

Leighton-Linslade Croquet Club

Minutes of a General committee meeting held on 16th September 2004.

1. Present: _ George Lawson (Chair), Margaret Brown, Len Buckingham, Sally Clay, John Cundell, Erica Fogg, Edna Hickman, Val Jeffers, Richard Keighley, Diana Phelps.
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 29/07/2004 were approved and signed with the addition of 5.(e) Concern expressed about step to pavilion.
3. Matters Arising:
 - a. New hoops/mallets.

LB had been quoted £55 to make one hoop and this was out of the question. A decision as to whether to continue to hire a set from EACF for £20 per season or to buy a new set would be taken at the first Committee meeting after AGM.
4 new mallets had been made for LB at a cost of £45.55 each.
 - b. Badges.

JC had obtained prices for iron/sew-on badges.
3" of any colour - £3.32 each, or smaller size £2.32.
Minimum order of 50 per size. It was decided to order 50 at 3" with green background at a cost of £166.13 and sell them at £3.50 each at AGM, and later.
 - c. Coaching course.

RK had discussed this with Jennet Blake of CA. It was possible that a course could be arranged at Pages Park on a Saturday early in May next season. RK asked to confirm the Club was willing to host this.
 - d. Pavilion Step.

LB reported that the Council willing to co-operate to build a step of nearly full width, 24" wide and 9" deep.
4. Secretary's Report
 - a. Correspondence.
 1. Croquet Marathon. Thanks from Irene Davis for help and sponsorship from members. £1206 raised for MacMillan/Keech Cottage.
 2. EACF League. Play off Final today. Organiser grateful for feedback.
 - b. Newsletter. RK and JC proposed to publish the next Edition after Club tournaments at weekend.
5. Membership Secretary's Report:
 - a. MB reported 38 paid up members. 2 people had not rejoined, but 10 new members.
Since club formed, 66 people had belonged at one time or another.
 - c. Attendances :

April (5 sessions)	50
May (18 ")	167
June (16 ")	145
July (17 ")	230

August (22 ") 187 (n.b. Includes 5 Tuesdays/35 attendances)
Daily figures (approx.) Wednesdays 171; Thursdays 154;
Saturdays 221; Sundays 177; Tuesdays 35.

- d. Personal. Joan Slow would appreciate a lift on fine days (373779)
Hilda and Les Jones hope to play again soon.

6. Treasurer's Report :

- Balance of Club funds £1,510.40. Expenses of £1,168.00 incurred to Date with Income of £1,666.50.
- The Garden Party had income of £80, but expenses of £87. LB suggested an increased charge and a raffle with a maximum of 3 good prizes for any future event.
- LB requested any claims for expenses be made to him by 30/9/04.
- Members to be encouraged to bring own mugs, and it was agreed that a set of 20 mugs be purchased for use by visiting teams/supporters.
- Civil Liability Insurance. RK to investigate letter received from brokers.
- LB proposed membership fee remain at £45 for 2005 season.
- He was still looking for a table top fridge!

7. Club Programme :

- a. Garden Party. DP thanked for hosting a highly successful and enjoyable party.
- b. Tuesday sessions. Already proving very popular and useful experience.
- c. Club Singles/Doubles. Draws had been made for tournaments taking place at the weekend. Names on cups sufficient. Handicaps to be used next year?
- d. End of season? Groundsman(John) would be asked when he would like play to stop to carry out drainage work to lawns. Members to keep an eye on notice boards. John also to be asked about a suitable start date next season.(2/4?)
- e. Arrangements for AGM. RK would be sending out Notice of Meeting/Draft Agenda/Reports/Nomination Forms on about 25th Oct. He requested Reports by 18th October. All members of Committee stated they were willing to stand again, but under the constitution, LB had served the maximum term of 3 years as Treasurer. He was willing to continue ,if unopposed, but this would require the constitution to be amended by a resolution at AGM. RK to draft this for consideration by Committee, as misgivings were expressed.
- f. Party after AGM. VJ kindly offered to coordinate eats/drinks. Members to be asked to bring raffle prizes and indoor games. MB would invite husband Tony to organise raffle again.

8. Friendlies :

__ The matches against Winslow and Watford had been won convincingly.A team had been selected for the return at Watford (Cassiobury Park) on 24/9/04 and only lifts had to be arranged.

9. Tournaments:

- a. National Trust. Ickworth singles. Judith and Una Pengelly and VJ had taken part. Judith had been runner up in her block and all 3 had enjoyed themselves. DP had been a very conscientious scorer!
- b. Grass Roots. JC & RK had taken part in the Regional Final at Northampton on 8th August, but not progressed further.
- c. All England Handicap. RK had qualified for the Final at Colchester on 25/26 Sept. as a result of taking part in the Eastern area Final at Newport on 14 August.

10. TEAM SELECTION 2005.

The Committee approved the draft selection policy for 2005, and this would be put before the AGM for approval

- "1. At the start of the season, members will be asked if they would like to be considered for selection for the League team. The team (including reserves) would represent the Club for the whole season.**
- 2. All members apart from the League team would be encouraged to apply to play in Friendly fixtures. If there were more players than needed for any match, names would be drawn out of a hat. There would be no play offs. Those unsuccessful in any draw would be given priority for the next match. Only if the number of players was insufficient for any friendly match would League team members be invited to play.**
- 3. Priority to be given to members who have not taken part in National Trust events in the past to play at Anglesey Abbey & Ickworth.**
- 4. A non-playing member would be designated to be in charge of each event hosted by the Club."**

11. 2005 Season

1. Come and Try. No decision to be taken until March committee meeting.
2. May Fayre/Carnival. It was decided not to take part in either event.
3. Juniors. No response from Schools at all. PTA's to be approached, and possible "Family" Come and Try days to be tried out.
4. Association Croquet. Separate sessions would be necessary if there was any sufficient demand. RK keen to play.

12. AOB

1. MB suggested that soap, toilet paper and kitchen roll be provided at home matches. Agreed.
2. It was to be borne in mind by those catering that visiting teams often brought extra people with them.
3. EF stated that the Archive Display was almost full and that it would be necessary to buy another.

13. Date of next Committee Meeting : Provisionally on 10/2/2005 chez LB. Valerie and John Jeffers were thanked for their kind hospitality and the meeting closed at 9.55pm

