

MINUTES - Croquet Sect. - Mon. Dec. 14th. - 10 a.m.

Present I. Dwerryhouse R. Case  
R. Peirce B. Easthaugh  
K. Holroyd J. Whitehead

Apologies: G Cunningham was unable to attend through illness.

Minutes of the Meeting d. Nov. 2nd. Were read and approved.

Ballots were held for the posts of Chairman and Vice Chairman with the following results:

I. Dwerryhouse - Chairman  
R. Pierce - Vice Chairman  
R. Case agreed to continue as Hon. Secy

Responsibilities were distributed as follows:

I. Dwerryhouse - Chairman  
R. Peirce - Liaison with Main Committee  
Coordination of training and competitions in association with Chairman.  
K. Holroyd - Social Activities and catering  
B. Eastaugh - Treasurer  
J. Whitehead - "Vice" for R. Peirce  
"Ditto" for Hon. Secy.  
G. Cunningham - Golf Croquet  
R. Case - Secretary

The new Handicap Committee would be

Iris Dwerryhouse

F. Moores

M. Holt

The Croq. Sect. report on unmilled balls and the Croq. Assoc. Reply was noted.

The "Preferences" voted upon at the A.G.M. were summarised by Hon. Secy. and circulated. Briefly, the results were:

Weekly session for Club Assoc. Croq. - strong support.

Golf Croquet - alternate weeks favoured, together with morning sessions.

Golf Croquet (F Type) - little support

Shot Game - strong support for monthly session

High Handicap Event - well supported

Annual Luncheon - strong preference for "hotel"

R. Peirce reported on Main Committee subjects. The main items were that there would be no International Cricket Week in 1982. A Social and Fund-raising Committee had been set-up. The collection of Annual Subscriptions had been tightened up. Emphasis was being put on Fund-raising activities.

In reply to K. Holroyd, R. Peirce had stated that the Groundsman was the only salaried employee. Other labour was on a contractual basis. The Groundsman was paid £3,000/year plus accommodation.

B. Easthaugh reported that the Whist Drive on Nov. 8th had brought in £13.13. This would be handed over to the Main Committee. The sum of £15.02 (balance of funds in hand) would be retained against contingencies.

Hon Secy's suggestions for television coverage were discussed. It was decided that he would approach southern television on the subject, and would report in due course.

The following fixtures would be arranged:

Military Whist Drive - Fri. Jan. 29th. 1982, 1.45/2.00 p.m.

Coffee Morning - Sat. Feb. 6th. 1982, 10.00 - 12.00 (noon) with publicity on 8 town posters, including open invitation to the public.

Annual Luncheon - Glen Hotel - Wed. Apr. 7th 12.30/1.00 p.m.

The complaint by A. Harding at the A.G.M. of annoyance caused by radio "Hams" had been discussed between L. Sage and the Main Committee. Such Troubles should be dealt with on the spot by Members, or if necessary, with assistance from the Club official on duty.

The Chairman asked Committee Members to crystalise ideas about the 1982 programme, with a view to setting up a Programme at the next Meeting on Mon. 25th. Jan.

Hon. Secy. promised to bring any of the Croq. Assoc. posters to the next Meeting, so that they could be distributed in due course to prospective Members.

The next Croq. Sect. Meeting would be on Mon. Jan 25th. 1982 at 10.00 a.m. in the main pavilion.

**J Dwerryhouse**

Chairman

Copy of letter d. 10.11.81 from TVS (Television Centre, Southampton) to Secy, Croquet Association.

"As a new TV Company, taking over in the Southern Television region on Jan. 1st. 82, we are most anxious to provide a comprehensive coverage of all sport.

It would be of enormous assistance if you could supply us with available dates of major events planned for 1982 and put our name on your mailing list.

It would also help if you would advise some of your officials in this area of our eagerness to be involved and to aid their activities, although I would stress that our sporting output will be considerable and that we are interested in your sport at a local and a national level."

Sports Editor,

Copy of relevant portion of Croq. Assoc. reply d. 16.11.81.

"I enclose a list of the Secretaries of the main Croquet Clubs in the area. I am sure that they will give you every assistance in getting coverage of croquet on your television network. I will, of course, be happy to supply you with any more information."

For discussion.

This would seem to offer opportunities for "putting ourselves on the map as well for advancing public interest in the game. Not only could our existing membership be interestingly involved, but additional membership could be stimulated. The draft letter to TVS (below) sets out some of Ideas. and is for the Committee's consideration and additional suggestions.

Draft letter to TVS.

The Secretary of the Croquet Association has informed us of your interest, as a new T.V. Company, in providing a comprehensive coverage of all sport.

The Committee of the Croquet Section of the Sidmouth Cricket Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club have asked me to offer a few suggestions, and would be interested to have your reactions.

First of all, the Committee represents some 60 players. One of these is a World Champion and we have others who have developed considerable skill. We possess 3 lawns set in attractive situations. We do not list "fixtures" in the sense employed in your letter to the Secy. Croq. Assoc. On the other hand, we organise training, interesting competitions and "social" events.

Croquet has, hitherto, not been given much publicity. In spite of this, it is enjoying a marked revival. It demands a high degree of skill and, because it can be played by both young and old it has a bigger player potential than, perhaps, any other outdoor game.

Because of its complexity, croquet is probably more difficult than some "event" games to "put across" on T.V. 1 V. So we would suggest a somewhat different approach.

Why not organise a series of, say, 6 parts, devoted to "The Art of Croquet", "How to play Croquet" (or other title) on the lines of recent (T.V. series on Tennis and Football? t could arrange demonstrators for such a series.

The series could be divided into, say:

1. Croquet - simple exposition of the game, the equipment used and set-up of lawns.
2. Fundamental strokes and sequences.
3. How to start a break.
4. Different types of break.
5. Tactics and strategy.
6. Fun in croquet.

If something along these lines appeals to you, my Committee would be pleased to discuss details with you on the spot, or to consider alternative suggestions.

In any event, you have our good wishes for success in encouraging sport.

Yours faithfully,

EXTRACT from "TIMES" - for information. (Nov. 28. 1981

Only few years ago a senior BBC television sports executive told one of his senior ITV competitors; "You will never see a dart thrown on BBC television". Times have changed.

As if to prove it, 10 million people watched Eric Bristow become world champion in darts on BBC2 last year; 3 million more than watch the football matches on Saturday night or Sunday afternoon.

Indeed, 4 million more people watched Steve Davis beat Doug Mountjoy in the final of the world snooker championship than saw John McEnroe unseat Bjorn Borg as

Wimbledon champion this year, in what has always been accepted as one of televised sport's biggest crowd-pullers.

Sport on television, then, is no longer just a matter of the Cup Final, the Derby, the Test Match, the Boat Race

and the odd international rugby match. In the past 5 years it has changed virtually beyond recognition, bringing not only darts and snooker to a mass audience, but also bowls, gymnastics and skiing. In the process, it has created a completely new cast of sporting heroes and villains.

As if to signal the change BBC and ITV will be competing with one another this weekend by transmitting sports that would never have been regarded as enough to draw an audience. The BBC will be staking its sporting reputation on snooker, while the ITV will be replying with world gymnastics from Moscow.

ITV "World of Sport" producer says, "A critical element is that people watching like the feeling that they are there. A further attraction is that armchair sportsmen believe that they could play the game almost as well, if only they had the opportunity.

Another sport that is on the brink of breaking through on television is skiing. This regularly attracts an audience of of 2 or 3 million. Indeed, every minority sport benefits on television when there is a British champion involved to keep it going; ice skating and show-jumping being obvious examples.

What of the future? Motor racing is regarded by both BBC and ITV as on the verge of a new bigger audience. The smaller sports like speedway and water skiing attract audiences of 2 million, while wrestling, even after 25 years, still attracts about 6 million every Saturday.

MINUTES - Croq. Meeting- Mon. Jan 25th 1982 - 10-00 hrs,

Present. I Dwerryhouse G. Cunningham  
R. Peirce Katherine Holroyde  
B Eastaugh J. Whitehead  
R. Case.

Minutes of the Meeting d. Dec. 14th. 1981 were read and approved.

It was decided that J. Whitehead would take responsibility for the running of tournaments, other than Golf Croquet.

R. Peirce reported that the Main Club was not paying interest on loans. Courts 1 and 2 had been hollow tined, and given a top dressing. There would be a fund raising "Drink and Snacks" at the Belmont costing £2.50/head at a date yet to be fixed by the Main Committee. Letters would be issued to Members about this.

Chairman reported that Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Davis had resigned. F. and B. Moores and Mr. and Mrs. Kirtley proposed to join. Members were asked to assist in recruiting for the new season.

It was agreed that talks on "Training" should be confined to one introductory talk.

An April session on the lawns

Golf croquet to be covered

Club rooms to be used for demonstrations as required

An introductory Coffee Morning would be held on Thurs. March 18th. 1982 to which all new or prospective Members should be invited. Time 10.30 a.m.

A 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting open to all Members would be held on Friday, Mar. 26th, 10.30 a.m.

R. Peirce would distribute programmes of fixtures at these Meetings.

The Opening Date of Thurs. Apr. 15th. 2.00 p.m. would start with a demonstration on No. 1 Court lasting ½ hour. Players would then be distributed among the lawns for practice and teaching. Tea and biscuits would be provided

After discussion with Main Committee it was hoped to arrange a Gala on Tues. Apr. 20th. or thereabouts. Thurs. May 20th.

A Public Coffee Morning will be held on Sat. Feb. 6th 10.00 - 12.00, in the Pavilion. Hon. Secy. offered to donate a prize for the Raffle. Volunteers would meet on Fri. Feb. 5th. to set up stalls, etc. It was intended that there should be a "variety" stall.

There was a brief discussion about altering Booking Sheet timings. Further discussion was deferred until the Meeting on Mon. Mar. 1st – also use of No. 1 Court for Croquet.

Next Meeting in Main Pavilion on Mon. Mar. 1st @ 2.00 p.m.

Hon. Secy explained briefly what had transpired at an informal meeting with Chris Fear, Sports Editor, Western Division. I. Dwerryhouse, H. Peirce and Hon. Secy were present, Weds. Jan. 20th. 1982. Mr. Fear explained that decisions to televise must hinge upon the "rating" (i.e. number of viewers) expected. Successfully to launch a programme, the press must be attracted; and to attract the attention of the press, it would be necessary to organise an event figuring international figures. These might be attracted if a sponsor could be induced to provide prizes, advertising and so on.

The next problem would be to present croquet in an acceptable format. Mr. Fear considered that a full-sized outdoor presentation involved unacceptable risks of weather; besides the game was a slow one and the lawns were too large for television purposes.

He had overcome some of these difficulties in bowls, by presenting modified form called "Target Bowls". He thought that similar approach might be made with croquet, by dividing a suitable indoor pitch into four small scale croquet courts on which an initial international tournament could be organised. He thought that some £2000 might result as an honorarium, if, following a successful opening, the Sidmouth Club could organise, say, 6 sessions on the lines already suggested.

From our side, we thought that the Croquet Association might reject any approach through "professionalism" and that they should be approached initially. There was, also, some doubt whether top players would consent to playing on an artificial surface upon small scale courts.

Mr. Fear said that he would get into touch with Hon. Secy. after having made some preliminary enquiries.

**J Derryhouse**

Chairman.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, LAWN TENNIS,  
CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB

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CROQUET SECTION

Spring 1982 Programme - especially for prospective NEW Members (who may have FREE MEMBERSHIP up to 31 May 1982)

Saturday, 6th February- 10.00 a.m. Coffee Morning, Raffle & Stalls.

(any contributions to which will be welcomed)

Wednesday, 24th February

6.30 p.m. Drinks Party at the Belmont Hotel. (For the whole Club, £2.50 per head – see letter)

Thursday, 18th March - 10.30 a.m. Introduction to Croquet for new Members (Coffee)

Friday, 26th March 10.30 a.m. Further Instruction for new Members (Coffee)

Wednesday, 7th April - 12.30 for 1.00 p.m. at The Royal Glen Hotel. Croquet Club Lunch (Tickets - £4.25 each)

Thursday, 15th April - Introduction to Croquet Lawns for new Members (Tea)

ROBERT CASE

26th January, 1982

(Hon. Secretary - Tel: 4154)

Minutes of Croquet Club Committee Meeting held on Monday, March 1st. 1982 at 2 pm.  
at Lime Parc, Sidmouth, Devon.

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Present: Chairman I. Dwerryhouse, R. Pierce, G. Cunningham,  
R. Eastaugh, K. Holroyde, J. Whitehead.  
Apologises from Mr. R. Case.

1. Minutes of meeting held on January 25th. read and approved.

2. Report from Mr. R. Pierce:

a. Mr. Brown reported on the improving economy of the club, and the debts had been taken care of so there were no outstanding accounts. The Belmont function had raised around £1,000 profit. Life social members would be admitted on payment of £100.

b. The Gala Day would be held on Thursday, May 20th. Catering would be arranged by the main catering committee. The Croquet section would arrange the main programme and the side shows. Other sections may include some extra items.

c. A fund raising committee of three persons has now been formed, and the main committee should be informed of ideas and proposals at the meeting on March 14th.

d. The salary for the groundsman has been increased by 5%, and the bonus for extra work in July/August has been consolidated into the salary, amounting to £4,200 per annum plus living accommodation.

e. Authority granted to order one set of croquet balls - milled at £55.00 per set.

3. Fixtures - Training new members, dates March 18th & 26th., April 15th.

Gala Day Thursday, May 20th

Whist Drive Monday, March 15th.

4. TSW Croquet. Letter received from Mr. Wharrad of the Croquet Association was read out to the meeting. A reply had been sent to Mr. Wharrad on February 14th. A letter and copies of the correspondence had also been sent to Mr. Chris Fear on that date. Understood that a meeting of interested parties had been arranged for March 4th. and the chairman would endeavour to be present.

5. There was a query about using court 1 for golf croquet, and it was decided that it was only to be used for organised golf croquet. All other golf croquet should be played on courts 2 and 3.

6. Cutting grass - Discussed, should. be mown twice a week and Mr. Pierce will discuss detailed arrangements with the groundsman.

Levelling court 2 - Discussed, and will revert to matter later.

Publication "The History of Croquet" - book now a library edition and members should. inform each other when they are returning it to the library so others interested can take it out.

7. Time Sheets. After a full discussion it was decided that the present time sheets should continue in operation, with the proviso that people starting at 10 am, 1 pm and 3.30 pm may start up to half an hour late but they must indicate this intention on the time sheet and must still terminate their game at the normal time, namely 12.30, 3.30 and 6 pm respectively.

8. Treasurer's Report. presented for Whist Drive held 28th January and Coffee Morning held 6th. February, with a statement of the account as per copy attached. Excess of income on the whist drive £14.06 and coffee morning £101.66, total £115.72 paid to Cricket Club. Mr. Brown advised that VAT is to be paid on £28.50 coffee item.

9. Proposed outline programme

Golf croquet alternate Wednesday mornings 10 am - 1 p.m. wef May 5th.

Club afternoons-,covering Association croquet, shot -game and one ball game every Tuesday 3.30 p.m. onwards wef May 4th.

Competitions for high bisque players, handicaps 14 and over, to be a shortened game. The time and number of hoops to be decided and advised later

10. Date of next meet - Monday April 5th. 1982 at 2 pm. Venue to be advised later.

The meeting closed at 4.30 pm. with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and for generous hospitality.

**J Derryhouse** Chairman

**5.4.82**..... Date.

JW/l.3.82.



MINUTES - Croq. Sect. - Mon. Apr. 5th. 1982, in Main Pavilion.

Present. I. Dwerryhouse K. Holroyde  
R. Peirce R. Case  
G Cunningham B. Easthaugh  
A. Davis (deputy for J. Whitehead.

Apologies. J. Whitehead

R. Peirce reported that, if weather was favourable, the Courts would be made available from Easter Saturday, April 10th. No. 2 lawn would be converted temporarily into two half lawns. The cutting of the lawns and their marking had been discussed with the Groundsman. He would, if necessary, be authorised to book unreserved lawns for cutting. Action would be taken to repair tiling on the Small Pavilion roof. A set of serrated balls had been purchased @ £52; and two sets would be reserved for tournaments. Member lists would be distributed on Opening Day Thurs. Apr. 15th @ 2.00 p.m. "Experienced" Members would be allotted 2 "beginners" each, to explain a ½ hour demonstration of Assoc. Croq. by R. Peirce and F. Moores. They would disperse to various lawns for training. Tea (free) would be served at 3.30 p.m.

Hon. Treas. reported that £15.67 had accrued from the last Whist Drive. He held balance of £11.65 on date. £5.25 would be donated by the Croq. Sect. to the Fund for the New Zealand Test Team. A Notice would be put in the Mallet Room by Hon. Secy. so that supporters could contribute through Lottery Tickets available through Hon. Treas.

Dates for the following Fixtures had been finalised and H.S. would prepare Booking Sheets accordingly:-

Shot Game (simplified) - Tues. May 4th - 2.00 p.m. – picnic tea. Organiser R. Case.

Golf Croquet - May 5th - 10.30 to 1.00 - picnic lunch.

- May 19th - ditto
- fortnightly thereafter.
- organiser - G. Cunningham.

Club Afternoon - Tues. May 11th - 3.30 – Assoc. Croq. organiser K. Holroyde

Ditto - Tues. May 18th - 3.30 - 2 ball game - organiser - Iris Dwerryhouse.

Ditto - Tues. May 25th – 3.30 - Assoc. Croq. - organiser - R. C. Case.

Annual Luncheon. Committee would book seats for their respective tables at their discretion, and label them accordingly. Mr. Simpson would be hosted by R. Case as representative of the Herald. The Committee expressed their grateful thanks to I. Dwerryhouse for the great trouble that she had taken to distribute tickets and organise the event generally.

The GALA, which would be open to the public, was fixed for May 27th. from 2.00 pm. till 5.00 p.m., at which time prizes would be presented. I. Dwerryhouse would arrange for 8 posters by Mr. Penman. Arrangements for stalls would be put in hand. The Cricket Club would provide refreshments and add such events as they could.

The next Meeting of the Croq. Sect. would be devoted to details entailed in running the Gala. It would be held in the Main Pavilion on Thurs. May 20th. @2.00 p.m.

Chairman  **Dwerryhouse**

Meeting - Croq. Sect. - Thurs. May 20th. 1982 - 2.00 p.m.

Present.	I. Dwerryhouse	R. Case
	H. Holroyde	B. Easthaugh
	R. Peirce	M. Kirke (by invitation)
Apologies.	J. Whitehead	G. Cunningham.

Hon. Treas. reported that he held a balance in favour of the Croq. Sec. of £15.00. He had collected £23.25 from sale of tickets on behalf of the Croq. Test Tour Fund.

R. Peirce reported that the Groundsman had been taken on an "educational" tour of the Budleigh Courts, where many technical questions were discussed with Budleigh's Groundsman. It was hoped that benefits from this visit would be reaped in improved maintenance of our own courts. The Groundsman had been authorised to reserve Courts through the Booking Sheets for purposes of maintenance,

Arrangements had been made for a competition between Budleigh and our own team of players for Thurs. June 17th. Starting at 10.00 a.m., there would be 6 Singles and 3 Doubles. Our Members would be invited to watch.

This meeting was arranged mainly to confirm final arrangements for the Gala to be held on May 27th 1982.

Helpers would be asked to attend at 10.00 a.m. The proposed Bowls Game would be omitted, owing to difficulty in borrowing the bowls. Names of those primarily responsible for competitions, stalls, etc. would be posted on the Notice Board. The Groundsman would be asked to pay particular attention to the state of the lawns and the verges.

Reverting to other business, it was decided that the two half-lawns, on No 2 Court would revert to a single Court at the end of May.

The next Croq. Section Meeting would be held in the Small pavilion on Mon. July 19th at 2.00 p.m.

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

Gala Arrangements:

Events:

1. Target (square).
2. Target (round).
3. Hoop running (scattered).
4. Hoop running (straight).
5. Walking the pink...4 attempts.
6. Pendulum ...4 attempts.
7. Setting the Clock.....4 attempts.

Equipment

1. Chair - book and pencil - whitening and brush -  
2 golf, 2 tennis and 2 croquet balls -1 mallet. money pot.

2. As above,
3. Chair - book and pencil - 2 mallets (for simultaneous attempts, if required) - 2 balls, 3 extra hoops - money pot.
4. Chair - book and pencil - money pot - 1 mallet -1 ball - 1 mallet - 4 white hoops.
5. 4 balls - 1 mallet – Hon. Secy. will provide remainder
6. 4 balls - 1 mallet - ditto
7. 1 bell -2 mallets - ditto
8. Arrangements by Alan Reid.

Helpers

Allotted at meeting on May 20th.,

Stewards in charge of vents.

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Phil Dwerryhouse | 5. Kathleen Holroydei |
| 2. Fred Moores.    | 6. Aline Davis.       |
| 3. Reg Peirce      | 7. Robert Case        |
| 4. Alan Harding    | 8. Alan Reid          |

10 helpers will be required for Events, to report at 1.30 p.me on May 20th.

Change

Bob Eastaugh

"Bottles" Marion Holt and G. Cunningham

"Card buy" - Whitehead (?) - 50 p./card - 2 prizes £5.00 each

CAKES – Betty Moores and Connie Verity

GARDEN – Kathleen Tni

BOOKS – [?] Eastaugh?

NOTICE "Please avoid walking on this lawn" - Iris. D

GENERAL ENQUIRIES on Gala Day to be referred to IRIS D.

Miscellaneous.

Cost of each event attempt 10 p. event scores cannot be "cumulative".

Minutes - Croc. Sect - Small Pavilion Meeting - 2.00 p.m. - July 19th. 1982

Present I. Dwerryhouse J. Whitehead  
B. Peirce B. Eastaugh  
K. Holroyde R. Case A. Davis (by invitation)

Apologies – G. Cunningham.

R. Peirce reported that the Croquet Section now had 70 fully paid-up Members, with 8 Social Members. This was an encouraging situation, and fulfils the hope of the Main Committee that we should hope to reach such a position.

The Ball situation was

1 smooth set

2 normal sets in fair condition

2 double banking sets

1 wooden set

1 new set had been returned to the makers for the second time, and 1 blue ball had been replaced.

1 black ball had cracked during the second time in use, and had been returned for replacement.

He recommended that 2 new sets should be budgeted for next year - 1983.

Members would receive 2 books each for the Main Cub's St. Leger Draw with the hope that they will dispose of them in due course.

The Main Committee's financial position was improving. The Croq. Sect's contribution to funds through the Gala were much appreciated.

The Main Committee had discussed working hours with the Groundsman - From last Friday, he would be given assistance for 8 weeks @ 10 hours / week and £200 for extra work entailed up to date. The condition of the Court surrounds had been criticised and had since been dealt with.

B. Eastaugh reported Funds in hand - £16. The Gala arrangements had made £183 gross. Of this the Croq. Sect. provided £145. Posters had cost £18 and Prizes £19. In addition, there had been donations presented by Members. The Croq. Sect. had, so far, contributed £274 to the Main Cub. Funds.

Of the 116 books of Raffle tickets sent to us by Headquarters for the Test Tour, 35 had been sold for £26. The remaining books would be returned.

J. Whitehead was authorised to offer £2 to Mr. Ashdown for a set of elderly equipment, of which only a couple of mallets were useable.

J. Whitehead reported that the Tournaments were progressing satisfactorily. It was proposed to bring the "ladder" bookings into use again, to test whether they could be popularised.

The following revisions of Handicaps would have immediate effect, except for current Tournaments: -

R. Case	12 to 11.	L. Toye	16 to 15	K. Holroyd	16 to 15
E. Kitchener	18 to 17	N. Kirtley	16 to 15	F. Fermor	13 to 14

I. Dwerryhouse reported that a "training-night" had been set up experimentally on Wednesdays. 7 Members had attended last time.

A. Davis suggested that a red asterisk might be used to denote occasions and Members available for training. The Booking Sheets could be used for the purpose. It was decided to continue to help, if desired, on the existing lines.

On Weds. Sept. 15th, the Croc. Sect would invite players from Budleigh to contest

3 singles and 3 doubles

A light lunch and Tea would be provided.

On Aug. 14th Sat. there is a Gala, starting at 2.00 p.m. at Budleigh. Croq. Members going by car are asked to offer lifts.

It was suggested that 2 days be set aside for the Annual Golf Croquet Tournament Either Sept. 7th and 8th or Sept 16 or 17th would be offered to G. Cunningham, who would, it was hoped, organise the event. An entrance fee of 10 p. would be charged.

On Sept. 6th to 11th. a number of expert players would give matches at Budleigh. Croq. Sect. Members and their friends would be welcome.

At the end of September (date to be fixed at the next Meeting the Croq. Sect. would hold a 2 ball Tournament.

Organisers, as follows, were detailed for various fixtures:-

July 27th	Tues.	3.30 p.m.	Robert Case	Shot Game
Aug. 31st.	Tues.	3.30 p.m.	Robert Case	Shot Game
Aug 3rd.			A. Davis	Assoc.
Aug. 10th.			K. Holroyd	2 ball
Aug. 17th.			I. Dwerryhouse	Assoc.
Aug. 24th			J. Whitehead	Assoc.

(All these fixtures will commence at 3.30 p.m.)

Aug. 11th      Weds 1030 a.m.      G. Cunningham      Golf Croquet

Aug. 25tg                              G. Cunningham

Oct. 26th. @ 3.00 p.m. 4 @ 3.00 p.m. was suggested as a suitable date for the Croq. Sect. A.G.M. Failing this, Oct. 23rd. Tea would be provided.

The Committee wished to thank F. Fermor for her generous gift of a Garden Bench and asked the Chairman to write to her accordingly.

There was a brief discussion on how best to arrange for Nominees for the ballot for a new Committee at the A.G.M. It was noted that a Member had suggested, other considerations permitting, that 3 years should be considered as limit for continuous service on the Committee. The subject was deferred for discussion until the next meeting.

Lessons to be learnt from experience in holding a Gala were considered. An important point was whether, and to what extent, public participation should be invited. It was noted that receipts from the Games reached only about £50; the balance came from stalls and other activities such as J. Whitehead's lottery, sales of teas, etc. Referring to a suggestion that a "banner poster" might be strung along the east boundary netting of Courts 2 and 3, it was brought to notice that such a proposal would require approval by the District Council.

The next Meeting would be held on Mon, Aug, 23rd. at 2.00 p.m. in the Small pavilion.

Chairman.

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

Extract from Agenda for July 19th Meeting

A.G.M. arrangements (Secy's Note. The Committee is elected by secret ballot on an annual basis. Nominees are invited. It was hoped, but not accepted officially, that ordinarily, no Member would serve more than 3 years consecutively. This was because of the possibility of bunching". Members have served as follows;-

R. Peirce 1977	G. Cunningham 1977	I. Dwerryhouse 1978 (?)	
B. Easthaugh 1980	J. Whitehead 1981	K Holroyd 1980	F. Case. 1980

MINUTES - Croq. Sect. - Monday, Aug. 23rd. 1982 - Small Pavilion.

Present I. Dwerryhouse R. Case R. Peirce G. Cunningham  
K. Holroyde B. Eastaugh J. Whitehead.

Minutes of the Meeting, July 19th, 1982 were approved.

R. Peirce reported that the Main Club finances were running on course so far. He was keeping a watch upon an improved state of maintenance of the lawns.

B. Eastaugh reported a balance of £18-50 in hand. He had sent £26 to the Association and returned 81 books relating to the Raffle Tickets for the Test Tour.

It was decided to hold the Croq. Sect. A.G.M. on Sat. Oct. 23. @ 2.30 p.m. in the Main Pavilion. Tea would be provided. J. Whitehead would provide Hon. Secy. with a brief report on tournaments for inclusion in the Annual Report to the Main Committee. Hon. Secy. would arrange for Ballot Forms and for relevant notices to be posted. After a brief discussion on alternative methods, it was decided that the Committee should retire en bloc and offer themselves for re-election. This procedure should, automatically, if other nominations are received, cover the perennial problem of implementing a "3-year convention". Hon. Secy. and Chairman would prepare reports for the Meeting. J. Whitehead and G. Cunningham would present reports on their respective responsibilities. B. Eastaugh would report upon the Croq. Sect. finance. Hon. Sec. would prepare a report covering the Croq. Sect. for inclusion in the Main Committee's Review.

After a full discussion it was decided to hold the Golf Croquet Tournament on lines similar to last year's. All three lawns would be made available. G. Cunningham would be responsible for all arrangements. Her generous offer to provide a lunch for tournament players on the closing day was accepted by the Committee, with many thanks. The Tournament will be held on Weds. and Thurs. Oct. 6th. and 7th.

Final handicaps would be notified at the end of the Season by the Handicapping Committee. G. Cunningham raised the question of allotting handicaps specially for Golf Croquet players. This question hinged upon the allotment of handicaps for Association Croquet, and would involve complications. The proposal was dropped.

I. Dwerryhouse reported upon the genesis and the results of the training scheme organised by herself and P. Dwerryhouse. The intention was to raise the competence of those interested in Association Croq. Experience had shewn that the type of training offered by the Club in the Spring had shortcomings that should be rectified. Sufficient entrants had come forward to warrant the use of 2 lawns on Wednesday evenings, it was believed that the principles involved were sound. The Committee wished to thank P. and I. Dwerryhouse for all the time and effort they had devoted to this project. The Committee would consider how best to organise training in time for the 1983 Season.

I. Dwerryhouse reported that 7 persons had been entered on the waiting list.

Only a few intact Fletchers' Notes survived. I. Dwerryhouse offered to see what could be done to make these notes available through reprinting and would report on the estimated cost. It was suggested that the Notes should be made available to Members on payment.

It was decided that Hon. Secy. should submit a Budget Forecast to the Main Committee as follows:-

Two sets of Balls £120.00

Repairs to roof and windows of the Small Pavilion - cost unspecified.

It was suggested that string loops be provided to increase the space available for hanging mallets in the Mallet Room. Hon. Secy. offered to supply some.

Hon. Secy. gave the Committee details of a verbal complaint from A. Hardning re condition of Lawn 2 and the lack of corner pegs on that lawn. I. Dwerryhouse explained the position. It was not financially possible to undertake serious work on Lawn 2 at present. Pegs for corners were available in Locker no. 1 in the Mallet Room. K. Holroyde was asked kindly to explain the position to A. Hardning.

Match against Budleigh players had been arranged for Weds. Sept. 15th. All Courts would be booked for this.

3 Singles start @ 10.00 a.m.

3 Doubles start @ 2.00 p.m.

Lunch (a simple one) would be provided for the players. Members bringing their own lunches would be welcome.

The fact that watering hose had been lying around unused for some time was brought to notice. R. Peirce promised to take up the matter. He said that job specification for the Groundsman had been under consideration.

The date for the next Meeting was fixed for Tues. Sept. 28th @ 2.00 p.m., in the Main Pavilion.

The Committee approved a proposal to affix suitable plaques to the 2 Benches donated to the Croq. Sect. by Frances Fermor.

Chairman.

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

MINUTES - Croq. Sect. Meeting - Tues. Sept. 28th. 1982 @ 2.00 p.m. in Main Pavilion.

Present.      I. Dwerryhouse      I. Eastaugh  
                 H. Peirce                      G. Cunningham  
                 K. Holroyde                    H. Case.

Apologies.    J. Whitehead.

K. Holroyde and Alina Davies were given hearty thanks for their invaluable help in arranging hospitality for the Match with Budleigh.

R. Peirce reported that there was reason to hope that adequate funds existed to cover winter requirements. A loss of approx. £4000 had been converted to a surplus of £4000. He suggested that a Croquet Sect. Member should comment upon this remarkable recovery at the Main Com. A.G.M. with acknowledgement of the unstinted efforts of those concerned:

He would make a special effort to get repairs to the Small Pavilion Roof done before winter damage set in. He would, in addition, try to get the side window glass replaced in time for the Golf Tournament.

The President having seen no objection to Sunday morning play (a relaxation generally accepted elsewhere), H. Peirce would test Member's reaction to its possible introduction in 1983 Season, at the Croq. Sect. A.G.M.

There was now a waiting list of 8 applicants, with 70 Members and 3 lawns available, The Main Committee appeared to be favourably disposed towards giving Croq. Sect. some of the space now allotted to the Tennis Sect.

After discussion, it was decided that further negotiation would be initiated by the 1983 Croq. Sect. Com., and that the possibility would be commented upon at the Croq. Sect. A.G.M.

The Main Committee wished to ascertain the general reaction of Members to a proposal to hold a Dinner Dance, costing approx. £7.50 per head, including dance band. This matter would be raised during the Croq. Sect. A.G.M. but the Croq. Sect. Committee had doubts about its appeal.

Hon. Treas. reported a current balance of £28.00, to which entrance fees for the forthcoming Golf Tournament would be added.

J. Whitehead's draft Report to the Croq. Sect. A.G.M. was approved, with slight amendments.

G. Cunningham sought assurance from R. Peirce that sufficient balls in reasonable condition would be available for the Golf Tournament, and also that the Groundsman would be asked to ensure that the lawns were freshly mown and the borders marked. The Tournament would start at 10 a.m. on each day. Arrangements would be made for the bar to open from midday till 2.00 p.m. on the day of the lunch (Oct. 7th)

A list of up-to-date handicaps would be prepared and presented at the Croq. Sect. A.G.M.

After careful discussion, it was decided that Mary Hardman should be awarded the Cup for the "most improved player", and Len Sage should be awarded the Cup for "service to the Club" - which service was generously given to both the Croq. Sect. and to the Main Committee's needs.



There were now 9 applications for Croq. Membership. It was desirable that the current waiting list should be crystallised as far as possible by firm commitments to pay subscriptions in Jan. 1983. Otherwise, serious applications might be shut out by indecisions. It was decided that those concerned should be approached accordingly.

The Croq. Sect. were strongly of the view that they should be represented directly by a Croq. Member on the Main Committee. F. Peirce would ask L. Sage whether he would be willing to be nominated for the Main Committee for ballot at the A.G.M. of the Cricket Club.

It was decided to invite A. Brown to present the Croq. Sect. Cups. This might serve as a tribute to his invaluable services to the Cricket Club. Failing this, H. Hicks might be invited, provided that suitable transport arrangements could be made.

**J Derryhouse**

Chairman.

A.G.M. - Croquet Sect. Sat. October 23rd. 1982 in the Main Pavilion.

The Members stood in respect of Carol Willcock who died a short time before the meeting.

Members were welcomed by the Chairman, Iris Dwerryhouse. She introduced A. Brown, Hon. Treas. of the Cricket Club, who had kindly consented to present the Cups and Awards. She explained the indissoluble links between the Cricket Club in general and the Croquet Section and the mutual benefits derived from these links, and she acknowledged gratefully the devoted work that Members of the Cricket Club Committee had given during the last year.

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The Croq. Sect. then proceeded with the business of the day.

The attendance was 58, and apologies were received from:

J. Whitehead	A. Verity	Alan Reid	
V. Collier	K. Togni	B. Whitmore	P. Dwerryhouse.

Minutes of the A.G.M. d. Nov. 11th. 1981 were read and approved. No business arising from these Minutes. Reports were presented by the Committee Members concerned.

The Hon. Secy. reported a potential Membership of 78, and outlined reasons for the Section's growth. He called attention to the personal contribution that the Chairman, Iris Dwerryhouse, had made to the smooth running of the Section and her part in cementing the friendly spirit that existed between Members. He thanked Alan Harding, Alan Reid, Aline Davis and the many others who had contributed directly to the Section's activities and to those who had helped in setting up the Shot Game.

He outlined some of the things that had been done to keep Sidmouth Croquet Section "on the map" and stressed the value of publicity. The negotiations with TSW for a United Kingdom Indoor croquet tournament, and for a series on "How to play Croquet" to be filmed on our own lawns had temporarily been suspended; but it was hoped that they would be resumed. They had been given the support of the Croquet Association Headquarters.

R. Peirce explained the position regarding maintenance of liason with the Main Committee. He reported regularly to the Croq. Sect. Committee and fostered their interests. In an imperfect world, some grumbles were to be expected, but he was there to listen and, where possible, to rectify. The facilities for watering had not been used, but on the whole, the condition of the lawns was good. Shortage of funds precluded extensive work being undertaken. But mowing had been maintained on a twice/week basis and the Groundsman had been taken to see how things were managed at Budleigh.

There had been problems with croquet balls. They now cost £55 per set, and Jaques had been confronted with difficult technical problems. Many clubs, including the Croq. Sect., had had to return balls that had failed after a short period of use. Enquiries were being made about the ball position in Australia, to which country we were sending a Test Team.

J. Whitehead's Report was read in his absence. Entries for the various tournaments were somewhat low. Such events lead to improvement in play and it was hoped the tournaments will get better support next year. The Ladder Game, in particular, did not

get the support that it deserved. On the other hand, there had been many exciting games both at home and away, made doubly enjoyable by exceptionally fine weather.

The Belmont Challenge Cup was won by J. Toye. K. Holroyde won the Devonia High Bisquers Cup. The Handicap Doubles for the Colclough and Duplicate Cups was won by I. Dwerryhouse and her partner A. Davis. Two matches were played against Budleigh Salterton. Budleigh won the match on their home ground by 6 matches to three. The return match on the Sidmouth grounds gave Sidmouth the match by 4 - 2. Two other notable wins were the Ross Challenge Cup by P. Dwerryhouse and the Y event by F. Moores. They are to be congratulated for keeping our Croquet Section to the fore in this positive way.

G. Cunningham reported upon a very successful year for the Golf Croquet enthusiasts, in which the standard of play had improved markedly. The two-day finals tournament had perforce to be held rather late in the year, but fortunately, the weather held. R. Peirce won the singles, and he and K. Holroyde won the doubles. The method of handicapping would be brought under review for the oncoming year. There were nearly 60 players of Golf Croquet at Budleigh Club. This game, supplemented by the "2 ball game" encouraged development of the skills required for the formal Association Game.

In presenting the Accounts of the Croq. Section, B. Eastaugh gave the following figures:-

3 Military Whist Drives realised	£42.00 approx.
Coffee mornings	101.00
Gala	145.00

of which £274 had been banded to the Main Club.

£17.00 had been collected against tournaments

£5.00 had been donated to the Cancer Fund in memory of Carol Willcock.

Plaques will be affixed to the two garden benches donated by Frances Fermor. These facilities had been used a great deal and were much appreciated by players.

He told Members that a box had been provided into which donations for a Xmas Box for the Groundsman should be placed. £5.00 had been collected by the end of the Meeting. The Treasurer reminded Members that prompt payment of their annual subscriptions would greatly facilitate the work of all concerned.

The Chairman read out a list of 31 reductions in handicaps. She explained that the Association accepted tournament players with handicaps of 16 to -5. It would be impracticable to award special handicaps for Golf Croquet players.

The Chairman said that currently there was a Conference sitting at Hurlingham attempting to find a new basis for Subscription by Clubs to the Headquarters of the Association. P. Dwerryhouse had kindly offered to represent the Croq. Section, Sidmouth, and he had been given a brief by the Committee regarding their views on the "options" offered. They asked him, in addition, to present views on a number of other subjects open to discussion.

Normally, three vacancies would fall due for filling in the Main Cricket Club Committee. It was proposed to nominate Len Sage, and Members were asked to turn up in strength to record their votes for his candidature.

J. Holt and M. Hardman kindly undertook the distribution of Ballot sheets and the duties of "tellers". The Hon. Secy. reminded Members that the voting procedure had been

posted in due course as agreed during the last Croq. Sect. A.G.M. He was asked to refresh Member's memories by reading out the details.

In the meantime, the feeling of Members was sought regarding: -

Proposal that Courts should be made available for play on Sunday mornings. It was explained that no rules to the contrary existed and that Sunday play generally had been widely accepted throughout the country. Members indicated their general agreement.

Proposal that an Annual Croquet Luncheon should be held in an hotel on lines similar to those in the past. Members were in general agreement.

Proposal that Whist Drive (Military style) should be held in the Main Pavilion on Weds. Nov. 3rd. Members agreed. By this time, the new Committee would have met and Members would be advised of forthcoming events.

Proposal by Main Committee that a Dinner Dance, estimated to cost about £7.50/head, should be organised later on during the winter. About 15 Members indicated their interest.

Alan Harding wished to comment upon various matters. Although watering facilities were available and the cricket pitches had been irrigated, no water had been given to the Croquet lawns in spite of the summer drought. The groundsman seemed to treat croquet lawns and their surround, as relatively unimportant. He questioned whether there was a properly organised spiking and raking programme. M. Holt complained that side-lines were often not clearly marked. Hon. Secy. reminded Members that R. Peirce had succeeded in arranging a twice/weekly mowing programme. He suggested, however, that fertilising should be brought under firm budgetary control and programmed. Such a programme should be posted in the Mallet room. R. Peirce said that he had posted a notice in the Mallet Room 3 days before the event asking for specific points to be given attention in time for the Golf Croquet Tournament. Failure in preparing the lawns properly had led to criticism during this event last year. R. Peirce would acquaint the Main Grounds Committee with Member's views before the date of the Main cricket Club A.G.M., which had expected to be held some time in November. P. Ellicott complained that balls frequently ran back into hollows under hoops.

J. Toye announced that he could supply the "Toye" mallet at any weight required. It would be priced at £20.00. The "Dr. Neal" Mallet, as approved by Croq. Assoc. would cost £25.00. Carol Willcock's mallet was available for sale, with the proceeds going to the Cancer Fund.

Such chairs as were repairable were being repaired. It was suggested that Members might bring their own chairs, or donate chairs that could be stencilled "Croquet Club"

The possibility that one of the tennis courts might be converted for use as a croquet lawn was raised. This matter would be considered by the new Croq. Sect. Committee.

E. and L. Kitchener were thanked for their willingness to be nominated for the Croq. Sect. B. Eastaugh and J. Whitehead, who were unable serve again on the 1983 Committee were thanked for the valuable services that they had rendered.

Cups and Awards were presented by A. Brown, Hon. Treas. of the Main Cricket Club.

J. Toye - Belmont Cup for Singles.

I. Dwerryhouse and M. Davis - Colcough Cup and duplicate for Doubles.

K. Holroyde - Devonia Cup for High Bisquers.

R. Peirce - Golf Croquet, singles

R. Peirce and K. Holroyde – Golf Croquet doubles.

M. Hardman Cup for the most improved player

L. Sage - Cup for outstanding services to the Club. Members were told of his unfailing readiness to serve the interests of the Club in whatever capacity, and that he frequently gave his services to the main Club bar.

The Chairman thanked A. Brown for so kindly presenting the prizes and said that all Members of the Croq. Sect. were deeply indebted to him for his skill and perseverance over many months in bringing the Cricket Club into a satisfactory position financially.

The Meeting concluded with a tribute to the Chairman and Committee by F. Moores.

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**J Dwerryhouse**

**18.10.83**

Chairman.

After the Meeting the new Committee comprising

I. Dwerryhouse      R. Case.

R. Peirce              A. Davis

K. Holroyde          G. Cunningham

B. Moores

met to ballot for Chairman and Vice- chairman. The result was:

Iris Dwerryhouse - Chairman

Reg . Peirce - Vice-Chairman

The next Meeting was fixed for Tues. Nov. 16th @ 2.00 p.m. in the Main Pavilion.