

South East Croquet Federation – 2006 AGM 26th February 2006 – Surbiton CC Minutes

The meeting started at 10:50am with 45 representatives from Caterham, Chichester and Fishbourne, Compton, Crawley, Dogmersfield, Dulwich, Ealing, Ember, Guildford & Godalming, Hayes Bromley & Keston, Hurlingham, Medway, Parsons Green, Purley Bury, Ramsgate, Reigate Priory, Roehampton, Rother Valley, Surbiton, Sussex County, Sydenham and Tunbridge Wells.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Bexley, Canterbury, Ivychurch, Kemsing Sevenoaks, Littlehampton, Merton, Bryan Teague and Roy Ware.

2. Minutes of 2005 AGM

The minutes were accepted.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

The “club mark” scheme from Sport England (mainly for child protection) requires the involvement of the national governing body, the CA. I have passed the query onto the CA secretary.

4. Approval of accounts for the period ending 31st December 2005

The treasurer presented the accounts. There was a deficit of £450; this was entirely due to the policy of distributing some of the SECF reserves to the clubs as grants for capital projects (2 grants were made totalling £625). All clubs are reminded that we have funds to support capital projects. There were assets of £6800 at the end of the year. The meeting accepted the accounts unanimously.

5. Annual subscription for 2006

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

6. Report on 2005 events and presentation of trophies

Our guest speaker Patricia Duke-Cox kindly agreed to present trophies to winners of the leagues and other events. The U league trophy for Canterbury was taken by Ramsgate to pass on.

7. Development and coaching report

New member clubs for 2005 were welcomed at Dogmersfield, Ham Manor Golf Club, Imperial College and Temple Bowls Club. Michael reported that Dogmersfield had been particularly successful going from scratch to being full with a waiting list in a year. Unfortunately the club at the Hatchlands National Trust has had to close since the grass cannot be cut sufficiently. All of the coaching weekend events were well supported with the silver course being oversubscribed. They are being repeated in 2006, the handicap ranges are improvers 18+, bronze 12-18 and silver 6-11. Croquet is being played at Eton, Harrow and Charterhouse Schools, it is hoped to set up an inter-school competition. Please let us know of any other schools playing croquet. Jeff Dawson held a referee’s course. This year there will be two golf croquet laws courses that are not just targeted at referees. A coach’s qualification course (CQC) was held.

Daphne reported on the summer school. The summer school had fewer attendants in 2005 mainly due the success of promoting beginners onto higher courses. It was still very popular despite poor weather in 2005 and made a surplus. Posters were handed out for the 2006 summer school.

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 31.12.06.

10. SECF CA Representative

David Mooney's 3 year term on council ends in October 2006. He offers himself for re-election. If there are any other candidates then we will hold a postal vote.

11. 2006 League rules

The checklist for matches will be kept for 2006. No changes were made for the U and B leagues. The golf croquet league has been very successful but for many clubs they would like to see a level play golf croquet league in addition. A show of hands indicated support from about 8 clubs that might enter teams for this. The golf croquet level play league will be run with the same rules as the existing golf croquet handicap league. Clubs may enter both leagues and use the same players in both teams. The issue of some clubs having incorrect handicaps for golf croquet matches was brought up, the regulation for players who do not bring their cards to matches will be altered to say "All players shall bring their handicap cards otherwise they must play off the handicap specified in table 5 of the CA's Golf Croquet handicapping guide." When people find players or clubs with inaccurate handicaps please let Bill or Daphne know quickly. A suggestion was made for a specific conference on handicapping to be held following the 2007 AGM. The league entry date limit was set to be 4th April.

12. Other 2006 events

We are running all the 2005 events in 2006. We will use email addresses where possible to contact entrants. Please can all clubs remember when they have entered events since it causes inconvenience to the other teams if they do not show up on the day.

13. Support for Young Players

Following correspondence in the gazette we have introduced a scheme to support young players. This will be co-ordinated through Eugene Chang. Clubs are asked to offer half-price entry to events and help with accommodation and transport subject to child protection requirements for those under 18. Both the SECF and the CA have announced half-price entry fees for their events. Clubs should contact Eugene if they have candidate young players who need this support.

14. A.O.B.

None.

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

The Club conference is reported on separately.

R. Hilditch 1.3.06