

Minutes of SWF Committee Meeting: 29.6.21 Held by Zoom

1) Present

- a) Brian Wilson, Paul Francis, Linda Shaw, Stephen Custance-Baker, Andru Blewett, Tony Mayer, Peter Kirby, Louise Smith

2) Apologies

- a) Roger Mills

3) Minutes of last meeting

- a) Previously circulated
- b) Agreed as correct

4) Action points / matters arising

- a) Action points noted for update in relevant items

5) Leagues

- a) See League Secretary's report below
- b) The delay in relaxing Covid rules led to several queries but few actual changes
- c) Matches are now getting under way and clubs seem happy with Covid arrangements re travel
- d) However, one club withdrew from Fed League because insufficient people could commit to play – probably Covid related
- e) Some feedback on Advantage GC which is being trialled in the Southern Federation:
 - i) mixed at the moment – recognise the different tactics required by lower and minus handicaps

6) National Short Croquet

- a) John Grimshaw was responsible for organising a play-off between 3 clubs for a place in the national final.
 - i) The three teams who were unable to play last year were given the opportunity to play this year
 - ii) However, the clubs withdrew – Covid – and we do not have an entry this year.
 - iii) John noted that in his view the handicap restrictions should be eased
 - (1) Otherwise, it is unlikely we can continue our practice of awarding the place to the winner of our SC tournament or League
 - iv) Stephen noted that there are additional complications by the inclusion of doubles games

b) Agreed this be raised for discussion at the next Feds' Focus Group meeting. Action: Brian

7) Treasurer's report

- a) See report below
 - i) There were no questions
- b) Affiliate member fees
 - i) Following discussion it was agreed to bring forward proposals for the next AGM which introduced a minimum total fee covering all membership / league fees of £10 applicable to all clubs. As such the distinction between full and affiliate clubs would end, and there would be only one category of membership"
 - ii) The financial impact would be around £50 additional income but League fees could be reduced to offset this
 - iii) Proposal to be drafted for submission to AGM **Action: Peter**

- iv) The need for constitutional amendment is to be explored but is not thought necessary at this stage. **Action: Linda**

8) Development Officer's Report

- a) Moreton in Marsh: Paul has visited and progress is being made
 - i) The area has been fenced off but the lawns are not yet ready for League play
 - ii) There are over 20 massively enthusiastic members
- b) Active Partnerships
 - i) This organisation reports to Sports England and is a source of information for anyone wanting to participate in sport
 - ii) There are 43 partnerships across the country with 8/9 in the SW
 - iii) All clubs are to be encouraged to explore this as a way of promoting croquet **Cygnets**
- c) Club Matters
 - i) No interest in this at the moment as the focus is on playing croquet but a series of seminars is to be planned for the autumn **Action: Paul**
- d) Foxy hoops arrived at Cheltenham
 - i) These have long, thin carrots suitable for use on Bowls lawns
 - ii) A set is available in the SW and will be initially trialled at Bradford on Avon Bowls Club **Action: Paul**
- e) Wareham CC
 - i) Brian has been supporting to help re-vitalise them but would really like to visit
 - ii) Louise suggested Steve Leonard at Winterbourne Valley might be able to help. **Action: Brian**
(1) *Louise subsequently contacted Steve who would be happy to help.*

9) Zoom Meetings

- a) Agreed these monthly meetings be resumed in Sept and that a 4-month programme be devised and circulated
- b) A further 4-month programme will be devised for the new year
- c) The programme to include social media training / discussion. Other ideas to Paul please. **Action: All**

10) Fed LSO

- a) There being no expressions of interest from an item in the last Cygnets, Paul volunteered for the role and has been appointed by email exchange
- b) Policy statement needs to go onto our website: **Action: Linda**
- c) It is not clear how the policy implementation is progressing and Ron Carter will be asked who the LSOs in the SW are. **Action: Paul**

11) Handicapper's report

- a) Little play so far this year so nothing to report
- b) Agreed that the possibility of running further workshops in the new year be explored in the autumn
 - i) To be discussed with Chair of Handicapping Committee. **Action: Paul**
- c) There is no direct link between Tony and the Handicapping Committee but Paul is on that committee
- d) Richard Jackson's correspondence with the CA Handicapping Committee had been circulated and was discussed
 - i) The response was disappointing as it failed to pick up that Richard's suggestions looked at ways of overcoming the shortfalls in the AHA system
 - ii) It was thought that no-one is currently monitoring the total points in the system
 - iii) Agreed no further action at this stage

12) **Cygnnet**

- a) Noted there is no further interest in helping produce this, so ambitions for a monthly issue are on hold
- b) Next issue to go out mid-July

13) **Website**

- a) Still no interest from anyone in taking this on and until there is, further suggestions cannot be implemented
- b) Noted that the CA model is a possibility if and when we get to that stage

14) **General Fed / CA issues**

- a) Forthcoming SW reps to Council elections – no further information from CA but this will be mentioned in the next **Cygnnet**

15) **AOB**

- a) Andru queried if anyone was developing a timer app for phones Action: **Paul will follow up**
 - i) Noted the official timer shouldn't be carried round by a player ...
- b) Noted Aston Wade now the GC Open Champion
 - i) He is now a -3, 18, attends Exeter University. His main club is Hamptworth but he is a member of Budleigh and Sidmouth
- c) Noted that Swindon's Longman Cup team covers the age range 14 – 70
 - i) There are a number of good younger players coming through
- d) Noted the schedule for proposals and nominations to committee for the AGM
- e) Extra committee meeting scheduled for September – see below

16) **Meetings schedule**

- a) Wed 15th Sept – 7.00pm – pre-agm agenda and planning
- b) Thurs 7th October 7.00pm
- c) Sun 21st Nov AGM - Zoom

League Secretary's Report

Results submitted so far: 13 in 12 blocks

Leagues involved: All

Results missing so far: 1

Probably cancelled but I haven't been informed officially and will be following it up.

Budleigh have withdrawn from the Federation league as they are unable to raise a team for any of their agreed dates. This means that the block is reduced from 4 clubs to 3. I offered the remaining clubs the chance to play Home and Away, giving four matches each, but the consensus was to leave the arranged games as they are and play just 2 matches each.

Some dates have been re-arranged because of the delayed relaxation of Covid rules but most clubs seem to be able to cope with the travel issues.

Treasurer's report



South West Federation of Croquet Clubs



Treasurers Report 21st June 2021

Summary of Expected Income & Expenditure for 2021

I refer to the table on page 2, this shows the budget for 2021, the actual income & expenditure for the period up to June 21st, the expected income & expenditure for the full year and in the last column the difference between the expected position and the budget.

Income is forecast to be £663 lower than expected in the budget due to the cancellation of the Nailsea Short Croquet Tournament and the B League. There has been an associated fall in expenditure due to the cancellation of these events of £506.

Travel expenses are anticipated to be lower than forecast due to the move to hold all committee meetings in 2021 on zoom, in addition there has been a re-statement of the 2021 budget.

In summary the net impact is that there is a small projected profit for the year.

Creditors / Debtors

None

Balance Sheet

At June 21st there was £6,664 cash at Bank excluding Judith Moore Bursary (see below).

Judith Moore Bursary

There have been no payments made from the Judith Moore Bursary Fund, and the cash balance remains at £5,000



South West Federation of Croquet Clubs



Actual and Projected vs Budget for 2021

General Account	BUDGET 2021	Actual June 21st	Projected 2021	Projected less Budget
INCOME				
Subscriptions	536	552	552	15
League Fees	864	666	666	-198
Short Croquet Tournament Fees	900	420	420	-480
Coaching Income	0	0	0	0
SWAN Adverts	60	42	60	0
	2360	1680	1698	-663
EXPENDITURE				
SWAN production	0	0	0	0
Trophies	128	0	128	0
League finals	396	0	330	-66
Short croquet	920	0	480	-440
Coaching expenses	21	0	21	0
Travel expenses	753	0	392	-361
SWF Website	135	135	135	0
Sundries	158	115	158	0
	2511	250	1644	-867
SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	-150		54	
Peter Kirby				
SWF Treasurer				

Peter Kirby

SWF Treasurer

June 21st 2021