

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 3 November 1994 at the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry, E. Woodward, G. Dart. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the new members.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

- a) S.W. Federation A.G.M. - it was reported that Sidmouth would be represented by 2 voting members, the Chairman & the Secretary, and 2 members of the Section, E. Woodward & P. Dart as observers. Details of the AGM proposals were discussed and authority given to vote as was considered appropriate at the meeting.
- b) The dates of the 1995 Short Croquet Tournament were agreed as 18th & 19th May. Members agreed that there should be the usual advert, in SWAN but that details should also be given individually to certain clubs.
- c) K. Peers told the meeting that members at the AGM had voted very positively in favour of the Belmont as venue for the Spring Luncheon. She was authorised to proceed with arrangements, the preferred date being Friday 24th March.
- d) It was noted that a winter lawn was in operation from 1 November.

Allocation of duties:

These were agreed as follows:

Chairman	E. Owen.	Secretary	G. Dart.
Grounds & Equipment			L. Kennedy (Representative on Management Com.)
Tournaments & Matches			
Open & S.W.Fed.		I. Dwerryhouse	
Domestic		E. Woodward	
Golf Croquet		H. Ruberry	
Cash & Library		D. Clarke	
Booking Sheets		E. Owen	
Social		K. Peers	

Reports:

E. Owen, former Cashier, reported that £21.09 was in hand, £30 having recently been passed to the Club Treasurer.

Any Other Business:

Members agreed that it was in order for K. Peers, with Social responsibility, to raise an ex-officio committee to assist her in these duties.

The desirability of having a Tournament Committee to deal with Open Tournaments was brought by I. Dwerryhouse to the attention of members.

The question of new members' integration into the Section after their initial training was raised, and it was agreed that

continuing help and encouragement were of vital importance and the matter should be under constant review.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 13 December 1994 at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Subsequent dates of 10 Jan., 14 Feb., 14 March were given, and the meeting closed at 11.10 a.m.

Esme Owen

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 13 December 1994 in the Pavilion.

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry
E. Woodward, G. Dart.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising: Nil.

Correspondence:

- 1) The Secretary reported receipt of a letter concerning the possible formation of a National Croquet League. No enthusiasm was shown for the idea and it was agreed that no action be taken.
- 2) The Secretary said that to date 7 letters of resignation had been received. The membership therefore stood at 106, inclusive of 5 Country members and 1 Student.
- 3) The amounts of Registration fees for 1995 were given to the meeting: a) to the S.W. Federation £36 plus £5 for each League Section entry: i.e. 3 x £5 for Federation, Intermediate, and 'B' League entries. This amount (£51) would be paid in January.
b) to the C.A. £495, an amount worked out on a capitation fee of £5 per member. By arrangement with the Club Treasurer this amount (due by 1 May) would be paid in April.

Some discussion was generated by the realisation that as from last year no relief was being given to the Club in acknowledgement of individual subscriptions paid direct to the C.A. by Associate members, and the Secretary was asked to make comment to the C.A. on this apparent double levy, the letter to be sent through the S.W. Federation representative on the C.A. Council.

Reports:

The Chairman asked members to note further allocations of duties:

Vice-Chairman	Iris Dwerryhouse
Handicap Committee	Iris Dwerryhouse, John Hatherley, Gwynneth Dart
Team Selection Committee	Iris Dwerryhouse
Tournament Committee	Elaine Woodward, Esme Owen
	Iris Dwerryhouse, Elaine Woodward, Gwynneth Dart

Iris Dwerryhouse reported that some dates for League matches were already arranged and that a full list would be available in the New Year. She said that Sidmouth had been asked to host the Intermediate Finals at the end of September. Dates of 23rd or 24th had been suggested but neither date as yet confirmed.

David Clarke gave income/expenditure figures for weekly table tennis and 2 Whist afternoons since the beginning of November, reporting that attendance had been very good. He said that £97.90 had gone to the Club Treasurer as a donation from the Section.

He sought guidance on the proposed Visitors fee for 1995, it was agreed to keep it at the current rate of £2 for adults, with £1 charge for students and under 18s.

L. Kennedy reported that he had taken an inventory of all equipment held. He also gave a brief account of the Management meeting attended by him as Croquet representative.

K. Peers confirmed the date of the Annual Lunch as 24 March and her suggested charge of £10.25 was accepted by the meeting.

The Secretary gave a report on the S.W. Federation A.G.M. of 6 November. Items of interest were that the Regional Golf Croquet Finals would be run in 2 handicap sections, + 14 & - 14; and that the Regional Coaching Officer was now Ray Ransome of the Bristol Club, David Purdon having retired from the post. There was to be a Grade 1 Coaching course at Bristol in April 1995.

Any Other Business:

Potential new members: The Secretary said that the date of 11 March had been agreed with the Training Officer, E. Kitchener, for the introductory meeting, and a new and improved edition of Know the Game had been approved for issue to trainees. After brief discussion members agreed that the training course fee for 1995 should be (inclusive of the training book) £14.

The proposed date for a lunchtime meeting to welcome new members at the successful conclusion of their initial training was given and agreed as Saturday 29 April from 12 noon.

The Chairman informed the meeting of the existence of a silver cup, given to the Section in 1923. She sought members' views on suitable use for it, offering as one proposal the introduction of a new internal tournament to be played in the evenings only. An alternative idea put forward by Iris Dwerryhouse was to use the cup as a trophy for the September Open - at present only cash prizes were given. It was agreed that no immediate decision was needed, but that members could be considering possibilities for discussion at a later date.

Iris Dwerryhouse expressed concern at the lack of use of the lawns in the evenings, and wondered whether the Friday Golf Croquet slot could not revert to its former 6 p.m. start time. A Club evening specifically aimed at the newer members was also for consideration. Elaine Woodward said that the lawns were more available in the evenings for new members to practise, and they could well be encouraged to book time then.

The Chairman told members that she was interested in encouraging foreign players to come to Sidmouth to play in Open Tournaments. She referred to 1 Italian & 2 French Clubs as well as the Jersey Club and volunteered her services as secretary and interpreter in the issuing of invitations. Members approved the suggestion.

Open Tournaments: Iris Dwerryhouse told the meeting that home Club entries would have to be restricted in some way, with an initial figure of say 10 max. out of the intended 24 players total. She asked members to give thought to ways of resolving this problem.

Training: The Secretary reported that 2 dates had been agreed with the Training Officer for pre-season refreshers; Saturday 25 February & Saturday 18 March, both meetings from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Short Croquet: Members agreed that the customary Club day (no fee, no prize) should take place on Saturday 20 May following the S.W. Federation Open Tournament on 18 & 19 May.

Golf Croquet: The date of the Regional qualifying round was given as 1 July: entry fee £1 per event.

Committee meeting dates through the season were given as follows:- 11 April, 2 May, 6 June, 11 July, 8 August, 5 September.

Date of next meeting 10 January 1995 at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esme Owen

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 10 January 1995 in the Pavilion.

Present: E. Owen, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry, E. Woodward
G. Dart.

Apologies: D. Clarke.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. Matters arising:

- a) H. Ruberry reported that soundings among regular Friday players of Golf Croquet had suggested a strong preference for retention of the 4 p.m. start. After some discussion it was agreed to have, as last year, 3 lawns available at 4 p.m. on Fridays for organised Golf Croquet, with 1 lawn booked for the 6 p.m. slot to accommodate those who might wish to stay on or arrive later.
- b) The Chairman asked members for their considered views on use of the 'spare' silver cup. Opinions voiced were that to fit another internal tournament into the already crowded schedule would be difficult, and the better option would be therefore to use the cup as trophy for the September Open weekend. I. Dwerryhouse pointed out that adjustments to the proposed format for the Tournament would be necessary to achieve a one cup, one winner result; and it was agreed that the cup would probably be used in September, subject to some further thought.

Correspondence: Nil.

Reports:

D. Clarke reported through the Chairman that a further £30 had been donated to the Club funds as profit from table tennis and one Whist Drive in the past month.

E. Woodward had nothing to report but asked that the Committee consider dates for some of the internal tournaments. Decisions were made as follows:

14, 15, 16 July Doubles
24, 25 July Two Ball
14 August Shot Game
19 August Egyptian
2 & 4 September Final Days

to the Croquet

the February

meeting.

H. Ruberry asked that the internal Golf Croquet Tournament dates should be considered. These were agreed as 6 & 7 September. I. Dwerryhouse said that she had put a report in last week's 'Herald' which included an invitation to get in touch with the Croquet Secretary if interested in learning how to play.

L. Kennedy reported that he would be attending a Main Club Committee meeting on 12 January, any information relevant Section being reported back to this Committee at the February meeting.

H. Ruberry asked that internal Golf Croquet Tournament dates should be considered. These were agreed as 6 & 7 September.

I. Dwerryhouse said she had put a report in last week's 'Herald' which included an invitation to get in touch with the Croquet Secretary if interested in learning how to play.

She reported that the agreed date for the S. W. Federation Intermediate Finals to be played at Sidmouth was Sunday 1 October.

She gave also dates of League Matches as follows:

Home	14 May Federation v Exeter
	18 June Federation v Parkstone
	20 June Intermediate v Cranford
	27 June Federation v Budleigh
	4 July 'B' League v Budleigh
	9 July Intermediate v Plymouth
	30 July 'B' League v Taunton
Away	25 May Intermediate v Budleigh
	11 June Federation v Taunton
	16 July 'B' v Plymouth
	23 July Federation v Plymouth

K. Peers showed members the Lunch tickets, produced courtesy Brian Smith, and her suggestions for seating were agreed. An amended price of £10.50 was noted. The proposal that members who had just resigned be invited to attend the Lunch was accepted.

Any Other Business:

I. Dwerryhouse asked that in addition to the Club afternoons on Mondays an evening be set aside more particularly for the benefit of newer members. Wednesday seemed to be the preferred evening, and it was agreed therefore that Club afternoons would start on Monday 1 May (1 p.m. - 4 p.m.), and that on each Wednesday from 3 May there would be a Club evening starting at 6 p.m.

Members agreed that Lawn 2 should be marked out at the start of the season as 2 half-sized lawns, and would remain so until the end of May. L. Kennedy was asked to arrange this with the Groundsman. He was asked also to confirm the Lawns Open date as Saturday 1 April,

The need for some pre-season maintenance was recognised and L. Kennedy asked for help with names of willing workers.

I. Dwerryhouse pointed out that since so many sets of balls are now available in the Croquet Pavilion there was no longer need for a Practice Balls Locker in the Mallet Room. She suggested that this locker should be used to accommodate some of the balls in general use, thus avoiding over-crowding.

She asked also that the colour-coding on the ball cradles should be checked and renewed.

The Secretary expressed some anxiety that the 'Winter Lawn' might prove too popular should the weather in March be kind and suggested that a time limitation on games might be desirable, to give fair opportunity to all for pre-season practice. She was asked to produce polite notice to this effect.

The date for the Section AGM was agreed as Thursday 26 October at 2 p.m.

Date of next meeting: 14 February at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esmé Owen

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 14 February 1995 in the Pavilion.

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry
E. Woodward, G. Dart.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

- a) The Secretary queried whether Short Croquet markings for Lawn 2 from the start of the season might be helpful to the Groundsman. It was agreed that for training purposes in April 2 half-sized lawns were of more use, and the decision minuted in January should stand.
- b) The Chairman initiated further discussion on use of the spare silver cup, suggesting that if it were not to be used for the September Open then an evening tournament in June could be a viable alternative. The posting in the Mallet Room of a notice inviting entries so as to gauge possible response was proposed, and after some discussion the matter was left on the table for consideration at the next meeting.

Correspondence:

- a) The Secretary reported receipt of a reply to her letter to the Chairman of Council commenting on the Club Registration fee, and read the relevant paragraphs to the meeting. She asked members to note the promise that 'the rate would not rise by more than the rate of inflation'.
- b) The Chairman said that in response to her invitations to foreign Clubs she had received a reply from Le Douet club near Bayeux, who would not this year be coming to Sidmouth but who would be pleased to welcome visitors at any time.

Reports

K. Peers reported that sales of tickets for the Lunch were going well.

L. Kennedy said that the work of painting and repairs was in hand J the Mallet Room had been painted, and repair needed to the Robert Case corner would be dealt with. In the Croquet pavilion the upright in the S.E. corner was rotten, and he proposed to seek authority from the Main Club Committee for its professional repair. Members agreed his proposal.

He reported on the Main Club Committee's recent meeting where the issues of a new security system and a new timed watering system were discussed, and told members that use by players and spectators of the space beyond the N.E. corner of Lawn 1 had been agreed with the Sidmouth Club, the Croquet Section to be responsible for its continuing tidy appearance.

He said that he would be assessing the quantity of new balls needing to be purchased this year, and I. Dwerryhouse's request for pegging down markers as well as replacement clips was noted.

D. Clarke reported that a further £40 had been donated to Club funds I.

Dwerryhouse reported that all the League matches had now been arranged and a full list would be put on the Notice Board. Additions to the list given in the January minutes were

Away	2 July	Intermediate	v	Exeter
	18 July	'B' League	v	Wellington
	20 August	Federation	v	Nailsea

She gave details of entries so far received or expected for the June & September Open and the Short Croquet Tournaments, and said that more than £300 had already been passed to the Club Treasurer.

Any Other Business:

Arrangements for the 'potential players' meeting on 11 March were discussed, the Secretary reporting that the probable number was 14. I. Dwerryhouse said that in addition to the publicity posters in the Mallet Room and at the Library, there was now one in the Club Notice Board outside Lawn 2.

Dates for the Club afternoons set aside for 2 practice sessions for Two Ball and 2 for the Shot Game were agreed;

15 May & 26 June for Two Ball

5 June & 17 July for Shot Game

and a roster of Committee members to organise the Club afternoons through the season was noted.

There was discussion about the format of the new Club evenings, but no positive decision was reached.

The Chairman asked members to consider the advisability of changing the name of the TWO Ball game to ONE Ball, since this now seemed to be the more widely used title in the Fixtures Book and the Croquet magazine.

Date of next meeting: 14 March at 9.30 in the Pavilion.

Esmé Owen

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET AND HOCKEY CLUB

CROQUET CLUB

Thursday	9th February	2.00 pm	Whist Drive
Saturday	25th February	10.00 am - 12 Noon	Training Meeting
Thursday	9th March	2. 00 pm	Whist Drive
Saturday	11th March	10.00 am - 12 Noon	Meeting for Potential new Members
Saturday	18th March	10.00 am - 12 Noon	Training Meeting
Friday	24th March	12.30 pm for 1.00 pm	Annual Lunch (at Belmont Hotel)
Saturday	1st April	LAWNS OPEN	(Grounds & weather permitting)
Saturday	29th April	From 12 Noon	To meet new Members (at the Pavilion)

Your subscription is NOW due. Please make cheques payable to Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis, Croquet & Hockey Club and send to the Club Treasurer, Rex Sims.

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

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

Tickets for the Annual Lunch (Cost £10.50) are available from Kay Peers, 1 Craig Court, Salcombe Hill Road, Sidmouth, EX10 8JR, Tel: 514891. Cheques made payable to the Club, and a s.a.e. sent with ticket order, please.

A series of coaching sessions will be run early in the season for members in their 2nd season of playing. Please watch the board in the Mallet Room for details.

The Croquet Section plant stall at last year's May Coffee morning was a great success; please start your nursery plants in good time for this year's stall.

The training meetings in February and March are for us all to brush up our skills before the start of the season. Please make a special effort to come.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 14 March 1995 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry
E. Woodward, G. Dart.

Apologies: Nil

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

- a) The Chairman said that it had been found impracticable to use the silver cup for the September Open, and that general opinion seemed to be towards holding it in reserve for the time being. A motion to this effect was proposed by I. Dwerryhouse and seconded by K. Peers, other members save one being in agreement.
- b) The Committee agreed the Chairman's proposal that an offer to arrange an evening tournament on 4 Thursdays in June, full bisque to a base of 6, should be put to members of the Section. The Chairman volunteered her services as Manager if sufficient interest were shown - a 12 entrants minimum was suggested.
- c) Formal acceptance of the ONE BALL title was made, H. Ruberry proposing, E. Woodward seconding, all members concurring.

Correspondence:

The Secretary reported that she had been advised by the C.A. that National Croquet Day would be on 3 June. After consultation with the Chairman she had replied wishing the C.A. well in their special day of effort but saying that the Sidmouth recruiting publicity had already been done.

Reports:

L. Kennedy reported from the last Main Committee meeting that the public pathway around two sides of Lawn 1 was to be resurfaced, and the gate rehung, all this at Club expense helped by a contribution from the Local Authority. The meeting expressed pleasure and the hope that thereafter something could be done about the flower boxes.

Comment was made on the railings, apparently redundant, in the Sidmouth Club corner of Lawn 1. L. Kennedy offered to mention it, unofficially, to the Club Chairman.

In his capacity as Grounds & Maintenance member L. Kennedy reported that all necessary renovation was continuing, and that the Robert Case corner had been repaired. He explained in detail the current problem of a recurring fungus on Lawn 1 and emphasized the fact that the recommended course of treatment of RIMIDIN, though expensive, was essential to control the fungus. He expressed the wish that it should be minuted that all treatment of the lawn at the present time was essential and was being done.

I. Dwerryhouse wondered whether it would not be advisable to delay the opening of Lawn 1. L. Kennedy was asked to seek the Groundsman's advice on this proposal, and all members agreed that he should be assured of the Committee's backing in any needful decisions throughout the season about lawn conditions.

E. Woodward reported that the Internal Tournaments form had been completed, and the Committee's views on the 'Ladder' were sought. After some discussion it was agreed that the names of players, 14 handicap and over should be put up, the

suggestion being made that a broader base, going to only halfway up the scale, might give more encouragement to proceed.

The format for the Finals of the Belmont Cup & the Fermor Bowl was also discussed. It was agreed that the Bray system should be used throughout these tournaments, including the Finals, the only variation being that for all the Finals on 2 & 4 September, games should be without a time limit. E. Woodward noted that these decisions should be shown on the tournament from the start of the tournaments.

There was some discussion about limitations on handicap levels for entry to certain tournaments, but it was agreed to accept all entries as they came, with friendly advice available. I. Dwerryhouse suggested that any player who had reached a handicap of 20 should not, whatever the result of a match, revert to a handicap higher than 20. The meeting approved this proposal, but agreed that the matter should be discussed by the Handicap Committee.

The Cashier reported that £164 had been passed to the Club Treasurer; £74 being a donation as profit from Whist and Table Tennis; £94 being potential members' training fees. Current balance held £3.28.

I. Dwerryhouse said that all places for the June & the September Open Tournaments had been taken; and to date she had 22 entries for the Short Croquet Tournament in May. An amount of £526.50 in fees had been paid to the Treasurer.

She informed members of an invitation to a Parkstone Tournament 22-24 May.

The Social member reported that all tickets for the Annual Lunch had been sold, and a seating plan would be available at the hotel on the day.

The Secretary reported a successful 'potentials' meeting on 11 March, as a result of which 11 people would be starting training on Monday 3 April.

Any Other Business:

It was agreed that all new members would be invited to attend an informal meeting at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday 29 April (immediately preceding the lunch-time 'get together') to be briefed on Club procedures and to have the opportunity to ask questions. At this meeting the Chairman hoped to introduce and arrange the agreed 'minder' system.

The attention of members was drawn to the private notice in the Mallet Room about a forthcoming wedding.

Date of next Meeting: 11 April at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esmé Owen

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB
CROQUET SECTION
SUMMER PROGRAMME 1995

April 1	Lawns Open, subject to conditions
April 29	Opportunity to meet new members in the Pavilion from 12 noon - bring your own lunch
May 1	Closing date for entries in Club Tournaments
May 8	Main Club Coffee morning from 10 a.m. (Croquet Section Cake Stall & Plant Stall)
May 18 & 19	Short Croquet Open Tournament (£5.50 entry fee, closing date May 12)
May 20	Club members Short Croquet Tournament (no entry fee)
June 12 - 16	Open Tournament
July 1	Federation Open Golf Croquet Tournament (Ass. Handicap 14 & over)
July 7	Main Club Garden Party
July 14, 15, 16	Club Tournament - Doubles
July 24 & 25	Club Tournament - One Ball
August 14	Club Tournament - Shot Game
August 19	Club Tournament - Egyptian
September 2 & 4	Club Tournament Finals
September 6 & 7	Golf Croquet Club Tournament
September 9 & 10	Open Tournament
October 1	Federation Intermediate League Final

ASSOCIATION CROQUET

Most Monday afternoons from May 1 until the end of August will be Club afternoons from 1 p.m. unless shown otherwise on the Booking Sheet.

15 May & 26 June - One Ball practice on all lawns from 1 p.m.

5 June & 17 July - Shot Game practice on Lawns 3 & 4, starting at 2 p.m.

Please note that on Wednesdays from 6 p.m. starting on 3 May, there will be Club evenings, aimed particularly towards helping members (handicap 20 and above) who have limited experience in playing games.

GOLF CROQUET

Organised sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. and Fridays from 4 p.m. from May 3. On Fridays one lawn will be retained beyond 6 p.m. to accommodate those who might wish to stay on or arrive later.

Prior to May 3 personal lawn booking only, for a maximum of 4 members per lawn per session, to avoid excessive wear and tear on the area around the hoops in early season.

Please note that organised sessions will cease at the end of August; from 2 September personal lawn bookings will have to be made with no restriction on numbers.

LEAGUE MATCHES

A full list of matches arranged is shown on the Notice Board. Please come to support fellow members playing for the Club in Home fixtures.

REMINDER

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

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

G. DART Hon. Sec.

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 11 April 1995 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry
E. Woodward, G. Dart.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

The Chairman said that so far there had been little response to the proposed June event, and suggested that a closing date for entries of 1 May be set. Members were in agreement.

Correspondence:

The Secretary reported that the Sports Co-ordinator for the S.W. Region W.I. had contacted her on the recommendation of the S.W. Federation Secretary, making tentative enquiry about the possibility of using the Sidmouth lawns for a day of Golf Croquet by some 24 W.I. members during September. She sought the view of the Committee on this issue should a more positive approach be made, and after some discussion it was agreed NOT to accept the proposal.

Application to join the Section had been made by one John Brightmore, whom E. Kitchener was happy to sponsor. The Committee agreed to accept his application.

Reports:

E. Woodward reported that completed entry forms for the internal tournaments were beginning to come in, and that information about the Bray system had been put on the Notice Board.

L. Kennedy said that the lawns were still being treated, and that although the Groundsman had been happy to allow use of Lawn 1 from Day 1 of the season, he was most appreciative of the Committee's supportive attitude and wished to express his thanks.

He reported that the purchase of new balls and markers was in hand, as was the repair to the Croquet Pavilion. He had as yet no firm date for the resurfacing of the pathway.

Comment was made on 2 instances of bags of kitchen waste found to be deposited in the Sidmouth Club corner of Lawn 1. L. Kennedy noted the complaint.

The Cashier reported that £35 had been sent to the Club Treasurer and that a balance of £4.70 was held.

H. Ruberry asked that nearer the time for the Golf Croquet Tournament a list should be put on the Notice Board both to remind those who had already entered and to seek extra entries. This request was noted and approved.

K. Peers Presented to the Committee proposed menus for lunches for the June Tournament, offering her services should no Club catering facilities be available. L. Kennedy was asked to bring the matter to the attention of the Club Catering Officer at the next Main Club Committee meeting and to seek guidance, or authority for the Section to act alone. It was accepted that a lot of helpers would be needed, and the suggestion that a paid helper should be sought to do the washing-up was met with approval.

The Chairman thanked the Social member for her work in connection with the Annual Lunch, which was appreciated by all those who attended; and a vote of thanks, proposed by D. Clarke, seconded by H. Ruberry, was carried nem. con.

I. Dwerryhouse reported that £586 had gone to the Club Treasurer for Open Tournament fees (inclusive of 27 x £5.50 for Short Croquet). She expressed her hope that a full house of 32 players would be achieved for the Short Croquet Tournament, and gave details to L. Kennedy of equipment needed. She said also that as no cricket would be played on 18 & 19 May arrangements would have to be made within the Section for tea on both days.

Prize money was agreed as follows: Winner £10 (+ Cup)

Runner—up £10

the Groundsman's gratuity to be 50p per player.

Any Other Business:

E. Woodward sought further guidance on the 'Ladder' format, and it was agreed after discussion that she and the Secretary would deal.

Members were told that there would not be a Club evening on 17 May as all lawns would be in preparation for the Short Croquet Tournament.

The format for Club afternoons was discussed, and it was agreed that games should be 14-point, time limit 1 hour, both sides to use bisques, with use restricted to the higher bisquer on each side, and alternate shots used. 'One Ball could be played on Lawn 1.

It was hoped that as many Committee members as possible would be present for the first meeting on 1 May, and thereafter the roster system would operate.

For Club evenings it was expected that coaches would be available.

Members were reminded of the Club Coffee morning on 8 May, a Cake Stall and a Plant Stall being the responsibility of the Croquet

Section, and Committee members who would not be away playing in the Budleigh Open Tournament (which unfortunately coincided) were particularly asked to support the event.

Date of next meeting: 2 May at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esme Owen

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 2 May 1995 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, H. Ruberry, E. Woodward
G. Dart

Apologies: K. Peers

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

- a) Only 2 names having been received for the proposed June event, it was accepted that no further action be taken.
- b) The Secretary reported that following an exchange of letters between L. Kennedy and the Club Secretary, it had been agreed that an outside caterer be used to provide lunch-time meals for the duration of the June Tournament. All arrangements were to be the responsibility of the Bar Steward, Chris Bridle, and it was understood that he had booked a Budleigh Salterton firm who had experience in dealing with the Budleigh tournaments.

Teas, except for Thursday June when Cricket teas would be available, would be for the Section to arrange.

Correspondence:

- a) Receipt of a brochure advertising an Open Tournament in Jersey was reported to members - a copy had been put on the Notice board.
- b) One more resignation was reported. Section membership now stood at 108, inclusive of 10 new members.

Reports:

E. Woodward reported that she would now be arranging internal tournament details. It was recommended that the 'Devonia' blocks should be on the Notice board by the weekend if possible, so that members would be encouraged to start playing matches during 'Budleigh week' when the Sidmouth lawns would be less heavily booked.

The number of players entered for the Club Short Croquet day on 20 May was reported as 19.

A total of £106.50 in Tournament fees was to be passed to the Treasurer.

D. Clarke as Cashier reported that a further £28 had been sent to the Treasurer, and that a balance of £28.20 was held.

H. Ruberry said that the annual friendly Golf Croquet matches between Sidmouth and Budleigh Salterton had been arranged for 30 June at Sidmouth, and 12 September at Budleigh. All 4 lawns would be needed from 2 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. on 30 June, and tea arrangements would be necessary.

L. Kennedy reported that at the Grounds Committee meeting the previous evening discussion of a letter from A. Dustan-Smith to R. Packe, Grounds Chairman, expressing concern at the condition of Lawn 1, brought to members' attention that the present cost of treating the fungus disease worked out at about £900 per annum. This figure was noted with some disquiet by the representatives of all 3 playing Sections.

Within the Croquet Section Committee disquiet was also expressed, and the possibility of getting independent expert advice explored, though it was recognised that ultimate responsibility lay with the Grounds Committee.

Members did regret that a Section member's concern over the condition of a croquet lawn had not initially been channelled through the Section's Committee, and the Secretary was asked to write A. Dustan-Smith on this matter.

I. Dwerryhouse reported that she had a total of 28 players for the Short Croquet Open Tournament, and proposed that the format should be a 2 blocks Swiss. Tea arrangements were in hand.

She told members that she had purchased a newly published book called 'Croquet Management', by Don Gaunt, which she had found helpful and interesting. It was agreed (E. Woodward proposing, E. Owen seconding, carried nem. con.) to authorise the Secretary to buy a copy for Club information and use.

She said also that she had written to the C.A. on the subject of the automatic handicapping system, wondering whether a review of the system had been considered. Her letter had been acknowledged and a full reply expected later.

She made reference to the first Home League match of the season on 14 May, when cricket teas would be available, but help would be needed to serve tea at the end of the match.

Any Other Business:

A new plinth for the Fermor Bowl, made and donated by P. Dart, was shown to members, who asked the Secretary to convey their thanks to him.

E. Woodward asked that something be done to prevent intrusion on the lawns by authorised persons, especially small children playing ball. L. Kennedy said that it was under consideration to have notices 'Club members only' between cricket pitch and lawns.

She asked also that attention be given to the guttering on the Croquet Pavilion.

The Chairman suggested that the dead yew plants beyond Lawn 4 be removed. Members were in agreement.

The Chairman alerted members to the possibility that 4 members of a Berkshire W.I. Croquet Club might this week be seeking a game while on holiday.

Format for Club afternoons - it was agreed to delete the phrase 'use restricted' to the higher bisquer'

Date of next meeting: 6 June at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esme Owen

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 6 June 1995 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry
E. Woodward, G. Dart.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

- a) See L. Kennedy's report 2 May - The Chairman said that after discussion with the Secretary she had decided that the interests of the Section would not be best served by exchange of letters, and that the matter should be allowed to rest.
- b) Referring to the W.I. members' intended visit at the May Bank holiday and a reported embarrassment for 2 Section members it was agreed that the Secretary should have informal words with the EDDC on the rules and regulations of the Sidmouth Club.

Correspondence:

- a) The Secretary reported receipt of a letter from Peter Coomber giving formal notice of resignation because of an eye problem.
- b) Members were notified of receipt of a Development Newsletter from Chris Hudson, the C.A. Development Officer, and were told that this was the first of a proposed quarterly series. It was suggested that it should be put on the Notice Board for Section members' interest.
- c) Receipt of an application for membership from Don Waterhouse was notified to the meeting. As a Plymouth Croquet Club member of many years and currently Federation Tournament Secretary, he was well known to some of the members and his application was accepted forthwith.
- d) The Chairman reported that she had received a letter from the Club Secretary on the subject of accident claims and the procedure to be followed by the Duty Officer.

Reports:

I. Dwerryhouse reported that a profit of £124 had been made on the Open Short Croquet Tournament. She said that after 8 years of acting as Manager for this tournament it was time to hand over. She expressed much disappointment at the lack of volunteer helpers and wondered whether the tournament should continue to be run each year. It was proposed by E. Woodward, seconded by D. Clarke, that recommendation should be made to the 1996 Committee that the tournament should be given one more chance, under a new Manager. With K. Peers proposing and L. Kennedy seconding, all members approved a vote of thanks to Iris Dwerryhouse for her work in connection with this Tournament over the years.

As Manager of the June Open Iris Dwerryhouse said that all arrangements were in hand, and she proposed to offer as an optional extra on the Thursday & Friday a Doubles event at a suggested £1 entry fee. All members agreed this idea.

It was confirmed that for each of the 3 classes there would be a trophy and £10 for the cost of engraving; and that there would be NO runner-up prizes. It was agreed that the David Rawkins Cup should have the extra wording of 'Sidmouth Croquet Club' engraved on it.

On the subject of the S.W. Golf Croquet Tournament, the first round of which had been arranged for 1 July, Iris Dwerryhouse reported that only 6 members had so far paid an entry fee, a number which in her view hardly justified the effort of putting on the Tournament. It was agreed that a notice should be put in the Croquet Pavilion forthwith, duplicating the notice which had been in the Mallet Room since early April, to see if there were any further response before making a decision.

She reported that an inconclusive letter had been received in reply to her letter about Handicapping, and that she proposed to write again.

The Cashier reported that £50 had gone to the Treasurer, leaving a balance of £13.50 in the account.

H. Ruberry said that the Golf Croquet home match against Budleigh (see minutes 2 May) was arranged for Friday 30 June, and asked that tea be provided for about 24. She reported that there had been an attendance of 38 at the previous week's Wednesday morning session.

E. Woodward reported that all tournaments seemed to be under way: her request for a minor adjustment of players within the published schedule was agreed. She said that at the previous day's practice of the Shot Game the wording of 2 of the instructions had been found to need clarification, and that this had been done.

She also reported that some members seemed unsure of how to fill out their Handicap cards, and Iris Dwerryhouse agreed to pin up an Exemplar.

K. Peers said that tea arrangements for next week's Tournament had been made, but she sought guidance on pricing. It was agreed that prices had to be commensurate with those charged for cricket teas.

L. Kennedy said that the notices, 'Club members only', were on their way. He reported that all the lawns had this week been treated with weed-killer and fertiliser, and for the next few days would NOT be cut as low as usual.

Any Other Business:

The Chairman brought to the attention of members the fact that at the May Coffee morning, part of the excellent profit made on the Plant Stall (c. £75) had been achieved by the generous gift by Michael & Aline Davis of a bonzai plant, the raffling of which produced a total of £34. All members approved her suggestion that she should write a letter of thanks to them.

She reported that Tony Dustan-Smith had offered to run a barbecue evening (as last year) and said that she would again organize a 'fun' tournament on the same day should the Committee agree the idea. After discussion members proposed the dates of 12, 13, or 14 September as suitable possibilities.

The Secretary queried the present tea arrangements at Home League matches - as evidenced at the recent match v Exeter, when more food than was needed was served on the per capita basis of cricket players' appetites. She suggested that a smaller number of teas be ordered - say 6 teas to share between 8 players. Members agreed that this should be tried out at the next scheduled match (v Parkstone on 18 June).

Date of next meeting: 11 July 1995 at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esmé Owen

SIDMOUTH June 12th - 16th

A five-day tournament that was over-subscribed three months before closing date.

The final line up of competitors proved to be fifteen visitors plus nine local club members.

The three American blocks, graduated in handicaps, were keenly contested throughout. One of the most exciting matches of the week was that between Pat Asa Thomas (7) and John Hatherley (3); Pat kept John sitting in his chair while she reached peg and rover, but could just not make rover after three attempts. Meanwhile, John was making steady progress towards the peg, finally winning the match by one point. The most consistent performance of the tournament was that of Dr. Robert Callingham (10), son of a local club member, from a small 1 lawn club in Cumbria, who convincingly won every game in his block.

The manager, Iris Dwerryhouse, must have had divine guidance from the Met Office since every day was dry and sometimes sunny. On the sixth day when all the competitors had returned home, it rained all day.

As a result of this climatic perfection, it was possible to complete all the block games by Thursday evening; leaving Friday free for an additional event of "Wheeler" doubles for those who were not travelling home early.

Visitors to Sidmouth found the usual tranquillity of the town somewhat disturbed by the construction of new sea defences, resulting in a constant procession past the lawns of a hundred heavy lorries per day delivering tons of gravel and rocks for a new breakwater.

All competitors were able to enjoy the catering and comfort facilities of the club's attractive thatched pavilion in its spectacular setting on the south facing coastline of Lyme Bay.

Results

David Rawkins Cup	won by	Alison Thursfield	of	Dyffryn
Fortfield Cup	won by	Robert Callingham	of	Crake Valley
Dwerryhouse Cup	won by	Mary Goodhart	of	Budleigh Salterton

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 11 July 1995 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry, E. Woodward
G. Dart,

Apologies: D. Clarke.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

The date for the suggested Barbecue was agreed as 13 September.

Correspondence:

The Secretary gave members prior notice that an exhibition was to be held in 1996 by the Sidmouth Photographic Society entitled 'Recreation in Sidmouth - then and now'. The Society was seeking old photographs of sporting activities.

Reports:

L. Kennedy reported back from a Grounds Committee meeting on 10 July that the loose paving stones outside the Croquet Pavilion were to have immediate temporary treatment, and that the whole area was to be re-laid after the end of the present playing season.

He said that the promised notice boards (see previous minutes) were 'on their way'; and a request by H. Ruberry for a 'Golf Croquet' notice board in the Croquet Pavilion was noted for action.

H. Ruberry reported that the S.W. Federation Golf Croquet day had been successful, a profit of £18 having been made after £13 prize money and a levy of £5 paid to the Federation had been taken from the £36 entry fees. The Singles winner (5 prize) was E. Kitchener, with runner-up (2 prize) P. Webber: the Doubles final between A. Dustan-Smith & V. Collier versus E. & L. Kitchener was won by E. & L. Kitchener who shared a £6 prize.

She said that the Home match against Budleigh Salterton had been won 10-6, and that an invitation to a friendly afternoon at Budleigh on Sunday 20 August had been accepted by 4 Sidmouth members who would by arrangement be taking their own tea.

She reported record attendances at Golf Croquet sessions during the recent hot weather. Entries received for the September Tournament were 23 Singles, 26 Doubles, and she proposed that this year's new members should be especially encouraged to enter also.

K. Peers reported that a profit of £30 had been made on teas at the June Open Tournament. The question of catering for the September Open (9/10 Sept.) was raised, and the Chairman offered to share responsibility with K. Peers for lunches on the 2 days. It was noted that cricket teas would be available on both days.

I. Dwerryhouse gave her report on the June Open, saying that a photograph of the 3 winners as well as a written report had been sent to the 'Croquet' magazine. She reported a profit of £272 overall (a statement of account, list of winners, copy report to 'Croquet', are attached to the minute book copy of these minutes). She expressed pleasure that the good weather had enabled all games to be played with time to spare, but wondered whether next year's Fixture Book entry should specify the intended number of games on offer.

Results of League matches to date were given as follows:

Federation v Exeter won 4 - 3 (H)
 v Taunton Deane lost 1 - 6 (A)
 v Parkstone won 4 - 3 (H)
 v Budleigh Salterton won 5 - 2 (H)
 Intermediate v Budleigh Salterton lost 2 - 5 (A)
 v Exeter won 4 - 3 (A)
 v Plymouth won 4 - 3 (H)
 'B' League v Budleigh Salterton lost 3 - 4 (H)

She mentioned the damage done recently in the Mallet Room by children who must have entered via the Ladies, and the idea of having a bolt on the connecting door was considered but, for the time being, rejected.

E. Woodward reported that there was an entry of 24 for the forthcoming Doubles Tournament, and sought the views of members as to the- more desirable format - 2 blocks of 6 or 3 blocks of 4. After discussion the latter format was agreed.

For D. Clarke the Secretary reported that £40 had recently been handed to the Treasurer, a balance of £11.83 being held.

Any Other Business:

The Secretary asked that the very willing help given by a number of new members at last week's Garden Party be minuted.

The Chairman's suggestion that a 14-point doubles session should form part of the 'Barbecue day' activities was agreed.

Date of next meeting: 8 August 1995 at 9.30 in the Pavilion.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR JUNE OPEN TOURNAMENT

Receipts

Entrance fees	£312	
Profit on teas	£30	
Profit on bar takings*	<u>£75</u>	
		£417

Outgoings

CA levy (30%)	£87	
Groundsman	£24	
Prize money	£30	
Engraving	<u>£4</u>	
		<u>£145</u>
	Profit	<u>£272</u>

**Bar takings 12-16th June were £312.42. The 25% profit figure takes account of the Bar Steward's wages etc.*

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 8 August 1995 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, H. Ruberry, G. Dart

Apologies: E. Woodward, K. Peers.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

- a) The Chairman reported that A. Dustan-Smith had the Barbecue arrangements in hand. She asked for volunteers to make desserts.
- b) It was agreed that the Chairman was to be responsible for lunches for the September Open Tournament, assisted by K. Peers on Saturday, 9 September, and by H. Ruberry on Sunday, 10 September. Catering was to be basically for players, with pasties, etc., available at the bar for spectators.

Correspondence:

- a) The Secretary reported receipt of a new C.A. Directory of Associates produced in the C.A. Office from database information. It was available to individual Associates at a cost of £6.50. I. Dwerryhouse told members that also available at £4.50 was a booklet giving tournament information U.K. wide, but it was accepted that this was for individuals to buy if they so wished, and no club copy need be purchased.
- b) Receipt of this year's copy of the EDDC publication 'East Devon Alive' was reported, this being a comprehensive list of Sports Clubs in the area.

Reports:

D. Clarke said that £35 had recently gone to the Treasurer, balance in hand being £27.83. He commented that this year's Visitors' fees had been a good source of income.

L. Kennedy reported that outstanding jobs had been done. H. Ruberry's request for repair to the lino floor covering in the Croquet Pavilion was noted, and after discussion it was agreed to dispose of the entire covering forthwith in anticipation of buying new at a later date. It was also agreed that at the same time a number of unserviceable chairs should be taken away, and some new ones purchased

D. Clarke offered to arrange purchase. It was hoped that the fundraising afternoon scheduled for the following day at the home of the Club Chairman & his wife would help to meet the cost.

A working party was arranged to clear the Croquet Pavilion at 12 noon on 9 August.

I. Dwerryhouse reported League match results as follows:

Federation	v Plymouth	lost 3 - 4 (A)
'B' League	v Plymouth	lost 1 - 6 (A)
	v Wellington	lost 2 - 3 (A)
	v Taunton	won 4 - 1 (H)

She said that she was particularly hopeful for 'B' League success next year with a number of newer members showing promise.

She asked that 3 lawns be booked out for the S.W. Fed. Intermediate Final on 1 October.

She reported receipt of a letter from the Secretary of the Croquet Players' Association (one of whose aims is to promote International Croquet), promoting the use of a new 14-point game with lifts at hoops 3 & 4. She said that the game had been tried out in a Woking tournament with some favourable comment. It was agreed that a copy of the rules should be displayed on the Mallet Room Notice Board, accompanied by a recommendation that the game should be tried out in friendly singles, and comments given to the Committee.

It was brought to members' attention that details were due to be submitted this month for the 1996 Open Tournaments; and after discussion it was agreed as follows:

June Tournament 10 - 14 June; entry fee £15 American blocks; 7 games guaranteed; optional extra event double if time permits. (no fee, no prize)

September Tournament 21 - 22 September; entry fee £10.50

I. Dwerryhouse agreed to act as Manager & Secretary for both events.

H. Ruberry reported that the Golf Croquet Club times were still very popular and well attended. She said that the September internal tournament lists were up, but that she was hoping to encourage the newer members to enter.

In the absence of E. Woodward, I. Dwerryhouse gave the number of entries for the Shot Game, to be played on 14 August, as 25, and she asked that 8 members be available to act as supervisors for the event.

Any Other Business:

a) A.G.M. It was agreed unanimously that L. Sage, in his role as Club President, be asked to present the trophies at the Section AGM in October.

Members were asked to indicate if they were prepared to stand for election to the 1996 Committee, so that the necessary notices could be prepared.

b) Estimates: members agreed that the annual estimates should be dealt with by the Secretary. A figure for 'Equipment' of £250 was suggested by L. Kennedy.

c) Club Garden Party: members were advised that a letter had been received from the Club President asking for the Section's views on changing the date to August for 1996 to achieve a higher attendance rate. The matter was discussed but no firm view expressed.

d) Whist dates: the meeting was reminded that early booking in the Club diary was essential, and it was agreed that Whist afternoons would be monthly and alternately on Wednesdays & Thursdays, beginning in October. Dates would be:
Wed. 11 October; Thurs. 9 November;
Wed. 13 December; Thurs. 11 January;
Wed. 14 February; Thurs. 14 March.

e) The need to consider the appointment of a table tennis organiser for the winter meetings was recognised. The Secretary pointed out that this was not necessarily a Committee function, as the weekly meetings were officially a Club and not a Section activity.

f) I. Dwerryhouse mentioned that a visitor's complaint against the Section had been reported to her unofficially by the Federation Secretary. The Secretary offered to look into the matter.

g) The Chairman gave the name of a potential new player for next season. It was suggested that the interested person should contact the Secretary early next year.

h) The date of the October meeting was agreed as 10 October.

Date of next meeting: 5 September 1995 at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esme Owen

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 5 September 1995 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, L. Kennedy, K. Peers, H. Ruberry
E. Woodward, G. Dart.

Apologies: Nil.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

a) It was reported that donations to the Section amounting to £76.90 had been passed to the Cashier as a result of the Reads' 'open garden' afternoon, and most of this money had been used for the purchase of 12 chairs. The Chairman said that a letter of appreciation & thanks had been sent to Hugh & Ingrid.

b) Vera & Rowland Henderson had agreed to organise the winter table tennis.

Correspondence:

The Secretary reported receipt of a letter from the C.A. Development Officer, as a result of which she had made application for a prize (100) for the best 1995 recruitment record (11 for Sidmouth), and had also filled out a Club Survey Proforma. She said that the recruitment of 1 new Associate had been reported to the C.A.

Reports:

Woodward gave the results of July & August tournaments:

a) One Ball, high bisquers (18 & Over) winner M. Stant; runners up S. Rogers
& S. Adams

16 & Under bisquers: winner A. Dustan-Smith; runners-up T. Owen & B. Smith

b) Shot Game: Shield E. Kitchener; runner-up B. Smith

Tankard joint winners M. Stant & S. Blenkinsop

c) Egyptian: winner A. Dustan-Smith, runner-up T. Owen & H. Read

She said that all tournaments had now been completed, including the Finals of the Doubles, held over from July.

L. Kennedy said that he wished to express his thanks to all concerned with the work done in the Croquet Pavilion on floor covering and chairs in early August. He reported from the F & GP Committee that the Main Club Committee would on 7 September be considering a member's suggestion of an Open Day on the cricket out-field during Festival Week. Members agreed after discussion that they had reservations about the proposal.

I. Dwerryhouse reported that in the SW Federation League results Sidmouth was placed 2nd in the Federation, the match v Nailsea (won 4-3) being an outstanding result, and the 3rd placement in the Intermediate had had to be decided on points. She said that all was in hand for the weekend Open 9/10 September.

The Cashier retorted that £46 had been passed to the Treasurer, leaving a balance of £7.85. He said that £17 in Visitors' fees had been received since the last Committee meeting.

H. Ruberry said that cessation of Golf Croquet Club sessions at the end of August had caused some comment, but it was agreed that individual bookings were not too great a hardship. Mention was made of the SW Fed. Golf Croquet Finals at

Nailsea on 17 September, and I. Dwerryhouse said that it was in order for substitute players to represent Sidmouth's quota of winners. It was agreed to seek volunteers. All arrangements were in hand with I. Dwerryhouse as Manager for the Club Golf Croquet Tournament to take place in the next 2 days.

Any Other Business:

a) It was reported that A. Dustan-Smith had asked the Committee to consider having Honours Boards for all the Club Tournament results. It was agreed that expense & space made this idea difficult, but that thought would be given towards displaying lists in perhaps the Humphrey Hicks corner.

Also reported was his request to consider the purchase of one set of Championship Barlow balls to try out. This was not felt to be a practicable measure at this time.

b) The Secretary reported that E. Kitchener had indicated to her his wish to step down from the post of Training Officer, and the name of L. Toye as a replacement was suggested. The Chairman offered to speak with him.

c) The Chairman told members that she had been offered a 'top of the ladder' trophy, and members' opinions were sought. It was accepted that no firm decision could be made in the life of the current Committee.

Date of next meeting: 10 October 1995 at 9.30 a.m. in the Pavilion.

Esme Owen

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 10 October 19 in the Pavilion

Present: E. Owen, D. Clarke, I. Dwerryhouse, K. Peers, H. Ruberry, E Woodward, G. Dart

Apologies: L. Kennedy

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters arising:

Training Officer appointment - the Chairman was awaiting the opportunity of speaking with L. Toye.

Correspondence:

The Secretary reported receipt of

- a) a letter from L. Sage accepting the Committee's invitation to present the prizes at the AGM; thanking the section for its help at the Garden Party; and saying that the Garden Party was to be discontinued.
- b) a thank-you letter from the CA Development Officer concerning the Club survey.
- c) a letter from the CA Office offering Inter-net facilities
- d) a letter from the SW Fed. Secretary giving details of the Federation AGM, to be held. at Tracey Park on 5 November.

Reports:

H. Ruberry reported that the Golf Croquet friendly match v Budleigh played in September at Budleigh had resulted in a win 10 - 6 for Budleigh. A few members had also visited Budleigh one Sunday by special invitation for an enjoyable afternoon's play.

She reported on a successful 2-day Club Tournament in early September and thanked I. Dwerryhouse for her expert management.

In the SW Golf Croquet Finals at Nailsea Sidmouth was represented by Hugh Read, with David & Cecelia Clarke.

D. Clarke retorted that an amount of £227.58 profit on the recent barbecue had been paid direct to the Treasurer; that he had received £4.10 for garden produce, and £6 for the sale of photographs; a total of £30.75 had been passed to the Treasurer, leaving a balance of £10 in the account. He queried the present system of accounting and asked that the incoming Committee should give it thought.

K. Peers said that all necessary arrangements had been made for the initial Whist-Drive of the season. It was agreed to keep the cost at 60p, and the total cost of prizes maintained at about £6. She expressed her dismay at the condition of the Pavilion on Sunday 1 October when the Intermediate Final was being played. Other members agreed her remarks, but said that the Club Chairman had been made aware of the problem.

I. Dwerryhouse reported that the September Open weekend had been a -success despite an early finish because of flooded lawns which meant that the 4 block winners shared the prize money. Winners were:

A. Dustan-Smith, D. Waterhouse, B. Smith L. Latham(Taunton).

Lunch-time catering by E. Owen was much appreciated and made a profit of £100+ total profit on the event being £183.

Final results of the S.W. Fed. League were reported and high hopes expressed for next year, particularly with 'B' League hopefuls.

The Intermediate Final between Plymouth and Kington Langley was won by Plymouth 4-3; tea was given to both teams and to a number of their supporters and cost £7, an amount which would be more than re-imbursed by the Federation Treasurer.

Any Other Business:

- a) AGM arrangements: these were discussed and agreed by members.
- b) The Chairman reported receipt of a letter from the Club Secretary asking that each Section should consider winter use of the Pavilion for parties, etc. This request was noted.
- c) It was suggested by E. Woodward that the new croquet chairs should be marked. This E. Owen agreed to do.
- d) The Secretary reported that one member (a student) had not paid any subscription in spite of playing a few times. She sought guidance on what action to take, and the meeting recommended that a letter should be sent requesting payment.

In closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked all members for their work through the year.

ADS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CROQUET SECTION HELD
ON THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER 1995 AT 2 P.M. IN THE PAVILION.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the 57 members present.

Apologies for absence were received from Mavis & David Baldock, Valerie Collier, Helen Cox, Arnold Cox, Linda Kitchener, Joan & Harold Mitchell, Doreen O'Hara, Phil Palmer, Derek Pedder, Gabrielle & Clifford Walker. The Club Treasurer also sent apologies.

The Chairman reminded members that the minutes of the AGM held on 25 October 1994 had been on the Mallet Room Notice board for 6 weeks from 6 September 1995, and asked that they should be taken as read. This was unanimously agreed and the minutes were accordingly approved and signed.

Committee's Report: The Secretary read the Committee's report on the year's activities. Adoption of the report was proposed by Larry Hooper, seconded by Brian Smith, and unanimously agreed.

A vote of thanks to the Committee for their stewardship was proposed by Sheila Adams and endorsed by the meeting.

The Chairman thanked Sheila for her kind words and thanked her Committee for their support through the year. She reminisced on her own introduction to the Club and spoke of her pleasure in the game and in the companionship of the Section.

Election of new Committee: The Chairman said that only one nomination had been received for Chairman and one for Secretary; and that 5 names had been proposed and seconded for Committee members. There was therefore no need for a vote. Acceptance of all those nominated was sought and received from all present, and a 6th Committee member would, under the Section's election procedure also, be co-opted by the elected Committee at their first meeting.

The new Committee was announced as follows:-

Chairman Tony Dustan-Smith Secretary Gwynneth Dart

Members Iris Dwerryhouse, Vera Henderson, Sue Rogers, Hazel Ruberry, Elaine Woodward + another.

The Chairman gave members a brief outline of a letter from Ian Davis and asked him to elaborate on his request for extra organised Golf Croquet times. The varying points of view expressed in the ensuing discussion were noted for the consideration of the incoming Committee.

Any Other Business:

a) The Chairman invited Iris Dwerryhouse as CA Handicapper to speak. She said that most handicap alterations had taken place under the automatic system and that only a few higher bisquer handicaps had been altered by the Handicap Committee.

She reported that she had recently attended the CA AGM, and commented on the 'Improvers' trophies awarded yearly by the CA. She said that for any member keen to achieve success this was an extra incentive to become an Associate at an early date.

She gave details of a suggested alteration to the automatic system which was to be discussed under Any other Business at the forthcoming Federation AGM.

b) The Chairman proposed that a new Club tournament be introduced next year for 'Veterans', with a suggested age restriction of 'over 75'. The title of 'Sidmouth

Seniors' was put forward, and it was agreed that the Committee would keep the proposal in mind.

c) One member asked whether the venue for the Spring Lunch was to be discussed. For the Committee the Secretary said that the Belmont Hotel had been suggested. The meeting was in agreement.

After a few Notices had been given out, the Chairman invited Len Sage, the Club President, to present the trophies.

A vote of thanks to Len was proposed by Larry Hooper and endorsed by all members.

The retiring Chairman then invited the incoming Chairman to close the meeting, and tea was served.

ADS

See minutes 7 Nov 95 and the attached extract from the Summer programme for 1996 7

As our programme of events is already very full your Committee has decided not to proceed with the proposal put forward at the AGM that a new tournament for 'Veterans' should be introduced: neither will there be a Short Croquet Open Tournament this year.

COMMITTEE REPORT 1995

The weather in this country is always a safe opening remark, but this year, I think you will agree, it does deserve special mention. Our long spell of unbroken sunshine enabled the initial training Programme in April to be completed in record time, and the June Open Tournament ran so smoothly that there was time for an unscheduled doubles event on the fifth day. What a pity therefore that the September Open weekend, after a glorious first morning, had on the second day to be abandoned at lunch-time because the lawns were under water. That's British weather for you. We must congratulate and thank Peter Montgomery, the Club groundsman, for maintaining the lawns to such a high standard throughout the season. A number of players from other Clubs have made flattering comment on the lawns' superiority, and we are indeed grateful for his work on our behalf.

Our membership now stands at 109. As happens each year a few members reluctantly cease to play, although we are always glad when they retain Social membership as a way of keeping in touch, and are particularly pleased to welcome them at the winter whist afternoons -but their places are taken by new entrants, so that for several years now membership has remained at a healthy 100 plus.

A full programme of events has been staged through the season, starting with the Short Croquet Tournament, open to members of the S.W. Federation. In spite of extensive and individual publicity there was a poor response from other Clubs. 24 players took part, 10 being non-Sidmouth. The Dorothy Toye Cup was won by Vera Henderson, and a profit of £124 was made for Club funds.

The June Open, now in its 4th year, attracted much interest and was over-subscribed 3 months before the closing date. Local entry was restricted to 9 Sidmouth players, with 15 visitors to make up the total of 24. Although none of the 3 cups was retained in Sidmouth, we were delighted for two of our members, Val & Bob Callingham, that the Fortfield Cup was won very convincingly by their son Robert, playing in his first Open Tournament. Responsibility for the catering for lunches for the 5 days of this event was passed to a local firm of professionals, which meant that no profit accrued to the Club, but the average of 36 - 40 good quality, low-priced meals served daily over the 5 days would have been a mammoth task for the most willing of volunteers, and your Committee feels that it was the best option. Bar takings, due in part to the custom generated by the lunch trade, amounted to £312 through the tournament, and a final profit of nearly £300 went into Club funds.

For the September Open weekend our current Chairman changed her role into that of Catering Officer and produced 2 days' worth of gourmet lunches which were much appreciated, the £100 profit being an extra bonus. There was an entry of 16 players, Sidmouth numbers again being restricted, and about £200 total profit made for the Club. Handicaps at this event ranged from -1 to +18, and one of our members 'enjoyed' (if that is the right word) the sight of 17 bisques at her disposal.

3 of the 4 block winners were local players, Tony Dustan-Smith, Don Waterhouse, and Brian Smith.

There were plenty of entries for the various Club Tournaments held through the season, and you will be reminded of the results when the impressive display of trophies is distributed at the close of this meeting.

S.W. Federation results have been the usual mix of wins and losses, but all games have been enjoyable, providing the opportunity of meeting players from other clubs, either here or at their home ground. The season ended with Sidmouth hosting, on 1 October, the Final of the Intermediate League between Kington Langley and Plymouth, Plymouth being the winner after a close and exciting contest.

Seeing other clubs, meeting new people, playing unknown opponents, all these things are good for the game, and as well as taking part in inter-club matches, Sidmouth has during the year been represented at Open Tournaments very worthily and successfully by individual members playing at Parkstone and Woking as well as at Budleigh Salterton. Four members travelled all the way to Bowden in Cheshire to attend an Intermediate level weekend course, and two members did a similar exercise for higher bisquers at Bristol.

Our own training programme has, we hope, been a useful one. In February and in March we had training meetings, one a Quiz, both very well supported. The 'crash course' in April, attended by 11, resulted in 9 new members, who were encouraged to come to a weekly Club evening for newer members where coaching on game play was given. This was a new venture and your Committee hopes it was of benefit. For 2nd year players, Eric Kitchener again produced an excellent series of coaching lessons, well attended and much appreciated.

Golf Croquet enjoyed its usual popularity on Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons; and the 2-day Club Tournament in September was a successful event under Iris Dwerryhouse's expert management. The traditional friendly games between Budleigh and Sidmouth resulted in home wins for each club, and some members went over to Budleigh in August by special invitation to have an afternoon's pleasure together.

The S.W. Federation Open Golf Croquet Tournament on 1 July attracted a good entry after a slow start and the winners were Eric Kitchener with Peggy Webber runner-up in the Singles, and Eric & Linda Kitchener the Doubles winners with Tony Dustan-Smith & Valerie Collier the runners-up. Hugh Read with David & Cecilia Clark went to Nailsea in September to represent Sidmouth in the Finals.

Social activities: During last winter members kept in touch regularly through the very popular Table Tennis sessions run weekly on Wednesday mornings; and the monthly Whist afternoons were as well attended as ever, no high standard of play being required - it's strictly for fun! The annual Lunch in March was held at the Belmont Hotel.

At the beginning of May a Saturday lunch-time get-together introduced the new members to the friendliness of the section early in the season; and in mid-September, towards the end of the season, a very successful barbecue* organised by Tony Dustan-Smith, and preceded by a Fun day run by Esme Owen, confirmed the good fellowship that exists in the Section.

In early August Hugh & Ingrid Read opened their garden and gave tea to members to celebrate their success in the Britain in Bloom competition with donations to the croquet section invited. Monies received amounting to £77, were used forthwith to purchase a quantity of new chairs for the Croquet Pavilion. Our grateful thanks to you, Hugh & Ingrid.

The Croquet Section continues to take its full share of responsibility for maintaining the financial viability of the Club. As well as the in-house profits passed to Club funds members have always been ready to support fund-raising activities, by running a Cake stall & a Plant stall at the May Coffee morning, by providing the main incentive towards the success of the Garden Party in July, by individually supporting the Friends' lunches and suppers. We can be proud of the part we play in the Club.

Your committee hopes that this has been a good year in terms of personal achievement, quiet pleasure, friendship, whatever you have desired. We thank you all for your support of our efforts, and for the willing help given by so many of you towards the administration of a very active Section.

*The barbecue raised a profit of £228 for the Club. Our thanks to you, Tony, and to all your helpers for a lovely evening.

