

Nailsea & District Croquet Club
Draft Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 22 September 2015

Chair: Andrew Wimshurst

Present: Kathy Wallace, Coral Harrison, Brian Roynon, Brigit Clayton,
Peter Dyke

1. **Apologies** Mike Tracy

2. **Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 18 August 2015**

These were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 18 August 2015

3 **Matters arising from Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 18 August 2015**

Peter apologised for his absence from the August meeting.

Linda and Fran were proceeding with the Child Protection documents

Our copy of the lease had now got all the signatures and was being returned to the Council by our solicitors.

Coral had supplied the spreadsheet of volunteer duties and Andrew would be using this to enlist additional help where required

AW

Chris Jackson had made contact to say that he was still happy to maintain the small lawn accessories, as in the past.

All the new members who had played in the Beginners Competition had been given AC handicaps (24) and AHS cards

Brian McCausland had arranged the Short Croquet Teams for the Budleigh event

4. **Treasurer's Report**

Mike had been detained in Switzerland following health problems for himself and Liz. His passport had been lost by the paramedic but it was hoped that he would be home shortly. The current Bank balance will be added to the minutes in due course.

Post-meeting note supplied by Mike on his return: The bank balance less unpresented cheques is £13,773.81. Our surplus for the year is £4,247.27. The surplus for the year is likely to be about £3,500.

5. **Property Report (attached at end of minutes)**

It was hoped that someone would take responsibility for Hedges and Edges and Brian thought that work parties on the Fridays preceding tournaments would elicit some help.

6. Membership report (report attached at end of minutes)

Two Dyffryn players had asked for Country membership for the remainder of the season. They have both now been accepted as members and we hope they will enjoy their time with us. Andrew was encouraged by the fact that we now have 99 members.

7. Lawn maintenance report (report attached at end of minutes)

Andrew expressed appreciation that the lawns had been in such good condition for the Finals weekend with short grass and set hoops. Brian was concerned that John had spent too much time in order to achieve this. Kathy explained that the uncertainty about play on the Friday had led to the hoops being set twice and that in Mike's absence, John had done the hoops as well as the extra grass cut. He was quite happy about the situation as he liked things to be as good as possible for Finals matches.

8. Handicapping update

There was still uncertainty about the CA guidelines for non-automatic handicap changes to AC handicaps. The CA website did not indicate any rule about reductions needing to be by a minimum of three steps where the handicap was above 8. Peter will write to the Chair of the CA Handicap Committee indicating that we would not support a guideline of a minimum of 3 steps reduction for those above 8 and that the CA website should be consistent with quoted guidelines.

PD

All new members need to be given GC handicaps at the beginning of next season in case they wish to enter GC competitions. Andrew suggested starting them all at 10 but Peter insisted that they should be assessed. It was decided that a day, possibly a Monday, should be organised and all the assessments could take place then. The other members of the GC Handicap Committee would hopefully help with the assessments.

PD

9. Dates for next season

This item was deferred, pending the decision of the Sport England application

10. SWF AGM proposals

Peter was concerned that the bisque allocation for B league matches was lower than in the past. He would create a proposal concerning this. There was also renewed concern about the suitability of some of the lawns used for semi-finals or play-offs . One of our teams had had an extremely disappointing match where it was impossible to play breaks due to poor conditions. A letter had been sent to the SWF after a similar situation in 2014 but no acknowledgement had been received. It was decided to send another letter about the experience this year and include a copy of the 2014 letter.

Kathy to write the letter and send it to Peter for approval

KW PD

11. NDCC AGM

This item was deferred in Mike's absence and pending the Sport England decision. A meeting would be arranged in two weeks to discuss this and item 9

12. Christmas Lunch

It was decided to choose the more expensive menu as usual as it gave more choice to the diners. Coral offered to organise the event and Brian was happy to be the MC as in the past. Kathy would supply Coral with all the necessary information and contacts for the Masonic Hall and for the caterers

CH
KW

13. AOB

Brigit raised the issue of the Mad Monday trophy. It was felt by all that this should be treated in the same way as all the other trophies and be presented at the Presentation Evening. Andrew to speak to Chris Jackson about this

AW

There was no space on the plate for another name to be engraved on the Advanced 1-ball cup. Brigit would ask the engraver what could be done

BC

It was confirmed that NDCC should continue to pay for the engraving on open tournament trophies won at Nailsea by club members, This is in addition to the trophies for internal competitions

BC

Marcus had indicated that the Schools and Junior Championships might now be held at Oxford University instead of Nailsea. He had not confirmed this but one of our Junior members had been told to go to Oxford. The Committee was not willing to lend 3 sets of balls for the event as it was thought they might get lost or interchanged with others. In addition, all the balls might well be required by the club members

KW

Marcus was going to manage the SWF Intermediate League Final at Nailsea on Sat 26 September. It was not known if he was also providing the tea or how many people were in each team. Andrew would contact him and also contact his brother at Exeter as Exeter was one of the teams.

AW

It was noted that, as last autumn, the bins were over-flowing and the cleaning rota had finished. As the bridge group met very week in the winter, it was decided that they would be asked to empty the bins. Coral would ask them. Coral would also organise the rota to be filled in with the names of people who had volunteered for cleaning but had not done more than one duty.

CH

It was decided to offer a key for a few days to the parent of a junior member who would like the opportunity to practise before he took part in the the national Junior Championship. The parent is a Social member of NDCC

It was decided to advise a speed limit of 10mph on the track across the field. Members would be informed of this and it would be on the website.

KW

Peter would resume winter coaching of bridge to beginners/improvers on Monday mornings.

PD

14. Date of next meeting

This was provisionally arranged for 10am on Tuesday 6 October. The venue would be decided upon when Mike returned home.

Signed as a true and accurate record

Name.....

Signature..... date.....

DRAFT