

Minutes - Croq. Sect.- Tues. Nov. 16th. 1982 @ 2.00 p.m. in Main Pavilion.

Present I. Dwerryhouse B. Moores.
G. Cunningham A. Davis.
K. Holroyde R. Case.

Apologies. R. Peirce.

Allocation of Responsibilities It was decided upon, Viz;

I. Dwerryhouse - Chairman (Voted at A.G.M.) - General oversight - Outside tournaments.

H. Peirce - Vice chairman (voted at A.G.M.) – Liason with Main Committee - Training programme. - Equipment.

R. Case - Secretary - Meetings - Publicity.

K. Holroyde - Internal tournaments and group events. Booking sheets.

G. Cunningham - Golf Croquet and related tournaments.

A. Davis - Winter programme – Lectures - Treasurer.

B. Moores - Social events - Catering - Annual luncheon.

The following fixtures were made:-

Monday, Nov. 29th @ 10.30 a.m., Main Pavilion. talk by P. Dwerryhouse on recent Conference of Association at Hurlingham, followed by a Rules Quiz. Coffee to be paid for.

Military Whist Drive Tues, Dec. 7th. 2.00 p.m.

Jan. 6th, 2.0 p.m. – New Year Tea Party own tea to be brought - no charge made – “Big” raffle to be laid on @ 20p./ strip.

Members were asked to consider items for the Winter programme and to pass ideas on to A. Davis.

The setting up of a Fertiliser and Maintenance of Lawns Programme would be considered at the next Meeting.

The 1983 Handicap Committee would consist of

I. Dwerryhouse
Fred Moores
G. Cunningham.

B. Moores would approach Hotels regarding the Annual Luncheon and report results to the Committee in due course. Her suggestion that Bicton should be approached was warmly supported.

It was suggested that R. Peirce might collaborate with F. Moores over croquet maintenance matters. The two sets of new balls should be ordered without delay, and “sanction” for the expenditure obtained later, but at the first opportunity.

K. Holroyde would list “events” for the Tea Party on Jan. 6th. ~~It was suggested that to emphasise the importance of the “Big” raffle, a special charge of £0.50 admission should be levied, with lottery tickets @ £00.20 each.~~

A. Davis suggested that alternative days should be offered to suit those with limited opportunities to attend. This would be within her responsibilities.

Hon. Secy. said that he had inspected the heads of mallets in the mallet room and removed one that could be destructive in use.

Hon. Secy. would order the following copies of the Training Manual:

3 for the Croq. Club. @	£9.00
1 for G. Cunningham	3.00
1 for himself	3.00
	£15.00 + postage (?)

The Next Meeting of the Croq. Sect. would be on Monday, Dec. 13th @ 200 p.m.

Pending further discussion, on R. Peirce's return, it was suggested that a Training Syllabus, based on the Training Manual (Hurlingham) should be drawn up and posted on the Notice Board. Members would be invited to enrol; but to encourage regular attendance a charge of £0.50 would be made for the Session. Names of the trainers selected would be allocated.

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

Minutes - Croquet. Sect. Meeting - Mon. Dec. 13th-1982

A. Davis residence @ 2.00 p.m.

Present. I. Dwerryhouse R. Case.
 R. Peirce B. Moores
 A. Davis G. Cunningham
 K. Holroyde

The Minutes of Meeting, Nov. 16th. 1982 were read and confirmed.

R. Peirce had nothing to report from the Main Committee. F. Moores had very kindly offered to deal with painting and maintenance of equipment. R. Peirce would select some Club-owned mallets with good shafts for re-heading by J. Tove at a cost of £10 each. The heads would be weighted at about 3 lbs. The Clubs would be made available for Members.

R. Peirce would follow up with the Committees concerned the proposal to set up a "half court" for training purposes.

A discussion on a tighter control of the Croq. Sect. budget for lawn maintenance ended in a recognition of the practical difficulties that faced the Maintenance Committee. R. Peirce would continue to promote the interests of the Croquet Section as far as practicable.

B. Moores had negotiated the terms for the Croq. Sect. Annual Lunch with Bicton, Torbay and other hoteliers. Their terms were substantially higher than those from the Royal Glen. The Royal Glen had given satisfaction in the past. They offered a lunch @£4.00. B. Moores was asked to suggest a 3 course, plus coffee, lunch, for 70 people. Mr. Whitton would be invited. The cost, inclusive of VAT and Service was expected to be £4.50 per head. The date would be March 24th, Thursday, @12.30/1.00 p.m. Applications for tickets would close 7 days previously.

The Croq. Sect. Party would be held on Thurs. Jan 6th. 83. Details were decided upon by the various Committee Members concerned. The Party would be timed for 2.30 p.m. with tea @ 4.15 p.m. K. Holroyde would arrange for the prizes and pencils and paper. There would be no charges; but participants would be expected to contribute "eats".

After some discussion it was proposed to give G. Cunningham a handicap of 12. The Chairman would invite M. Holt to serve again on the Handicap Committee.

K. Holroyde would submit her proposals for revised form of Booking-Sheets during the next Croq. Sect. Meeting

It was noted that L. Sage had been elected for the Main Committee.

Suggestions for the proposed training programme were considered. Dates were allocated for this purpose and A. Davis would arrange for 80 copies of the 1982/83 social and other fixtures to be made available for Members.

It was decided that Croq. Sect. Meetings would be held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month @ 2.00 p.m. Till further notice meetings would be held in Committee Members' houses. The dates would be

Jan. 18th	@ B. Moores	Feb. 15th	@ G. Cunningham
Mar. 15th	@.....	Apr. 19th	@.....
May 17th.	@.....	June 21st.	@.....
July 19th	@.....		

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

Minutes - Croq. Sect. Meeting d. Tues, Jan. 18th. 1983
@ 2.00 p.m. in B. Moores' house.

Present. I. Dwerryhouse R. Case.
 R. Peirce. A. Davis.
 G. Cunningham K. Holroyde
 B. Moores

The Minutes of the Meeting d. Dec. 13th. 1982 were read and approved.

R Peirce reported that 7 mallets would be re-headed by J. Toye at weights at his discretion for £10 each.

Len Sage had been appointed to the Fund-Raising Committee as well as to the Management Committee. R. Peirce was on the Ground and Property Committee as the liason with the Croquet. Section.

There were now 3 sets of new balls on hand, of which 2 sets on order. G. Cunningham questioned whether this would suffice in view of the increased membership. F Peirce said that he would check the position, but pointed out that 2 double bank sets existed.

The Tennis Sect. had not yet met to consider the question of transferring space for the Croq. Sect. The final arrangements would be settled at the next meeting of the Croq. Sect. It was hoped to arrange for 3 full size lawns and 2 sub-size lawns.

Aline Davis reported having £5.96 in hand and that £15.00 had been donated to the Management.

Betty Moores reported a final price for the Annual Luncheon as £4.50. Coffee would be an extra £0.40. The lounge would be made available for our use.

K. Holroyde submitted her suggestions for revised booking sheets. These were considered in detail and referred back for modification. The Committee were grateful for the considerable trouble that she had taken. Revised sheets would be considered at the next Meeting. In the meantime, G. Cunningham would obtain samples of the sheets used by Budleigh Salterton. Booking for 6.00 p.m. would be included in the revised sheets.

Coaching Methods were considered in detail. Hon Secy. advocated sticking to those recommended (six sessions) in the Coaching Manual, because these followed the considered opinions of the Croq. Association. The question would be considered again at the next Croq. Sect. Meeting, when details should be finalised, including the names and functions of those selected for "coaching". A decision was required as to whether to charge a small fee (£0.50) to encourage regular attendance when the lawns were opened for coaching purposes.

The condition of No. 2 lawn was considered. R. Peirce reported that a contractor had been approached regarding the supply of sifted loam for resurfacing purposes. R. Peirce reported an apparent reluctance on the part of the Groundsman to do much about this. Hon. Secy. held the view that a substantial improvement could be made, provided that the work was started in early October. The Ground's Committee's difficulties were acknowledged.

Arrangements for the Coffee Morning on Fri. Feb. 25th were settled. Members would be reminded of this event during the Whist Drive on Wed. Feb. 2nd. Aline would arrange for the posters in the town. Three items were promised for the Raffle. The tickets would be costed at 2 for 10p or 5 for 20p. Aline kindly offered to be present to accept sales items on the previous day.

The Chairman reported that £13.60 had been sent to the Croq. Assoc. to cover our Annual Registration Fee for 1983*. She explained the terms of entry for the Rose Flagon and Longman Cup.

The next Croq. Sect. Meeting would be on Tues. Feb. 15th, 2.00 p.m. at G. Cunningham's house.

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

*3 Dec 82 from Croquet Association Secretary. The council proposes raising rate for compounding Club Registration fee for 1983 from 15p. to 20p. per croquet Member (excluding Country Members) with a minimum of £5 per club.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, LAWN TENNIS
CROQUET HOCKEY CLUB

CROQUET SECTION	SPRING 1983 PROGRAMME	
WEDNESDAY. 2nd FEBRUARY	2.00 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
WEDNESDAY. 16th FEBRUARY	10.30 a.m.	TRAINING SESSION NO 1 FOR PRESENT MEMBERS
FRIDAY. 25th FEBRUARY	10.30 a.m.	COFFEE MORNING RAFFLE & STALLS (any contributions to which will be welcome)
THURSDAY. 3rd MARCH	2.00 p.m.	WHIST DRIVE
TUESDAY. 8th MARCH	10.00 a.m.	NEW MEMBER – No. 1. Training Session
WEDNESDAY. 16th MARCH	2.30 p.m.	TRAINING SESSION NO 2 FOR PRESENT MEMBERS
THURSDAY. 24th MARCH	12.30 p.m. for 1.00 p.m.	CROQUET CLUB LUNCH AT THE ROYAL GLEN HOTEL (tickets £4.50 each)
TUESDAY. 29th MARCH	10.00 a.m.	NEW MEMBER – No. 1. Training Session Coffee
SATURDAY. 9th APRIL	LAWNS OPEN	(Ground and weather permitting)
THURSDAY. 14th APRIL	2.00 p.m. Tea and Biscuits	CROQUET CLUB AT HOME To New members who will be introduced to the lawn by "Instructors"
WEDNESDAY. 27th APRIL	10.30 a.m.	TRAINING SESSION ON THE Lawns – GOLF CROQUET

ROBERT CASE – Hon. Secretary – Tel. 4154

MINUTES of Croq. Sect. Meeting d. Feb. 15th. 1983 G. Cunningham's house. 2.00 p.m.

Present.	I Dwerryhouse	F. Case.
	A. Davis	B. Moores
	F. Peirce	G. Cunningham
	K. Holroyde.	

F. Peirce reported that No. 1 lawn had been tined and surface dressed over the portion that is liable to flooding. 7 Mallets had been re-headed by J. Toye. The Croq. Sect. had been offered space for two courts 25 yds x 20 Yds which would be laid out parallel to the Terrace. Cunningham was assured that sufficient balls were available. The Main Committee were arranging for a Wine and Victuals event on May 27th.

A. Davis reported that all arrangements had been made for the Coffee Morning on Feb. 2 (Friday). Posters had been designed and distributed. 8 Raffle books had been bought @ 29p. each. An advertisement had been placed in the Herald.

B. Moores reported that sales of tickets for the Annual Lunch had begun. It was decided that the Croq. Sect. should invite Mr. Whitton. 70 tickets would be available, on a "first come, first serve" basis.

It was agreed that Golf Croquet should be arranged on a weekly basis.

The Secy. was asked to write a letter of thanks to Elsie Corbett for her kindness in donating 2 "golf spoons". They would be awarded as trophies to the winners of an annual "2-Ball" tournament, and would remain the property of the Club. If possible, the spoons would be "mounted" suitably.

An advertisement by a Firm at Frinton-on Sea was tabled. Their croquet products did not appear to be suitable.

The next Meeting would be on Monday, March 15th, at a site to be settled later. The following Meeting was postponed until April 25th. 1983.

The Committee thanked K. Holroyde for all the trouble she had taken over the revised form of Booking Sheet. She explained that the current version would be tried out for a time before designing the final form.

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

MINUTES of Croq. Sect. Meeting on Mar. 15th @ 2.00p.m. in the Main Pavilion.

Present. I Dwerryhouse A. Davis
 K. Holroyde B. Moores
 H. Peirce G. Cunningham.
 R. Case

Business arising from Meeting on Feb. 15th. 1983. Hon. Sect. said that John Toye had agreed to make a couple of stands for the spoons presented by E. Corbett. He would ask J. Toye to make one ball box, with hasp and two more ball holders.

It was decided that the end of May should be fixed as the last day of acceptance of the option to become a full playing Member of croquet.

R. Peirce reported that the Groundsman anticipated that the courts would be playable by April 9th, and would fertilise all the lawns before this date. He had been given a rise of £200/year. Hoops, balls, clips and corner furniture had been checked. Additional metal clips would be ordered. There were now 3 sets of new balls. One set would be put into "reserve". The lockers would be numbered and the carrier hods labelled to suit, in the hope that Members would cooperate in keeping the balls in correct sets. In all, there were 12 sets of useable balls.

B. Moores reported that 62 tickets for the Annual Luncheon had been sold up to date. After some discussion, about the allocation of seats, it was decided that each Committee Member should have a table, but that (except for Mr. Whitton) no other seats should be reserved. The tip should be £20.

Members should be reminded at suitable Meetings to pay any overdue subscriptions.

The training arrangements were considered in detail. The bulk of the items in the Coaching Manual, pgs. 6 to 9 would be divided into 6 sessions. There would be 4 coaches for each session, taking 6 pupils each, on the lawns. [Agenda Note: Coaching to be used instead of Training to conform with the Coaching Manual usage]

The timetable would be as follows - extended later on if necessary.

Mar. 29th would start at 9.30 a.m. to enable any Member concerned to "overtake" any missing lecture. The meeting proper would commence at 10.00

Apr. 20th, Weds. 10.00 to 12.00 lawns 2, 4, and 5.

Apr. 24th, Sun. 3.00 to 5.00

Apr. 30th, Sat. 2.00 to 4.00

May 4th, Wed. 6.00 to 8.00

The following coaches would be asked to make themselves available:- Case, Valerie, Phillip, Alan, Iris, Mary H, Katherine, Fred, Reg, Bernard, Hawkins, Connie, G.C. and John/Marion (sharing).

Golf Croquet would start at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, starting on April 27th. For handicapping, see pg. 57 Laws of Golf Croquet. For beginners with an Assoc. Handicap 17 to 18, the Golf Croquet Handicap would be 6 for the 13 point game.

Aline Davies very kindly offered a table for use in the Small Pavilion. The offer was accepted with thanks.

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

MINUTES - Croq. Sect. Meeting Tues, Apr. 26th 1983 in the Main Pavilion.

Present. Iris Dwerryhouse R. Case.
Aline Davis G. Cunningham
Katherine Holroyde

Apologies. B. Moores R. Peirce (part time)

A. Davis reported a balance of £9.62 to date. She would make out a simple statement for the Notice Board.

It was decided to alternate Whist Drives on Wednesdays and Thursdays, for the future.

The Committee's grateful thanks were recorded for the use of Aline Davis' table in the small Pavilion and for Elsie Corbett's gift of two spoons for a trophy.

K. Holroyde would keep an eye on how the new booking sheets were used., and would arrange for renewals by June 12th.

The corresponding colours for double banking and order of play for golf croquet were

Blue		Green
Red		Pink
Black		Brown
Yellow		White

K. Holroyde would draw up a list of Tues. Club fixtures. On Tues. June 7th. a 2-ball tournament would be arranged between Club Members and 6 boys to be introduced by J. Toye Lawns 1, 2 and 3 would be reserved. Timing to be fixed. Cold drinks would be provided.

R. Peirce reported that the Gala met with the Main Committee's approval. It was hoped that they might contribute some items.

Arrangements for the Gala would be settled during the next Croq. Sect. Meeting.

The Committee noted with regret the death of Dr. Michelmores, a Patron of the Club for many years. The funeral would be held on April 29th. Donations would to towards Cricket Club funds.

Closing date for local Tournaments would be May 30th. The fee payable would be 30p. for Singles and 20p. each for Doubles.

The Ladder system would be started up, and suitable competitive games arranged for beginners.

The next Croq. Sect. Meeting would be held in the Main Pavilion @ 2.00 p.m. on Monday, May 16th. 1983

 **Dwerryhouse**

Chairman.

Agenda Notes:

Consider how best "to try to maintain impetus after the initial formal coaching sessions" (See Coaching Manual, pg 12) Suggest that Shot Game should be arranged fairly early.

Propose that "Jump Shot" should be deleted from coaching programme in interests of lawn conservation.

MINUTES of Croq. Sect. Meeting held on Monday, May 16th.

@ 2.00 p.m. in G. Cunningham's house.

Present.	I. Dwerryhouse	B. Moores
	R. Peirce	A. Davis
	K. Holroyd	H. Case.
	G. Cunningham	

Minutes of the Meeting held on Apr. 26th 1983 were read and approved.

Letter from Croq. Sect to Main Com to be circulated [below]

Arrangements for the proposed Gala on Friday, June 17th were settled. H. Case would lay out positions for the various events. He would set up "Setting the Clock", "Walking the Plank" and the "Pendulum". Iris would arrange with Philip for setting out the "Square" and the "Round" events similar to last year. She would see if a set of bowls could be lent for the occasion. Supervisors would be recruited for the "Staggered hoop" and a "Roquet" event. Betty Moores would deal with Stalls and attendants. Messrs. Ward and Bamford could be approached regarding the "Card Draw" and/or other item. K. Holroyd would "recruit" gifts of cakes and similar. G. Cunningham would handle a "Bottle-stall". Aline Davis would handle publicity and contact Herald and T.V.

Supervisors would maintain score cards for Prize selection purposes. Entry per Event would be 10p. £1.00 would be the prize for each "event". £5.00 would be given for the "Card Draw". "Play" would stop @ 4.45 p.m. Prizes would be given at 5.00 p.m. Hon. Secy. would give away the prizes after introduction by Chairman. Tea would be available from 3.15 p.m. onwards. The Gala would start at 2.15 p.m. Iris. would arrange for Cricket and Hockey and Tennis Members to be aware that their contributions would be very welcome.

The reasons for the failure of the Coaching Programme were discussed. The foul weather that persisted was, no doubt, a major factor. So far, only one Member had declined Membership under the "permissive" system. Lectures in advance of lawn availability were not a success; neither was the Association's syllabus. It was considered that primarily, some knowledge of stroke play should be imparted. In any case, the arrangements for next season required complete revision. The Committee expressed their thanks to H. Peirce for all the considerable trouble that he had taken in organising the Coaching programme.

The possibilities of arranging an "advanced" course of training for nominated pupils would be discussed at a future Com. Meeting.

I. Dwerryhouse had accepted a challenge from Budleigh for Tues. June 14th, singles and doubles, and would arrange details.

June 7th had been fixed for the 2-ball competition with J. Toye's boys. K. Holroyd would arrange the competition and A. Davis the publicity. The refreshments would be provided by Members. A 5 minute "knock-up" for the boys on full size lawns would be admitted. Tea at about 4.00 p.m. Iris would contact J. Toye.

Hon. Secy. was asked to send a letter of thanks to Len and Pam Sage for their generous gift of 4 garden chairs.

The Meeting terminated with thanks to G. Cunningham for her hospitality and the facilities provided.

 **Dwerryhouse**
Chairman.

Garth
Knowle Drive
Sidmouth. EX10 8RN
16.5.83

Hon. Secy.
Main Committee
Cricket Club.

Dear Hon. Secy.

The Croquet Committee have asked me to convey to the Main Committee their considerable dissatisfaction over the standard of maintenance of the Croquet Lawns this season.

It has been assumed that the lawns would be cut, at any rate, twice weekly, and they would be irrigated as and when necessary. No irrigation was carried out last year.

The specific complaint giving rise to this letter is the excessive length of the grass, even when newly cut. My Committee do not ask for a Budleigh Salterton standard, but they feel entitled to ask for lawns on which an acceptable game of Association Croquet can be played.

This is not possible at present. For example, players have difficulty in even hitting a ball across the lawns and they, and others, find it quite impossible to play a ball the full length of the lawn. The lawns are so heavy that delicacy of touch becomes out of the question. Wear and tear of expensive balls becomes excessive through consistent hard hitting.

In short, the whole character of the game is altered and ruined.

The Main Committee will remember that, following complaints last year, the Groundsman was taken to Budleigh in an attempt to improve his attitude towards proper standard of croquet lawn maintenance. If he learnt anything then, it has been forgotten.

My Committee very much regret having to call attention formally to this matter

Yours sincerely

R. Case
Hon. Secy. Croq. Sect

MINUTES - Croq. Sect. Meeting, Mon. June 20, 1983 in Small Pavilion, @ 2.00 p.m.

Present. Iris Dwerryhouse G. Cunningham
A. Davis K. Holroyde
B. Moores H. Case.

Apologies. H. Peirce (illness).

Minutes of Meeting d. 16th. 83, were read and approved.

A. Davis reported the following financial results from the Gala on Fri. June 17th:-

Cakes	24.65	Target	6.60	
Gifts	26.25	Hoops (scattered)	6.50	
Plants	17.70	Hoops (straight)	7.00	
Books	18.60	Walking (plank)	6.50	
Tombola	30.46	Pendulum	3.90	
Cards	27.00	Clock	5.40	
Bowls	16.86	Treasure	7.00	£204.52
		Prizes	16.00	188.52
		Donations		7.55
		Balance		<u>£196.07</u>

As happened last year, few of the public were attracted, and our publicity policy requires review before the next occasion. Budleigh showed little interest. Teas produced £37.00. Expenses approximated £5.

There was little to report from the Cricket Committee, except that the Groundsman had been given a temporary helper. The cutting of the lawns had improved. Ball life was still a problem; but a new set was available for tournaments.

K. Holroyd reviewed the Booking Sheet position. The courts were being heavily booked and a final version of sheet developed. Members had been failing to book for practice purposes. The Committee expressed their thanks for the successful work put into sorting out the booking problems.

It was hoped that Doubles tournaments would finish by Aug. 31st. No interest had been shewn in the offer to give advanced training. It was decided (after the Meeting) to allot Sept. 7th. And 8th. (Weds and Thurs) for the Club Golf Croq. Tournament and to have the lunch on 8th Sept. It was hoped to arrange a Golf Croq. "friendly" with Budleigh (doubles) on July 24, 25 or 26th. Budleigh would be challenged in the Assoc. game at Home, on Sept. 1st. Coffee would be provided, but all concerned would bring picnic lunches. The entrance fee for Club Golf Croq. Tournament would be 20p for each of singles or doubles, or 30p. for entry for both. The events would be open to players with handicaps of 12 and over.

The handicap Committee's revised list would be posted by Iris. There were 85 playing Members at present.

There were only a few outstanding subscriptions to date.

Two draft contributions to the Croq. Gazette were approved. Hon. Secy. would then obtain the recently published 'Recruitment and Publicity Handbook, priced at £2.45.

The next meeting of the Croq. Sect. would be Mon. July 18th. @ 2.00 p.m. in Small Pavilion.

 **Dwerryhouse**
Chairman.

MINUTES - Croq. Sect. Meeting, Mon. July 18th. 1983 in Small Pavilion.

Present. I. Dwerryhouse R. Peirce
 A. Davis K. Holroyde
 B. Moores. G. Cunningham
 R. Case.

Minutes of Meeting held on June 20th. 1983 were read and approved.

The following fixture dates were decided upon: 2-ball Tournament. Aug. 9th and 10th.

Golf Croq. Budleigh "friendly" Aug. 25th. 2.00 p.m. Golf Croq. Club Tournament Sept. 6,7 and 8th.

K. Holroyde would arrange for comprehensive lists to be posted, covering all types of fixture.

R. Peirce said that Lawn 1 had been watered and verges generally had been cut. All subscriptions had been paid, and there were 85 playing members. Croq. Members had been asked to refrain from encroaching upon the Cricket pitch during playing time, and a notice would be posted accordingly by Hon. Secy. 3 new balls had cracked and would be returned.

There were now

8 good sets, including "double-bankers".

1 fair

2 poor

1 brand new "tournament"

K. Holroyde suggested changing she small practice courts into a single court by Aug. 7th. R. P. would arrange this. He would arrange, also, for the hoops on all courts to be firmly embedded. The reasons for the change of courts arrange were

(a) poor bookings

(b) better facilities for match play

(c) possibility of reversion to 2 courts for training and practice early next season.

Entries for the Corbett Spoon 2-ball Competition would remain open till July 31st. There would be 2 groups playing 13 -point games. Kath. Holroyde was authorised to arrange details and the Committee expressed their thanks.

The Committee decided not to follow up J. Toye's suggestion that Croquet lawns should carry a spot to mark the "corner ball's position" and the ends of the baulks.

It was decided to abandon any regular training scheme during the rest of the current season 1983. A draft proposal by Hon. Secy. placing a responsibility upon Members attending classes was accepted for consideration early next Season. The Draft will be kept on the file.

A. Davis would make enquiries about the possibility of getting Club Badges and their cost.

It was decided to mark Mr. and Mrs. Ellicott's Diamond Wedding Anniversary with a gift of flowers. These would be delivered by A Davison on Sept. 1st.

The next meeting would be held at 2.00 p.m. on Mon. Sept. 12th. in the Main Pavilion.

 **Dwerryhouse**
Chairman.

MINUTES - Croq. Sect. Meeting, Monday, Sept. 12. 1983, @ 2.00 p.m. in Main Pavilion.

Present. I. Dwerryhouse G. Cunningham
R. Peirce. K. Holroyde
B. Moores A. Davis
R. Case.

R. Peirce reported that No. 1 Court would be closed for maintenance from Oct. 1st. The Hon. Treas. Main Committee had reported that the target of £6000 in hand before the winter had been met. Life Patrons had subscribed approx. £4000. The Bar had returned a 40% profit.

The St. Leger Sweep had netted	£600)	These monies had been
Wine and Victuals	£200)-	ear-marked for the
A future V & V	£200)	<u>purchase of new chairs.</u>

Of these, about 80 would be allotted for the Main Club. 30th Sept. had been allotted for a review of essential maintenance of grounds and premises. The dislodgement of tiles on the Small Pavilion would receive attention.

A. Davis explained the circumstances in which £17.70 had been collected through a lottery during the recent Croq. Luncheon. The money would be handed to the Main Committee, with an option to accept the type of chair that they hoped to purchase at advantageous rates.

K, Holroyde reported that Booking Sheets for October would be prepared. There had been practically no double banking on No. 2 Court. This option would be kept open for the future.

G. Cunningham reported excellent support for the Golf Croquet mornings. The recent "friendly" match with Budleigh Salterton had led to a demand for a return match. The Luncheon on Sept. 8th was strongly patronised and had filled the main room of the Main Pavilion, and the 12 and over Tournament had attracted both players and spectators. The Committee recorded their thanks to G.C. for her considerable trouble in arranging the lunch.

Davis reported that £7.80 had been donated by Members on flowers to celebrate the Ellicott's Diamond Wedding. Several Members had attended the celebrations. £20.00 had been donated so far, for the Groundsman's benefit fund. Members who had not yet subscribed would be reminded at the A.G.M. that the fund was still open, but would be closed that day.

It was decided that the A.G.M. (Croq. Sect.) would be held on Tues. Oct. 18th. @ 2.30 p.m. in the Main Pavilion. A pre-A.G.M. Meeting would be held on Weds. Oct. 5th in the Main Pavilion to clear up outstanding details.

A Forecast of Expenditure would be sent to the H. Treas. Main Committee to cover 6 sets of balls approx. £370.00 and 2 sets of clips @ approx. £12.00

Hon. Secy. would post Notice of A.G.M. and Invitation to Nominees. Closing date of Proposals would be Oct. 1st. midday. He would arrange for 85 Ballot sheets.

A recipient for the award for special "services to the Club" was decided upon and the name will be revealed at the A.G.M. It was considered inappropriate that the award should be voted in favour of any member of the existing Committee.

A return "friendly" Golf Croquet Tournament would be held against Budleigh Salterton on Friday, Sept 30th., starting @ 2,00 p.m. Players to be given tea. All 4 lawns to be reserved.

B. Holroyde called attention to procedure for booking names for the recent Golf Croquet Tournament. The subject was discussed. Her proposal to draw up Guide Lines governing internal Tournaments would be referred to the Committee (1984).

Following the recent tournament against Budleigh John Toye has proposed

- (a) Courts should be allotted on a bisque basis, and
- (b) Games should be for 26 points, with a time limit of 3 hours.

The Chairman undertook to discuss and settle the matter with him.

A Draft Circular dealing with a new approach to Training would be passed for consideration to the Committee (1984).

Changes in Handicaps would be announced at the A.G.M.

The following Census figures had been sent to Headquarters of the Association:-

1983. Members of Assoc.	Male	6	
	Female	3	Total 9
Members (Sidmouth)	Male	34	
	Female	51	Total 85
Notes. Country Members	Male	1	
Members also of Bud. Sal.	Male	2	
	Female	1	

A quotation from Marples and Beasley for 100 badges was tabled.

100 metal gilt and enamel © 63p. ea + VAT

Die charge on first order only - £55.00

Subject to art work by separate quotation.

Members would be asked at the A.G.M. whether they wished the matter to be followed further.

Len Sage had suggested that the Croq. Sect. might support a Social event to be organised about the beginning of December. This would be referred to the Committee (1984).

Hon Secy. Offered to sponsor the 2-ball Club Afternoon on Sept. 20th in place of R. Peirce.

An application by V. Collier for a review of her handicap would be passed to the Handicap Committee.

The next Croq. Sect. Meeting would be held in the Main Pavilion @ 10.00 a.m. on Weds. Oct. 5th. 1983.

Chairman.

 **Dwerryhouse**
Chairman.

DRAFT.....TRAINING

EXPLANATORY NOTE. There is general agreement that beginners should be reasonably proficient in strokes and rules before being Instructed in the Association Game.

Beginners do little or nothing to learn on a spontaneous basis. It seems desirable to place some obligation upon them to attend such training as may be arranged by the Committee, in their own and the Club's general Interest.

It Is proposed that a personal letter on the lines below should be sent to inexperienced players.

Dear

It is generally accepted by experienced players that to obtain the fullest benefit and enjoyment from joining the Croquet Section, a working knowledge of "Association Croquet" is a highly desirable. Many of you enjoy Golf Croquet and the Two Ball game, but these demand only a limited range of strokes. It is the ability to exploit the full range of strokes that opens up the exciting possibilities of Association Croquet. Learn the strokes and your difficulties will melt away.

The Training Programme devised by your Committee during the first part of the 1983 season, failed to get the support expected. The purpose of this letter is to persuade inexperienced players of the benefits of training, and to design a Time Table in which the willingness of experience Members to teach is matched by a readiness of Beginners to learn.

To enable the committee to gauge the probable support for a Training Session, you are asked kindly to inform the Training Member (R. Peirce, Cylre, Cottington Mead, Sidmouth 4103) whether you would care to attend at least 3 proposed 2 hour training sessions as follows – others could be arranged for, if necessary –

Date	Starting	Court	Subjects
			Drive, thin take-off, thick take-off, and a few rules
			Split, roll, hoop approaches, and a few rules
			Stop shot, pass roll, rush line. Hoop running and a few rules

Acceptance of this scheme would imply your firm intention to attend, or a phone call as far in advance as possible to warn of unavoidable absence.

All you have to do for the moment is to fill in your name (or names) and return this letter to R. Peirce. He will send prospective participants details in due course. And next time a "Shot Game" is announced, do please come to take part and to see what "stroke play" is all about. It's good fun and interesting.

Hon. Secy.
Croquet Section

Minutes of Croq. Sect. Meeting, Weds. Oct. 5th. 1983 10.00 a.m. in Lime Parc.

Present. I. Dwerryhouse K. Holroyde
 R. Case. G. Cunningham
 R. Peirce B. Moores
 A. Davis.

Minutes of the Croq. Sect. Meeting on Sept. 1 2th. 1983 were read and approved.

R. Peirce explained the position regarding the neglect of the courts during the recent holiday of the Groundsman. He would assist the new Committee in sorting out balls to be returned to Jacques under the terms of Jacques letter to Mr. Wharrad d. 22.7.83

The printed forms used by Budleigh Salterton for Competition purposes were circulated; but no decision was taken on the subject.

The lawns (excepting No. 1) would remain in play till (possibly) the end of October, depending on the weather.

It would be for the new Committee to analyse the Booking Sheets to determine how many playing Members could be accommodated.

The remainder of the Meeting was devoted to arrangements for the A.G.M. Secy. would circulate an Agenda in due course.

Chairman

Aline Davis

A.G.M. - Croquet Section, Oct. 18th, 1983 in the Main Pavilion, 2.30 p.m.

The Meeting opened with a welcome from the Chairman.

56 Members attended the Meeting. There were apologies for absence from

J. Hatherley J. Hagger

Mr. and Mrs. Usher B. Palmer

J. Whitehead M. Eastaugh

M. Hardman N. Ellis

Minutes of A.G.M. of Oct. 23rd. 1982 were read and approved.

Hon. Secy. read his Report. The Meteorological Office had reported only 8 days without rain between March 12th and June 1st. 1983. On the other hand, this was followed by one of the finest summers ever recorded.

The Training Programme, which was based on recommendations from Hurlingham Headquarters failed to receive support. A revised scheme had been worked out for next Spring, based largely upon stroke control.

The procedure for elections of the Croq. Sect. Committees was explained, together with the current method of disposing of business. Two bases of the Section's success, "friendliness" and 'innovation" were discussed, and how they were based upon a Trinity of Association Croquet, Golf Croquet and Club Afternoons was explained.

R. Peirce commented upon the progress of training, and emphasised the need for practice and reading. He had attended 12 of the Main Committee Meetings and represented the Section's views and requirements through the Grounds Committee. The Croq. Sect. enjoyed a high standing of regard with the Main Committee

There were about 85 playing Members and some 14 requests for Membership for the next Season. The lawns had been mown regularly and been given a certain amount of irrigation during an exceptionally dry season. he explained how Jaques had offered to deal with the defective ball situation and the measures they were taking to deal with current defects. 5 of our balls would be replaced and there were still another 2 or 3 due for replacement.

No. 1 Court had been closed for maintenance on Oct. 1st. No. 4 Court would be closed forthwith and the remaining Courts would be closed at the end of October.

K. Holroyde presumed that as there had been no complaints, the new Booking Sheets that she had designed were considered to be satisfactory. We now had 4 full sized lawns. The double banking visualised for Lawn No. 2 had not proved to be necessary. For the first time in Sidmouth, and probably elsewhere, a 2-ball match had been arranged between our own players and a team of boys coached by J. Toye. Our own team was victorious, but the event was an enjoyable affair. Entries for our internal tournaments remained about normal; but Members were specially requested to play their games as early as possible and to notify the Managers in good time if alterations had to be made.

8 Members had taken part in external tournaments. It was hoped that more Members would enter for they were not only enjoyable but promoted skill.

G. Cunningham referred to the continuing popularity of Golf Croquet. For the first time, 2 Golf Croquet matches had been arranged with teams from Budleigh Salterton. These resulted in a win for each side. She read a letter of thanks from the Budleigh Captain, in which they hoped for further matches next Season. Our own team Members were

thanked for their support in attending practice games, and attention was called to the carefree atmosphere in which the game was played.

B. Moores referred to the success of the Military Whist Drives and to the excellent support given to the Annual Luncheon at the Royal Glen. Members were asked and accepted a proposal for a similar Luncheon in 1984. A first date was fixed for the Winter Programme of Military Whist Drives.

A. Davis congratulated the Croq. Sect. upon having been able to contribute no less than £364 to the central funds of the Main Club. She reminded Members that it was very desirable that they should pay their subscriptions as early as possible, because the Main Club's expenses were heavy in the early part of the year, and interest could be earned on any available funds.

F. Moores read out changes in Handicaps that had taken effect during the Season, 21 in all.

The Chairman thanked Members for their unflinching support. She was glad to report that 8 of our Members had Association Handicaps. She referred to a letter from Mr. Wharrad to Hon. Secy. outlining proposals for modified rules intended to extend facilities for croquet. She thanked L. Sage for his services; also B. Easthaugh, Tom Ward and J. Toye, all of whom had rendered specially valuable services to the Club.

K. Holroyde assisted E Corbett who presented the following awards:-

Colclough and Duplicate Cups	R. Case and M. Davis	
Belmont Cup	J. Toye	
Devonia Cup	Hatherley	
Corbett Spoons	Low Bisquers	I. Dwerryhouse-
High Bisquers	E. Kitchener	

The Silver Salvers, given by G, Cunningham were presented by her to:

Golf Croq. Doubles	C. Verity and J. Hatherley
Golf Croq. Singles	J. Hatherley

The names of the new Committee were announced:-

V. Collier	N. Kirtley
G. Cunningham	B. Moores
A. Davis	T. Ward.
E. Kitchener	

The new Members met immediately after the A.G.M.

It was decided to hold the first Whist Drive on Weds. Nov. 2nd. @ 2.00 p.m.

A Coffee morning would be held on Thurs. Nov. 10th. at 10.30 am.

A. Harding hoped that our recent successes in Tournaments would encourage the Croq. sect. to extend their activities to matches with outside Clubs, e.g., Budleigh, Exeter and Cheltenham.

The Meeting ended with a tribute to the work of the Chairman and the Committee by K. Togni which drew hearty approval from the Members.

Chairman.

G. Cunningham

Hon. Secy's. Report to A.G.M. d. Oct 18th. 1983

Madam Chairman and Members

The A.G.M. affords a welcome opportunity for rendering to Members an account of the activities of your Committee.

The first topic of the day is, of course, the weather. The Meteorological Office recorded only 8 days without rain between March 12th and June 1st. However, as if to atone for this iniquitous behaviour, we enjoyed later on, one of the best summers ever recorded.

This gift from Heaven not only gave the Croq. Sect. a wonderful Season, but helped the Main Cricket Club to stabilise its finances..... something for which we must all be profoundly thankful.

The Chairman will explain our position vis a vis the Main Cricket Club. I should like to comment briefly on some aspects of the Croquet Section which may be of interest, particularly to our newer members.

Unlike the Main Committee the Croq. Sect. has no corporate standing. However, we have devised a means of control over our domestic interests; and to this end we clothe our proceedings in many of the trappings of corporate bodies. Your full Committee deals with our business in meticulous detail; decisions are implemented through individual Committee Members. Those of you who read the Notices in the Mallet Room will see how these responsibilities are allocated.

Your Committee has seen many changes during its existence. But, in 1981, as a result of careful review, its set-up was regularised. This set-up has proved to be satisfactory in practice and it has existed unchanged since then. Details are set out on the Notice Board; but, of course, nobody bothers to read them.

Now those with experience in running Clubs will know that success depends mainly upon two things, (1) the development of a friendly social atmosphere and (2) keeping up a lively interest through "innovation."

"Friendliness" is, of course, largely a matter for Members themselves. But it is for your Committee to foster this good will. Golf Croquet provides an excellent means of developing good will and, in addition, provides a fertile seed-bed for those new Members who will, no doubt, seek ultimately to attain nirvana through practising the more austere disciplines of Association Croquet.

As far as innovations are concerned, this is almost wholly a concern of your Croquet Section Committee. They have been so many that I can instance only a few. We have extended the Mallet Room, replaced our one-time grotty mallet heads with new ones, re-vamped our booking Sheets and introduced Sunday morning play. We thought up the Gala and introduced the 2-ball game. We negotiated the use of the invaluable 4th. Court. We devised a Magnetic Board for training purposes.

The regular association matches that we have played against our neighbouring club at Budleigh for the past twelve years, were extended this year to include two Golf Croquet fixtures.

Further afield we have over the last few years, consistently contributes articles to the Croquet Gazette. As a result of this, our Club has received such wide recognition that we have been consulted over the contents of the Coaching Manual, and other matters.

Now it could hardly be expected that all these innovations would be equally successful. Owing to a combination of circumstances, our Spring Coaching Programme, which

was based on recommendations from the Association's Lead-quarters, failed to capture support from new Members. A fresh approach has been devised for next Spring, and it will, we hope, be more successful.

Some time ago, we Initiated talks with South West Television designed to set up a series of demonstrations on how Association Croquet should be played. We had visions of high fees. These visions faded; but all was not lost. The Headquarters Publicity and Development Committee are working on ideas that will be of benefit to Croquet, even If we have to wait some years for their maturity.

I should like to end my report with an assessment of the merits of our principal activities...Association Croquet, Golf Croquet and Club Afternoons.

I expect that those of you who are church-goers will have wrestled in your younger days with the complexities of the Athanasian Creed regarding the attributes of the Holy Trinity. They were, and continue to be a matter for theological controversy... except that it is generally agreed that the Trinity is indivisible.

Now, within the Croquet section, we have a similar, but secular Trinity that, similarly provokes controversy.

We have Association Croquet, which is, shall we say, the fountain-head of our existence as a Club. We have Golf Croquet, upon which the structure friendliness of spirit depends; and we have our Club Afternoons through which we try to get the best of both worlds.

Which of the component parts of the Croquet Trinity embodies the most acceptable alternatives? I should like to put the view that each component has its merits; but that whatever merits or demerits any component may have, the Croquet Trinity, as existing today, is Indivisible.

I hope that the new Committee will give this assessment their blessing.

I am not, as you will have realised, one who wishes to hide, the light of your Committee's work 'under a bushel'. I hope I have said enough to convince you that your Committee has served you well. I'm sure that the new Committee that you will shortly elect will earn an equal measure of your esteem.

That concludes my Formal Report.

with the Chairman's permission, I should like to add a personal postscript.

I should like to thank all those Members who made my 90th. birthday, last April, such a memorable occasion. I was deeply touched by your kindness and shall remember it all the rest of my life.

However, I feel that at 90, it is time to retire and for a younger person to take over. So for the future, I shall take no active part in the business affairs of the Club. But I shall hope to join in the Club's activities as enthusiastically as ever, till, in course of time, my role will be reduced to that of a mere spectator on the side lines.

One last word. Someone asked me the other day, "What qualifications do you need to be a good Hon. Secy.?" "well", I said, there are only two things that really matter. One is to see that the welfare of the Club comes first; and the other is that you should know how to spell". That is all there is to it