

Minutes of Croquet Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12th November, 1987 at
Ian Wilson's house

Present: C. Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Kitchener, E. Owen,
I. Wilson

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

Matters arising

- 1) The fund for lawn improvement was £2000.
- 2) E. Kitchener had replaced J. Hatherley as a member of the committee handling this project. He would enquire whether lawn improvement should be in the hands of the Ground Committee.
- 3) It was agreed that no work would be allowed to interrupt any Croquet playing time and that work must be undertaken with minimum damage to the lawn.

Vice-Chairman J. Jeeves was elected to this post.

Confirmation - special responsibilities, as follows:

Social activities - C. Garrick, Tournaments and team selection - K. Holroyde, Ground and equipment - J. Jeeves, Golf croquet - E. Owen, Cashier and booking sheets - Kennedy.

Reports C. Garrick There were 9 tables at the first Whist Drive.

B. Kennedy Receipts from the Whist were £19.50, total balance in hand as at 12th Nov. 1987 £38.11.

J. Jeeves En-tous-cas had finished the work and it was satisfactory, despite the somewhat rough appearance of the new lawn. The levelling of the lawn with about a yard overlap meant a slope to the outer edges, causing some difficulty in mowing and rolling. This situation is under consideration.

Some too soil dressing has been bought (£158.13 for half the total required) which is considered satisfactory by the agronomist at Budleigh Salterton. This is a main club expense.

When the Mallet room has been tidied; a new notice board will be put up.

Two sets of balls have been ordered and the better sets out under lock and key.

A hoop drill is needed and being sought.

K. Holroyde It was agreed that E. Kitchener would help in team selection and that other suitably qualified members could also help. A comprehensive report on S.W. Federation would be sent to the committee but the following are relevant:

I. Dwerryhouse was elected SW Federation Tournament Secretary. Sidmouth club have two places at the Indoor Croquet Tournament (Bristol, 5-6th December). I Dwerryhouse and M. Hardman were willing to play but it was decided to approach J. Hatherley and M. Davies, and selection made, if necessary.

More information should be obtained regarding the Budleigh Coaching Course (6-14 handicaps) on May 1st - 2nd 1983.

Any Other Business 1. E. Kitchener and K. Holroyde had made an assessment of possible withdrawals of current playing members. Membership now: 97 full, 2 junior, 5 country. They estimate up to 4 may leave. The waiting list is 27, accepted numbers per lawn, 25. It was agreed to approach by letter, 10 on the waiting list, 4 of whom were players with handicaps.

Training would be concentrated on existing new members. The final date for acceptance of a place was as before Christmas. E. Kitchener will co-ordinate coaching. Videos would be shown to 15-20 handicap members in February next, with particular emphasis on faults.

2. J. Jeeves would keep spare key until playing season began.

3. K. Holroyde would buy material for corner flags.
4. C. Garrick responsible for getting estimates for lunch costs (24th March next) at which 70 members would be likely to attend.
5. It was agreed to hold. a Short Croquet competition in May, as last year.
6. E. Kitchener bought "The World of Croquet by John McCullough & Stephen Mulliner for library circulation - cost 25p for two weeks, the Secretary to keep track of progress.

E. Kitchener

17/12/87

Minutes of Croquet Committee Meeting held on Thursday 17th December 1987 at Esme Owen's house

Present: C. Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Kitchener, E. Owen, I. Wilson

I. The minutes of the last meeting were read, approved and signed.

2. Matters Arising

1) J. Jeeves reported that work on Sidmouth Club wall was agreed to be essential. It would start in September 1988 at the earliest. Sidmouth Club's Ground Committee noted his advice that work requiring any involvement of No. 1 lawn must be done between September and February.

Er-tout-cas had not yet handed over the re-laid lawn and he considered that some work was needed on a poor patch. The level was acceptable but the knitting together in places was unsatisfactory. There would be a further rolling of the lawn. The account would not be settled until the Club was satisfied and the lawn formally handed over by En-tout-cs.

The Committee agreed that no-one would go on the lawn until the handover was completed.

2) Members of the Croquet waiting list had been approached. and as a result, 7 possible new members will go forward for training. K. Noon's name would be put forward to the Club Committee for playing membership.

3) South West Federation would be holding a Golf Croquet Event, with preliminary rounds to be held at various centres, Sidmouth being one possibility. K. Holroyd outlined in detail, the proposed programme and what it would entail and was thanked by the Chairman. It was estimated that funds could benefit by about £40 and it was agreed unanimously that Wednesday, July 6th should be reserved for our Qualifying Round Event (GRE), 32 single and 16 double, entries to be allowed.

3. Spring Programme.

This was discussed and agreed for distribution in mid-January. Copy attached. Material for our revised page in the Club's Booklet for 1988 was requested by B. Hanson and it was agreed to send such material as was currently available.

4. Reports C. Garrick Hotel investigations made Woodlands the choice for lunch

There were 9 tables at the Whist Drive

J. Jeeves. The mallet room roof was being repaired. Two new sets of balls (£115) and a hoop drill had been obtained.

K. Holroyde. Flag material had been bought; no work was required yet.

L. Kennedy. Cash balance: £20.17.

Date of next meeting: 14th January 1988, 10 a.m. at Byes End, Sidford

E. Kitchener

Jan 14/88

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, LAWN TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

SPRING PROGRAMME 1988

Tuesday	2nd FEBRUARY	2.00 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
Thursday	25th FEBRUARY	2.00 p.m.	COACHING SESSION With Video for handicaps 16 & above Tea & biscuits: 30p
Tuesday	1st MARCH	2.00 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
Thursday	24th MARCH	12.00 for 12.45 p.m.	ANNUAL LUNCH AT WOODLANDS HOTEL Tickets: £5.25 from Cecily Garrick
Thursday	7th APRIL	2.00 p.m.	OPEN SESSION FOR ALL MEMBERS Laws regarding faults and errors Tea & biscuits: 30p
Saturday	16th APRIL	LAWNS OPEN	(Ground and weather permitting)

* * * * *

Your subscription is due on January 1st. Please pay it promptly. If you do not wish to continue as a Member, please notify the Hon. Secretary, Ian Wilson, telephone: Sidmouth 2062.

Although Croquet is your game, the Club as a whole needs your help with various jobs, e.g., teas, bar, collection of deck-chair money, office duty, etc.

Will you please offer to help once or twice during the Season? Ring the Chairman of the Croquet Section, Eric Kitchener, (Telephone: Sidmouth 2812)1

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee Meeting held on Thursday January 14th, 1988 at Ian Wilson's house.

Present: C. Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Kitchener, E. Owen & I. Wilson.

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

2. Matters arising: 1) J. Govier was most unlikely join.

2) Iris Dwerryhouse would hold training sessions with video, for up to 8 high handicap players. The first would be on Thursday, 21st January.

3) Lawns 4 and 5 would be open on 9th April, for this year's Trainees only.

3. Correspondence:

The change of S.W. Federation Officials was noted.

4. Reports: K. Holroyde As the Association's main Fixture list had not yet been received, no fixtures had been made. Flags had now been made for the short Croquet Tournament on 1st - 2nd June.

J. Jeeves. The groundsman had put fertilizer on the lawns without consultation, En-Tous-Cas had, at the outset, promised to provide some grass seed. The Chairman of the Ground Committee ordered, without reference to the Croquet Committee, a different top dressing to that previously used on the lawns. No harm would result. In order to avoid future difficulties, it was agreed by the Committee that: Future top-dressing orders will be made through the Ground Committee Chairman, after a Croquet lawn Committee member has been consulted. The groundsman will be given written notice when lawns are to be prepared for tournaments. The innovation of top lawn dressing would be done annually in future.

Despite the Committee's request to withhold payment to En-Tous-Cas, the Treasurer had settled the account.

The Secretary would ask Margaret Clark if a valuation of contents of the Mallet room is needed for Insurance purposes.

C. Garrick Woodlands confirmed that the price for lunch included VAT. 50p for gratuity payment had been added. Tickets would be prepared and sold as soon as possible.

L. Kennedy Funds were now £24.20 but this would be largely used to pay for cup engravings.

E. Owen Nothing to report - but suggested that on future printed programmes, the playing fee, and to whom it was payable, should be added. Members shared delivery of Spring programmes.

5. Any Other Business

1) Mallets It was agreed to sell the/spare mallets (1 good, 1 in need of some repair) as the other mallets were sufficient to cover Club meetings. J. Jeeves would assess the price to be charged.

2) Longman Cup It was agreed the Club would enter.

3) Internal Tournaments K. Holroyde would draft an entry form to be sent to all members.

6. Date of Next Meeting 18th February 1988, 10 am at Byes End, Sidford.

Eric G. Kitchener
18/2/88

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee meeting held on Thursday 18th February 1988 at Ian Wilson's house

Present: C. Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Kitchener, E. Owen and I. Wilson

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

2. Matters arising

1) First training session was held at Iris Dwerryhouse's home and more would be available if required.

2) Insurance for the whole club was due for review in May/June, when the Croquet Club would be approached.

3) A new notice would be put up, stating there was no liability to the Club for private property left in the Club house.

4) Another mallet was available for sale and the mallet previously offered was sold.

3. Correspondence Five would-be members, at present on the waiting list, had written expressing disappointment at their non-inclusion this year. The Chairman indicated that it might be necessary to close the list rather than letting it get too long.

4. Car Park keys

It was decided to give keys to D. Rawkins and A. Verity and to ballot the remaining 7 applicants for the other 4 keys, at the next Committee meeting. It was proposed by Esme Owen, seconded by Ian Wilson, that a draw should be held for the allocation of all keys next year. Key holders would be informed of this fact and the conditions of key use was to be re-stated and issued with each key.

5. Club days

These would start on Monday, 23rd May next, Golf Croquet on Wednesday 25th May. There would be a rota for assistants on Wednesdays and a further rota for helpers at Monday Club meetings.

6. Bookings

Bill Kennedy would prepare new booking conditions, to be sent to each member with the annual list.

7. Reports K. Holroyde. The fixture list, bar two, had been sent to B. Hansen. The suggestion that only 14 handicap and above players should play Golf Croquet was agreed. Possible short Tournaments would be considered at future Committee meetings. Work on Golf Croquet Tournaments with Esme Owen would proceed. At Rex Sims' request, clothes would be bought in bulk from the catalogue.

J. Jeeves The En-Tous-Gas problems were almost resolved. Owing to the very wet season the Company was behind with overall work and agreed that the Croquet Club groundsman should complete dressing and seeding, they to provide two tons of dressing and seed. The Groundsman had been given instructions on action, and timing. Lawn 2 was now cut. En-Tous-Cas' frank opinion was that the lawn was good but as is normal, a season was required for settling down. A list of fixtures and tournaments had also been given to the Groundsman. Budleigh would lend us 2 hoop sets for the Short Tournament and a third was needed. It was agreed that the Club Ground Committee should arrange, and pay for, damage to the Pavilion roof.

C. Garrick 46 lunch tickets had been sold to date. It was hoped to sell 60 and it was agreed that until final numbers were known, guests should not be admitted.

L. Kennedy There were 36 players at the last Whist drive, profit £40, and balance in hand £44.92

8. Any Other Business

The Chairman reported on training. He and Mary Hardman would look after beginners, the other coaches to help last year's entry and potential B team players. 8 members had been selected for a 3-day Revision Course (April 11th, 13th and 15th). Phil Dwerryhouse would hold clinics at 6pm every Tuesday and Thursday.

9. Date of next Meeting 18th March 1988, 10am at Byes End, Sidford.

Mar¹⁸/88

Eric G. Kitchen

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee meeting held on Friday 18th March 1988 at Ian Wilson's house

Present: Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Kitchener and I. Wilson

1. Apologies for absence: Esme Owen.

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

3. Matters arising: see separate headings below.

4. Correspondence. The Croquet Association sent a cheque for £56 (first year subscriptions from our members) as Sidmouth was among the top 6 clubs in the C.A.'s membership recruitment competition.

Margaret Clark had a letter from a Youth Club with members staying in Sidmouth over Easter. As the lawns would not be open until 16th April, the club could not assist in an introduction to Croquet.

Agreed that the Secretary should remind waiting list people of their position, should no letter be received from them by the end of March.

5. Car Park keys. As a result of a ballot, H. Ovens, A. Rose and A.L. Ward, G. Hewitt, D. Rawkins and A. Verity would have keys, to be delivered in early April, when they would be informed of the rules and conditions involved. With regard to the Committee's preference for All keys to be allocated by ballot in future, this opinion would be passed on to members of next year's Committee.

Bill Kennedy said, and the Committee agreed, that the wishes of the whole club should be ascertained on this controversial matter.

6. Club days: A full programme would be drawn up at the next meeting. It was agreed that where possible, afternoon starting times should be limited to 1 pm and 3 pm. If wet, coaching sessions should be held, particularly on 4-ball breaks.

7. Information to Members As "Swan" might be delayed, it was agreed there should be two delivery drops if necessary, to avoid holding back Members' List, Tournament application forms and Rules for booking. These would be sent out as soon as available.

8. Reports K. Holroyde. Plans for S.W. Golf croquet were ready. Dates: Sept. 6th and 13th Club Tournament Finals. Sept-7th and 8th, Golf Croquet Finals.

Two Ball Finals 25th and 26th July.

It was agreed that once published, these dates should not be changed except for bad weather.

J. Jeeves Provided adequate notice was given, Vera Booth would provide hoops. The lawn was doing well. 30 bags of dressing were still needed from En-Tous-Cas and we would chase them to ensure they were obtained without charge.

C. Garrick 61 tickets were sold for the Croquet lunch.

L. Kennedy It was agreed to retain the balance of £53.57 in hand.

9. Date of next Meeting Monday, 18th April at Byes End, Sidford.

Eric G. Kitchener

Apr 18/88

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee meeting held on Monday 18th April 1988 at Ian Wilson's house

Present: E. Kitchener, C. Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Owen and I. Wilson I.

Apologies for absence: Nil.

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

3. Matters arising: Nil.

4. Correspondence

a) A letter of withdrawal from training received from Margaret Pope due to back trouble. Agreed to keep her on the waiting list. G. Symington also withdrew. P. King and Foster were admitted for training.

b) Craig Hitchcock, now in Ottery and a former member of Dorchester Croquet club to be accepted as a member should he apply.

c) Agreed to purchase book by D. Gaunt and to lend it out on usual terms.

d) Agreed no need for Hoop or Ball gauge.

e) Agreed to display National Garden Croquet Classic details, but not to enter a team.

f) In view of the C.A. competition for new membership, a notice would be displayed and efforts made to find 3 new C.A. members.

5. Club Days: Programme arranged up to 11th July, see separate report.

6. Keys to car park Bill Ovens returned his key as he did not have a car park season ticket. Following a ballot, J. Page would be given the key.

7. Whist Drive Proposed dates to be agreed with Margaret Clark: Thursdays Nov. 3rd., Dec. 1st 1988; Jan. 5th., Feb. 2nd., March 3rd. 1989, all at 2.00 pm.

8. Date of A.G.M. Thursday 6th October, 2.30pm.

9. Notices to be Displayed in Mallet Room: 1) List of Officers and Committee 2) Promotion of C.A. 3) Books available for circulation.

K. Holroyde would prepare a suitable container for messages for Committee members.

10. Reports K. Holroyde Longman Cup, 30th April, 10am. Arrangements for refreshments agreed. There were still vacancies for visitors and club members for the June Short Croquet event. Agreed that E. Kitchener and K. Holroyde would conduct draws for Club tournaments, with appropriate seedings.

J. Jeeves. The balance of top dressing had been received. Lawn 2 was running well and the texture was good. Due to an accident by the groundsman with moss killer on lawn 1, opening was held over until 23rd April. It had been scarified, seeded and sanded in an effort to repair the damage, extending beyond the yard line.

It was agreed to buy 3 more sets of Hoop Clips.

The state of the flower beds was under tactful review.

The Management Committee would be advised of the need for new letters on the Mallet Room door, and further pressure applied for the repair of the little Pavilion roof.

L. Kennedy Beginners' fees would be sent to Rex Sims, and cash exchanged for Tournament cheques. The groundsman would be given £10 for setting out Short Croquet Tournaments.

E. Owen A Friendly Golf Croquet match with Budleigh Salterton had been arranged for June 15th (home) and Sept. 14th (away).

11. Any Other Business Lawns needed for all Tournaments and matches would be reserved as necessary by K. Holroyde and L. Kennedy. E. Kitchener said it was too early to comment on trainees.

12. Date of next meeting Monday 16th May, at Byes End, Sidford.

E. Kitchener

May 16/88

SIDMOUTH CROQUET CLUB - **C L U B D A Y S**

STARTING TIME - Association and Two Ball Croquet - 1pm and 3pm

Shot Game

- 2pm

Latecomers will be fitted in as convenient.

On Association days, Lawns 1, 2 and 3 will be used, with double banking, if necessary.

Lawns 4 and 5 will be used for Two Ball games.

May	23rd	Association croquet
	30th	“ “
June	6th	Shot Game "
	13th	Association “
	20th	Two Ball ALL LAWNS
	27th	Association croquet
July	4th	Association “
	11th	Shot Game

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee meeting held on Monday 16th May at Ian Wilson's house

Present: E. Kitchener, C. Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Owen & I. Wilson

- 1) Apologies for absence: Nil.
- 2) Minutes of last meeting read, approved and signed.
- 3) Matters arising: Nil
- 4) Correspondence: Nil
- 5) Car Park keys: A. Verity could not use a key so it was passed on to Mary Kirke.
- 6) C.A. Membership: As we have 19 members, our C.A. fee of £90 was reduced to £71. It was agreed to display encouraging notice to attract more new members with possibility of winning a prize.
- 7) Death of Robert Case: Occurred on Monday 9th May and many Croquet Club members attended his cremation on Thursday, 12th May. A full report of his croquet career would appear in the club's annual report. His sister, Lady Fermor, suggested donations should be sent to the club in lieu of flowers, to be used to provide a suitable memorial. Members would be asked for ideas but the following were suggested: 1) replace white seat on Lawn 1. 2) suitable tent bought for use at Lawn 3 during matches 3) Robert Case cup for season's Shot Games.
- 8) Reports K. Holroyde Longman Cup lost 3-2. SW Golf Croquet Tournament poorly supported. Consideration should be given to cancelling entry or joining with Budleigh Salterton. Club Tournament entries received from 46 members.

*Member of the Club from 1976
Secretary 1980-1983.*

J. Jeeves At the Ground Committee's annual inspection our needs and ideas were put forward and noted. With no firm date for commencement of Sidmouth club redevelopment, we should plan on possibly ceasing play on Lawn 1 by mid-September.

The Budget would be required in October. We should seek at least one set or new hoops. New clips had been obtained.

The Bowling club groundsman confirmed groundsman's insistence that grass should not be cut when wet. There would be an assistant groundsman from mid-June working 20 hours a week. The need to cut grass on banks, and check board alignment would be emphasised

L. Kennedy Current balance £61.09 but after all Short tournament fees were passed to Rex Sims the balance would be £30.

E. Kitchener Training of five trainees was finished and all passed for playing membership. Tuesday clinics to be discussed with Phil Dwerryhouse; also a lecture on Cannons discussed with John Hatherley.

Any Other Business: Participation in the Garden party - arrangements to be co-ordinated

by Eric Kitchener and Len Sage. Volunteers to be requested on June 6th Club day.

Jack Jeeves asked that Eric Kitchener's success in passing the Official Referees examination should be recorded. There were now 5 referees in the club.

It was agreed that prizes of £5 and £3 should be awarded as last year.

Date of Next meeting: Thursday June 30th at Ian Wilson's house, Bye's End, Sidford.

Eric G. Kitchener

June 30/88

SATURDAY, MAY 14th., 1988



Veteran croquet player dies on court

Mr. Robert Case, the grand old man of Sidmouth's sporting scene, collapsed and died on Monday morning, still playing at the age of 95.

Mr. Case, was taken ill during a croquet match at the Fort Field, Sidmouth.

Onlookers and ambulancemen were unable to revive Mr. Case, who lived with his sister, Lady Frances Fermor, at Knowle Drive.

A member and past secretary of the Sidmouth Croquet Club, Mr. Case was still playing about three times a week.

One of the first on the scene on Monday was Mr. Reg Peirce, of Cottington Mead, Sidmouth. He had earlier waved to Mr. Case when he spotted him playing a match against a lady opponent and then rushed to help when he saw he had collapsed.

Five years ago Mr. Case's friends organised a special 90th birthday cake in the shape of a croquet court, complete with green icing to depict the lawn and miniature hoops.

In his working life Mr. Case was an engineer with the India State Railways. The funeral was held on Thursday.

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee meeting held on Thursday, June 30th 1988 at Ian Wilson's house

Present: E. Kitchener, C. Garrick, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Owen, I. Wilson

1) Apologies for absence: Nil

2) Minutes of last meeting: read, approved and signed.

3 Matters arising. 1) The budget was required by August. 2) Clinics by Phil Dwerryhouse and lecture by John Fatherly were still to be arranged.

4) Correspondence: Two letters from C. Hitchcock were read. It was agreed to send a copy of a constitution (without recommendation either way) and the address of En-Tous-Cas; and that anyone having a mallet to sell should telephone Mr. Hitchcock direct giving details (notice to this effect to be put up). There was a general impression that Sidmouth club was one of several being approached. The appropriate reply to his letter would be sent in due course.

A letter from G. Hewitt was read and it was agreed to avoid fixing croquet matches on County Cricket match days. Budleigh away matches should take place in September; it was noted that the Budleigh captain had apologised for their reduced team.

It was agreed there should be no change in lawn formation as it was better to have two small lawns than one single lawn, which would in any case be of poor quality.

5) SW Golf Croquet tournament: 13 entries were received. It was agreed to send £7.20 to Iris Dwerryhouse for the Federation. It was also agreed there should be no seeding, with prizes of £3 for winners and £2 for runners-up, unless this was out of line with Budleigh. Eric Kitchener would present the prizes.

To avoid any pencil deletions from booking slips, preparation time for lawns would be marked on the sheets with adhesive reservation slips.

6) Two Ball competition would be held on Monday 25th July only.

7) Club Days:

<u>July 18th</u>	Association	K. Holroyde	<u>Aug. 15th</u>	Shot game	E. Kitchener & J. Jeeves
<u>Aug. 1st</u>	"	L. Kennedy	<u>Aug 22nd</u>	Association	I. Wilson
<u>Aug. 8th</u>	"	E. Owen	<u>29th</u>	"	?

Sept. 5th No Club Day

Final of Golf Croquet: Aug. 31st

8) Robert Case Fund: Total £170. Lady Fermor had expressed a wish for a Cup for the Shot game and a runner up prize. She was to be approached regarding silver or plate metal and the proposal that a shield would be better as the Club did not have one. The final decision would be made by the new Committee following general discussion at the A.G.M. J. Jeeves would re-open discussion on the possibility of some form of permanent cover on Lawn 3. Members were not attracted to the provision of a new or repaired seat for Lawn 1.

9) Garden Party: It was agreed to man 7 games for this event, and to begin setting them up at 10.30 am on the day.

10) Reports. K. Holroyde reported on Federation matches - lost at Taunton, won at Budleigh & Parkstone. B. Team won at Budleigh.

It was agreed to accept the late entry of A. Bell for Golf Croquet.

J. Jeeves would see that door to Ladies' dressing room was fitted with a spring, and would look out for metal clips.

C. Garrick. no report.

L. Kennedy. The balance in hand was £66.25. £145.60 was paid into Club funds, £20 would be needed for prizes and as mentioned above, £7.20 for Federation. £15 more was expected from overdue Tournament entry fees.

E. Owen reported on match lost to Budleigh. The Golf croquet days were well supported, 30-40 members attending.

E. Kitchener The General Finance Committee was seeking funds and congratulated the Croquet Section on making £75 on the Short competition (to be treated as a donation).

11) Any Other Business:

K. Holroyde said that the new trainees are not visibly playing. C. Garrick suggested a notice to be put-up encouraging members to invite others for games.

12) Date of next Meeting: 28th July at 10am, Ian Wilson's house.

E. Kitchener

July 28/88

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee meeting held on Thurs 28th July at Ian Wilson's house

Present: E. Kitchener, K. Holroyde, J. Jeeves, L. Kennedy, E. Owen, I. Wilson.

1, Apologies for absence: C. Garrick.

2. Minutes of last meeting read, approved and signed.

3. Matters arising: 1) K. Holroyde congratulated on the successful arrangements for Golf and Short Croquet Tournaments. 2) John Hatherley would give a lecture on Laws and Cannons, 2 pm on 8th August.

4. Correspondence. Another letter had been received from C. Hitchcock. E. Kitchener left a message on his ansaphone but no return call had been received All agreed no further action should be taken. 2) Croquet Association Directory received 28th July, to be placed in Mallet Room. Details of new fees to be displayed.

5. Robert Case Fund: Agreed to put forward to the AGM the proposal by E. Kitchener, to purchase locally a Shield with 14 small plaques on it, with heading "Robert Case Short Game" and croquet emblem in the centre. Engraving costs were reduced when work done by the supplier, total £30. There would be a mini-trophy with no inscription for the Runner-up. It was agreed to obtain costs of a moveable Summer-type house; a three-sided shelter, for use on Lawn 3 should the purchase price exceed the balance in the Fund, the Friends of Fortfield could be approached for possible help. A set of balls and clips had been received from Lady Fermor. We are to receive Robert Case's Mallet, which would be sold, the proceeds to be added to the Robert Case Fund.

6. Budget for 1989: As a prelude to preparation, of Budget' figures, the committee urged E. Kitchener to re-open the amount of our Insurance cover at the next Management meeting. J. Jeeves would draw up and present the Budget. As guide lines, the following figures were given: New tournament hoops £80

2 sets, balls & clips	240
Grass seed, Fertiliser to top up stock	<u>280</u>
	£600

The Pavilion roof still needed repairing and £600 was reserved for this work in Club funds.

7. Dates for nominations: (Next year's Committee) Nominations would open on 24th August and close on 21st September. These dates should give enough time to arrange for a ballot if needed. All members to be notified by end August.

8. Prize-giving at AGM: The Secretary would write to Rex Sims inviting him to present the prizes.

9. Reports: K. Holroyde The B team had so far won all matches. The last Federation match v Exeter was on 21st August. owing to late changes in entrants, "All England" finals were to be re-organised and explained to participants.

J. Jeeves The Spring door repair not yet done - he would take action. Hoop alignment was causing concern. Efforts were being made to rectify the problem and to find out reasons for slippage.

L. Kennedy Balance in hand: £46.61, with £8.90 to come from outstanding Tournament fees.

E. Owen Golf Croquet was going well, with up to 40 players each Wednesday and with 31 games played in a session.

10. Any other business

K. Hollingshead to be deleted from membership list due to non-payment of subscription.

11. Future Committee meetings: 25th August and 29th September at I. Wilson's house.

Eric G. Kitchener
August 25th 1988

Minutes of the Croquet Club Committee Meeting Held on Thursday 25th August 1988 at Ian Wilson's

- 1) Apologies for absence: K Holroyde, C Garrick
- 2) Minutes of the Last Meeting: Read, approved and signed.
- 3) Matters arising:

Robert Case's mallet sold for £30. Two further books: Solomon on Croquet and the CA Coaching Handbook received and will be put in the lending library.

Budget prepared and submitted by E Kitchener. Mr Rex Sims ohs agreed to present prizes.

- 4) Reports:

J Jeeves: will continue correspondence with Jacques regarding splitting of the black ball.

L Kennedy: Cash in hand £53.56. Fees to come £4.50.

Booking sheets complete to 17th September.

Will put up notice regarding use of lawns thereafter.

Reported large increase in prices for Laws & Rules books, will put in a modest order for future need.

E Owen: Golf Croquet still well supported and enjoyed. Arrangements for tournament all ready.

- 5) AOB:

Agreed I Dwerryhouse, J Hatherley and E Kitchener to select most improved player.

Agreed for E Kitchener to provide and prepare a suitable board to display names of Club Champions.

The champion to be the winner of the Humphrey Hicks Trophy for Advanced Play. J Jeeves to ask Club Committee for permission to display board permanently in Tea Room.

J Jeeves will approach groundsman regarding levelling of lawn with top dressing using eight-foot board now owned by E Kitchener

Eric G. Kitchener

Sept 29/88

Minutes of the Croquet Club Committee Meeting Held on Thursday 29th September 1988 at Ian Wilson's

Present: E Kitchener, K Holroyde, J Jeeves, E Owen, C Garrick & I Wilson

1. Apologies for absence: L Kennedy
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting: Read, approved and signed.
3. Matters arising: Improved players chosen.

Club Championship board made. Main Club Committee agree board may be placed in the Tea Room on vacant wall next to serving hatch. Eric Kitchener will present the board to the Club and also a supply of lettering. The Committee expressed their thanks for this generous gift.

Top dressing delivered. Levelling to be watched.

Law & Rule books purchased to value of £29.40, warned prices may still increase.

L Kennedy gave attached report on lawn bookings.

4. Correspondence:

Letter from Alan Harding regarding closure of lawns 1 & 2 on Sept 25th. Agreed, point taken and next year will work on lawns one at a time. Reason this year was to get on Lawn 2 early and to make maximum use of assistant groundsman who left at end of September.

Letter from Reg Peirce suggesting that lawns 4 & S be made into one lawn. Advised this had been rejected mid-season.

5. Whist Drive Dates: In view of some members never being available on Tuesdays, dates would now be:

1988 Tuesday 1 November, Wednesday 7th December

1989 Tuesday 3 January, Wednesday 6 February, Tuesday 28th February

6. Robert Case Fund. If Shield for short game approved, rules will require careful consideration.

7. AOB: J Jeeves has had unhelpful reply from Jacques re splitting of black ball. Has written to Croquet Association who may have new supplies.

Tournament ball locker now locked. Key under booking sheet stand. We now have 13 sets and 8 miscellaneous spares. Not to be sold and left in Team locker.

Secretary to write to M Clark advising her our equipment had a £3,000 value. Was insurance cover adequate and appropriate.

Sidmouth Herald sports editor to be advised of Cup Presentation at AGM at 4.15 approx.

I. M. Dawdyhouse.

24 FLEMING AVENUE
SIDFORD SIDMOUTH DEVON
EX10 9NX

(03955) 2730

28th September 1988

Dear Eric

CROQUET COMMITTEE MEETING 29th SEPTEMBER

My apologies for absence from this meeting

Report on my pocket of operations is as follows

Cash

We hold cash £36.56. This figure includes the seasons Tournament entry fees with the exception of one person only who owes £1.20. This will be cleared in a day or two. There are a few who owe for guests brought to the club, and here again I expect payments to be cleared quite soon.

Recently (before striking this balance) we made a purchase of instruction and rule books to bring our stock to a reasonable level in readiness for next year's season. The expenditure was £29.40. There is always the possibility of prices being higher for purchases we may make next spring.

Booking Sheets

It may be of interest to have some information on lawn availability and usage throughout 1988.

The total number of bookable hours available during the season amounted to 8467.5. A few hours were taken, usually of necessity and at short notice, for ground maintenance. As this is not a precise factor (it is quite small) I have not made any deduction from the total hours. Another reason for not recording a figure for this maintenance is that more often than not sessions were only partly taken and the remaining time was then available for play. Of the total 8467.5 hours available, 359 hours were taken for Tournament block bookings. This represents something under 4¼% of the total. Double banking bookings are virtually non-existent. Not infrequently members do not take up bookings they have made and for reasons probably unavoidable) they do not erase their names from the booking sheet. This leaves vacant lawns in good playing weather.

I aim to have a few more figures for comparison for the A.G.M.

Yours

Bill Kennedy

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the CROQUET SECTION held on THURSDAY, 6th OCTOBER 1988 at 2.30 p.m. in the PAVILION

The Meeting opened with a welcome from the Chairman to Margaret Clark, Secretary of the main Club, and to all Members present numbering 67.

Members stood in memory of Robert Case and Donald Barwick.

(1) Apologies for absence were received from Gordon Bamford, Mavis Chetty, Alan Harding, Hilary Hatherley, Larry & Margaret Hooper, Bill & Tilly Kennedy, Peter King, Buzz Palmer, Reg Peirce, Redmond & Mary Russell, May Stephenson, Leslie Toye, Alfred Verity and Tom Ward.

(2) The Minutes of the A.G.M. held on 8th October 1937 were read, approved and signed.

Matters arising: The Chairman said that he hoped there was general agreement that Lawn 2 had played very well.

(3) Committee Report: The Secretary read the Report which gave details of general matters, and this was approved.

(4) Robert Case Memorial Fund: The Chairman recommended that the Club start a new Competition, "The Robert Shot Game". This game was devised by Robert and enjoyed during many Seasons.

It was also suggested that a Shield was an appropriate trophy. Eric Kitchener had found a suitable shield with 12 small plaques for inscription. The cost, £25, with annual engraving done locally, say £5. These ideas were unanimously agreed and the Committee will have to work out appropriate rules.

The Fund, at present, totalled £200. It was generally agreed to re-open the possibility of a suitable shelter on the seaward side of Lawn 3. The Club was appreciative of the occasional use of John Hatherley's tent.

Many suggestions were made. Margaret Clark, a member of the Planning Committee of Sidmouth Town Council gave helpful advice.

(5) Reports

(a) K Holroyde - Tournaments & Matches.

Our Club Tournaments have been completed despite the weather - 47 members entered for one or more tournaments, which is about 50% of our playing membership.

Again, Sidmouth entered for the All-England Tournament. Leslie Toye won the Sidmouth Block but was sadly beaten in the Area Finals played at Bath.

The Short Croquet Open Tournament, which was mounted by our Club again this year, was a successful two-day event. We had 14 entries from other clubs in the S.W. Region and 10 of our own members entered. The winners in both sections were from away clubs (Mrs K Yeoman, Bath and Mrs Jan Burke, Tracy Park).

This year for the first time the S.W. Federation arranged a Golf Croquet Open Tournament. Each participating Club arranged its own first round and entrants came from any club in the S.W. Federation. 14 of our members entered and 4 came from other clubs. Gwen Hewitt, Mary and Redmond Russell went through to the Regional Finals, which Sidmouth hosted early in September. The eventual winners were Mr & Mrs Tony Samman from Bristol. Mr Tony Samman won the singles.

This year, 14 members entered Open Tournaments in other Clubs, including Budleigh, Carrick Mines, Parkstone, Cheltenham, Hunstanton and Eastbourne, where Philip Dwerryhouse won the Singles Veterans' Trophy.

Eric Kitchener won the Croquet Association National Merit Award of a Silver Medal at the Budleigh September week-end Tournament.

Section Tournaments were well supported, with the following results

Hicks Cup	Advanced Play Handicap Singles	J Hatherley
Belmont Cup	Handicap Singles	K Noon
Colclough and Sidmouth Cups	Handicap Doubles	M Hardman & Ted Owen
Fermor Rose Bowl	Ladies	S Scarr
Devonia Cup	High Handicap Singles	R Russell
Corbett Spoons	High Bisquers	L Sage
	Low Bisquers	J Hatherley
Cunningham Salvors	Golf Croquet Doubles	A Davis & F Furness
	Singles	N Gibbs

(b) J. Jeeves - Ground & Equipment

The Sidmouth Gentlemen's' (Snooker) Club has postponed its rebuilding of the Western Wall which was to have meant a small encroachment on part of Lawn 1. I understand that this operation is unlikely to take place for at least another year. They are re-slating their roof in the Spring. Assured no danger to our Lawn 1.

Roofs: The roof to the Mallet Room was re-felted last Spring as the Winter storms had caused it to leak. The roof to the small Pavilion by Lawn 2 is shortly to be re-felted. Quotes are being obtained by the Executive Council.

Lawn 2 was handed over to us by En-Tout-Cas last April as only a 60% lawn - level but with turf-knitting problems. In the event this lawn settled down well and most of us are pleased with it, certainly some of our visitors and match opponents have been quite complimentary about our lawns.

It has been necessary however to get the Groundsman on to the lawns promptly this Autumn so that treatment can take place before the frosts begin. You may have noticed that we have already had some 2½ tons of Top Dressing delivered and that the work of applying Weed Killer, Worm Repellent, scarifying and applying this Top Dressing has already begun. A good start towards better lawns next season.

There has been an exchange of correspondence with John Jacques & Son Ltd. concerning the 'co-incidence' of damage to their BLACK balls whilst the remaining colours play happily on. (Can it be that there is a limited life in-built by the manufacturers to certain colours in turn?)

Anyway, the Company will have none of it and their M.D. confirms that their 'Eclipse' balls are only guaranteed for two seasons. They also would not accept that their plastic clips for hoops were sub-standard and broke far too easily.

The Croquet Association were very sympathetic to our problem and suggested that we try the 'Townsend' ball, pending a new ball they are trying out, being approved. In the meantime, they confirm with some regret that only the Jacques 'Eclipse' ball is approved for tournament and match-play.

Permission has been given for us to put up on the wall of the pavilion fronting the kitchen our ANNUAL CHAMPION BOARD (Holder of the Humphrey Hicks Trophy). This board has been arranged and most kindly donated by Eric Kitchener as a memento of his years Chairmanship. Eric, we are all most grateful.

(c) E. Owen - Golf Croquet

Wednesday Golf Croquet club mornings were very well supported, after the first one when the only three other members present introduced our Secretary to the delights of golf croquet by playing two games in pouring rain. After that bad start most days were reasonably fine if sometimes chilly and usually upwards of thirty people were present.

In the two friendly matches with Budleigh Salterton, Sidmouth lost at home in June by 2-7 and away in September by 7-9. In June, Budleigh Salterton decided at the last minute to bring only 3 pairs, their remaining pair being unwilling to double-bank, play on a small lawn or wait whilst other games were played on our three full-sized lawns. In addition, I had unfortunately omitted to check the cricket fixtures before agreeing dates with Budleigh Salterton, with the result that our match coincided with a County Cricket match. Despite these unfortunate circumstances, the atmosphere was friendly and happy and Cecily Garrick coped magnificently with the problems of providing teas upstairs in the pavilion. The Budleigh Salterton captain telephoned the following day to say how much they had all enjoyed it.

As agreed at the 1987 AGM the Club Tournament took place this year on two successive days, 7th & 8th September, both days blessed with fine weather. There were 22 entries for Singles and 12 for Doubles. Millicent Gibbs won the Singles and Aline Davis and Frank Furness, the Doubles. Once again Cecily organised the ever-welcome teas.

(d) I Kennedy - Cashier and Bookings

Main sources of Income for the year for the Section, as distinct from Membership Subscriptions and Coaching Fees to the central fund, came from the Winter Whist Drives, Sale of Books, Loan fees for Croquet Publications and from Tournament Fees.

The Whist Drive returns remained steady each month at around £17/18 after deductions. Every month saw good attendances.

Sale of books amounted to £20.

Loan fees for Croquet publications amounted to £3-50.

Tournament Fees amounted to £41-40 before deductions for prizes and expenses

Main purchases made during the season were in respect of Croquet publications (for loan to members) £20-45; Croquet Rules & Laws books (for sale to members) £53-90-. This figure may seem high but it leaves us with stocks (at today's prices) in readiness for next seasons starting needs. Trophy engraving amounted to £20-00 and a demonstration board was purchased for £10-00.

Contribution to Central Fund amounted to £187-50. Cash balance held at today's date is £36-56.

Booking Sheets:

Total number of hours available during the year amounted to 8467. This assumes play from 10.00 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. each day. At the end of the season play right up Until 8.30 p.m. was of course not possible, but this was for only a short time. Block booking for tournaments amounted to 359 hours, this being something under 4% of available time. Very few evening bookings were made. The number this season was 27 bookings out of over 800 available.

Double booking was virtually non-existent throughout the season.

From time to time, the Booking Sheet shows all or most lawns as being taken for an afternoon, when in fact no more than one is actually taken up. Frequently circumstances make it difficult for some members to erase their names from the sheet when they cancel at short notice, but it would be appreciated if this can be done whenever possible so as not to deprive other members of a game on the lawn they no longer want to use.

(e) C Garrick - Social Activities

Five whist drives were held during the Winter and I think that all who came will agree that they were very pleasant social occasions and for this we do thank Joan and Alan Reid. Unfortunately for us they are retiring from running the whist but they have very generously given us the equipment, the flags and the cards. This is much appreciated. We shall miss their company. We would welcome them at tea time and also joining in the whist.

Thanks also to Connie & Betty for manning the Cake Stall so capably at coffee mornings and at the Garden Party, also thanks to those who made cakes for the stall.

The Annual Club Lunch was held at the Woodlands Hotel on 24th March. Sixty two tickets were sold. I hope members found it enjoyable.

Last but not least my special thanks to those who helped me in the kitchen with teas and washing-up on match days, whist and other occasions. I could not have managed without them.

(6) Election of Officers:

Five nominations for the Committee and single nominations for the Chairman and Secretary were received, and therefore all were duly elected.

Chairman Iris Dwerryhouse

Secretary Ian Wilson

Committee Cicely Garrick Gwen Hewitt, Esme Owen Jack Jeeves, Bill Kennedy

(7) Any Other Business

The Chairman had asked that comments on the Reports could be made at this point.

Much adverse criticism of the Groundsman was made. Twice a week full three hour booking times were taken for grass cutting; might this work be done before 10.00 a.m. Lines badly maintained and poor weed control.

Sheila Scarr said most other clubs had a longer season. Is closure so early necessary?

There was support for Bill Scarr's adverse comments on the American Block System as games not affecting the Block Winner had to be completed. As in 1987 he again suggested the Draw and Process system be used.

Hazel Rubery hoped, in view of the support for Golf Croquet, this form should start earlier in the season.

The amalgamation of Lawns 4 & 5 was raised. If the right to these lawns could be agreed with the Tennis Section it was suggested that we might get a grant from the C.A. for levelling. The C. A. needs more Clubs for Tournaments but this requires four full courts. On the other hand, we do play matches against clubs who only have half lawns.

(8) Handicap reductions were announced by Iris Dwerryhouse, also

Most Improved Players K Noon
Gwynneth Dart

Longworth Cup,

Handicap 13 & under K Noon

Sidmouth Croquet Cup

Handicap 14 & over M Russell

(9) Mr Rex Sims presented the prizes.

The Chairman closed the Meeting with thanks to all the members for their support throughout the season which made it an enjoyable one for him. The comments made at the meeting were appreciated and Eric wished Iris Dwerryhouse a successful year.

During the Meeting thanks were expressed for all the hard work the Chairman, Eric Kitchener, had done, and to K. Holroyde for excellent competition arrangements.

REPORT OF THE CROQUET COMMITTEE

The membership is now: 92 Playing, 5 Country and 2 Junior members, with a waiting list of 14. We calculate maximum membership on the basis of 25 members per lawn, deeming lawns 4 and 5 to be one. As your Secretary, I much regret having to dampen the enthusiasm of prospective members by warning that their wait could be as much as two years.

We received suggestions to make the half lawns into one but this was rejected. We might have asked for a new lawn to replace lawns 4 and 5, but the main club has larger and more pressing demands on resources.

I hope you will agree that lawn 2 has played remarkably well thanks to the efforts and guidance of John Hatherley, Eric Kitchener and Jack Jeeves' supervision of the groundsman.

We must thank our excellent coaches, past and present, for their efforts, which resulted in the success of our 'B' team, apart from making croquet enjoyable for many. Our thanks go to John Hatherley who gave us welcome and necessary advice on Laws regarding faults and errors, and also on how to deal with cannons.

The support, and use, of our library is, may I say, limited. We now possess The World of Croquet, Plus one on time, Croquet by J.W. Solomon and the C.A. Coaching handbook. We are also encouraging the county Library to have available, other books on Croquet, especially Peter Dank's book. With more reading during the Winter, and more practice, those of us with high handicaps might contrive to give our lower handicappers a harder time. We have 14 members with single figure handicaps. We have 19 members who have joined the Croquet Association, which reduced our fees to £70. We received £56 back as we were among the top six clubs in the recruitment of new members. I know of three new C.A. members this year, which should result in a free year's subscription to whoever is selected as our best 1988 beginner. If you join the C.A. please make sure I know, so that I can make sure our Club gets full benefit from extra memberships.

Monday afternoon Club days have been well attended and Golf Croquet on Wednesday mornings has really flourished.

The croquet section has helped the Friends of Fortfield by running a cake stall, plus most of the games at the Garden Party.

But we are not solely concerned with ourselves. Our 5 official referees must be warmly thanked for their impartial decisions, given for and against us. They cover our home and away matches, the events held here and at Budleigh.

We were delighted our Club was recognised by the appointment of Iris Derryhouse as S.W. Federation Secretary - and trust she had an enjoyable year, albeit with extra work and much travelling.

The season for the Club, as a whole, has been successful; although we were knocked out in the first round of the Longman Cup by Worcester, we went on to gain a place in the semi-finals of the S.W. Federation of Croquet Clubs Regional Tournament, in both the Federation and 'B' teams. Congratulations to all our members who contributed to these successes. The Federation team played a very close semi-final against the Bears of Rodborough, the score being three games all, Sidmouth losing the remaining game by 1 hoop

Our Club Tournaments have been completed despite the weather - 47 members entered for one or more tournaments, which is about 50% of our playing membership.

Again, Sidmouth entered for the All-England Tournament. Leslie Toyne won the Sidmouth Block but was sadly beaten in the Area Finals played at Bath.

The Short Croquet Open Tournament, which was mounted by our Club again this year, was a successful two-day event. We had 14 entries from other clubs in the S.W. Region and 10

of our own members entered. The winners in both sections were from away clubs (Mrs. K. Yeoman, Bath and Mrs. Jan Burke, Tracy Park).

This year for the first time the S.W. Federation arranged a Golf Croquet Open Tournament. Each participating Club arranged its own first round and entrants came from any club in the S.W. Federation. 14 of our members entered and 4 came from other clubs. Gwen Hewitt, Mary and Redmond Russell went through to the Regional Finals, which Sidmouth hosted early in September. The eventual winners were Mr. & Mrs. Tony Samman from Bristol. Mr. Tony Samman won the singles.

This year, 14 members entered Open Tournaments in other Clubs, including Budleigh, Carrick Mines, Parkstone, Cheltenham, Hunstanton and Eastbourne, where Philip Dwerryhouse won the Singles Veterans' Trophy.

Eric Kitchener won the Croquet Association National Merit Award of a Silver Medal at the Budleigh September week-end Tournament.

Section Tournaments were well supported, with the following results:

Hicks Cup	Advanced Play	J. Hatherley
Belmont Cup	Handicap Singles	R. Noon
Colclough & Sidmouth Cups Handicap Doubles		M. Hardman & Ted Owen
Fermor Rose Bowl Ladies Handicap Singles		S. Scarr
Devonia Cup	High Handicap Singles	R. Russell
Corbett Spoons	Low Bisquers	J. Hatherley
	High Bisquers	L. Sage
Cunningham Salvors	Golf Croquet Doubles	A. Davis & F. Furness
	Singles	M. Gibbs

Len Wilton
30th Sept 1983