

*Signed Copy*

Leighton-Linslade Croquet Club


Minutes of a General committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2004.

1. Present: \_ George Lawson (Chair), Margaret Brown, Len Buckingham, Sally Clay, John Cundell, Erica Fogg, Edna Hickman, Val Jeffers, Richard Keighley.
2. Apologies: Diana Phelps
3. Appointments: Richard Keighley was appointed to fill the vacancy of Secretary until the AGM in November 2004. Margaret Brown was appointed to act as Membership Secretary
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 18/09/2003 were approved and signed.
5. Matters Arising:
  - a. Fixture Secretary. RK confirmed his willingness to arrange fixtures. LB and JC would deal with teams/fees.
  - b. Equipment. LB still on lookout for a small fridge.
  - c. There were no matters arising from AGM.
6. Secretary's Report:
  - a. RK thanked MB for handing over papers in excellent order, together with very helpful notes.
  - b. There was no relevant correspondence to report.
  - c. Newsletter. RK and JC had put together the first edition, which had been favourably received. Future contributions most welcome.
  - d. Sports Council. Some discussion about the merit of attending future meetings, but no decision taken.
7. Membership Secretary's Report: 13 members had paid their 2004 subs to date. Last year, the total membership was 32. Reminder in Newsletter needed.
8. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. The AGM Raffle had raised £37.20.
  - b. Subs of £540 had been received. Balance of Club Funds :£1525.93.
  - c. Engraving of the trophy had cost £18. LB hopeful that a fridge would be donated.
  - d. Sand blasting the 2 sets of hoops would cost £25.
  - e. Hoops on loan from EACF needed straightening. RK to ask if hoops were for sale.
  - f. LB proposed that full members be allowed to bring along guests to play, free of charge. Agreed, subject to a limit of 3 occasions per member. To be reviewed prior to AGM.
9. Handicaps: After discussion, it was agreed to encourage every member to obtain a handicap, so that these could be used in Club sessions as well as in matches and tournaments. Newsletter to publish more info about this.

10. EACF :
- a. AGM at Bury ST Edmunds on 20 March. Decided:- not to attend.
  - b. Golf Croquet Handicap League. New idea. 4 players to a team, but not the same for each match. For players with a handicap of 3-6. No fees. Closing date: 29 Feb. Decided:- to take part if there was sufficient interest for this to run.
  - c. No immediate prospect of any coaching/referee courses.
11. Tournaments:
- a. National Trust. A Pairs competition would be held at Anglesey Abbey on Saturday 10 July. Entry fee: £5. The Singles would be held at Ickworth on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. Entry fee: £3 per person. Entry forms to be returned by 30 April 2004.
  - b. Wrest Park. Group members Singles on Sunday 27 June and Doubles on Sunday 25 July. May be opened up to non-members.
  - c. Croquet Marathon 7/8 August at Waterways. Fun Evenings at Wrest Park on 15 June and 21 July (£3).
  - d. Grass Roots. Now run by Patricia Duke-Cox for CA. Minimum entry of 8 per Club, paying £5 each. Club rounds to be completed by 30 June. No date yet for Area Final but Grand Final on 12 Sept at Solihull. Closing date for entries: 26 May.
  - e. Centre Stage. Similar to Grass Roots( handicaps 5/6) but for players with handicaps 1-5. Minimum group of 4, paying £6 each. Final: 11/09. Closing date: 26 May.
  - f. All England Handicap. Minimum entry of 4 at £4 each. One player to go forward to Area Final on 14 August. Probably at Newport, Essex. Final: 25/26 Sept Colchester.
12. Club Programme 2004:
- a. Opening Session. Sunday 18 April at 2pm, or Sat 17 April if Mayor unavailable.
  - b. "Come and Try" Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at 2pm. Publicity required.
  - c. Weekly sessions. 10-12 Wed & Thurs, 2-5 Sat, 2-4 Sun. RK to book 2 months ahead.
  - d. May Fayre. Decided:- Not to participate if Invited.
13. Friendly Matches:
- a. Sat 3 July Dunstable U3A at Pages Park
  - b. Wed 2 June Stony Stratford at Pages Park with a return on 13 July. (Dates to be confirmed).
  - c. Sun 9 or 16 May Winslow (Team of 4) at Pages Park, return on 5 Aug (Dates to be agreed)
  - d. No more to be arranged, pending news of League.
14. Future Development: MB had raised various matters in her Report to AGM, notably:-
- a. Accommodation . No more news about RAF Stanbridge site.

- b. Training. RK had e-mailed Bill Arliss about the prospects for a refereeing course. This would only run if sufficient demand.
  - c. Events. No further action required at present.
  - d. Equipment. LB to investigate purchase of 2 mallets for the Club each season.
15. Publicity: In the absence of any volunteer for Press/Publicity Officer, it was agreed that MB would promote the Club at U3A meetings and offer those interested 2 coaching sessions on Thursday afternoons in May, at £2 per session.  
Committee Members would endeavour to advertise the Club's existence in local parish newsletters. RK to contact local PTA's , offering "displays" at school fetes.
16. AOB: a. About 5 members had attended the Mayor's Civic service on 1/2/04.  
b. Joan Slow had drawn GL's attention to a proposal to develop Pratts's Quarry in Billington Rd. It included a 6 hectare sports Field. Unlikely to happen?  
c. Garden Party.Possibility to be discussed at next meeting.  
d. Membership of the Croquet Association by the Club would Provide public Liability Cover of £5 million. However, the CA Sub was calculated on a per capita basis of £6.10. at present, it remained uneconomic for the Club to subscribe.
17. Dates of Future Committee Meetings:  
The next meeting would take place on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April at the Old Vicarage, Wingrave at 7.30pm.  
Then on 1<sup>st</sup> June, 29<sup>th</sup> July, 16<sup>th</sup> Sept and the AGM on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov.

The Chairman and his wife were thanked for their kind hospitality and the meeting closed shortly after 10pm.

  
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29<sup>th</sup> April 2004