1950	NZ	Eng, NZ	NZ	NZ 2, Eng 1
1956	England	Eng, NZ	Eng	Eng 5, NZ 0
1963	NZ	Aust, Eng, NZ	Eng	Eng 6, Aust 2, NZ 1
1969	Australia	Aust, Eng, NZ	Eng	Eng 6, NZ 3, Aust 0
1974	England	Aust, Eng, NZ	Eng	Eng 6, NZ 2, Aust 1
1979	NZ	Aust, Eng, NZ	NZ	NZ 9, Aust 0, Eng 0
1982	Australia	Aust, Great Britain (GB), NZ	GB	GB 5, Aust 4, NZ 0
1986	Great Britain	Aust, GB, NZ	NZ	NZ 5, GB 3, Aust 1
1990	New Zealand	Aust, Great Britain & Ireland (GB&I), NZ	GB&I	GB&I 2, NZ 1, Aust 0
1993	Australia	Aust, GB&I, NZ, USA	GB&I	GB&I 1 st , NZ 2 nd , Aust 3 rd , USA 4 th
1996	Great Britain	Aust, GB, NZ, USA	GB	GB 3, NZ 2, Aust 1, USA 0
2000	New Zealand	Aust, GB, NZ, USA	GB	GB 3, NZ 2, USA 1, Aust 0
2003	United States	Aust, GB, NZ, USA	GB	GB 3, Aust 2, USA 1, NZ 0
2006	Australia	Aust, GB, NZ, USA	GB	GB 3, Aust 2, USA 1, NZ 0
2010	Great Britain	Aust, GB, NZ, USA	GB	GB 3, NZ 2, USA 1, Aust 0
2014	NZ	Aust, Eng, NZ, USA	NZ	NZ 3, Eng 2, Aust 1, USA 0
2017	USA	Aust, Eng, NZ, USA	Aust	Aust 3, Eng 2, NZ 1, USA 0

History of the MacRobertson Shield (Formally the MacRobertson International Trophy)

The Victorian Croquet Association was formed in 1914 and affiliated with the [English] Croquet Association in 1917 and was recognised by the Croquet Association as acting as the governing body for croquet within Australia.

Immediate attempts were made to organise a challenge match between the two countries, but it was not until the 1924 challenge issued by Australia was accepted that a test series was organised to be played in England during 1925.

An offer, made in February 1925, to donate a shield as the trophy for the competition was made philanthropist and avid Victorian player, Mr Macpherson Robertson (later Sir Macpherson Robertson KBE of MacRobertson's Chocolates fame). The offer was accepted, and the shield sent after the team, which was already in England.

The shield has been contested at, initially, irregular periods from 1925, with the 1925, 1927, 1930, 1935 and 1937 Australian teams consisting solely of Victorians.

There was a 13-year hiatus during and following WW2, between 1937 and 1950.

In 1950, the Australian Croquet Council was formed and became the governing body of Australian croquet for national and international competitions but did not enter a challenge until 1963, when a team was sent to New Zealand.

Great Britain contested the 1974, 1979, 1982, and 1986 events, Great Britain and Ireland the 1990 and 1993 events, reverting to Great Britain for the 1996, 2000, 2003, 2006, and 2010 events, reverting further to England for the 2014 and 2017 events.

New Zealand joined the competition in 1930 and the United States in 1993.

The MacRobertson Shield had been organised and contested by the competitors but in 2010 came under the aegis of the World Croquet Federation.



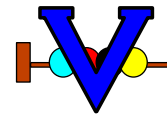
Australia is honoured to host the 2022 MacRobertson Shield and we look forward to the exciting play between the four countries over the next 2 1/2 weeks.

I would especially like to thank the team of volunteers at the Victorian Croquet Centre who have worked diligently over the past 18 months on the lawn preparation for this event.

On behalf of the Australian Croquet Association, I extend a warm welcome to all players, officials and spectators. For those who are unable to be with us live, please enjoy the live streaming.

May the weather be warm and sunny, no rain, and the croquet be spectacular.

Jim Nicholls
Chair
Australian Croquet Association



On behalf of Croquet Victoria, I'd like to welcome you to the Victorian Croquet Centre and wish you well in the 2022 MacRobertson Shield. It's an honour for Victoria to be hosting the Shield again, and to have the four countries meet here at the Victorian Croquet Centre for the first time. We are looking forward to sharing some of the play with the world, via our live stream and Facebook posts.

It's wonderful to be able to return to something like normal play after over two years of restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. We are still working to guidelines to help minimize the spread of COVID, and we are still taking health precautions:

- do make use of the sunscreen which is provided - the November sun in Melbourne can burn quite severely
- please take appropriate steps if you are unwell.

Best wishes for your part in the next three weeks of challenging competition!

Kate Patrick
President, Croquet Victoria

Tournament Officials

Mike Cohn - Tournament Director and Tournament Referee



As Tournament Director, I welcome the teams, officials and spectators. I have previously chaired Organising Committees for 2009 Women's World Golf Croquet Championships and the 2017 World Golf Croquet Championships. I was Tournament director for the 2020 World Association Croquet Championships.

I became an Association Croquet Referee in 2007 and refereed at State and National level from soon thereafter. I have refereed at the 2011 Trans-Tasman AC Championships, 2012 World AC Championships, 2012 Women's World AC Championships, 2018 World AC Championships, 2020 World AC Championships, and was Deputy Tournament Referee for the 2018 Trans-Tasman AC Championships. I also attended to the 2013 and 2016 World AC Championships. Since 2016, I have been National Coordinator Refereeing Association Croquet.

Kevin Beard - Tournament Manager



Kevin has played over 2,600 ranking games of association croquet and completed over 500 triple peels since he began at the Brunswick Croquet Club in Melbourne 24 years ago. Semi-retirement in 2007 enabled him to travel and play in many national championships and in 15 World Championships across AC and GC.

Kevin has represented Australia in the MacRobertson Shield (England, 2010) and the Trans-Tasman. He has won the Australian Open Doubles with Stephen Mulliner and the (British) Open Doubles with Jeff Dawson. He has won the Scottish and Swiss Open Singles Championships.

In GC, Kevin has represented Australia in the World Teams Championship and Trans-Tasman and has won the Australian Open Singles three times.

Kevin has experience managing croquet tournaments at club and state level including several Victorian Open Championships at the Victorian Croquet Centre, Cairnlea.



United States of America



Matthew Essick (Captain)
2022 WCF GC World Champion
DGrade: 2570 TP: 191
SXP: 5

Thomas Balding.
DGrade: 2381
TP: 32



Stephen Morgan
2019 Winner AC Nationals (Doubles & Singles)
DGrade: 2320 TP: 83

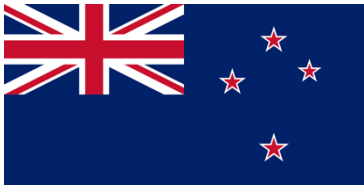
Ben Rothman
2019 WCF GC World
Champion
Prior MacRobs : 3
DGrade: 2441 TP: 499 SXP: 10



Jeff Soo
2021 US National Champion
Prior MacRobs: 5
DGrade: 2308
TP: 339

Zack Watson
DGrade: 2436. TP: 77





New Zealand

**Greg Bryant (Captain)**

Winner 2014 MacRob; Prior MacRobs: 5
5 times NZ Open Champion
DGrade: 2333 TP: 586 SXP: 12

Paddy Chapman

Winner 2014 MacRob;
DGrade: 2661 TP: 582 SXP: 26

**Jenny Clarke**

Winner 2014 MacRob; Prior MacRobs: 3
DGrade: 2468 TP: 334

Edmund Fordyce

Twice National AC Doubles Champion
DGrade: 2334 TP: 8

**Felix Webby**

Captain NZ Team, GC World Teams Champs 2020
U21 GC World Champion 2017
DGrade: 2425. TP: 17

Aaron Westerby

Winner (Captain) 2014 MacRob; Prior MacRobs: 3
DGrade: 2457 TP: 315 SXP: 2

**Liz Fleming – Deputy Tournament Referee**

Liz was the TR during the 2017 MacRobertson Shield event and has a wealth of refereeing experience at home and abroad. First qualified 30 years ago she is now a well-recognized International referee but Liz also boasts a strong international playing background having once been the highest ranked female in the rankings and representing Australia in all three codes (AC, GC and GB) as well being a member of many State Teams. Liz has a strong and broad-based administrative involvement adding membership of the WCF.AC.LC to her resume alongside; past

President of Croquet Queensland, National Co-ordinator of both Coaching and Refereeing, Complaints Officer, Level 4 AC Coach, Level 3 GC Coach, National Selector (Chair) and current State Selector (Chair). Not content with playing and refereeing Liz also has qualification in both Team and Tournament Management.

Graeme Roberts – World Croquet Federation Event Lead

Graeme has been playing croquet for more than 50 years. He represented New Zealand in the MacRobertson Shield contest in Australia in 1982 and has been an international referee since 1990. This series in Melbourne will be the sixth time Graeme has been a referee in a MacRobertson Shield contest. He has also been a referee in five World AC Championships, one Women's AC World Championship and five Trans-Tasman tests. These duties have taken him to Australia, the USA and France as well as New Zealand.

As a player, Graeme has won the New Zealand Open Championship Doubles once (with Richard Clarke), the New Zealand Men's Championship twice, and has been a semi-finalist in the New Zealand Open Championship Singles three times.

Graeme was elected to the World Croquet Federation's Management Committee in January 2022 and in that capacity is the WCF's Event Lead for this MacRobertson Shield competition, the forthcoming Women's AC World Championship in Christchurch and the Under 21 GC World Championship in Mount Maunganui.



Australia



Ian Dumergue (Captain)
Winner (Captain) 2017 MacRob
First Australian to win NZ Open (2015)
DGrade: 2338 TP: 438 SXP: 4

Robert Fletcher
Winner 2017 MacRob
DGrade: 2760 TP: 789 SXP: 25



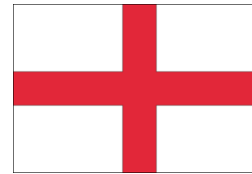
Malcolm Fletcher
Winner 2017 MacRob
DGrade: 2551 TP: 226 SXP: 9

Stephen Forster
Winner 2017 MacRob
DGrade: 2386 TP: 600 SXP: 6



Dwayne McCormick
Winner Australian Eire Cup 2018
DGrade: 2438 TP: 378 SXP: 5

Edward Wilson
Winner NZ Open (2018) & youngest winner
DGrade: 2477 TP: 127 SXP: 3



England



Samir Patel (Captain)
MacRob Captain 2014, 2017
Prior MacRobs: 2
DGrade: 2496 TP: 563 SXP: 11

Mark Avery
Winner of 3 MacRobs
Prior MacRobs: 4
DGrade: 2510 TP: 945 SXP: 15



Jamie Burch
Prior MacRobs: 2
DGrade: 2562 TP: 333 SXP: 8

Christian Carter
DGrade: 2402 TP: 130 SXP: 2



James Death
Winner AC Open Championship 2019
Prior MacRobs: 2
DGrade: 2537 TP: 667 SXP: 91

Harry Fisher
DGrade: 2533 TP: 137

