



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING 10th JUNE 2009

13-00 pm - Page's Park pavilion

Minutes

Present: Tom Miller (chairman), Roger Stroud (secretary), Jean Ball (acting secretary), Eve Buckingham, Len Buckingham, John Cundell, Margaret Lawson, Tony Wells, David Ball, Peter Davies, Val Jeffers

1. Welcome

The meeting opened at 13.10.

The chairman welcomed all present.

2. Apologies for Absence

Tony Stammers absent – in hospital.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 11th March 2009

The minutes were read and duly signed. Tom Miller reminded the Committee that, in addition to the Minutes, he had circulated an Update on 17th April (copy in Secretary's file)

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Tony Stammers was to contact Ronnie Richardson re Dunstable's competition. John Cundell & Len Buckingham offered to contact Ronnie Richardson.

4.2 Club dinner – refunds were made to people who could not go & had requested them.

4.3 'Give it a Go Publication' – it was decided not to submit an article for this publication.

4.4 Purchase of on loan hoops – Len Buckingham is waiting for the East Anglian equipment officer to get back to him.

4.5 Match Fixtures – this has been done.

4.6 Ten Year History of LLCC - Margaret Brown has published this booklet on her own without the Club's assistance. No financial information has been included. Tom Miller proposed and it was agreed for the club to purchase a copy making a donation of £10.

Tom Miller will write to Margaret Brown. John Cundell has included mention of this document in the latest club newsletter.

4.7 Coaching 28th / 29th March

Formal thanks were given to Len Buckingham re the excellent arrangements for this CA coaching course.

4.8 Attendance calendar: New format operational.

5. Secretary's report including correspondence to Club

Jean had nothing to report and it was noted that Roger Stroud will resume the role of Club Secretary.

6. Treasurer's report

Len circulated a copy of accounts, which showed a satisfactory bank balance.

Letter from Leighton Linlade Sports Council – there is a need for the club to become affiliated to the Sports Council before applying for a grant. Len will arrange to pay the £10 affiliation fee to the Sports Council and will then apply for a grant.

Len confirmed that he had received an email from John Connew regarding a new security bolt that will be fitted on the pavilion.

7. Facilities

7.1. Status with Town Council

Tom had produced a page of notes headed 'Dealings with Town Council re. Third Lawn etc' specifically for discussion at this committee meeting. He read out the note and clarified all points. (Copy in Secretary's file)

As stated in the note, Tom has written to Barry Wardle requesting that the Town Council come forward with proposals for an agreement and is now awaiting a response. However, Tom advised the Committee that it would be advised before the Club is committed to any new liabilities.

7.2. Third lawn

Regarding progress on the third lawn, we have to wait for 15th June re decision of the Council Leisure & Community Committee meeting.

7.3. Restricting membership?

Membership level is currently at 65 with a waiting list.

Decision was made to carry on accepting new members, without active recruitment.

7.4 "Honours" board(s) for clubroom

There was a discussion about the format of the 'Honours Board' for the clubhouse. Peter Davies offered to make a trophy board similar to one he had previously made for Irene.

David Ball offered to make up a framed card format suitable for the purpose.

Decision was made to go with David's idea.

8. Fixture's Secretary's report

8.1 Re the weekend at Hunstanton, Tony Wells will contact those attending with more details when known as they are currently being finalised.

Fixture lists are already published on the notice board.

8.2. League

League match vs. Northampton will be away – awaiting reply from Northampton.

Request to Tony W. by Tom to be sent an email when dates of club fixtures get agreed.

8.3 Own Club Fixtures

The club has received a letter from Erica Fogg regarding the addition of two new fixtures, Ladies Doubles Trophy & Foggy Men's Doubles.

There was discussion regarding the competition format particularly as described by Erica as, on the one hand, a 'Doubles' competition yet, on the other, mixing up partners during the day.

It was agreed that the club will introduce these two fixtures and devise a competition format with Erica. This now gives us a full complement of competitions. The proposed dates for these two competitions are 7th & 14th September.

9. Events

9.1. 10th Anniversary event

The club has contacted Tim King (top croquet player) but had no reply to latest emails.

After being contacted, Patricia Duke-Cox (PDC), chairman of the Croquet Association, has been in correspondence and has now shortlisted 4 dates – 6th, 7th, 14th July & Sep 3.

It was suggested by Tom for Patricia to bring another top player, split up with two club players and play a doubles game as part of the event. Consideration should be given re timing on the day as PDC has a two hour drive to get to our club from her home.

It was also suggested to have a Club photograph.

There was a discussion re the pros & cons of the shortlisted dates. The problem with Tuesdays (7th & 14th) is that the pavilion is used for children's football training. It was felt that the 6th & 7th July is too close and that July 14th & September 3rd are now shortlisted as the two possible dates.

Tom suggested that the focus on the day to be a 'Croquet Day'. Hence, it was agreed not to invite Civic representatives but the Chairman of the LL Sports Council.

Also suggested by Tom to invite all founder members and founder officers (who are no longer members) – it was agreed and **Tom will liaise with Margaret Brown** re who can still be contacted, addresses etc.

It was decided that we will use a good size tent on the day – Jean Ball has access to such a tent.

John Cundell is awaiting date and general format of this event to include the details in the newsletter.

Tom suggested re timing that PDC has lunch with the current committee at 12.30, and then PDC gives a speech at 2.00 followed by the doubles game at 2.30. Refreshments and cutting of Jean Ball's cake at circa 3.30. The Leighton Middle School tournament will be played after the doubles game. This timing was agreed.

It was also suggested that a 'logo'd pen' or mug to be given to all members at the AGM. **Hold decision to next meeting.**

9.2. Other Events (see Attachment A)

Club Fun Day 19th July, David Ball has offered to help Tony Stammers.
Details of the Garden Party will be in the newsletter.
Club Internal coaching sessions are being progressed. **Tom to add to chart.**

10. Newsletter Editor's report

John Cundell mentioned several points he was including in the next newsletter including: -

Repeating the sessions times
Ground staff access to the lawns– it is a condition of our agreement with council.
Hunstanton – a possibility of arranging similar events next year at other clubs.
Information for new members re use of mugs in the clubhouse.

11. Timing of Annual Dinner

Carry forward to next meeting.

12. Any other business

Jean Ball raised the subject of the 'liability insurance certificate' – there is a need to put a copy on the wall in the clubhouse.

Len confirmed that he is progressing two grant applications: -

Bedfordshire and Luton community foundation request - £15,000
Croquet Association - £15,000

These grant applications are specifically for the project of levelling the existing lawns.

13. Date of next meeting

29th July 2009 – 13.00 at Page's Park