



The Eire Cup

On 1 August 1937, after playing a series of 5 test matches in England, the Australian International team journeyed to Ireland to play a series of matches at the Carrickmines Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Dublin, for the Irish Croquet International Eire Cup, which was presented for the occasion. Before the match was played, it was explained to both teams that the 'Eire Cup' would become the property of the winning country.

Matches commenced on 2 August and Australia was successful in winning the coveted trophy four games to two. It is mentioned that after losing the cup to Australia, Ireland challenged Australia to a tennis match, which Australia also won!

The Eire Cup was safely brought back to Australia and handed to the Victorian Croquet Association Headquarters- the then recognised authority in Australia for international croquet contests.

Interstate competitions within Australia had lapsed after World War 1 but a renewal was made in Sydney in 1948 when this trophy was first played for in Australia. It was again played for in Brisbane in 1949.

The Australian Croquet Council was formed in 1949 and the Cup then became the property of the Council. New conditions for the Interstate Cup were drawn up and approved in 1950

The Cup is in the shape of a silver rose bowl, and is a very valuable trophy. In 1951 its value was estimated at £100.