

SWF Committee Meeting 15.7.24: Minutes

1. Apologies

- a. None

2. Minutes of last meeting

- a. Agreed

3. Matters arising / update on actions

- a. Peter to destroy paper financial records securely - ongoing
- b. Stephen to contact John G re destruction of hard copy SC tournament records and destroy League records - ongoing
- c. Diploma awards nomination – item did not go into Cygnet – deadline now passed

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. There have been no financial transaction of note since my previous report in May, so therefore I haven't produced a new report.

5. League Secretary's Report

- a. Results of 189 out of 327 matches have been reported
 - i. The five results secretaries are on top of their job but one uses an Apple system and the current forms are not suited to this especially with regard to SWF website **Action: Stephen** to continue to try to resolve
 - ii. A couple of occasions when health issues meant games couldn't be completed – rules have been checked and these will be dealt with as would be for matches
 - iii. Noted that some amendment to rules may be necessary to allow non-playing captains to act as sequence umpires in GC games
 - iv. Noted one incident when incorrect information on the GC Rules was given – the team captain has been informed
 1. Noted that any relevant referee can intervene when this happens (AC and GC)
- b. Arrangements for Finals are well in hand and Tony is starting the process of locating the trophies so that they, and the plaques, can be transferred to the host clubs.
Action Tony
- c. 2025: Stephen will continue allocating entries to blocks for next year and will be discussing the possibility of one of the Results Secretaries standing for League Secretary
- d.** Agreed guidance be sent to team captains at the beginning of the season re referring, handicaps etc **Action: Stephen / new League Secretary**

6. Development Report

- a. Grant applications to CqE pending:
 - i. Bristol preparing application for lawn improvement to include levelling and irrigation system
 - ii. Cornwall has launched Crowdfunding to raise funds for land purchase
 - iii. Abbey has moved to Butleigh – near Dowlish Wake – and have a new Chair
 - iv. Tisbury applying for CqE club award – Brian is in touch with them
- b. Dennis Mowers seminar at Bristol was very successful
 - i. Second seminar in planning stage for April 2025 at Eynsham
 - ii. Allett Mowers Initiative - planning a 2-day course in October

- c. SWF Volunteer of the Year Award – no response to item in Cygnet **Action: Paul** will develop the paperwork for this

7. Coaching Officer Report

- a. Budleigh June Club Level Course
 - i. Eight attended and have all now started the five sessions at their own clubs.
 - ii. Clubs involved : Budleigh, Sidmouth, Charlton and Winterborne Valley
 - iii. Noted no expense claims have been received for this – **Action: Paul** to submit his
- b. Recent approved club level coaches
 - i. Makis Apergis: Cheltenham
 - ii. Tony Strickett: St Agnes
- c. In the pipe line
 - i. July 20th GC Assessment model for coaches at Wycombe (two spaces)
 - ii. July 29th Swing. Doctor at Budleigh (two spaces)
 - iii. September Club Level course in North of the Federation
- d. Noted presentation of new GC assessment process will be at Chiltern Academy this weekend
- e. 2025
 - i. February GC Referees Course at Bath
 - ii. March/April Club level coaching course
 - iii. Agreed sessions e.g. refereeing, tournament management be held every couple of years or so **Action: Paul**

8. Handicapping Officer Report

- a. Agreed handicapping course be run early next year by Zoom **Action: Mike / Paul**
- b. Noted that bisque adjustment for AC games on less than full size lawns is mandatory – guidance to be prepared for clubs **Action: Mike**
- c. Guidance / Rules on handicap cards being prepared **Action: Mike**
- d. A recent Cygnet included the changes we are proposing to include in rules re. Handicapping for next year. This will be carried through to the AGM. **Action: Mike**
- e. Mike has done useful work with Lymington CC which is just outside our area but is getting them interested in more competitive play

9. Safeguarding Officer Report

- a. Noted response from John Harris re including Safeguarding in coaches' qualification training:
 - i. *I think our position is that it would be extremely difficult, effectively impossible, to get existing coaches to sign up to doing a safeguarding course, desirable though it would be. My own view is that adding a safeguarding requirement to the coach training course, again very desirable, would deter a lot of good candidates unwilling to devote the extra time. We have already notched up the requirements and another significant step as time-demanding as this would in my view, in the famous phrase used in Yes Minister, be courageous. The pragmatic way ahead seems to be where we are now at - a requirement for those coaching Under 18s to do the online training, plus an emphasis in CTCs about the key principles. I use a modified version of a good little Powerpoint produced by Ian shore (attached). Ian Shore is closer to the Safeguarding group than I am, so I'm copying this to him in the hope he can either endorse or correct*
 - ii. It is hoped this will be taken to CqE coaching Committee for discussion and potential circulation to all examining coaches

- iii. Andru circulated the format for presenting this
- iv. Some concern was expressed that this might deter potential coaches from undertaking the course

10. Feds Focus Group update

- a. Concern about how this group is functioning was discussed
 - i. There is little focus on strategic issues
 - ii. It is not fulfilling its role in communications between CqE and clubs
 - iii. It should be managed by the Director of Development
- b. Agreed these concerns be expressed to the new Director of Development, Ian Draper**
Action: Linda, Tony, Paul

11. Rep to CA Report

- a. The Trustees have developed a 5 Year Strategy which is being finalised following discussions and feedback with all Trustees and CE Board
- b. Trustees have presented their first report to the Charity Commission
- c. The CE is seeking a replacement as Secretary to the CIO (John Reddish is standing down)
- d. The Trustees have been kept up to date with the Board's decisions and other matters
- e. SWF committee expressed concern at the quality of communications between CqE and members e.g. how the Honorary Secretary post is being advertised – it has not yet been sent to members direct and was not obvious in the recent Gazette
 - i. It was also felt the newsletter is full of irrelevant advertising

12. AGM 24.11.24

- a. Key dates
 - i. Call for proposals and nominations to clubs by end of July **Action: Linda**
 - ii. These to be received by 13th Oct
 - iii. Full agenda to be sent to members by 27th Oct
 - iv. Committee meeting 14th Oct to do this – there may be a bit of leeway here
Action: Linda to consider
- b. Voting
 - i. Keeping track is really difficult and the possibility of taking votes before the meeting was discussed but not agreed as people may make decisions on the basis of discussions and may have been given the discretion to do so by their clubs
- c. Format
 - i. We need to present reports much more succinctly
 - ii. Manage discussions and diversions more effectively keeping focussed
 - iii. We will have questions for the committee immediately following the AGM
- d. Committee members
 - i. Some discussion about potential candidates – information on key anticipated vacancies will be sent to clubs **Action: Linda**

13. AOB

- a. Monthly Zoom meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month from October to March inclusive **Action: Paul** will create the schedule

14. Dates of next meetings

- a. 9th September – if needed
- b. 14th October – possibly delayed by up to 7 days – look out for emails

- c. 24th November
- d. 5th Dec – provisional