

South East Croquet Federation – 2005 AGM 27th February 2005 – Surbiton CC

Minutes

The meeting started at 10:45am with 40 representatives from Canterbury, Caterham, Chichester and Fishbourne, Compton, Crawley, Dulwich, Ealing, Ember, Hayes Bromley & Keston, Hurlingham, Littlehampton, Medway, Merton, Parsons Green, Purley Bury, Reigate Priory, Roehampton, Rother Valley, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Surbiton, Sussex County and Sydenham

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Bexley, Preston, Ramsgate (blizzard) and Michael Hague.

2. Minutes of 2004 AGM

The minutes were accepted.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

4. Approval of accounts for the period ending 31st December 2004

The treasurer presented the accounts. Due to the change in the financial year (agreed at last year's AGM), this time the period covered was 15 months. There was a deficit of £1000; this was entirely due to the policy of distributing some of the SECF reserves to the clubs as grants for capital projects (6 grants were made to 5 clubs totalling £1500). There were assets of £7200 at the end of the year. The meeting accepted the accounts unanimously.

5. Annual subscription for 2005

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

6. Report on 2004 events and presentation of trophies

Trophies were presented to winners of the various events. The trophies for the U and Golf league were not available. Caterham to get the U league trophy to Purley Bury. Sussex County to get the Golf league trophy to Littlehampton. For the first time the B league require a playoff between Chichester and Fishbourne and Reigate Priory.

The league secretary apologised that the rule change agreed at the 2004 AGM to require players to present golf croquet handicap cards or else play off a handicap of 2 (or less) was not circulated.

7. Development and coaching report

The secretary read the report from Michael Hague in his absence. Thanks were particularly due to all the assistant coaches without whom the work could not have been done. In particular Daphne Gaitley was thanked for having run another successful summer school. As well as working with new clubs we are able to provide coaching to clubs for association or golf croquet, just contact Michael to arrange visits.

The CA has introduced a new scheme to buy a set of croquet equipment worth £600 for new clubs provided they join the CA. This equipment would be on permanent loan. The SECF also has equipment for loaning to new clubs. The CA has also introduced a new scheme for clubs holding CA calendar fixtures to provide a 3-year interest free loan to pay for new balls and to buy back existing balls.

8. Election of officers and committee

The following were re-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)

9. Election of independent examiner

Roger Weeks was re-elected as independent examiner for the financial year ending 31.12.05.

10. 2005 League rules

The changes introduced for 2004 were discussed; U league matches being made best of 7 and 4 matches only and B and Golf league scoring being averaged when 5 or 6 matches were played. Overall they had been very successful, no changes were made for 2005. The secretary emphasised the need for teams in the U league who found that an opponent could not arrange a match to contact him to arrange an alternative fixture as soon as possible.

It was agreed that the secretary would circulate a checklist with the league rules to help clubs when arranging matches to prevent misunderstandings on how long matches were intended to last and which meals would be required.

11. Other 2005 events

The coaching courses are held early in the season in order to fit in with the rest of the busy calendar in the South East but this does require the clubs to be pro-active in promoting them. It would be difficult to get coaches and lawn space to run them in May or June.

All the SECF events from 2004 would be repeated in 2005.

Clubs were exhorted to remember when they have entered events since it causes inconvenience to the other teams when they do not show up on the day.

12. A.O.B.

Roy Ware had produced a publicity leaflet, which was given out to the clubs, please contact him directly if you need more copies. Please let Roy and me have any corrections for the leaflet in future. Clubs were also reminded that the SECF has publicity boards and materials that can be used for open days etc.

Daphne Gaitley had produced a new logo for the SECF that we will use on our mailings.

Leaflets for the summer school were handed out.

There was a query on the club mark scheme; this was referred to Michael Hague.

There was a query on CASC, Royal Tunbridge Wells have successfully used this to increase income by reclaiming tax on donations, contact Mick Belcham for details.

There was a query on child protection, Nigel Graves is the CA's officer and Roy Ware has some experience on this.

Clubs were encouraged to join the grass roots golf croquet event.

Bill Arliss heartily thanked all of the clubs and individuals who assisted with the WCF World Golf Croquet Championships at Southwick and Compton in 2004. Without your help the event would not have been such a success.

New Golf Croquet Laws were being made available in 2005 including significant changes; changes will be circulated to clubs. New law books can be ordered directly from Bill.

A Golf Croquet referees training course has been arranged for April 5th, this will be advertised to clubs.

David Mooney gave a presentation on the CA council; he reminded the members that he is their voice on the council. He is on the tournament, coaching and handicap committees. There will be a new coaching manual produced in May or June 2005. There will be a national coaches conference in 2006 for grade 1 coaches.

The Surbiton club, and particularly George Noble were thanked for their excellent hospitality and lunch.