

MINUTES

CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY NOVEMBER 11th 2019 at 9:30 am at MAPLE TREE COTTAGE.

Present: Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Andrew Thomas, Julie Sorrell, Julie Horsley, Penny Ball, Ed Dolphin, (Sue Dent for first half of meeting.)

1. **Apologies:** Paul Bradley, Steve Pearson.
2. **Welcome to new members:** The chairman welcomed Ed as the only new member and thanked everyone else for continuing to be on the committee.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 14th October:** were signed by the chairman.

a. **2020 Programme:** This was discussed first so that Sue could leave early.

(1) There were few entries for the Devonia this season. It was suggested that if there were only 4 entries next season then the players should play each other twice.

(2) JH thinks the handicap range for the Elaine Woodward cup is too wide (4-14). It was decided to change it to 9 and above and the Humphrey Hicks to 8 and below.

(3) **CD** queried whether the lawns need to be closed for a whole day before CA tournaments. He will talk to Colin Whitehall about this. He will also ask him about the date for the start of roll-up sessions.

(4) PH said all lawns should be open from 1st April. Roll-ups don't usually start until the end of April.

(5) CD would like golf croquet leads to coach the new members after the taster day. He is happy to run a conversion course to association croquet.

(6) The association refresher session will be combined with the first roll-up.

(7) Sue will ask Mike Taylor to run the charity one-ball again.

(8) **CD** will organise the short croquet tournaments. The charge for the open event will be £20 as it is two days.

(9) PH has prepared an advert for the Swan. Entries will go to JH. The golf croquet open event on June 6th will cost £10 as it was felt that £15 was too much for one day.

(10) The welcome evening for new members will be moved to the Friday so it is after a golf roll-up.

(11) The Medics have requested a date which clashes with a tournament. **PJB** will contact them and ask them to change to another day.

(12) **PJB** has contacted Jean Laidler and confirmed that the treasure hunt will be on 9th June. The wine and buffet will be moved to a Wednesday to allow for matches on a Tuesday. **CD** will contact Richard Thurlow to ask if he will organise it.

(13) **CD** will print the new programme when it is finalised along with the tournament descriptions and entry form and include them in the A5 booklet with all the other information to be distributed at Christmas. It will also include the membership renewal form.

(14) **JS** will print new participation cards. **PJB** suggested the cards should be signed immediately under the last date as the signature at the bottom of the card is often missed.

4. **Matters Arising:**

- a. SD asked about engraving of trophies which are to be presented on the day of tournaments. CD said trophies should be called in before the tournament and presented

unengraved but then returned to SD for engraving. All these trophies would then be given back to the winners at the next AGM. He also said the trophies for most improved handicaps should also be engraved in advance and the winner's names covered up until presented.

- b. **SD** and **PH** will get the honours boards updated.
- c. CD needs a wish list from the croquet section before the next GMC meeting. PH requested higher fencing by the lawns.
- d. CD will contact David Scrace to ask him to find out the table tennis players specifications for a new table.
- e. The verticutter has been purchased.

5. Feedback from AGM: All went well. One person complained about the gluten-free meal. **JS** will talk to Emma about it.

6. SW Fed. AGM: 17th November:

- a. **Proposals:** PH was concerned about the handicaps for the short croquet matches. He thought there should be no limits but there should be a cumulative handicap for each team. JH agreed. We have 10 short croquet players at present. **CD** will propose no limits at the AGM.
- b. There are changes to association croquet rules. Team managers must be aware of these.
- c. On proposal:
 - (1) On proposal 1 We agreed that the job descriptions should remain.
 - (2) On proposal 2: We support a play off.
 - (3) On proposal 3: We support the offer of two dates for matches.
 - (4) On proposal 4: We support the introduction of a short croquet league but suggest no handicap limits.

7. League match days and teams:

- a. JH offered to manage the short croquet league preferably with a shadow to take over the following year.
- b. SP will run the high handicap golf league. Golf teams will train at 4:00pm on a Tuesday. PH suggested that internal tournaments should not use Thursdays so as to make more days available for league matches.
- c. The golf handicap singles will thus be on June 26th. The handicap doubles will remain on Thursday 30th July because of Folk Week.

8. Winter lawn closures:

- a. **PH** will send out another e-mail to members explaining that they must check for lawn closures after 9:30am by which time Colin Whitehall will have made a decision. He will close a lawn for mowing in the afternoon if it is not booked.
- b. The centre peg will be taken out if the lawn is not playable.
- c. The tablet in the mallet room has not been working. A new one will be put on our wish list. The current website is hosted by Colin Walls. A new one would have to be paid for. **PH** said he would find out who designed the Budleigh croquet club one.

9. Christmas Lunch 12th Dec.

- a. **Arrangements:** 54 people have booked. JS would like all bookings to be made by 5th December. **JS** will meet with Emma to discuss numbers and crackers. The committee agreed that crackers would be bought if necessary.
- b. **PH** will send out a reminder. There will be a raffle so prizes are required.
- c. **Paperwork: programme, membership renewal, tournament descriptions and entry forms.** This will be up-dated by **SD** and **PH** and sent to **CD**. **CD** will print and collate it and deliver the booklets to **PJB**. **PJB** will put all the booklets in envelopes and deliver them appropriately.

10. Chairman's Matters: CD enquired:

- a. who was on the hoop-setting list and was enlightened.
- b. Lawn management was discussed. We need more volunteers.
- c. about league team managers. The same managers may be willing to carry on. **ED** has offered to take over the B-league from Pam Bowra. Louise Smith may take over the level golf from **PH**. **SP** may manage the new high handicap golf as well as the **SW** team.

11. Individual committee member's reports:

- a. **PH** told us that David Brooke-Smith from Bridport would like to use our lawns occasionally and requested a reduced membership deal. However, the GMC rule is that country membership applies to those more than 50 miles away so is not applicable to him. **PH** will explain and suggest he pays visitor's fees but may only come 4 times.
- b. **PH** will ask Colin to update the information on the website about the committee. **PJB** will send the contact list to him and to **CD**.
- c. **ED** reported that Neil Holland from the golf club would like 4 golf players to play 4 golf croquet players next Spring.

12. AOB:

- a. **JH** has heard from Linda Shaw at the **SWF** that there is a proposal to reduce the number of 'bandits': If a rapid improver is identified then their points total should increase by 25 or 50 per win. It was felt that the club handicappers should be able to adjust the handicaps without resorting to this measure.
- b. **CD** said that clubs should be able to query the handicaps of other clubs.
- c. **PH** pointed out that players should be told to hand in their handicap cards as soon as they reach a trigger point.

Date of next meeting: Monday 2nd December at 9:30am at Maple Tree Cottage.

MINUTES
CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 2nd December 2019 9:30am at Maple Tree Cottage

Present: Chris Donovan, Andrew Thomas, Philip Harris, Julie Horsley, Julie Sorrell, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Steve Pearson, Ed Dolphin.
- 2. Minutes of the meeting held on November 11th:** were signed by the chairman.
- 3. Matters Arising:**
 - a. The new members welcome evening has been set for Tuesday 26th May.
 - b. Richard Thurlow has agreed to run the wine and buffet evening.
 - c. Our wish list is to include, besides the verticutter which we already have, a new tablet for the mallet room and a swing trainer which AT has offered to make. An e-mail will be sent out asking if anyone has a tablet in working order which they would be willing to donate. Raising the fence next to the croquet lawns has already been agreed by the GMC.
- 4. GMC Feedback:**
 - a. There is no chance of getting extra parking permits. Mention was made of doing a deal with the Rugby club to park there during the summer.
 - b. Subscriptions for croquet are to go up by £2. To join the Friends of Fortfield as well will cost £5.
 - c. There will be no membership cards this year. JS pointed out that Julie Claydon needs to know who are members for the bar reduction. The new GDPR rules mean that she cannot have a list of members.
 - d. There is currently no recycling contract. It will cost £1000 to extend the bin area to allow access by a lorry but the savings would be £3000 per annum.
 - e. The pavilion is in poor shape. There is a leak in the roof, so the thatch needs replacing again and the front door must also be replaced. There will be a feasibility study for refurbishing the kitchen.
 - f. There was good take-up of the defibrillator training by the croquet and tennis sections.
- 5. SW Federation AGM: Feedback:**
 - a. The constitution was discussed CD suggested sending out a copy for perusal.
 - b. Changes for league matches were discussed.
 - c. The new short croquet league was discussed. The combined handicap proposal was not popular.
 - d. .At a workshop there was discussion about promoting the game. CD thought the CA website is not attention grabbing.
 - e. Some clubs have cheaper membership for secondary members.
- 6. 2020 Documents booklet:**

CD has compiled this and gave out copies to the committee to proof read.

The booklets will be labelled by **PJB** and some given out at the Xmas lunch, some delivered and a few posted. Envelopes will only be necessary for those to be posted.

7. Christmas lunch arrangements: There are 58 bookings so far. The maximum is 70. Emma requires a 50% deposit. JS has paid her. **JS** has made the suggested change to participation cards and will print them. It was agreed that these will be given out at the Spring lunch.

8. Chairman's Matters:

- a. CD has produced a timetable of April's coaching sessions and short croquet practices which he issued to the committee.
- b. He also demonstrated the new website created by Emma Donovan hosted by WIX at a cost of £150 for 3 years. It is found at sidmouthcroquet.co.uk and is easier to update. There is also a new booking system to try which the committee will test. If it is not met with approval then the old system will be retained but will have to be maintained by Colin Walls.
- c. Paul Griew needs to know how many participation cards have been completed. **PJB** will e-mail him and chase a couple of people up.

9. Individual Committee Members Reports:

- a. AT: There has not been much play due to the wet weather. From January only one lawn will be open. The new lawnmower has been serviced but can't be used until February as 8mms is the minimum cut height at present.
- b. PH: David Hodge said he would e-mail every club member the privacy policy and any other information in March. Membership renewal will not be duplicated as we have our own forms. The renewal date is 1st April for the main club.
- c. JH: We will enter 1 short croquet team in the new league. The Federation chooses which teams go to the national competition. Short croquet handicap cards are needed. **CD** will print some. Short croquet handicaps should correlate with full lawn handicaps. If there is a discrepancy of more than one step then the handicap should be looked at by the handicap committee.
- d. JS: Emma has been told that team lunches/teas will cost £5. She would like some feedback on what players would like to be included in these. Emma will provide crackers for the Xmas lunch.
- e. Muriel Philpott has reported that some tables are sticky when members come to play cards. Emma has been told of this but thinks it is due to other players using the tables. She will provide cloths and spray to clean them before play.
- f. **PB**: SP has been looking at reassessing the golf handicaps of those of 11 and above using a 3 round test. Pam Bowra and Anne Reece are doing handicap cards.
- g. **PB** will do new mileage forms.
- h. **PJB** will send PB the CA bill to pay. The SWF fees demand has not yet arrived.

10. AOB:

- a. Clubhouse security was discussed but no changes proposed.
- b. The CA is asking for bids for 2022 events. JH suggested applying for 5 of the ACTC events in September. This was agreed. **PJB** will send in these bids.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday February 10th at 9:30 at Maple Tree Cottage.

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 10th February 2020 9:30am at Maple Tree Cottage

Present: Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Julie Horsley, Julie Sorrell, Paul Bradley, Penny Ball, Steve Pearson, Ed Dolphin.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Andrew Thomas
- 2. Minutes** of the meeting held on December 2nd: were signed by the chairman.
- 3. Matters Arising:**
 - a. The SWF constitution is still not finished, a final draft is expected by September.
 - b. Julie Sorrell was thanked for her work organising the very successful Christmas lunch.
 - c. The new catering team are pulling out because the work is impacting on their family and their other business commitments. Hopefully, they will continue until a new team can be appointed. The contract has been advertised for tender. The present team will continue until the end of March so the spring lunch will be catered for.
 - d. Lunches for league matches will be £5. It is unclear what will happen if a new caterer is not appointed. A hygiene certificate is required to use the kitchen to prepare food. The kitchen refurbishment is on hold.
 - e. Poor weather continues to restrict winter play.
 - f. Materials from David Hodge have been sent out. Next year, it is hoped that there will be better co-ordination with croquet membership material. Membership cards will be issued this season.
 - g. Philip Harris will send out the privacy policy to all members for their signatures. The club 100 form will go out at the end of March.
- 4. Lawn Booking:** the trial of a new booking system was unsuccessful. There is still a problem with the existing system and half game slots. Chris Donovan will meet with Colin Walls and Paul Griew to investigate a commercially available system, possibly the one used by Budleigh for which they pay about £1,000, but we would pay less because Budleigh have included many extras that we do not need. The main club may have a system we can book into.
- 5. SWF League.** The SWF Fixtures have been sent out to team managers. The fixtures, programme and committee members list have been sent to John Goodwin for inclusion in the fixtures booklet, which should be available by the end of March.
- 6. Forthcoming events:**
 - a. The Quiz and Tea March 19th, Emma will still do the catering. Julie Sorrell to organise.
 - b. The Spring Lunch March 28th will probably be £14, the menu will be sent out when available.
 - c. Membership list, participation cards, membership cards and fixtures booklet will be distributed at the lunch, Julie Sorrell has the pink paper for the participation cards. It was noted that recorded participation rates are lower than usual at present. 90 have been received. Most of the remainder say they have not played enough.
 - d. Taster Session April 4th, the club facilities can accommodate a small number of new members and we hope for about 10 takers on the day. There will be a notice in the Herald. Steve Pearson will manage the day. All helpers welcome. Charge for the training will be £15.

e. Four session induction training will include coverage of the croquet shot and short croquet. Chris Donovan to print forms, Know the Game book to be withheld until the end of the course.

f. Golf/Association conversion weekend 2/3rd May, Chris Donovan to manage, all helpers welcome.

7. Chairman's Matters:

a. Sidmouth v Dublin fixture on 5th/6th September, needs to be added to the programme. We have been invited to send a team to Vienna for a friendly match in September, Philip Harris to circulate details.

b. Short Croquet team, Julie Horsley to circulate details. High handicap players are needed.

c. The club signs at the corner of Fortfield Terrace are being replaced.

d. The fence between the cricket pitch and Belmont is running late and over-budget, this means that replacement of the fence beside lawn 4 is unlikely to proceed in the near future. Some of the supports may not be strong enough for the extra weight.

e. Health and safety work to the tennis area means there is unlikely to be any money to relay the courts in the near future. The new mowing regime may reduce the need for total relaying with corner 3 of lawn 4 being the only area for special attention. If necessary, the April Golf Tournament might be played at Budleigh. The verticutter is key to improving the lawns but using it requires closing lawns for at least half a day on a fortnightly cycle.

8. Committee Members' Matters:

a. Membership, Philip Harris: We have received 20 renewals so far, only 6 by bank transfer. Attempts will be made to encourage all members to adopt CA membership, this will widen the pool for the CA Golf Team Tournament.

b. Golf Croquet, Steve Pearson: We are running three teams this year, SW, SE and high handicap. Information re dates will be sent out to prospective team members.

c. CA Tournaments:

(1) Julie Horsley: The Golf team event run by the Smiths is full, but players can apply up to the allocation day when there will be a ballot.

(2) There will be member priority in the two tournaments advertised in the Swan to encourage participation: Open Short Tournament 16/17th May 12 of 32 places reserved, Open Golf 6th June 6 of 16 places reserved.

(3) Entries so far for the other tournaments: June Association: 11 for class, 6 for handicap events. B-level Advanced Association: 7.

d. Events, Julie Sorrel: Peter Nelson's Winter Talk raised £100, donations of £50 sent each to Sidmouth Hospicecare and Devon Air Ambulance.

e. Treasurer, Paul Bradley: Mileage allowance is being raised to 20p per mile for shared cars, maximum 2 cars per match. Examples of the new rates are: Cheltenham rises from £30 to £50 and Cornwall rises from £22 to £36. Match fees have risen to £6 to help with this and catering.

f. Grounds, Andrew Thomas, message relayed:

(1) It was agreed that we should refurbish the hoops at £10 per hoop, 24 needed.

(2) A swing trainer at an approximate cost of £250 will be made.

(c) A new recycling bin contractor has been engaged. The bins will be locked to prevent unauthorised use, the keys to be kept in the key cupboard in the pavilion. The new contract is expected to save £3,000 per year. Grass is now collected separately.

g. Penny Ball, Secretary: A notice has been put up about the All England Championships.

h. Entries for the CA Club Championship must be in by March. We do not intend to enter a team.

9. AOB:

a. Steve Pearson: Budleigh are trialling a class of membership for secondary club members: £124 to play a maximum of 2 times per week.

b. SP asked what happens if, after entering a CA B level golf tournament, his handicap changes. Julie H told him the handicap at allocation date was the deciding date for handicap eligibility. Subsequent 1 step change, up or down, permits play but a two-step change should be withdrawal.

c. Paul Bradley; Budleigh have a large broom for removing worm casts. Philip said we need more swishes or such a brush. Chris will get a price for one. Budleigh also have a soak-up roller.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 23rd March at 9:30 at Maple Tree Cottage.

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 8th October 2020 10 am in The Club Pavilion

Present: Paul Bradley, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Julie Horsley, Steve Pearson, Julie Sorrell. David Hodge was present as an observer.

	Action
1. Apologies: Andrew Thomas	
2. Minutes of the meeting 20-02-2020 Agreed and signed.	
3. Matters Arising	
4. Replacement lawn booking system. It was agreed that we will continue with the existing system and leave it to members to make their own arrangements for double banking.	
9c. Large broom for lawn swishing. It was noted that the club has a large broom that might be used to sweep lawns. It was agreed that we will look into the cost and practicality of a broom similar to one used at Budleigh.....	CD
4. AGM	
a. It was confirmed that there will be no AGM this year.	
b. No nominations received to date. Any further nominations for Officers or Committee will be circulated among the existing Committee after the closing date of Friday 16 th October. If nominations are received, a voting procedure will be devised.....	ED
c. A draft response on the issue of the number of days given over to CA tournaments was agreed. It will be circulated to members with other AGM papers.....	PH
5. 2021 Programme	
a. There are no changes to the draft programme circulated to members on 25 th September.	
b. There will be a final review of the details for internal tournaments at the next meeting, but no amendments are anticipated.	
c. Current rules on Covid-19 restrict the number of players using a lawn to 6, this includes a lawn split into two halves for short croquet. This will restrict tournament places to a maximum of 24 players.	
d. The limit of 6 allows double banking in social play, but not double banked pairs which would have 8 players on a lawn. It is the responsibility of the player booking the lawn to keep a record of players. A reminder will be sent out to members.....	PH
6. Christmas Lunch and distribution of 2021 materials	
a. It was confirmed that there will be no Christmas lunch this year.	

<p>b. Renewal and competition forms will be posted on the website and sent out to those members who do not have internet access.....</p> <p>c. It was agreed that JS will have access to the members' email details for the organisation of future social events.</p>	<p>CD/PH</p>
<p>d. Membership lists will be sent out 1st March.....</p>	
<p>e. It was agreed that a membership fee increase of £2 will be recommended to the GMC.</p>	
<p>7. Second club membership It was decided that we will not offer a reduced second club membership grade.</p>	
<p>8. Covid-19</p>	
<p>a. The club awaits information from HMRC on temporary amendments to the rules for participation in Community Amateur Sports Clubs.</p>	
<p>b. A message about personal responsibility from the officers of another club to their members was read out. It was agreed that the tone was too strong for our purposes and we will rely on PH's judgement for minute 5d above.</p>	
<p>9. Chairman's matters</p>	
<p>a. Sue Dent, a previous secretary, created a Policy List from committee meeting covering the period Dec 2012 to Sep 2014, it was agreed that it is helpful and needs to be brought and kept up to date.....</p>	<p>ED</p>
<p>b. We have still not located a copy of current rules or constitution for the section. It is a matter that will need to be addressed in time for the 2021 AGM.....</p>	<p>CD</p>
<p>c. There has been a suggestion that lawn 2 should be converted to a tennis court. It was agreed that any such proposal should be resisted with maximum effort if it becomes a formal proposal to the GMC.</p>	
<p>d. CD has been working on a collection of club photographs and this will be included in a history section of the website.....</p>	<p>CD</p>
<p>e. One discovery among the photos is that there used to be a display of Henry Hicks' medals in the Pavilion. Efforts will be made to locate them.....</p>	<p>CD/ED</p>
<p>f. Approved committee minutes will be posted on the club website as well as in the Mallet Room. Any items voted as confidential will be redacted.</p>	
<p>g. Although there have been some generous gifts from members this year and the club received a government grant, Covid-19 has caused a loss of income. It was agreed that we need to explore fund raising activities.....</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>h. The Pavilion toilets will continue to be inaccessible. The Fortfield Terrace gate will remain unlocked for the convenience of players. The possibility of reinstating the gate by the NE corner of lawn 2 will be investigated.....</p>	<p>CD</p>
<p>i. The committee was pleased to hear that Toby has begun training as an apprentice groundsman. It was agreed that members will be invited to contribute to a Christmas Box for Colin and Toby with a 40/60 split in recognition of the extra</p>	

efforts made by Toby during the year. A box will be kept at the back of hut 2 until the end of October. It will be emptied at the end of each day.....

PH/ED

10. Individual Committee Members

a. **Grounds** CD reported for AT. Lawns 3&4 have been verticut, scarified and 4 tons of top dressing have been applied. Lawn 2 will be treated when lawn 3 or 4 can be brought back into play. Lawn 1 may not be treated until next year.

b. Profits from the sale of South African mallets have been donated to the club and have paid for new ball stop boards and the new bike racks fixed to hut 3. The committee offered their thanks with great appreciation of the bike racks in particular.

c. **Membership** PH reported that new members are still applying. It was agreed that they will be charged a nominal £7 for each month that remains until the start of the next club year.

d. David and Nancy Temple were congratulated on their well-deserved CA Diplomas for their outstanding contribution to the development of croquet in Sidmouth. There will be a presentation of framed diplomas, the ceremony will be limited by Covid-19 rules, CD, PH, JH & JS will represent the club, ED will take pictures from a safe distance.....

CD

e. **Tournaments** It was agreed that the CA tournaments as on the draft programme be confirmed.....

JH

f. **Social** Emma's plans for the Purple Owl restaurant year have been thwarted by Covid-19, but she is hopeful that next year will see exciting improvements and additions to the programme.

g. The stock of biscuits in hut 3 are being distributed before they pass their sell by date.

h. **Treasurer** Wine purchased for social events is being kept safe for next year.

i. Thanks were recorded for Colin Wall's donated hoop clips. He will be presented with a gift.....

PB

j. We have had 17 visitors pay despite Covid-19.

k. Gabby MacAdam is holding money from previous table tennis which will be collected.....

PB

l. **Golf Croquet** Golf players have managed to have some training on the use of extra shots.

m. Stephen Custance-Baker's new book on Golf Croquet is on sale and is recommended.

11. AOB

It was agreed that we need to consider appropriate recognition of the contribution of some long-standing members in the near future.

Provisional date of Next Meeting: Monday 22nd February 2021, time and venue to be decided.

AGM 2020

Information Documents

AGM not held and these notes, circulated to member, used as a record.

The usual information reported to the Croquet Section AGM is attached. The most important element is election of Committee Members. It transpires that we are unable to locate, currently, a copy of the Section's Constitution or Rules— if you have a copy please forward to Chris Donovan [Chairman] or myself, Ed Dolphin [Secretary]. Work is underway to draft an up to date set of rules based on the Rules of the Main Club, members will be consulted about this at a later date.

1. Committee Structure & Nominations

In the absence of definitive rules, the 'Group of 6' Covid-19 rules will dictate our procedure. With two current committee members being willing to continue in role but not attend committee meetings, the committee has agreed, at least for the time being, that:

The number of committee members is reduced to 7. Sue Dent, who organizes the calendar and internal competitions, is already a co-opted committee member and attends as required. Andrew Thomas, whom you will know does such sterling work on grounds and equipment, is to stand down but continue his contribution as a co-opted member attending if required.

The remaining seven members of the current committee are all willing to stand again:

Paul Bradley, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Julie Horsley, Steve Pearson, and Julie Sorrell. [Treasurer, Secretary, Chair/PR, Membership, CA Tournament Liaison, GC, Social]

Further nominations for any of the above roles, duly proposed and seconded **will be** accepted by Ed Dolphin, either on the nominations sheet displayed outside Hut 3, or by email to **eddolphin@yahoocom**. [2 emails are required: 1 nominating and 1 seconding] Closing date Monday 21 October 2020. If further nominations are received, they will be put to members by email.

2. Members Deceased:

We are saddened to report the loss of the following members:

Helen Pryor	December 2019	Alsia Dixon	April 2020
Jo McInerney	April 2020	Graeme Pryor	June 2020

3. Current 2020 Membership

Paid membership [includes 12 new members]	96
Donations	2
Members lost [deceased/moved/not renewing]	15
Not renewed this year but may renew next year	17

Breakdown of paid membership:

paid but not played	22
paid and have played	74

4. Covid-19 Friendly Competitions – 1st Round Winners:

Association LH	Roger Mills	Association HH	John Garner
Golf LH	Mike Hide	Golf HH	Muriel Philpott.

We had 35 competitors.

5. An Income & Expenditure Report.

OCT 2019 - SEP 2020	
Income	
Donations and Grants	
Total Donations and Grants	
Sports Sections Income 71	15,512.00
Subscriptions	
Match Fees	-162.50
Visitor Fees	5.00
Non members Court /pitch usage fee	88.00
Other Income	58.50
Tournament Fees - club	177.50
Tournament Fees - CA	148.00
Donations - Sports Sections	217.00
Winter Sports Income	
Total Sports Sections Income	16,043.50
Total Income	16,043.50
GROSS PROFIT	16,043.50
Expenses	
Sports Sections Expenses 201	1,462.00
Affiliation Fees	
Small equipment purchases	168.38
Sundry expenses	1,036.46
Mowers & Rollers - Maintenance	376.26
Ground - Other Equipment Costs	
Ground - General Repairs &	
Supplies	
Ground - Seeds & Dressings	1,098.10
Ground - Contractors Services	445.00
Sports Sections Equipment	2,060.00
Depreciation	
Total Sports Sections Expenses	6,646.20
Total Expenses	6,646.20
NET OPERATING INCOME	9,397.30
NET INCOME	9,397.30

This is attached for information and reflects the Croquet relevant figures in the overall Club's accounts

Accrual Basis Monday, 14 September 2020

6. 2021 Programme

A PROVISIONAL 2021 programme is attached. It is the 2020 programme amended for same day and thus just a date change. At this point all one can say with certainty is that weather & Covid permitting 2 lawns will be open for playing October – March.

It is considered to be unrealistic to contemplate a Club Christmas lunch or any other gathering until next season start at the earliest.

7. AoB

AoB items must be submitted by 21 October and, in these strange times, the Committee will review and respond. Any AoB matters raised will be circulated to all members for comment.

Richard Thurlow queried the excessive time dedicated to tournaments and similar events at the expense of social play. The committee responded as follows:

Lawn Usage

Richard Thurlow queried the amount of time dedicated to non-social play without reference to the club membership. Whilst the Committee believes that such time allocation is mostly a matter for the committee, it is acknowledged that, of course, a balance has to be struck.

Attached is breakdown of lawn usage which is materially unchanged from previous years. There are new events:

1. Team GC Weekend is a CA Fixtures Book entry and it will attract outside teams but its format makes it open to a Sidmouth team and the Committee strongly urges a team to enter. It is, as all events, subject to annual review.
2. The One Day GC Level play was specifically added to offer club GC playing members more competitive play in tournament format. It is aimed at the South West via the Cygnet. [SWAN now replaced on-line by Cygnet] and is subject to review.
3. The open Short Croquet is a venture into the increasingly popular form of the game. This too is aimed at the South West via the Cygnet and is subject to review.
4. The CA Class Weekend is a new format not actually a whole new event and, again, is subject to review.

Nonetheless, overall, the great majority of sessions are unfettered and available to members as they choose whilst both codes and all skill levels are catered for, internally and externally. As far as possible external / major events encompass a weekend as the lawn usage statistics support the 'gut feeling' that usage at weekends is reduced.

The committee is willing to accept constructive criticism, but believes it has struck a reasonable balance between the needs of mostly social players and those enjoying various forms and levels of competition. The financial income, whilst not major, is needed more than ever.

Statistics:

Point of information, I can confirm that there is less member demand for the lawns at weekends compared with weekdays.

Last year, 54% of the available slots were booked, but there is a higher take up in summer, the average for June, July and August is 69%, but this is skewed by the higher occupation on weekdays. Looking at the breakdown for June, July and August 2019, 63% of the available weekend lawn slots were booked, but 71% of the weekday slots were booked.

Lawn Usage

5 x 1.5Hr sessions per lawn

4 Lawns x 5 sessions = 20 per day up to 5.30pm

* December counted as 15 days to 'allow' for minimum usage at Christmas & New Year thus only 166 days not 182

April to September 183 days

Sessions

3,660

October to March 166* days

Sessions

1,660

Total Sessions

5,320

Lawn Preparation

Date	Lawns	S
Apr	23 4	12
May	7 4	12
Jun	4 4	12
	8 4	12
Jul	2 3	9
Aug	11 4	12
Sep	3 4	12
	10 4	12
		93

Tournaments - CA / Open / External

Date	Lawns	S
Apr 24/25 CA Open GC	4	40
May 8/9 CA GC Teams	4	40
15/16 Short AC	4	40
Jun 5 Open GC	4	20
9/13 June Week	4	100
Jul 3/4 CA C Class	3	30
Aug 12/13 B Level	4	40
Sep 4/5 CA All England GC	4	40
11/12 CA All England AC	4	40
		390

Club Competitions / Tournaments

Date	Lawns	S
Apr 21 Charity 1 Ball	3	15
May 13/14 Short AC	4	40
22 AC 14pt [Canton]	3	15
31 Clerics Afternoon	3	9
Jun 17 AC 1 Ball [LH]	3	15
18 AC 1 Ball [HH]	3	15
25 GC Singles H'Cap	3	15
26 GC Singles Level	3	15
Jul 7GC & AC Skills	3	9
23/25 AC H'Cap Dbles	3	45
Aug 19GC H'Cap Dbles	3	15
20GC Level Dbles	3	15
Sep 14The Seagull	4	20
		243

Leagues 27 Home Matches
2 **270**

% Usage by:	Summer	Year
CA / Open	10.7	7.3
Club Comps	6.6	4.6
Leagues	7.4	5.1

Lawn Preparation: Has to be done anyway.

The programme advises definite date/time rather than unannounced closure for mowing, white lining, hoop move / setting

Green Text = Open to and entered by Club Members

League Matches - Use 2 lawns so 2 usually free. These are a major competitive opportunity for those wishing to compete externally but not in CA events.

Club Competitions - lawn usage based on firm historic usage. NB: In 11 of the 13 events Lawn 1 will always be available.

Finance	£	£	£
GC Open	320	July Class	288
GC Teams	432	B level	352
June Week	640	Gross	2,032
		Net	1,524
		CA Open Lawn Hire	600
		Total	2,125

The Club needs additional income so this helps plus bar takings increased.

Committee View: Allowing 2.6% for scheduled lawn maintenance, some 70% of the Club's sessions are available for social play / season long competitive play during the summer season.

Year round the figure is 17%:83%. Winter play has only recently been initiated with no subscription increase.