



LEIGHTON - LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

Contact - 01525 373 860

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING -24th May 2001

1 Present: All members of committee present.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes of 5.4.01 were accepted as correct and signed.

Matters Arising: a) coaching course - Bob reported on the two day course, led by chief National coach. Bob and Jean were awarded certificates of completion.

Expenses for the course have been submitted as part of the grant application to the Sports Council, see below.

b) opening session - it was agreed that this had been a successful event. £22 was collected from 11 new contacts. Two have joined, three more may do so.

c) clubroom preparation - everyone who took part in cleaning, painting and equipment-making was thanked by the Chair.

d) civil-liability insurance - the premium has been paid (£47.25) and a copy of the certificate has been passed to the Town Council. The treasurer explained that following his enquiries re cover for any liability connected with coaching, it appears that unless a coach is employed/paid, or operates outside normal club activities (e.g. in schools) we are covered by the Perkins-Slade insurance which has been drawn up in consultation with the Croquet Association.

e) security at Pages Park - as there has been no recurrence of the hooligan-behaviour it was hoped that things would remain calm. Attempts had been made to contact the named policeman, to invite him to the opening session but had failed. Secretary to try to get the name and number of the Park-keeper, who has agreed to come out if trouble re-occurs, e.g. in the school holidays.

4 Secretary's Report: Correspondence - passed on as appropriate.

Newsletter - just issued, thanks to all who contributed
Next issue probably in July.

Bookings - for June and July. It was agreed that these should follow the established pattern for now.

Shutter keys - four more had been bought and tested. One of these has been requested. Sec. agreed to make a label for the No 1 locker, s
spadlock key. This key should be found, and replaced, on top of the cupboard after use. The keys for the other locker, the toilets etc. are to be found and replaced in locker No 1. This information to be shared with other key-holders.

NB

5 Treasurers Report: - Income to date £1,391.84/ Expenditure £615.62 / Balance £776.22. If we continue to book sessions at the same rate, assuming no further new members or fund-raising, we would be over £100 in deficit by the end of the season.

Grant application to Town Sports Council has been submitted. This included requests for help with coaching courses, Manuals, Laws of Croquet, increased club sessions (rent), amounting to circa £387. The submission emphasised the upgrading of our equipment and the fact that we already accommodate a number of members with disabilities.

Future plans - Bob gave news of the ex-RAF Stanbridge Rd. site where we hope to have club lawns in future. Athletics begin there this year and the site should shortly be handed over to the Town Council for full development as a sports centre.

6 Fixtures Secretaries: - National Trust Tournaments - two people to play at Aglesey Abbey in July. E. and L. Buckingham also expressed an interest though it is probably too late to apply. A. and M. will phone the organiser (Justin Davies) - so far seven people are to play in the Ickworth Hall tournament on Sept. 2nd. A. and M. will tell us when fees are due. - Grass Roots Tournament - Irene Davies is organising the heats for this, at Wrest Park. A number of our members are playing on June 12th and July 17th. - Friendly Matches - Several clubs have expressed an interest in playing ours. Could be arranged on Saturdays, with light tea, for folk from any distance. Local groups (e.g. Dunstable, Waterways, Luton) could play on a weekday session perhaps.

7) Reports: - a) Referee course. George Lawson reported on this course - full report in Newsletter. A worthwhile experience.

b) Handicapping sec. s. Irene reported that most members seemed un-interested in fixing their handicap. Following a discussion it was agreed that those who are interested should go ahead. Notice to be given that a handicapping session will take place on Sunday, 17th June at 2p.m. to set initial handicaps. Thereafter, a ladder system to be arranged for those who wish to progress, particularly in Association croquet.

c) Croquet Assoc. news. Eve Buckingham is passing on journals etc. as agreed. It is a slow process.

8) Car-Boot Sale: - This will now be held on Sunday 3rd June, weather being reasonable. Tony and Margaret Brown will arrive very early to set up the stall. Other comm. members will be able to take a turn at selling. Goods should be delivered, at the latest, the night before to T. and M. Thanks were expressed to Tony for his help.

9) Any Other Business: - a) Sec. to contact Linda Hindson about the town-twinning visitors. (SEE BELOW) b) Student Members. After discussion it was agreed that pro-tem, if young people are interested in playing they will be invited to do so for one pound per session. This applies to youngsters in full-time education. Those under 12 yrs. should be accompanied by a responsible adult. The official student membership fee must be decided at the AGM according to the Constitution.

c) The Buckinghamhs kindly offered to hold a barbecue in their garden to raise funds. They will purchase the meat. It was agreed that a sub-committee of E.B., A.B., M.D. to plan the event. Date Sat. 11th August at 6.30pm. B.W. will provide one barbecue and help with the cooking, J.S. will try to find another barbie and M.B. will try to borrow another. M.B. offered to produce tickets once wording agreed.

10) Date of Next Meeting: - Friday, 20th July at 7.30p.m. at M. and G. Lawson, s home - 7, Taylor, s Ride.

Thanks were expressed to Audrey Bunn for her hospitality and the meeting closed at 9.45p.m.

M.J. Brown

* STOP PRESS: - The French and German visitors will be offered the opportunity to "drop-in" to play at Pages Park on July 14th. We are to make a note of any that do and charge fees to the Town Council. *

The park-keeper is John Connew. His home no. is 370124 and his official mobile is 07970 941383. Only to be called in an emergency situation of course. Another useful name is that of Sgt. Steve Marsh. Community policeman who is usually at L.B. police-station.

M.J.B.

Signed

B. Blow

Date

20.7.01