



The past year will be one we will not easily forget: the Covid 19 outbreak in March has affected us all, on different levels, but despite all we have to consider ourselves lucky to be living in this part of the world.

The outbreak effectively put a stop to our weekly petanque meetings and other planned activities from April for a few months.

Thanks to the hard work of the committee, soon after the rules for social gatherings were set we were 'Covid-safe'; which allowed us to restart playing as a club.

Because of recent changes more work is now needed to comply.

Your committee is working on it as we speak.

During this year we have welcomed players visiting from the Port Douglas club, and from Palm Cove, plus the occasional interstate traveller.

As a club, we have been able to travel to Port Douglas and play on the new terrain the council has installed for the local club.

Some of us have visited Port Douglas and Palm Cove and have been welcomed by the local players, hopefully the relationship among the 'clubs' will grow into regular trips and possibly an organized tournament in the near future.

The past year has been a great year for us receiving grants, and for this we all have to thank our grant officier Kim Badcock and all the work he has put into it.

With these grants, we have been able to help all members who wanted to own their set of boules to get one, and we have purchased more sets for the club.

The club now owns circles, competition approved, and others tools which are regularly used by all playing members.

We have acquired 8 brand new benches, plus a lovely red one donated by the Rotary club, waiting to be put together and installed around the terrain. Not only players, but the whole Mission Beach community will enjoy them.

So far the grant money has only been spent on signs and benches. The club still has the money for fixing the surface of the terrain. NQ Forestry Services have been contracted to do this work. A working bee will be organized in the future to help out when NQ Forestry are doing the work.

Unfortunately getting all these grants has caused some tension in the club among members, while I understand the different points of view, I sincerely hope that we can find a way of using these grants which the majority of the members will be happy with.

Last year I volunteered for the position of president because no other people were willing to take the position. And although I do not want to use that as an excuse, I should have done more in this role than I have done.

For the coming year I won't make myself available. As you all know we don't have a house in Mission Beach anymore and as a consequence it will be even harder for me to dedicate time to the club. While I will remain a member of this club, I don't believe I should at this time commit to being president again.

I would like to thank Sal and all the other committee members for their support during the past year, and all the people who've given input and ideas about benches, signs and surface upgrade.

I hope that we can soon go back to playing petanque and have fun as per our motto

Danila