**SWF monthly Zoom mtg – Tuesday 8th December at 7pm – Coaching**

**Structure of the Zoom hour**

**Part one (20 minutes)**

**Introduction to Roger Mills**

Clubs’ responses to the questionnaire (see below for the summary).

If time allows, participants can add responses

**Part two (20 minutes)**

Roger Mills’ proposed actions for the SWF in 2021

**Part three (20 minutes)**

The meeting discusses Roger’s proposals

**Clubs’ responses: What are the 3 biggest coaching issues for your club?**

**Club coaching resources**

1. We have excellent coaches, so no particular issues to flag up
2. Our club is fortunate to have several AC coaches, although it could benefit from having more Grade 1 AC coaches, but is weak on the GC coaching front.
3. We have many new members this year, but have no qualified coaches and have had very little formal coaching in the past. Coaching resources are needed to support the club’s planned growth.
4. Our members only play GC because we have no AC coaches
5. Age of existing coaches
6. Lack of interest in GC coaches to supply a regular weekly slot (even on a rota) for GC beginners/improvers to attend.

**Specific coaching requirements**

1. Coaching coaches
   1. Need for club members to receive Club-Level Coaches training; preferably near to the club
   2. Some coaches would benefit from some development, eg rules updates and general modernisation of the game itself
2. Beginners coaching
   1. Whilst not getting obsessed with the 4BB, we should try and make it more understandable for beginners whilst recognising that each of our beginners learn at different speeds and have different reasons for wanting to learn croquet
   2. What coaching to give new members who want to play croquet, but do not wish to play AC
3. Improvers coaching
   1. Aim to provide improvers with coaching opportunities by offering courses on different topics and / or mentoring, and try to ensure that it takes place.
   2. More advance coaching needed for improvers and better players
4. Need more written information on strokes covering (a) the basics (needed at all levels of play) and (b) how to teach beginners
5. Tips on how to coach players to change their swing; e.g. changing a ‘stabber’ to ‘follow through-er’

**Other issues**

1. How to resolve the low retention rate of new members after induction
2. Lack of clarity concerning the whereabouts and availability of coaches in the SW
3. Safeguarding
4. Explore how Budleigh can support the SWF through the SWCA and / or making its facilities available for coaching
5. Concept that qualified coaches are paid (they aren’t!)
6. It seems everyone wants to think of themselves as being coaches

**The discussion**

See presentation

* It’s a quirky game – not necessarily a coaching problem if a lot of beginners don’t take it up
* Why push AC if they like GC?
* Make AC more enjoyable – remove the mystique – play simplified version
* Keeping beginners
  + Afraid of making fools of themselves – integrate them socially early on
  + Let them see you practice
* Using ‘assistant’ coaches is a way of identifying potential coaches
* Use of SWF website