

# **South East Croquet Federation – 2009 AGM 15<sup>th</sup> February 2009 – Surbiton CC**

## **Minutes**

The meeting started at 10:45am with 38 representatives from 24 clubs - Angmering, Canterbury, Compton, Crawley, Dulwich, Ealing, Ember, Guildford & Godalming, Hayes, Bromley & Keston, Hurlingham, Littlehampton, Merton, Parsons Green, Preston, 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 and Chichester & Fishbourne.

### **2. Minutes of 2008 AGM**

The minutes were accepted without correction.

### **3. Matters arising from the minutes**

None.

### **4. Approval of accounts for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008**

The treasurer presented the accounts, he apologised that they had not been independently examined yet. He will report when the accounts have been reviewed. There was a small surplus in the year with income from courses being used to cover a few grants made. It was pointed out that next year the turnover of the SECF would be greatly reduced since coaching courses would be financed through the Croquet Academy at Southwick. We would also need to use some of our reserves to make the grants that we want to continue to make. The meeting accepted the accounts unanimously.

### **5. Annual subscription for 2009**

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

### **6. Report on 2008 events and presentation of trophies**

The trophies were presented, all except the Golf Croquet Championship and Golf Croquet Day singles trophy had been returned for audit by the committee.

### **7. Development and coaching report**

Michael Hague reported on development activities, particularly the recent CA development committee meeting. Three new clubs had joined SECF in 2008, Angmering, Hampstead Heath and Lewes U3A. Dulwich has been awarded the Apps-Heley award (for progress in a club with 3 or 4 lawns). Rother Valley narrowly missed out on the Townsend award (for progress in a club with 1 or 2 lawns). The CA has recently agreed to provide grants to Angmering, Sussex County and Sydenham. A new scheme has been instituted to encourage partnership between Universities and clubs, where the CA can subsidise the rental of the lawns by the University, this is happening at Nottingham. There are possible new clubs at Hurstpierpoint School and Woking U3A. Michael appealed for any unused equipment that we could lend to new clubs, particularly mallets. Sussex County has purchased a hollow tining machine with CA and SECF financial support, this will be available to other clubs in the region, more details will follow.

Daphne Gaitley reported on coaching activities. The AC summer school was successful again and the GC weekend was so over subscribed that a second course was also held. The Croquet Academy has taken over the administration of coaching which covers training players, coaches, referees and managers. Any money made from the academy will feed back to the parent body, the Sussex County CC.

## **8. Election of officers and committee**

Roy Ware has moved out of the area and retired from the committee, he was thanked for his contributions particularly with publicity. Hilary Smith had been co-opted onto the committee since the last AGM. The following were re-elected unopposed:

Chairman – Bill Arliss

Secretary and Treasurer – Richard Hilditch

Committee – David Collins, Daphne Gaitley, Michael Hague, George Noble, Hilary Smith (one vacancy)

(CA Rep: David Mooney)

## **9. CA Representative**

David Mooney completes his 3 years as CA rep in October 2009. He is prepared to stand for re-election. Other nominations for this post are now sought, candidates must be CA associates as well as a member of an SECF member club and be prepared to serve on the CA council and sub-committees as well as the SECF committee. If there are other nominations there will be a postal vote.

## **10. Election of independent examiner**

Roger Weeks was thanked for his role and re-elected as independent examiner for the financial year ending 31.12.09.

## **11. 2009 League rules**

3 motions from Tunbridge Wells were presented by Alex Jardine. He withdrew the first motion to alter the U league to advanced play after it was agreed to start an extra advanced league under Inter Club (2 round) format in 2009, a rough show of hands indicated that there should be enough entries. His motion to alter the U league to advanced handicap play was defeated 17 votes to 3.

The format of the B league matches was discussed, some people wanted to play more than one meaningful game but most people thought that many players in the B league preferred some social play with one competitive game. The Tunbridge Wells motion to alter the B league to be 7 games was defeated 16 votes to 2. It is already possible for two teams to agree to play a B league match as 7 games (or any other format that they wish).

A question was raised about what happens if a team only has 3 players, it was generally agreed that that team would forfeit the games that the missing player was due to play, so that in a U or GL match the team would start 0-2, a B match 0-1 and a GH match 0-3. This will be added to the rules.

## **12. Other 2008 events**

Events from 2008 will be repeated in 2009, they are well supported, indeed there is over subscription at the golf croquet day. Bill Arliss encouraged more entrants to the Golf Croquet Championship at Compton, it was emphasised that even players who do not consider themselves A class can benefit from the event.

## **13. A.O.B.**

George Noble said that there was a problem where clubs were not firm enough with their grounds maintenance contractors, so that important jobs such as scarifying (keep going till nothing comes off), tining, feeding etc get missed out. It is very important to get all the agreed work done, not just cutting.

The Littlehampton club are celebrating their centenary with an exhibition in the Lens room at the Littlehampton museum 25.2.09-10.4.09 and other events.

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

**R. Hilditch 24.2.09**