

Minutes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 4th November 1997

Present: E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: J. Coombs, O. Ragg.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: Jonathan has tried unsuccessfully to obtain new Jacques balls, from current stocks. We have sufficient at the moment so will have to wait for the new composite balls to be made and tested for 1999.

Secretary's Report: The AGM (25.10.97) was attended by 49 members and the Club President. 15 apologies were received.

The Centenary Exhibition is to continue for another year as it has been so successful. All clubs and individuals who have loaned artefacts have been asked if they are willing to be without them for this extra time. We have agreed, and will write to David Drazid (the co-ordinator) accordingly.

5 members attended the SW Federation AGM on 2.11.97 but an interesting meeting was spoiled by the poor acoustics. Minutes will be received in due course, but one of the main proposals was that all league tournaments would play using the Wharrad Turns method of completion. Details of this will be circulated to all members. Courses for coaching and for referees will be given to us later. Sue will write to the secretary re the inability to hear much of the meeting.

Chairman's Report: The management committee have suggested that all sections should try to run a fund-raising event. The cricket section are wanting to hold a Pop Concert. One idea from the croquet section is an evening for 'Champagne and Croquet' Other ideas are invited please!

Members Reports:

Gwen has sent a report to the local paper following the AGM. It was agreed that booking sheets should continue into October next year, and Gwen will deal with this.

To date there is £28.47 in petty cash. Gwen will speak with Graham Dodd re itemising income and expenditure.

Vera referred to her job description and is to continue with team selection for 1998, with help from Mary. It was proposed that

Elaine Woodward be asked if she would again manage the June Open Tournament, with help from Mary. (Sue is to ask Elaine).

Any Other Business:

- 1 The gratuity collected for Noel Westlake, at the ACM, amounted to E60.
- 2 The dates for the Spring Luncheon were proposed for March 19th or 20th. Eileen will investigate for the venue, the choice of menu and cost.
- 3 Gwen Sims is honoured to have been asked to fill the position of Vice-Chairman for 1997 / 98.
- 4 The final of the Humphrey Hicks tournament will be played as the 'best of three' in 1998.
5. A list is in the mallet room to be completed for play during November - March; this is just for interest.

6. Some of the club mallets need attention to improve them. Jonathan to be asked to look into this.
7. The club handicapper for 1998 will be Gwyneth Dart, who will be assisted by Iris Dwerryhouse and John Hatherley.
8. Future committee meeting dates, prospective new members initial meeting date, and internal tournament dates will be arranged at the next meeting. (Please bring diaries!)

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th December at Gwen' s house.

(Manor Garth, Seafield Lane, Manor Road, Sidmouth). (parking available).



SMR

4.11.79

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 9th December 1997

Present: J. Coombs, E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, O. Ragg, S. Rogers, M. Smith.

Apologies: G. Sims.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising:

From the Secretary's report: Sue had written to David Magee re the SW Federation AGM.

From the Members' reports: the suggestion that Elaine Woodward be asked to manage the June Tournament had been declined by Elaine. From AOB: the dates proposed for the Spring Luncheon should have read March 24th or 25th.

Secretary's Report: Sue had had a letter from Eric Kitchener to say he would not be renewing his subscription in 1998; an acknowledgement, with thanks for all his work for the club, had been sent.

Minutes of the SW Federation AGM had been received, together with a reply from David Magee expressing the committee's concern with the venue. The SW subscription is now due and the Treasurer will be asked to forward this. The minutes will be available on the notice board.

Chairman's Report: Sue had represented Tony at the meeting in November and had passed the notes to him. The main item discussed was the financial state of the club, and all members are being asked for a monetary donation, as well as participating in more fund-raising events.

Members' Reports:

Jonathan reported that Geoff Calcutt would now not be taking up employment with the club. Other ideas were being pursued including contracting out the ground maintenance. 'Acer Landscapes' had given a work schedule which was to be costed. The main committee would then make a decision, (the firm already maintains bowling greens in the area).

The 'Craft Fair' held in the pavilion at the end of November, had been organised by Lynn, and a percentage of the income had been paid to the club. Jonathan suggested that perhaps the croquet section may like to sponsor this event in 1998?

Vera confirmed the dates of the 1998 club tournaments; no dates have yet been fixed for the SW League. The lawns will be open on Saturday 28th March subject to conditions.

(The format of club afternoons would be discussed at a later meeting).

Mary will be arranging the club tournaments and it was decided to increase the entry fee to £1 for each separate tournament. Olga reported that the entry fee for the SW Federation Golf Croquet would be £1.50 for next year.

Eileen has been in contact with a number of hotels for the Spring Luncheon. The committee were in favour of The Victoria Hotel on Tuesday 24th March 1998; the price of £14.50 would include house wine and the service charge. Details, including the choice of two menus, would be circulated with the Spring programme in January. Gwen reported that the income for the past month was £68.12 This together with the previous balance was £86.34 from which £50 was transferred to the Treasurer, leaving a balance of £25.89

Any Other Business:

1 A fun, fund raising event ^E 'Sparkling Golf Croquet', was suggested for the evening of Saturday 18th July, to be held indoors if wet! Further details later.

2. The date for the barbecue was arranged for Friday 19th June.

3. Sue would be meeting with Lorna Lavender, (Adult Education), towards the beginning of January, to discuss their advertising the 1998 croquet season, for potential new members.

4. Mary had details of a training video produced in New Zealand at an inclusive cost of £25. It was decided that we would buy a copy.

5. The preliminary date for meeting with potential new members would be Saturday 28th February; and the date for existing members to meet them on completion of training would be Tuesday 5th May from 6.00 p.m. Sue will inform the coaches of these dates.

Date of Next Meeting: MONDAY 5th January at 9.30 a.m. at Gwen's

house. Future meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month unless specifically changed.



SMR

9.12.97

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on Tuesday January 5th January 1998

Present: J. Coombs, E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, O. Ragg, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: None

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: The date for the Barbecue clashed with a National Trust date, so was changed to June 26th.

Secretary's Report: Sue had had a notice from the C.A. regarding hosting Tournaments in 1999. It was decided to offer for the President's Cup, closed event, Sept 9 12 1999.

Shaun Carter requested that articles for the SWAN magazine be sent as soon as possible.

Chairman's Report: No recent meeting of the Management Committee.

Members' Reports:

Vera clarified the names for the players for the league games Jonathan said that the number indication boards for lawns 1 and 3 needed replacing. Information was now available for contract grounds care which was put to the committee; a price was given for general maintenance using the club equipment. This was proposed by Jonathan and seconded by Tony, and agreed by the committee; and would be taken to the next meeting of the Management Committee. An immediate decision is required so as to start work on the croquet lawns at the beginning of February. It was stressed that fragmentation of the club sections was not to be pursued.

Gwen had £48.40 in the petty cash.

Eileen confirmed information about the Spring lunch, and would find someone to distribute tickets and collect the money. Sue to be informed as soon as feasible please; and details will go into the Spring Newsletter.

Mary had sent for the training video. She had received the information from Elaine pertaining to the internal tournaments. Mary had received adverse comments re the seating arrangements at the Christmas Dinner. She or Vera will mention this to Hugh Read nearer November/December if there is to be a dinner at the end of this year.

Any Other Business:

1. A discussion took place about the Club Afternoons; a revised format was decided on for this summer.
2. Tony would endeavour to complete a training booklet for potential new members. It was decided that the conventional booklets would be ordered if this was not ready by the next meeting.

Sue had tried unsuccessfully to contact John Hatherley re Training sessions during the spring.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd February at 9.30 a.m. (at Gwen's).



SMR

5.1.98

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd February 1998.

Present: Eileen Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: J. Coombs, O. Raqq.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: The coaching video has arrived; it is a simple and clear demonstration of how to play various strokes.

Secretary's Report: SUE had received leaflets advertising the forthcoming coaching, from Laura Lavender. She had heard from Gwen Hewitt and George Sisum that neither would be renewing their membership this year.

Chairman's Report: TONY had attended a recent meeting:

The cricket section had hoped to organise a 'Pop concert' in the summer, but this will not now take place. However, approval has been given for a Jazz evening at the club on July 3rd. Honorary social membership was extended to Eric Kitchener and Linda, in appreciation of his work for the club.

To date £2,800 had been donated to the club appeal.

A club coffee morning will be held on Monday 25th May. The usual stalls will be arranged and members will be asked to participate.

The ACER lawn contractors have started work on the croquet lawns. The house in Temple Street is to be let for a 6 month short term tenancy.

A request has been received from the Bridge Club for play every Wednesday throughout the summer. Some objections were raised, but it was to be tried despite interruptions from sports players.

Members' Reports:

EILEEN would speak with David Clarke about informing the Victoria Hotel re menus and numbers for the Spring Lunch.

GWEN has publicised the meeting for the potential new members. The income over the past month is encouraging and £60 has been passed to the treasurer. Gwen has some laws books for sale. MARY noted that there was no reduction for local players in the Open tournaments, as happens in some clubs. She has compiled the list of internal tournaments in readiness for distribution next month.

VERA has had some applications for the Open tournaments, the 'draw' to take place at the end of March.

JONATHAN reported that the ACER contractors would commence work this month.

Any Other Business:

1. Discussion took place about the provision of lunches on internal tournament days; Sue will write to Steven Street with the dates.

2. Arrangements for the meeting on February 28th were finalised; Jonathan to please bring some club mallets, balls and the demonstration hoop, and Eileen will arrange for refreshments and some helpers. The meeting to start at 10.00 a.m.

3. Tony, Jonathan and Roger Packe are looking into ways of composting grass cuttings. At present it costs £1,000 to have grass taken away.

4. Gwen asks for contributions to the SWAN magazine to be forwarded to Shaun Carter as soon as possible please.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd March at 9.30 a.m. (at G's). of 3rd March 1998.



Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd March 1998.

Present: J. Coombs, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, S. Rogers, G. Sims,

Apologies: E. Cox, O. Ragg, M. Smith.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: A letter had been sent to Steven Street with reference to lunches on days of Internal Tournaments.

Secretary's Report:

SUE reported that 25 people had shown positive interest in the coaching for new members, 21 of whom had attended the meeting on Saturday 28th February.

Chairman's Report: TONY gave a summary of the recent meeting. A sub-committee has been formed to promote the request for a lottery grant. A plan has to be put forward for new schemes within each section. Richard Clark has agreed to assist the club using his administrative expertise.

Discussion had taken place regarding fees from visiting teams and some subscriptions having not been paid over the previous year. The Burns Night supper profit was £286 For club meals Elaine Hope can provide set menus at a given price which would include staff wages.

The bins for composting grass cuttings have been purchased and positioned as appropriate.

Members' Reports:

GWEN has passed £321 to the Treasurer, mainly from whist, table-tennis, and from potential new players (books and for coaching). The first booking sheets will be put up this week.

JONATHAN reported that the contractors have treated and cut the lawns; they will be marked-out by the 28th March in readiness for playing. Lawn 2 will be bisected during April and May. One of the rollers has been taken. It was suggested that all machinery be marked with the club name and a note made of the serial numbers.

VERA has a list of Croquet Clubs on the internet, our entry needs updating!

The Federation matches are to be played using Wharrad turns, Vera suggests a time of practice to enable players to be au fait with the system.

The dinner during the June Tournament week will probably be on the Wednesday, at a cost of £10 each. Further details later.

Any Other Business:

1. Two new books are to be purchased: Croquet Tactics Skills 1+2, and 3. from the C.A. at a cost of £23.50 each.

2. The Club Afternoon format was again discussed after earlier constructive comments had been received from John Hatherley and others. One Ball, and Association Croquet would be as arranged games between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on all lawns, and Golf Croquet from 4 p.m. on lawns 2, 3, & 4. Monday mornings would be available for individual bookings.

3. The AGM will be on Saturday 24th October at 11.00 a.m.

4. Club Plan for Lottery grant a short brain-storming session: levelling of lawns 3 & 4; toilet block; sprinkler system; coaching is given; age profile of croquet section, (we cater for all ages); plan not to have started prior to grant request; access for disabled to pavilion; artificial surface for tennis courts may be used for winter croquet; lockers needed in changing rooms; improve facilities of lawn 3 pavilion, to enlarge and provide covered area overlooking lawn 2. Planning permission would probably be needed.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 7th April at 9.30 a.m.



SMR
4.3.98

Minutes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday of 7th April 1998.

Present: E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, O. Ragg, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: J. Coombs.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising:

Stephen Street had replied to the letter regarding lunches and teas for Internal Tournament days, and had agreed this with Elaine Hope.

Secretary' s Report: SUE reported that the 'books' to be purchased were Videos, this was a printing omission in the Gazette. The videos can be hired at £5 each from the C.A.

Chairman' s Report: Tony reported from the Finance and General Purposes committee: a Club reserve account has been opened for money from the rental from the house in Temple Street, gifts etc.

Members' Reports:

VERA will ask Don Waterhouse to act as referee at the June Tournament; for information re the S.W. Golf Croquet finals; and re Wharrad turns to be used at S.W. Federation matches. A provisional date has been set aside for practising Wharrad turns, (Sat 25th April), and Vera will put up a notice to inform the people involved as soon as the date is confirmed.

Vera will act as Manager for the June Tournament; entry fees of £554 have been passed to the Treasurer.

MARY has had some entries for the Internal Tournaments; there are some dates that she is unable to attend, she will do the organisation and a committee member will manage the day: Tony to do May 2nd, Vera the weekend of July 4/5, and Sue the weekend of July 11/12.

OLGA says the new time for Golf Croquet on Monday afternoons will probably suit most players.

GWEN has a petty cash balance of £69.32; Over the past 6 months £174.72 from Table-Tennis and £60.90 from Whist has been passed to the Treasurer.

EILEEN confirmed with the meeting that there would not be tea provided at Club Afternoons; teas would be available if there was cricket. When necessary, (e.g. at matches) helpers would be requested for croquet teas.

Any Other Business:

1. No further information has been received regarding ideas for lottery funding.
2. It was suggested that after committee meetings we could play One Ball, etc. if we like. A lawn will be reserved.
3. Discussion took place about the Sparkling Golf Croquet evening:
Tony will provide the wine, food and the bar have been requested, Eileen will arrange for tickets, so as to have an indication of numbers. Participants to wear 'whites' preferably. Tickets £5.
4. Re-arrange the date of the AGM at the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th May at 9.30 a.m.

SMR
7.4.98



Minutes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th May 1998.

Present: J. Coombs, E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, O. Ragg, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: None

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: None

Secretary's Report: SUE had had notification from the C.A. that we would not be hosting C.A. Tournaments in 1999.

It has been brought to our attention that there are a few mistakes on the honours boards. Tony will follow this up.

Chairman's Report: The Club waste contractors will be changed at the end of July, to a more efficient organisation. Donations to the Club appeal have so far reached £4000.

Post-cricket 'socialising' will possibly clash with our arranged barbecue; their plans had not been entered in the diary! A lottery sub-committee has been formed.

Members' Reports:

VERA has the organisation of the June tournament in hand; there will be 13 visitors and 11 members. John Hatherley, Phil and Iris Dwerryhouse and Ted Owen have agreed to act as referees.

Don Waterhouse has resigned from the C.A. but will be prepared to play in the SW Fed matches. Vera has received revised rules for the SW Fed matches.

A date is still to be set for the visit of Paul Campion (CA Sec). EILEEN will organise coffee in June, and agreed that Tony will provide flasks for hot water. She will request help as needed for teas, and will be asking members to make cakes etc.

There will only be sandwiches provided for lunch on this Saturday (9th); cricket teas will be available in the afternoon.

JONATHAN is in regular contact with the ground contractors, and is advising them with regard to the requirements of the croquet lawns. New secondary clips have been purchased.

In accessing the lawns, we are asked not to walk past spectators whilst cricket is in progress, but to use the side gate. Jonathan has put up a notice in the mallet room.

GWEN has passed £50 to the Treasurer, and £248 for internal tournament fees also. There is a balance of £18.82 in petty cash. OLGA reported that the Golf Croquet has had a slow, wet start to the season. She is trying a new way of sorting the order of play. MARY has finalised the arrangements for the Dorothy Toyne 14-point game for Saturday 9th May. This will commence at 9.00 a.m. and there will be double banking.

55 members have entered for the various tournaments and the format of blocks will be published shortly. Mary mentioned that for next year it would be better to have at least 4 weeks between receipt of entries and the first match to allow for organisation.

Any Other Business:

1. Discussion took place about meeting the new members at 6 p.m.
2. The AGM will be on Thursday 22nd October, at 6.00 p.m. to be followed by an evening meal and a list and details will be published nearer the time.

3. A five-year development plan for lottery grant request has to be produced. Jonathan will be in contact with Gwyneth and Iris about the earlier years of the Croquet section.

4. The white bench on lawn 3 is in need of repair and painting. It was suggested that Eric Horne be approached, by Jonathan, to do this for us.

5. A rota was drawn up for club afternoons; It was suggested that Jonathan put up a list for volunteers to keep the huts clean and tidy.

6. The 'sparkling wine' evening will be open to all Club members.

7. The Club coffee morning will be on Monday 25th May, 10-12. Esme and Ted will be looking after the plants, and Betty Moores the cake stall.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 2nd June, at 9.30 a.m.



SMR

6.5.98

Minutes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd June 1998.

Present: E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, O. Ragg, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: J. Coombs

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: Eric Horne has kindly agreed to re-furbish the white seat from lawn 3, probably at the end of the summer. The secondary clips obtained earlier in the year have now been replaced by better ones. It was queried as to whether we had had a reimbursement for the unsatisfactory ones?

The huts are in need of cleaning, there were only three volunteer names on the list.

Secretary's Report: SUE had received comments re the increase in price of the club teas, sandwiches, etc.; many people found this was too much. Discussion ensued and Tony would talk to Stephen Street about it.

It was also mentioned that Joan Pearce was extremely ill, in the local hospital. She would appreciate visitors.

Chairman's Report:

The treasurer reported that there was a deficit of £500 because the Hockey section's subscription structure was in need of alteration. It is not now possible to regain the money not paid. In-house repairs and decorating are being carried out, including the mallet room windows a letter of appreciation will be given to John Palmer.

John Harbud has resigned from the Club Trustees because of ill health; he has been replaced by Richard Clark.

Members' Reports:

EILEEN has the refreshment arrangements in hand for the Open Week; to include coffee, lunch and teas. A rota is being prepared for helpers; and cakes would also be appreciated.

The dinner menu for the Wednesday will be supplied by Elaine Hope later this week.

Discussion took place about the Federation matches, we will provide teas if there is no cricket, otherwise the cost will be £2.50 each.

GWEN has had some money from the library, visitors and match fees; there is a balance of £31.22 in the petty cash. There are lawn markers for sale at 5p each.

OLGA has arranged the players for the Golf Croquet match against Budleigh Salterton to take place on Tuesday 16th June. The return match will be at BS in September. She is asking for helpers for teas etc. The SW Fed. Golf Croquet qualifying round will be played on Saturday 20th June, the list for participants is on the notice board, for singles and doubles, at £1.50 each. There are no handicap restrictions. Help will be required for the organisation - Olga to ask Sheila Adams or Elaine Woodward.

VERA has the arrangements for the Open Week in hand. Tony will present the prizes, and Gwen will write a statement for the local paper.

MARY stated that she thought that the Semi-finals and Finals of the (Saturday) one day tournaments should be played on the Sunday. *To be discussed by the next committee for 1999. *

The finals for this year's Dorothy Toye Cup would be played on Wednesday (tomorrow) at 1.00 p.m.

Arrangements are in hand for the Egyptian tournament on 6.6.98

Any Other Business:

1. The barbecue this year would be on a more informal basis, with no seating arrangements. Food could be eaten outside if appropriate. Eileen would put up a notice asking for food and other help. During the afternoon it was hoped to have some 'fun games'. Sheila Blenkinsop has the tickets at £7 each (same price as last year).

2. There is to be a club jazz evening on Friday 3rd July. Tickets available from Sue, at £6 each.

3. The sparkling wine evening is open to all club members. Elaine Hope will prepare the food - Eileen will discuss with her. Tickets available from Eileen, at E 5 each.

4. Jonathan and Roger Packe had a discussion with the ground contractors yesterday. There have been complaints re the standard of their work, as well as the croquet corner flags and pegs not being replaced after mowing. White lines are too thick and wavy. Some of the problems stem from the fact that junior staff are doing the work without supervision. To be on our agenda again in September.

5. Planning permission needs to be approved for the proposed renovations to the lawn 3 hut and the pavilion. These to be applied for separately before a lottery grant application is submitted. The proposals will then be put to the members at our AGM as their approval is required.

6. Tony Hope is to be asked to raise the flag during next week. The club flag has very recently been taken. Tony has agreed to put up the Union Jack.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th 1998 at 9.30 a.m.



SMR

3.6.98

Minutes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 1998.

Present: A. Dustan-Smith, E. Cox, V. Henderson, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: J. Coombs O. Ragg,

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: The secondary clips ordered earlier in the year had been returned to the C.A., no charge had been made.

The huts will be cleaned during July by Les and Barbara Toye, and by Doreen O'Hara in August.

Secretary's Report: SUE informed the meeting that Olga, Helen Cox and Len Sage had attended the funeral of Joan Pearce on 23rd June. Charles Sisum had officially resigned from the Croquet section.

Chairman's Report: No report. Jonathan had attended the last meeting.

Members' Reports:

MARY said the internal tournaments were going well. (Comment's from participants about the Doubles Tournament' suggested that a 3- hour game would be better. The next committee would make a decision). She will ask non-participants of the Shot Game to man each station. Mary had received a 'fun pack' from Jersey, £25 will be paid.

GWEN had received £32.50 from Olga from the SW Golf Croquet on June 20th. £6 sent to Don Waterhouse for entry for the finals on September 20th. £ 15 received from visitors; Tea/ coffee at the Open week raised £82.90. She has given £100 to the treasurer and has a balance of £33.72

VERA has received a copy of the report from the Open week.

SW Fed games are continuing as scheduled.

David Purdon suggests we do team coaching.

Vera informed us that the sports shop at the top of High Street will give a 10% discount on purchases of £20 and above.

OLGA sent information that the Golf Croquet against Budleigh Salterton had resulted in B.S. winning by four games.

She had sent Joan Pearce's mallet and cover, for either club use or to be sold. Following discussion, it was decided to have the mallet for club use, and sell the cover.

Olga reported that the Golf croquet sessions are well attended and new members are playing.

EILEEN has sold 46 tickets for the sparkling wine evening (this Saturday). Snacks will be prepared by Elaine Hope at a cost of £2 per person. Tony has the wine, and requests ice to be brought on Saturday if possible.

Any Other Business:

1. Nominations are needed for the next committee; the list will be available from the beginning of September. Various names were mentioned and to be followed up; Tony will ask Clifford Walker re the chairmanship. Tony, Vera and Sue will have served on the committee for three years, and Eileen (and ?Mary) do not wish to stand again for next year.

2. Lottery plans. Tony has contacted Derek Trotman, development officer at the C.A. for advice and discussion. To be discussed at the next committee meeting if we have further plans etc.
3. Problems continue to be had with the grounds. Strimming during matches was mentioned as being disturbing.
4. The Selectors weekend (Sept 11 - 13) needs planning. Sue had spoken with Bill Arliss last week who advised that we would not need to arrange for referees but only a manager, and accommodation lists. Sue will contact Paul Campion for further details. A request has already been made for Club refreshments and meals.
5. New Open week arrangements were discussed following comments that visitors did not have sufficient games. Information for the fixtures book for 1999 will be requested toward the beginning of September, to be submitted by mid-October.
6. Folk Festival week - the cricket outfield will be used for car parking. To keep people off the lawns chains are to be requested and Tony suggests that the lawns should be used throughout the week. It was queried as to what times the car parking would be available? could club members have free parking? do the public have use of club facilities? A lock was requested for the mallet room / ladies changing room for use for this week.
7. There would be a club coffee morning on Monday 31st August. The croquet section had been asked to provide a cake stall. (Sue will ask Betty Moores). We have also been asked if we would provide some fun games - to be discussed at the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 11th August at 9.30



SMR

14. 7. 98

Minutes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 11th August 1998.

Present: E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, O. Ragg, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: J. Coombs

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising:

The sparkling wine/ golf croquet evening had been a great success with almost 60 people present. If it is to be held another year it was suggested that the food could be prepared by members. Tony will contact Graham Dodd with regard to the profit made at this evening and also from the barbecue.

Tony had spoken with Derek Trotman and David Magee about the lottery proposals and will keep us informed of progress. Following a request for 'fun games' at the coffee morning on August 31st, it was decided that we would not arrange this.

Sue is still waiting to hear details of participants for the Selectors' weekend, from Paul Campion, CA.

Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.

Chairman's Report: The Social committee has distributed leaflets regarding activities until the end of the year. There are some in the mallet room for those who want a copy.

Members' Reports:

VERA gave the recent results of the SW Fed matches, which are on the notice board in the mallet room. The 1999 June tournament was briefly discussed, and Vera will prepare the wording for the Fixtures Book, details of which should be received next month.

EILEEN continues to organise the catering etc. Lunch will be available during the Golf Croquet on Tuesday 25th August, but not on Wednesday 26th. Coffees will again be arranged for the weekends of Sept 5/6 and 11-13.

GWEN has received money from visitors, library etc, and has a current balance of £93.02 The excellent results from last week's tournament at Budleigh Salterton will be forwarded to the local paper.

OLGA is waiting to hear the date of the return Golf Croquet match with Budleigh Salterton. Mary is arranging the format for the club golf croquet at the end of August.

MARY asked if there was an updated CA directory - it should be on the shelf beneath the booking sheets. Also she asked who had seen the training video purchased earlier in the year when located, please it return to Mary. It was suggested that all new members receive a copy of the club tournament dates with the other information they receive when they join.

JONATHAN sent information that the lawns should not be used on September 4th or 10th because of preparation needed before the weekend's events. Discussion has been taking place re the ground maintenance for next year: the cricket field will be cared for separately, and the rest will be contracted out - (Noel is to put in a bid to do this work). The lawns will gradually be taken out of commission from the end of September, and there will be no winter lawn. Jonathan is not able to be on the croquet committee next year, but will remain on the grounds committee.

Any Other Business:

1. Tony has been approached by a Mr Cartwright (estate agent) who is arranging for golf croquet to be played by a small group of estate agents/ farmers. It was agreed that they can have the use of two lawns for a session for £20. Tony will inform Sue or Gwen when this is arranged.
2. Tony will organise the club afternoon on Monday 24th August.
3. It was noted that some members never use the mallet room, and so are unaware of the croquet activities because they do not read the information provided.
4. Table tennis will start on Wednesday 21st October, 10 12, all welcome.
5. Whist afternoons will start on Tuesday 20th October, 2 all past and present croquet members (and spouses) welcome.
6. A volunteer is requested to keep the huts clean in September.
7. A request had been made for the SWFed 'B' league players to play an 18 point game instead of a 14 point game. The committee agreed that this should be taken to the SWFed AGM in the autumn. It was proposed last year but was not accepted. Sue will contact David Magee.

Date of Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER at 9.30 a.m.



SMR

11.8.98

Minutes Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd September 1998.

Present: J. Coombs, E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smith, V. Henderson, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: O. Ragg,

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising:

The training video has been returned to the mallet room.

Secretary's Report:

SUE has received a list of names of entrants for the Selectors Weekend, to be managed by Kevin Carter.

A letter has been sent to David Magee (SW Federation secretary) in advance of the SW AGM, re the proposal that B League players play an 18 point game. This item had been discussed last year.

Chairman's Report: A breakdown of intended future finance is required by the treasurer. Tony will produce a budget for the croquet section for both short and long term proposed expenditure which will include replacement balls, painting, re-seeding etc.

Members' Reports:

VERA will be seeing Ron Selmes at the weekend re the wording for the June tournament, to be placed in the 1999 fixture book. The SW Intermediate team semi-final will be Sidmouth v Nail sea at Budleigh on Sunday 6th 1998. The finals will take place on October 4th, the venue to be arranged.

The Handicap weekend tournament, Sept 5-6, will be managed by John Toye and Vera.

MARY has been asked to arrange the players for the Golf Croquet match against Budleigh to be held on Tuesday 22nd September, in lieu of Olga.

GWEN has forwarded £100 to the treasurer; this includes £28.50 from visitors using the lawns. Gwen will tabulate the credit and debit for the year, for our information for the next meeting.

EILEEN has arranged for refreshments for the weekend tournament. She has confirmed with Elaine Hope that lunch/ tea is also in hand for the following weekend; Mary will assist with the morning coffee.

Eileen is consulting with Elaine re the meal to follow the AGM and will display a notice in the mallet room when she has details.

JONATHAN has arranged that the lawns will be closed one each week from Sept 13th; there will be no further play after 5th October. He has spoken with the contractors re the necessary lawn treatment; they will continue until their contract ends at the end of January.

Much discussion took place about the grounds and proposed contracts for next year.

Jonathan has replaced some of the corner flags on the lawns.

Any Other Business:

1. Tony produced a plan for the development of the facilities on lawn 3, which will be presented to the members at the AGM. A vote will be requested so that the work

may be done with the support of members, either with the help of a lottery grant or by our own fund raising. Information and costing will be available for all to see before the AGM., and members are encouraged to attend.

2. Once again players on lawn 1 have been subjected to disturbance by cricket balls. It is requested that when there is a tournament entered in the club diary, that the wicket is further down the field please?
3. The Intermediate grade players request coaching for them next year please.
4. The agenda for the AGM was clarified. Tony and Sue would approach nominated people to present the trophies, and to give a votes of thanks. The future committee nominations were discussed.
5. The group of estate agents etc who wish to hire two lawns, have not yet contacted re a date. They have been given Gwen's and Sue's phone numbers.
6. The club mallets will be sorted out during the autumn. It is proposed that members remove their mallets from the lawn 3 hut by the end of the season.
7. A chain is to be put along the length of lawn 1 to deter the general public from going onto the lawn.
8. Members of the committee were unanimous in voicing their concern that Derek Middleton and his girl-friend are using the room upstairs in the main pavilion as their living quarters (sometimes hanging towels out of the window).

As this is not a designated flat is there insurance cover? also are either of them paying rent?

Please would Tony take this to the management committee/ trustees.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th October at 9.30 a.m.



SMR

3.9.98

Minutes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday of 6th October 1998.

Present: J. Coombs, E. Cox, A. Dustan-Smithf, V. Henderson, O. Ragg, S. Rogers, G. Sims, M. Smith.

Apologies: None

Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: None

Secretary's Report:

SUE had received a cheque from the C.A. for £192 for lawn and ball hire for the Selector's weekend.

The A.G.M. of the C.A. will be held on Saturday 17th October. The club has been left a legacy of £5,000 from Joan Pearce, who died in June.

Visitors had used lawn 4, by prior arrangement, from 2 - 7 p.m. on Saturday 26th Sept. and welcomed by Mary. As yet no payment has been received. Tony will follow this up.

Chairman's Report:

GWEN attended the last meeting:

Apologies have been received from the cricketers regarding the cricket balls on the lawns, especially during tournaments. Diary entries for our tournaments are not always checked before the wicket is prepared.

Hockey matches will be played more frequently, starting at 2 p.m. (AstroTurf is not being used so much.)

There will be no more coffee mornings arranged by the Friends, after the Spring Bank Holiday 1999. Support from some sections has been minimal.

Bar takings are up. No wage increase for Elaine Hope at this time.

A jazz evening has been arranged for July 2nd 1999; the Sunset Stompers have been booked.

There will be a French evening in November, the date to be announced later.

The accommodation upstairs should be vacated by the end of this Week.

Members' Reports:

JONATHAN had had a meeting with Roger Packe re the grounds. It was decided that we should employ a full-time groundsman; an enquiry had been received from Terry Riding, self-employed, from Burton-on-Trent, who will be moving down to this area with his wife. He will commence when the current contract of Acer has finished.

The laser machine currently at Budleigh Salterton will be used on our lawns as soon as it can be arranged, to produce a contour map. Cost - £30 to the C.A.

All lawns will be closed as from this Thursday.

MARY co-ordinated the Golf Croquet against Budleigh Salterton on September 22nd, in Olga's absence. Sidmouth won by one point, making the games level for this year.

She had received a letter from Rotary (for the N.T.) offering a pitch, 12 X 15, on the Ham on June 5th. It was proposed that we could use it in the afternoon (£15), to promote croquet. Mary would reply.

Mary queried if there would be an Inter-Club tournament in 1999, but the travel involved would be prohibitive to most members. There was also a request for our club finals to be later; to be arranged around the first weekend in September.

GWEN had a financial balance of £43.36 Over the past year almost £1000 has been passed to the treasurer. The amounts for the barbecue and sparkling wine evenings have not been added to this. Included are: Training fees/books £321, Internal tournaments £337.70, Visitors £83.50 (£20 to come), Table tennis £194.29, Whist £49.60.

VERA has arranged with Ron Selmes about the changed format for the June Tournament, - June 7-12. John Toye will manage the September Tournament, dates changed to Sept 18/19. This information has been requested by Graham Gale (for fixtures book) and will be sent on Wednesday, (unless Sue is notified this evening). The cups for the June tournament will need to be sorted.

An extra cup is in safe-keeping with Gwyneth Dart.

John Toye had been thanked for his management of the September weekend.

EILEEN is having to alter the menu choice for October 22nd, as there is only a choice of two. She will contact those who need to change. The money will be collected on the evening. There is a limit of 50 places. Husbands/wives of members will need to wait until all members have had a chance to put their names on the list.

Any Other Business:

1. It was decided to ask John Toye and David Purdon if they could arrange some training, ?April 10/11, for the intermediate players 2. John Hatherley to be asked to do general training/ revision during the spring, for all.
2. Sue would ask Gwyneth and/or Iris if there was a croquet section constitution.
3. The South West Federation A.G. M. is to be held on Sunday 1st November. Gwen and Sue would attend as voting members; other members to let Sue know by October 14th if they wish to attend.
5. Committee members are asked to be at the pavilion by 5.30 p.m. prior to our A.G.M. in order to get the room ready. Various aspects for the A.G. M. were discussed.
6. A suggestion was made that we have a collection at the A.G.M. to give to Elaine Hope after the meal, in recognition of her help during the year. All were in agreement.
7. Arrangements were discussed for the table tennis and whist commencing later this month. Eileen will ensure we have biscuits! and coffee etc, Olga will provide milk, and prizes for the whist in October (only). Teas at the whist will be done by Mary Hardman and Sheila Blenkinsop.
8. Tony thanked all committee members for their work over the past year.

Date of Next Meeting: NO DATE ARRANGED. The new committee will meet immediately after the A.G. M. to decide on a date for their first meeting.

S.M.S.

SMR

7.10.98

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CROQUET SECTION

HELD ON THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER 1998 AT 6.00 P.M. IN THE PAVILION

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the 60 members present, the Club President, the Club Chairman and Mr and Mrs Brian Hanson.

Apologies for absence were received from Marjorie Barlow, Wendy Carter, Lyn Coombs, Arnold Cox, Josie Davies, Ian Davis, Michael Davis, John Hatherley, Gabby Macadam, Hugh and Ingrid Read, Dorothy Rotas, Hazel Ruberry, Les and Barbara Toye.

The Chairman reminded members that the minutes of the AGM held on 25th October 1997 had been on the notice board for 6 weeks from September 2nd 1998 and asked that they be taken as read. The minutes were approved and signed.

The Committee's report was read by the Secretary, outlining the activities over the past year. Adoption of the report was proposed by Elaine Woodward, seconded by David Clarke, and unanimously approved.

A vote of thanks to the Committee was proposed by Katherine Holroyde and endorsed by the meeting.

The Chairman thanked Katherine Holroyde for her remarks, and expressed his own thanks to the members of the committee who were not standing for re-election: Jonathan Coombs, Eileen Cox, Vera Henderson, Olga Ragg and Sue Rogers.

He mentioned that a new groundsman had been approved to start work next year, and that the present contractors would complete their agreed time.

The Chairman thanked John Hatherley and the coaches for their work over the year.

He also mentioned the success of the Barbeque and the Sparkling Wine evenings, and hoped we would have similar events in 1999.

The South West Federation AGM will be held on Sunday 1st November at The Lansdown Club, Bath. The continuation of the use of Wharrad turns will be discussed; members involved voted by 9:6 to continue at least for next year.

The Club Development Plan was put forward, with plans being on display for the alterations proposed for the main pavilion and for the hut on lawn 3. The reasons for levelling lawns 3 and 4 were explained by Brian Smith, who with help, had used a Laser Theodolite, on loan from the Croquet Association (cost of loan £30), to ascertain present levels.

It is not yet possible to have accurate estimates for the work, but it is hoped a grant would be in the region of £150, 000.

After discussion members were asked to vote for:

1. support to apply for a lottery grant almost all present voted to apply.
2. if the lottery grant is turned down, do we go ahead with the hut alterations, (subject to planning permission etc)? minimum cost approx. £25,000 the majority were in agreement.
3. if the lottery grant is turned down, do we go ahead with the levelling of the lawns? minimum cost approx. £10, 000 the majority were in agreement.

In view of the affirmative vote, members should be aware that this represented a mandate for the plans to be carried out, with fund raising as a priority.

Roger Packe, Club Chairman, gave a brief outline about the way club finances were used, approximately £8, 000 is spent on pavilion running costs. He was pleased to see our section as a cohesive and supportive group.

Election of the Committee:

As there were two nominations for the post of Chairman, a vote was necessary. Gwen Sims was confirmed as Chairman after a count. No nomination had been received for secretary. The nominations confirmed for the committee were Sheila Adams, Val Callingham, Betty Hills, Howard Quarrell, Mary Smith and Elaine Woodward. Gabby Macadam had previously given her agreement and was co-opted as an eighth member.

Any Other Business:

1. On behalf of all new members, Howard Quarrell thanked John Hatherley and the coaches for their teaching and encouragement throughout the year.
2. Peggy Webber asked if it was feasible to have a Golf Croquet sub-committee, instead of one person being responsible for the sessions three times a week. The Chairman replied that this was not an Issue at present and if necessary responsibility could be delegated.
3. Larry Hooper hoped that more people would participate in the winter activities, e.g. whist and table-tennis.
4. John Brightmore requested that the ladder competition takes place in 1999.
5. Cecilia Clarke requested that duplicate notices are put in the hut on lawn 3, as some people do not go to the mallet room.

After a number of notices, the Chairman invited Brian Hanson to present the trophies. As Club Membership Secretary he is very involved with the continued success of the club.

After the presentations Esme Owen thanked Brian Hanson, and reminded us that he was very often to be found in the club or working on our behalf.

Gwen Sims, the newly elected Chairman, closed the meeting.

Sims
21. 10. 99.
M. Sim

SMR

23.10.98

CROQUET SECTION REPORT 1998.

As you will remember, 1997 was the centenary year of the Croquet Association; some of our records about Humphrey Hicks as well as his medals and two mallets, that are normally on display, were sent to the exhibition at the Croquet Museum in Wimbledon. The exhibition proved a great success with visitors, (from around the world), that it has been extended until the spring of 1999, when our artefacts will eventually be returned to us.

1997 ended with a Christmas dinner at the Belmont Hotel.

Table tennis and whist were played throughout the winter months and again proved very popular; we were able to give £249.89 to the club.

During the spring we had some indoor teaching and a croquet quiz.

Thank you to those who organised the sessions.

Towards the end of March, we enjoyed a well-attended Spring Lunch at the Victoria Hotel, and at the end of the following week the lawns were open for the first croquet games of the year.

A wet and cold April tested the stamina of our new members and the coaches! and in May we welcomed 14 new members; whose croquet improved more quickly than the weather. Training fees and the sale of relevant books amounted to £321.

A number of members discontinued playing croquet this year.

Sadly, one of our regular golf croquet players died in June. Joan Pearce had been a member from 1991, and her illness and subsequent death was a shock to all who knew her. Joan left a legacy of £5000 to the club.

Our membership currently stands at 102 full members and 5 country members.

As usual the internal tournaments were well subscribed and all entrants had a busy time fitting in their games.

There have been many personal achievements this year, not all are given public recognition. There are some that the club will know about: Brian Smith passed his Referee exam; Tony Dustan-Smith, Vera Henderson and Brian Smith passed their Grade 1 coaching; Bronze awards were won by Sheila Blenkinsop and Paul Whittall in May, and by Ted Owen in September

Silver awards were won by Paul Whittall in May, Tony Dustan-Smith in July and Richard Clarke in September. Paul gained his Bronze and Silver awards in consecutive matches on the same day in May. A record achievement!

Our Open tournaments in June and September were enjoyed by all participants. In June, Paul Whittall won the Fort field Cup, and the winners in September were Brian Smith and Vera Henderson, in their respective blocks.

There were some excellent results in some of the away matches especially at Budleigh Salterton, they must be wishing we did not enter their tournaments! In May the Egyptian was won by Les Toye, with the runner-up Paul Whittall; in July Ted and Esme Owen won their doubles at the Veterans' week; in the August tournament Tony Dustan-Smith was the winner in the 'B' block and Rowland Henderson was the runner-up in the 'C' block; the 'H' block winner was Paul Whittall and the runner-up Graham Dodd. The class winner was Paul Whittall and the runner-up was Graham Dodd.

The doubles was won by Graham Dodd and his partner; the One-ball was won by Les Toye and the One-ball Advanced by Brian Smith.

Brian Smith also won the Golf Croquet.

The award for the most improved player of the week was given to Paul Whitt all.

Also in August, at Parkstone, Rowland Henderson won the singles in his class, and Rowland and Vera Henderson won the doubles.

The South West Federation teams had varied success again this year; the Federation league teams played 5 and won 2 games; the intermediate teams played and won 3 games. They then went on to play in the semi-finals against Nailsea but lost 2 games to 5. The 'B' league played 4 and won 2 games.

The South West Golf Croquet event was well-supported here in June but we did not have success at the finals played at Nailsea in September.

The friendly' Golf Croquet between Sidmouth and Budleigh Salterton had an exciting conclusion: the match at Sidmouth was won by the visitors, but Sidmouth won the match at Budleigh, the games were equal but we won by one point! One match each was a fitting end to their season.

We were honoured to have been chosen to host 'The Selector's Weekend' in September, for advanced players. The 16 players were a delight to watch during the three days. With one small hiccup the weather was good, and the hospitality was enjoyed by players and spectators alike.

As well as our barbecue this year, we spent a summer evening playing Golf Croquet and enjoying refreshments with Sparkling Wine. Both events were well attended.

Discounting these two events, almost £1000 has been raised by our section, for club funds during the year.

The committee would like to thank all who have helped with the ongoing work of the croquet section, for all who volunteer, and for those who quietly get on with things that need attention.

SMR...10/98

CROQUET ANNUAL REPORT 1998

1998 has been a good, year for the croquet section.

We have over 100 members, many of whom have played in internal and external competitions. All competitors would say they had had a good game regardless of winning, but congratulations are due to many who have won games and awards.

Three members gained their Bronze awards and three their Silver awards. A notable success was the award of a Bronze and Silver to the same player in consecutive games - a rare double.

Our League Tournaments were played at Sidmouth and other venues in the South West, and were of varying success. The intermediate team were semi-finalists, but lost to the team from Nailsea.

Congratulations, too for the many personal achievements that were made by non-competitors.

Fourteen new members joined the croquet section this year, their initial lessons in April-May were affected by wet and cold conditions, but they and the coaches proved

to have stamina informal coaching has been available to players throughout the season.

We were honoured to have been chosen by the Croquet Association to host one of their prestigious events, The Selectors Weekend in September. We were treated to delightful examples of tactics and expertise by advanced level players, who appreciated their visit to Sidmouth. Hospitality was enjoyed by spectators and visitors alike.

The lawns are now receiving some treatment so as to enable them to be ready for the start of the next playing season. Prospective new players are invited to make contact early next year in order to commence training in April.

Throughout the year the croquet section has a variety of events, some open to the whole club, to help with the club, funds. This year well over £1000 was raised.

Support received from all members is appreciated by the committee, all of whom work hard for the successful running of

Sue Rogers,

Hon. Secretary Croquet Section.

CLUB TOURNAMENTS 1998

Humphrey Hicks Cup	Advanced Play (Singles) (runner-up)	Tony Dustan-Smith Brian Smith
Belmont Challenge Cup	Handicap Singles (runner -up)	Jonathan Coombs Paul Whittall
Fermor Rose Bowl	Ladies Handicap Singles (runner-up)	Sheila Adams Valerie Collier)
Devonia Cup	High Handicap Singles (runner-up)	Graham Dodd Sheila Blenkinsop)
Colclough & Sidmouth Cups	Handicap Doubles (runners-up)	Tony Dustan-Smith & Margaret Stant Ted Owen & Richard Clark
Corbett Spoons	One Ball 18 & over (runner-up) 16 & under (runner-up)	John Brightmore Doreen O'Hara David Clarke Tony Dustan-Smith
Robert Case Shield	Shot Game highest score	Brian Smith Tony Dustan-Smith
Tankard	Shot Game highest score+ handicap (runner- up)	Doreen O ' Hara Sheila Adams
Canton Trophy	Egyptian Tournament	Graham Dodd David Clarke)
Cunningham Salvors	Golf Croquet Singles	Marjorie Barlow David Fricker)
	Golf Croquet Doubles (runner-up)	David & Mavis Baldock David Fricker & Mary Smith
Dorothy Toye Cup	14 Point Game (runner-up)	David Baldock Leslie Toye
??	14 Point Game 18 & over (runner -up)	Paul Whittall David Baldock
Sidmouth Croquet Club Cup	Most Improved Player (higher bisquer)	PAUL WHITTALL
Longworth Cup	Most Improved Player (lower bisquer)	GRAHAM DODD..