

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday 29th January 2021 3pm held via Zoom because of Covid restrictions

Participating: Paul Bradley, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Steve Pearson, Julie Sorrell.

There was no set agenda. Items addressed:	Action
1. SWF Programme	
a. As last year, SWF fees will be paid in anticipation of resuming activity later in the year. If there is no activity, we will reclaim league fees but donate membership fees.....	PB
b. We will not enter the Short Croquet League this year.	
c. We will enter 1 handicap and 1 high handicap team for golf croquet.	
d. Richard Wood and Jane Babbage will be consulted on the viability of advanced association teams.....	ED
e. Other teams will be entered as usual.	
2. CA fixtures	
a. The golf championship scheduled for April 24 th will be cancelled for this year, but we will ask to be hosts for future years.....	ED
b. Julie Horsley is authorised to make any other alterations to the programme that she thinks necessary.....	ED
3. Subscriptions	
a. Subscription for 2021 will be unchanged at £178.	
b. Members joining after 14 th July will pay £89.	
c. Student membership will remain at £38.	
d. Subscriptions will be reviewed in the upcoming, full club strategic review.	
4. Sponsorship The cricket section is negotiating a new sponsorship deal. The croquet section will participate if they can offer value to the scheme, but there was no strong feeling that this would be the case. Chris will keep abreast of developments.....	CD
5. Courts 2/3 An approach was made by letter to the GMC for the 'return' of tennis courts allegedly only 'loaned' to the Croquet Section in the 1980s. This has been a frequent request by tennis members as their members have grown substantially from the doldrums of the early 2000 period. The Tennis Chair did not and does not support this view and the GMC agreed on the response, which is definitive. See att. The request was thus refused and alternative possibilities are being explored with Leisure East Devon.	
6. Participation The Club overall is close to the 50% participation requirement for CASC purposes. Participation levels to be revised as the courts have been available for less time than advised recently.....	PH/CD
7. Membership Section paperwork will go out with the general club papers 1 st March.	
DoNM: It was decided that no date will be fixed for the next meeting.	

Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis and Croquet Club
The Pavilion
Fortfield Terrace
Sidmouth
EX10 8NT

19th December 2020

Dear Mrs. Michelmore,

Many thanks for your letter of the 28th October to the former chair, Neil Gamble. He stepped down at the Annual General Meeting of the Club after 15 years, and I wanted to put your letter before the first subsequent meeting of the General Management Committee. So, please accept my apologies for the slightly delayed response.

Your letter raised several important points, and it provoked a lot of discussion. As you will appreciate, the needs of three different sporting sections in a confined area creates challenges. This is particularly so when they are successful and attracting members. In the case of tennis, as you noted, severely reduced membership in the tennis section during the 1980's led our predecessors to change the ground configuration. An important principle here is that such a change cannot be seen as a situation of 'gain' or 'loss' by a section as if they own part of the Fortfield. Management of all the sporting areas rests with the club as a whole, and the right to change usage rests with the management, which operates ultimately under the club membership.

Since that decision there have been developments that have to be taken into consideration. Some £20,000 was raised to provide drainage under the lawns from players, croquet associations and benefactors. Having four lawns of good quality means Sidmouth Croquet can attract higher tiers of regional and national competitions, which is good for the club. At the same funds were raised by the tennis section and others for the development of all-weather hard courts and floodlighting which expands playing hours. As you know, the tennis section has, since those doldrum times of the eighties, seen a return to healthy membership, and it is still growing. This is, in no small part, due to the work of the coach Sue Wiltshire and her efforts with the junior section. At the management meeting the tennis chair, Martin Dawes, briefed us on how you have provided a lot of support for this activity, and I would very much like to take this opportunity to thank you and express my appreciation. I know you have made a lot of things possible. I would also like to assure you of the following. The numbers at the club and the competing demands are a challenge, but I see it as something that we should work to solve in as creative a way as possible, and to keep the issues under active review to ensure the interests of all the members.

I will ask Martin to keep in touch with you about these matters as I know he is as keen as anyone to see more provision. If you have any further questions about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Sommers
Chair Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis and Croquet Club

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 1st March 2021 10am held via Zoom because of Covid restrictions

Participating: Paul Bradley, Sue Dent, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Steve Pearson, Julie Sorrell.

Apologies from Julie Horsley

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Minutes. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Action | Action |
| 2. Matters Arising The level of participation from last year is still under review. | |
| 3. Annual Programme | |
| I. The CA Golf Team tournament has been transferred to the weekend of 10 - 11 th July. Ed to ask Julie Horsley to notify CA..... | ED |
| II. Pre-17 th May events, Annual Medics visit has been cancelled but will return next year on 12 th May. The Dorothy Toye Cup Short Croquet is postponed, the new date to be agreed when league fixture dates are known. The Charity One Ball will be rescheduled at the next meeting. If we cannot play before the national final, we will still hold the event and make the donation to the British Heart Foundation. The Association Canton Trophy has been cancelled for this year. | |
| III. New members will be canvassed about the format of the taster sessions..... | PH/SP |
| IV. The Seagull Trophy will be rescheduled, Pam Bowra will be asked to liaise..... | PH |
| V. The Corbett Spoons Association One Ball events will be rescheduled. | |
| VI. Roll ups have been postponed until 21 st June. Members will be making their own informal arrangements and will be reminded of the Covid restrictions that apply at any point in time..... | CD |
| VII. The wine and cheese buffet event will be reviewed later, ideally about 4 weeks prior to the event. | |
| VIII. Block competitions will start from 29 th March, entry forms will be emailed, posted on the website, and paper copies sent to members who do not have internet access..... | SD/CD |
| IX. All social events will be reviewed at a future meeting. | |
| X. All club competitions will be free to enter. There will still be a charge for tea if served at an event. | |
| 4. Membership forms | |
| Each club section will keep their own records using the main club's data protection and privacy policies which will be available on the section website. Forms will be sent out with appropriate wording..... | PH/CD |
| 5. Opening All 4 lawns will open on 29 th March, subject to playability, with the same hygiene arrangements as the most recent play sessions. | |

6. Facilities

- I. Players will have access to the clubhouse toilets during tournaments.
- II. Ladies will have access to the toilets through the mallet room along with the tennis players. A fresh key to the mallet room door will be located in a key safe placed somewhere inconspicuous.....

CD

Afternote: Club Caterer confirms no catering likely to be possible before hoped for 'All Clear' from 21st June. Therefore, there is no problem with West Door access to lavatories through the dining area. Croquet Section's key to be located for easy and secure access.

7. Revised timetable The main playing time slots will remain unchanged with a return of the late slot 17.30 – 19.00. Subject to playability and the maintenance schedule, lawns will be available for practice from 9am but not bookable. Colin and Andrew will be consulted again on the closure of lawns for maintenance.....

CD

8. 7th Edition Laws The planned CA webinar will be recorded and details circulated to members.....

CD

9. Strategic Plan The SWOT analysis was reviewed, no actions were determined.

10. Double banked Golf Croquet An alternative sequence of play from Australia was discussed. There was little enthusiasm for change, there was no decision to use it for double banking in tournaments. It will be publicised for consideration by players during roll ups.....

SP

11. AOB

Calls for golf team recruitment will be delayed allowing for the late fixture arrangements

Paperwork distributed at the spring lunch normally will be sent out instead.....

SD/CD

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Friday 26th March at 10am via Zoom.

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday 26th March 2021 10am held via Zoom because of Covid restrictions

Participating: Paul Bradley, Sue Dent, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Steve Pearson, Julie Sorrell.

- | | Action |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Apologies received from Julie Horsley Action | |
| 2. Minutes. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. | |
| 3. Matters Arising | |
| I. The website has been updated to include all current forms. | |
| II. Membership is going well with 70 members paid so far, including 6 who did not join last year. | |
| III. A reminder about the new Laws will be included with the membership mailing. | |
| IV. There are no current actions proposed from the draft development plan which will be reviewed periodically. | |
| V. Pam Bowra has been approached regarding the rearrangement of the Seagull Trophy, nothing has been decided yet. | |
| 4. Covid | |
| I. Current guidelines are on the website. | |
| II. A key to the pavilion west door will be secured in a key safe attached to hut 3, the code will be 1901 (Mnemonic Battle of Hastings turned upside down) | |
| III. The tap on the east side of the pavilion, beside the fire doors from the gents and beer cellar, is drinking water and so members will not need to use the tap by the tennis courts. | |
| IV. Hoops will be set 10am Sunday 28 th . | |
| 5. Schedule | |
| I. The Charity One Ball will be on Friday 30 th July. | |
| II. Corbett Spoons will be the weekend 28/29 th August | |
| III. The Dorothy Toye Cup Short Croquet is cancelled for this year. | |
| IV. Richard Thurlow and Peter Nelson will be contacted regarding the Wine and Buffet Evening, action Julie Sorrell. | |
| V. David Scrace is to be consulted on the Retired Clerics afternoon..... | PH |
| VI. Open Short Croquet Tournament [15/16 May] – Cancelled | |
| 6. Catering | |
| Boxed food will be available for tournaments. Julie Horsley to be given details..... | CD |

7. New Laws

The SWF presentation content is on their website. And Chairman’s notes will be issued with the email to all members on new season arrangements and co-ordinated with the issue of Club Membership Cards and Participation Cards.....

CD, JS &
PH

8. Coaching

I. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that club policy on coaching is:

a. members wishing to improve their game should attend a professional course to benefit from a well-structured course content and the accompanying course notes. [It was noted that the SW offers the SW Croquet Academy at Budleigh and Roger Mills, SWF Coaching Rep, is initiating federation-wide coaching hubs and there are several other Croquet Academies to consider.]

b. Club coaches will continue to offer ad hoc practise and discussion sessions. It is anticipated such sessions will be more available as:

(1) Steve Pearson and Paul Bradley offered to accept emails requesting GC coaching and would then arrange the requisite coaching session[s]. This approach to start wef return to play 29 Mar 21

(2) Chris Donovan to contact Club AC referees to establish a similar approach as GC above.....

CD

II. We will run a golf/association conversion course.....

PH

9. AOB

I. Paul Bradley reported some concern about the advance booking arrangements where competition players can book 3 slots in advance. Although this is a return to pre-Covid and long-standing arrangements, it might penalise casual players who, since Covid, are now more used to making individual bookings rather than just playing in roll-ups. It was decided to review the situation at the end of May or in early June.

II. Paul Bradley reported that the Croquet Section has contributed £11,000 to the General Club funds so far, compared to £9,000 from Tennis.

III. Sue Dent reported that she has received 32 competition entries so far but expected more as the deadline approached. Overall, entries to golf competitions are better than for association, there are not yet enough entries for the Devonian or Fermor to run. Individual members will be approached to raise interest.

SP, PH

IV. Steve Pearson will be sending out team invitations for golf this weekend. He suggested that handicaps might need reviewing after the prolonged break in competitive play.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 10th May at 10am via Zoom.

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 10th May 2021 10am held via Zoom because of Covid restrictions

Participating: Paul Bradley, Sue Dent, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Steve Pearson, Julie Sorrell.

1. **Apologies** received from Julie Horsley Action

2. **Minutes** Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

I. The Retired Clerics afternoon has been postponed.

II. Sue Dent reports that internal tournaments have started. There is significant interest in the one day tournaments, there will be opportunities for more entries nearer the time.

III. Preparations for the Wine and Buffet event are in hand..... JS

4. **Covid**

I. Club sessions will resume from Monday 24th May. Gabby Macadam has agreed to supervise the GC sessions. Numbers will be limited to 30, with a majority of 8 on a lawn. If there are more than 30, another group can be directed to Lawn 1. There will be a prominent sign setting out the requirements posted on hut 3, and book for players to record their presence..... ED

II. Hut 3 will remain closed until 21st June, but the catering facilities will not be available until some later date to be decided. The Pavilion catering will be open.

III. The club mallets will be returned to hut 3. Lapsed members will be encouraged to donate mallets..... CD

5. **Membership.** Membership is up to 108, 13 former members have not re-joined for a number of reasons, 9 who did not renew last year have now re-joined, we have 15 new members, 11 are new to croquet. Ed is to help with training sessions for new players.

6. **Cricket balls**

I. The 3 section heads have met to discuss the problem of cricket balls coming over the protective fences onto the lawns. Further measures will be taken to minimise the risk, but it is impossible to eliminate all risks.

II Extra netting is to be erected between the clubhouse and lawn 1.

III Enhancing the fencing alongside lawns 3&4 is to be investigated and some of the signs will be relocated to improve the sight line.

IV When big hitters are at the crease, a member of the batting team will be responsible for blowing a whistle if the ball is likely to be going onto the lawn.

V These points will be circulated to members..... CD

7. Booking Lawns

- I. Some members report difficulty with accessing the booking system. A step by step guide will be produced and circulated to members..... CD
- II. Some members have not been respecting the booking protocols, a letter will be circulated to remind members that there are limits to advance bookings, double banking is to be encouraged, especially at busy times..... CD
- III. There has been a request that training sessions be held on lawns 1&2 at busy times.

8. Lawns

- I. The condition of lawns 1&2 is an unfortunate combination of missed winter preparation and adverse weather in April. It is hoped that recent rain and warmer weather will promote active grass growth in the coming weeks.
- II. It may be necessary to review winter play at the end of the year.
- III. A necessary major renovation will be included in a developing long-term capital plan being drawn up by the main officers.

9. AOB

- I. A working people membership with limited lawn access and reduced membership fee will be considered before the next AGM.
- II. We have accepted entry to the End of Season Croquet Festival at Budleigh, provisional date 2nd October.
- III. Christine Bowler has joined the Handicap Committee.
- IV. An extra notice board is to be erected in hut 2..... SP
- V. The Chairman announced that he might need to stand down at the next AGM to allow him more time for the ongoing major overhaul of the main club's processes and commitments.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday 1st June at 10am in the clubhouse.

MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday 1st June 2021 10am in the Clubhouse

Participating: Paul Bradley, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Steve Pearson, Julie Sorrell.

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|--|--------|
| <p>1. Apologies received from Julie Horsley, Ed Dolphin</p> | Action |
| <p>2. Minutes The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.</p> | |
| <p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">I. Preparations for the Wine and Buffet event are in hand. Date confirmed for Tuesday 19th July 6pm for 7.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">II. Lapsed members emailed re donating / selling their mallets. Only one response from ? ? who donated it to the Club.</p> | |
| <p>4. Covid /Upcoming Events</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">I. a. 5th / 6th June Zero+ - all in hand with Loise & Stuart Smith. Trophy completed plus an annual, to keep trophy for the 'Plate' event. Stuart enjoys creating such at no cost to the Club.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. New hot water boiler to be used, access to Hut 3 limited and the Smiths will cleanse after the event.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">II. a 9th – 13th June Mid-Summer Tournament. CD managing. Small entry 8 for handicap 10 for Class.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Two lawns [3,4] required for 9th / 10th and 3 lawns [2-4] 11th – 13th which permits Howton / Young to play on Lawn 1 on the 10th at 1pm – 4pm.[see 7II]</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c. Coffee / teas to be provided..... JS</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">d. Players to be requested to bring their own mug..... CD</p> | |
| <p>No further comment on Covid or future events. Any problems arising to be dealt with by email initially</p> | |
| <p>5. Club Sessions [Roll-Ups] CD initiated discussion of the purpose of Club Sessions and, specifically the format for AC sessions. There was lengthy discussion.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">I. Club-sessions are organised for members to turn-up and play, no more, no less. They are not training periods.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">II. GC sessions are run well by Gabby and the mix of people coming and going, frequent change arounds works well both for socialising and incidental acquisition of tactics etc.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">III. AC sessions will be:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Attendees at start will split into those wanting a 1.5hr session and those wanting a full 26pt game.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Full game attendees:</p> | |

- (1) Wednesdays play nearest handicap to own [i.e. pair-up from the right, lowest handicap].
- (2) Fridays random pairing by drawing of numbered tokens. If high / low pairing results informal advice / coaching is up to the two players to agree on or not.
- (3) Wednesdays at 4pm Lawns 3 & 4 will, on a trial basis, be used for AC Alternate Shot Doubles play. Players matched higher handicap with lower handicap. Lawns 1 & 2 for privately booked games.

6. **Team Practice.** GC Team practice sessions will recommence wef Tuesday 8th June at 14.30Hrs.

7. **Coaching / New Members**

- I. 1 new member takes membership to 109.
- II. John Howton High Wycombe Croquet Club, visits Sidmouth 9 / 10 June and will introduce his friend, and local resident, Brian Young to croquet. As prospective member possible just the one £5 session charge.
- III. New member coaches to be emailed to confirm how many copies of 'How to Play' Croquet are required for issue to new members [1 per family]..... CD
- IV. Most if not all new members are now playing in club sessions so further comment on new member training redundant.

8. **AoB**

- I. Safeguarding Officer. We must appoint a safeguarding officer regardless of whether we have an actual need for one or not. Membership to be emailed to see if there is a vetted member willing to be nominated for this 'name only' position..... CD
- II. Footwear / Sandals. JS noted that in her last Club sandals were not permitted for H&S reasons. PB confirmed that when he joined this Club 5 years ago this was the policy. The reason given was that an injured foot meant the Club was vicariously liable. Discussion led to:
 - a. Need for new members to be given information on the Club from footwear, no to be clearly stated that 'sandals at owner's risk and club suggest strongly proper shoes' to facilities etc. 4 page A5 booklet..... CD
 - b. Amend website page to reflect specific footwear advice..... CD

9. **Date of next meeting**

No meeting in July.

Meet next on Monday 9th of August [after Folk Week] at 10am in the clubhouse.

**MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 9th August 2021 10am held in the Pavilion**

Participating: Paul Bradley, Sue Dent, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Peter Nelson, Steve Pearson.

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|--|--------|
| 1. Apologies received from Julie Sorrell Action | Action |
| 2. Minutes Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. | |
| 3. Matters Arising | |
| I. The donated mallet is from Kay Peers. | |
| II. CD still to action email to all re Safeguarding Officer..... | CD |
| 4. Internal tournaments | |
| I. The Skills Afternoon will not take place this year. | |
| II. The AC One Ball will go ahead. | |
| III. It was decided to also cancel the Wine and Cheese social for 2021 | |
| IV. Trophies from competitions that did not run this year will be stored within the club. | |
| CD suggested the Mallet Room be reviewed for erecting new storage units in which, such may be stored and Club Minutes be available..... | CD |
| 5. CA Tournaments After extensive discussion, the following decisions were agreed | |
| I. The July AC C Class weekend did not attract a strong entry, possibly because of Covid. It will run again in 2022 but will be dropped in future years if entries do not improve. | |
| II. The Golf Team Tournament will return to its slot in early May. The July slot is available for a GC Open Series event. | |
| III. We would welcome the opportunity to host a GC C Class event, possibly opened to B Class as well. | |
| IV. It was decided that we will apply to host high prestige 'Top 8' GC and AC tournaments in alternate years starting with GC in 2024. Louise Smith to liaise with Peter Nelson. | |
| V. Number of lawns for the GC Handicap Final, 4/5 th September to be fixed..... | ED |
| VI. When lawn preparation for a tournament falls on Friday afternoon, AC club roll up will be moved to the morning. | |
| 6. Covid | |
| I. Hut 3 will open fully from Monday 16 th August. Members will be reminded regularly that they are responsible for clearing their own washing up etc..... | ED |
| ED will liaise with JS over provisioning..... | JS |

II. The cricket and tennis sections should no longer need to use the mallet room to be open for general access to the ladies' facilities.....	CD
7. Strategic Plan	
I. The first stage of the membership consultation produced some innovative suggestions. The GMC will continue to develop the plan.	
II. Simon Bowler has stepped forward to assume the Club's House Chairman role.	
III. Members will be encouraged to challenge other members via random contacts.	
8. Upcoming Events	
I. Short Croquet, 8-10 th October, Budleigh, members will be invited to put themselves forward for three teams.....	PH
II. Members will be invited to an open meeting, 11am – 1pm Wednesday 8 th September, to allow the committee to consult members directly on a range of issues on the future organisation of the club, including the format of internal competitions, the timing of booking sessions, club roll-up sessions, and anything else that is raised. Subjects for discussion to be passed to	ED/All
III. A committee agreed agenda will be circulated to all members, prior to the meeting, with opportunity for other issues to be raised. Collation and distribution.....	ED
IV. Access to the kitchen to be clarified	CD
[Afternote; situation not at all clear but various options for catering are in early stages of discussion – no problem is envisaged]	
V. A sandwich buffet will be offered	ED
9. Golf Team Competitions	
There was a discussion around the comments submitted by Christine Bowler [CB] regarding the GC competitions.	
I. The gist of the comments will be shared with the SWF during the next Zoom meeting, but it is unlikely that major changes will be acceptable to the SWF as a whole.....	ED
II. Internal tournaments will be one of the items for discussion on 8 th September.	
III. The possibility of a light-hearted GC version of the AC Seagull Trophy against Budleigh will be explored. The competition could be opened up to Exeter and Lyme, meeting CB's suggestion. Team may be restricted to casual players plus an experienced captain. This to be initially discussed with CB.....	SP
IV. A trophy will be purchased.....	CD
[Afternote: Tasteful Seagull trophy purchased]	

10. **AOB**

- I. Committee members signed a letter thanking Julie Horsley for her years of work supporting the club and the world of croquet which CD posted.
- II. Competition managers will be reminded that they should receive reimbursement for winners' prizes.....
- III. Preliminary figures for income from Folk Week parking are looking good.
- iv. PH reported membership at 117 and immediately post meeting 2 members re-joined

CD

10. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be Monday 13th September at 10am in the Pavilion.

**MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 13 th September 2021 10am held in the Pavilion**

Participating: Paul Bradley, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Peter Nelson, Steve Pearson.

- | | |
|--|--------|
| <p>1. Apologies received from Julie Sorrell and Philip Harris</p> | Action |
| <p>2. Minutes Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.</p> | |
| <p>3. Matters Arising</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">I. Ed Dolphin has agreed to take on the role of Safeguarding Officer.....</p> | ED |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">II. Hut 3 washing up is going well so far. If standards fall back, a reminder will be sent out to members.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">III. The mallet room has returned to normal use.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">IV. Short Croquet teams have been organised.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">V. The cost of the catering for the members' meeting, on 8th September, is being met by the main club.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">VI. Christine Bowler is organising the local GC Seagull Tournament; a trophy has been purchased.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">VII. Competition managers have been reminded to claim expenses.</p> | |
| <p>4. Members' Meeting</p> <p>The meeting was well attended and conducted in a constructive manner with several members expressing an interest in joining the committee in the future. Of the topics discussed, the members indicated:</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">I. Strong support for a meal post AGM and a Christmas lunch. Options to be pursued re In house and hotel for the Christmas lunch.....</p> | CD/JS |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">II. Roll-Ups:</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) No wish at all to change the current format but wanted Coaching and advancement to team membership to be</p> | SP, PB |
| <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) strong support for 3hr games be played with those wanting to play 1½hr games to be accommodated on Lawn 1. Members arriving at the half-way point to be assimilated but cannot expect members in play to stand aside.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">III. No support for a change to the booking periods from 1½hrs to 1hr.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">IV. No support for mandatory double-banking, particularly GC.</p> | |
| <p style="padding-left: 20px;">V. Strong support for subscription change but after meeting information requires the situation to remain unchanged</p> | |

5. AGM

- I. Arrangements to distribute notices and documents will follow the usual procedure. Nominations to the committee will be identified as separate posts, including understudies to the treasurer and membership secretary both of whom have said they will be standing down. There will also be spaces for an unspecified number of general committee members..... ED
- II. The draft section rules were settled and will be presented to the AGM for adoption.
- III. Croquet Section will request a rise of £2 and student membership at 25% of the full fee.
- IV. The collection for Colin, Toby and Julie will be organised in Hut 3..... ED

6. AOB

- I. Lawns 1 and 2 will be closed for winter treatment as of Monday 4th October, lawns 3 and 4 will remain open until further notice. Winter rules will apply as in previous years. All four lawns will be treated this winter, the schedule will be dictated by weather and Colin Whitehall.
- II. The possibility of hollow tine treatment, perhaps borrowing equipment from Budleigh, will be investigated..... CD
- III. There has been a request that the hoops on one lawn be set at 1/16 to allow practice under challenging conditions. This is not practicable because the hoops are removed regularly for lawn cutting and then put back in without being clamped.
- IV. Roger Mills' new coaching book will be added to the library. ED
- V. A review of internal tournaments will be needed when the new committee is in place.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 11th October at 10am in the Pavilion

**MINUTES OF THE CROQUET SECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday 11th October 2021 10am held in the Pavilion**

Participating: Paul Bradley, Ed Dolphin, Chris Donovan, Philip Harris, Peter Nelson, Steve Pearson, Julie Sorrell.

1. Apologies none	Action
2. Minutes Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.	
3. Matters Arising	
I. Lawns 1&2 have been hollow tined using our own equipment but difficulties with top dressing supplies will affect Colin's schedule. If it will not affect the lawns adversely, we will retain a pair of half lawns for the winter.	
II. There is a low take up for the post AGM meal and it has been withdrawn as Emma Brock requires a minimum of 40 covers to make the job worthwhile.....	JS
III. Emma Brock is prepared to cater for a Christmas meal on 7 th or 14 th December, £25 for two courses, but requires a minimum order of 40 covers. Members will be asked to confirm places by the AGM.....	JS
IV. Some of the amendments to the draft Section Rules proposed by Roger Mills are supported by the Committee and will be presented for a vote at the AGM. A second proposal on exclusive use of one lawn by CA players did not have a seconder.....	ED
V. There have been no further nominations to Committee, but extra members may be persuaded for co-option later.	
VI. The Christmas collection has gathered £121.10 so far. There will be a collection at the AGM.	ED
4. Honours Boards The various section honours boards will be returned to the former positions on the Pavilion walls. The format will be reviewed with the possibility of maintaining the premier AC and GC competitions and all other competition winners being recorded on a changeable format board, possibly with current holders or holders from the past three years being updated annually according to the space available on commercially available boards. Philip Harris will liaise with Sue Dent.....	CD / PH
5. AGM All covered in Matters Arising above.	
6. Open Tournaments A draft open tournament list was presented and approved for submission to the CA.....	PN
Subject to CA approval, the list is:	
The Sidmouth GC Championship 23 rd -24 th April	
The Sidmouth GC Team Challenge 7 th - 8 th May	
GC A-Level (0+) Series Tournament 4 th -5 th June	
AC June Mid-summer Tournament 8 th -12 th June	

AC Advanced Handicap Singles Weekend 1st - 3rd July

AC B-Level Advanced Weekend 11-13th August

AC Fourth Eight [The Treasurer's Tankard] 8th - 12th September

7. SWF Leagues

- I. Following consultation with likely team members, all teams would prefer a return to larger blocks with the exception of the high handicap GC team who would like to keep the new smaller blocks.
- II. At present, it looks as if we will struggle to enter a B-level AC team. All members in the relevant handicap band will be contacted to see if they want to join the team and if we have someone to manage the team.
- III. We will enter a team for the Short Croquet League if any handicap restriction allows low handicap players to participate.

8. Croquet Association Status It was decided that the preferred option was for the CA to convert to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the affiliated Clubs having voting rights.

9. AOB

- I. A suggestion has been received that people with outstanding records of volunteer support for the club be offered honorary life membership, but it was felt this could lead to awkward choices. Other ways of recognising these efforts will be explored... CD
- II. John Freeman has asked about a Wheel Competition for AC, we support the idea if he wants to organise it.
- III. As part of the developing strategic plan, we need to know the cost of relaying lawns..... ED
- IV. The resurrection of the GC Seagull Trophy match with Budleigh is still under consideration, but Christine Bowler is exploring setting up a new local competition catering for the GC players who feel unable to participate in SWF leagues.
- V. The Social Fund is in a healthy state because of reduced expenses for matches and stands at approximately £300.
- VI. The provision of catering for visiting teams is under review..... JS & PN
- VI. The SWF AGM is on 21 st November via Zoom. CD, ED & PN.
- VII. As a reward for hosting the PFC Mallet event, the club is to receive a mallet worth about £380. This will be offered as a prize in a competition lottery..... CD

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 15th November at 10am in the Pavilion.

DRAFT – For Adoption at 2022 AGM

Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis and Croquet Club

Croquet Section

Minutes of the AGM held in the Pavilion at 6pm, Tuesday 19th October 2021

1. The Chairman welcomed 28 members to the meeting.
2. A minute's silence was held in remembrance of Barbara Clarke, Barbara Hamer and John Maynard who have died during the year.
3. Apologies were received from; Jon & Penny Ball, Ann & Myles Chance, Tricia Clews, Ian Friedlander, Hilary Gibson, Duncan Hasell, Michael Hide, David Hodge, David Mason, Roger Mills, Diane Price, David Scrace, Lionel Stock, Andrew Thomas, Richard Wood.
4. The notes prepared for 2020's AGM, which was cancelled because of Covid restrictions, were accepted after a proposal by Peter Nelson, seconded by Philip Harris.
5. Chris Donovan delivered his Chairman's Report and the Treasurer's Report on Income and Expenditure, both are appended to these minutes.
6. Julie Horsley stood down from the committee earlier in the year because of health problems. Julie has made a tremendous contribution to the club over many years for which we are truly grateful.
7. No nominations for the committee were received other than the en-bloc nomination of existing members. Following proposal by Muriel Philpott, seconded by Pam Bowra, the committee was re-elected unanimously.
8. Motions for decision
 - a. The amendment to the draft Section Rules, proposed by Roger Mills and seconded by Ed Dolphin, was passed unanimously.
 - b. The amended Section Rules, proposed by Chris Donovan and seconded by Philip Harris, were adopted unanimously.
9. Trophies were presented by Chris Donovan. A list of winners who had received their trophies at the end of play in one day competitions was read out by Sue Dent. A list of winners is appended to these minutes and is available on the club website under competitive play.
10. A vote of thanks was given to all those who have helped to keep the club moving forward the club in what has been a difficult year.
11. There was strong support for Peter Nelson to organise a club quiz event in March.
12. Philip Harris announced that there would be one full lawn and two half lawns open during the winter, subject to the lawns being playable.
13. The meeting closed at 6.55. The 2022 AGM will be in the third week of October with a morning start and followed by lunch, hopefully.

Chairman's Report

Membership

At the last AGM in 2019 we had 125 members which drastically reduced by October 2020 for obvious reasons. WE had some cause for concern as several members decided for age and health reasons that they would not re-join. However, recruiting was actually quite buoyant and we are back to 126 members. If 2022 is anything like a normal year we may well see a slight increase in members.

Finances

The Club Treasurer, Paul Griew, is reasonably content with the overall state of the Club's finances given the trials and tribulations since early 2019. More specifically our subs income was £18,918 – some £2k down on the 2018 -19 year but many members joined later in the season - new and returning.

CA Tournaments brought in £504, better than £148 last year but still well off 2018 -19s £2,181. Nonetheless we pay our fair share but a few more members would be useful.

Subscriptions.

I'll mention here that the Committee continue to believe that subs should rise every year to avoid large increases which always cause consternation. Thus for the 21-22 season we are proposing our subs increase from £178 to £180.

I must add here that the General Meeting on 8th September I raised the issue of main season and winter subs and this was generally supported. This has been superseded by events which will lead to general review of the basis on which subs are set. I cannot see the results of such a review having effect before the 22-23 season.

Internal Tournaments

Note quite so well supported this year and the Committee will look at formats but it is difficult with so many club related matter to decide whether it is the Covid effect or something else.

Regardless though, Sue Dent has continued to organise the events, chased up recalcitrant competitors and managed the collection of club trophies. That alone requires some nifty organisation – thank you Sue.

Again, thinking of the Covid effect or not and the 11 September meeting, almost the whole of the 50 plus attendees indicated a post AGM meal was wanted. At our Committee Meeting Monday last week we had 16 takers with Committee members being most of them. 40 is the minimum. That meeting also indicated a Christmas Lunch was wanted. Well, most hotels are only for residents but Emma Brock is offering to cater for us. We must have definite numbers; you sign-up and must, barring genuine emergency, attend.

League Matches

What can I say about League Matches? We travelled, less far than pre Covid, had fewer matches and enjoyed playing croquet competitively again. I think I'll leave it there – the results are all there on the SWF website if you are feeling masochistic.

So, looking forward. The Committee noted the following at Monday 11th October meeting:

SWF Leagues

1. Following consultation with likely team members, all teams would prefer a return to larger blocks with the exception of the high handicap GC team who would like to keep the new smaller blocks.
2. At present, it looks as if we will struggle to enter a B-level AC team. All members in the relevant handicap band will be contacted to see if they want to join the team and if we have someone to manage the team.
3. We will enter a team for the Short Croquet League if any handicap restriction allows low handicap players to participate.

The CA - Open Tournaments

The CA – is considering reorganisation and we have forwarded their email for you to read and vote or ignore as you decide.

Our tournament Calendar reflects the growing popularity of GC events and Short Croquet and we have the same number of major events for both AC and GC

23-24 Apr 22	GC Championship (Championship Series)
7-8 May 22	GC Team Challenge
4-5 Jun 22	GC ZeroPlus
8-12 Jun 22	AC June Mid-Summer
1-3 Jul 22	AC Advanced Handicap Singles Tournament
11-13 Aug 22	AC B-Level Weekend
8-12 Sep 22	AC Fourth Eight (The Treasurer's Tankard)

2021 Open Tournaments:

GC ZeroPlus – Steve Pearson 4th out of 16

All England Handicap Final – Winner – Ed Dolphin! – CA error caused Peter Nelson, Managing, to call in an extra player. Ed obliged and duly won the event but as he wasn't technically a contender, he didn't get the trophy.

Grounds and Equipment

Lawns 1 and 2 suffered due to not being treated last Winter due to cost savings in an uncertain Covid year. They have come back and, as you know, Colin and Toby, worked over the weekend to get the topsoil down and the lawns are closed for a week or so. I trust we all understand lawn care must take primacy over everything else.

The Jump Hoop are has seen some vigorous lawn work and, hopefully, this will become far more useful to all. I am concerned with number of jump shot divots that blight the approach to too many hoops. Please find out how to repair these divots, don't just leave them. Should we have a 'Jump Shot Competence Certificate' requirement?

General maintenance is improving as Andrew Thomas, in particular, supported by Peter Nelson and Philip Harris, do so much work. It really is very much appreciated by us all.

Social

I think it would be fair to say that the year has continued to be as difficult for social events as last season. Julie Sorrel has battled on with organising team teas and I hope we have a better response for the Christmas lunch than the meal foregone this evening. Thank you, Julie, I know you would like to stand down – is there no-one out there who will take it on – job share and/or shadow?

Thanks to Retiring Members

It is normal at this point to thank retiring committee members for their services but as they all have to step down I am, instead, welcoming Peter Nelson back to the committee. As you know Julie Horsley stood down due to ill health. Julie ran liaison with the CA for event fixtures and Peter volunteered to step forward and take this on – thank you Peter.

I would also wish to say, on my behalf and of that of the Club membership thank you to the committee members and big contributors for keeping me on the straight and narrow and making sure the Club works. I have mentioned some already but there is:

Paul Bradley – GC coach when not handling the sections finances

Steve Pearson – the GC lead and coaching.

Ed Dolphin – secretary and he has volunteered to be the Welfare Officer

And certainly not forgetting Philip Harris, membership, membership email liaison and ‘Lord High Everything else’.

Thank you – thank you all

Croquet Section Extract from Main Accounts

	Oct 20	Oct 19	Oct 18
	To	To	To
	Sep 21(PY)	Sep 20	Sep 19
Income			
130 Donations and Grants			
131 Donations General	100.00		45.00
Total 130 Donations and Grants	100.00		45.00
70 Sports Sections Income			
71 Subscriptions	18,918.00	15,561.50	20,715.50
72 Match Fees	28.00	-162.50	
74 Visitor Fees	35.00	10.00	
74a Non members Court /pitch usage fee	216.00	98.00	341.00
77 Other Income		58.50	223.50
78 Tournament Fees - club		177.50	662.50
79 Tournament Fees - CA	504.00	148.00	2,181.00
86 Donations - Sports Sections	66.50	222.00	70.00
87 Winter Sports Income			82.75
Total 70 Sports Sections Income	19,767.50	16,113.00	24,276.25
Total Income	19,867.50	16,043.50	24,321.25
GROSS PROFIT	19,857.50	16,113.00	24,321.25
Expenses			
200 Sports Sections Expenses			
201 Affiliation Fees	1,163.00	1,462.00	1,823.70
202 Small equipment purchases	9.36	168.38	
203 Sundry expenses	190.82	1,036.46	1,357.86
222 Mowers & Rollers - Maintenance	359.23	376.26	275.59
223 Ground - Other Equipment Costs			575.00
224 Ground - General Repairs & Supplies	390.00		50.13
225 Ground - Seeds & Dressings	1,747.81	1,770.10	3,356.11
226 Ground - Contractors Services	85.00	445.00	250.00
227 Ground - Water Pumping Costs		130.00	
229 Sports Sections Equipment	2,060.00	2,060.00	730.00
Total 200 Sports Sections Expenses	6,005.22	7,448.20	8,418.39
500 Management Expenses			
503 Management Sundry	24.92		
Total 500 Management Expenses	24.92		
Total Expenses	6,030.14	7,448.20	8,418.39
NET OPERATING INCOME	13,837.36	8,664.80	15,902.86
NET INCOME	13,836.36	8,664.80	15,902.86

SIDMOUTH CROQUET CLUB TROPHY WINNERS 2021

Humphrey Hicks Cup	Level Advanced Play Open	Richard Wood
Belmont Cup	Handicap Singles	Ed Dolphin
Fermor Rose Bowl	Ladies Handicap Singles	not held
Devonia Cup	14 Point High Handicap Singles	not held
Sheila Adams Cup	Advanced Handicap Singles	Colin Walls
Dorothy Toyce Cup	Short Croquet	not held
Colclough and Sidmouth Cups	Handicap Doubles	Colin Walls & Paul Bradley
Woodward Salver	Advanced Play Singles	not held
Owen Cup	Intermediate Handicap Singles	Kelvin Dent
High Bisquers Cup	18 Point High Handicap Singles	not held
14 Point Goblet	14 Point High Handicap Singles	not held
Canton Trophy	Egyptian 14 Point Handicap Singles	not held
Sidmouth Croquet Club Cup	Most Improved High Handicap AC player	Ed Dolphin
Longworth Cup	Most Improved Low Handicap AC player	Lionel Stock
Cunningham Salver and Cunningham Cup	Golf Doubles Handicap	Paul Bradley & Roz Bradley
Cunningham Salver	Handicap Golf Singles	Paul Bradley
Golf Doubles Cup	High Handicap Golf Doubles	not held
Hatherley Cup	Golf Singles Level play	Paul Bradley
Macadam Cup	Golf Singles Low Handicap	Steve Pearson
Macadam Cup	Golf Singles High Handicap	Paul Griew
Robert Case Tankard	Association Shot Game Score+ Handicap	not held
Robert Case Shield	Association Shot Game Score	not held
Corbett Spoons	One Ball Low Handicap	Ed Dolphin
Corbett Spoons	One Ball High Handicap	Clive Brook
The Wheel		not held
The Jubilee Cup	Most Improved Golf Croquet player (HH)	not awarded
Level Play Trophy	Level Play Golf Croquet	Philip Harris
Regency Cup	Most Improved Golf Croquet player (LH)	Paul Bradley
Salcombe Hill Cup and Peak Hill Cup	Golf Level Play Doubles	Steve Pearson & Ian Simpson
Core Hill Cup	Golf Shot Game Score+ Handicap	not held
Beacon Hill Cup	Golf Shot Game Score	not held