

## Minutes of SWF Committee Meeting 19.3.26 7.00pm

### Present

Gill Wheeler, Andru Blewett, Stephen Custance-Baker, Chris Ham, Pauline McAllister, David Green, Linda Shaw

### Apologies

None

#### 1. Minutes of last meeting

- a. Previously circulated and agreed as correct

#### 2. Matters arising

- a. Stephen noted there was an action point for him re a Zoom session on beating the peelers in SC but this had been overlooked.
  - i. Linda apologised for this – fortunately no extra work had been incurred by Stephen and it is one for the to-do list

#### 3. Finance

- a. See Treasurer's report below
- b. Agreed HMRC be advised we were not active for Corporation Tax in 2025 but we need to establish if we need to confirm this each year
  - i. **Action: Pauline**
- c. Independent Examiner – Eileen Roberts, who has a wealth of experience, has agreed to take on this role.
  - i. Many thanks to her and to Pauline for making this happen
- d. Assets – subsequent to the meeting, Pauline found an old (2021) list of assets
  - i. Wheelchair - donated - location Swindon
  - ii. Tent - bought in 2012 - location Camerton
  - iii. Starter set comprising primary balls, 6 hoops and 4 mallets located at Moreton-in-Marsh (no price or date on these - possibly a donation)
- e. **Action: Linda** to try to establish their current status / whereabouts
- f. Approval given for ancillary expenditure for the Spring SC Tournament
  - i. **Action: Linda**

#### 4. Leagues

- a. See League Sec's report below
- b. Noted that entering DGrade results is not within the responsibilities of League Results Co-ordinators – it is up to the clubs to do this
- c. League Rules – AGC guidance notes need to be added to the website
  - i. Action: Andru, Gill, Linda
- d. Finals: SW Rep schedule – some slots need filling – see table below **and let Gill / Sue know if you can fill one of the vacancies**

#### 5. Leagues Rules updates and review process

- a. This has been a lengthy process leading to more queries and discussion than had been anticipated – huge thanks to those who have been leading these
- b. The final versions will be on the website shortly
- c. Committee views on the process and way forward include
  - i. The rules have become too complex and possibly too detailed
  - ii. There is scope for simplification

- iii. The review process didn't use the right technology to track changes and discuss wording
- iv. That even apparently simple wording can be interpreted differently
- d. All parties to the process will be asked for their feedback and suggestions **Action: Linda**
- e. The framework for a summer review is being developed and will be consulted on **Action: Linda et al**

## 6. GDPR and communications

- a. Gill raised concerns about how well we are managing our GDPR responsibilities – there are different aspects to this
- b. One aspect is how securely we hold the information – especially if others use our computers
- c. Another is how we share information
  - i. A query was raised by East Dorset who thought captains' contact details should be accessible via CqE Directory – but not all Captains make their details accessible
  - ii. It is a confusing time for the Treasurer and League Secretary when memberships are due for renewal and league entries are coming in and we suspect this is confusing for clubs as well – needing close liaison between their Treasurers and Tournament Secs.
- d. Action: Pauline & Gill will consider how to improve the renewal / entries processes – using the SWF page in the CqE Directory might be a possibility
- e. Action: Linda to ask East Dorset if they have any suggestions about improving the process

## 7. Development

- a. See Brian's report below
- b. Bradford-on-Avon successfully applied for £5,000 grant for club insulation
- c. Charlton CC given info to help them establish as a CASC
- d. Paul is investigating potential for holding national webinar with Dennis Mowers on lawn care
- e. SWF has hosted 3 clubs' zoom meetings: lawns, coaching, league rules/target scores

## 8. Coaching

- a. See Paul's report below
- b. Individual player skills – raised at Zoom with view to identifying ways of making info about local coaches more available
  - i. Dave K has been asked how this might work with CqE Directory – definitely possible
  - ii. Linda has had some correspondence with Debbie Lines who issued a call for coaches to make themselves known via Facebook and suggested more structural approach to this – not sure anything will happen on this
  - iii. **Action: Linda** to pursue further with aim of getting info together for 2027

## 9. Handicapping

- a. David will be meeting shortly with others to progress the work of the action group
- b. He has been engaging in the national debate about Dgrades and green cards
- c. The Federations' Forum will be writing to Andy Dalby-Welsh about the handling of the Dgrades controversy

## 10. Safeguarding & Welfare

- a. No issues have arisen
- b. **Action: Chris** will be leading the April 14<sup>th</sup> Zoom on welfare

## 11. Website

- a. There are clearly issues with this as previously noted – despite repeatedly asking for support over the past few years, no one has come forward
- b. Gill suggested that this might be a project that a university department might be interested in and will make enquiries **Action: Gill**
- c. We need to scope such a project
  - i. what do we want it to do
  - ii. make it easier to update
  - iii. easier to find your way around
  - iv. chat forum?
- d. **Action: All** share ideas please

## 12. Feds' Forum

- a. Update given – notes will be circulated **Action: Linda**

## 13.AOB

- a. None

## 14.Schedule of meetings

- a. Thursdays 7.00pm by Zoom
  - i. May 14<sup>th</sup>
  - ii. July 23
  - iii. Sept 17<sup>th</sup>
  - iv. Oct 15<sup>th</sup>
  - v. Dec 10<sup>th</sup>
- b. AGM 22.11.26

## Treasurer's Report.

The referees course cost the JMB bursary £290.10. The updating referees course seminar cost was covered by the fees received.

## HMRC

I have received a reply to my various enquires to HMRC on our reporting requirements - see attached.

My view is - see section highlighted in red = that we are under the £100 Corporation tax liability so we can be termed "inactive".

The potential taxable income areas in 2025 were these:

Bank interest	£276.58
Advertising	£84.00
Total	£360.58

Corporation tax at 19% would be £68.51 - well within the reporting limit.

I suggest that I declare SWF of Croquet Clubs as not active.

## SWF League Secretary report 16 March 2026 for the meeting 19 March 2026

### League Summary

- All the clubs submitted the fixtures on time and these have been added to the [SWF Website](#). The League Tables and Final Rounds have also been updated, along with the Roll of Honour and the Home page list of Leagues offered.
- There is a 12% increase in the number of teams entered compared to 2025. All the leagues have seen an increase except the AC Intermediate (-2) and the GC Handicap (-1)

League	Teams 2026	2025	Change from 2025	Matches 2026
AC Advanced	17	15	2	40
AC Federation	16	15	1	35
AC Intermediate	9	11	-2	22
AC B League	3	2	1	6
Short Croquet Open	21	15	6	45
Short Croquet Restricted	0	0	0	0
GC level play	19	16	3	51
GC level play 5+	15	14	1	42
GC level play 10+	6	Not offered	6	12
GC handicap	23	24	-1	66

GC high handicap	23	23	0	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>135</b>	17	<b>385</b>

- The Captains' details are listed in the [SWF Fixtures 2026 Summary](#) file. Each league has a separate page.
- The League Rules updates are on the final proof reading. This has been a massive task, and I thank Linda and Andru for leading the groups with calm determination, whilst letting everyone have a say. The combination of email and video meetings has worked well.
- Results sheets for GC both Handicap and Level Play are almost ready for adding to the website.
- Results sheets for AC and SC require updating and will be done shortly.
- We now have a full League Organisation Committee.
  - **League Organisation Committee 2026**
  - SWF League Secretary: Gill Wheeler [gillwheeler39@gmail.com](mailto:gillwheeler39@gmail.com)
  - Finals Coordinator: Sue Speller [Sue.speller@btconnect.com](mailto:Sue.speller@btconnect.com)
  - Advanced Play Coordinator: David Warhurst [dswarhurst@gmail.com](mailto:dswarhurst@gmail.com)
  - Association Croquet Coordinator: Gill Wheeler [gillwheeler39@gmail.com](mailto:gillwheeler39@gmail.com)
  - Short Croquet Coordinator: Margaret Murray [klccsecretary@outlook.com](mailto:klccsecretary@outlook.com)
  - Handicap Golf Croquet Coordinator: Nigel Wolcko [nigelwolcko@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelwolcko@yahoo.co.uk)
  - Level Play Golf Croquet Coordinator: Paul Pristavec [ppristavec@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ppristavec@yahoo.co.uk)
  - Level Play 5+ Golf Croquet Coordinator: Brenda Duplock [brenda.duplock@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.duplock@gmail.com)
  - Level Play 10+ Golf Croquet Coordinator: Vic Frampton [vicframpers@gmail.com](mailto:vicframpers@gmail.com)
- Nigel has put together a [guide for updating the website](#).
- The League Results Coordinators will update the SWF Website with the SWF League results. The 3 Golf Croquet Level play coordinators will not update the Croquet England Croquet Scores tool; this activity should be done by the Home Club in conjunction with the Away captain to ensure that the correct names are used. A guide for updating Croquet Scores has been provided by Martin French.
- The first League match is on 2 April.
- Referees for all the finals will be provided by the host club except Cheltenham where Tony Mayer will be the referee.

<b>League Finals arrangements</b>				
<b>League</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Ref</b>	<b>SWF Rep</b>
GC Level play 10+	Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Taunton</b>	Stephen	Stephen
AC Intermediate	Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Nailsea</b>		Linda
GC Handicap	Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Budleigh</b>		
Short croquet Open	Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Kington Langley</b>	Tony Mayer	
AC Federation	Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Cheltenham TBC</b>		
GC High Handicap	Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Camerton and Peasedown</b>		
GC Level play 5+	Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Bath</b>		

### **Development: Brian Wilson report (abridged)**

My activities have centred around Tisbury and Pythouse, plus St Agnes

Tisbury have entered teams in SW Fed Leagues for 2026 and have asked for some coaching and rules update as they have new members taking part

Pythouse is a new club and is only 3 miles from Tisbury

Linda and I had a zoom meeting with Pythouse

They have joined CqE and are in the process of becoming a member of SW Fed

They have been given a starter set direct from CqE (hoops, balls, mallets etc)

Liaising with Paul F, we are determining the status of SW Fed starter kits

#### St Agnes

Are looking for a grant/loan from CqE and have developed a project that creates an environmentally sensitive car parking area

As the SW Fed does not have a Federation Development Officer, I was sent a copy and was asked for my views

I had a long conversation with Andru B that included by feedback and advice for further consideration by Bude's committee

### **Coaching: Paul Francis report**

#### Coaching Committee

I have been asked to do a survey on SWF active coaches. I need to complete this by the end of April.

More information to follow.

#### Club Level Coaching

Just one more Zoom to go before the practical day on April 23 at BOA.

Numbers are down on the last few years ( we have averaged eight per year).

At present, we have just five participants (just lost one today).

I fear I'm frightening people off through the requirements that are being set by the Coaching Committee?

That being said, I have enjoyed the course and have had good feedback.