

## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

### MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Julie Sorrell, Richard Thurlow, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball, Andrew Thomas, Julie Horsley, Steve Pearson.

**Apologies for Absence:** Pam Bowra

**Welcome to new members:** The chairman welcomed new committee members Steve Pearson and Julie Horsley

**Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017:** Were signed by the chairman.

#### **Matters Arising:**

PN reported that Alan Rush had agreed that doubles would be played at the Budleigh Friendly in future and that singles results would go on handicap cards.

The end of season tidy-up went well and was very well attended.

The first winter walk was also well attended and was a good length for most.

It might be a good idea to offer a short cut if possible on future walks.

PN raised the question of rough practise lawns with Neil Gamble. It was not considered a good idea for this winter but next winter it is proposed to keep one lawn open depending on weather conditions. This would not mean an increase in fees but may mean that 12 attendances are needed on participation cards.

Roll-ups during the winter would not be allowed, to avoid excessive foot-fall.

RT remarked that a hollow tine aerator is needed for lawn preparation. It may be possible to borrow one from Budleigh. It may be advisable to take one lawn a week out of use for one day, possibly a Thursday next season.

Neil Gamble has written to the chairman of the management committee at Sanditon about the Devon Bank.

**The AGM – Feedback:** PN and RT both reported that they had had positive feedback about the shorter format with the chairman giving one overall speech.

PH wondered if there were too many trophies being presented at the AGM and that some could be presented at the end of the tournaments. The committee felt that trophies should be presented at the AGM as they are now, because often there are not many people left at the end of an event. However it would speed things up if individual photos were not taken. A group photo of all the winners at the end would suffice for the record and the press.

It was agreed that the meal was very good and well presented by the waitresses.

**SW Federation AGM:** PH and Helen Pryor are going to attend.

**PJB** will advise the SWF secretary Linda Shaw of this and ask about menu choices for the lunch. Two resolutions will be discussed.

1. is from Bath club which wants to be able to field Golf handicap 11 and 12 players in tournaments which are normally for handicap 10 and below.

Concern was expressed about the number of free turns this would engender.

It was agreed that they should vote against this resolution.

2. is from Nailsea club proposing that, to avoid drawn golf games, these should be played for 60mins instead of 50mins, but to compensate only 17 games should be played instead of 20. This would mean that some players would not have many games after a long journey so the committee agreed that again the delegates should vote against this resolution. It was felt that playing a golden hoop at the end of a drawn game would be a better option.

**PH** will report back after the AGM.

Federation team submissions must be in by the AGM.

Helen proposes to run 2 handicap teams and 1 level. Some new members might want to join the teams so this was felt by the committee to be feasible. It was proposed that team members should be canvassed for their availability at the beginning of the season and dates assigned for their matches so that they can reserve them.

PN wants to run 2 Parkstone teams this year as he felt there would be enough players. It is possible for members to play in both the Parkstone and Federation teams. **PN** will approach Richard Wood about this. PH has sent Richard the team form and agenda.

JH has spoken to Richard about the short croquet teams for next season.

**Winter Activities:** Are underway.

The Christmas lunch is all in hand. JS has already sold 48 places out of a maximum of 60. PAM is also selling tickets. Committee members were reminded to bring raffle prizes.

It was agreed that the talk by Hilary Drew should be at the usual time of 7pm.

**PJB** will ask PAM to check with the speaker that this will be acceptable.

Roger Hendy is happy to set the teatime quiz.

**2018 Documents: Programme:** The programme dates were checked and some changed because of clashes with other events.

There is some disquiet among golf players about the time the lawns are out of action for tournaments. 50% of the club do not play in tournaments and many only play in roll-up sessions. They will be encouraged to book lawns at other times. Many play on a Sunday morning so it was agreed that this could be another golf roll-up time with 2 lawns reserved. Players who want to play more competitive games should be invited to the team practice on Tuesdays. PN has spoken to Helen about this. Perhaps these practices should be renamed 'competitive play sessions'.

PJB has contacted the Laidlers about the Treasure Hunt and they have agreed the date.

**CA Tournaments:** Dates for the CA tournaments were agreed.

The C-level will be changed to the end of June and the High Bisquers to September. If the Midsummer Tournament in July is oversubscribed then JH proposed to favour those who have entered both the Handicap and Level events.

The Golf Croquet event allocation date is 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

The B-Level Association allocation date will be changed to mid April.

PN proposed that the fees for the C-level tournament should remain the same.

**Internal Tournaments:**

Tournament descriptions do not need to be changed for the coming season.

**PH** will verify dates.

**Membership Renewal:** Paperwork is in hand and will include a sheet for applying for CA membership.

**CA Survey:** The survey received from the CA, which they are very anxious to promote, will be forwarded to all members by **PH**.

**Chairman's Matters.**

Thanks were extended to Richard Thurlow for all his work on press reports.

**PN, AT, and RT** intend to put down paving in front of hut 4, and between lawns 2 and 3 during the winter. The Dwerryhouse needs replacing.

**PN** will approach Paul Griew about funds.

Members were asked to let PN know of any ideas for refurbishing the clubhouse.

#### **Individual Committee Members Reports;**

PH asked when we need to declare active membership numbers for the CA. PB said these are not yet required. As players who do not participate can be excluded a tentative figure of 112-114 was proposed.

JS has been asked to participate in a group looking into a more automated way of making payments, eg. using a top-up card account.

**JH** asked if an advert for the High Bisquers tournament should be put in the Swan magazine. This was agreed but she will look at the price before committing to it.

SP was asked to take over looking after the booking sheets. He thought they should all be on-line, as did others, but PN has raised this several times and there have always been objections from some members.

#### **AOB:**

A letter has been received from Helen Pryor and Anne Reece about the content of lunches provided for matches particularly the balance of savoury and sweet items. It was agreed that more salad would be nice.

PN will talk to Gill about what she could provide for the same price.

#### **Date of Next Meetings:**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm at 92, Peaslands Road.

## **MINUTES OF CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017 2:00pm at 92, Peaslands Road.**

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Andrew Thomas, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball, Julie Sorrell, Steve Pearson,

**Apologies for Absence:** Pam Bowra, Julie Horsley, Richard Thurlow.

**Minutes of the meeting held on November 6<sup>th</sup>:** Were signed by the chairman.

### **Matters Arising:**

PN reported that Richard Wood has entered two teams in the Parkstone league. There are now 8 teams in the league which allows for two blocks of 4.

**JH** will go ahead with the advert in the SWAN for the High Bisquers.

**GMC feedback:** The membership fees will increase by £3 to £174.

Colin Whitehall will be receiving a pay rise.

The drinks machine has not made so much profit this year.

PN notified the committee of the intention to level lawn 4 and replace the Dwerryhouse.

There were a variety of ideas about the refurbishment of the clubhouse.

A subcommittee to address this will be set up in the new year.

Neil Gamble said that an ECB report has been sent to EDDC about the safety netting around the pitch.

**SW Federation AGM: feedback:** PH gave his report from this AGM held on November 19<sup>th</sup> as follows: The important points affecting us are:

The financial position of the SWF is good so there will be no increase in fees or in SWAN advert costs.

There should be a new SW Federation website by next season.

The deadline for SWAN adverts, articles and contact changes is 1<sup>st</sup> Feb. 2018.

During the season any updates to the SWAN are issued by e-mail called CYGNET

In 2019 a club will not be able to enter a team in the SW Federation leagues unless they have a club handicapper. So next year (2018) there will be two handicapper courses, (one in the South and one in the North), to enable clubs which do not have a handicapper to send a person to be trained for that role.

National Croquet Day next year is Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May.

Regarding the two SWF Golf League Rules resolutions:

The resolution from Bath to allow one player of handicap 11 or 12 to play was passed. Sidmouth was the only club to vote against this.

The resolution from Nailsea to reduce games to 17 was defeated, so 20 golf games per match will continue to be played.

### **2018 Documents: Programme: confirmation of dates:**

The One-ball tournaments have had to be moved back to June 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> to avoid clashing with a golf tournament at Budleigh.

The golf sessions on Sunday mornings will not be in the programme. The question of how to include more competitive games in the roll-ups was discussed again.

The end of season tidy-up has been removed from the programme as October may not be the end of the season next year. A tidy-up will have to take place at some time, to be advertised as and when.

Colin Whitehall has expressed his unease about lawns being used during the winter as he needs time to scarify and seed them.

**PN** will get in touch with Richard at Budleigh to discuss the schedule that he uses.

**Membership Renewal: CA membership:** The document prepared to inform all members of their membership of the CA and ask for their decision on sharing their details was approved and will be sent out with the membership renewal document.

**Christmas lunch arrangements:** 67 members will be attending.

**JS** will print out the table plan and arrange the raffle prizes.

**SP** and **PB** volunteered to sell raffle tickets with their wives.

Drinks will be available from the bar.

**PN** will give a short talk during coffee.

There was a discussion about whether the Xmas lunch could be catered for in the clubhouse but owing to the large numbers involved it was decided that **JS** will rebook the Bedford for next year.

**Winter talk arrangements:**

Hilary Drew is happy with the time of the talk.

**PN** will not be there so someone else will need to thank the speaker.

**Chairman's Matters:** none

**Individual Committee Members Reports.**

**AT** reported that 10 green chairs from hut 3 have disappeared. It is likely that someone has borrowed them and they will be returned.

There is a leak in the water system in the box by the dustbins. It needs a new filter and heater. Colin Whitehall will attend to this.

**SP** has talked to Sue Dent about the booking sheets and will meet up with her in the New Year.

**PB** has received the money for the shirts from **PN**. There are a few left. There will be £200 of sponsorship for next season. Consideration will be given over what to do with it.

**AOB:** none

**Date of Next Meeting:** Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 2:00pm at 92 Peaslands Rd.

## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

**Friday 12th January 2018 2:00pm at 92, Peaslands Road.**

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Penny Ball, Julie Sorrell, Richard Thurlow, Andrew Thomas

**Apologies for Absence:** Pam Bowra, Paul Bradley, Julie Horsley, Steve Pearson.

**Minutes of the meeting held on December 8<sup>th</sup>:** A slight correction was made to the item about sponsorship money.

### **Matters Arising:**

The advert for the High Bisquers tournament has been sent to the Swan. JH has asked PB to add the cost of £12 to our SW Federation subscription.

The Xmas lunch arrangements all went according to plan.

**CA tournaments bid:** It was agreed that no bid will be made for 2020.

**PJB** will confirm with Liz Larsson that we still plan to host the Presidents Cup in 2019.

### **2018 Membership Renewal: CA membership:**

An e-mail has been received from the CA about inputting member's data. PH reported that forms have been received from 15 members, 6 of whom did not want to join the CA. Data will not be input until the majority have been received.

**PJB** will inform the CA of this.

### **Forthcoming events: Winter talk: Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>:**

PAM will be asked to introduce the speaker as she is her friend. PN will be away so someone else will be asked to give a vote of thanks. There will be a £2 entry charge. **PJB** volunteered to collect the money at the door.

**Quiz and tea: March 14<sup>th</sup>:** Roger Hendy is unable to set the quiz so **PN** will do so. He asked for any ideas for a theme to be sent to him.

**JS** will contact Jill about the tea. Unfortunately, this event clashes with an SVA talk so it was decided to change the date to 15<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm. An e-mail will go out to all members nearer the time.

### **Taster session: publicity, coaching, booklets:**

**PN** will ask Colin Walls if he is willing to run the introductory coaching sessions. Colin also usually supplies flyers to go in the library. The banner will be located and put up on the fence.

**PB** will check the numbers of 'Know the Game' booklets as more may need to be ordered from the CA. Sue Dent may have some.

**Chairman's Matters:** Neil Gamble supports the idea of winter croquet on two lawns. The state of the lawns would have to be checked every day and Colin Whitehall would like a written protocol.

**PN** said he would have a go at writing one. There is a second hand verticutter coming. **AT** has been asked to find a buyer for the old one.

Colin Walls would like some players to go on a coaching course to become grade 1 coaches, being run by Dave Kibble at Budleigh on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. RT and AT expressed an interest.

Association team training evenings last season were deemed a success and will be repeated next season.

The corner of lawn 4 needs repair but C. Whitehall thinks this is not an in-house job. RT asked if the lawn could be re-laid. It will be considered at the end of the season.

There has been a meeting about the clubhouse upgrade in which some changes have been agreed, namely: ripping up the carpets and treating the floorboards, getting new furniture for the dining area, tidying – up the pictures, changing the lighting, extending the bar, fitting double glazing. Quotes will be sought. The work is due to commence winter 2018/19.

Some members have complained about aspects of the Xmas dinner at the Bedford. Most people thought it was fine considering what a lot of diners there were.

PN spoke to Jill Hodge about maybe hosting the dinner in the clubhouse. She could cater for 60 people, offering three options for each course for £18. However it was felt that going to the Bedford made it more of a special occasion. So our booking for next year will be held, especially as suitable Xmas dates at other venues will be already taken. **PN** and **JS** will talk to Jill again.

### **Individual Committee Members Reports.**

RT asked again about non-team members being invited to the Tuesday Golf training sessions to play competitive games as this is still not happening.

There will be a golf meeting for prospective team players on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb.

**PH** will contact Colin Walls about changing the code on the booking site from 'Team Practise' to Competitive Golf'.

AT has obtained some free brick pavers but needs some volunteers to help dig before laying them. He also intends to replace the picket fence at the esplanade ends of the cricket pitch. PJB said that Rob Matthews would like to know when the fence will be down so that some cutting back can be done at the rear of the chairman's garden. **AT** will let him know.

PH reported that the updating of the honours boards is in hand.

Richard Wood has sent PH the SW Federation match dates and will send it in to the Federation. Colin Walls will need a copy.

**PH** will e-mail him and SP a copy for updating the booking sheets.

**PJB** will put the home matches in the club diary and send the programme and match fixtures to John Goodwin for inclusion in the club booklet in due course.

PJB asked about the fees for the SW Fed. These are being dealt with by PB.

JH sent a message saying she had received confirmation from John Grimshaw that there will now be a fifth division in the short croquet, both at Camerton and Peasedown on 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> April and at Budleigh on 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October, the fifth division playing on the Friday. This means that we have confirmation that there are two teams for April and three teams for October.

**AOB:** RT asked if we want to publicise events at the Budleigh club.

**PH** will construct a list of CA sponsored tournaments at Budleigh and Sidmouth.

**Dates of Next Meetings:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 2:00 pm at 92 Peaslands Road.

## **MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 2:00pm at 92, Peaslands Road.**

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Andrew Thomas, Philip Harris, Paul Bradley, Julie Sorrell, Julie Horsley, Penny Ball, Pam Bowra, Steve Pearson.

**Apologies for Absence:** Richard Thurlow

**Minutes of the meeting held on January 12<sup>th</sup>:** were signed by the chairman.

### **Matters Arising:**

Colin Walls is happy to coach the new members this season but would like to be replaced next year.

The winter talk went well. £50 was given to Hilary for the Prostate Cancer charity.

Simon Card may be available to give a talk next year on the Devon Air Ambulance.

PB will order another 20 'Know the Game' booklets.

The GMC has agreed in principle to lawns being open for winter croquet.

It has been suggested that we should meet in the clubhouse for drinks before lunch at the Bedford next Xmas.

The designation on the booking forms for Tuesday's golf team practise will not be changed following discussion with team members.

PH has sent the Budleigh tournament dates to interested members and put up a notice in the mallet room.

### **CA membership, subs and entries.**

Documents received from the CA by PJB were distributed:

The subscription form was taken by PB. It was agreed that the number of playing members at Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 was 112.

Levy forms for our CA tournaments were taken by JH.

Information about the grass roots Golf tournament were given to PAM.

Entry forms for the All England tournaments will be put up in the mallet room with a notice at the beginning of the season by **PJB**.

Subscriptions have been received from 62 members so far of which 35 wished to join the CA as standard members. Their data has been uploaded to the CA and can be added to when there are further replies.

### **Forthcoming events:**

**Quiz and tea: March 15<sup>th</sup>:** PN has set the quiz but will probably remove some of the more difficult questions. PH has sent out an e-mail to members informing them of the changed date. JS will only be able to attend at the beginning and will need to know the numbers attending and receive payment of £4 per head.

**JS** will draft an e-mail to be sent out. She will also contact Jill about catering.

**Spring Lunch March 31<sup>st</sup>: Documents:** The committee looked through the New Seasons Information document and noted changes which will be made by **PJB**.

Any further changes required should be communicated to her.

**PN** will consider writing a Spring newsletter.

**PH** will update the membership list as subscriptions come in.



**JS** will choose the colour for the participation cards and print 130.

C. Walls usually supplies the pin numbers.

**JS** will liaise with Jill about the menu and arrange the sale of tickets.

**Taster session: April 7<sup>th</sup>: publicity, coaching schedule and fee, booklets.**

**PN** will check with C. Walls to see if he has flyers. The banner will be put up.

**PB** will get the booklets. C. Walls usually sets the coaching session dates.

**Association skills for golf croquet players:** RT sent a message offering to run sessions for teaching association skills to golf players. JH suggested that a notice to gauge interest should be put up first before fixing a date. This was agreed.

#### **Chairman's Matters:**

Julie Claydon has requested help with the Good Friday coffee morning to run stalls or make cakes.

**PN** will not be available for the High Bisquer's Tournament in September so needs someone else to manage it.

**PN** feels that there should be more golf team managers and that golf teams for matches should be selected at the beginning of the season.

**PAM** will bring this up at their social evening.

#### **Individual Committee Members Reports:**

**PH** has received 17 internal tournament forms so far.

**SP** has sent a letter to committee members about competitive golf play for non-team members. He feels that they should not be invited to team practices but that players at roll-ups should be divided at 11am into those who want to play competitively and those who do not, for the rest of the session. This will give them a chance to learn tactics and improve skills. Players who show promise and are keen could then be invited to team practices.

**PAM and PH** will talk to Gabby about this.

**JH** updated the committee on the number of entries for our CA tournaments so far:

9 for the Golf Tournament, 18 for the level play section of the Summer Tournament and 13 for the Handicap section, 8 for the C-level and 10 for the B-level.

**PB** asked how many golf croquet booklets were required. **PAM** agreed that 10 would be sufficient. Mileage payments for away matches will remain the same. Team captains must get match fees from players and give them to **PB**.

**PH** suggested that **PB** should e-mail team captains about this when they have been selected.

**AT** Pointed out that the new verti-cutter is only for use on the cricket pitch.

**PJB** brought the notice of club coaches which needs updating. This will have to be done after the coach's course.

**AOB:** **PN** reported that a team of 4 to 8 players is needed to play in Vienna on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> September. The return match against Dublin will be in late Sept/early Oct.

Delegates are needed for the SWF Handicapping workshop in Budleigh on 18<sup>th</sup> March. **PH** will bring it up at the Golf meeting. The entry form must be received by March 5<sup>th</sup>.

The CA sent a survey form for the club to fill in. **PH** had begun this. **PN** took it away to be completed.

**Dates of Next Meetings:** Monday March 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm 92, Peaslands Rd.

## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

**Monday March 12<sup>th</sup> 2018 2:00pm at 92, Peaslands Road.**

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Pam Bowra, Julie Horsley, Richard Thurlow, Julie Sorrell, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball.

**Apologies for Absence:** Steve Pearson, Andrew Thomas.

**Minutes of the meeting held on February 16<sup>th</sup>** were signed by the chairman.

**Matters Arising:** The notice about the All England Tournaments will be put up at the beginning of the season. JH suggested that a notice should be put up asking for those interested, at the end of this season ready for next year's tournament so as to meet the closing date.

PN and JS have talked to Gill about the catering for match lunches and teas. The provision of salads and fruit would bring the cost up to £6.50 per head, but can be done if notice is given to JS ahead of the match.

**PN** will tell Helen about this arrangement. The Pryors are not going to organise the golf matches after this season. New managers will be needed for the teams.

**PAM** will ask Helen if she still intends to organise the CA Open Golf croquet in 2019. PAM and PB have talked to Gabby about the golf club sessions and the plan to play competitive 13-point games after the first hour of social games. She has agreed to this reorganisation.

**PB** will e-mail the team managers about travel and match fees now they are known: Richard Wood for the Parkstone A team, Mike Taylor for the Parkstone B team, Philip Harris for the Federation, Richard Thurlow for the Intermediates and Pam Bowra for the B team. Graeme Pryor runs the level golf teams and Helen Pryor the handicap golf.

PN confirmed that the Vienna tournament will be 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> September and the home matches against Dublin will be 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> October.

**Membership update:** There have been 96 renewals so far with more expected. 14 of the 16 new members have re-joined. The details of 67 members have been sent to the CA website, 27 premium and 40 standard members. There should be 112 playing members by the beginning of the season. More data for the CA has been sent to PJB for Jon to input. This is almost complete.

### **Forthcoming events:**

**Quiz and tea: March 15<sup>th</sup>:** PN has prepared the quiz. JS reported that so far 30 members will be attending.

### **Spring Lunch March 31<sup>st</sup>: Documents:**

**New Seasons Information:** details of the new format of the golf sessions have been included. PAM has written an additional letter about this which will be included in the Spring mailout.

**Spring Newsletter:** PN has written his contribution to the newsletter and sent it to Helen Pryor.

**Fixtures Booklet:** PJB has updated the information for the fixtures booklet and sent it to John Goodwin.

**Membership list:** PH will send this to PJB when the numbers are finalised.

**Pin numbers:** PJB will contact Colin Walls about providing these.

**PJB** will check with Helen Pryor that there are enough envelopes and paper for the mailout and do the photocopying.

**Arrangements:** JS is collecting bookings for the lunch.

There will be demonstration games beforehand at 11am Association doubles and golf. **PAM** will organise the golf game with Gabby.

**Taster session: April 7<sup>th</sup>:** It will take place 10am to 12 noon.

Helpers are needed. There have been some volunteers.

Notices and a banner will be put up.

Emma Donovan runs a website called 'What's On?' **RT** will look into this and put something in the Herald.

**PN** will give an introductory talk to participants at 10:00.

**Coaching schedule:** Colin Walls has suggested dates and times between the 17<sup>th</sup> April and 10<sup>th</sup> May on Tues. 10:30, Wed. 13:30, Thu 16:30. He will meet with helpers after the Spring Lunch to finalise availability.

**RT** feels that the coaching moves too rapidly into association skills which some new players find too complicated and off-putting. It was suggested that participants should be asked after 2 sessions if they want to learn association skills and the group could then be split in two. **PN** will talk to Colin about this suggestion.

There is an intention to provide some sessions in the middle of the season to teach association skills to golf players.

**Coaching Fee:** This will be £15. **PB** will collect the money and bring the booklets.

**Coaching course 4<sup>th</sup> April:** 4 members are going on this course. The club will meet the cost but **PH** will find out if some funds can be provided by the CA or the SW Fed.

**Arrangements for start of season:** Towels have been washed and returned to the huts. Some more notices need to be put up and boxes for participation cards.

**PJB** will contact **SP** about the booking sheets.

Lawn 2 will be set up as half lawns until the end of May, apart from during the Golf tournament. New boundary boards are due to be fitted on lawn 2.

**PJB** will update the coaches notice after the next meeting when we may have some new names to add.

### **Chairman's Matters:**

**PN** and **AT** have done some excavating by hut 3 ready for brick paviours. There will be a place for a barbecue. There will be slabs in front of hut 4 as well. Association team training will take place on Wednesday evenings as per last season. **PN** asked whether the committee should schedule a second croquet and buffet event after the success of the September event last season. It was agreed that we should wait to see how the June event goes first.

### **Individual Committee Members Reports:**

**PAM** reported on the golf get-together. It was agreed that team selection would take place at the beginning of the season to allow match dates to be reserved.

**PAM** confirmed the ongoing agreement with the Bedford car park owner that visiting team players could have a reduced charge of £6 provided that they were wearing whites and that the car park owner had been informed a week before the event. Team managers will be reminded of this requirement.

**PH** reported 30 internal tournament entries. Richard Wood has received availability information from his team members. Other managers will put up notices. **RT** said he will recruit people for the Intermediate team.

**JH** reported on CA tournament entries. The Open Golf is fully subscribed.

The June Midsummer tournament is oversubscribed by a couple.

The C-level has 9 entries and the B-level 13.

There is an update to CA tournament regulations on the website.

PAM has offered to help at the high bisquers tournament.

The Short Croquet tournament has had some responses but more players are needed.

**RT** said he will put up notices for the Taster day and will write a newspaper report for the beginning of the season. He said he doesn't have the knowledge to update the website but that he and PN will meet with Colin Walls about it.

PB has bought 10 'Know the Game' booklets. He has received the whist takings of £66-39 which is up on last year.

JS reminded members to bring raffle prizes to the Spring Lunch.

**AOB:** Paul Griew has set up a group to consider a club finance computing system. JS will represent the croquet club on this group. She will need to take information about our current financial processes. The plan is to make a homogenous system across all sections of the club. JS asked PH for headings under which we can capture data.

JH said that on-line booking for tournaments was coming in along with on-line payments. This will do away with levy forms.

RT Is concerned that AT does a lot of work to get the lawns ready for matches and tournaments and could do with more help and someone to take more of the responsibility. JH suggested a team of helpers.

**Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2pm at 92, Peaslands Rd.**

## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday April 12<sup>th</sup> 2018 2:00pm at 92, Peaslands Road.

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Steve Pearson, Paul Bradley, Richard Thurlow, Julie Horsley, Pam Bowra, Penny Ball, Andrew Thomas.

**Apologies for Absence:** Julie Sorrell, Philip Harris.

**Minutes of the meeting held on March 12<sup>th</sup>:** Were signed by the chairman.

### **Matters Arising:**

PN has spoken to Helen Pryor about the cost of an altered lunch menu for matches. She has not responded.

The brick pavements outside hut 3 look very good.

PN and RT talked to Colin Walls about the website and about offering new members the choice of whether to learn association skills or not. He agreed to that.

**Feedback from Taster Session:** 11 people attended and enjoyed it. 2 more were away but may come later. Coaching has been arranged by Colin Walls. 6 people have signed up so far with a probable 2 more. C. Walls has arranged a schedule of helpers for the coaching sessions.

**Feedback from coaching course and update of notice:** It was felt that the agenda was too long and more time for practical exercises would have been good.

AT and Jane Babbage are now club coaches. PN and C. Walls are grade 1 coaches.

**PJB** will update the notice to go up in the mallet room and hut 3.

**Fixtures booklet:** **PJB** has noticed some errors in the dates of matches in the CCT club fixtures booklet. She will alert the team managers to these in case they cause confusion. There are also some home matches missing from the programme on the website after June 12<sup>th</sup>. She will ask C. Walls about this.

**CA Short Croquet Interclub Competition:** JH reported that the deadline for entry has been extended to 30<sup>th</sup> April. She has e-mailed the CA to ask for more details. It was felt that we should not enter a team this year but observe how it goes and reconsider early next season.

### **Forthcoming events:**

**Refresher Day:** Was cancelled due to sodden lawns. This has been rescheduled for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April.

**SP** will run the golf session in the morning as a trial of the new format for roll-ups

**PN** will send an e-mail via PH to inform members and will run the association afternoon. **RT** suggested also informing members that there will be an 'Introduction to Association Skills' for golf players on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April in the afternoon. He is happy to run it on one lawn.

JH asked that players should be reminded of the rules of etiquette when double banking.

**Charity One-Ball: 19<sup>th</sup> April:** will be run by Mike Taylor. PH has given him the necessary paperwork and **JH** will make sure he has all the details. There are 25 entries.

**CA Open Golf 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> April:** There are 16 entries only one of which is a home player. Helen Pryor will be running it.

### **Visiting Medics 17<sup>th</sup> May:**

**PAM** will check with Gabby that she has a team.

**PJB** will contact the medics to find out how many are coming and inform Gabby. They usually bring their own food and drink.

**Short Croquet Tournament 18th May:** There are 22 entries so 6 half lawns will be needed, i.e. lawns 2,3 and 4. **JH** offered to run it if PH is not well enough.

### **Chairman's Matters.**

PN has received an e-mail from C. Walls saying there has been a problem with some servers reaching the website. He is willing to making changes to the website.

An e-mail has been received asking if some tennis players can use the croquet table tennis table when it is not in use by croquet players as theirs is in a poor state and there is insufficient space to store it. **PAM** will ask Gabby if she is happy about this. Michael Cunliffe has offered his table to the club.

The Dublin team want to change their visit date to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> October. This shouldn't be a problem so late in the season.

The gents' toilet in the clubhouse is to be upgraded and a disabled toilet installed. The ladies' toilet will be upgraded in due course.

From the first of April there will be a reduction the price of on drinks at the bar for members. Members unknown to Julie may need to show their membership card.

Esme Owen's daughter Rosemary Maguire has donated £1000 in her memory to be used for a project. It is proposed to replace the hut on lawn one currently known as the Dwerryhouse. There will be a plaque commemorating both donors.

### **Individual Committee Members Reports.**

AT asked if we can buy another swish. The cheapest is £59 but a good one costs £110. PN proposed that we buy the latter.

SP has put the booking forms in place. He plans to have 6 weeks of sheets at a time in the mallet room.

JH reported that the June CA tournament is fully subscribed as well as the B-level. There are 10 entries for the C-level so room for more.

PB reported that military whist over the winter raised £66.39, and table tennis £141.50. Money from canasta is still in the biscuit tin.

PH sent a message that there are now 118 members, 112 playing, as one who joined has dropped out.

PJB has put a note on the box for participation cards informing members that 12 attendances are now required as the lawns will be open longer.

JS has amended the cards for any new members.

**AOB:** none.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 9am at 92 Peaslands Road.

## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 9:00am at 92, Peaslands Road.

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Pam Bowra, Andrew Thomas, Julie Horsley, Julie Sorrell, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball, Steve Pearson.

**Apologies for Absence:** Richard Thurlow.

**Minutes of the meeting held on April 12<sup>th</sup>:** were signed by the chairman.

**Matters Arising:** The coaches notice has been updated.

PN and C. Walls are now on the CA website as coaches.

The new format golf roll-up was very popular. So many people wanted to play competitive games that there was a shortage of lawns and balls. There were fewer at the Monday session so more manageable.

**PN** will send out emails about Wed. evening coaching sessions and would like feedback on numbers planning to attend.

C. Walls has made some alterations to the website.

Neil Gamble has asked Gabby to change the table tennis sessions to a Tuesday but she is not keen. Michael Cunliffe's table is not full size so will not be useful as a replacement. It was suggested that the club should buy a table to be shared by all sections.

**New members: feedback from coaching:** 11 potential members attended coaching. They will be given their application forms tomorrow and Wednesday. The coaching sessions went well thanks to Colin's organisation.

**Feedback from Open Golf Tournament:** This was very successful and much appreciated by the competitors. Thanks are extended to all who helped. This event is a qualifier for the Ascot cup.

### **Forthcoming events:**

**Visiting Medics 17<sup>th</sup> May:** PJB has given a list of participants to Gabby. There are 11 visitors this year. PAM reported that the team is organised.

**Short Croquet tournament 18<sup>th</sup> May:** There are 20 entries. PH will run it but would appreciate some help with future tournaments.

**SP** offered to help with the golf tournament on 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> June.

**New members welcome evening 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** More participation cards are required. **JS** will provide these. **PH** will update the membership list when new members apply. The bar will open at 5:30pm. Committee members were urged to attend to welcome new members.

**CA Midsummer tournament 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June:** This is full. There are three Sidmouth players on the waiting list. There will be dinner at the Bedford on the Saturday night. **PN** will warn the hotel but not book numbers. Help is needed with serving coffee during matches. There were some offers of help which **JS** will coordinate.

**Walking Treasure Hunt:** June 12<sup>th</sup>: **PJB** will phone the Laidlers to find out details for the poster

**Chairman's Matters:** The lawns are not brilliant at the moment. AT said that Shaldon cricket club have a better mower for sale. It is very big so storage may be a problem. There were various suggestions about where it could go including whether there is room for a new shed. **AT** will follow this up.

There are 8 or 9 sponsored shirts remaining at £10 each.

There is still £200 sponsorship money remaining. PN will get a price list of other clothing items which could carry the logo. It was suggested that samples of items could be displayed in the mallet room or hut 3.

### **Individual Committee Members Reports:**

AT reported that we have a new swish. It was suggested that it should be left where it is obvious for players to use. JS suggested leaving it near the balls in hut 3. AT asked **PH** to make a new sign about use of the swish. PN said AT should have more help with hoop setting. PAM volunteered Rob Bayliss.

SP is on holiday 5<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> June so will not attend the next meeting His wife Jane will do the booking sheets.

JH reported that the B level CA tournament is full with 2 reserves. Some may have to withdraw if their handicaps get too low. There are 12 entries for the C –level so room for more. There are only 3 entries for the high bisquers tournament. There generally seems to be difficulty getting people to play away from their own clubs.

JS reported that the biscuits are disappearing at a great rate.

PB is pleased that the system he set up for team captains to send in match fees is working well. It would be desirable for members to be able to find out if the lawns are closed. This information is available via the on-line booking system. It was suggested that next year all lawns should be bookable electronically.

Mike Taylor would like to use position mats for training purposes. The cricket club has these. **AT** will ask if we can have access to them.

**AOB:** PH reported that David Scrace has asked about having a vicar's croquet afternoon. He suggested a Monday pm so PH has booked lawns 2, 3 and 4 for 18<sup>th</sup> June. There will be a maximum of 24 players and the cost will be £10 per lawn, in line with what the visiting medics are charged. It may be necessary to increase the price next year. **PH** will help and Roy Hubbard will be asked as well.

Lionel Stock's handicap has been reduced to 16 by his other club but as he was an 18 when he entered the Devonian he will be allowed to play but with less bisques.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 2:00pm at 92 Peaslands Rd.



## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

**Monday June 11<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 2:00pm at 92, Peaslands Road.**

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Julie Sorrell, Paul Bradley, Pam Bowra, Richard Thurlow, Philip Harris, Andrew Thomas, Julie Horsley, Penny Ball

**Apologies for Absence:** Steve Pearson.

**Minutes of the meeting held on May 9<sup>th</sup>** were signed by the chairman.

**Matters Arising:** The new swish has been bought. There were not many new members at the welcome evening but they seemed to enjoy their introduction to several committee members.

**Feedback from CA Midsummer Tournament:** Everyone seemed to enjoy the event. There were the usual compliments and only one complaint about the hoops on lawn 3 which was unjustified. Thanks to JH for running it and to JS for organising refreshments. It was decided that at future events a jug of cold water should be provided for lawn 1.

### **Forthcoming Events:**

**14 point Handicap Tournament 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> June:** There are only 4 entrants left in the high handicap competition. The low handicap event has 8 entrants.

**Association One –Ball 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> June:** There are 8 high handicap players for this competition and 14 low handicap.

**Wine and Shared Buffet 26<sup>th</sup> June:** RT has put up the posters and printed the tickets. An e-mail has gone out to members. **RT, JS** and **PAM** will be selling tickets. **PN** will prepare a quiz in case the weather is inclement.

**CA C-level Tournament 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> July:** There are 12 entries. **PN** will be running this tournament.

**Skills afternoon and tea: 11<sup>th</sup> July:** **PH** will arrange for a golf skills competition as well as association. John Dixon will be asked to do the scoring. **JS** will print tickets for tea.

**Handicap Doubles 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> July:** There are 22 entries for this with three games taking place on each day. **PH** will match up low handicap with high handicap players.

### **Chairman's Matters:**

At the GMC meeting John Goodwin stepped down from his role as chairman of grounds and clubhouse. **AT** has agreed to take over this role. This means that he will step down as grounds rep for the croquet club. It was agreed that a team of people will be sought to deal with hoop setting.

**AT** will put up a list of recruits and appoint a manager.

### **Individual Committee Members Reports:**

**PJB** reported that 4 members of Malden croquet club would like to visit on June 13<sup>th</sup>. **PAM** has arranged with Gabby for them to take part in the golf roll-up at a cost of £3 per person.

**Simon Card** has offered to talk about the Devon Air Ambulance in January. He has to be formally invited. **JS** will arrange this.

**PJB** suggested that the Laidlers be given a bottle of wine in thanks for the treasure hunt. **JS** has one and will give it to them in the restaurant.

There was a discussion about the suggested donation for coffee. It was felt that it should stay at 20p but that members should be reminded to pay and to wash their cups in hot water. **JS** will also put up a notice reminding members to check the date on the milk and use it in date order.

JH pointed out that it is up to all members to check their handicap on the CA website.

AT reported that Chris Donovan has provided a new clock for hut 3. The new mower from Shaldon cricket club is arriving next week.

**AT** will make the decision about whether it is worth having. It will be stored under a cover next to hut 3 for now. More storage space is needed. AT suggested behind the practise nets would be a good location. The netting round the cricket pitch is to be raised 6m. They are still waiting for the planners to decide about the sea side boundary.

3 mallets have been donated by Esme's family as well as the £1000 bequest. This has been ring-fenced for the croquet club.

PH reported that 103 members have agreed to further contact by e-mail. There are 10 non e-mail users. Marian will write letters to these.

PAM said many players are interested in the golf roll-up competitive sessions. Some would be good team players as there is some difficulty populating teams.

It was suggested that St. George's day (April 23<sup>rd</sup>) might be a good day to have some kind of competition.

RT asked if the heavy wooden chairs in hut 3 should be kept outside as he had hurt his back lifting them. AT suggested getting rid of the old white ones so there is more room inside for the wooden ones to be more easily accessed.

RT suggested again that we have an evening to learn other forms of croquet to get golf players involved e.g. 'Ricochet'. Thursday evening might be appropriate.

JH reported only 6 entries for the High-Bisquers so far, but increasing.

We need to discuss CA tournament dates before September.

**AOB:** There are not many new members for the new members' tournament.

**Date of next Meeting:** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August at 09:30 at 92 Peaslands Rd.

## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday August 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 9:30am at 92, Peaslands Road.

**Apologies for Absence:** Richard Thurlow

**Minutes of the meeting held on June 11<sup>th</sup>:** Were signed by the chairman.

**Matters Arising:** Rob Matthews is running the hoop setting rota for now.

**JS** will organise the Air Ambulance talk for January. The entrance fee will go to the Air ambulance.

Colin Whitehall says he hasn't had time to go and see the Shaldon cricket club mower. The proposed removable netting for the sea side of the cricket pitch can be rolled into trolleys and will have 6 metre poles.

### **Feedback from recent events:**

The C-level tournament was well attended and enjoyed. There were only 3 local players. There were only 4 in the association 14-point handicap tournament.

JH said that low handicap players are not keen to play the 14-point game because of the potential 10 handicap point loss.

**PN** will discuss whether more golf events might be desirable, for instance do we need a national C-level golf tournament? PH said these are not well attended at other clubs.

The skills afternoon was very well attended by both association and golf players.

The wine and buffet was a great success thanks to RT (and Maureen) and JS.

PH thanked SP for running golf events.

### **Forthcoming events:**

**B-Level CA tournament: 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> August:** This has a full entry. It is level play handicaps 2 to 8. It will be managed by **JH**. **JS** will be organising coffee and tea.

**-Golf handicap doubles and level doubles 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> August:** There are 28 entries for the handicap and 10 for the level play event.

**-High –Bisquers SW association tournament 8<sup>th</sup> Sept.:** There are only 8 entries this year. There were doubts expressed about running it next year. **JH** will be managing it.

**Golf croquet ladder:** Ed Dolphin and Jane Morrish have proposed running a ladder and will set it up for this season. **PH** will liaise with them about it. Players may challenge any player within 3 positions of them. There will be just 1 game per match in which case lawn 4 should be booked for 1.5 hours. The committee agreed that these games should count towards a player's handicap. Ed Dolphin is preparing rules document. There will be no trophy this year.

### **On-line booking of CA Tournaments.**

JH has put some questions to Mark Suter about this regarding how payments will be made and refunded when players withdraw. She has received a reply but it remains to be seen how things will work out next season.

### **Topics for discussion at SWF AGM:**

None were proposed. Helen Pryor might like to go to the meeting but if not **PN** or **PH** would be willing to attend.

**Chairman's Matters:** The committee discussed who should present the trophies at the AGM. It was agreed to ask Barbara and David Clarke.

**PN** thanked all those who had helped with the car parking during Folk Week.

A record amount of money was raised. There were also good bar takings.

Lawn 4 needs levelling but only one corner is affected. PN thought it could be done by the club but RT had suggested getting a contractor to do the whole lot.

The groundsman wants a meeting to discuss a programme of lawn care for the winter with a view to keeping one lawn in use. There need to be rules for winter play e.g. no roll-ups, to reduce footfall.

**AT** will contact Rob Weeks at Budleigh and possibly collect Richard to come and have a look at our lawns to give some advice. AT thinks the top dressing applied every year is causing doming of the lawns. PN suggested hiring a hollow tiner.

SP suggested using the company Green Thumb'. The lawns need to be perfect for the President's Cup next year. The damage to lawn 2 was not repaired by Colin Whitehall but by members of the club. **PN** will speak to Neil Gamble about this.

Committee roles were discussed. PN is willing to remain as chairman if no one else will do it. AT wants to stand down. PH wants give up his responsibility for internal tournaments. SP said he would be willing to look after the golf tournaments. **PH** will send out an e-mail asking for members to join the committee. **PJB** will put up a notice prior to the AGM announcing the vacancies.

### **Individual Committee Members Reports.**

PAM suggested that the club should buy some timers for home matches as other clubs often provide these. JS said she has money from the coffee donations which would cover these. PB agreed this would be alright.

**JS** will discuss the AGM supper and Xmas menu at the next meeting.

SP brought up the subject of on-line lawn booking for next year. This will be discussed at the next meeting. He suggested that the heavy wooden garden chairs that are getting in the way in hut 3 should be sold. JS said she would have them.

PH: There was a Rotary club match in the evening with 15 players coming, for which he needed some volunteers. PB, AT and PAM said they would be there.

With reference to the internal tournament blocks: 80% of the golf matches have been played but only 60% of the association.

AT: There is no more room on the honours board. There is a spare board but no room to put it up in the clubhouse. The iron fencing on lawn 2 is corroded and considered a safety hazard. 3 companies are coming to give quotes. One of £9,000 has been received so far.

### **AOB:**

**PH** will send out a reminder about participation cards to all members.

Winter activities should be in the clubhouse diary already. There is still some controversy about the table tennis table. It was suggested that a new table should

be bought to replace the dilapidated ones and to be shared by all sections of the club

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 9:30am at 92, Peaslands.

## **MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 9:30am at 92, Peaslands Road.**

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Pam Bowra, Paul Bradley, Julie Horsley, Julie Sorrell, Steve Pearson, Penny Ball, Andrew Thomas.

**Apologies for Absence:** Richard Thurlow.

**Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> August:** were signed by the chairman.

**Matters Arising:** The golf croquet ladder is popular and going well.

PN has given authorisation for a hollow tiner to be purchased.

AT has had a meeting with Neil Gamble and Colin Whitehall over his resignation as club ground chairman but will not be changing his mind. He will try to resource a ride-on mower. Neil has advertised this post and that of club secretary as Helen Pryor is leaving the area.

PJB has put up the notices about the croquet club AGM and committee vacancies.

Booking will all be electronic from the start of next season.

### **Feedback from recent events:**

The Rotary club enjoyed their visit and will book lawns for next year.

**PB** will organise a taster session for Sidmouth and Sidvale Rotarians.

The High-Bisquers attracted only 3 players from outside the club out of a total of 8, one of which won. JH felt that there was a need for coaching on the sensible use of bisques. This tournament will not be run next year, ostensibly because of the President's Cup and the situation will be reviewed next year.

The B-level tournament went well and some complimentary e-mails were received from players after the event.

The golf croquet doubles tournament was also a success. It was felt that the golf ladder may encourage more players to enter competitions.

The trip to Vienna was enjoyable with PN doing particularly well.

**Next season's tournaments:** Dates for the CA tournaments have been discussed by PH and JH and dates agreed. The C-level will be earlier in the year on May 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>. It was thought that lawn closure before this event will not be necessary to avoid too many cancellations of golf roll-up sessions, which is unpopular.

The Haste Cup will need a new organiser in the absence of Helen Pryor.

PH has agreed to do this but needs help on the day. SP agreed to do this.

Roger Mills has reported that a very good golf croquet coach is coming to Budleigh next year. Dates for courses will follow.

**JH** will send Roger the dates of our golf tournaments.

Changes in handicap can now be reported to the CA so that they are correct for tournament entries. The member may do this themselves.

**PJB** has received an e-mail including instructions which will be sent to **PH** to send out to relevant members.

Kelvin Dent has suggested that an internal Intermediate tournament is held next season for e.g. handicaps 10 to 18. It was agreed that this should be a block tournament.

PH wants to move the internal tournaments to earlier in the year.

The short croquet tournament had 20 entries this year. Chris Donovan has offered to run it next year.

**SW Federation managers:**

Richard Wood will manage the first Parkstone team.

Jane Babbage will probably manage the second Parkstone team.

PH wants to give up managing the Federation team as he has a golf level team to run. JS volunteered to take over the Federation team.

RT wants to give up managing the Intermediate team. Kelvin Dent has volunteered to run the Intermediates.

PAM is willing to carry on managing the B-level association team.

SP will manage the golf croquet handicap teams, with PAM handling the SW golf handicap. PH will run the level golf team.

The names of the managers need to be settled by November 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Finals weekend:** Some players have already agreed times for their games.

Others need to be sorted out.

**PH** will send out the timetable of games to members.

Lawn 2 will have holes prepared for the short croquet final and for practise for the Budleigh tournament.

Three lawns will be needed for the match against Dublin the following week.

**AGM papers and arrangements:**

**PJB** will prepare a draft agenda for consideration at the next meeting.

**PB** will prepare a summary of finances for the AGM, and a treasurer's report.

**PN** will prepare a speech summarising the year.

Barbara Clarke has been asked to present trophies. If she is not well enough then Helen Pryor will be asked.

**Committee members for 2019:**

Notices have gone up showing vacancies to be filled.

**PH** will send an e-mail to all members about joining the committee.

**End of season arrangements:**

The tidy-up will be on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

There will be 2 lawns available for winter croquet until the end of December. After that there will be 1 lawn at the discretion of the groundsman.

There will be no roll-ups after the end of September. A maximum of 4 people may play at any one time. Golf croquet should start from corner 3 to reduce wear and tear at corner 4. No stop shots or jump shots will be permitted.

**PN** has prepared a document outlining the rules for winter play which will be sent out to members and notices put up.

JH suggested that there should be a sign-in book so as to monitor winter play.

Other winter activities have been advertised and dates set.

**PN** will e-mail John Coombes about winter walks.

**Chairman's Matters:** No additional matters were raised by the chairman.

**Individual Committee Members Reports:**

**AT** will ask Rob Weekes about advice on levelling lawn 4. He will stay on the committee to help with lawn matters but **PN** will negotiate with Colin Whitehall.

There needs to be a hoop-setting rota set up from the list of volunteers. **AT** will organise that.

**JS** has approached the Air Ambulance organisation about a talk. It may not be Simon Card who does it as talks are arranged on a rota basis. It was agreed that an afternoon talk would be better than an evening.

The AGM supper will be roast pork or lasagne at a price of £13. Tickets must be bought in advance.

The Xmas meal at the Bedford will cost £31.

**JH** reported changes to entries in the CA fixtures book. **PH** thought that our entry charges are too low and suggested raising them by £2.

**PB** asked **PN** to reconcile the takings from the sale of shirts.

CA membership fees will be based on 116 playing members when the form arrives. **PB** thanked the managers for the match fees.

He suggested that next time the Red Arrows come there should be a get-together outside hut 3 which affords a good view. He also suggested there should be a hat competition at the wine and buffet evening, having enjoyed Bridport Hat Festival.

There have been several pairs of visiting players recently. **SP** offered to play with the latest pair this weekend or direct them to the Sunday roll-up.

**PB** said that at times 3 sets of balls were required for roll-ups. **AT** could paint stripes on a set of old Barlow balls if necessary.

**SP** reported that at Monday and Wednesday golf roll-ups the more competitive players are not always able to play on lawn 1 and that this should be encouraged.

**PAM** said that Gabby does not want to join the club next season but is happy to organise roll-ups. **PH** suggested making her an honorary member.

**PAM** and **JH** think that lawn etiquette needs reinforcing. A quiet talk before roll-ups and also at the refresher session next season was suggested.

**PJB** reported that there are still many participation cards not completed.

**PH** has reminded many of them. **PJB** will put up a list of outstanding cards.

**PH** will review the tournament dates and clarify them with the new committee.

**AOB:** **AT** and **PN** will organise the new hut for lawn 1. There are more paviments available if needed.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 9:30, at 92, Peaslands.

## MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

### MONDAY OCTOBER 15th 2018 at 9:30 am at 92, PEASLANDS ROAD

**Present:** Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Julie Sorrell, Julie Horsley, Paul Bradley, Richard Thurlow, Pam Bowra, Steve Pearson, Andrew Thomas, Penny Ball.

**Apologies:** none

**Minutes of the meeting held on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>:** Some alterations needed to be made to the minutes so these will be signed at the next meeting.

#### **Matters Arising:**

**JH** will send the CA our programme of CA tournaments for the next season.

There will be a golf croquet referee and coaching course at Budleigh prior to the Haste cup in April which may be partially funded.

RT is to be replaced by Kelvin Dent as manager of the Intermediates.

Roy Hubbard has volunteered to manage the SE golf team for a year.

Winter play need not stop at 3:30pm while there is still sufficient light.

AT has met with Rob Weekes who suggested peeling back the lawn and putting down turf. However there is not much topsoil.

PN proposed hiring a dumpy leveller rather than an expensive laser leveller and doing the job on Thursday with help by RT.

PN has sold 1 more shirt so will reconcile the money soon.

73% of the participation cards are in so far.

**Feedback from recent events:** The finals weekend went well thanks to PH.

The Humphrey Hicks untimed final was a gruelling 10.5 hours long.

The visit by the Dublin team was good fun. We won 14-7 but they didn't bring the trophy back with them. The return match next season will be during the last week in May, just prior to the Dublin Open.

#### **AGM Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct.**

**minutes: PJB** will ask Colin Walls to put last year's minutes on the website.

**agenda:** The agenda was discussed and some changes made.

**PN** will check that Barbara Clarke is still willing to present the Association trophies. He will ask Helen Pryor to present the Golf trophies.

**JS** will buy flowers for both these ladies.

**reports: PN** requested all reports to go to him for the chairman's report.

JS reported that the coffee money is down despite the same consumption of coffee. **PN** will point out that drinks must be paid for in his speech.

**arrangements:** The AGM starts at 6pm. Committee members are expected to arrive at 5pm. The bar will be open.

**committee posts:** PH will be membership secretary.

AT has agreed to continue to supervise the grounds in the absence of a replacement.

David Scrace has offered to come onto the committee in an unspecified role. PB would like him to shadow the treasurer's role.

Chris Donovan will replace RT as publicity officer.



SP will take over from PAM as golf rep. as there is no 'booking sheets' post now the booking is electronic.

It was agreed that a signed copy of the minutes should be put up in the mallet room in future so members have a better idea of what is discussed at meetings. There is no need for it to be a signed copy, just a copy after the minutes have been signed.

#### **Winter activities:**

**winter lawn bookings:** Lawns are being booked, but some members are booking several at a time. PN has phoned to remind them that only one lawn may be booked at a time. The start time is 10:30am and the lawns must be swished before play. There seemed to be no reason why play could not continue until 4pm on light afternoons.

**walks:** John Coombes is willing to arrange these again but they will be on Tuesdays rather than Fridays. They will take place once a month. PAM asked that they could be timed to not clash with canasta which is fortnightly on a Tuesday.

**SWF AGM 18<sup>th</sup> Nov.:** PH and JH will be attending.

The proposals have not yet been received.

JH asked who is filling in the forms for the SW Federation. This should be Richard Wood.

#### **Christmas Lunch 12<sup>th</sup> Dec:**

**arrangements:** Tickets will be for sale at the AGM. It was agreed that there will be no raffle. JS gave out copies of the menu and will send them to PH to be sent out to members.

**paperwork:** The programme will be finalised at the next meeting. PH will prepare the membership application forms this year.

**Chairman's Matters:** The chairman reported on the GMC meeting. Refurbishment of the clubhouse will begin this winter.

The dining room will have a synthetic timber floor, and will be redecorated and the boards on the walls rearranged.

Funding for the replacement of the hut on lawn 1 has been approved.

RT offered to help put up the new one and paint the wall by the gentleman's club.

Plans for the netting along the cricket pitch have gone to the council for planning permission again.

Neil Gamble has asked Colin Whitehall to look for a second-hand greens mower.

#### **Individual committee member's reports:**

AT suggested that the hoops on lawn 3 and 4 should be brought in a metre for the winter. PH thought this would be a good idea. PN suggested that golf croquet players should start at corner 3 to avoid wear.

AT pointed out that the hoops had been shot-blasted and painted in 2013 and this needed to be done again. All agreed that this should be done.

JS suggested that there should be a gate in the fence on lawn 2 to allow quicker access to the public toilets. However the verge belongs to the council so planning permission would be required.

PB reported that there have been more visitors this season than previously, 32 in all at £5 per head or £3 for roll-ups.

He again asked for hoops on the cricket outfield during winter. PN will ask Colin Whitehall but thinks this is unlikely especially as we now have winter lawns open.

JH reported that the CA lawn hire rate for the Presidents Cup may go up. The current rate is something like £30+. It has been suggested that the rate should vary depending on whether the lawns are cut daily or every other day.

SP thinks there is a need for training for golf croquet captains.

**PAM** will ask Helen Pryor if she could do a session.

RT thanked everyone as he is leaving the committee.

PAM said that Gabby will be re-joining the club next season and helping at the golf roll-ups. She suggested a new etiquette document to be sent out with the spring mailing.

**PJB** will put a notice up about the All England tournaments as teams need to be entered early next season.

Our law books are out of date due to some minor changes. We have 6 unsold copies. We could sell them with an addendum. We will wait until March when the changes may all be made before ordering more.

**AOB:** Defibrillator courses are being run at present. PH has checked our first aid kits. We are missing a few things.

**JS** will check this and buy extras where needed.

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30am at 92, Peaslands Road.

## **MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION AGM**

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018 at 6:00**

**Present:** Approximately 60 of the members.

**Apologies:** Jon Ball, Sue Rogers, Monica Luck, Margaret and Edward Colman, Richard and Maureen Thurlow, John Coombes.

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Members were asked to stand in remembrance of those who have died during this season: Esme Owen, Barbara Jennings, Sheila Highieak, John Barford.

### **Minutes of AGM 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017:**

The chairman asked that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted.

There were no comments made about them. Acceptance was proposed by Chris Donovan and seconded by David Clarke.

### **Chairman's Report:**

The chairman reported on the year's activities, summarised as follows:

#### Membership.

There are 125 members, 10 of them new ones. This is about the right number of members considering lawn availability, match and tournament commitments.

Marian Harris was thanked for her work on Membership.

So far 91 participation cards have been received. The chairman stressed the importance of filling these in for the club finances.

#### Finances.

Income from subscriptions to the combined club was £58,000. Total expenditure was £126,000. Income from car-parking, bar profits, sponsorship, and donations made up the shortfall and produced a surplus of £7,000. Thanks were extended to all those who helped with car parking and supported the bar.

The croquet section income was £21,000 in subscriptions, £2,000 in tournament and competition entries, and a further £1,000 from winter activities, equipment sales, visitors' fees and match fee surplus. Club membership of the Croquet Association cost £1,300.

The treasurer provided copies of a breakdown of the croquet club finances for the attendees to appraise.

#### Match Results.

There were 8 teams in the south West Federation leagues: 5 association and 3 golf.

This is one more than last years as there were 2 teams in the Parkstone advanced competition. A summary of all the results is in the mallet room and in hut 3.

The strong performance of the association B team was noted and the Parkstone A team which has been promoted to division 2 thanks to Richard Wood.

Congratulations were also extended to the 'Sidmouth Fortfield' short croquet team who won division 1 at the Budleigh event.

A team went to Vienna this season and there was also a return match against a team from Dublin. Both events were very much enjoyed by those who took part.

The chairman encouraged all those who do not at present take part in competitive matches to do so next season. He thanked Richard Wood for organising the schedule of fixtures.

### Internal Competitions.

54 members entered internal competitions, the results of which were summarised later during trophy presentation.

A golf ladder has been started and has attracted plenty of interest.

Philip Harris was commended and thanked for organising and managing these events.

### Open Tournaments.

5 were held this year: The Open Golf, which qualifies players nationally for the Ascot cup, the June association 'midsummer tournament', which was fully subscribed with a waiting list, the B level association advanced, also fully subscribed, the C level association advanced, and the High-Bisquers which was poorly attended and will not be held next year. Helen Pryor and Julie Horsley were thanked for all their hard work managing these events.

### Grounds and Equipment.

Soft areas by huts 3 and 4 were paved last winter.

This winter the Dwerryhouse on lawn 1 will be replaced thanks to a donation from the family of the late Esme Owen.

Lawns have been difficult to play at times due to a wet winter, dry summer and scarifying at the wrong time. They are recovering well. Some will be open during the winter for the first time. Winter rules have been put in place and must be respected, especially the requirement to 'swish' to remove worm casts.

Andrew Thomas was thanked for his sterling work and dedication to the maintenance of the lawns and equipment.

### Social.

Social events have been well attended. The next event will be Xmas lunch at the Bedford on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The usual winter activities, table tennis, canasta, military whist and bridge, are taking place in the clubhouse.

John Coombes will lead monthly walks, this year on a Tuesday.

Simon Card will be giving a talk in February about the work of the Devon Air Ambulance.

Thanks were given to Julie Sorrell for all her work on the social events.

The toilet facilities in the main clubhouse have been upgraded. During the winter the dining area will be refurbished, the cost being met by the Friends of the Fortfield.

### Handicap Committee Reports.

The chairman summarised the reports from the handicap committees.

Helen Pryor pointed out that fewer than half the members play golf croquet competitively. She hopes that the golf ladder will increase this proportion as more players are needed for the SWFederation teams.

Results were not brilliant this year and there is no improved low handicap player award although there is a high handicap award.

Colin Walls reported on association players. He pointed out that some do not understand the handicap cards. Players should start playing off their new handicap when they go through a trigger point. Several players have improved their handicaps so there will be awards in both high and low handicap categories.

### **Nominations for the New Committee.**

Two members of the committee are retiring: Richard Thurlow and Pam Bowra.

Richard has too many other commitments. His work on publicity has been much appreciated.

Pam has been on the committee for a long time in various roles and was thanked for her valuable contribution.

Philip Harris will take over from Marian as membership secretary but will hand over his role as internal tournament secretary to Sue Dent, who does not however want to sit on the committee.

Chris Donovan will take on the publicity role.

David Scrace will join the committee as assistant treasurer.

The new committee was proposed en bloc by Muriel Philpott, seconded by Kelvin Dent and elected by David Temple, seconded by Rob Matthews.

### **Presentation of the Trophies.**

There was no previously raised business so presentation of the trophies followed.

Both the Pryors and the Clarkes are moving away from the area so Helen Pryor was asked to present the golf trophies and Barbara Clarke the association trophies.

Both couples have been members for over 20 years.

Helen has worked with golf croquet teams and on the handicapping committee for many years and is secretary of the overall club.

Barbara was croquet club secretary for some years and an active member.

The golf croquet trophies were presented first, followed by the association trophies.

Barbara thanked everyone for their support of the club and encouraged them to continue playing.

Both ladies were thanked and presented with bouquets.

There was a vote of thanks for Philip and Marian Harris for managing the trophies so well.

There being no other business the chairman closed the proceedings.

Simon Freeman, on behalf of all the new members said thank you for all the help and advice they have received. The chairman thanked him and declared the bar open.