**SWF Zoom Meeting 11.5.21: Role of CA Executive Committee**

21 participants representing around 19 clubs.

**Paul Brown**

Paul is a member of the CA executive and gave a comprehensive overview of their work within the CA structure. His presentation may be found in a separate document.

By way of introduction, he told us of his croquet background and relative newness to the game. He emphasised the sport whether played for fun or competitively, would not exist without the CA and that the CA would not exist if it were not for the myriad of volunteers who contribute so much at every level of the game.

While CA Council focusses on the long-term future of the game and its governance, the Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring the day-to-day activities are undertaken in accordance with this.

The presentation was well received and gave rise to the following discussions:

* It would be helpful to know who does what
  + Dave Kibble noted that this information is available on the CA website. Go here for starters: <https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=ca>
* Noted the value of local contact between the CA and its grassroots members
* What is the relationship between the CA and people who play more socially than competitively
  + Paul replied it is important to support the social aspects and the CA has a role in motivating and supporting this
* Can individual members contact e.g. Exec and other committee members direct or do they have to go through their clubs
  + Paul would be very disappointed if people felt they could not contact any committee member direct
* Is the CA considering charity status?
  + This is under active consideration and proposals will be put to the membership at the AGM in the autumn

**General discussion**

Paul left the meeting at this point and the following discussions ensued:

* Linda reminded everyone that contributions for Cygnet were always welcome – the next issue is scheduled for the end of May
* Child Safeguarding – all clubs should now have this policy in place and identified their Local Safeguarding Officer to Ron Carter who is the CA Safeguarding Officer
  + This policy reflects the complexity of developing and implementing such a scheme and the importance of such policies to individual clubs, members and the CA
* Recruiting new players
  + Attention was drawn to the CA webinar being held this Thursday.
  + Prior enrolment is necessary but the webinar should be available on line shortly afterwards
* All clubs will have received a reminder from the CA about the impending deadline for nominations for a CA Diploma
  + Dave Kibble asked for views on the value of this scheme as opinion at Bristol CC was divided
  + Cubs valued the scheme and felt its overall impact was positive for not only the club but also for the award winner
* Paul F noted plans to be able to provide good lawns-care advice to clubs were progressing well
  + Noted clubs often receive conflicting advice
  + Noted that lawns are used for different purposes and advisers with expertise in e.g. bowls lawns will be better for croquet than those with expertise in e.g. football
* The coaching programme is going really well thanks to a phenomenal input from Roger
  + The first cohort of CTC participants has completed the background work and are delivering their coaching sessions prior to being awarded their badge
  + Coaches L1 training is just beginning
* The Survey Monkey of recruitment across the region showed very positive results and the findings will be reported more fully in Cygnet.

**Handicapping -** Tony reported there is little regional activity on this at the moment but as play resumes, this is likely to change

**Next meeting**

This will be on Tuesday 13th June and the topic will be announced in due course.