

MINUTES OF CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2016.

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Philip Harris, Pam Bowra, Julie Sorrell, Andrew Thomas, Richard Thurlow, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball.

Apologies for Absence: none.

Welcome to new members.

The chairman welcomed the new committee members.

Minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2016.

Were approved and signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising.

97 Participation cards have now been received from a total of 123 members.

Mallet Room Revamp: **PN, AT** and **RT** will meet in the mallet room to agree what needs to be done.

Small Garden: **PB** offered to look after it using plants donated by Ian Simpson and Julie Horsley. She will liaise with Maureen Thurlow.

Members Subscriptions: CA member subscriptions have been agreed. All club members will now be members of the CA, although not full members. They will have to pay £5 extra per tournament. This will be made clear in the 'New Seasons Information'.

The AGM – Feedback:

RT thought that the individual reports were too long. It was suggested that in future the full reports should be posted on the notice board and on line.

AT requested old mallets to be donated or sold to the club. A couple have been forthcoming as a result to replace the six old ones removed.

The catering was complimented and thanks extended to JS.

SW Federation AGM Proposals.

Helen Pryor and Philip Harris will be attending this AGM. PH went through the proposals and discussed how he intended to vote on each. The committee agreed to accept his voting intentions.

2017 Documents: Programme.

Internal Tournaments: Some dates were amended. The entry fee will be £2.50.

Suggested that completion dates for block tournaments should be added to the entry form. **PH** to look into this.

The timing of Roger Hendy's talk was debated and will be finalised with him by **JS** as it was felt that two 40min talks was too much. The bar is available from 6:30pm.

The afternoon tea and quiz will probably be 15th March. Food and charge will be discussed at the next meeting.

SD has contacted the Laidlers about the treasure hunt which will be in Sidmouth next year.

RT thought National Croquet Day should be used to raise awareness of the club again next year despite the problems encountered this year and the work involved at a busy time. SD suggested we should wait for confirmation of the date and revisit the topic.

JS will investigate the possibility of Christmas lunch being at the Victoria next year.

Fees: will be decided at the GMC meeting on November 28th.

PN will recommend that any fee increase will be the same amount for each section.

Membership Renewal: Helen Pryor is preparing the forms. Payments will be sent by cheque to Marian Harris. JS suggested using bank transfer but the treasurer PBr and others felt this was not practical at present. David Butler will provide the labels for this year.

Ball Cascade.: AT asked for the new Dawson balls to be brought into play and the old Barlows withdrawn. There are 4 full sets of both primary and secondary balls. It was agreed that **AT** may implement this. The old balls will be offered to members for their own use and/or advertised in the gazette for use by other clubs.

Chairman's Matters: PN said that notices to the whole membership should go through him. These should be sent as 'blind copy' so members details are not disclosed. RT raised the data protection issue and the club's policy. JS suggested a tick box on the application form to agree to the sharing of information.

PN will discuss data issues with Colin Walls.

Individual Committee Members Reports: RT asked what the publicity role entails. **SD** will e-mail a job spec. to him. He aims to raise the profile of the club via newspaper reports and news items on the front page of the website.

AOB: PH noted that SW federation game results were missing from the website.

Dates of Next Meetings: Thursday December 8th at 9:30am, and provisionally Monday January 9th at 2.00pm, both at 92, Peaslands Road (Corner of Peaslands and Knapp Hill).

MINUTES OF CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 8th DECEMBER 2016

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Philip Harris, Pam Bowra, Julie Sorrell, Andrew Thomas, Richard Thurlow, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball.

Apologies for Absence:None

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2016: Approved and signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising: Alterations to the mallet room are underway.

PN proposed that individual AGM reports should in future be posted up in the mallet room and only a two minute presentation of highlights be given at the AGM. This was agreed.

There will be a revision of the Data Protection Act next year. In the meantime there is already a tick box on our application form to agree to sharing of data.

GMC meeting – Feedback: Croquet club fees will go up by £3 per year. The cricketers proposed a scheme by which their fees would go down to £100 but they would raise extra money through sponsorship and would pay more in match fees. PN agreed to this for a one year trial period to assess the increase in income.

Trustees of the Fortfield Trust are trying to change its status to improve the liability to VAT.

PN asked again about getting a door to the gents' toilets.

Gill Hodge needs more equipment for the kitchen. PN would like to be able to have Croquet evenings with refreshments provided by members when the bar and kitchen are not open.

SWF AGM-Feedback: PH reported that the Federation would like clubs to promote the Association game and also National Croquet Day.

Two new clubs are opening in Bude and Cirencester. They are asking for spare balls and kit. It was suggested that they could have our Barlow balls.

The proposals led to no significant changes. Some teams may not need to play East Dorset in future.

Confirmation of Tournament Dates: The B-level Advanced has been moved to 17th-19th August because Folk Week is a week later this year. Consequently the Golf Tournaments have also been moved to 27th and 28th July and the New Members Tournament to 24th July. Julie Horsley has contacted the CA to change the dates.

2017 Documents: Programme, Internal Tournaments and Membership Renewal documents will be finalised shortly and distributed at the Christmas Lunch by **SD** and **PJB**. A chairman's welcome note may also be added. **PN**

Committee Members Duties: Some amendments were made. **SD** to circulate the amended version.

Chairman's Matters: The renewal of the sprinkler system has been approved.

RT has asked the contractor to hold the quote of £9000.

£40 has been given to Mungos widow for his mislaid mallet.

The banners on the fence by lawns 3 and 4 can be moved to the Belmont side of the pitch.

Individual Committee Members Reports:

PAM requested a practice area to be mown. By lawn 3 was considered the best option.

SD proposed that copies of the minutes be sent to David Temple, Julie Horsley and Colin Walls. This was agreed.

RT proposed that a copy of the minutes should be available in the mallet room for all members to read. There was a vote on this but it was not carried.

The question of name badges for team members was raised. We have 200 sew-on club badges available.

JS will distribute these to team captains.

JS has approached The Hotel Victoria re Christmas lunch next year. There is no suitable date available at present. It was agreed that she should rebook the Bedford for next year.

PJB and SD will meet and greet at the Christmas lunch. **JS** will e-mail the table plan to them. **PAM** will sell raffle tickets.

PB has asked CW about having Internet access in hut 3. He said a cable would be necessary. RT suggested a duct could be laid when the trench for the sprinkler system is made. **RT** will talk to CW about this.

PJB reported that she, Ian Simpson and Julie Horsley had put some plants in the small bed by hut 2.

AT reported that 6 mallets have been sent to Castle Drogo as several new mallets have been acquired. It will not be necessary to use the new Dawson balls as there are already enough in the mallet room for the other lawns. **AT** will redistribute these. PH suggested marking the Barlow balls remaining to distinguish them.

AT reported progress in the mallet room refurbishment. The floor has been repaired and will be covered in vinyl. The layout of lockers and notice boards and tablet has been rationalised.

Dates of Next Meetings: January 9th at 2pm.

February 2nd at 9:30am

Both at 92, Peaslands Road.

CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING ON MONDAY JANUARY 9TH 14:00 at 92, PEASLANDS ROAD

Those Present: Peter Nelson, Philip Harris. Andrew Thomas, Pam Bowra, Richard Thurlow, Sue Dent, Paul Bradley, Julie Sorrel, Penny Ball.

Apologies for Absence: none

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2016: were approved and signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising.

RT will talk to Colin Walls about the website.

Croquet Association Awards: no nominations for these awards will be made this year.

Forthcoming Events:

-Roger Hendy's Talk: Tickets will be sold on the door.

JS will send a flyer to PH to be distributed to all members on line.

JS will thank Roger after the talk. Committee members are asked to arrive at 6pm to set up.

-Quiz and Tea: The quiz has already been prepared by PN. JS pointed out that tickets will be required in advance so that an estimate of numbers for tea can be made. The price is usually £3.50. This may be increased to £4.00.

-Taster Session- publicity and booklets: Colin Walls has agreed to do the training. The session will run from 10:00 to 13:00.

A banner will be needed, possibly a new one.

RT will look into this and arrange publicity on the website and in the press.

Further details of the taster session will be discussed at a later meeting.

RT suggested there should also be a recruitment event to mark National Croquet Day on June 4th. It was decided that if new members sign up then they should be integrated using separate sessions to start with and offered reduced membership from July 1st.

RT will contact Brian Wilson about publicity for the event.

Chairman's Matters.

PN asked about team managers. SD thought that David Temple would be organising the association managers and Helen Pryor the golf managers.

PN suggested having barbecues and wine at team practices after the roll-up sessions as long as Gill wasn't offering refreshments.

RT will look into the cost of a gas barbecue.

£12 will be added to the SW Federation subscription to pay for an advert in the Swan for the High-Bisquers tournament as requested by Julie Horsley.

PB will arrange this when the request for fees arrives.

PN has received a message from Julie Claydon about the forthcoming quiz nights which will be held on 3rd and 24th February.

The mallet room refurbishment is progressing well. The notice board will be longer and will need to be partitioned using tape into sections for different categories of event to avoid chaos.

The cost of moving the banners to the Belmont fence will be £300.

Participation cards will need to be completed again this season and will be given out at the spring lunch.

Individual Committee Members Reports.

PH has received some membership renewals already.

AT reported that the new mallet room floor is down. Contents of the big box were discussed along with other items that could be tidied up. The 'pram' is to be removed. AT requested money for cupboards above the sink in hut 3. About £200 should be enough.

PN will check with Roger Mills. Thanks were extended to AT for all his hard work.

RT has a written spec. to support the quote for the irrigation system. It is likely that the work will be done during the next couple of months

AOB:

RT mentioned 'Croquet in the Sun' events this year, firstly the Corfu Tournament of Sept 22nd to Oct 2nd and secondly the availability of accommodation in the Algarve with use of a croquet lawn.

RT will put up notices about these.

Colin has been in touch with Budleigh about lawn care. Richard Quelch is coming over from Budleigh to advise about better equipment. It was suggested that he should tell Roger Mills what is needed.

The gate for lawn 4 has been organised.

Dates of Next Meetings.

Thursday 2nd February 9:30am

Wednesday 1st March 2:00pm

both at 92, Peaslands Road.

MINUTES OF CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2nd 2017 09:30 am at 92, PEASLANDS ROAD

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

Apologies for Absence: Sue Dent

Minutes of the meeting held on January 9th were signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising: The GMC has vetoed the use of a barbecue.

The cupboards in hut three have been completed.

PB will pay the SW Federation subscription shortly.

2019 CA bid: A bid has been put in for one of the events to be held 5th-8th Sept 2019. It was felt that the golf croquet fixture on the 7th-8th Sept. should be included in the bid as favourite.

PJB will contact Liz Larsson about this.

Forthcoming Events:

Taster Session- on 8th April.

Colin Walls has the necessary leaflets.

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

RT will look for the banner.

Roger Hendy's Talk: on 8th February.

JS read a precis of the talk to the committee.

She has e-mailed all members about the event.

Nibbles will be provided.

The PA system needs attention but Roger probably won't need it.

Quiz and Tea: on 15th March.

Tickets must be bought in advance so numbers for tea are known. The price will be £4 and they are available from Julie or Pam. Teams of about 6 will be organised by Peter.

JS will e-mail all members about this event.

Spring Lunch: on 1st April.

The lunch will include table service and the choice will be chicken and ham pie or roast beef.

There will be a demonstration game of association doubles beforehand.

The required paperwork will be discussed at the next meeting to include any changes to the new season's information.

SW Federation League: fixtures and final.

David Temple has sent an updated schedule which includes two changes of date.

PN has sent this to John Goodwin and will point out the changes.

PJB will amend the dates in the diary.

AT will tell Colin Whitehall about the fixture changes.

The SW Federation Final will be on lawns 3 and 4 on 30th September.

PH has put this in the diary.

Chairman's Matters.

The planning application is in for the netting along the esplanade side of the cricket pitch. Deck chairs will now cost £2 per day.

Dogs will not be allowed on the playing surfaces.

A variable speed borehole pump has been approved by Roger Mills.

'Water Wise' will be given the go-ahead and C. Whitehall will be informed.

It should be completed in March.

Roger Mills will resign as club treasurer except for doing VAT returns.

There are plans to give the Fortfield Trust charity status.

Health and safety is to be reviewed for the whole club. Cricket ball incursions onto the croquet lawns are a problem. It was suggested that we should keep an incident book.

PN asked for any other input into the spring letter apart from information on the CA membership.

Individual Committee Members Reports.

PAM asked an area of grass outside the cricket field boundary for practice. This was felt to be a non-starter but AT has asked C. Whitehall to mow the area by hut 3.

PH has cleaned up the notice explaining the game to the public and will put it back on the fence with his name and phone number on it.

RT has liaised with Colin Walls about his input to the website. It was suggested that the lawn-booking rules should be on it. RT suggested that the lawns needed for competitions should also be on there. He has not yet received information from the organiser of National Croquet Day.

AT said permission to move placards to the Belmont side of the cricket pitch has been granted though this doesn't necessarily preclude notices on the croquet side.

He offered to convert a box to contain games and other oddments in the mallet room. He was congratulated and thanked for the new mallet racks.

PN suggested there should be photos of the committee members in hut 3 so all members would know who they are.

PJB will put copies of the course prospectus on the notice boards.

AOB.

RT proposed an evening event featuring other forms of croquet intermediate between golf and association. This was approved, so he will look into it.

PH reported that Paul Griew wants to invite the Devon Cambridge Society to a taster session on Sunday 2nd July between 1pm and 4pm. There would be 16 players who would require helpers.

PH will tell Paul this is approved and will negotiate the price. He pointed out that the skills afternoon on the 19th July will include a golf competition so two more trophies will be needed.

PH will get these.

Dates of Next Meetings: Wednesday March 1st and Monday April 3rd, both at 2pm at 92, Peaslands Road.

MINUTES OF CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY APRIL 3rd 2017 at 2:00pm at 92, PEASLANDS ROAD

Present: Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Sue Dent, Pam Bowra, Paul Bradley, Julie Sorrell, Richard Thurlow, Andrew Thomas, Penny Ball.

Apologies for Absence: None

Minutes of the meeting held on March 1st were signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising:

Only lawn 2 will be split into half lawns.

Any lawn may be booked for practice, not just lawn 4.

PAM reported that Bedford lawn carpark may be used at a reduced rate of £6 for club matches. **SD** will add this information to the document for league managers which she has prepared.

SD will ask C. Walls about conversion courses.

RT suggested other variations of croquet could be used as an introduction to association skills. He showed a publication about them.

PN aims to organise Wednesday evening practice on alternate weeks so these variations could be tried on the intervening Wednesday evenings. He has contacted team captains who have confirmed availability for evening practices.

PN will contact Radio Devon about publicity for the taster session on April 8th.

Leaflets about the taster session have gone out to various locations.

A copy of the laws book is in the mallet room.

PB handed extra copies to PJB for sale at £5 each.

AT has already put up the metal corner flags.

Documents received from the SW Federation:

PJB outlined the distribution of documents as follows:

Association League rules to captains Kelvin Dent, Richard Thurlow, Philip Harris and Richard Wood.

Golf League rules to Philip Harris and thence to Helen Pryor.

Handicapping Policy to Andrew Thomas, Pam Bowra, Philip Harris, Helen Pryor, Nancy Temple and Colin Walls.

Copies of the League rules were put in the mallet room by David Temple.

Membership update:

PH reported 108 members have signed up compared with a total of 122 last year. However 24 joined later last year so member numbers are 10 more than at this time last year.

PN reported that Neil Gamble suggested at the GMC meeting that club members living more than 50 miles away should not have voting rights thus removing them from the calculation of the proportion of active playing members.

The Trophy Book:

SD has the trophy book but suggested that it would be more appropriate for **PH** to keep it. He will look at it to see what he thinks.

Lawn booking;

SD has checked with C. Walls that lawns 3 and 4 will not be included in the electronic booking.

As club afternoons begin the first week of May then Friday roll-ups will begin at the end of that week.

PN will manage the association club afternoons.

RT will take over the electronic booking.

Forthcoming Events:

Taster Session: 8th April 10:00

Publicity and Arrangements: RT has arranged publicity. He will put a notice on the gate. **PJB** will put up balloons on the fence and gate.

Participants will be directed to meet in hut three.

PN will give an introductory talk.

Coaching.

CW is redoing the sheet of coaching dates. The fee will be £15, which can be discounted from the club joining fee, and entitles participants to a copy of the

'Know the Game' booklet. **CW** will lead all the coaching with helpers. The application form is being amended but will be ready for the end of the coaching sessions.

Golf and Association Refresher Day: Wed. 12th April.

Golf croquet sessions will be led by **PH** and **PAM**.

PN will ask Mike Taylor to help coach the association sessions pm. **PH** will also help with these.

Charity One-Ball: Thurs. 20th April.

The list of participants is up. Julie Horsley will run it if possible but if not then **PN**. The charity colour is blue.

CA Open Golf: 29th/30th April.

Helen Pryor will manage this event.

Bottles of wine are required for prizes. **JS** will look into our supplies.

SD will deliver the trophy book to Helen.

Welcome meeting new members Wed. 10th May.

Some existing members will be needed to mingle.

JS will provide nibbles and vouchers for the bar.

National Croquet Day: June.

There has been an e-mail request from Angela Court Retirement home in Tipton St. John for some croquet players to come and have a game with the residents.

PJB will enquire about their lawn and equipment so options can be considered.

Chairman's Matters.

PN reported from the GMC meeting. The gate on lawn 4 will be in place by the cricket season. There will be less advertising on the side netting by the croquet lawns. The cricket score board is being refurbished.

Purchase of a vertical cutter for the groundsman is under consideration. A better scarifier is also desirable.

PN will discuss with Roger Mills re contacting Budleigh about borrowing their equipment. The sprinkler system is due to go in soon. The water will be turned off in the clubhouse for 2 or 3 days. A notice will be put up to warn people.

PN has negotiated the price of beer for the club with COORS. They would be prepared to print club shirts including their logo. However we would have to supply white shirts.

Individual Committee Members Reports.

PB will bring the 'Know the Game' books to the taster session. He will also buy an incident book to keep in hut 3.

AT will put up a notice asking players to use the swish to remove worm casts.

There is one in the mallet room and one in hut 3.

PH reported that 56 members have entered internal tournaments so far, 6 of these were new members last year. Most of these were for golf tournaments.

SD had an e-mail from CW asking what is to be done with the old table. The committee agreed that it should be given to PH.

JS reported that the Spring Lunch raffle made £84 pounds.

PAM asked if we should provide divot repair tools.

PN will investigate this. The corner of lawn 4 where the golfers start is soggy.

RT will put up a notice asking them to start outside the corner box.

CW has changed the website so RT can alter text reports. RT requested that team managers write reports and take photos. He has a contact at the Herald.

PJB has received an e-mail from Gill Hodge about lunches and one from the tennis club about a coffee morning. These will be sent on.

Julie Horsley has sent updated CA tournament entry numbers. PN read these out.

AOB

PB has received £5 from AT from ball and hoop sales for the club account.

PH suggested a list should go up of CA tournaments for non-CA members.

PN will put up a notice directing them to the CA manual in the mallet room.

Dates of Next Meetings.

Monday May 8th at 2pm

Tuesday June 6th at 2pm

both at 92 Peaslands Road.

MINUTES OF CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY MAY 8th 2017 at 2:00pm at 92, PEASLANDS ROAD

Present: Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Pam Bowra, Sue Dent, Paul Bradley, Richard Thurlow, Penny Ball, Andrew Thomas.

Apologies for Absence: Julie Sorrell

Minutes of the meeting held on April 3rd: were signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising: Discussion of conversion courses is to be left for a month or so.

RT is taking over electronic booking but there are teething problems at present.

The taster session went very well and was well attended. The weather helped.

The refresher session for established members was poorly attended.

Consideration will be given next year to eliminating this event.

The CA golf tournament was very good with many spectators on the first day.

PN will get some divot repair tools.

Prospective members coaching feedback. Coaching is well underway but not complete yet. There are 21 attendees including 3 who started last year.

RT thought the training became too technical too early and suggested splitting the group next year into those who want to learn association and those who don't.

New members update and application pack. This will be going out during the 4th coaching sessions this week, to be distributed by **SD**. PN has amended the Welcome letter.

Lawn booking request. The Rotary club want to hire lawns for games including some coaching and catering afterwards. SD has suggested a Thursday from 5:30pm to 8:00pm (not a match day). They will be charged £10 per lawn.

SD will contact **JS** re catering.

Association Team Practices: The trial session went well. PN has sent out dates of future practices on alternate Wednesdays to team captains to be distributed to team members. Richard Wood will set up some challenges for the players.

Forthcoming Events.

-New Members Welcome Meeting. 10th May: SD has sent out invitations but as coaching is not complete yet she suggested the event should be held later next year. Committee members should be there by 17:45.

JS will provide nibbles and free drink vouchers and settle up with the bar later.

-Short Croquet tournament May 19th. PH reported 22 entries. 6 sets of hoops will be required for split lawns 2, 3 and 4. Lawn 1 will be left at full size. **AT** agreed to sort out the hoops.

-National Croquet Day June 4th:

RT has received posters and flyers. An article in the CA magazine suggested inviting other organisations to compete with club members. It was suggested that the Tennis and Cricket clubs might be approached. Recruiting from the public proved problematic last year because no coaching was provided afterwards.

PN will ask the cricket and tennis chairpersons to organise teams. Games will be played from 1pm to 4pm on lawns 2, 3 and 4. There will be tea and biscuits afterwards.

PJB has heard from Angela Court Retirement home that they have a suitable lawn.

PJB will arrange to visit them to assess equipment requirements. We won't be able to provide players on June 4th but could arrange another date.

-CA Midsummer Tournament June 7th-11th:

Following an update on numbers received from Julie Horsley, it appears that more players are needed for the Handicap tournament. Committee members will encourage eligible players to take part.

Chairman's Matters: The sprinkler system is being fixed soon. The toilets may be without water during this work. If the bore hole fails the system can be switched to mains water but Colin Whitehall would like some members to be trained to do this. RT already knows what to do.

The gate on lawn 4 has been fitted but can only be closed from the outside.

AT suggested it could be left open except when cricket is in play.

PN has secured £200 sponsorship for kit and intends to purchase polo shirts for just under £10 each. A logo will be designed. Members could pay towards the cost. £5 was suggested. A £3000 discount has been negotiated with COORS.

Individual Committee Members Reports.

PAM reported that players for the recent CA tournament couldn't get the discount at the Bedford car park. She has contacted the owner who said that in future it will be necessary to contact him beforehand to inform the person on duty. Contact Tom Griffiths on 01395 576782.

SD will inform team captains of this number.

PAM also reported that there is still a large advert obstructing the view on lawn 1.

PN will contact Neil Gamble and arrange to move it.

PH has purchased two new cups for the skills afternoon. These need naming. SD suggested Core Hill and Beacon Hill to fit in with other named cups.

A new country member would like to play on Monday and Sunday afternoons. He is a higher handicap player. Some opponents will be arranged for him to get started.

PB has received £146 from table tennis, £20 from the Medics and £20 from David Edwards.

RT has donated a rechargeable mower. PB requested that team captains e-mail their mileage claims stating how much is due and to whom. Players should pay £5 each to the captain who distributes the money and claims any extra.

SD will e-mail team captains of this arrangement.

PB also suggested providing name stickers for players for their mallets to avoid confusion. He will arrange to get these.

The request for a winter lawn on the cricket outfield was brought up again. PN will bring up the subject at the GMC.

AT reported that mallet no. 9 has gone missing.

Some requests to buy donated mallets have been made but AT has refused these as they are needed as club mallets. Work on the sprinkler system will start this week.

Members need to be reminded to lock up if they are the last to leave the lawns. **SD** will ask C. Walls to tell the new members at coaching sessions. **PH** will put a notice on the door of hut 3.

RT said that newspaper reports are not yet on the website but will be soon. He was thanked and his reports were praised for their wit by the committee. Match reports are needed promptly.

The lawns are now 10 to 12 years old. RT suggested that money should be raised to relay 1 lawn over the winter.

AT will contact Richard Weeks at Budleigh about this.

RT will look into encouraging members to take courses to become referees and coaches. It was agreed that there should be financial support for them.

SD has asked the medics to come on Thursdays in future so as not to interfere with golf roll-ups. Players in their second year will be encouraged to buy mallets. **AT** has 4 for sale.

SD will ask C. Walls when new members will be starting club sessions.

PJB will put up a notice about the Cheltenham High Bisque tournament.

Linda Shaw has been in touch about the SW Academy coaching sessions. Roger Mills would like more attendees for his session on 3 and 4 ball breaks. There is already a poster up.

PH will contact people who may be interested.

There is also to be a Golf Croquet Pod at Cheltenham to be led by Andrew Cowing. **PJB** has informed H. Pryor about this.

AOB:

PN would like to see more social events on the calendar. Some suggestions will be considered.

Dates of Next Meetings:

Tuesday June 6th at 2pm

Monday July 3rd at 2pm

Both at 92, Peaslands Road.

MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY JUNE 6TH 2017 at 2:00pm at 92, PEASLANDS ROAD

Present: Peter Nelson, Julie Sorrell, Pam Bowra, Andrew Thomas, Paul Bradley, Sue Dent, Richard Thurlow, Penny Ball.

Apologies for Absence: none.

Minutes of the meeting held on May 8th: were signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising:

RT met with C. Walls about the electronic booking. Match booking is now up to date. RT is not yet able to put match reports on the website. CW will continue to enter the electronic block lawn bookings for the remainder of the season.

PN has bought divot repair tools which are in hut 3.

The Rotary Club cannot come on Thursdays so are coming Tuesday August 1st from 5:30pm onwards. They will need 3 lawns. They will arrange catering themselves with Gill and Julie in the clubhouse.

Team training sessions after Wednesday club sessions are going well. The club session should ensure mixing high handicap and low handicap players in doubles games.

The new members welcome evening was a success.

The Short Croquet tournament went well. Some members would like a lawn split in two for longer but this is impractical at present because of tournaments requiring full lawns. It may be possible to split one at the end of the season as well as at the beginning of next season.

New members coaching: C. Walls has sent feedback. More members have joined this year than previously. RT suggested that in future those who want to learn association skills should be split off after the 3rd lesson. This was agreed to be a good idea. C. Walls thought there should be official training for those who assist with coaching beginners. Dave Kibble was suggested as a suitable trainer.

Thursday coaching continues at 4pm.

PAM recalled that there had been a mentoring system in the past to involve new players in games.

Roles of CA, Feds and Clubs document: A document has been received from the CA and circulated to the committee. This will be considered next time as no action appeared to be needed.

National Croquet Day feedback: Poor weather accounted for only 4 people coming to try croquet. 2 of these may join the club.

RT will write to the CA to ask if the National day could be earlier in the season when we have the set up to incorporate new members.

Forthcoming Events:

-CA Midsummer Tournament 7th-11th June: Lawn preparation is underway. PN and J. Horsley will run the event. 21 people have booked for the social at the Bedford on Saturday night so far.

If the weather is bad then 22 point games will be played.

-Treasure Hunt 13th June:

PH has contacted all members about this. The venue for the meal will not normally be disclosed until the end of the hunt. However anyone who wants to only join for the meal may phone the organisers to find out where it is.

-14pt Handicap Tournaments 17th/18th June:

PH has the entries in hand. There are 15 high handicappers, 1 more is needed. There are only 7 low handicap players, again 1 more is needed. Committee members will ask around.

-Wine and Buffet Evening 27th June:

PH will contact all members about this. RT will e-mail the poster to him.

RT reported that the wine is already purchased and 2 tents will be erected. He has put up posters and distributed tickets to members of the committee to sell at £5 each.

High-Bisquers Association Tournament 1st July:

There are 13 entries so far. 16 is the number desired.

Chairman's Matters:

Biscuits are going too fast this year.

PN will write a note encouraging restraint and suggest an increased donation.

Individual Committee Members Reports:

AT says the sprinkler system works but between lawns 3 and 4 is still wet so there may be leaks. It would be necessary to turn the water on full blast to check but this is not desirable this week. He suggested getting new pipes would be preferable to trying to find the leaks.

PN suggested also getting a gate to the road to the toilets on the Triangle. There are already steps there from a previous entrance. This was met with general approval but it was pointed out that a combination lock would be needed for security.

RT has some 'Anyone for Croquet' leaflets which he will distribute to the library and Tourist Information.

PAM suggested a Boules pit by hut 4 for winter games. It would need to be 40 by 10ft and would cost £500 to £600.

PN thought he could get it approved by the GMC.

PH reported another new member (Jane Dolphin) and queried whether C. Walls would coach her although her husband will no doubt assist.

PB said the book for recording rogue balls is in hut 3. 4 have been recorded already. The cricket club have their own book but it is not kept up to date.

Sticky letters for labelling mallets are in the back of the red book.

PN will ask the GMC about a practice lawn.

Maureen Bess is retiring as president of the combined club and Paul Griew is taking over as treasurer. Myles Chance is still the cashier.

SD has passed the trophy book to PH to administer.

She has had an enquiry from visitors who want to join club sessions. They have been advised that this will cost £3 each per session.

AOB: On Sunday 2nd July the Cambridge society are bringing 16 people to play between 1 and 4pm, but Paul Griew will not be there to look after them, so more helpers are needed. They have arranged for tea to be served in hut 3. They are paying £40.

JS asked about bottles of wine for prizes for the CA tournament. PN said only 1 for Julie Horsley who is managing the event is required.

Dates of Next Meetings: Monday 3rd July at 2pm at 92, Peaslands Road.

August meeting to be decided then if one is necessary.

MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY JULY 3rd 2017 at 2:00pm at 92, PEASLANDS ROAD

Present: Peter Nelson, Philip Harris, Paul Bradley, Julie Sorrell, Richard Thurlow, Sue Dent, Andrew Thomas, Penny Ball.

Apologies: Pam Bowra.

Minutes of the meeting held on June 6th: were signed by the chairman after the addition of a missing name.

Matters Arising: The CA Federation and Club Roles document will be considered at the next meeting.

Players in their second year will be encouraged to buy mallets. Since this meeting SD has contacted Brian Emmett about making mallets and has put up a flyer in hut 3. He is still making mallets and will loan a demonstration model to the club via **AT**.

Feedback from Recent Events.

The CA summer tournament went well thanks to the efforts of Julie Horsley. Dave Kibble complimented the club on the condition of the lawns.

The Treasure Hunt raised £30 pounds due to a high turnout. Next year it may be necessary to ascertain numbers in advance for the catering arrangements.

The wine and buffet evening was cancelled due to a bad weather forecast. Many players have expressed a desire to reschedule the event. It was agreed that this should be on September 12th at an earlier time of 4pm and with the clubhouse available in case of bad weather. Since this meeting SD has checked the diary and booked the Pavilion for 4 to 9pm.

Forthcoming Events:

Association 1 ball tournaments 7th/8th July: Nancy Temple has offered to help PH run these events. There are currently 12 entries for Friday and 11 for Saturday.

Skills afternoon and tea 19th July: Lawn 2 will be used for golf skills and lawns 3 and 4 for association. **PH** will arrange the golf set-up. Since this meeting SD has spoken to John Dixon who is willing to lead on setting up the skills tests with the help of Rob Matthews. There will be 8 stations which need to be manned. Committee members will recruit a few others to help. Setting -up needs to start at 12:30pm.

Tea will be at 4:15pm and will cost £3.50. **JS** will put up a list as she needs to know the numbers for tea and contact people as necessary.

Association handicap doubles 21st-23rd July: 9 pairs have entered this tournament so far. PH has assigned partnerships.

New members' tournament and tea 24th July: Since this meeting SD has asked John Dixon to supervise it as Colin Walls is away. **JS** will assist him.

Whites do not need to be worn. JS needs to know the numbers for tea. It is free for players. **SD** will send an e-mail to new members. Most of them play golf croquet. There will be wine for prizes.

Golf singles tournaments 27th/28th July: 18 players have entered the handicap tournament for level 7 and above. 15 have entered the level play, but lists are not yet put up.

CA B-level advanced tournament 17th-19th August: There are still 4 places available.

Golf doubles tournaments 24th/25th August: 25 have entered the handicap tournament and 15 the level play.

Selectors weekend 8th-10th September The CA will get in touch nearer the time.

AT will arrange lawn preparation and hoop setting.

PN will meet and greet. The urn will be put on. Food has already been requested.

CA C-level advanced tournament 15-17th September: This is still a bit undersubscribed.

Half lawns for late season:

Consideration was given to provision of these in particular to enable practice for the Budleigh Short Croquet Tournament on October 12th. However with regular club sessions taking place up to 29th September, Finals weekend finishing on Sunday October 1st and 2 lawns likely to be taken out of play at the end of that day, it was considered that the remaining two lawns must be retained as full size. As a compromise **AT** will be asked to make hoop holes suitable for half lawns, with those wanting to play on such lawns moving the hoops appropriately at the beginning and end of their game.

Starting dates for winter activities: PAM will update us next time.

Chairman's Matters:

It was agreed that Julie Horsley will be asked to give out the prizes at the AGM. The acquisition of club shirts is making slow progress. They will cost about £14 but the charge to players will be £7.50.

Individual Committee Members Reports.

PJB reported that 56 of 123 participation cards have been received so far, some of them unsigned. She will chase up those members to get them signed.

SD asked **PH** for an update on the membership list. He is waiting to hear from one more new member (Hilary Smith) and will contact her.

RT is in the process of returning money from the cancelled buffet.

PB asked how much we expect to receive from the Selectors Event. This will be £32 per day per lawn. Money from the Cambridge Society has not yet been received.

AT reported that St. Agnes players were very pleased with the mallets donated to them. **PAM** also sent a message to this effect. The sprinkler system is working. There is a bit of a leak between lawns 3 And 4 but this will be checked soon.

PH reported that 40% of the internal tournament games have been played already. Playing best of 3 games in the MacAdam is agreed to be better than just 1 game.

AOB: **RT** reported that golf roll-ups are well supported but some players who are not in the teams would like to play more competitive games. **SD** said that in the past it was agreed that competitive games would be played on lawn 2 during roll-up sessions but this is not happening. It was suggested that a limited number of non-team players might come to the team practices to play more competitive games. An extra lawn would be required and somebody to help the Pryors run this. **PN** will speak to **PAM**.

Dates of Next Meetings.

There will be no meeting during August.

Next meeting: Monday 11th September at 2pm at 92, Peaslands Road.

MINUTES OF A CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11th 2017

Present: Peter Nelson, Andrew Thomas, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball, Julie Sorrell, Philip Harris.

Apologies: Pam Bowra, Sue Dent, Richard Thurlow.

Minutes of the meeting held on July 3rd were signed by the chairman.

Matters Arising: 30/37 club shirts have been sold by PN at £10 each.

Some members have ordered fleecy gilets.

Feedback from recent events:

Open events have been well received. Several complimentary e-mails about the B-level tournament have been received. The Selectors event went well. The CA secretary (Ian Vincent) was very complimentary.

PH suggested that the Hatherley cup, now played as level, should revert to being a handicap event.

Forthcoming Events:

Wine and Buffet Evening 12th Sept: PN has had the money and tickets returned from the sellers. 50 have been sold but some members will pay on the day.

PN will get drinks and chocolates for prizes. Colin Walls will put up his gazebo weather permitting.

AT will set up the obstacle course.

PH will organise a speed AC event.

Roger Hendy has prepared a quiz to be run in the clubhouse in the event of bad weather.

CA C-level Advanced Tournament 15-17th Sept:

There are 10 entries, 2 from Sidmouth. 3 lawns will be used.

PN will be running the event. Lunch will be provided.

AT will set the hoops on Thursday.

It was suggested that this event should take place earlier in the year next season. Julie Horsley has proposed some dates in July.

Budleigh Friendly 19th Sept:

PAM reported that 8 players are coming. Car parking permits and 16 teas have been booked in the diary.

JS will confirm these requirements with Gill.

Finals Weekend 29th Sept:

PH reported that there are 6 games still left to play to complete the blocks.

He would like these completed by September 20th.

4 finals dates have already been agreed. The Humphrey Hicks and the level golf finals will be on the Friday. The handicap golf finals will be on the Saturday.

AGM Tuesday 24th October:

It was suggested that reports should be cut down and that the chairman should receive them all in advance and summarise them in his speech. This was thought to be a good idea.

ALL committee members should send their reports to PN by the next meeting.

It was also suggested that trophies for one-day events should be presented on the day to save time at the AGM but this idea was not universally popular.

Papers and Arrangements:

PJB went through the required paperwork and actions.

PH is collecting the trophies for engraving.

Julie Horsley has been asked to present the trophies.

PN will obtain the SW Federation statistics from David Temple.

Head handicappers will nominate the most improved players.

PJB will put up last year's AGM minutes in the mallet room along with the committee nominations chart and narrative and the notice requesting agenda items, on 12th September for 1 month.

PJB will contact Helen Pryor about any deceased members.

JS will order dinners, print tickets and put up posters.

The agenda for the AGM will be considered at the next meeting.

Committee members for 2018:

Current committee members are all willing to stand again apart from Sue Dent who will resign as Vice Chairman. It is proposed that Julie Horsley should sit on the committee as Open Tournaments Secretary.

Lawn bookings for October and security issues:

During October lawns 1 and 2 only will be available.

PH will make extra holes in lawn 2 to enable half lawns to be set up by those players wishing to practice short croquet.

There have been some problems with the on-line booking due to phishing attempts but CW has reassured members about this. He will try to arrange for the screen to automatically refresh to avoid bookings not being saved.

Starting dates for winter activities:

PAM sent the start dates for these as follows:

Canasta starts Tuesday 3rd October at 1:30pm and runs fortnightly.

Whist starts Thursday 5th October at 2pm and runs monthly.

Table Tennis starts Wednesday 11th October at 10am and is weekly.

These dates have been entered in the club diary.

PN suggested that there should be more winter events and proposed monthly walks ending at a pub. The possibility of more quizzes was raised but are already monthly Friday evening quizzes in the pavilion.

PB brought up the subject of a rough lawn for winter practice. PAM and AT have both approached Colin Whitehall about this and had very negative feedback. There was a suggestion that maybe the grass tennis court could be used. PN will speak to Neil Gamble about it. Lecturers will be needed for the winter talks.

Letter to members re end of season arrangements:

PJB will draft a letter to members about lawn closures, finals weekend, the AGM,

The end of season tidy-up and the winter activities.

Chairman's Matters:

There was some discussion about who should decide the golf teams for matches and whether this should be a committee matter. Availability to play in matches should be indicated by team members at the beginning of the season and provisional selections made. It was suggested that more help may be needed for golf organisation especially as there are more players who would like to play competitive games.

PN cannot attend the GMC meeting on October 2nd and needs someone else to go.

He will prepare a report for the meeting.

A committee has been set up to consider the refurbishment of the clubhouse.

Individual committee member's reports:

PB said that at least 30 cricket balls have been reported as landing on the lawns (mostly 1 and 4).

PB will send in the claim for the Selectors weekend of £384.

AT said that the new sprinkler system has not been needed yet due to the amount of rain this summer.

PAM reported by e-mail that golf roll-ups on Mondays and Wednesdays have been very well attended and that having lawn 1 has helped tremendously. Quite a few more competitive golf players could be encouraged to take part in internal tournaments and team matches.

JS will confirm the Christmas lunch menu and cost with the Bedford hotel.

The Harbour hotel was suggested for the committee lunch on October 11th.

JS will book this.

PH has had some offers of help with internal tournaments next season.

AOB: none.

Dates of next meetings:

Wednesday October 11th at 10:00 at 92, Peaslands followed by lunch at the Harbour Hotel at 13:00.

AGM on Tuesday 24th October followed by supper in the club house.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET TENNIS AND CROQUET CLUB

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION AGM

TUESDAY 24th OCTOBER 2017

The Chairman (Peter Nelson) welcomed approximately 50 members to the meeting who then stood in silence to remember former members, Derek Pedder and Tony Philpott, who had died this year.

Apologies for Absence: were received from Roger Mills, Anne Holbeche, Rob and Liz Matthews, Helen and Graeme Pryor, Jane Babbage, Ken Prosser, Richard Croft, Roger Hendy, Brian and Jeanette Pollack and Maureen Thurlow.

Minutes of 2016 AGM: It was proposed that the minutes of the last AGM be accepted, by Richard Thurlow, seconded by Andrew Thomas, as a true record. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's Report: The chairman explained that, following feedback from previous AGMs, in lieu of individual committee member's reports, which could be repetitive, he had amalgamated them all into one summary.

Membership stands at 126 of which 18 are new members. The chairman thanked Colin Walls and helpers for training the new members.

He then summarised the finances report from the club AGM in July. Total income was £132,500 and expenditure £117,000. Croquet club subscriptions were £20,000 plus £1,500 was raised from match fees. Folk week parking is an important earner, so thanks were given to all those members who helped.

A report on social events followed including the Christmas and Spring lunches, the talk by Roger Hendy and other winter activities. The wine and buffet evening was postponed until September due to bad weather but as the replacement event was successful, the committee felt that two such events should be run in future in June and September. Special thanks were extended to Julie Sorrell for organising all these events.

Improvements to the mallet room and the introduction of new balls were mentioned and thanks given to Andrew Thomas for all his work.

The chairman then thanked Philip Harris for organising and managing internal tournaments.

Turning to the open tournaments, hosted by the club, he reported on the winners, many of whom were from this club. Many members also travelled to other open events and three were trophy winners. Four association and three golf teams competed in the SW Federation leagues. A summary of their results is available in the mallet room and hut three. The managers and their players were thanked. Gabby Macadam was thanked for organising the golf roll-ups.

The visit by some members to Carrickmines in Ireland was described. It was suggested that their team should visit Sidmouth next season.

The chairman explained the changes to the CA membership which mean that all members can become full members at no extra cost to them. The benefits were outlined. Members would have to agree to their details being held on the CA database. There will be a supplementary form with our renewal forms which members will be asked to complete.

Collection boxes were circulated for Julie Clayden and Colin Whitehall.

The committee were thanked for their work, especially Sue Dent who has done so much and is leaving the committee.

David Temple was congratulated on becoming President of the club.

Handicap Committee: Philip Harris outlined the role of the handicap committees in assessing players' ability. Pam Bowra relayed information from Helen Pryor on the golf handicaps. Members who had made substantial progress in the season were congratulated.

Election of New Committee: The Chairman identified existing committee members available for re-election as himself, Penny Ball, Pam Bowra, Philip Harris, Julie Sorrell, Andrew Thomas, Paul Bradley and Richard Thurlow. Julie Horsley is nominated to be Open Tournament Secretary and Steve Pearson is also nominated to join the committee. The meeting agreed to vote en-bloc and the motion to elect the committee was proposed by John Williams and seconded by David Temple. The vote in favour was unanimous and the named candidates were duly elected.

Presentation of Prizes: the Chairman introduced, as Guest of Honour, Julie Horsley, to present the prizes. Philip Harris read out the winners and the trophies were presented to the season's winners.

Philip Harris and Andrew Thomas were given gifts for their service to the club by the chairman.

Sue Dent thanked Philip and Marian Harris for their hard work in collecting and organising the engraving on the trophies. She then outlined some of Julie Horsley's many achievements in organising prestigious tournaments before thanking her for presenting the trophies.

Notices: Members were advised that tickets were on sale for the Christmas dinner at the Bedford. They were reminded of the winter activities already underway and some new ones that have been proposed: beach croquet and a walking group. A notice will be going round to members about these, the winter talk and teatime quiz when details have been finalised.

Philip Harris asked all trophy winners to sign the trophy book

Meeting Closed: There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting and invited members to enjoy the dinner.