

South East Croquet Federation – 2008 AGM 27th January 2008 – Surbiton CC

Minutes

The meeting started at 10:45am with 35 representatives from Canterbury, Chichester and Fishbourne, Compton, Crawley, Dulwich, Ealing, Ember, Merton, Purley Bury, Ramsgate, Reigate Priory, Roehampton, Rother Valley, Surbiton, Sussex County, Sydenham, Tunbridge Wells and Woking.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Bexley, Guildford and Godalming, Hurlingham, Littlehampton, Medway and Michael Hague.

2. Minutes of 2007 AGM

The minutes were accepted without correction.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

Positive feedback was given on the STRI course, which had been attended in Yorkshire by 6 members of clubs in the SECF with travel subsidy from the SECF.

4. Approval of accounts for the period ending 31st December 2007

The treasurer presented the accounts. There was a small deficit of less than £100. The income from events, particularly the summer school allowed us to make grants totalling £1000 to clubs and to subsidise travel to the STRI course. With reserves of over £7000 the SECF is able to make grants or loans to its member clubs for capital projects. The meeting accepted the accounts unanimously.

5. Annual subscription for 2008

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

6. Report on 2007 events and presentation of trophies

Our events continue to be well supported, indeed two second teams had to be excluded by ballot from the golf croquet day which was over-subscribed. Trophies for the league winners and other events were presented.

7. Development and coaching report

In the absence of Michael Hague, Richard summarised development activities for the year. Unfortunately Worthing has been forced to relocate but has been able to keep going. Lawn improvement works have been undertaken or are planned at Dulwich, Sydenham and Woking. The coaching courses were well attended. The summer school was a success again and in 2008 it will be joined by a new golf croquet coaching weekend also run by Daphne. The publication of changes to the laws of both association and golf croquet this spring should encourage us all to consider going on the various courses being offered.

The Sussex County Croquet Club (Southwick) has launched a croquet academy www.thecroquetacademy.com, which will provide a centre of excellence for coaching for the whole of the country and indeed further afield. A brief introduction to the academy was presented; it is fully supported and integrated with the SECF coaching structure. More details can be found on the website or in the briefing note circulated to clubs with these minutes.

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)

Afterwards at the committee meeting Hilary Smith (Compton) was co-opted onto the committee and will stand for election at the next AGM.

9. Election of independent examiner

Roger Weeks was thanked for his role and re-elected as independent examiner for the financial year ending 31.12.08.

10. 2008 League rules

There was discussion of the format of matches in the golf croquet level league. The following changes were agreed to bring the format in line with the CA golf croquet inter-club format. In the golf croquet level league teams will be listed in ascending handicap order A to D versus a to d. In the morning A and B will play doubles against a and b and C will play d and D will play C. In the afternoon the players will play singles in order (a total of 7 matches). Each match comprises a best of 3 13-point level play games. This was passed unanimously except that the selection of the best two players for doubles was only passed by 12-2. It was agreed to keep the format of the golf croquet handicap league unchanged (3 sessions of single 13 point games, 2 doubles, 4 singles and then 1 doubles and 2 singles; pairings unspecified).

The number of matches was discussed again, previously in the B and golf leagues 4 matches are pre-arranged by the organiser and up to 2 extra matches can be arranged and the scoring is adjusted pro-rata. It was agreed by 9-5 (2 abstentions) to fix the number of matches at 4 for all 4 of the leagues. Clubs are of course free to arrange friendly fixtures with other clubs.

If a team refuses a fixture then a walkover can be claimed.

11. Other 2008 events

As well as repeating all the events of 2007, there is a new golf croquet coaching weekend for handicaps 0-6 (old numbering) and new courses for golf croquet laws. A fresh copy of the coaching calendar is included with these minutes. The club events calendar is also included with these minutes.

12. New Golf Croquet Laws

New laws have been agreed (3rd edition). These now replace the 2nd edition from 2005. Bill went over the major changes, which are mainly to try to simplify errors like the wrong ball law. The new laws are now available at the CA website and printed copies will be available from mid-March from the CA shop at £2.50 each or £2 for 10 or more.

13. Golf Croquet Handicaps

Golf Croquet handicaps are changing from the start of this season to bring us into line with other countries. Simply add 4 to your handicap and keep your grade the same. Higher handicaps will also be allowed. New cards will be sent to the clubs very soon. The new range will thus be from 0 to 12.

14. A.O.B.

A new game called "10-10 golf croquet" has been introduced. 10-10 Croquet is a derivative of Golf Croquet. It has been designed to provide an incentive for playing expeditiously. Details can be found at www.croquet.org.uk/golf/tenten.html.

The meeting ended at 1pm. The Surbiton club, and particularly George Noble, were thanked for their excellent hospitality and lunch.

R. Hilditch 21.2.08