

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 3rd November 2014

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pamela Bowra, David Butler, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Helen Pryor, Ian Simpson, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

Apologies for Absence: None

Welcome to the New Committee Member

The Chairman welcomed Andrew Thomas to the committee.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 2nd October 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matter's Arising

Golf Croquet Handicapping

IS had spoken to John Coombes on in-year assessment of handicaps. HP acknowledged that the agreed hoop run tests had not been carried out. It was also stated that some golf croquet players entering tournaments did not have a handicap card. **PN** to phone John Coombes to suggest IS join the handicap committee and encourage a rotation of members.

End of Season Lawn arrangements

SD read out an e-mail from Rob Mitchell on the impact on the golf croquet club session arising from lawns 3 and 4 being taken out of use on 1st October. **SD** to respond to Rob.

Croquet Balls and Equipment

Rob Matthews had placed an order as minuted and all balls had been received and were in storage for cascading when required. On clearing hut 3, 2 sets of secondaries were found (in addition to 4 full sets of 8 balls) and would be removed. Some croquet balls had been sold off and surplus hoops are available. **AT** to investigate clip replacements and order as necessary and to arrange blasting and repainting of 24 hoops.

Short Croquet

PN reported that Keith Thorley did not wish to manage the Short Croquet in 2015 but that Julie Horsley had offered to do so.

Committee Roles and Contacts

SD to circulate updated contact details to the committee and to agenda a further 4 posts for detailed consideration at the next meeting.

Feedback from the AGM

Members feedback was generally positive though some speakers would benefit from using the microphone. **SD** to ascertain the dates of the science week [now confirmed as 12th-18th October] to avoid a clash next year. **SD** to send draft minutes to PN and HP for checking. 60 members attended the supper.

The South West Federation AGM – Sunday 16th November

PN, HP, PB and David Temple to attend. **SD** to inform Julie Horsley.

The proposals for consideration at the SW Fed AGM had been previously circulated. Agreement was reached on how the Sidmouth representatives would vote. **PN** to e-mail Julie Horsley with an amendment to proposal H and **HP** to similarly request an amendment to proposal J.

Forthcoming Events

The Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 10th December

MH reported that Philip Harris and PB had received a good response at the AGM with 47 tickets now sold.

Discussion on Documents needed for issuing at the Christmas Lunch

Internal Tournaments

Tournaments to remain as 2014 except that:

The Owen Cup – limit to 2 blocks of 5 (20 players)

Fermor – handicap 20 and below

Canton – handicap 20 and below

Macadam – both finals to be the best of 3 games

The Wheel – abandon for 2015 as few entrants this year

HP to create sheets for the next meeting

The 2015 Programme

A first draft was circulated which generally kept the days the same as 2014, moving the date back one day with the exception of the lawn opening which was put as 1st April. Amendments were suggested. **SD** to provide 2nd draft for the next meeting.

Subscriptions

PN to propose a flat rate increase across all sections of the Club and suggest this to Neil Gamble in advance of the GMC meeting.

Membership Renewal Forms

HP to update the details and bring to the next meeting.

Lawn Usage

IS has details ready. **SD** to re-agenda for the next meeting.

Prospective New Members' Coaching

John Dixon is away from late November until the beginning of March. **RH** agreed to undertake the arrangements with assistance from **SD**.

Ongoing Association Coaching

RH outlined a proposal for more coaching at all levels on a regular basis. A similar request had been submitted by Richard Thurlow. Agreed that Association skills based practical sessions would be useful. Further discussion to be held at the next meeting. **SD** to agenda.

Croquet Accounts

IS presented a finance paper comparing income and expenditure heads for 2014 with 2013. The main elements of income are subscriptions and Folk Week parking.

The committee found the analysis useful and thanked him.

Chairman's Matters:

Peter Nelson reported that:

Hut 3

Work should be starting today, taking 2-3 weeks. PN and AT will lead on this matter.

The lawns

PN is aware of a leak in the water tank which he will raise with the GMC.

Committee Members' Reports

Roger Hendy outlined plans for a single day (July 25th) association high handicap tournament (14 and over) to be held in lieu of the abandoned CA Handicap Weekend in July. This would be advertised in The Swan. It was hoped there would be uptake across the South West. **PN** to manage the event. The Clarke Salver to be awarded. A fee of £15 to include tea was agreed; the bar would be open and meals available.

Dates of the next meetings

Wednesday 26th November, 9.30 am, Peter Nelson's House

Tuesday 6th January, 9.30 am (provisional)

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 26th November 2014

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pamela Bowra, David Butler, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Helen Pryor, Ian Simpson, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

Apologies for Absence: None

Minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd November 2014 were amended for:

Roger Hendy's report to read 'A fee of £10 was agreed; the bar would be open and meals available'.

Internal tournaments The Owen Cup would have a 'limit to blocks of 5' (but not necessarily restricted to 2 blocks).

then approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matter's Arising

Handicap committees

PN had spoken to John Coombes about a rotation of members and the suggestion that IS join the golf croquet handicap committee. This was agreed.

PN had discussed with David Temple similar arrangements for the association handicap committee which was agreed. David Temple was prepared to stand down leaving 3 members.

Croquet Balls and Equipment

AT provided sample clip replacements; the plastic ones at £10/set were preferred; AT was requested to order 4 full sets.

Short Croquet

Julie Horsley has agreed to manage the Short Croquet teams. The Nailsea tournament has been notified as Saturday 11th April for which 2 teams have been entered (this can be reduced later). An event at Budleigh is to be held on Saturday 17th October. **MH** to include information on the Christmas flyer; **SD** to write details for Rob Mitchell to circulate.

Feedback from the SW Fed AGM – Sunday 16th November

PN reported that the Sidmouth representatives had contributed to the discussion. The laws of golf croquet were considered at length and the formal minutes are awaited before outcomes are shared with the committee and club members. The CA funding proposals, which PN considers unfair, were also discussed but the momentum that this topic has created suggests the changes will be adopted. The SW Fed is actively seeking a new secretary.

Forthcoming Events

The Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 10th December – 12.30 for 1.00 pm

MH reported that 52 tickets had now been sold; Philip Harris and **PB** would do the raffle. **MH** to do a seating plan with committee members split among the tables. **PN** to make a short speech during coffee. **All** of the committee asked to attend by 12.15.

Hut 3 Progress

PN reported that work was nearly complete. Rotten roof timbers were found which had been replaced and the builders have been asked to lay the patio slabs because of their weight. AT was thanked for the assistance he has given and the time spent at the hut. **CW** is

constructing new mallet racks; a ball trunk similar to that in the mallet room will be provided together with a sink, vinyl floor and notice board.

Discussion on Documents needed for issuing at the Christmas Lunch

Internal Tournaments

To ease pressure on lawns at the season end, it was agreed that the Belmont and Owen Cup blocks would have an earlier completion date. **HP** to amend the sheets.

The 2015 Programme

A second draft was circulated and agreed. David Baldock and Howard Quarrell will no longer be managing the New Members' Tournament.

Subscriptions

PN's proposal of a flat rate increase across all sections of the Club was agreed at the GMC. All fees are to increase by £3 bringing the Croquet subscription to £165 and non-playing members to £25.

Membership Renewal Forms

In hand.

Lawn Usage

IS provided a written analysis of booking sheets for 2014 and talked through the outcomes. In total 39.1% of the lawn time available is not booked. The committee appreciated the analysis which will be useful if criticism is received about lawn availability. It is not expected that an analysis needs to be redone for several years.

IS was thanked for this piece of work.

Roles and Responsibilities

The roles of:

Internal Tournament Organiser

Golf Croquet Representative

Open Tournament Secretary

Treasurer

were considered. **SD** to update the master copy and agenda a further 4 roles for the next meeting.

Chairman's Matters

Peter Nelson reported from the GMC meeting that:

- Wi-Fi will be installed in the pavilion in the New Year on a private contract
- David Mansfield is the new Cricket Chairman
- The proposal by the tennis section not to use Gill for winter teas was agreed.
- The role of Treasurer will be split in April with Roger Mills continuing to manage strategic matters but with a Club Cashier role established. Expressions of interest for this role are invited.

Individual Committee Member's Reports

Roger Hendy reported that he would submit details of the July Tournament to The Swan.

Ian Simpson reported that he has been handed Joan Hewetson's mallet by her daughter for club use. **IS** requested to pass the mallet to Nancy Temple for assessing. **IS's** request to buy the mallet bag was agreed.

Sue Dent reported that several of the trophies won in 2014 required new bases and 2 of these await pinning or sticking which John Dixon wants to arrange on his return. The Sidmouth Cup and a new cup which could be used in 2015 for the New Members tournament are temporarily held by Sue.

Dates of the next meetings

Tuesday 6th January, 9.30 am, Peter Nelson's House

Thursday 5th February (provisional)

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6th January 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, David Butler, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Helen Pryor, Ian Simpson, Andrew Thomas.

Apologies for Absence: Pamela Bowra, Colin Walls.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 26th November 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

None

Hut 3 Progress

PN reported that an intruder had broken a window to gain access to the hut – presumably for shelter. Nothing had been taken. Various deterrent measures were considered. **AT** to progress this. **HP** to ascertain whether the Club's insurance covered personal effects. AT will be assisting the builder with plumbing and putting in a sink. AT was thanked for his time and commitment to this project.

Bids for CA Tournaments 2017

The CA has sent a bid document listing the names and dates of CA tournaments to be hosted in 2017. Following discussion, it was agreed that Sidmouth would bid for the GC Musk Cup (12th-13th August) and The Selectors Weekend (8th-10th September). **SD** to submit the bid to the CA.

SW Fed AGM minutes

The minutes had been previously circulated. It was decided to await the revised rules book before drawing members' attention to any significant changes. **SD** to contact Marcus Evans or Roger Buckley for a day's coaching at Sidmouth.

New Member's Coaching

PN to ask **CW** to prepare posters and newspaper article for publicising the taster session; notices to be in place in early February for the taster session on March 7th.

IS was requested to order 'Know the Game' books to be available for that date. **RH** to circulate the 2014 coaching lesson notes to the committee prior to the next meeting for discussion then. **RH** and **SD** to prepare a draft of the beginners' course application letter.

Ongoing Association Coaching

RH to draw up a proposal for discussion at the next meeting.

Roles and Responsibilities

Deferred.

Chairman's Matters

Peter Nelson reported that he would be penning an introductory narrative to the croquet section of the Club's Fixture Book.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Roger Hendy reported that he had submitted details of the July Tournament to The Swan.

Helen Pryor led a discussion on Finals Weekend. It was agreed that players would be able to enter block tournaments even if they were unavailable for the Finals Weekend with Helen ensuring that quarter and semi-finals progressed in a timely fashion. It was requested that

the Finals Weekend have a regular slot in the programme to assist members with holiday bookings.

Helen asked for advice on handicapping for the Owen Cup. Following discussion, **HP** to draw up and circulate a proposal for the next meeting.

Marian Harris reported that 53 had attended the Christmas Lunch at the Bedford Hotel. £80 was made on the raffle.

Any Other Business

Circulation of Minutes

SD was asked to minute the fact that the minutes are circulated to two members in addition to the committee. These are:

The SW Fed Fixtures Secretary (David Temple) and

The Membership Secretary (Rob Mitchell)

Dates of the next meetings

Thursday 5th February, 9.30 am, Peter Nelson's House

Monday 2nd March, 9.30 am (provisional)

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 5th February 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, David Butler, Roger Hendy, Helen Pryor, Ian Simpson, Colin Walls.

Apologies for Absence: Pamela Bowra, Marian Harris, Andrew Thomas.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th January 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

SW Fed AGM minutes/Coaching

SD had contacted Roger Buckley who has offered to arrange coaching for Sidmouth players if we could supply details of what was wanted and which handicaps it would be for. Association and Golf Croquet coaching to be requested. **SD** to ask Richard Wood for suggestions for AC.

Club Fixtures Book

SD to ensure that John Goodwin is aware that the croquet details can be picked up from the website.

Owen Cup Handicaps

Following further discussion, it is likely that the CA system, adapted for a local rule may be used with only the high handicap player in each pair being able to use the bisques. **HP** to give this further consideration.

The Honours Boards

Some anomalies with the honours boards have been noticed. In discussion with David Temple, it has been agreed that the gender irregularities will be corrected. At a later date consideration will be given to which tournaments should be recognised on the honours boards and whether the boards can show changes in a competition's format.

New Members Issues

Publicity. CW has publicity in hand. Flyers and articles to use SD's contact details rather than Rob Mitchell. **CW** to receive any articles and adverts for scrutiny and forwarding to the press. **CW** to send SD electronic and hard copies of the flyer to send to prospective members and possibly to drop in letter boxes of new buildings close to the lawns.

Taster Session Arrangements – Saturday 7th March. **MH** will arrange for coffees to be available from the hatch from 9.45am. **PN** to review last year's programme and update. **ALL** committee members asked to participate. Event to start off in the pavilion. The final talk and sign up may take place in and around hut 3 depending on the numbers attending and the weather.

Application Letter for Coaching Sessions. Letter drafted by RH. Essentially, as last year, we are offering 4 two hour lessons starting on 7th April. These will be on a Tuesday morning, 10.30-12.30 and a Wednesday afternoon 1.30-3.30; a top-up lesson to cover any lessons missed will be on Thursday 30th April 1.30-3.30. A fee of £15 will be charged, fully refundable against the membership fee. On Wednesday 29th April the final lesson will overlap with the first AC club afternoon. **RH** to change contact details to SD. **RH** to contact coaches. **SD** to send copy of application letter with dates to DB for booking of lawn 2.

Books. IS has this in hand. These are issued when the coaching fee is paid.

Welcome Evening – Wednesday 6th May, 6.00-8.00pm. Since the croquet section booked this in the club's diary, Pam Sage has double booked the pavilion for the Friends Quiz night to start at 7pm. (This is not their normal evening but the Thursday conflicts with Gill's first evening meal). **SD** to contact Pam to ask her to move their event.

Online Lawn Booking

CW demonstrated the system he has devised for a touch screen pad for lawn bookings. Before this can be operational Wi-Fi connection is needed in the pavilion and a 13 amp socket. Initially the electronic bookings would only be for lawn 1 – the manual booking sheets would have lawn 1 crossed through. Each member would need a 4 digit pin number. **DB** would have day to day responsibility for the system. If the system can be operational from the beginning of the season, **CW** may explain/demonstrate it at the Spring lunch. **SD** to include pin numbers with the documents which go out at that time.

Coaching Opportunities / Tournaments

SD reported that she receives a large number of flyers with many attachments for tournaments and coaching at other clubs which probably are of little interest to most members. Agreed for **SD** to forward to DB and CW for uploading to the website.

Hut 3 Progress

PN reported that all the interior has been lined and painted except the windows and doors; outside work is still required. Several volunteers have been assisting. IS requested that (following HP's information received from Neil Gamble that personal belongings brought to the club need to be covered by personal insurance policies) a notice be displayed that mallets left in the hut are at the owners' risk.

Roles and Responsibilities

SD to issue a draft to committee members. **ALL** requested to check details of their own role.

CA Special General Meeting and vote

The CA has notified us of proposals which will be voted on at a Special General Meeting on Saturday 28th March. CA members and clubs will be able to vote in advance by 18th March. **SD** to circulate details to the committee and agenda the item for our next meeting. Members will then need to advise PN on the club response.

Chairman's Matters

Peter Nelson reported that:

- The GMC gave the tennis section permission to erect a banner on the days of children's coaching.
- There is some question as to whether the Clarkes are happy for the 'salver' to be awarded for a non CA event. It was agreed that the salver would not be mentioned in publicity until their views had been ascertained.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Helen Pryor reported that:

- applications for internal tournaments are being received.
- she would like to offer to Sue Winnard that her fees paid last year be carried forward to this playing season if she is fit enough to play. This was agreed. **HP** to notify Sue Winnard; **SD** to inform Rob Mitchell.

Roger Hendy reported that:

- he has received some applications (which have been accepted) including 2 from abroad in advance of publication of the CA tournaments.

- he had received the SW Fed fees application in error. This was passed to **IS** to progress.

Sue Dent reported that:

- Julie Horsley has received an e-mail from John Grimshaw that the short croquet at Nailsea has been oversubscribed and Sidmouth can only have one team this year. We are assured of two teams at Budleigh in October.

- Rob Mitchell is expecting a knee replacement this year and neither he nor Lorna intend to be full members in 2015 but will hope to use the 'guest' facility to play on 4 occasions. Rob has offered to continue as membership secretary unless the committee felt this was inappropriate. The committee accepted this offer with thanks and send their best wishes. **IS** offered to collect and deliver items to Rob when requested.

- a request for membership application has been received from Dave Mundy, an experienced low handicap player, who is moving to live at Ottery.

- Sidmouth players had received several mentions in the December issue of the Croquet Gazette.

Marian Harris reported (by e-mail) that 36 tickets had been sold for Gabby's talk. Marian and Gill will supply cakes.

Dates of the next meetings

Monday 2nd March, 9.30 am, Peter Nelson's House

Tuesday 7th April (provisional)

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 3rd March 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, David Butler, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Helen Pryor, Ian Simpson, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

Apologies for Absence: Pamela Bowra.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 5th February 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

SW Fed Coaching

No suggestions received yet from Richard Wood.

New Members Welcome Evening – Wednesday 6th May

The Friends will rearrange their quiz evening, giving croquet sole use of the pavilion.

Online Lawn Booking

Wi-Fi is not expected to be installed until April. All lawn bookings at the start of the season will therefore be via the booking sheets.

Forthcoming Events

Taster Session Arrangements – Saturday 7th March 10.00 am

- **MH** will arrange for coffees to be available at the hatch from 9.45 am.
- **PN** to give introductory talk.
- **AT** with others to set up hoops and make club mallets available.
- **IS** to bring 'Know the Game' books.
- **SD** to bring application forms for the coaching sessions.
- **IS** and **SD** to set up a table at hut 3 to take names and issue application forms and books as necessary.
- **ALL** asked to arrive by 9.30 wearing badges (RH gives his apologies).

Association Refresher Session – Saturday 21st March 10.00 am

Tables to be laid out in the front as dining area needed by Gill for hockey.

Coffee to be available at the beginning. This will need to be cleared away promptly.

PN to ask the following if they would man a table:

Tony Dustan-Smith	Breaks
Richard Wood	Openings
David Temple	Etiquette
Mike Taylor	The Laws

Demonstration Game and Spring Lunch – Wednesday 1st April

PN to ask Maureen Bess to officially open the revamped hut 3 at 10.45 am.

CW to contact Terry Ife of the Herald for a photograph.

MH to arrange coffees for 11.00 am.

PN, CW, RH and AT to play the demonstration game at 11.00 (in whites).

PN to invite Gabby Macadam to arrange a golf croquet match.

Documents for the Spring Lunch

The 2015 New Season Information

SD to make amendments to the 2014 document as agreed.

SD to write paragraphs on 14 point handicap games generating 10 points / Honiton sport shop discount / team captain reports / hut 3 kettle and fridge.

Paragraphs to be sent to **SD** for inclusion by:

- **HP** - changes in Internal Tournaments.
- **CW** – the role of the referee in tournaments.
- **CW** – online booking arrangements.

SD to send draft to **PN** for approval.

Open Tournaments

Sidmouth's bid for the CA's 'Selectors Weekend' in 2017 has been successful. The event is scheduled for 8th-10th September 2017.

RH circulated a list of applications for the 2015 CA events. Uptake is good. The closing date is 1st March.

Internal Tournaments

HP reported that uptake for internal tournaments is generally good but few for the Elaine Woodward and the Devonian. No applications have yet been received from last year's beginners. **HP** will phone them to encourage participation. The closing date for the block competitions is 12th March.

Hut 3 Progress

Good progress has been made and the hut will be finished in time for the Spring Lunch/Lawn opening on 1st April. **AT** will ask Rob Matthews to paint the boundary boards.

Roles and Responsibilities

The 'Duties of Committee Members' document previously circulated was agreed subject to a minor change. This will now become the definitive list for periodic updating.

Coaching – the format for the delivery of coaching at all levels

The need for a lead coach and a good coaching programme for all levels in the club was accepted but at present no-one has offered to take on this role.

PN to talk to Richard Wood. With Richard Wood's agreement this role would be offered to Mike Taylor.

Beginners Coaching. **RH** has contacted several club members for their assistance. **SD** has compared the CA coaching manual with last year beginners coaching plan and made suggestions. **RH** to meet with **CW** and **SD** to discuss this year's programme. Any suggestions are welcome.

Wednesday Afternoon Club Session and Beginners Coaching. **CW** to put up a rota asking for 2 coaches/facilitators for each session.

CA Special General Meeting and vote

The CA requires any club vote to arrive by 18th March. Following discussion and a vote on motion 2 it was agreed that **PN** would submit the view of the club as:

Motion 1 (Permission to increase subscriptions of Member Clubs) – Against

Motion 2 (Individual Membership for members of Member Clubs) – Against

Motion 3 (Abolition of voting rights for Member Clubs) was considered not applicable given the previous responses.

Chairman's Matters

Peter Nelson reported that:

- The final of the SW Fed 'Federation league' will be held in Sidmouth on Sunday 27th September. Catering has been booked, entries made in the pavilion diary and lawns booked. **SD** to inform David Temple that everything is in hand.
- Consideration could be given in 2016 to swapping the Derryhouse Cup and the Clarke Salver.
- Richard Thurlow has offered to price croquet clothing with the club logo. Suggested that this could be for a fleece gilet/poloshirts (m) and (f)/cap. **DB** to contact Richard with details of a supplier as the Bowls Club has recently undergone a similar exercise.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Colin Walls reported that:

- there has been considerable publicity for the taster session. A new banner is in place/the croquet article written by RH was published in The Herald along with a photograph/The Herald published an article and a feature in 'what's on'/flyers have been on noticeboards in town and further afield.
- 3 mallet racks have been made and a fourth is in progress.

Marian Harris reported that:

- Gabby's talk was attended by 42 people and made a profit of £92.50.
- team managers will be sent a list of refreshment options.
- the Honiton Sports shop is offering a 10% discount to club members. Discount cards are available from Marian.
- 29 tickets have been sold for the Spring Lunch.

Roger Hendy reported that:

- he has joined the Snooker Club and is a key holder.
- he has requested use of their club room for Brian Pollock's talk on 21st April.
- Cathy Wallace of Nailsea has suggested a friendly and may contact us with a proposal.

Sue Dent reported that:

- an updated list of handicappers, coaches and referees will be placed in the mallet room.
- an envelope of CA documents has been received including fee forms/levy forms/competition entries/coaching manual. These have been distributed to appropriate committee members.
- Sidmouth players had received several mentions in the February issue of the Croquet Gazette.

Dates of the next meetings

Please note the April meeting is not as previously minuted. It will now be:

Wednesday 8th April 9.30 am, Peter Nelson's House

Monday 11th May 9.30 am, (provisional).

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 8th April 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pam Bowra, David Butler, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Ian Simpson, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

Apologies for Absence: Helen Pryor.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd March 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Association Refresher Session Feedback – Saturday 21st March 10.00 am

The session was poorly attended with 11 participants plus three trainers. For 2016 we should reconsider whether to hold it later in the year as a practical session or abandon it. **SD** to note for consideration in September 2015.

Lawn Availability

As from this week all lawns except lawn 1 are available with lawn 2 laid out as half lawns. Colin Whitehall wants to be able to have a lawn in reserve at present to enable him to mow/maintain any one lawn as required. Lawn 1 is therefore not bookable but will be brought into use at the groundsman's discretion and the peg inserted at that time.

Coaching

Lead Club Coach

Richard Wood has stood down from that position which has subsequently been offered and accepted by Mike Taylor. Mike has put up a notice in the mallet room offering any player a one-off lesson of one and a half hours to suit their needs.

Beginners – programme and uptake

20 beginners have signed up for the coaching. 17 are joining the sessions on a Tuesday morning or Wednesday afternoon; 2 are being coached by David Clarke; one beginner works and is unable to train during the day but will be coached by John Dixon. The programme, amended for 2015, has been circulated to all coaches.

SW Fed Coaching Offer

Richard Wood has made suggestions which will be taken forward by Mike Taylor and Roger Hendy in discussion with Richard. **RH** to report back at the next committee meeting.

Ongoing Coaching/Mentoring

This will be held on the Wednesday afternoons alongside the club session.

Forthcoming events

Charity One Ball – Thursday 16th April 10.00am

As Helen is unwell **SD** to check with Julie Horsley that she is managing the event. The Bar will be open. Gill is providing a snack lunch to be paid for on the day.

Golf Refresher Session – Saturday 18th April 10.00am

Graeme Pryor will be managing that session

AC Laws Talk by Brian Pollock –Tuesday 21st April 2.00pm

RH is managing that event. Participants to meet in the Snooker Club. **DB** to check that lawn 1 is booked.

CA Open Golf Championship – Saturday 25th/Sunday 26th April

As Helen is unwell she may not be available to manage this event. **RH** to approach Ian Friedlander and ensure that:

- the trophy is available from John Dixon
- the winner signs the trophy sheet
- a bottle of wine is purchased for the runner-up.

Welcome evening for new members – Wednesday 6th May 6pm

MH will print drinks tickets and ask John Dixon if he is available to welcome new members at the door. Committee to wear name badges. **SD** to provide labels for the new members.

Visiting Medics Golf Croquet Match – now Thursday 7th May 9.30 am

Revised date agreeable to Gabby Macadam. **MH** to produce a notice for hut 3 on the change of date. **SD** to talk to Gabby about the start time and if it is 9.30 ask **AT** to liaise with Colin Whitehall. **DB** to amend web site programme date.

Membership Issues

The issued membership list is not final but should be firmed up by the next meeting.

SD asked that some former members be encouraged to attend 4 sessions as visitors of the club to enable them to remain involved.

Chairman's Matters

At last weeks GMC:

- Wi-Fi was reported to be installed but the signal is poor (See CW's report below)
- Experts have confirmed there is a leak in the tank feeding the sprinkler system which makes it only usable for short periods. David Temple is getting quotes for a replacement tank which may be about £10,000.
- Roger Mills requires assistance with the finances of the club if he is to continue as Treasurer beyond July. **PN** to pen a request to members as part of an e-mail to go out from Rob Mitchell.
- The Club's Bar Chairman/Events Coordinator post was vacant; **PN** has volunteered to fill that role.
- Rob Matthews requires assistance with the Chairman's Garden. **SD** to devise a notice for the mallet room and hut 3 asking for names to assist with various matters.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Andrew Thomas reported that hut 3 is finished other than bench repairs. The committee considered no further benches are required.

Pam Bowra reported that some members who were enjoying playing on the half lawns were wondering if they could also be available later in the season This was considered impractical.

Marian Harris reported on a successful Spring Lunch with 47 attending. The raffle took £84, a profit of £64.

Roger Hendy reported on the uptake of the Open Tournaments.

Colin Walls reported that:

- he has installed an extender to the Wi-Fi system in the mallet room. Wi-Fi can be accessed from mobile phones using NETGEAREXT and a password of 'triplepeel'. It is hoped that on-line bookings will be available from May 1st.

Ian Simpson invited applications for reimbursement for croquet section expenditure.

Sue Dent reported that:

- John Dixon has four trophies for engraving and pinning.
- for the Short Croquet tournament at Nailsea one team is guaranteed a place and a second team is on stand-by.

Dates of the next meetings

Monday 11th May 9.30 am, at Redleaf, Knowle Drive.

Wednesday 10th June 9.30 (provisional).

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 11th May 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pam Bowra, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Ian Simpson, Helen Pryor, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

Apology for Absence: David Butler.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th April 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Golf Refresher Session Feedback

The session was poorly attended. As with the Association Refresher, for 2016 we should reconsider whether to hold it. **SD** to note for consideration in September 2015.

Lawn Availability

Where there is a proposed change to the programme the manager should notify **AT** for discussion with Colin Whitehall and **DB** for a change to the website.

Wi-Fi

CW has resolved the signal strength issue.

Club Finance assistance

Myles Chance has volunteered for this role.

Membership and Subscriptions

12 of the beginners have joined the club, a further 4 are expected to join, 4 are not progressing with membership. One of the prospective members is in full time employment. PN has asked Neil Gamble if a reduced subscription, (£95 has been suggested), could be made by players in full time employment who were therefore only able to play after 4pm and at weekends. The committee endorsed this proposal. A response is awaited.

A potential new member may join the club. **SD** to review the minutes and let PN know when new players are eligible for the half payment arrangement.

Coaching

Lead Club Coach

There has been an uptake of 11 players signing up for a 90 minute individual coaching session with Mike Taylor. Several of these have already taken place.

Beginners Coaching

CW suggested that participants need to be encouraged to take up the game rather than assuming they are committed and require technical skills coaching. More participation was suggested. Induction should also include familiarity with the mallet room and club systems. **CW** offered to lead the beginners' induction in 2016.

Ongoing Coaching/Mentoring

At the New Members Welcome Evening a mentor/buddy was offered. Ken Prosser, a golf croquet player, has requested a mentor. **IS** has agreed to this. **SD** to provide both with contact details.

Association Club Sessions/Roll Up

Suggestions have been received from players who were members elsewhere that a Roll-Up Association Singles session is very worthwhile, enabling players to play others who they would not necessarily contact for a game. This was agreed on a trial basis for Friday afternoons at 1.00pm. **SD** to facilitate the first session, send an e-mail to members, book lawns manually and electronically and inform DB for the website lawn information.

Forthcoming events

Dorothy Toye – Saturday 16th/Sunday 17th May

HP reported that as only 8 players have signed up, the tournament will only be on the Saturday. Lawn bookings have been deleted for the Sunday. If players withdraw the event may be cancelled.

CA Midsummer Tournament

Julie Horsley has this event in hand. The main event has some players in reserve; there are still a few vacancies for the handicap event.

14 point HH Tournament – Tuesday 9th June.

HP reported that 8 had signed up and she would accept 10 or 12. The list is up in the mallet room for further entries.

Canton Trophy – Saturday 13th June

The entry list will be posted in the mallet room soon.

Beginners Tournament – Monday 10th August

A manager and assistant are needed to replace David Baldock and Howard Quarrell. John Dixon and Sue Rogers were suggested. **SD** to contact them both. **SD** to bring the spare trophy to the next meeting for consideration.

Chairman's Matters

None

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Marian Harris reported that:

- she has become aware that John Riches' Coaching manuals are in the mallet room on a shelf under the booking sheets.
- refreshments for home matches will be available on arrival in the pavilion
- for CA tournaments mid-morning refreshments will be provided from Hut 3 and taken to the players on the lawns. For internal tournaments supplies of biscuits, coffee, tea and flasks of hot water will be available in Hut 3 for players to help themselves throughout the day.
- Julie Sorrell has offered to take over the role of Social Secretary in 2016 and will assist Marian in 2015.
- Richard and Maureen Thurlow have agreed to run the Wine and Shared Buffet event in totality.

Colin Walls reported that the online booking for lawn 1 is running well. For the new members **SD** to ask Rob Mitchell to supply names and e-mail addresses so that CW can send out their booking number.

Ian Simpson reported on difficulties where cheques state the incorrect payee. Payments should be made to 'Sidmouth Croquet Club', or, for the new membership applications, to the 'Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis and Croquet Club'

Roger Hendy reported on the applications for CA tournaments. **SD** to clarify with the CA the effective date for home club members being allowed late tournament entry if not a CA member.

Andrew Thomas reported that:

- RH had provided a clock for the exterior of hut 3
- PN had repaired the steps leading to lawn 2
- a bench has been scrapped
- new corner flags have been purchased and adapted
- there is a problem in the lawn around a hoop on lawn 3. **PN** to provide a repair kit.

It was requested that the spare wood be removed from the exterior of the hut.

Sue Dent reported that:

- Rob Mitchell has informed us that he would like to stand down as membership secretary at the end of the season.
- Derek Powell has donated 10 croquet books for the club. **AT** to source a bookshelf for hut 3. **SD** to provide DB with a booklist. **RH** to supply CDs of his coaching manual. **DB** to review the books and CDs available when ready for display and list them for borrowing.
- She is holding a coffee morning for the 2014 beginners with the assistance of Kelvin, Marian and Philip Harris. Members will be encouraged to enter tournaments; support will be offered to progress their game.

Any Other Business

Booking Sheets. **DB** is asked to remove and retain used booking sheets for the season.

Key Safe for Hut 3 Keys

Following the misplacement of hut 3 keys, a further set has been cut and will reside in the 'Big Box' in the mallet room. **CW** to provide details of Key Safes to **AT**. **AT** to procure and fit a key safe on hut 3.

Dates of the next meetings

Thursday 11th June 9.30 at Redleaf, Knowle Drive. (please note change of date)

Wednesday 8th July 9.30 (provisional).

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 11th June 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, David Butler, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Ian Simpson, Helen Pryor, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

Apology for Absence: Pam Bowra.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 11th May 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Lawn Availability

As Grounds representative on the committee **AT** will be the link with the Groundsman, Colin Whitehall. **SD** to ensure this is stated in the Roles and Responsibilities document.

Lawn Booking

As tournaments often go on to 5pm, **DB** is requested to draw a line representing 5pm on the booking sheets. No supporting notice was considered necessary.

Wi-Fi

PN reported that the GMC considers the signal in the pavilion useless and will be progressing the fibre-optics option.

Club Assistant Treasurer

Myles Chance has now started in this role.

Association Roll-Up Sessions

There has been a good uptake to these sessions. **SD** was asked to book further Friday afternoons and publicise this arrangement.

Visitors Fees

SD to e-mail members with a reminder of visitors' fees.

CA Midsummer Tournament

The event was successful. The Challenge Cup trophy won by Simon Carlsson was left in the keeping of the club and will be retained by John Dixon. **SD** to note this on the Trophy signature list.

Membership Secretary

DB offered to take on this role for 2016.

Internal Tournament Secretary

Philip Harris has offered to take on this committee role for 2016.

The Canton Trophy/Internal Tournaments

The CA requirement that for 2015 onwards all tournament games are worth +/- 10 points on the handicap card is considered to adversely impact on some of our internal tournaments. The Canton Tournament for example has a wide handicap entry range. Low handicap players who enter would be prepared to risk 5 points but may not want to risk 10 points /game. In discussion with the Internal Tournament Secretary, it had been agreed for 2015 that this tournament would generate only +/- 5 points on the handicap card. **SD** to agenda a discussion on Internal Tournaments for the next meeting to include consideration of the Dorothy Toye and Canton having narrower handicap entry requirements. **SD** to invite Phillip

Harris to attend the next committee meeting for that discussion. [NB it is understood that Budleigh do not follow CA guidance; their doubles generate +/- 5 points].

Beginners Tournament – Monday 10th August

John Dixon and Sue Rogers have agreed to manage this event. **MH** to request Gill to provide a cream tea. **SD** to confirm numbers nearer the time. **SD** to bring spare trophies to the next committee for consideration.

CA Late Tournament Entries for the club's own members

Steve Mowbray of the CA had responded to SD's enquiry stating that "club members are not automatically members of the Croquet Association at present and will need to become or retain individual membership to play in tournaments".

Bookshelf for Hut 3

This is more complicated than anticipated as further racket space is required. **AT** to progress.

Coffee Morning

There was positive spin-off from the 2014 beginners' coffee gathering which 7 new members attended; in consequence further participants have signed up for some tournaments, several friendly games were arranged, one racket has been sold and another is loaned out on trial.

Key Safe for Hut 3 keys

Further consideration was given to the key safe which was considered too complicated for all members. The proposal will not be progressed.

Membership and Subscriptions

Of the 20 who attended the 2015 beginners coaching sessions, 15 have signed up for full membership. Only 2 are playing Association. The Club Membership now totals 114.

Neil Gamble agreed to the reduced subscription of £95 for our new player in full time employment. This arrangement cannot be offered more widely and is requested to remain discreet.

A review of the minutes of 16th April 2013 identified that July 14th is when new members joining are eligible for the half payment arrangement. A potential new member (currently working abroad) may join us then. Philip Harris is his main point of contact.

Existing playing members who are medically unfit to play at the start of the season pay a non-playing subscription. When fit to play they pay £30 /month or any part of a month less the amount already paid. We are pleased that PB is now able to play and will benefit (slightly) from this arrangement. Liz Matthews has also been notified.

Coaching

SD reminded the committee that we have not taken up the offer by Roger Buckley of the SW Fed re coaching. **RH** is meeting Mike Taylor and Philip Harris to progress coaching issues with them and will talk to Mike Kibble on coaching pod formats.

PN commented that if the club continues to suffer from the absence of players in the Association handicap range 10 to 20, Sidmouth will not be able to field an Intermediate team. To address this, some HH players will be identified to participate in specific coaching. **PN** and **RH** to take this forward.

Open Tournaments

RH expressed concern at the number of cancellations for CA tournaments which generated additional work. Consideration is being given to a zero rebate if cancellation is within a

month of the tournament. **PN** and **RH** to look at the CA Fixtures book to see what other clubs specify and bring a view back to the next meeting.

Forthcoming events

Canton Trophy – Saturday 13th June

8 entries. Nancy Temple is the manager.

Wine and Shared Buffet - Monday 22nd June from 5pm

Richard Thurlow is making all the arrangements. A crazy (obstacle) croquet course is planned.

Corbett Spoons – Friday 26th June and Saturday 27th June

HP is managing these tournaments. **HP** to contact SD if further entrants from the beginners are to be encouraged for the HH competition.

Treasure Hunt – Wednesday 8th July from 6.30pm

SD to contact the Laidlers on details and supply to MH for posters; the committee to be informed of arrangements.

Pimms on the Lawns

This traditional event which has lapsed in the last few years is a shared event with The Sidmouth (Snooker) Club which they have again requested. Of the dates offered Wednesday 19th August is clear in the programme. **PN** to confirm this date with Tony Dustan- Smith. **HP** to book lawns 2 and 3; **SD** to book lawn 1. **SD** to notify members. Tickets to be £8 (based on £5 for food and £3 for a drink).

Croquet AGM – Wednesday 21st October

PN apologises that a family holiday booked to include that date means that either a different Chairman for the evening will be needed or the date amended. Following discussion **CW** was prepared to Chair the meeting and the committee preferred the publicised date to be unaltered. PN suggested that Maureen Bess be invited to present the trophies.

Chairman's Matters

PN reported that at the recent GMC meeting:

- The Club AGM will take place on Wednesday 1st July at 6.30.
- David Temple has obtained quotes for the prefabricated water tank and is progressing the issue.
- A defibrillator has been donated to the Club. Liz Peace (Tennis) is arranging for training will be provided. **SD** to coordinate with Liz and e-mail members to ascertain who would be interested in being trained.
- a GMC sub-committee has agreed to invest £60,000 in 'Peer to Peer Loans' which should give a 4-6% return.
- the Tennis section membership has recently been decimated.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Marian Harris reported that the provision of refreshments at Hut 3 is working well and has been appreciated. A hot water urn has been loaned by Peter Miller. Marian filled this and supplied tea, coffee, milk and biscuits for players to help themselves throughout the day. A donations tub is supplied for internal tournaments.

Andrew Thomas voiced concern about the need to move the hoops on lawns 3 and 4. PN stated he had permission to move hoops at his discretion.

Roger Hendy reported that:

- the High Bisquers Tournament – Saturday 25th July is well supported with 16 entrants.
- the CA B-Level Advanced Weekend – Thursday 13th—Saturday 15th August is fully subscribed.
- the CA C-Level Advanced Weekend – Friday 11th-Sunday 13th Sept has a dozen applicants and is likely to be viable.

Colin Walls reported that the Handicap Committee had recently met and want to round handicaps to the nearest 10. This was agreed. PN stated they have the right to manage handicaps as they saw fit. [This may now change given the local 5 point arrangement for shorter games].

David Butler reported that:

- the online booking system was working well and may be extended to cover lawn 2.
- the Sidmouth Herald is regularly printing croquet reports supplied (though wrongly credited).

Sue Dent reported that the 2015 Public Liability Insurance certificate had been received from the CA and had been passed to IS.

Dates of the next meetings

Wednesday 8th July 9.30 at Redleaf, Knowle Drive.

Monday 10th August 9.30 (provisional)

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 8th July 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pam Bowra, David Butler, Marian Harris, Ian Simpson, Helen Pryor, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

In Attendance: Philip Harris

Apology for Absence: Roger Hendy

Minutes of the last meeting held on 11th June 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Defibrillator Training

The training arranged by Liz Peace was attended by 11 croquet members. Others have received instruction with the Sailing Club or Lifeboat. There is no expectation that any list of competent users is compiled or displayed. The Defib equipment plus a mask are currently held in the First Aid Cupboard in the pavilion for anyone to access. Once a similar defib is situated in the Market Square our machine will be installed in a box on the outside of the Pavilion alongside lawn 1, accessed by a keypad. The keypad code will be issued to us at that time. The equipment will be accessible by any member of the public who would dial 999 to be told the keypad code.

Coaching

RH updated us by e-mail that a coaching pod for advanced players has been set up at Budleigh Salterton by Elaine Norsworthy in consultation with the CA. The first session is Sunday 12th July. **SD** to follow up with RH to ensure our members are aware of this.

Wine and Shared Buffet.

A successful evening was enjoyed with 52 attending giving an income of £280 resulting in a profit of £110.

CA Late Tournament Entries for the club's own members

PN to write to the CA regarding this matter. **SD** to resend the e-mail of the CA's position to PH.

Internal Tournaments – initial discussion

Various comments on the existing programme of tournaments were made. Suggestion that cups for one day competitions be presented on the day of the event. A subcommittee of **PH**, **CW** and **IS** was formed to take the tournament issue forward; in particular to reconsider the generic approach to tournaments presented by CW in 2014. The subcommittee to report back to the next meeting.

Committee Posts for 2016

The following agreed to stand for the 2016 committee in similar roles to those already undertaken. PN, CW, SD, DB, PB, IS, AT. Following the information that RH is standing down, Julie Horsley has been approached and agreed to take on the Open Tournament Secretary Role but not be on the committee. **PN** to ask David Temple if he is still prepared to be the SW Fed Fixtures Secretary. No additional committee posts were considered necessary but it was felt that individual tasks could be shared out.

Forthcoming events

Treasure Hunt – Wednesday 8th July from 6.30pm

In hand.

C&S Handicap Doubles – Friday 10th-Sunday 12th July

In hand. HP to manage.

Robert Case Shot Game – Wednesday 15th July 2pm

John Dixon and Rob Matthews will be setting up the equipment on lawns 3 and 4 from 11.00 am. Gabby has been asked for the golf croquet players to vacate the lawns at that time. The committee round will be at 12.30. The following committee members volunteered to be available to man stations – MH, PN, AT, CW, SD, PB plus John Dixon, Philip Harris and Rob Matthews.

New High Bisquers Open Tournament – Saturday 25th July

PN is organising this in American blocks of 4 from a handicap base of 12. A spare trophy has been allocated for this tournament.

New Members Tournament – Monday August 10th 1pm

Poster and signing up list to be displayed by **SD** in discussion with MH as soon as format decided by John Dixon. **PN** to purchase and present 2 bottles of wine to the winning pair.

The CA C-Level Advanced Weekend – Friday 11th–Sunday 13th September

RH reported that only 10 players have entered. **RH** to contact other clubs to increase uptake.

Offer of a Bench for the Lawns

An offer from Vera Henderson of a bench in memory of Roland Henderson was read out to the committee. **PN** to respond to accept this offer and arrange who makes the purchase. **AT** to arrange for the broken curved seat on lawn 1 to be refurbished over the winter.

Chairman's Matters

PN reported:

- on the recent GMC AGM. Neil Gamble had not allowed PN to raise the issue of the inappropriate advertising hoardings alongside lawn 4 but the matter will be dealt with at the next GMC meeting on 28th July.
- that a quote for croquet section embroidered badges has been received of £162/100 badges. The committee agreed to this. MH offered to sell them for £2 50 each, 2 for £4.
- PN suggested that in order for the Social Secretary role in future not to be over demanding a rota for external matches be established to provide milk and biscuits, fill the urn and pour coffees.
- the Cricket pitch will be used for parking when The Red Arrows perform on 21st August.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Andrew Thomas reported that:

- some of the timber behind hut 3 is to be used by John Palmer, some of the surplus to be stored by **PN**, the remainder to be discarded.
- Colin Whitehall will be spiking the brown patches on lawns 3 and 4.
- **AT** to ask Colin Whitehall about the sprinkler rotation and timer system and possibly discuss this with Tony Dustan-Smith.

David Butler reported that:

- the Sidmouth Herald is sometimes altering the narrative supplied. Good input is being received from managers.

Helen Pryor reported that:

The timetable for the Belmont is on schedule but that in the Elaine Woodward and one Devonia block, no games have been recorded to date.

Sue Dent reported that:

- the Honours Boards have been redone for names by David Temple. He has asked for guidance on how the narratives should be amended as some trophies are awarded for a changed tournament. This to be considered once the revamped tournament programme is agreed.

- Roger Mills has sent out requests for Folk Week Parking assistance and Club house Representative to those who participated last year. This will soon be circulated more widely to club members.

Dates of the next meetings

Monday 10th August 9.30 at Redleaf, Knowle Drive

Wednesday 9th September 9.30 (provisional)

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 10th August 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pam Bowra, Marian Harris, Roger Hendy, Ian Simpson, Helen Pryor, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

In Attendance: Philip Harris

Apology for Absence: David Butler

Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th July 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Defibrillator Training

The Defibrillator is now installed in a box on the outside of the Pavilion alongside lawn 1, accessed by a keypad. Peter Fung and Liz Peace of the Tennis section who have taken responsibility for these arrangements have now decided not to issue the keypad code. As 999 must be called the Emergency Service will tell you the keypad code at that time. **SD** to notify members of this arrangement by e-mail.

Offer of a bench for the Lawns

PN has been in contact with the family. Vera and Rowland's son will purchase the bench.

Inappropriate Advertising Hoarding

The GMC has arranged for the offending hoarding being removed. Hoardings should be a maximum of 1 metre high and single sided so that no advertising faces Station Road. Some hoardings are still not compliant with that last requirement. The GMC is expected to take this further.

Badges

PN had sourced embroidered badges. It was agreed that the stock of 200 be held by MH and sold for £2 each.

Lawn Sprinkler

AT reported that the sprinkler is out of use; a replacement part has been ordered.

Internal Tournaments – initial discussion

The subcommittee of PH, CW and IS had met to discuss 2016 tournaments and presented their recommendations to the committee. The general premise of applying for a style of tournament rather than a trophy was agreed – depending on entry numbers, handicap groupings would then be decided. The subcommittee was thanked for their work and **PH** was asked to make some amendments to the proposals and bring them back to the next meeting.

Membership numbers and mid-year subscriptions

One new member has joined mid-year and one member re-joined as being now fit to play. The apparent anomalies in the fees for these two situations was considered and it was agreed that the existing policy should remain in place. The Croquet section now has 115 members.

Forthcoming events

New Members Tournament – Monday 10th August 1pm

10 are signed up. John Dixon and Sue Rogers will manage this event.

CA B-Level Advanced Weekend - Thursday 13th-Saturday 15th August

In hand. Nancy Temple is the manager.

Cunningham Salver Golf Singles Tournament HH – Monday 17th August

Hatherley Cup Golf Croquet Singles Tournament LH – Tuesday 18th August

Golf Croquet Doubles Tournament HH – Monday 24th August

Cunningham Salver Golf Croquet Open Tournament - Tuesday 25th Aug

All are in hand with Pam Bowra as manager.

CA C-Level Advanced Weekend - Friday 11th-Sunday 13th September

One recent cancellation leaves 10/11 players to date. Julie Horsley is the manager. Julie and RH are contacting local clubs for additional entries.

Croquet Section AGM – Wednesday October 21st

Maureen Bess is not available. Other suggestions were invited. **PN** to ask David Temple if he would present the trophies.

Chairman's Matters

PN reported on the recent GMC meeting:

- that to reduce problems of cricket balls coming onto the lawns, especially lawn 4, it is proposed that a fencing gate be installed and the fencing raised to the height of that alongside lawn 3. Planning permission will be required.
- that a quote has been received for investigating the apparent leak in the tank. **PN** considers the quote excessive and unsatisfactory and will talk about it further with Neil Gamble.
- the Cricket section will manage the parking when The Red Arrows perform on 21st August.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Helen Pryor reported that:

- the Internal Association tournaments are up to the semi-final stage except the Humphrey Hicks where matches are booked.

Pam Bowra reported that:

- the Budleigh friendly (home) is confirmed for September 22nd. A sign up sheet will soon be displayed.
- the Internal Golf tournaments are up to the semi-final stage.

Marian Harris reported that:

- the urn has now been purchased for the club
- the AGM will be followed by a cold buffet
- a committee lunch was agreed for Wednesday 23rd September, 12.30, at Dukes. **PN** to invite David and Nancy Temple, Julie Horsley, Philip Harris and Julie Sorrell to join us. **MH** to make the booking.

Colin Walls reported that:

- although the electronic booking system works well the lawn booking tablet often malfunctions because of the poor communication with the router. This should be corrected by installing a new wire between the two, under the eaves of the pavilion. **PN** to inform John Goodwin. **AT** to assist.

Roger Hendy reported that:

- an Association coaching session for handicaps 12+ has been arranged and booked for Wednesday 19th August at 1pm on lawn 1. Mike Taylor will lead this with support from RH and PH. **SD** to include details in an e-mail to members.

Sue Dent reported that:

- the list of croquet coaches and referees has been updated to include Chris Donovan.
- the Treasure Hunt was enjoyable and well attended. The Laidlers have been thanked for organising this event. The profit made was handed across to IS.

Any Other Business

PN reported that for the Pimms evening Richard Thurlow has sold 8 tickets and Tony Dustan-Smith has sold 22. **RH** offered to take responsibility for the club mallets and will be supported by **PH** and **AT**.

Richard Thurlow has asked if he could organise a moonlight croquet evening. As this is weather dependent it would be at short notice.

Dates of the next meetings

Wednesday 9th September 9.30 am at Redleaf, Knowle Drive

Thursday 1st October 9.30 am (provisional)

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 9th September 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pam Bowra, David Butler, Marian Harris, Helen Pryor, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls.

In Attendance: Philip Harris

Apologies for Absence: Roger Hendy, Ian Simpson,

Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th August 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Lawn Sprinkler

AT reported that the sprinkler part has been replaced and tested. Some concern was expressed about the dampness near lawn 2.

New Members Tournament. 10 participated with John Dixon and Sue Rogers organising the event which went very well and was enjoyed by all.

The Cunningham Salver Open Golf doubles tournament was postponed because of bad weather and is rearranged for Thursday 17th September.

Association Coaching lead by Mike Taylor was postponed because of bad weather and an alternative was held on 5th September. Only 4 were available to attend.

Pimms on the Lawn evening was cancelled due to bad weather.

Wiring for Booking Tablet. PN has spoken to John Goodwin and obtained his permission for a wire to be installed around the pavilion.

SW Fed Fixtures Secretary. David Temple has agreed to undertake this role for 2016 but the committee should find a replacement for 2017.

Committee Lunch. PN has extended invitations as requested. David and Nancy Temple are unable to attend. DB also gives his apologies.

Croquet Section AGM

PN reported that David Temple has accepted the invitation to present the trophies but considered that PN should chair the event. In consequence, and following e-mail communications, the AGM is re-scheduled for Tuesday 3rd November at 6.00; cold buffet at 7.30. The pavilion has been booked and confirmed with Gill Hodge for catering and Julie Clayden for the bar. HP apologises that she is unavailable on that date.

MH to put up posters with change of date and ticket information.

SD to circulate an e-mail to members and confirm availability of John Dixon.

DB to amend the website.

SD to recall trophies.

SD to put up in the mallet room formal AGM notices on items for the agenda/last year's minutes/ committee posts, by mid September and inform committee members so that their nominations can have a proposer and a seconder.

Forthcoming events

CA C-Level Advanced Weekend - Friday 11th-Sunday 13th September

Julie Horsley to manage this event. **PN** to supply trophy. **SD** to provide trophy signature sheet. Mike Taylor will act as ROT when available. Only 10 participants so lawn 1 not required. **DB** to release lawn 1 onto the booking system.

Cunningham Salver Golf Croquet Open Tournament - Thursday 17th Sept

With this revised date additional entries have been received. **PB** to manage this event.

Finals Weekend – Friday 18th-Sunday 20th September

HP will finalise the timetable based on availability of players. Richard Wood has a back injury and withdrawn from the semi-final of the Humphrey Hicks. Colin Walls therefore has a walk-over to the final. Richard hopes to be recovered in time for the final of the Belmont. If not, his place is taken by Peter Nelson whom he beat in the semi-final.

Budleigh Friendly – Tuesday 22nd September

In hand. **PB** to manage.

Regular Club Sessions End – Wednesday 30th September

This date decided as Colin Whitehall is likely to take lawns 3 and 4 out of use for the Autumn maintenance programme on October 1st (since confirmed). Lawns 1 and 2 will continue to be available for booking. **SD** to remind Gabby Macadam of this before the end of September.

Golf Handicap Committee

John Coombes has asked to come off the committee. As he chairs this committee a replacement chair should be chosen from the remaining 2 members. **IS** has approached **DB** to be on the handicap committee and this was endorsed by the full committee. **DB** has accepted this position.

Expressions of Interest in joining the club

Within the last 2 weeks **SD** has received 2 enquiries for (3) people new to the area who are interested in trying croquet. It had been suggested that we could give them a taster session in September. The committee preference was to respond positively and involve them in the 2016 taster session and coaching. **SD** to respond to them.

Coffee Morning for 2015 beginners

SD offered to host a coffee morning to get feedback from this group on the 2015 coaching but mainly to find out what they want from 2016 in the way of skills coaching, club sessions and team participation. Julie Sorrell and Colin Walls to be invited. This was agreed. **SD** to arrange.

Internal Tournaments – revised proposals for consideration

PH tabled a paper incorporating the amendments recommended at the last meeting. Each tournament was considered and agreement reached. **PH** to update the chart.

Golf Club Session format 2016

In order to introduce a more competitive element to the club golf sessions it was suggested that the Friday late afternoon session be changed to a competitive roll-up for 13 point games using handicaps and extra turns. This was agreed. **PB** to mention this to Gabby Macadam. A manager would be needed at least for the first few sessions.

Beginning of Season Talk 2016

A speaker is required. Roger Hendy has previously volunteered. This was welcomed. **MH** to ask **RH** and discuss possible dates.

Visiting Club Hire of our lawns

SD was approached by a Barnet club member enquiring if a group of croquet players could hire our lawns for their own use, likely to be 1 lawn (possibly 2) for 1 session across 2 days early in the season. SD suggested a weekend as having more lawn availability. This was agreed in principle with any proposal to be brought back to the committee **SD** to check booking fees from previous minutes.

Donation of a Bench

Further to previous discussions, Vera Henderson would prefer the committee to source a bench. AT provided web extracts of options; a 3-seater preferred. **PN** to progress this with Vera.

Chairman's Matters

PN reported that the Pimms on the lawn event had prompted questions from Julie Clayden on the sale of alcohol. This is also relevant to our Wine and Shared Buffet event. Consideration to be given in future to alcohol being purchased through the bar. **PN**, as Bar Chairman, will be reviewing various anomalies in events in the pavilion.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Helen Pryor reported that:

- the plastic pegs used for golf croquet are not strong enough. Metal pegs through a website sell for £12.50/24 in a range of colours. **AT** to obtain a free sample for consideration.

- she considers it unfair that in the SW Fed a team gains a point for a walk-over which has resulted in a team with 2 walk-overs progressing through to a quarter final. She would like this raised at the SW Fed AGM. The committee agreed. **HP** to progress.

Marian Harris reported that:

- the committee lunch has been booked at Dukes for Wednesday 23rd September at 12.30.

- 39 badges have been sold

- catering arrangements/charges for the SW Fed 'Federation' league final on 27th September were unclear. **MH** to contact David Temple in the first instance.

Sue Dent reported that:

- the CA will soon request notification from us of CA tournaments to be hosted by Sidmouth. This often has a quick turnaround time. Where tournaments keep to the same day of the week, the date creeps back by one each year. We need to give consideration as to whether we now want everything to jump forward by one week. The CA tournaments form the basis of our Programme; around them we plan our internal tournaments. **ALL** to give this consideration. **RH** to be alerted to expect to receive this and share it with PN, SD and Julie Horsley.

- a Gold Award from Sidmouth in Bloom has been awarded for the Chairman's Garden. Mike Hide and Rob Matthews are to be congratulated.

Dates of the next meetings

Thursday 1st October 9.30 am at Redleaf, Knowle Drive

Friday 6th November 9.30 (provisional). **SD** to check availability of Julie Sorrell.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, and CROQUET CLUB

CROQUET SECTION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 1st October 2015

Present: Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Pam Bowra, Marian Harris, Helen Pryor, Ian Simpson, Andrew Thomas, Colin Walls

In Attendance: Philip Harris

Apologies for Absence: David Butler, Roger Hendy

Minutes of the last meeting held on 9th September 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Golf Club Session format 2016

Gabby Macadam was amenable to the suggestion that the Friday afternoon club golf session format be changed to make it competitive.

Donation of a bench

PN has spoken to Vera Henderson and will progress the matter ready for the 2016 season.

Golf Croquet Pegs

The metal samples supplied were considered insufficiently robust. Plastic pegs to continue to be used.

South West Fed AGM proposal

After further consultation on the wording, HP has submitted a proposal relating to walkovers.

Commiserations / Finals Weekend

PN expressed commiserations on behalf of the committee to Andrew Thomas on the death of his Mother. It was also regretted that AT was unable to participate in the Finals Weekend where he was due to play 3 matches. HP was thanked for organising the weekend.

Croquet Section AGM – Tuesday 3rd November 6.00pm

Following discussion, the following arrangements were agreed:

Non-playing spouses/partners/family to have tickets for the buffet only if space allows.

ALL to circulate their draft reports to other committee members by 15th October. (DB's role will be incorporated into CW's report).

PN to include in his report reference to last year's formal request for winter lawns. Also requested not to mention table tennis which is already very popular.

HP to provide a list of deceased members.

PH, with the association handicap committee, to decide the best HH and LH improvers.

HP, with the golf handicap committee, to decide the best improver and give consideration as to whether to make two awards, a HH and LH. If so, a further trophy will be required.

SD to ask David Temple to give a report on the SW Fed league teams to include golf croquet.

ALL asked to attend at 5.15 pm to help with room layout.

SD to provide name badges for all attendees (at the request of a new member).

SD to make copies of the agenda available.

PH to announce trophy winners and assist John Dixon.

SD to arrange for collection boxes for Colin Whitehall and Julie Clayden.

PN authorised by the committee to make up the collections from club funds to a reasonable amount.

SD to obtain signatures for trophies received.

MH to arrange buffet place names for our guests, together with PN and Julie Horsley.

Forthcoming events

Winter Activities

Whist – organised by Graeme Pryor on the first Thursday in the month from 2pm.

Table Tennis – organised by Gabby Macadam.

Bridge - organised by Jacky Harvey on behalf of the Friends every Friday afternoon.

The Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 16th December

MH reported that 27 tickets have been sold. Julie Sorrell will organise the raffle.

Early Season Speakers

MH reported that two talks are planned:

Roger Hendy/ Tuesday 9th Feb at 7pm with an interval/Music of Vienna /£3 admission at the door/Bar open / Nibbles

David Baldock/Monday 14th March at 7pm/ Glimpses of the past/£3 admission at the door/Bar open/Bar snacks from Julie Clayden.

MH to confirm details.

Internal Tournaments

Further to discussions at the previous committee meeting:

- The Fermor tournament be re-instated following requests to PN.
- The Charity One Ball is recommended by MH to be run from hut 3. Drinks and biscuits to be available. Participants to bring a packed lunch.
- Short Croquet. PH suggested that lawn 2 to be split as usual for the beginners in April up to the CA Golf tournament; lawn 1 to be split after the CA Golf tournament on 24th April for play and practice; Short Croquet tournament to be programmed for Sat 21st May. Lawn 1 to revert to a full lawn after that event.
- Block tournaments. Block tournaments previously have runners-up participating in a semi-final; this was considered to be unnecessary where blocks are small. Block winners could progress straight to a final.
- The Dwerryhouse Cup is available for internal tournaments.

CA Tournaments 2016

Following discussion these were agreed as:

Open Golf Championship

Sat 23/Sun 24th April

Helen Pryor to manage

Midsummer Tournament

Wed 8-Sun 12 June

Julie Horsley to manage
B level Advanced Tournament
Thur 11-Sat 13 August
Nancy Temple to manage
C level Advanced Tournament
Fri 9-Sun 11 September
Julie Horsley to manage

SD to send these dates to Julie Horsley and RH in readiness for the CA request.

Draft Programme 2016

A discussion was held on dates and activities. **SD** to compose draft 2 for the next meeting to include suggested tournament dates. Social activities will be discussed at that meeting with input from the new Social Secretary.

Website Direct Debit

Roger Hendy has cancelled his Direct Debit for hosting the croquet website. As an interim arrangement this has been taken on by CW. **CW** to discuss with Roger Mills as to how the Club can take on this payment.

Chairman's Matters

PN reported that:

- a disabled access to the Pavilion has been agreed following discussion with Neil Gamble and Julie Clayden.

At the GMC meeting it was agreed that:

- the bar area will be floored with washable flooring.
- the door to the men's toilets will be changed and the facilities improved.
- an external notice board will be supplied for the pavilion so that the windows do not get covered.
- the bar will be open on winter Sundays only on days when lunch is booked.
- Folk week parking raised a net profit of £37,000.
- the Classic Car Day raised £700 in donations. The GMC will in future ask for a guaranteed minimum payment.
- quotes have been requested to raise and/or replace fencing alongside lawn 4 and insert a gate to minimise encroachment by cricket balls. The anticipated expense has resulted in the GMC request that the tank repair issue is deferred.
- a substantial donation has been made by a cricket club member specifically to improve facilities for young members.

Individual Committee Members' Reports

Pam Bowra reported that in the Budleigh Friendly, Sidmouth had won back the Seagull.

Andrew Thomas reported that there was considerable work to be done over the winter with a bookcase and mallet rack to be made, the mirror to be re-hung and the water filter to be checked.

Ian Simpson reported that John Davies had asked, because of being unable to play this season, for a refund of his tournament fees and subscription. The committee agreed to the former. Regarding subscription refund, the croquet section is consistent in not giving refunds

but allowing the payment to be carried forward to the next playing season. **IS** to inform John Davies.

Sue Dent reported that:

PH had acted as the club's host for the SW Fed 'Federation' league finals held on 27th September. PH reported that Brian Shorney and Roger Hayes had thanked the club for hosting this event which had gone very well. MH provided refreshments and arranged the lunch. PN thanked PH and MH for making the players welcome.

AOB

Pin numbers

SD commented that new members had not been given pin numbers for electronic lawn booking and may want to book lawns now that the club sessions are over. **SD** to ask CW for pin numbers for specific individuals who require them.

Subscriptions

PN wants to take a proposal to the next GMC meeting on subscription increases being a uniform amount for all sections. **SD** to agenda for the next meeting.

Dates of the next meetings

Friday 6th November 9.30 am at Redleaf, Knowle Drive

Wednesday 9th December (provisional) 9.30 am.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET TENNIS AND CROQUET CLUB
MINUTES OF CROQUET SECTION AGM

TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2015

The Chairman (Peter Nelson) welcomed more than 50 members to the meeting who then stood in silence to remember two former members Roland Henderson and Maurice Corbett who had died since the last AGM.

Apologies for absence: were received from Helen and Graeme Pryor, Ian Friedlander, Sue Rogers, Barbara Hamer, Keith Thorley, Howard and Marjorie Quarrell, Anne Holbeche, John Davies, Sue and Kelvin Dent, Diana East and Colin Walls.

The Chairman updated the meeting on Kelvin Dent's condition following his recent accident and a "get well" card was circulated for members to sign.

Minutes of 2014 AGM: were accepted by the meeting as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

Treasurer's Report: Ian Simpson reported an increase in subscription revenue (up £700) and in revenue from social events. These increases were to some extent countered by reductions in fees from open tournaments and from visitors.

The expenditure on the extension to Hut 3 was £6,500 but it was emphasised that this would have been much more but for the efforts of Andrew Thomas. The treasurer also emphasised the importance of Folk Week parking revenue and thanked those members who had assisted as stewards.

Secretary's Report: was read by the Chairman in Sue Dent's absence. The report noted a welcome increase in membership which now stands at 115. New membership included 16 beginners and three experienced players including two "A" class players.

It was advised that Rob Mitchell was standing down as Membership Secretary and he was thanked for his service to the Club in this role which henceforth will undertaken by David Butler.

Committee Reports: were received from:

- **Marian Harris** who reported on social events noting in particular the benefits derived from the enhanced facilities at hut 3. Thanks were also given to the Thurlows who had made the "Wine and Buffet" evening such an enjoyable event.
- **Helen Pryor** whose report was read by the Chairman, advised of some impending changes to internal competitions and asked members to read entry documents carefully next year. Entry for 14 point competitions had been disappointing.
- **Roger Hendy** reported that CA Open Tournaments had been well supported although considerable "marketing" effort had been required to get a good field for the C Level Advanced.
- **Pam Bowra** summarised the Golf Croquet season and exhorted more members to enter competitions and to play for teams.
- **Colin Walls:** whose report was read by a rapidly tiring Chairman, advised some impressive statistics regarding the web site. The on-line booking of lawn 1 had generally proved popular and problems with connectivity had been solved by running a dedicated cable from the tablet to the router. It was anticipated that on-line booking would be extended to lawn 2 next year.

Publicity had generally gone well although the amount of space given in the Sidmouth Herald was somewhat variable.

- **Andrew Thomas:** advised that he would not be spending this winter at hut 3! He noted that lawns 3 and 4 were getting heavier use than lawns 1 and 2 and hoop positions on these would be moved more frequently in future. A rambling monologue about his successful visit to Crete followed.

Handicap Committee: Philip Harris and Ian Simpson summarised the major handicap changes achieved this season by Association and Golf players respectively.

SW Federation: David Temple thanked managers and captains of the various teams. Results had been modest and details were available for inspection in the mallet room.

Chairman's Remarks the Chairman congratulated Andrew Thomas on his international success in becoming the national champion of Greece.

He thanked the committee for their hard work and support which had contributed to an enjoyable season.

Thanks were given to non-committee members Rob Mitchell, retiring as Membership Secretary and to SW Fixtures Secretary David Temple. David will continue in this role for 2016 but has announced of standing down thereafter.

The Chairman then thanked the three retiring committee members Roger Hendy, Helen Pryor and Marian Harris for their work over a number of years. Particular mention was made of Helen's management and encouragement of competitive golf croquet which she is to continue. It was noted that Julie Horsley would take on the role of CA Tournament Secretary but did not wish to join the committee.

In recognition of outstanding work as Social Secretary for the last 4 years Marian Harris was given the 2015 Chairman's Award.

Election of New Committee: existing committee members Peter Nelson, Sue Dent, Colin Walls, Pam Bowra, Ian Simpson, David Butler and Andrew Thomas offered themselves for re-election. Julie Sorrell and Philip Harris were candidates to join the committee.

The meeting agreed to vote en-bloc and the motion to elect the committee was proposed by Mike Taylor and seconded by David Clarke. The vote in favour was unanimous and the aforementioned candidates were duly elected.

Presentation of Prizes: the Chairman introduced David Temple as Guest of Honour; this being in recognition of his long and outstanding contribution to the Club in many roles.

David presented the prizes, mostly to Andrew Thomas but occasionally to someone else. The Humphrey Hicks was won by David Mundy and the Belmont by Richard Wood. The level golf event was won by Chris Donovan.

Roger Hendy proposed a vote of thanks to David Temple and John Dixon was thanked for his hard work in collecting and arranging for the engraving on the trophies.

Notices: Members were advised that tickets were on sale for the Christmas Lunch on 16th December. Details of a club event in the pavilion on New Year's Eve were also advised.

Meeting Closed: there being no other business and the bar being open the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.04 pm.