

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 3rd November 1992 at Manor Garth.

Present: J. Hatherley, H--Dawson, R. Henderson, E. Owen, B. Hills, A. Dustan-Smith, G. Sims

Apologies: Nil

Minutes of the last meeting were read, approved and signed.

Matters arising R. Henderson kindly agreed to make a wooden base for the 'Croquet Memento' presented by Mr. C. Beaumont-Edmonds, which would then be presented to the winner of the Egyptian Tournament in 1993.

Allocation of Duties; These were announced by the Chairman as follows:

Chairman	J. Hatherley	Secretary	G. Sims
Vice Chairman and Federation Matches			H. Dawson
Internal Competitions, Library and Cash			R. Henderson
Ground and Equipment, Rep. on Main Club Committee			A. Dustan-Smith
Golf Croquet			B. Hills
Social			E. Owen & B. Hills to assist.
Booking Sheets			E. Owen
Publicity			H. Dawson
Training			E. Kitchener
Handicapping Committee			I. Dwerryhouse, J. Hatherley
			H. Dawson
Team Selection			J. Hatherley, H. Dawson, E. Owen
Table Tennis			E. Golding

Short Croquet: Members agreed that the Short Croquet Open Tournament should be held on Thurs. 20th and Fri. 21st May and approved a Club Short Croquet day on Sat. 22nd. The entry fee for the Club Day to be 50p. The fees for the Open Tournament would remain as before, i.e. £5.50 for visitors and £3.50 for Sidmouth members. I. Dwerryhouse was to be invited to organise this tournament and the Secretary was asked to prepare the advertisement to be published in the SWAN.

Reports A. Dustan-Smith reported that the firm 'Lawn Tec' had been to inspect Lawn 1 and would be sending a firm estimate. It is hoped that the relaying of this lawn will be undertaken as soon as possible.

Dates: It is intended that the Lawns be open on April 3rd, with the possible exception of Lawn 1.

Egyptian Tournament – Tues 22nd June.

E. Owen. agreed to look into the cost of having the Annual Croquet Lunch at 'The Fortfield' or 'The Belmont' hotel.

Any Other Business It was agreed that the Coffee and Biscuits provided at the Table Tennis mornings should be the responsibility of the players, now that the activity is open to all sections of the club.

Date of next meeting. Tues. 1st Dec.at Manor Garth.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11.05 a.m.



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 1st December 1992 at Manor Garth

Present: J. Hatherley, H. Dawson, R. Henderson, E. Owen, B. Hills, A. Dustan-Smith, G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the Last Meeting were read, approved and signed.

Matters arising: A. Dustan-Smith was pleased to report that the necessary work to relay Lawn 1 had been approved by the Management Committee of the Club. It has yet to be decided whether this work will be undertaken by 'Lawn Tech' at a cost of £4,400, or by 'In Turf' at a cost of £4,200. A meeting with 'In Turf' had been arranged within the next few days, as they have not yet seen the site. The turf used is to be best quality, ideal for a seaside location and the variance of level not to exceed ½ inch across the entire surface. Tony Dustan-Smith offered to oversee this work which, it is hoped, will start in January. THE CHAIRMAN thanked Tony, on behalf of the Committee, for all his work on this project.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Sussex County Croquet Club, requesting our views on the proposed subscription charges published by the C.A.

A copy of our CHAIRMAN'S letter, dated 16th Oct., to S. Mulliner, was sent to their Secretary.

A letter of resignation was received from Mrs. Doreen Abrahams as she is no longer fit enough to play croquet. Her letter was acknowledged, with regret.

Reports: Our CHAIRMAN reported on the A.G.M. of the South West Federation of Croquet Clubs:

1. It was decided to request the C.A. to delay decision on the proposed changes to the subscription charges for, at least, one year since the opposition to these changes had been so strong. In fact, twelve of the clubs represented at the A.G.M. were considering the possibility of opting out should these new charges be enforced.

2. Only players with handicaps from 16 to 24 may play in the B league. Singles handicaps will be used throughout.

3. It would be helpful if competing teams were to exchange telephone numbers when details of a proposed match were finalised.

T. Dustan-Smith also reported that he was about to summon people who had offered to help in a Winter work Party and requested that a notice, asking for volunteers be included in the Spring Programme.

The suggestion of a yew hedge along the south boundary of Lawn 4 was approved.

R. Henderson reported that the Table Tennis mornings were well supported, though only one table was adequate, at present. Whist Drives were also much enjoyed and he had handed £40 to the Treasurer of the Main Club, being the profits from these activities.

E. Owen reported that she had enquired of the Fortfield, Bedford and Belmont Hotels, with a view to requesting them to provide a three-course luncheon on Thursday March 11th for the Croquet Club. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the Annual Lunch should be held at the Belmont Hotel, at a cost of £10 per head.

H. Dawson reported that he had asked Michael Davis to manage the Fed. League Matches, V. Henderson the B League Matches and H. Dawson, himself, would manage the Intermediate matches.

Any Other Business It was decided to have a second Open Tournament in 1993. The dates to be 25th, 26th Sept., Manager H. Dawson, American Blocks according to handicap, entry fee £10. The Secretary was asked to prepare the appropriate notice to be inserted in the 1993 Croquet Fixtures Booklet. The notice was subsequently sent by first class post and Mr. D. Gaunt promised to include it in next year's booklet.

Date of Next Meeting Tues. 5th Jan. 1993 at Manor Garth.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11.20: a.m.



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 11th January 1993 at Manor Garth

Present: J. Hatherley, H. Dawson, R. Henderson, B. Hills, G. Sims.

Apologies: E. Owen, A. Dustan-Smith.

Matters arising: There would appear to be some problems with the proposed relaying of Lawn 1, since one of the firms involved may be going out of business. A. Dustan-Smith is, at present, on holiday. He is to report to the committee on his return.

THE CHAIRMAN proposed that an interim payment of £200 be paid towards the C.A. Club Registration Fee (CRF), since the exact figure required is still under discussion. The Committee agreed with this proposal, since all present acknowledged that the C.A. must have income in order to continue to operate, whilst the new subscription proposals are still under discussion. On behalf of E. Owen, H. Dawson reported that the S.W. Federation A.G.M. minutes quoted our CHAIRMAN as saying that Sidmouth Croquet Club would leave the C.A. should the new subscription proposals be enforced. This is an exaggeration since J. Hatherley merely stated that such a course of action would have to be considered. The S.W. Fed. fee of £30 per annum has been paid.

Correspondence: A letter as received from the Secretary of the Sussex County Croquet Club to thank us for sending our views, contained in the CHAIRMAN's letter to Stephen Mulliner of the 16th Oct. 1992, concerning the C.A. subscription proposals. They had 43 replies and are hopeful of a Special General Meeting being called.

A copy of the relevant page of the C.A. Fixtures book was received and confirmed that our Open Tournament week-end in September was included.

Reports: R. Henderson showed the base he had made for the "Croquet Memento" presented to the club by Mr. C. Beaumont-Edmonds. The Committee thanked him for his careful work to produce a handsome base for the trophy.

R. Henderson is about to arrange dates for club tournaments and it was agreed that the Doubles Tournament should take place over two week-ends if necessary, in order to accommodate those members who are working.

H. Dawson and B. Hills had little to report at this time of year. H. Dawson is now to be the Croquet Section Rep. on the Main Committee, as A. Dustan-Smith is to continue as Chairman of the Ground Committee.

E. Owen sent her report via the Chairman to say that the Croquet Annual Lunch has been booked for the 11th March at the Belmont Hotel at a cost of £9.50 per head, to include gratuities and V.A.T., at 12.30 for 1 p.m. Given a choice of Menu, the committee selected Menu B with a main course of Roast Lamb. The Lunch is open to Croquet members and partners, and Main Club Officials are to be invited.

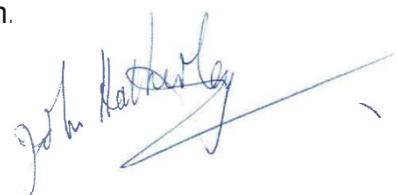
It was suggested that an afternoon of slides and talks by Mr. and Mrs. K Dawes, about their recent travels around China and India would be an enjoyable addition to our programme and E. Owen is to be asked to arrange this with the Dawes, the cost to be 50p-per head to include tea and biscuits.

Any Other Business: The CHAIRMAN requested that the invitation to play Croquet notice, usually found in the mallet room and with the Duty Officer, be rewritten and re-distributed, with minor adjustments.

Dates for the Spring Programme are nearly complete and it is hoped that this will be distributed by the end of January.

Date of next meeting: Tues. 2nd February 1993 at Manor Garth.

The CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.15 a.m.



SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB
CROQUET SECTION

SPRING PROGRAMME 1993

Thursday	4th February	10 a.m.	"A STROLL AROUND ASIA – TALK AND SLIDE SHOW BY MR. & MRS. DAWES"
Wednesday	10 February	2 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
Thursday	18 February	2 p.m.	PRE-SEASON CROQUET REFRESHER
Wednesday	10 March	2 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
Thursday	11 March	12.30 for. 1 p.m.	ANNUAL LUNCH AT THE BELMONT HOTEL
Tuesday	16 March	10 a.m.	MEETING FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS
Sunday	4 April	<u>LAWNS OPEN</u>	(Grounds and weather permitting.)

Your Subscription is NOW due (Club subscription £36.00 plus Croquet subscription £46.00, totalling £82.00.) Please make Cheque payable to Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis, Croquet & Hockey Club and send to the Club Treasurer, Rex Sims.

If you do not intend to continue as a member, please notify the Hon. Sec. Gwen Sims, as soon as possible.

As the Club operates entirely with volunteer help it would be much appreciated if you would offer your services during the season for such jobs as office duty, collection of deck chair money or tea duty.

In addition to the above, Tony Dustan-Smith is organising a party of volunteers who can offer a little help to the croquet section. If you feel able to wield a paint brush or take on a simple d.i.y. task, Please contact Tony, Tel. No. 029780-457, or Bob Callingham, Tel. 577622.

Tickets for the Annual Lunch (Cost £9.50) are available from Esme Owen, "Nidderdale", Boughmore Lane, Sidmouth, EX10 8SH - cheques made payable to the Club and an s.a.e. sent with ticket order please.

The meeting on 18th February is for us all to brush up our skills for the start of the season.

An Intermediate Training Course is to be run by Eric Kitchener. Enrolment lists will be in place at the beginning of the season.

It may be of interest to Croquet members to know that there is a very fine print of a painting, by Eleanor Ludgate, of the Croquet Lawns, 3 and 4, in the window of her Fore St. Gallery. It is priced at F45 and is one of a limited edition. There is no prize for identifying the players.

There will be a charge of 50p. per head for the Slide Show on the 4th Feb., to include coffee.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 2nd February 1993, at Manor Garth

Present: J. Hatherley, E. Owen, A. Dustan-Smith, H. Dawson, R. Henderson, B. Hills, G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil.

Matters arising: The secretary reported that the interim payment of £200 had been paid to the C.A. as requested. The Spring Programme had also been distributed.

Correspondence: Letter of resignation had been received from Mr. H. Drew, Mr. J. Jeeves and Mrs. C. Garrick. Mrs. J. Reid, Mrs. J. Goode and Mrs. B. Davies are prevented by ill-health from joining at the start of the season, but hope to be able to play later on.

Reports: R. Henderson reported that he had received 10 copies of 'Learn to Play Croquet' and a leaflet offering C.A. brooches. He intended to put a notice in the Mallet Room to ask members to contact him if they wish to order a brooch or any of the croquet books published.

The table-tennis mornings were very successful; the average attendance being around 14. One table only seemed wise, since members liked to chat between games.

E. Owen reported that 34 lunch places had already been booked for the Annual Lunch at the Belmont.

H. Dawson reported that the Fixture List for the S.W. Federation has been started. The Area now includes Wellington, Taunton Dene and Milverton, Weston Super Mare might also be included. There are 12 matches in all - six at home. We have lost Parkstone and Bournemouth.

Budleigh are to host International Championships on the 5th and 6th June, and World Championships in September, providing that these are sponsored. They also have an Open Tournament on the 9th May for one week, and for Advanced Play on the 3rd and 4th June, 2nd and 7th August and the 17th to 19th September. H. Dawson suggested that a club tournament in Advanced Play, using bisques might encourage members with no experience to try Advanced-Play. It was agreed that some encouragement was badly needed here.

There is to be a Regional Golf Tournament on the 3rd July at Sidmouth.

Reporting from the Management Committee Meeting, H. Dawson said that it had been suggested that a Sub-Committee be formed to consider the level of subscriptions in all sections. The minutes of that meeting showed that the proposal had been passed, but it was the general opinion of this Croquet Committee meeting that such a committee was not necessary or desirable. H. Dawson said he would take our unanimous view back to the Main Committee.

A. Dustan-Smith reported that, as feared, 'Lawn Tech' was Bankrupt. "In Turf" has taken over their work and their equipment and, together with "Randal's Contractors Ltd.", would complete the work needed on Lawn 1 at the original price agreed. They hope to start work next week and will not be paid until the lawn is finished. They will take off the old turf and move it to another part of the grounds.

A. Dustan-Smith has written to Honiton and Woodbury Golf courses to ask if they would like to buy some turf, but has received no reply beyond an acknowledgement.

Help will probably be needed from our members during this period and also when dressing lawn 2 and possibly lawn 3.

The Fortfield Hotel have acknowledged that they should maintain the grass bank on the northern boundary of Lawn 1.

Planning permission has been given for a sign to be put up at the eastern boundary of our Lawn 2 to advertise Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis, Croquet and Hockey Club.

The Groundsman, at the recent meeting of the Ground Committee, presented a summary of the work he intends completing for the Croquet Section this year. This was readily received and approved.

The Groundsman also requested a copy of CRICKET GROUNDS and this was approved and passed to the Treasurer.

The CHAIRMAN thanked A. Dustan-Smith for his continuing hard work on behalf of the section.

B. Hills said there was nothing to report on Golf Croquet. She noted the date of the S.W. Golf Croquet Tournament on the 3rd July, though it was pointed out that only our own members were interested in this event last year.

Any Other Business:

J. Hatherley reported that he had received a phone call from Mrs. Mary Ward, who would like to give us a wooden seat in memory of Mr. A. Ward. Whilst it was agreed that this is a very kind offer, J. Hatherley pointed out that the lawns could not accommodate many more such seats.

A. Dustan-Smith said that he was aware that the Budleigh Club would very much like to strengthen their association with Sidmouth and to this end it was suggested that when a Budleigh player was playing with a Sidmouth member, on our lawns, the lawn fee should be waived.

J. Hatherley undertook to write to Budleigh with this proposal.

The Secretary reported that the cups and trophies won during last year's season were being collected by I. and P. Dwerryhouse to be taken to the engraver. J. Hatherley mentioned that this gentleman was retiring next year and that a new engraver would be required.

Date of the next meeting: Tues. 2nd. March at Manor Garth.

The CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.15 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "John Hatherley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a long, thin horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 2nd March 1993, at Manor Garth

Present: J. Hatherley, E. Owen, A. Dustan-Smith, H. Dawson, R. Henderson, B. Hills, G. Sims.

Matters arising: The Secretary reported that an apology had been sent to Stephen Mulliner, since we were unable to send a representative to the special meeting of the C.A. which took place on Sat. 27th Feb. in Birmingham.

At present only 12 potential members are likely to attend the introductory meeting to be held on the 16th March. This is a disappointing response to our invitation, and THE CHAIRMAN suggested an advertisement in the weekend and Midweek Sidmouth Herald might be of interest to its many readers. An additional day, Sunday, March 28th, was to be used to introduce any people responding to the publicity, to look at the lawns, try their hand at hitting a ball and to hear about the training on offer. H. Dawson undertook the preparation of the required advertisement, as Publicity Officer.

Correspondence: A letter of resignation has been received from Mrs. Pat Dawes.

Reports: R. Henderson has made a ball gauge, which was approved and admired by the entire committee. It measures both tournament and championship balls. He also presented the Club Tournament Entry Form, which received minor adjustment and was approved by the committee.

E. Owen reported that there are 56 members, at present, who will attend the annual lunch at the Belmont on the 11th March. It is intended to ask for tables of eight to be arranged.

H. Dawson, reporting from the Main Committee, said that the idea of a separate committee to consider annual subscriptions, made up of members from the different sections, had been dropped. It had been suggested that the Social Members subscription might be reduced, but this did not meet with general approval. The problem of security at the Club is, once again, causing concern, and some method of improving this is being sought. The Croquet Section has been asked to paint the side facing Lawn 1 of the pavilion, with preservative. The Main Club A.G.M. will take place on Dec. 11th.

The prize money for the June Open Tournament will be £10 for the winners of the three groups - no prize for the runners up. The League and Tournament dates are all fixed, as are the captains.

A. Dustan-Smith is well pleased with the work on Lawn 1, by "Randal's Contractors". The Cumberland turf is, at present, under snow; but will take little more than a day to lay, once it is onsite. The ground will be level and fertilised shortly. The firm would like to put up a small display to advertise their work and will be happy to make a donation to the Club, if allowed to do so. It was also suggested that a small celebration would be enjoyable - details to follow. A. Dustan Smith met the firm's representatives with the Club Secretary and the Groundsman. They were given written details of aftercare for Lawn 1, to be carried out by our Groundsman, when the work is completed and the lawn is officially open. It was also suggested that a photograph might be sent to "The Sidmouth Herald".

With regard, to the yew hedge on the south boundary of Lawn 4, small shrubs of yew could be purchased at 95p per tree, plus £5.50 post and packing, from a firm in Lymington. A mulch mat had also been ordered to assist in establishing the hedge. THE CHAIRMAN thanked A. Dustan Smith for the research he had done on our behalf in this matter. A work party of around six members of the section were already tackling odd jobs around the grounds'.

THE CHAIRMAN reported that he had had no reply to the suggestion that the lawn fees should be waived when a Budleigh player was playing at Sidmouth with one of our members.

The Date of the next Meeting Tues April 6th at Manor Garth

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.20 a.m.



SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB
CROQUET SECTION

SUMMER PROGRAMME 1993

April 4th	Lawns open, subject to conditions.
April 26th	Club afternoons begin. (Assoc.)
May 3rd	Club Coffee Morning 10 a.m. (Croquet Section Cake Stall)
May 8th	Closing date for entries in Club Tournaments
May 20th and 21st	Short Croquet Open Tournament. Club members £3.50 entry fee closing date 13th May. (Applications to Mac Dawson).
May 22nd	Club members Short Croquet Tournament (no entry fee).
June 7th to 11th	Open Tournament (Applications to Iris Dwerryhouse).
June 22nd	Egyptian Tournament
July	2nd Federation Open Golf Croquet Tournament
July 9th	Friends Garden Party
July 10th, 11th & 17th, 18th	Club members Doubles Tournament
July 26th & 27th	Two Ball Tournament
August 16th	Shot Game Tournament
September 1st & 2nd.	Club Tournament Golf Croquet (Ass. Handicap 14 & over).
September 4th & 7th.	Club Tournament Finals
September 5th	Open Tournament

ASSOCIATION CROQUET

Most Monday afternoons from April 26th will be Club afternoons from 1 p.m. unless shown otherwise on the Booking sheet.

Please note that May 10th and June 28th will be 2 Ball practice on all lawns
June 14th and July 5th will be Shot Game practice on Lawns 3 & 4.

The Doubles Tournament this year is spread over two weekends in July. Lots of entries please, from lower as well as higher bisquers.

GOLF CROQUET

Organised Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. and Fridays from 4 p.m., starting from May 5th. Prior to this date personal lawn bookings only, for a maximum of 4 members per lawn per session, so as to avoid excessive wear and tear on the area around the hoops, early in the season.

REMINDER

Members' personal equipment, such as mallets, items of clothing, etc., left in the Mallet Room, are at Owner's Risk. It has been suggested members should make certain such items are covered under their own insurance policies.

Your Committee hopes that all members will enjoy a happy and successful season.

G. Simms
Hon. Sec. Croquet Section.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 6th April 1993, at Manor Garth

Present: J. Hatherley, E. Owen, A. Dustan-Smith, H. Dawson, R. Henderson, B. Hills, G. Sims.

Apologies: Nil

Matters Arising: The Chairman reported that, as a direct result of the Special General Meeting of the C.A. held in February, the Club Registration Fee for 1993 will be £3.50 per Affiliate. Individual members of the C.A. to pay their own separate fee. These individual membership fees will remain the same for the time being. The C.A. request that the balance of fees payable, if any, should be forwarded as soon as possible. (We have already paid £200).

As a result of our advertisement in the local papers our potential membership has risen to 22. These folks are already engaged in training, under the direction of Mr. Eric Kitchener and our coaches.

Correspondence: We have received a good deal of literature from the C.A. with reference to National Croquet Day. Since we are 102 members in number and 22 in training, we feel that the club has the maximum number of members for its four lawns. We are already training newcomers and had already advertised the club, in our local papers. The Secretary therefore wrote to Mr. C. Hudson of the C.A. and explained the situation. The Committee liked the posters and leaflets sent, and our appreciation of the work and encouragement from the C.A. was expressed in the letter.

The Council sent a questionnaire to ask if we had plans to include people of school age during the summer holiday. Since our youth training course met with limited success last season, it was decided not to repeat the experiment.

We have received details of a Sports Sponsor Scheme proposed by the Government and have passed this to the Treasurer of the Main Club. H. Dawson approached Dartington Glass with a scheme in mind, but met with little success last year.

Reports: H. Dawson reported that the Golf Regional Competition is now to be held on the 2nd July. The June Tournament is now fully subscribed, with 30 entries. The short Croquet numbers are coming in slowly - 8 so far, 7 from Sidmouth.

If possible, H. Dawson intends to keep the Sidmouth contestants to around 5 for the Short Croquet and for the Sept. Open Tournament.

THE CHAIRMAN reported that we had been invited to play in the Advanced League. The Committee and Chairman agreed that the club had too few members below 5 handicap, at the present time.

E. Owen reported that 58 members attended the Annual Lunch at the Belmont Hotel. It was very successful and much enjoyed. E. Owen will liaise with the Bar Chairman to have the bar open during the June Open Tournament from 12 till 2 p.m., and request that we might open and run the bar ourselves after play, at around 5.0 p.m.

A. Dustan-Smith was concerned that the Croquet Club Lawns be insured against vandalism or accident, and will look into this. In general, the Committee were delighted with the condition of lawn 1, but A. Dustan-Smith was very distressed to report that the lawn had not been watered in one small area where the arc of the water sprays did not overlap. In spite of numerous requests, the ground was not watered and the grass died. It is only now recovering. The lawn initially showed signs of a disease but this has been successfully treated by Randals. This firm are planning to display some form of advertising on the occasion of the opening of the new Lawn 1, and will pay the club the

sum of £250 for so doing. The opening is planned for Friday 28th May and Committee members, plus the President, will play.

D. Lewis has made three centre pegs to replace adapted cricket stumps.

A. Dustan-Smith also reported that the Club sign had now arrived. The proposed hedge on the south boundary of Lawn 4 will now be planted in the Autumn. The working party had painted the hut on lawn 4. H. Dawson has painted the whole of one side of the pavilion, overlooking lawn 1. THE CHAIRMAN and Committee expressed their appreciation. A. Dustan-Smith has now ordered the fertilizer for the lawn direct from the suppliers. A saving of £400.

A. Dustan-Smith will write a small account of the relaying of Lawn 1.

J. Hatherley volunteered to be the Croquet Representative on the Ground Committee.

The half circle wooden seat, usually to be seen in the corner of lawn 1 is to be photographed, to ascertain its value. Although pleasant to look at, it is not comfortable and its sale, if valuable, might be considered.

R. Henderson reported that entries to the Club Tournaments were coming in steadily. He was a little concerned that the library books did not seem to be complete but would look into this. The Club had also received a donation of two books from John Hatherley, and a clock for the tearoom from Gwen Hewitt. The very fine Seat from Mrs. M. Ward is soon to be placed on Lawn 2.

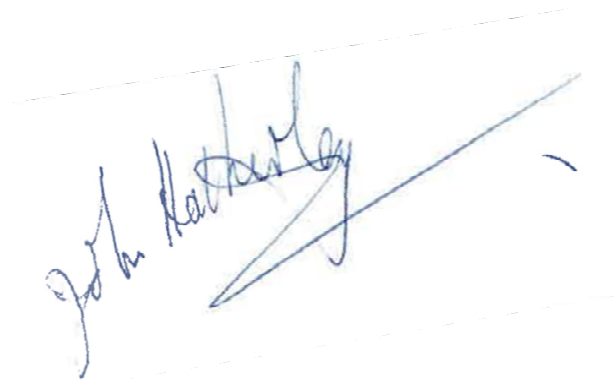
Any Other Business:

B. Hills undertook to prepare the Ladder to encourage members to invite others to play.

The Secretary was asked to write letters of thanks to E. Golding, M. Ward and G.Hewitt.

Date of next meeting: Tues. 4th May, at "Manor Garth"

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.20 a.m.



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 4th May 1993, at Manor Garth

Present: J. Hatherley, E. Owen, H. Dawson, R. Henderson, B. Hills, G. Sims.

Apologies: A. Dustan-Smith.

Matters Arising: THE CHAIRMAN read out the new proposals, outlined in the C.A.'s letter of the 16th April, for the CRF from 1994. The Committee consider them to be fair and the Secretary was instructed to reply to the C.A. accordingly.

THE CHAIRMAN was also concerned that a number of people appeared on our current membership list who had not paid their subscription and did not intend to do so this season, for one reason and another. The Secretary is to take this up with the Membership Secretary of the main club and adjust the list accordingly.

There is much concern about the state of the lawns. The new Lawn 1 needs two more dressings, Lawn 3 and 4 have holes in them which have not been filled during the winter and the CHAIRMAN and H. Dawson volunteered to repair these themselves. THE Chairman suggested that detailed plans of the lawns and the work needed thereon should be made during the summer and presented to the Groundsman in the Autumn in order that he and the croquet working party might achieve the maximum amount of work to prepare the lawns for the 1994 season. There is no progress with regard to the restoration of the ornamental seat from Lawn 1.

Correspondence: A letter from the C.A. outlining details of three tournaments was passed to B. Hills. The Croquet Classic was not expected to give rise to interest, The Golden Mallet and The Golf Croquet Tournament were applicable to those with a handicap over 18, and members will be asked to apply to B. Hills for further information. G. Downs will not be joining the croquet section this year.

Reports: R. Henderson was concerned that the rebuilding of the bar of the Sidmouth Club, adjacent to Lawn 1, should not proceed at the wrong time. It was the unanimous opinion of the committee that the work should not happen during the croquet season. Two members of the committee, J. Hatherley and H. Dawson volunteered to liaise with the committee of the Sidmouth Club concerning this venture.

E. Owen reported that the bar would be open from 12 till 2 p.m. during the Open Tournament days and would enquire whether P. Dart would man the bar in the evening for the June Tournament. Lunches for the June Tournament will be provided and teas for all tournaments and league matches. Club events will be considered separately.

H. Dawson has arranged the "Grand Opening" teams to play on Lawn 1 on the 28th May. P. Dwerryhouse will head the team of A. Dustan-Smith, G. Sims and R. Henderson. J. Hatherley will head the team of B Hills, E. Owen and H. Dawson. The 29th and 30th May will mark the beginning of the League matches. It was decided that the usual procedure with regard to the payment for tea should continue, i.e. that Sidmouth players taking part in a home match should pay for their own tea, and that of their opponent in an away match, the petrol costs should be shared by the team, since tea was always free to visitors.

Reporting from the Main Management Committee, H. Dawson said that there will, once again, be a Charity Cricket Match, but the Cricket Section are aware of our Tournament in September and have promised to avoid that date.

The Main Committee are anxious to attract young members to the club, but the Croquet Committee's efforts last year met with little success. The remaining sections of the club are now working with this in mind.

A Public Relations Officer, R. Packe, has been appointed. A separate F. & G.P. committee under B. Hanson is to look at subscriptions. The club is £2,000 better off than it was last year. The proposed system of entry by card will not be pursued, since the cost of 500 key cards was £2,000. Insurance against the vandalism of the croquet lawns or cricket squares will be sought.

B. Hills reported that a Golf Croquet tournament against Budleigh had been arranged for July 1st, starting at 2.30 p.m.

Any Other Business: It is intended to take a photograph of all the trophies at the next A.G.M., for insurance purposes. The trophy presented by Cohn Beaumont-Edmonds is to be named "The Canton Trophy", which was the suggestion of G. Dart. THE CHAIRMAN presented the Trophy Book, compiled by G. Dart, to the committee, and asked the Secretary to convey the thanks and appreciation of the committee and club to Gwynneth for all her hard work and research.

Many requests were made during the Coffee Morning of May 3rd for a plant stall, and it was decided that the croquet section would do its best to see that such a stall should appear next year.

Date of next Meeting: 1st. June, at Manor Garth.

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.30 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Harker", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 1st June 1993, at Manor Garth

Present: J. Hatherley, A. Dustan-Smith, R. Henderson, H. Dawson, E. Owen, B. Hills, G. Sims.

Matters Arising: There have been one or two offers to restore the seat previously situated in the corner of Lawn 1, during the winter months.

The Sidmouth Club's proposed plan to rebuild their bar, adjoining Lawn 1, will not proceed until the autumn. A committee of two from the Club, plus the Chairman, and our John Hatherley and Mac Lawson will liaise, with our groundsman in attendance, the contractor.

The Bar Steward will open the bar at lunchtime during the June Open Tournament, and again at 5.30 in the evening, as required.

The Grand Opening of Lawn 1 was a happy occasion, though there is much concern that the grass is too long, play is very slow and it has not been cut often enough.

Correspondence: The new C.A. Directory has arrived and has been placed in the mail room.

We recently received a request from the South West Sports Council to arrange an afternoon of croquet for mentally disabled people on holiday. However, it was carefully explained that this activity, whilst possibly within the scope of those people who are slightly physically disabled, is not suitable for those with Downes Syndrome. The Main Club Secretary received an angry letter from their executive Officer and his reply, to all her queries, was read to the committee this morning. The Secretary as asked to write to the Hon. Sec. Mr. C. Campbell, and voice our appreciation of the time and care with which he had prepared his excellent letter.

Reports: R. Henderson reported that the Club Short Croquet Day was very successful, in spite of the unpleasant weather. The overall winner was Sheila Adams, with Michael Smekal as runner up.

Esme Owen said the profit on teas during the recent Open Short Croquet Tournament was £14.38. Helpers for the coming June Open Tournament were arranged - one person per morning and one per afternoon to assist in the kitchen. Mrs. M. Clark and Mrs. P. Fogwill will be there each day. Coffee can be provided early in the morning, if required.

T. Dustan-Smith Produced the Colclough Cup, which had been missing for some time. This cup, it is believed, matches one of the pair currently presented for the Doubles Tournament. It is planned to use the matching cups in future, if this is the case, in place of the rather large cup given to one of the partners over the last few years. The Secretary was asked to insert a page in the Trophy Book to include the newfound cup. T. Dustan-Smith has obtained some timber to line the wall on the far side of Lawn 1 - against the Sidmouth Club boundary.

It is planned to hold a Barbecue at the end of the season, possibly on Sept. 7th. T. Dustan-Smith will organise this, but details are yet to be decided.

H. Dawson reported that the Open Short Croquet Tournament was very enjoyable, in spite of the cold weather. He has sent a short article to "Swan" to bring attention to this tournament. Since the number of visitors taking part was a little disappointing, H. Dawson suggested that it might be wise to consider whether it is the sort of tournament people want, when planning next year's activities.

The Short Croquet Tournament was won by Ken Bright from Bath.

Iris Dwerryhouse was the runner up. £20 was given as prizes, £13 went to the Groundsman, the bar takings were £23, approx. The overall profit was £37, not including the bar profit.

The entry date for the September Omen Tournament is to-day, June 1st. Eighteen players are needed.

Reporting on the recent matches, H. Dawson said that we lost the Intermediate Match with Plymouth, 7 nil, but the result did not reflect the quality of play.

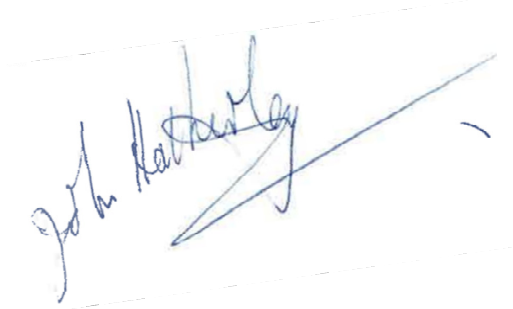
The Exeter Federation Match, which should have taken place on the 31st May was cancelled due to bad weather.

H. Dawson was very concerned about Association Croquet Club afternoons. THE CHAIRMAN and committee shared his concern, that members were not always satisfied with the activities offered. After much discussion it was decided that unless otherwise stated in the Summer Programme, one lawn would be reserved for 2 Bail, three lawns used for Assoc. Croquet played in the form of doubles with partners taking alternate shots. Each game to take 1 hour, starting from three back. The name of the committee member responsible for organising the games each Monday to be entered in the Club Calendar.

Any Other Business: The Secretary was asked to write to Bob Callingham to thank him for organising the winter Working Party.

Date of the next meeting 6th June at "Goodrich House"

THE CHAIRMAN closed tile meeting at 11.50 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Harkerley", is written over a faint, tilted rectangular box. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

RESULTS SHEET to the CROQUET ASSOCIATION

SIDMOUTH CROQUET TOURNAMENT. June 7th - June 11th 1993

AMERICAN BLOCKS

BLOCK A.

5 W. H. Arliss	7 wins	+ 49pts		1 loss
5 A. Dustan Smith	6 "	+ 37pts	another game to play	1 loss
3 M. Hornby	4 "			
3 J. Hatherley	4 "			
5 H. Hall	3 "			
6 M McF Davis	3 "			
7 D. Mears	2 "			
6 Rev. Mrs Scarr	1 "			
6 L. E. Toye	1 "			

BLOCK B.

8 Mrs D. Mears	5 wins	+ 17pts	another game to play	2 losses
12 S. Orr	4 "	+ 28 "	2 games to play	2 losses
9 H. Dawson	4 "	+ 22 "		3 "
12 E. Owen	4 "	+ 20 "		2 "
10 P. Dwerryhouse	3 "			
11 Mrs C. Thursfield	3 wins			
11 E. Robinson	2 wins			
12 Miss K. Holroyde	2 wins			
11 Miss H. Perren	1 win			

BLOCK G.

16 R. Henderson	6 wins	+ 48 pts	2 games to play	1 loss
18 Mrs W. H. Arliss	6 wins	+15 pts	"	1 loss
14 J. Bailey	5 "	+ 11 "	"	2 losses "
14 C. Thursfield	4 "			
16 Mrs G. Sims	4 "			
14 Mrs J. Bailey	3 "			
16 Mrs R. Henderson	3 "			
14 Mrs M. Watts	2 "			
14 Mrs E. Owen	1 "			
18 Miss P. Sutton	1 "			

David Rawkins Cup presented to W. H. Arliss

Fortfield Cup S. Orr

Dwerryhouse Cup R, Henderson

Prizes were awarded on highest points per games played

The final day was a washout, as all the lawns were flooded by 11.30. 8 games were abandoned 15 games not started,

Double banking was used for all games of 3¼ hours and very few were finished before time.

We will prepare a new format for next year

Tournament Manager

J. M. Dwerryhouse.

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH JULY AT "GOODRICH HOUSE"

Present: J. Hatherley, E. Owen, H. Dawson, R. Henderson, B. Hills, G. Sims, A. Dustan Smith.

Apologies: Nil.

Matters Arising: T. Dustan-Smith has received an offer from Mr. Eric Horne to restore the seat from Lawn 1, during the winter months. The Committee were happy to accept this offer.

The Barbecue will take place on the 7th Sept. T. Dustan-Smith and E. Owen will liaise to decide menu. The invitation will be open to the whole club, bar facilities from 6.30 till 9 p.m. R. Henderson offered to produce a notice to advertise the event, to be placed in the Mallet Room and the Main Bar.

Reports: R. Henderson reported that he had ordered more Rule Books. The Committee were interested in obtaining a video of Croquet Play to be used in training programmes. The Secretary was instructed to enquire if such a video was available via the C.A. A. Dustan-Smith will look into the possibility of making our own video.

The Egyptian Tournament went very well, with entries from a good cross-section of the club, and numbering over 20. L. Toye was the winner, with V. Henderson as runner up.

The Doubles Tournament had met with mixed approval this year. The two weekends set aside for the Tournament meant that some players were expected to play two full games in one day. This was not popular with some of the older members. The Committee sympathised with R. Henderson, and it was suggested that the format of the Tournament should be considered carefully next year, once again. E. Owen pointed out that some partnerships were not needed at all on one of the four tournament days, which made it harder to play two games in one day. It was also suggested that members should not play with the same partner.

B. Hills said that the Golf Croquet section was thriving. Thirty-seven members attended last Wednesday. In the recent friendly match against Budleigh, Sidmouth won - 11 - 5. During the Regional Golf Croquet Tournament, held in Sidmouth on the 2nd July, six of our members qualified in the singles and doubles to go on to the next round.

T. Dustan Smith was very concerned about the Croquet Balls. They were constantly being wrongly replaced in the racks and needed careful sorting. The Committee are aware that the balls are often misplaced in the racks after Golf Croquet, and the alternative colours seldom used. We also need new balls. It was suggested that each set of balls should be marked with paint. This proposal, and the question of exactly how many new balls are required, will be considered by the Committee, at the next meeting after hearing T. Dustan Smith's conclusions.

The coarse grass on Lawn 1 is to be treated by chemicals, at the recommendation of the Contractors, and it is hoped this, and heavy watering at intervals, will cure the problem.

H. Dawson, reporting from the Main Committee, said that the September Tournament will take place on the original dates set, and that the Charity Cricket Match will not be played that weekend. Though there had been lively discussion on this matter, the majority of the Main Committee agreed that the Croquet Section had made every effort to inform all sections of the Sept. Tournament, and should be allowed a weekend free of other activities, that might intrude upon the tournament.

The Club Treasurer had asked the Committee members from each section to give an approximate Income and Expenditure Budget for 1993/94, and a Form of Request is therefore attached to these minutes.

H. Dawson intends to prepare four American Blocks of five for the Sept. Tournament, but is short of five people and will therefore be looking for club members to fill the gap.

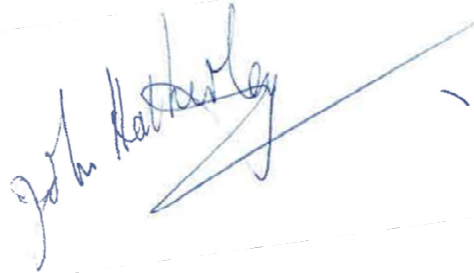
It was good to hear, also from the Main Committee, that the Croquet section had already donated £416 to club funds, and that all our subscriptions were paid. H. Dawson said the monies from the June Tournament, including bar profits and catering would probably amount to £450 - £500+, but the exact figures are not clear as yet. E. Owen reported that she had paid in £64.05 profit from croquet teas since June and that the lunch, kindly given to raise funds for Lawn 1, had realised £110. This was a wonderful effort and THE CHAIRMAN and Committee expressed their warm appreciation to Esme and Ted.

Any Other Business THE CHAIRMAN said that the dates for the June Tournament 1994 must be considered at the next Committee meeting and that the Groundsman would be glad if a full weeks Cricket, which usually takes place before the tournament, could be followed by a clear week. This would enable him to deal with the lawns and complete all the preparation for the June tournament comfortably.

A working party of people are required to put out the games at 10 a.m. for the annual Garden Party. H. Dawson pointed out that for the amount of money taken for some of the games it simply was not worth running - and the committee, in general, had to agree. This will take place on Friday, 9th July.

Date of Next Meeting Tues. Aug. 10th at "Manor Garth".

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 11.30 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Harker", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is written in a cursive style.

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 10TH AUGUST AT "MANOR GARTH"

Present: J. Hatherley, H. Dawson, E. Owen, G. Sims,

Apologies: A. Dustan-Smith, R. Henderson, B. Hills

Minutes of the Last Meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising: A. Dustan-Smith's menu for the proposed barbecue in September was read out to the committee and approved. His suggestion that a photocopy of 'The Spectators' Game of Croquet' should be placed on the notice board facing the road on Lawn 2 was also approved.

The CHAIRMAN went through the budget for the Croquet section for 1994 and will prepare this for presentation to the Club Treasurer.

A Tournament Committee of I. Dwerryhouse, TH. Dawson and J. Hatherley will consider the format of the 1994 Open Tournaments and the Secretary was asked to write to the C.A. to inform them that our fixture for the June Tournament will be from the 13th to 17th, and for the September Tournament, the weekend of 10/11th. The details will be furnished later.

Correspondence: The CHAIRMAN received an invitation from Joyce Goodhart of Budleigh Salterton to a friendly match between Sidmouth and Budleigh, 7 games, 2 Federation, 2 Intermediate and 3 B level. The dates of the 14th or 21st of September were approved, and the committee are happy to accept the invitation. N.B. the 14th September has since been agreed.

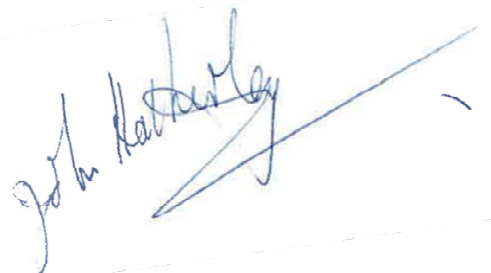
Reports: E. Owen had little to report, but confirmed that lunch will be available for the Open Tournament in September, plus bar facilities. H. Dawson requested £40 for prize money for the September Tournament. The Exeter Fed. Match cancelled on May 30th, will be played at Home on August 26th. Milverton have withdrawn from the 'B' League matches. We are not likely to win any prizes, since Plymouth have swept the board in the League Matches this year, but we have done well.

Any Other Business

The date of the A.G.M. of the Croquet Section was decided to be Oct. 27th. And the Club Treasurer, R. Sims, was invited to present the Trophies. The Secretary has had seven requests, to date, for the Hogan Mallets.

Date next meeting Mon. 6th September at "Manor Garth"

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 10.50 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Hatherley", is written over a diagonal line that spans across the bottom right portion of the page.

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 6TH SEPTEMBER AT
"MANOR GARTH"

Present: J. Hatherley, H. Dawson, E. Owen, B. Hills, H. Henderson, G. Sims.

Apologies: A. Dustan-Smith.

Minutes of the Last Meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: The Chairman had prepared and presented to the Club Treasurer our proposed Budget for the year 1994. The Committee were surprised to hear that our nett contribution to the Club will be in the region of £8,167.

Lawn 1 will be closed from October 1st as Skinners Builders are to start the rebuilding of the bar of the Sidmouth Club, on the 27th September.

Golf Croque has officially ended, but B. Hills is very willing to continue to run the sessions until 23rd September, at the request of the regular players.

The friendly match with Budleigh Club on the 14th September will consist of 2 Federation players, 2 Intermediate and 2 B League.

Correspondence: The Secretary has received notice of a New Zealand Croquet Tour, planned for 1994, and details will appear on the notice board.

Reports: The Committee members had little to report at this time of year.

The recent Golf Croquet Tournament was much enjoyed by the members taking part, and the beautiful weather was an added bonus. B. Hills reported that there will be a friendly Golf Croquet Match between Budleigh and Sidmouth Clubs on the 16th September.

THE CHAIRMAN kindly arranged to send a bouquet of flowers to Freda Harding, who has, sadly, become very ill.

The Secretary reported that all the barbecue tickets have been sold.

Any Other Business: The Committee are to lose three members at the end of the Croquet year. After the A.G.M. on the 27 October, Mr. H. Dawson, Mrs. B. Hills - and Mr. R. Henderson will retire. The Secretary was asked to post a notice in the mallet room, inviting nominations for the 1994 Croquet Committee, which will remain in position until Oct. 13th.

The winter programme will include Military Whist, every second Wednesday in the Month, beginning in October, and weekly Wednesday morning Table Tennis, which was so popular last year. Mr. Eric Kitchener has offered to run a Laws Course in the pavilion, at 10 a.m. on Saturday mornings, Oct. 30th, Nov. 27th, Jan 29th and Feb. 26th.

Date of Next Meeting: Tue. 12th October, at 'Manor Garth'

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 10.30 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Hatherley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned at the bottom right of the page.

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH OCTOBER AT "MANOR GARTH"

Present; J. Hatherley, B. Hills, R. Henderson, A. Dustan-Smith, G. Sims.

Apologies: H. Dawson, E. Owen.

Minutes of the Last Meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: The friendly match with Budleigh on the 14th September was enjoyed by all who took part and although Sidmouth lost - 2 - 5, it is hoped that this will be an annual event, with Sidmouth playing host next year. Re. the A.G.M. there are five nominations for committee members and also nominations for the Secretary and Chairman. There are no matters that are to be considered from the floor at the A.G.M.

Correspondence. Mrs. J. A. Swindel asked if she might borrow a club mallet and a set of practice balls to practice during the winter months, and this was approved. The Secretary received a letter from the C.A. outlining the proposed subscription charges for the next few years and asking for the support of all members, via the form contained in this month's copy of "Croquet". This is now on our Notice Board. Several requests have been received from the S.W. Federation, together with notice of their A.G.M. The entries for the 199 fixtures book must be in by Oct. 20th. THE CHAIRMAN undertook to look into this matter. THE CHAIRMAN and Secretary will attend the A.G.M. on 7th. November in Bristol and hope that one or two members will also attend. We have offered to host a S.W. Federation Golf Croquet Qualifying event in 1994.

Reports: A. Dustan-Smith presented a beautifully enlarged copy of the outline of Croquet Play, to be posted on the fence nearest to the public. B. Hills offered to take small copies to be placed in the small box in the tea room. A. Dustan-Smith will organise a small working party to prepare the bed for the yew hedge on the south boundary of Lawn 4. There are 20 tonnes of top dressing to be spread, and the Groundsman will need help, perhaps from the same working party. The lawns will be closed as and when the Groundsman thinks fit, and certainly when he spreads the top dressing. A. Dustan-Smith again expressed concern over the state of the balls. It was decided that separate balls should be kept for golf croquet, in a box to be placed in the small pavilion between Lawns 2 and 3. It is intended that our request for 2 new sets of balls should therefore be increased to 4. A. Dunstan-Smith also requested that there be a Golf Croquet Tournament next season in which high and low bisquers could take part. This will be considered.

B. Hills reported that both the Golf Croquet events at Budleigh were very much enjoyed by all. Sidmouth were successful on both days, and had a thrilling finish to the last game. There was concern among the members that during the S.W. Golf Croquet Tournament this year, held at Budleigh, handicaps were not applicable, and many association players came, who were not regular golf croquet players and swept the board. The Secretary was asked to request that this matter should be raised at the A.G.M. of the S.W. Federation, to be held in November.

H. Dawson sent a written note to say that the September Open Tournament was successful, despite nine cancellations. The overall profit was £77.50, plus bar profit of £33 and catering £50.

Any Other Business

The Club Diaries for 1994 are ready.

THE CHAIRMAN referred to H. Dawson's outline of the new Subscription Policy that is at present under consideration. It is suggested that - Social membership goes down by £2.

The basic subscription for croquet, cricket, tennis and hockey goes down by £6. The playing fee goes up by £6 for croquet and tennis, which leaves the total the same. (The cricket and hockey fee also increase by £6). Therefore, Life Patrons pay more - an extra £6 per year plus the inflation factor.

We agree in principle but we do not think this alone will encourage more members. We do not accept that the croquet and tennis total subscription should go up to £85, although we do understand that this figure might be incorrect.

We approve the concept of decreasing the basic subscription and increasing the playing subscription by a similar amount providing some allowance is made for recent Life Patrons.

A. Dustan-Smith will photograph the trophies at the Croquet A.G.M, for security purposes. THE CHAIRMAN asked the committee to investigate the area to find an engraver, as our usual source is no longer available.

THE CHAIRMAN also suggested that a Plant Stall be provided by the members of the croquet section, at the May Coffee Morning.

The Committee also considered the plans submitted for the further enhancement of the pavilion. There were one or two proposals that gave cause for concern, i.e. the fact that the cricketers would enter and exit from a door situated on the path running alongside Lawn 1. The Secretary was asked to write to the Main Club Secretary, giving details of the Committee's concerns. (Copy attached).

Date of Next Meeting: This will be decided by the new committee.

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 12.30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Harker", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CROQUET SECTION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27TH OCTOBER 1993 AT 2.00 PM IN THE PAVILION.

Apologies were received from Aline Davis, George Buckley, Barbara and Keith Dawes, Suzanne and Eric Golding, Sheila Scarr, Freda Tovey., Betty Moores, Reg Pierce and Alan Rose. The Club Secretary, Colin Campbell also sent apologies.

The Chairman then welcomed the members of the section and the Club Treasurer, Rex Sims, who was to present the prizes. There were 52 members present, including the Club President and Chairman.

The Chairman reminded the members that the minutes of the AGM, held on the 27th October, 1992, had been on the notice board since the beginning of September and asked if they should be taken as read. This was unanimously agreed and the minutes were accordingly approved and signed.

Committee's Report. The Secretary read the Committee's report on the year's activities. Adoption of the Report was proposed by Phillip Dwerryhouse, seconded by Pam Clark, and unanimously agreed.

The Chairman thanked the Committee for their support through the year and went on to thank individual members of the club for their willingness to help in any way necessary. Some had assisted the groundsman; some had undertaken cleaning work and one person had started a scrap book. A lunch and two evening functions had been organized by members, that had provided very pleasant occasions and profit to the club. The Chairman also thanked the Treasurer and the Main Club Committee for making the funds available for the relaying of Lawn 1. The year ahead should be one of consolidation.

A vote of thanks to the Committee and to the three retiring members was proposed by Brian Smith and endorsed by the meeting.

Election of Officers and 5 Committee Members. The Chairman stated that only one nomination had been received for Chairman and one for Secretary and that five names had been proposed and seconded for Committee members. Unfortunately, Brian Smith, who had been proposed, had had to withdraw. The new Committee was therefore:

Chairman John Hatherley

Secretary Gwen Sims:

Members Tony Dustan-Smith, Esme Owen, Hazel Rubery, Iris Dwerryhouse.

The Committee is therefore short of one member and the Chairman invited nominations from the floor. Although two people were invited to stand it was decided that the new committee would discuss the matter and co-opt a fifth member.

Any Other Business:

- a) The Chairman suggested that a plant stall, run by the Croquet Section would be a welcome addition to the May Coffee morning and asked members to bear this in mind when taking cuttings and planting.
- b.) Attention was drawn to the scrap book started by Gwynneth Dart. Any information or photographs about past activities would be eligible for inclusion.
- c) Keith and Barbara Dawes have suggested that there should be a space for members to show whether they wish to be included in the ladder play, on the form of entry for internal tournaments.
- d) It was agreed that Club afternoons should continue until the end of September. After some discussion it was decided that play should include alternate shot games, alternate

turn games, and two ball. The Chairman pointed out that Club afternoons were not for basic coaching.

e) Members were invited to purchase sweaters with a club logo embroidered on each sweater. Orders to be given to the Secretary, via the form in the mallet room.

f) Iris Dwerryhouse as CA Handicapper, was invited to speak on members' present handicaps. The handicaps of a few higher bisquers had been altered.

g) The Chairman told the meeting that the AGM of the SW Federation would take place in Bristol, on Sunday November 7th. The Secretary and Chairman will attend and there are two spare seats in the car should anyone else wish to join them.

Presentation of Trophies: The Chairman then asked Rex Sims, our Club Treasurer, to present the trophies.

A vote of thanks to Rex was proposed by Eric Kitchener and heartily endorsed by all members.

THE CHAIRMAN closed the meeting at 3 p.m. and tea was served.



CLUB TOURNAMENTS 1993

Humphrey Hicks Cup	Advanced Play (Singles)	John Hatherley
Belmont Challenge Cup	Handicap Singles	Clifford Walker
Fermor Rose Bowl	Ladies Handicap Singles	Gwen Simst
Colclough & Sidmouth Cups	Handicap Doubles	Esme Owen & Mac Dawson
Devonia Cup	High Handicap Singles	Gwen Sims
Corbett Spoons	Two Ball - High Bisquers	Peggy Webber
	Low Bisquers	Ted Owen
Robert Case Shield	Shot Game Highest score	Tony Dustan-Smith
Tankard	Highest score + Handicap	Eric Kitchener
Cunningham Salvors	Golf Croquet Singles	Peter Dart
	Doubles	Gordon Bamford & Katherine Holroyde
Longworth Cup	Most Improved Players	R. Henderson
Sidmouth Croquet Club Cup		Leslie Toye

THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT Once again, this has been a most eventful year in the history of the Croquet Section. The re-laying of Lawn 1 provided high drama in the early part of the season, and almost every day members of the section were to be seen watching progress. On 28th May the Committee had a day of fun where the result didn't matter and took part in the opening game on the new lawn. It was incredibly slow at first but despite one or two set-backs and stubborn patches of meadow grass, it is now playing well and looking good. It took an enormous amount of research and time to find the right firm to do the work at the right price. We are indebted to Tony Dustan Smith for his work and diligence, both beforehand after the new Lawn 1 was laid.

For the first time Sidmouth held two Open Tournaments this year, in June and September. Both were very happy occasions and much enjoyed by all who took part. The June Tournament finished as last year, in a day of torrential rain, when play was finally abandoned. The cups were awarded on point and though the Fortfield and David Rawkins cups went to our visitors, Roland Henderson retained the Dwerryhouse 'Challenge Clip for Sidmouth. A net profit in excess of £500 was paid into the main club funds.

The September Tournament suffered several last minute cancellations for, the best - possible reasons, one couple being called to play in the National Short Croquet Finals and another couple to the European Finals in Milan. Nevertheless thirteen players took part, Jon Toye and Bernard Webster from Bath were the winners and approximately £150 profit went to the main club funds. It is hoped that around twenty will take part next year as the interest is clearly there. Stuart Orr from Plymouth, has entered every tournament Sidmouth has held this year and was kind enough to write a very appreciative report for us. Our sincere thanks to Iris Dwerryhouse and Mac Dawson for their very efficient and smooth organisation.

We once again hosted a South West Short Croquet two-day tournament in May and Ken Bright from Bath carried off the Dorothy Toye Trophy, with Iris Dwerryhouse as runner up. Members enjoyed a Club Short Croquet Tournament the following day, in spite of the cold weather and Sheila Adams was the overall winner.

Apart from the Open Tournaments, a full programme of events took place during the season- on June 22nd members with stamina took part in the Egyptian Tournament - where members could play as many games as they wished depending on lawn availability. There were 20 entries and the day went well.

In July the Doubles Tournament took place over two week-ends, in order to allow full time working members to join in. However, there were disadvantages and the format of this tournament will be considered once again by your committee.

The 2 Ball at the end of July and the Shot Game Tournament in August were well supported, 'in fine weather and much enjoyed.

For the yearly club Tournaments there were many entries and again, as always, the matches were not played off as promptly as they might have been. However, the Finals went well, though on one day the weather was so dreadful, if nothing else, it served to prove that Lawn 1 drained well. The final of the Belmont Cup provided a spectacular finish with Mac Dawson and Clifford Walker battling to the end, when Clifford pegged out from the Border.

S.W. Federation Our results in the S.W. Federation have been very even. In the Federation League and Intermediate League two matches were won and two lost. In the 'B' League one match was won, one lost and one walk over. The results were not without a lighter side! In the Federation League Plymouth swept the board. Our team reported that their lawns, built on top of a reservoir, were so fast 'that Tony Dustan-Smith playing a doubles with John Hatherley, did not make one hoop. (John made one) and then had to play a singles match on the same lawn. When he finally managed to make his first hoop a cheer went up from all present! At Taunton apologies were made for the state of the lawns and,

since the top of the balls could just be seen, our lot felt they were a little long for play! However, it was all good fun and good experience said one of our members. Our thanks to Michael Davis and Vera Henderson for their efficient organisation of the Federation and 'B' team.

It is always a pleasure to visit other clubs and meet new opponents. This year, in September, Budleigh invited Sidmouth to a friendly match. A group of seven enjoyed an afternoon of relaxed play and a delicious tea. It is hoped this will become an annual event with Sidmouth to host next season.

Sidmouth was well represented in all the Budleigh Tournaments this year. Both Mac Dawson and Michael Davis were awarded silver medals for a 12-hoop break without bisques in addition to winning the game. Iris Dwerryhouse reached the final of one tournament.

Golf Croquet - maintained its popularity on Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons. During the Regional Golf Croquet Tournament on the 2nd July, six of our members went through to take part in the finals in Budleigh. Both Club Golf Croquet matches with Budleigh were much enjoyed and Sidmouth were the victors on both occasions. Our own Golf Croquet Tournaments, doubles and singles, were well supported, with many entries and good weather as a bonus.

Membership Our total membership is 113, including 2 country members and 3 student members. Sixteen potential new members finished the training course and became full playing members. It is good to welcome so many new faces and to see them regularly on the lawns.

Training The training of new members is a demanding and time consuming task. The Croquet Section have a team of dedicated and extremely conscientious coaches. Often the weather is poor at the start of the season - this year in particular and students and members of the club are therefore much in their debt. Our thanks to you all. This year Gwynneth Dart has become a very welcome addition to the team, having successfully completed the necessary course. Eric Kitchener's post training course was, again, so popular that he had a full class every time, as it was available to anyone who felt they would benefit. He has also offered to run a Laws Course during the winter months. Thank you Eric, for all your efforts on our behalf. One of our members took the Loughborough Course this year and we attracted two students from Sidmouth College who took the training course and became members.

Social Activities The annual lunch was held at the Belmont in Parch and was a very happy occasion. Table Tennis continues to flourish each week under the supervision of Eric Golding. the monthly Military Whist Drive is not so well supported, due, perhaps to the thriving bridge club, but it is good fun, it is not necessary to be an experienced card player, and Eric Kitchener says it a good afternoon's entertainment. It would be sad to see this activity decline.

This year we have enjoyed two new social functions - a Barbecue, organised by Tony Dustan Smith at the end of the season, and, unexpectedly, a supper organised by Kay Peers and her team. In spite of -the weather the barbecue was great fun and the supper in October, with entertainment provided, was also highly successful. The Croquet members are well aware of how much thought and work had to go into producing such evenings. Our thanks to you both, Tony and Kay and to your team of helpers. Your Committee has it in mind that perhaps an end of season evening might be on the agenda.

There are so many who do so much for the croquet section, from the winter working party to the ladies who make cakes for our coffee stall. The Section is full of willing workers too numerous to mention, it they make up the spirit of the club – which is good sport, good fellowship and good fun. The Committee's sincere thanks go to you all.