

Minutes of SWF Committee Meeting held 27.1.22

Present

Tony Mayer, Paul Francis, Peter Kirby, Stephen Custance-Baker, Andru Blewett, Linda Shaw, Brian Wilson (for the last hour or so)

1) Minutes of last meeting

- a) Agreed as correct

2) Matters Arising

- a) All matters will be covered in the agenda

3) Treasurer's report

- a) Report previously circulated and may be found below Appendix 1
- b) Members - all clubs entering a League team have paid their subs but some erstwhile Affiliate clubs have not yet joined
 - i) **Action: Peter** to send Linda and Paul full list

4) Joint Treasurer / Development issues

- a) Judith Moore Bursary is as yet unspent and will be promoted in Cygnet **Action: Linda**
 - i) Confirmed it will be run down over time and will not be replenished with other funding
- b) The Bears imminent disbanding was discussed
 - i) In line with their constitution, 50% of their residual assets will be transferred to the SWF and they have indicated they would like to set up a Youth Bursary Scheme with this amount – one that others might like to contribute to – and have suggested some terms and conditions for this
 - (1) Thanks for this are noted but caution is urged and the following needs to be considered:
 - (a) Whether it is possible to accept income that has been constitutionally mandated with conditions attached
 - (b) Whether current CA provision in this field is sufficient – we do not want to duplicate
 - (c) Whether this would fit in with our strategy and other priorities we might have. **Action: Linda to respond**
 - ii) They have numerous physical assets they would like to offer to other SWF clubs
 - (1) Agreed these should be offered to our developing clubs immediately **Action: Paul**
 - (2) The inventory will then be included in the next Cygnet – not before 10th Feb **Action: Linda**
 - (3) It will be The Bears' responsibility to dispose of these assets

5) League Secretary's report

- a) Best wishes to Stephen for a full and speedy recovery from Covid
- b) Report previously circulated and may be found in Appendix 2
- c) League fixtures are on the website and pending one confirmation of a late change, will be circulated to clubs very soon **Action: Stephen** *Update: these have now been circulated*
- d) League finals – missing Repts and Refs were identified
- e) Noted minor amendment to League rules which will be amended and sent to Alison for the website **Action: Linda**
- f) Separation of SC rules from AC rules will be completed in good time for the AGM **Action: Stephen**
- g) Trophies will be sorted and in place in due course **Action: Stephen**

- i) *Update: there is no trophy for the Open SC – does anyone have one that can be re-dedicated?*
- h) Advantage GC
 - i) Stephen has been working with others on this for a year now
 - ii) The concept is fine but in last year's trial low handicaps were disadvantaged as opposed to the current system which disadvantages high handicaps. It is not yet known whether this will be corrected by this year's starting positions.
 - iii) The starting positions do not reflect the actual range of handicaps that play outside of tournament events – there must be provision for these so the game can be played effectively at club and League level
 - iv) There also needs to be provision for easily calculating the results in a timed and unfinished game – Stephen has a simple multiplication calculation which he is suggesting
 - v) Stephen continues a dialogue with Chris Roberts and Roy Tillcock and has predicted what will happen in various handicap ranges, which he looks forward to comparing with the reality at the end of this year's season.
- i) Dress code – agreed no further action needed following a query from one club on wearing team colours – this is covered by CA Tournament Regs.

6) **Development Officer's report**

- a) Report previously circulated and may be seen in Appendix 3
- b) Zoom meeting updates – next meeting will include Croquet Matters – at last!

7) **Coaching**

- a) Following an extremely positive response from Beatrice McGlen, Chair of Exec, and a positive discussion between Paul and John Harris, the new Chair of the CA CC, it was disappointing that our re-submitted claim was rejected and they will pay expenses only and not the subsidy as stated in CA documentation and despite Beatrice's comments.
- b) Following a long discussion, it was agreed to take a conciliatory approach and submit an expenses-only claim noting we are 'waiving our legitimate claim'
- c) Noted the CA CC really needs to get the funding criteria clarified and published and at the moment we will pursue this in a conciliatory way and not submit a paper to them at this stage
- d) Further work needed on preparing a budget for this year's coaching expenditure **Action: Peter & Paul**
- e) Potential courses include: Club Coach, Level 1 coach, laws and rules, refs, handicapping workshops **Action: Paul, Roger and others**
- f) The CA CC as we understand considering Roger's course and method for approval – they need to confirm their acceptance of the blended learning mode
- g) Roger is likely to provide coaching again for us in 2022 but has relinquished his status as an Examining Coach will need addressing in all qualification courses we run
- h) Potential Regional Coaching Officer identified and will be contacted **Action: Linda / Paul**

8) **Handicapping Officer's report**

- a) Handicapping workshop **Action: Paul**

9) **Safeguarding Officer's report**

- a) Systems and processes do not appear to be resolved – a paper is going to Saturday's Council meeting Potential new committee members

10) **Website**

- a) Nothing to report

11) **Cygnnet**

- a) Next issue will be circulated 10th Feb **Action: Linda**

12) **CA Council Update**

- a) Brian updated us on discussion re draft CA constitution
- i) There is still reference to the role of Feds in securing sufficient nominations for Council elections – this is considered unworkable
 - ii) It is not clear if there is reference anywhere else in the draft Constitution on the position of Feds and their relationship to the CA – this would be helpful
 - iii) Answers to questions asked about this process are expected fairly soon
- b) East Anglia Fed are holding a seminar on clubs and their legal status – the demand for one here will be ascertained through Cygnnet **Action: Linda**
- c) Brian is keen to clarify the role of Council in scrutinizing the CA's work and achievements – this is on the agenda for Saturday's Council meeting
- d) The CA holds no data on diversity and is therefore unable to measure any changes in this

13) **AOB**

- a) Potential new Committee members were identified and will be approached **Action: Paul & Linda**

14) **Meetings 2022**

- 24th March
- 26th May
- 21st July
- 20th October
- 20th November AGM

Appendix 1 Treasurer's Report



South West Federation of Croquet Clubs



Treasurers Report 19th January 2022

Summary of Expected Income & Expenditure for 2022

I refer to the table on page 3, this shows the budget for 2022, the actual income & expenditure for the period up to January 19th, the expected income & expenditure for the full year and in the last column the difference between the expected position and the budget. No further items of income or expenditure are expected in this financial year.

Income is forecast to be £86 lower than expected in the budget principally due to a lower than anticipated entry in the Nailsea & Buldleigh Short Croquet Tournaments (51 entries vs expected 60).

Sundry expenses are higher than expected due to increase in zoom costs which were not included in the forecast.

In summary the net impact is that there is a projected deficit for the year of around £500 vs the expected deficit of £340. This slightly higher deficit can be adequately covered by reserves.

Creditors / Debtors

None.

Balance Sheet

At January 19th there was £6,842 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

Appendix 2 League Secretary's Report

League Secretary's report

27th January 2022

Status of SWF Leagues

Dates for 335 / 335 matches in 29 blocks have been agreed.

The first block match is on 19th April and the last on 4th September.

A late entry by Budleigh in the Short Croquet Open (South) was accepted after consulting the other three clubs in the block.

All of the Data Protection forms have been received.

There is a slight delay as Nailsea is trying to change some dates, but this should be sorted by 27th January.

The full details of the match dates, the team captains and the dates of the finals will be circulated to the clubs within 2 or 3 days.

Status of Finals

The finals will be:

Saturday September 17th	B League	Swindon
Saturday September 17th	Short Croquet (Open)	Nailsea
Sunday September 18th	AC Intermediate	Sidmouth
Sunday September 18th	GC Level Play	Bristol
Saturday September 24th	AC Federation	Cheltenham
Saturday September 24th	GC High Handicap	Camerton & Peasedown
Sunday September 25th	Short Croquet (Restricted)	Budleigh Salterton
Sunday September 25th	GC Handicap	Bath

The SWF reps and the referees arranged so far are:

Venue	Date	League	Rep	Ref
Swindon	Sat 17/Sep/22	B League	Tony Mayer	Tony Mayer
Nailsea	Sat 17/Sep/22	Short Croquet Open	Stephen C-B	Stephen C-B
Sidmouth	Sun 18/Sep/22	Intermediate	<i>Paul</i>	Richard Wood
Bristol	Sun 18/Sep/22	GC Level Play	Linda Shaw	Bristol will provide
Cheltenham	Sat 24/Sep/22	Federation	<i>Tony</i>	<i>Klim?</i>
Camerton	Sat 24/Sep/22	GC High Handicap	Brian Wilson	Brian Wilson
Budleigh	Sun 25/Sep/22	Short Croquet Restricted	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Paul</i>
Bath	Sun 25/Sep/22	GC Handicap	Andru Blewett	Andru Blewett

SWF League Rule Change

A small correction, as shown, is needed in Appendix 5 (Short Croquet) of the SWF AC League Rules.

"This does not alter the requirement, **in the Restricted Short Croquet League**, that at least half of the games played by each team must be played by players with Short Croquet handicaps of 6 or above."

Appendix 3 Development Officer's Report

New Clubs

Bradford on Avon

- Recruiting new members (£60 for the summer season) with Open Day planned for Saturday April 30th.
- Joined SWF and CA
- Club has starter equipment but needs mallets, another set of Foxy hoops and secondary balls.

Tisbury

- Recruiting new members with several Open Days planned, earliest on Feb 4th!
- Joined CA and will be joining SWF.
- Just applied for start-up kit but has exactly the same shopping list as Bradford.

Other clubs

The Bears

I have been in contact with their Treasurer who has informed me that the club will be folded. As a result, there is ongoing discussions with regards to the Bear's inventory and financial assets. Of course, the inventory would be of great assistance to our two new clubs.

Bude

There have been several changes in personnel at the club over disagreements about the plans for the new club house and the club's unincorporated legal status. As a result, the old guard are back at the centre of the club. CA has advised the club on legal structure options. Useful Sport England module on this topic?

Future Zooms

February

Introduction to the Management and People units of Croquet Matters.

The Jubilee Platinum Fund

Coaching Offer for 2022 followed up with stand alone Coaching Zoom for interested participants.

Lawns project- ongoing -

Dennis Motors roadshow – let Paul know if you want one – any demand from the clubs?