



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE CROQUET CLUB

Founded 2000

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 10th January 2018
At 7.30pm - Page's Park pavilion

Committee Members present: -Malcolm Kirby (chairman), Roger Stroud (secretary), Mary Kemp (treasurer), John Cundell, John Thorp, Ross Bagni, Sally Clay, Val Jeffers, Judith Pengelly

Minutes

1. Welcome

Malcolm opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone to our first committee meeting of 2018. Judith Pengelly was invited to become a committee member and was endorsed by the existing officers and committee, and was welcomed by the Chairman.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Sheila Beal.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 6th September 2017

Malcolm asked the committee if the minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2017 were a true record of the meeting. There were no queries so Malcolm signed and dated a copy of the minutes.

4. Matters arising & review of Actions (if not included below): -

Roger said the only action from that meeting was for the Council to issue us with a copy of the new licence agreed in March 2017 and we now have that licence signed by the Town Clerk and Officers of our club.

5. Reports: -

5.1 Secretary's report including correspondence to Club

Roger reported that the Draft Minutes from our AGM in November 2017 are on the club web site. Also, we have received documents via email from the CA in recent days concerning our membership of the EACF and entries to the League. These are in hand by John Cundell and Mary Kemp.

5.2 Treasurer's report

Mary described the various bills which she has recently paid which included a £50 deposit to Leighton Buzzard Golf Club for our annual club lunch there on Friday 23rd March, and £1500 to Leighton-Linslade Town Council to cover last season's fee. She added that £100 had been received to date from the Wednesday Social Club meetings.

5.3 Membership Secretary's Report

John C reported on behalf of Judith that we currently have 44 members and that 41 members responded to the request to become CA members. John C has transferred this information to the CA after initially getting technical problems regarding the use of Internet Explorer.

6. Specific duty appointments

John C circulated a prepared list and asked committee members to comment if there were any queries - there were no queries. During the discussion on 'Fixtures', Roger agreed to set up the app Google Spreadsheets and put a link in the Members Area on

our website. This will allow both John T & John C to put in the dates of the various matches as well as the Competition Organisers to check the most up to date information.

7. New Licence

Malcolm read out the salient points from the new licence.

8. Fixtures: -

8.1 EACF League

John T said that all fixture dates will be fixed by the league organisers and matches may be on a Tuesday,

John T and John C explained the basics of the proposed new rules – confirmation is expected shortly from the EACF.

8.2 Friendlies

John T reported that nothing booked as yet.

8.3 Club Knockout Competition (new)

Ross will be running this competition which is a 'season-long' competition and will work out the details to present them at our committee meeting on March 7th.

9. Diary Dates

John C had produced an opening list of diary dates (attached) and passed a copy to each committee member.

9.1 Club Annual Lunch

Malcolm opened the discussion giving the date and details of the annual club lunch on Friday March 23rd. John C said he will be circulating this to all members with a tear-off slip to complete if attending.

9.2 EACF Club Champions Tournament

John C gave Roger the form for the Club Champions Tournament for Roger to complete and post to the EACF with the necessary entry fee.

9.3 Opening Day

It was agreed that Roger will contact the Council regarding asking the Mayor to conduct the Official Opening Sat 7th April 2pm.

9.4 Leighton Linlade B-Level Tournament

John C reported that he has fixed the date of this tournament for June 16th.

9.5 C Level tournament

John C reported that the date has been set for Friday July 13th.

9.6 Garden Party / Fun Day at Pages Park

It was agreed that Roger will book the main pavilion room for the club garden party on 1st Sep from 10am to 4pm.

9.7 A-B Tournament

Ross is having a meeting at Wrest Park with the other clubs who participate in this tournament and will circulate details once agreed.

9.8 General Discussion

In a general discussion about facilities we set up on match / tournament days, John C suggested that our current gazebos have had their day and should be replaced, suggesting that we purchase two 'self erecting' gazebos.

Malcolm spoke about an alternative design and will get the price and details of what he has in mind.

This was followed by a discussion about the large marquee that we have (originally owned by Peter Cole). The general consensus was that we should try to sell it on EBay. Malcolm said that he would organise this.

Malcolm also offered to contact firms re fixing the fencing which is damaged.

10. Lawn Maintenance

John C and John T reported that the lawns are looking good and the Council have already mowed them twice and tined them. There is a moss problem which needs treating. John C has requested the Town Council to order the necessary moss killer.

11. Newsletter / Membership Forms & renewals

John C reported that he will shortly be circulating Newsletter 1 of 2018 which will include a Membership Form for renewal of our membership.

12. Web Site

Roger reported that he will be shortly clearing down some areas of the website to make way for the 2018 season. John T asked if the main photo on the home page could be changed as many of the members on that photo are no longer club members.

13. Any other business

13.1 Val Jeffers

Val said that she will not be at our March meeting as she is on holiday.

13.2 John Cundell

John asked if all committee members could give some thought as to a possible replacement event for the John Fogg Trophy. John added that we have entered for the Murphy Shield again this year and that we are in the southern block.

13.3 Roger Stroud

Roger suggested that we consider 'Speed Croquet' (CA call it 10-10 Croquet) and agreed to circulate details of this attached to the meeting minutes.

13.4 Mary Kemp

Mary asked if it was possible to switch the location of our AGM and whether we could hold it in the Pages Park pavilion where we have all our other meetings and which would not cost us anything. The committee decided that we would do that and it was agreed that Roger will contact Reception at the Council to see if we could book the evening of Friday November 9th from 7pm to 10pm.

13.5 Malcolm Kirby

Malcolm started a discussion about the possibility of having a wooden clubhouse built, sited between lawns 2 & 3 such as the one that High Wycombe croquet club now have. John C added that it might be difficult to connect to the utilities (Electricity, Water, Sewage etc). John also said that he managed to access the archived Council minutes relating to when the Council gave us permission to add the referees room to our current clubhouse using a connected door. John added that Ian Haynes is continuing in his efforts to get a grant from the Cricket Council to improve & extend the pavilion, incorporating a new clubhouse for the croquet club in the extension. Since the meeting we understand that the consultant who is assisting Ian Haynes will be contacting our club shortly regarding changes to the pavilion. Malcolm also said that it may be possible to approach the CA regarding a grant for any costs involved in developing a new clubhouse.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Appendix 1

10-10 Golf Croquet Rules (Speed Croquet)

The following rules are supplemental to the Golf Croquet rules as published by the CA.

All games will be played with a referee in charge (RiC) who will also act as timekeeper. All players not in current play may be required to undertake this duty whether qualified referees or not. They will be expected to fault blatant crushes or double taps.

Each player in a game of Singles, or pair in a game of Doubles, will be allowed a fixed time limit, to be specified in the tournament regulations. In the case of 13 point games the suggested time limit is 10 minutes. Time is measured using two clocks each capable of recording to an accuracy of one second or less.

The clock of the team in play is stopped when a turn ends. A turn ends when all balls moved in the turn have stopped moving on the lawn or have left the court or (if earlier) when the next player strikes the ball. The next turn commences immediately unless there is a need for a referee or for a boundary ball (other than the next ball to be played) to be replaced.

Balls which leave the court and are not the next to play do not have to be placed on the boundary line unless either team requests this, in which case both clocks are stopped while this is carried out.

A player may commence to line up a shot prior to the commencement of his/her turn provided that this does not distract the current player.

If the allowed time of a team expires, the game ends immediately with them losing if they have scored fewer hoop points than their opponents. In other cases, the team with expired time may continue to play and attempt to stop their opponents scoring but may not score themselves. Play continues until the other team by scoring hoop points take the lead or their time expires. If the scores are level the game is declared a tie unless the specific tournament regulations stipulate that a result be obtained, in which case play continues with no further time limits until one team scores a hoop point.

Should a team play a wrong ball and it is noticed, they will be asked to replace all balls and retake the turn. This time will count as part of their turn. No further back than the previous turn will be considered.

The half way rule will still apply. Collecting one's ball for a move to the penalty point is considered as part of a player's turn.

Claims for move to a penalty point must be made immediately a hoop has been scored or will not be allowed.

In the event of a dispute, the RiC may stop both clocks and will signal this to the timekeeper with both arms horizontal. He may award a 15-second penalty for frivolous claims.