

FEDERATION OF CROQUET CLUBS SOUTH WEST

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday, 3 October 2012

Present:	Chairman	Bob Whitaker
	Treasurer	Derek Beard
	League Secretary	John Grimshaw
	Coaching Officer	Cliff Jones
	Coaching Officer Assistant	Roger Buckley
	Publicity Officer	Sue Mackay
	Development Officers	Robert Moss (North), Adam Wimshurst (South)
	Golf Croquet Adviser	Ros Key-Pugh
	Federation Representative	Brian Shorney
	Secretary	Julie Horsley
	By Invitation	Roger Hayes

1. Apologies

Marcus Evans

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 March 2012 were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Correspondence

Letter from the Federation Working Party with Questionnaire, which has been completed and returned.

Letters from Cheltenham CC, East Dorset CC and Sidmouth CC. These will be dealt with under the League Secretary's Report.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that the Development Officers' were making a very good case for grants as many clubs in our Federation have been successful in obtaining grants from the CA.

He said he would like to raise the visit by BBC Countryfile to Chastleton House.

Why was the Federation not informed that the BBC were visiting and filming at Chastleton House?

Why was no-one from the Federation invited as Chastleton House is within our Federation? He said that he was going to follow this up, because he felt that the CA should have had the courtesy to have informed us that this was taking place.

He said that he had enjoyed his time as Chairman.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that there was approx. £3800 at the bank. He recommended that subscriptions stay the same for the coming year - this was agreed. The Treasurer said that he was giving a year's notice that he wished to stand down at the 2013 AGM.

The next two reports were taken out of sequence as the League Secretary had to leave early.

9. League Secretary's Report

The League Secretary reported that although it had been a very difficult season (weatherwise) there had been very few walkovers. South Bristol had withdrawn half way through the season and Palace Wells had withdrawn from the "B" League and Golf Croquet, in both cases due to problems raising a team.

The winners of all the leagues had now been decided.

The Advanced League

The Parkstone Trophy Division 1 was won by Bristol 1

Division 2 was won by Bath who have declined promotion

Division 3 was won by Bristol

The Federation League was won by Nailsea North

The Intermediate League was won by Bath

The "B" League was won by Cornwall

Golf Croquet League was won by Dowlish Wake SE

The Golf Croquet Adviser said that she was surprised that there were not many spectators at the Golf Croquet Final. It was commented that croquet is not really a spectator sport unless you understand the game, but this would be raised at the AGM to try to generate interest for all Finals. Letter from Cheltenham CC over Golf Croquet handicaps. It was felt that some of the problems with GC handicaps might be around the rule which states that handicaps must be "properly assessed", as very few clubs have qualified handicappers. It was stated that do clubs know how to get handicaps assessed and where to get help if required. It was suggested that Klim Seabright talked to Cliff Jones and Ros Key-Pugh over his suggestions. The Committee would bring this to the notice of clubs at the AGM.

Letter from East Dorset CC over an incident when they played Weston CC in the GC League where jump shots were banned as the courts were very wet and soft. They felt that if a court was defined as playable then jump shots should be allowed, with regard to the penalty in the Laws of GC.

The Committee ruled that if a court is playable then by definition jump shots are allowed and that Weston were incorrect. Roger Buckley on behalf of the Weston CC accepted this.

Letter from Sidmouth CC about GC handicaps and asking if the semi finals could be played on neutral ground as, if the host club happens to be a finalist, they have an unfair advantage. It was ruled that the venues for semi-finals stood.

The Golf Croquet Advisor had been approached by 3 clubs to ask if the SWF would try again to get a Level Play Golf Croquet League started, as there is a need for one, the difficulty being the distances involved. The Committee agreed and the League Secretary would offer it on the AGM calling papers.

14. Proposals received for AGM

The Constitution - The Committee propose to insert in RULE 8 Executive Committee after Rule8b, Rule8c - Nominations for the Committee must reach the secretary in writing not later than the 30 September.

The Committee propose to clarify the wording in Rule 12b in both the Association and Golf Croquet League Rules . The League Secretary will forward the wording to the Committee.

Association League Rules - The Committee propose to delete the word "singles" in Rule 9b and simplify Rule9d(1) with " the remaining singles games shall be played in handicap order".

Two Proposals have been received from Nailsea CC.

East Dorset CC have sent in a proposal to clear up errors and inconsistencies from previous amendments. The Committee propose to divide these into 5 separate proposals to make it easier with voting at the AGM.

7. Coaching Officer's Report

The Coaching Officer had circulated his report to all members.

He stated that it had been a very busy year again. He had run 8 courses within the Federation and another 7 outside the Federation mostly for the Croquet Academy. The Triple Peel course has proved very popular with more attending than used to attend the Gold Course. Nearly everyone that had attended a Triple Peel course had gone on to do triple peels in CA events, in fact one player did 9 in their first year after the course.

A number of courses have already been arranged and several more are just waiting for dates .

8. Publicity Officer's Report

The Publicity Officer reported that the website continued to be updated.

She reported that she had received all but one of the reports of the league finals.

She said that she was beginning to put articles together for SWAN, if anyone had an article to contribute will they please let her have it.

10. Youth Officer's Report

No report as Youth Officer not present.

11. Development Officers' Report

A report from the Development Officer's had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Swindon CC have submitted a bid to the CA.

Nailsea CC plan to relay their lawns over a 4 year period.

Cheltenham CC are hoping to relay 4 more lawns in 2013/14.

A new club is being formed at Beckford, they hope to up and running by 2013.

Possible new club at Llandoverly.

Wells CC is trying to recruit more members.

Four schools in the area have been playing croquet this year. It is hoped that the school's league might be re-established in the near future.

Croquet clubs at National Trust properties are having difficulty in getting the lawns cut low enough.

It was suggested that a central approach by the CA to the National Trust to agree a lawn height for clubs playing on NT property might be easier than each club having to negotiate individually.

12. Golf Croquet Adviser's Report

The Golf Croquet Adviser that she had not been able to get around as much as she would have liked this year but was hoping to do more coaching next year.

13. Federation Representative's Report

The Federation Representative reported that all but one Federation had responded to the Federation Working Party Questionnaire. There was a meeting of the Working Party next week.

15. AGM

The Chairman said that he proposed Roger Hayes for the next Chairman and this was seconded by Brian Shorney and unanimously agreed.

Roger Buckley said that he was not seeking re-election.

The Secretary said all arrangements had been made at Batch House.

16. Any Other Business

Bob Whitaker was thanked by the Committee for his Chairmanship.

Robert Moss said that Rosemary Danby was retiring as Secretary of Bear of Rodbough CC, he wished to mention this as Rosemary had been secretary for 28 years.

Brian Shorney asked if there was a tariff for re-imburement for coaching. Cliff Jones said that this was largely up to clubs to decide and rather depended on the level of coaching provided and the size of the club.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.03 p.m.