

South East Croquet Federation – 2004 AGM 15th February 2004 – Surbiton CC

Minutes

The meeting started at 10:45am with 30 representatives from Caterham, Chichester and Fishbourne, Compton, Crawley, Dulwich, Ealing, Ember, Hurlingham, Medway, Merton, Parsons Green, Purley Bury, Ramsgate, Reigate Priory, Roehampton, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Surbiton, Sussex County and Woking

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Bexley, Littlehampton, Preston, Rottingdean and Sydenham.

2. Minutes of 2003 AGM

The minutes were accepted.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

The committee elected Roger Weeks as independent examiner for 2001/02 and 2002/03; the 2001/02 accounts had been examined with no problems.

David Mooney was elected as SECF CA rep unopposed in October 2003 for 3 years.

The question on recording matches with non-CA members on handicap cards was answered again; all singles games in SECF competitions should be recorded.

4. Approval of accounts for the year ended 30th September 2003

The treasurer presented the accounts; there was a surplus of £633 in the year with assets at year-end of £8291. The committee has checked that all the events that we run are solvent. New bank accounts have been established. The meeting accepted the accounts unanimously. Clubs are reminded that the SECF can use these funds to make loans or grants to clubs for capital projects.

5. Annual subscription for 2004

The subscription was agreed to be unchanged at £10 per club.

6. Report on 2003 events and presentation of trophies

For the first time a play-off was required to settle the U league. Trophies were presented to the winners of the 3 leagues and the team and ladies events. All of the events were very popular except the short croquet event, which had to be cancelled.

7. Development and coaching report

Daphne Gaitley has been elected as coach of the year for 2003. Nigel Graves (secretary of the CA) presented her with a certificate. The southeast has taken this title for 4 consecutive years now.

Michael Hague gave a report on activities during 2003, he expressed thanks to his assistants who allowed the wide range of events to be held. The summer school was again a tremendous success with 32 students in two streams of beginners (H/C c. 24) and improvers (14+). Two coaching courses were run at improvers and bronze levels. The silver course had to be cancelled due to a lack of students. A coaching qualification and referees course were also held. A CQC course will be held again in 2004 at Hurlingham. The next referees course will be in 2005.

Development support was provided for Bognor Regis, Clapham Common, Chichester and Fishbourne and Rother Valley. A very successful new club was established at West Wittering. Work continues at several stately homes including Polesdon Lacey and Leeds Castle.

Michael emphasised the fact that the CA is keen to spend money on development work in clubs. In particular it has put aside particular funds for work with children. Requests for grants should be made by August for consideration in the autumn.

The CA are producing a booklet on lawns maintenance soon, which will be sent to clubs. All CA member clubs and federations are now covered by central public liability insurance.

There was a question on CA membership. It is not necessary to be a CA member to be a club coach or a golf croquet referee.

8. Motions to Alter Constitution of the SECF

(a) Change the definition of the “area of influence” in item 2 to “Kent, London, Surrey and Sussex”. This was needed since the existing definition refers to an out of date government body (the sports council London and South East region) and its replacement uses different regions. This was passed unanimously.

(b) Change the start of the financial year in item 8 to “1st January”. This was to take account of the move of the AGM to the spring and to allow the inclusion of autumn income and expenditure in the year’s accounts. This was passed unanimously. The current financial ‘year’ will run from 1.10.03 to 31.12.04.

9. Election of officers and committee

The following were elected unopposed:

Chairman – Bill Arliss

Secretary and Treasurer – Richard Hilditch

Committee – David Collins, Daphne Gaitley, Michael Hague, George Noble, Roy Ware (one vacancy)
(CA Rep: David Mooney)

10. Election of independent examiner

Roger Weeks was elected as independent examiner for the financial year ending 31.12.04.

11. 2004 League rules

Mick Belcham from Royal Tunbridge Wells made a presentation to the meeting. He surveyed the types of leagues that are played in the other federations and he made a plea to alter our leagues in a number of ways. In particular he recommended that the U league be made more serious to attract players who would otherwise play in tournaments, specifically changing the matches to be best of 7 (like the CA team events). In addition he proposed a minimum handicap for the B league to stop weaker players being put off playing. He also proposed that the committee set up a working party to consider the format of the leagues to report back with proposals for next year. There was much discussion from the meeting, with some support and a few criticisms. Discussion also focussed on the number of matches in the league and the current scoring mechanism (best four results of up to six matches) and the equity (or not) of a team scoring 4-2 being placed above a team with 4-1 or 4-0.

The following motions were put to the meeting:

- U league matches comprise 7 games, a round of 2 singles and 1 doubles and a round of 4 singles unless vetoed by one of the clubs for extraordinary circumstances **Passed 8-7**
- The U league comprises only the arranged 4 matches **Passed 10-4**
- The B league comprises only the arranged 4 matches **Defeated 6-10**
- The B league comprises the arranged 4 matches and up to 1 more **Defeated 2-10**
- The Golf league comprises the arranged 4 matches and up to 1 more **Defeated 1-10**
- Scoring in the B and Golf league be altered so that teams playing 5 or 6 matches include credit for all matches reduced by a ration of 4/5 or 4/6 **Passed 11-2**

12. Other 2003 events

All the SECF events from 2003 would be repeated in 2004 except for the short croquet event.

13. WCF Golf Croquet World Championships, June 20-27 2004 Southwick/Compton

Bill Arliss gave an update on the plans for this event.

14 Golf Croquet Handicapping

Bill Arliss led a discussion on this. The following motion was passed unanimously:

- Golf croquet matches in the SECF (leagues and tournaments) will require players to present handicap cards. If not the player will play off a handicap of 2