



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

2014 - 15th Annual General Meeting

Held on Friday 14th November 2014 at Northall Village Hall

Minutes

1. Welcome by Chairman

David Ball, our Chairman opened the meeting promptly at 7.30pm and welcomed the 28 members present. David also said he was pleased to see such a good turnout and asked members to please sign the attendance sheet.

2. Receive apologies for absence

Roger had received 7 apologies for absence: -

Rose Gillett, Margaret Brown, Ross & Sheila Bagni, Ronnie Richardson, Helen Wilkinson & Don Barrett

3. Approve minutes of the 14th AGM

David asked if he could take the minutes of the last AGM (which was on 8th November 2013) as an accurate record of the meeting.

In Matters Arising, Tom Miller raised a point in the Treasurer's Report concerning the wording with regard to the new licence for 2017 (yet to be agreed with the Council). The wording "The Licence will be renegotiated in 2017 and we hope that in the new Licence we would not be liable for **continued** payment for the duration of the lease." should be changed to " The Licence will be renegotiated in 2017 and we hope that in the new Licence we would not be liable for **incremental** payment for the duration of the lease."

The minutes of the 2013 AGM were then duly approved with David signing a copy of the 2013 AGM minutes for the record.

4. Adopt reports of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer (inc. Annual Accounts)

David said that he hoped that everyone had received the AGM information pack and had read these reports.

4.1 Chairman's Report

David thanked all members who worked hard to keep our lawns and the club running smoothly.

4.2 Secretary's Report

Roger said that a lot of lawn improvements were going on at the moment which looked promising for the new season. He added that our finances looked healthy and asked the meeting to thank Len Buckingham for his excellent work as Treasurer over the years. Roger also encouraged our newer members to take part in our Friendly competitions which are a great learning curve. Finally, Roger stated that over the last few months we have been in contact with the Town Council over a number of matters concerning the facilities we use, and we are hopeful that in 2015 we may have improved facilities.

4.3 Treasurer's Report

Len Buckingham had earlier circulated our annual financial report and asked if there were any questions related to the accounts. He then felt that in view of the increased maintenance that we now have to carry

out, we must try to get some younger members. He further explained that the present situation of a dedicated few carrying out the maintenance was saving the club a considerable sum that would otherwise have to be paid to contractors. He stated that although we have tried a number of schemes to raise new members, the most successful method is through friends and families. He also requested that members support the Wednesday morning social as the £2 charge went a long way to boosting the funds. Len proposed no increase in subscription for the 2015 season - the proposal was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

4.4 Officers' Reports Acceptance

David then asked if someone would like to propose acceptance of the three Officers' reports. John Thorp proposed acceptance of the three reports which was seconded by Peter Cole and duly voted and accepted by the meeting.

David also said that he would like to thank our Vice-Chairman John Cundell, Secretary Roger Stroud, Treasurer Len Buckingham, Fixture Secretary John Thorp, Membership Secretary Judith Cundell and the rest of the committee for helping him throughout the year and making his job easy.

5. Constitution Change

The Chairman then informed the meeting that the Agenda item to discuss the proposed amendment to our constitution had been withdrawn as the whole subject needs further discussion due to changes to the Croquet Association's constitution and our impending discussions with the Town Council concerning renewal of our licence in 2017.

6. Appointment of an Auditor

Terry Marsh was proposed and seconded and approved as our Accounts Examiner for 2015.

7. Election of Officers

David then stepped down and handed over to John Cundell, our Vice-Chairman who, after examination of nomination forms received, declared that David was our only nomination for Chairman, Roger our only nomination for Secretary and Len our only nomination for Treasurer proposed on a number of forms. David, Roger & Len were duly re-elected as Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer by a unanimous show of hands. David then resumed the chair and continued conducting the meeting.

Officers

Chairman	David Ball
Secretary	Roger Stroud
Treasurer	Len Buckingham

8. Elect the general committee members

Tony Stammers, who has been a committee member for many years is standing down and was warmly thanked by our Chairman and all members.

David went on to say that all other committee members had agreed to continue: -

Ex Officio Members

Vice Chairman	John Cundell
Fixture Secretary	John Thorp

Committee Members

Eve Buckingham, Malcolm Kirby, Peter Cole and Sheila Guest - plus two new members, Sally Clay and Ross Bagni.

9. Presentation of awards

David invited our Treasurer Len Buckingham introduced the Town Mayor Amanda Dodwell who was invited to present the awards: -

Mix 'n Match Doubles Handicap	Roy Kemp & Judith Pengelly
Runners up	Sheila Guest & Roger Stroud
Ladies Doubles Mix 'n Match	Jean Ball & Judith Pengelly
Runners up	Jackie Cole & Diana Phelps
Club Singles Handicap	Judith Pengelly
Runner up	Jean Ball
B-Level Colchester	David Ball
B-Level Hunstanton	John Cundell
The John Fogg Trophy	John Thorp & Roy Kemp
Runners up	Peter Cole & Richard Keighley
LJB 70 plus Trophy (Main)	John Thorp
LJB 70 plus Trophy (Plate)	Sally Clay
Club Championship Doubles	Jean & David Ball
Runners up	John Cundell & Judith Pengelly
Club Championship Singles	John Cundell
Runner up	John Thorp

10. Any Other Business

Judith Cundell, our Membership Secretary, said that during the year a number of members had been worrying about our membership declining dramatically. Judith had examined our records and reported that in 2000 there were 35 members. This year we had 46 members. In 2013 we had 49 members - however, we must take into account that two members who had joined for many years, but who had made very few appearances at Pages Park did not rejoin in 2014. We also lost two members who moved away; and also, one of our long-standing member's, who did not join for 2014 due to health reasons, will definitely be back in 2015. We also are expecting two people, who attended the Fun Day / Garden Party, to join our club in 2015.

Judith requested that when people take an interest in our club, please take time and effort to make them welcome - most of us joined that way.

David Ball said that forms were available for the annual dinner.

John Cundell thanked John Thorp for his excellent work in arranging most of our fixtures - a difficult and sometimes thankless task. He also thanked all those who had helped out with lawn maintenance - particularly John Thorp, Ross Bagni and Malcolm Kirby. John also explained that we would be repeating our B-Level competition in 2015, but we are changing the day from a Friday to a Saturday to encourage more attendees from clubs around the M25.

John Thorp then informed members that we intend to organise a C-Level event for those with a handicap between 9 and 12. This would be open to members and outside visitors - and there will be a small entry fee.

The meeting was closed by David at 8.20pm who wished all present a Merry Christmas and a Happy Croquet New Year.