

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 29/10/20 10

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

2 Matters arising

- (a) Parking permits am/pm divide still under discussion.
- (b) Coaching badges still being pursued.

3 Chairman's Report

(a) The finals weekend (Club internal tournaments) arrangements did not work well for various reasons such as illness and unavailability of some of the finalists. Further discussion will be necessary at the next committee meeting to decide how to improve.

(b) All members of the new committee have been allocated "jobs" and all understand their responsibilities.

(c) Keith Thorley is to liaise with Colin Whitehall on tournament dates.

Keith will organise the Association Croquet block tournaments and Helen will do the same for the Golf Croquet block tournaments.

At this point Keith raised the subject of management of the various one and two day internal tournaments. Further discussion is needed but it was decided that the Handicap Committee would run the 14 point game and the "ad hoc" tournaments as members of that committee need to be present anyway.

Keith stated that the system of putting entry forms in the committee box did not work well last year and suggested that members could post their completed entry forms to him with the entry fees.

(d) The handicap limits for the various tournaments were then discussed.

1. The Humphrey Hicks should stay as it is
2. The Advanced Handicap which in 2010 was open to players of handicap 11-16 might be altered to 9-16. Decision will be made at the next meeting.
3. The Woodward Cup will be level advanced play for players with handicaps from 2-8
4. The Fermor will be for players with handicaps of 18 and lower. 18s will play off 18.
5. The Belmont will be for players with handicaps of 16 and lower. Further discussion may be necessary to decide if 18s (playing off 18) should be eligible to play in the Belmont.
6. Dorothy Toye should stay at 14-point handicap games open to players of handicap 16 and below.
7. The "14 Point Game" tournament should remain as it is i.e. open to players with handicaps 18 or higher.
8. The so called "ad hoc" tournament (if it continues in 2011) would be an 18 point game two day tournament open to players of handicap 18 and higher.
9. The Owen Cup remains as a level advanced tournament with age restriction only. Age could be decided annually.

The chairman then drew everyone's attention to the fact that the Budleigh Handicap Weekend and the All England Handicap final in Sidmouth were on the same weekend. It was decided that this did not pose a problem. It would give Sidmouth players an opportunity to play Croquet that weekend.

M. Philpott

4. Secretary's report

(a) The SW Federation AGM on Sunday 21st November.

Elaine, David, Nancy, Graham, Pam and Keith will attend. Lunch has been ordered for all these. Two cheques are to be collected by the secretary from John Grimshaw for hosting Federation finals in 2010.

(b) The secretary had further discussion with Colin Whitehall re cutting back the bank on Lawn One. On balance it seems a good idea but the actual arrangements and costs need to be cleared by the GMC.

(c) The dates of the B level advanced tournament and the minor counties Cricket match will not clash in 2011.

(d) The secretary suggested that all notices posted on the mallet room notice boards should be signed by the persons responsible. The secretary was then immediately given the job of monitoring all such notices. He accepted, of course.

5. GMC Nothing to report beyond the Chairman's notes from the last GMC meeting.

6. Committee members' reports

(a) Keith Thorley's report was covered under "further discussion" in the Chairman's report.

(b) Rob Matthews wants to arrange for some trees to be trimmed in the Chairman's Garden. He was directed to obtain an estimate of the cost and then apply to Tony Holland, the SCTC&H Club treasurer. Rob has "patented" a new damage friendly design for yard line pegs. He stated that we need 4 new centre pegs. He is looking into cost. The chairman asked Rob if he could extend the internal secondary clips, during the winter and he agreed.

(c) Muriel Philpott said that £500 from the Spencer Ell tournament had been banked. Thursday 5 May has been set aside for "Gabby's Medics Tournament" There is £150 in the petty cash kitty. Kevin Carter is to be contacted re the Charity One Ball... dates to be arranged.

Muriel asked the chairman to take every opportunity to remind players about locking the pavilion and shelter doors in the evenings.

Tony P will run the website for a further two years.

Muriel will order 20 more copies of "Know the Game-Croquet".

(d) Helen Pryor is looking for suitable coaches for Golf Croquet.

She likes the motion re Golf Croquet tournaments which will be proposed at the Federation AGM.

(e) Graham Harford has been asked to make sure the Federation Match dates are entered in the club diary and the club fixture booklet for 2011.

(d) Pam Bowra says tickets for the Christmas Lunch on 7th December are going well. Jo and Martin McNerney are going to organise the raffle. Prizes are needed.

(e) The Chairman and Derek Powell have compiled and sent the Open Tournament programme to the CA for their fixture book.

10 Mike Taylor is intending to enter one team from Sidmouth in each of the Parkstone Qualifier, the Federation League, the Intermediate League, B League and Golf Croquet handicap Leagues. This leaves out the Parkstone Trophy and the Golf Croquet level play League for reasons discussed.

Mike asked about recruitment this year. It was agreed that we are going to advertise for new members. The date for the prospective new members' morning will be March 5th

The date of the next committee meeting is Friday November 26th at 9.30 am at Frensham. Heating will be turned down (or up) to your requested level.

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 29/11/2010

Apologies: The Chairman, Elaine Woodward.

The Vice Chairman, Muriel Philpott, chaired the meeting.

1 Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

2 **Matters arising:** (a) Date of the Budleigh Friendly needs to be rearranged because Monday 25th April is Easter Monday. It has been moved provisionally to Wednesday April 27th

(b) Keith Thorley asked about naming managers for various one or two day tournaments. It was decided to leave this for the moment and sort it out nearer the time.

(c) Roger Hendy's letter was discussed again and it was decided to adapt the Owen Cup Tournament, which had not been an unqualified success in the 2010 season, to fit in with his suggestions. It will now be a 26-point handicap tournament for mid to high handicap players. Various handicap ranges were debated. The committee decided that the handicap range should be 12-20. However, the chairman strongly disagreed with the decision and wanted 11-16. A range of 11-18 is printed on the entry forms.

3. **Chairman's Report.** Presented by the Vice Chairman, Muriel Philpott: (a) Cutting back the bank on Lawn 1 was discussed. Reduction in lawn width was suggested as a way of avoiding the work. Derek said he would look into the validity of this idea. It was decided that, subject to GMC approval, the cutting back would go ahead if necessary, to maintain Lawn 1's status as a full-size lawn for competition purposes.

(b) The proposed Referees' Course is to be held in the pavilion and on the Cricket outfield.

(c) How to disable the fire alarm was discussed briefly and it was decided to raise this point with the GMC.

(d) Finals weekend would be, as arranged, on Thurs/S at/Sun 22/24/25 September 2011.

(e) Wharrad Turns. The vice-chairman asked Derek Powell to explain the results of his research into the use of bisques before and after Wharrad turns come into play. Derek said there is no restriction on the use of bisques either before or after Wharrad turns come into play.

(f) The Croquet Section archives will be sorted by Muriel Philpott and Helen Pryor with help from Elaine Woodward. Some archive material will be displayed in the pavilion archive room.

(g) It was decided to investigate exactly who, in the club, are qualified Golf Croquet referees.

4 **Secretary's report:** (a) Dan Pollard is bringing a group of up to 20 people from Angmering Croquet Club. They want to play Golf Croquet while they are here between 9-12 May 2011.

It was decided to charge £25 per group per session. This would also apply to the medics on May 5th.

(b) Budleigh Salterton CC have sent us details of their High Bisquers Weekend (Hcps 16-24) on Sat/Sun 16/17th April. A notice will be posted in the mallet room.

(c) SW Federation AGM. Our point concerning playing from incorrect handicaps in Association Croquet tournaments was regarded as a proposal which should be put to the committee next year well in advance of the 2011 AGM. Our comments were generally well received.

(d) Last year's "Ad Hoc" tournament is now our "High Bisquers Tournament".

(e) The Summer Programme 2011 is now posted in the mallet room. Copies will be distributed to members with the tournament entry forms and subscription requests shortly.

5 **Cashier and Membership Secretary's report:** (a) Federation Match fees yielded £560 in 2010. Costs were £527. A cheque for £50 for hosting the Federation Intermediate finals and the B League semi-finals was received.

(b) A rise in petrol allowance for transport to away matches was suggested for discussion at the next committee meeting.

(c) The cashier suggested that at least two raffles per season should be held and requests should be made for raffle prizes.

(d) Entry fee cheques for the Charity One Ball heats to be held on April 14th 2011 should be made out to "Breast Cancer Campaign".

(e) Total membership of the club should not exceed 130.

6 **Mike Taylor. Publicity and Federation fixtures:** (a) Progress under way re arranging fixtures. Mike stated that the handicap levels for the Federation match teams should be 14 and below.

(b) The fixture book and diary will be completed as soon as possible. Colin Whitehall's attention will be drawn to these.

(c) The level of advertising for new members was discussed briefly.

7. **Derek Powell. Open Tournament fixtures:** (a) Derek has held discussion with Liz Larsson, CA Secretary, about the rearrangement of the Sidmouth CA Golf Croquet Championship which will now be on April 9/10 2011. The previous date clashed with Easter.

8. **Helen Pryor. Golf Croquet:** (a) Helen has arranged some Golf Croquet coaching "Technique and Tactics" by Cliff Jones for Mon / Tues 18th / 19th April. She would like to arrange a "soup and sandwich" lunch on these coaching days. It may not be possible.

(b) Helen says CA membership is not popular with Golf Croquet players ~~but she is trying to promote it.~~

(c) Helen suggested that there should be a better way for committee members to access the committee box; perhaps a key for each committee member?

9. **Graham Harford:** Some discussion took place re selecting teams for the Budleigh Friendly matches. It seems these matches are very popular. A good handicap spread is necessary. Budleigh players would prefer to play against at least some players they know.

10. **Rob Matthews.** Grounds: (a) New yard line peg design is "work in progress".

(b) New centre pegs are expensive at £40 each. Rob considers he can rehash some of the existing pegs.

(c) Rob has approached James House (an SCTC&H Club member) re necessary tree work on trees bordering lawn 4.

11. **Pam Bowra. Catering:** (a) Pam says the Westcliff Hotel will be refurbishing next winter, and suggested we should hold our Christmas Lunch 2011 at the Bedford Hotel. The committee agreed.

12. **Keith Thorley. Internal Tournaments:** (a) Keith reported on the Golf Croquet proposals at the Federation AGM. He emphasised the need to play on full sized lawns where humanly possible.

(b) On the subject of individual matches being arranged prior to the start of Federation Golf Croquet fixtures he told the assembled delegates that one of our committee members (Helen Pryor) had devised a formula for working out who plays who, quickly, in advance of the commencement of play. There was considerable interest.

(c) The possibility of holding the Open (level) Federation Golf Croquet competition over one weekend rather than over the season was raised. It appeared to be a popular idea. As the

competition would be held in Budleigh Salterton in 2011, it was suggested that we may be interested in sending a team.

13. **AOB**. (a) The Secretary, David Temple, proposed that Cliff Jones, member of the CA Committee and our longstanding coach and mentor, be made an honorary member of the club. This proposal was upheld by a majority vote. However, it was decided that the vote was invalid as no previous notice of the motion had been given. The proposal will come up for discussion again at the next committee meeting.

14. **Date of the next meeting**. Monday 10th January 2011 at 9.30 am at Frensham.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 10/01/2011

Apologies: Derek Powell, Graham Harford.

The Vice Chairman, Muriel Philpott, chaired the second half of the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising: (a) The suggested date of the Federation Golf Croquet Open Tournament in Budleigh was to be 4th / 5th June but this clashes with Sidmouth Mid-summer Tournament. It was pointed out that the date and the cost of £50 per team were not good as they stand. Sidmouth might be interested in fielding a team if these were altered.

(b) Helen stated that she was not encouraging Golf Croquet playing members to join the C.A. in contradiction of the minute 8(b). 29.11.2010

1 **Chairman's Report:** (a) The chairman feels that the demolition of the Fortfield Hotel is now more urgent as there is considerable fire risk to neighbouring buildings, particularly the thatched SCTC&H Club pavilion. We should push for early action. The committee agreed.

(b) An ideal total membership number for the Croquet Section was discussed. It was felt that 125 members was about correct because any more made the Monday/Friday Golf Croquet sessions too crowded. David expressed the opinion that more members could be accommodated. He thinks more thought and organisation is needed. He says we need the subscription income, and the lawns are quite often not in use, even on fine days in the summer. However, it was decided to aim the advertising for new members at approximately the 125 members maximum mark. Advertising will be limited. There will be none in shops or in the neighbouring villages.

(c) The organisation of the Prospective New Members' Morning (Sat March 5th) was discussed. The chairman will give an introductory talk. This will be followed by arranging coaching, and offering coffee/tea. (these will be organised by Mike and Pam respectively) A practice session with mallets and balls will then take place on the outfield in front of the pavilion. It is hoped that as many committee members as possible will be present.

(d) **The Charity One Ball (14th April):** Graham Harford has agreed to manage this event. Muriel will liaise with Kevin Carter on the arrangements and results. Pam, Daphne and Liz will provide soup and rolls.

(e) Golf Croquet referees. We think we only have two qualified GC referees. They are Howard Quarrell and Rob Mitchell. We are not quite sure if Ian Friedlander is qualified. David has agreed to ask him.

(f) Cliff Jones should be asked about coaches' badges again.

2. **Secretary's report:** (a) Cutting back the bank on Lawn 1 came up for discussion again. It was decided to hold a sub-committee meeting on site asap. This would include Colin Whitehall, Elaine, David and Rob. If any other committee member wishes to attend, please contact the secretary.

(b) Nancy has taken on the responsibility of sending "Good Wishes" cards to members who are not well or who may be undergoing surgery or similar. She will use Rita Field's wonderful Croquet pictures for this purpose (Rita has given her blessing!)

(c) The secretary has taken the awards boards to the Engraver for updating.

(d) The Hamptworth Club have sent a few suggestions re accommodation for players entering their winter (or summer) tournaments. These will be posted in the mallet room.

(e) Lawrence Whittaker has sent a reminder asking us whether we have any nominations for "Coach of the Year". We haven't. The secretary will answer his email accordingly.

3 **Cashier and Membership Secretary's report:** (a) Muriel suggested that the petrol allowance for journeys to away matches should be increased by adding £1 to every £5 of the 2010 allowance. The match fee should remain at £5.00. This was agreed by the committee.

(b) Muriel suggested that the lawn tidying rota would be done by volunteers without the use of a list this year. She feels reasonably confident.

4. **Mike Taylor. Publicity and Federation fixtures:** (a) Mike has completed the fixture list for home and away Federation Matches and has set them out in fine style. He will give Colin Whitehall and Colin Walls (booking sheets) a copy each. Also he will provide memos for the managers of the various teams.

Mike will post the 2011 League Rules on the mallet room notice board.

5. **Rob Matthews Grounds report:** Rob is prepared to provide a lawn for Cliff Jones' Golf Croquet coaching session (18/19 April) and a small "lawn like" arrangement on the Cricket outfield for the Association Croquet Referees' Course and exam to be held in Feb/March. All is under control.

6. **Helen Pryor. Golf Croquet:** (a) Helen confirmed the arrangement of a Golf Croquet coaching session.... "Technique and Tactics" by Cliff Jones for Mon / Tues 18 / 19th April. She would still like to arrange a "soup and sandwich" lunch on these coaching days. It may not be possible.

7. **Keith Thorley Internal Tournaments:** Keith is rounding up managers for the various internal tournaments and will send a list to the secretary.

8. **Graham Harford:** Graham sent a memo confirming the date of the Budleigh Association Friendly on 27th April. Helen suggested that a £5.00 match fee for each team member for both the home and away fixtures would cover costs and simplify things. The committee agreed.

9. **Pam Bowra. Catering:** (a) Pam says the Bedford Hotel is currently closed for refurbishing. She will book the 2011 Christmas lunch for December 6th when they reopen.

(b) The charge for the Spring Lunch will be £10 per head and there will be a raffle. Gabby is to be approached to run it.

10. **AOB:** none.

11. **Date of the next meeting.** Monday 14th February 2011 at 9.30am at Frensham.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 14/02/2011

Apologies: Muriel Philpott, Graham Harford.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising: (a). On the subject of Golf Croquet coaches and/or referees it was discovered that Howard Quarrell, Ian Friedlander and Rob Mitchell are all Golf Croquet referees and coaches. The secretary agreed to find out Derek Hewett's status. It was agreed that accurate lists of referees and coaches for Association and Golf Croquet should be posted in the mallet room.

1. **Chairman's Report:** (a) The SW Federation Golf Croquet Level Play Tournament scheduled for April in Budleigh Salterton has been cancelled due to lack of support.
(b) The organisation of the Prospective New Members' Morning (Sat March 5th) was discussed again. The chairman will give an introductory talk. As arranged previously, this will be followed by sorting out coaching, and offering coffee/tea. (these will be organised by Mike and Pam respectively) A practice session with mallets and balls will then take place on the outfield in front of the pavilion. It is hoped that as many committee members as possible will be present. Rob will not be available and so the secretary has agreed to make sure hoops, balls and mallets are brought up from Shelter 3 to the pavilion.
(c) **The Refresher Mornings** were discussed in more detail. The chairman outlined who would help with the "tutorials" on the Association morning. Tony Dustan-Smith will use Lawn 5 for tactics; Derek will deal with wiring; David will explain handicaps and handicap cards; Nancy will discuss playing with (and against) bisques; Mike will describe the four and three ball breaks etc. Helen asked for more help and support for Howard on the Golf Croquet morning. David agreed to make sure he would be present and it was hoped that as many other committee members as possible would also be there.
(d) **The Charity One Ball (14th April):** Graham Harford has agreed to manage this event and will be supported by Julie Horsley, if she is able, in the afternoon. Mike Taylor and Derek Powell will be competing and will assist the manager. As arranged previously, Muriel will liaise with Kevin Carter on the arrangements and results. Pam, Daphne and Liz will provide soup and rolls.
2. **Secretary's report:** (a) Cutting back the bank on Lawn 1 is planned for Tuesday, 15th February. A small team of workers has been mustered. They include Colin Whitehall, David, Rob, Philip Hams and Mike Taylor. John Palmer is also likely to be present.
(b) The question of lawn availability for the Open Golf Croquet Championship on April 9/10 was raised. Colin Whitehall, the groundsman, had not intended to open all four lawns until much later in April. He was not happy about this situation. He felt he should have been asked whether the change of date from the 22/23 April to 9/10 would be satisfactory. Rob agreed that he would make sure this situation would not arise again.
(c) The awards boards have come back from the Engraver and look good. However, there are one or two small mistakes which will need to be corrected. The secretary will organise this as soon as possible.
(d) The Secretary explained to the committee that the idea of limiting membership numbers to 125 was not acceptable to the GMC committee. In fact they "raised their collective hands in horror" at the idea. It was agreed the when numbers reached 140-150 further discussion would take place and reorganisation within the Croquet Section would have to be sorted out.
(e) In the face of grumbles about the absence of follow on coaching, which seem to recur every year, unjustifiably for the most part, it was agreed that the mentoring scheme would

continue but mentors would be more proactive. More publicity would be given to John Dixon's and Graham Harford's follow on coaching sessions.

The Secretary raised the problem of the new handicap limits for players entering the Belmont Cup tournament. Under the new rules, players of handicap 18 will not be able to enter the Belmont. He felt that this was an unfortunate decision by the committee and should be reconsidered, at least for next year.

3. **Cashier and Membership Secretary's report:** (a) Muriel Philpott produced figures to show that the Table Tennis sessions had raised over £450 over the last four years and therefore the club would be justified in buying a new Table Tennis table (costing around £250). An application to the SCTC&H Club treasurer will be made.

Muriel's Spring Newsletter was read out by the secretary and approved.

4. **Mike Taylor. Publicity and Federation fixtures:** (a) Mike explained how league fixtures, mileages, managers and captains as well as league rules were all organised and details posted on the mallet room boards.
5. **Rob Matthews Grounds report:** All is "under control" and refurbishment of equipment, including hoop and boundary board painting, would take place as soon as the weather improved.
6. **Helen Pryor** reiterated that Howard Quarrell would need plenty of support at the Golf Croquet Refresher Morning.
7. **Keith Thorley Internal Tournaments:** At Keith's request it was decided to bring the deadline dates for the completion of the various internal block tournaments forward by a week, to allow more time for semi-finals and finals in the 2011 season.
8. **Derek Powell** asked whether priority should be given to previous winners when applications were received for the various CA tournaments. It was agreed that they should have priority. However, no priority should be given to Sidmouth members over members from other clubs. Preference should be given to players entering more than one event where applicable. Derek has fourteen entries for the June tournament so far, ten for the B-level Advanced tournament and seven for the Handicap Weekend.
9. **Pam Bowra. Catering:** (a) Pam says the Bedford Hotel has accepted her booking for the Christmas lunch on December 6th 2011.
10. **AOB:** The Secretary proposed that, as we are to host the final of the All England Handicap Tournament on September 17/18, we ought to promote the tournament for Sidmouth members. Much discussion took place re the format of the event and whether we have the time or inclination to find the competitors and organise the preliminary rounds. It was decided that we probably have. A definite decision will have to be made before March 12th.
11. **Date of the next meeting. Monday 14th March 2011 at 9.30 am at Frensham.**

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 15/03/2011

Apologies: Mike Taylor, Graham Harford, Rob Matthews.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising: (a) Rob Mitchell is a golf Croquet referee but is not a coach.

It was decided that the proposed new table tennis table should be purchased as soon as possible. David has agreed to ask for permission to go ahead from the GMC at their next meeting.

1. **Chairman's Report:** (a) The Charity One Ball. Julie Horsley and Graham Harford are to manage this event in tandem. Graham is to do the paper work. Keith is to send the entries to both. The closing date is 15th March and there are 17 entries so far. Catering arrangements are as previously arranged.

(b) **The bank on lawn 1.** The chairman suggested that the bank would have been better cut back in the autumn. "The area could then have been reseeded".

(c) **The Association Croquet Refresher Morning** was generally considered to be a success but Keith felt that there should be fewer stations and more time spent on each. He felt that the session on handicap cards etc was not particularly applicable to the lower handicap players. David stated that there was room for improvement in the completion of handicap cards by some players in all handicap ranges.

(d) **Parking permits:** team captains should be reminded to make sure managers have permits. It must be recorded in the diary, in advance, when one or two permits will be required.

(e) The chairman disclaimed all knowledge of the letter written to new members in 2010 and signed by her. However, she will probably use it again this year and include it in the new members' pack.

2. **Secretary's report:** (a) The secretary of the CA. has allocated the Selectors' weekend to Sidmouth Croquet Club for 2013. David will enquire as to how many players will be involved.

(b) The secretary of the CA, acting as secretary of the All England Handicap tournament, has been informed that Sidmouth intend to enter a minimum of four players in that tournament. The decision had to be made before March 12th The finals are to be played in Sidmouth, as arranged previously.

(c) The secretary, in consultation with Muriel, suggested that the mallet room needed a spring clean and a working bee has been arranged for Monday 21st March at 2.00 pm. There is a move to replace the mallet room carpet which is considered to be in a bad, and possibly dangerous, state. John Palmer is to be consulted again.

3. **Cashier and Membership Secretary's report:** (a) Membership numbers. The section has lost eighteen members this year - an unusually large number. Seven say they may return next year. Four new members with handicaps from other clubs have joined. Ninety four people have paid their subscriptions. Twelve more subs are expected soon. Membership of the section is currently 106. A high proportion of the prospective new members are expected to join, which should bring the membership back up to around 125.

4. **Mike Taylor. Publicity and Federation fixtures:** (a) Mike has asked Nancy Temple to carry on with the arrangements for coordinating coaches with the trainees for the various coaching sessions. Nancy will liaise with Muriel on this. John Dixon is expected to take over as soon as possible after his return!

(b) Mike is dealing with the library display with Tony Philpott's help (and anyone else's who might have useful ideas)

- (c) Keith suggested that, following the CA magazine editor's request for news, the article re David and Barbara Clarke's exploits in New Zealand, might be suitable. Keith will put this proposition to Mike.
5. **Rob Matthews Grounds report:** (a) Measurement of hoop placement positions will commence tomorrow Wednesday 16th March. There will be two small training lawns on Lawn 3 and one on the grass Tennis court. (It has since been decided, on the groundsman's advice, not to subject lawn three to this punishment but to divide Lawn 2 after the Open Golf Croquet Championship-- i.e. from April 11th)
- (b) Equipment refurbishment has been going ahead with the help of Philip Harris, Colin Walls and Roland Hamer. Rob will give details at the next committee meeting.
6. **Helen Pryor** (a) Helen reported poor entries for the Macadam Cups (Golf Croquet). (b) She is still waiting for a reply from Cliff Jones re the format and duration of the Golf Croquet Tactics Course in April. (Helen has heard, since our meeting, that it will be two days).
7. **Keith Thorley Internal Tournaments:** Keith reported on the entry numbers for the internal tournaments. They are as follows: Humphrey Hicks 11 entries; Advanced Handicap 7 entries; Owen Cup 8 entries; Woodward Cup 11 entries; Belmont Cup 20 entries; Fermor Rose Bowl 7 entries; Devonian 9 entries. There was some discussion as to whether the Humphrey Hicks tournament semi-final should be best of three games or be decided on the result of one game. The committee made the decision for the best of three games.
8. **Derek Powell Open tournaments** are well subscribed but there are not many entries from Sidmouth players.
8. **Pam Bowra. Catering:** (a) There are 40 takers for the Spring Lunch so far. Pam expects more at the Golf Croquet refresher on 19th March.
- (b) Refreshments at the Charity One Ball are under control. Pam will be assisted by Liz Matthews.
9. **AOB** (a) The secretary was asked to contact Lawrence Whittaker re the Grade 1 coaches' badges which are massively overdue. Richard Wood has reported that he has received his but no one else has.
- (b) Brian Smith's poster from the Bowls Club is to be posted in the mallet room tomorrow.
- (c) Muriel and Helen, who have been doing a great job sorting out the archives, suggest that the various exhibits are only posted up in the archive room in the summer. They consider that the exhibits would be better stored in plastic folders in boxes in the winter to avoid damage from the damp conditions. The committee agreed.
11. Date of the next meeting. Thursday 7th April 2011 at 9.30am at Frensham.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 07/04/2011

Apologies: Graham Harford.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

1. **Matters arising:** (a) The Secretary confirmed (with the CA) that The Selectors' Weekend in September 2013 will involve up to 16 players.
(b) An article for the CA magazine is still under consideration.
(c) The Secretary will contact Cliff Jones again re Grade 1 coaches' badges.
2. **Chairman's Report:** (a) **The Charity One Ball.** Julie Horsley and Derek Powell will manage this event in tandem. Derek Powell is standing in for Graham Harford. Catering arrangements are as discussed before. It has been suggested by the organizers that a pink article of clothing should be worn by competitors with their whites. A notice will be posted to this effect.
(b) Coaching of prospective new members is going well. It has sometimes been difficult for coaches to deal with confusion between Association and Golf Croquet.
(d) Parking permits: Committee must make sure that managers of open tournaments have permits e.g. Nigel Graves for the Golf Croquet Championship on 9/10th April and Derek Powell for the Charity One Ball. The managers of the Federation matches will be responsible for parking permits as necessary for home matches
(e) Locking the pavilion. The chairman stressed that both back and front doors of the pavilion must be locked by the last adult on the premises in the evening
3. **Secretary's report:** (a) The secretary is looking into general liability insurance cover for members provided by Lloyds via Sportscover Europe and public liability insurance provided by Endsleigh insurance via the Croquet Association.
(b) The secretary drew the attention of the committee to the great efforts made by Rob Matthews and his team in refurbishing the hoops, pegs, flags and other equipment. They have saved the club a great deal of money. The secretary asked the chairman to inform the membership at any opportunity.
4. **Cashier and Membership Secretary's report:** (a) Muriel reported that all subscriptions have been paid except two. Five members have "dropped out for a year". There are 23 prospective new members undergoing training.
(b) If members buy items which are required for the general maintenance of the fabric of the Section's buildings and equipment, they must make sure they obtain a full VAT receipt to present to Muriel or the treasurer of the overall club, Tony Holland. In the case of a large expensive item, permission needs to be obtained from the Croquet Committee and the GMC before the item can be purchased.
(c) As a general principle it has been decided that no repayments of subscriptions already paid can be made. However, a free subscription may be offered for the following year in exceptional circumstances, such as illness or injury, which makes play impossible for the whole or great majority of the first of these two years.
5. **Mike Taylor. Publicity and Federation fixtures:** (a) The library display has been well received. Mike thanked Tony Philpott for his efforts. The chairman commented on the excellent panoramic photo of many of the members at the Sparkling Wine Evening.
(b) More 3ft mallets are required for the trainees. Most of the current club mallets are shorter. David and Nancy may be able to help.

6. **Rob Matthews Grounds report:** (a) Rob explained that the hoops on lawns 2 and 3 will be reset to 1/16 inch clearance, and hoops will be placed in lawns land 2 on Friday 8th April in preparation for the Sidmouth Open Golf Croquet Championship on April 9 / 10th Lawn 2 will be split into two small training lawns on Monday 11th April morning.
- (b) Rob and the other members of the committee agreed that the lawns were looking exceptionally well thanks to Colin Whitehall's efforts.
6. **Helen Pryor** (a) Cliff Jones' Golf Croquet Technique and Tactics course will commence at 9.45 am for 10.00 am start on the lawns on 18/19th April. Participants have been asked to bring their own lunches.
- (b) Better quality heavy duty "clothes peg" clips are required for tournament play.
- (c) Entries for the Macadam Cup tournaments are 11 for the low handicap and 19 for the high - handicap tournaments.
7. **Keith Thorley-- Internal Tournaments:** All the blocks have been completed and are ready to go up on the notice board. Keith will be responsible for the determination of winners. John Dixon has agreed to manage the Robert Case Shield and Tankard Shot Game on 22 July. Keith still needs to find a manager for the Dorothy Toye Tournament on 21 / 22nd May.
8. **Derek Powell** The Sidmouth Open Golf Croquet Championship on Sat/Sun April 9/10th has fourteen entrants.
8. **Pam Bowra. Catering:** (a) Pam asked what time soup and rolls should be served at the Charity One Ball on the 14th April. 12.30 pm was agreed upon.
- (b) Pam suggested that £1 should be added to the price of Section lunches etc instead of having a raffle. Raffle prizes seem to be presented by the same small number of individual members. Keith proposed a motion to this effect saying that this would be a fairer way of raising funds for the membership. David seconded the motion but it was defeated by a majority vote. It was suggested that the "usual suspects" should not provide raffle prizes until it was seen how many were forthcoming from the rest of the membership.
9. **AOB** (a) The chairman thanked Nancy and Mike for their efforts with the coaching schedule for the prospective members. John Dixon is now taking over. She asked the committee to make sure the summer programme, the membership list and the rule books were in the Lawn 3 shelter. The list of applicants to play in the Budleigh Friendly will come down on Monday April 11th and a draw will be made to decide on eight players to take part in the match.
10. The running of the "Wheel" was discussed.
11. **GMC** notes: (a) New design for flats on the site of the Fortfield Hotel was considered to be more obtrusive and ugly than the previous one. A "behemoth" was the word used.
- (b) The floodlights project for the Tennis Section is still going ahead but more funds are required from the membership. The grant from the LTA still not guaranteed definitely.
- (c) A "discreet" banner at the SCTC&H Club to advertise the fete on July 16th in aid of Sidmouth Hospital was approved.
- (d) Bar takings were down from last year
- (e) Help for Colin Whitehall is in the process of being arranged.
- (f) A Wi-Fi system in the pavilion was suggested by the Cricket Section. More discussion will be necessary.
- (g) The Tennis shelter on the west side of the pavilion has been constructed by John Palmer and Roger Pack. It is considered to be very satisfactory and quite unobtrusive.
- (h) Purchase of a new Table Tennis table for the Croquet Section has been approved.
11. **Date of the next meeting. Tuesday 3rd May 2011 at 9.30 am at Frensham.**

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 10/06/2011

Apologies: Graham Harford, Helen Pryor, Rob Matthews and Derek Powell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

1. **Matters arising:** (a) Ref 3b: Colin Walls was runner up in the final of the Charity "One Ball" event held in Winchester. Congratulations to him.
(b) Ref 5b: "Follow on" coaching being carried out successfully by John Dixon.
(c) Ref 7b: Keith Thorley has sent a list of players entered for the Canton Trophy to Graham Harford and Julie Horsley.
2. **Chairman's Report:** (a) **The Charity One Ball.** The Chairman repeated the news that Colin Walls had been runner up in the final of the Charity One Ball
(b) **Folk Week Parking.** Volunteers are required to help with organising the parking on the Cricket field during Folk Week. The Chairman will draw this to the members' attention at the Sparkling Wine Evening on June 15th.
(c) Graeme Pryor's sudden illness was mentioned and sympathy was expressed by all the committee members present. Nancy will send Helen a letter wishing him a speedy recovery.
(d) **"The Midsummer Tournament"** was very successful. The Chairman read out the list of winners. The system of using blocks for the handicap competition was considered to be better than the previous "knock out" method.
Mike Taylor commented that having a final between the first and second players in the blocks was not a good idea, as false and anachronistic results might arise. The committee understood his point. Mike will put his views in writing.
(e) At this point the Chairman reported the gist of what was discussed at the last meeting of the GMC.
 1. The Cricket Section would like more funds to cover the costs of transport to away matches but is prepared to raise funds separately for this purpose. Have the other sections any objections to this? This money would not go into the general "pot". Elaine pointed out that the Croquet Section have a satisfactory system working already.
 2. Sheila Adams is in line to be elected President of the Sidmouth CTC&H Club at the forthcoming AGM.
 3. Parking permits have gone missing recently. They are not designed to be used for "shopping trips" etc
 4. New helpers are needed, from any of the four sections, for the Chairman's Garden.
 5. The catering franchise is coming up for consideration soon and the Tennis Section is asking for access to the kitchen to use the club crockery etc for their teas. The Croquet section is happy with the status quo.
 6. Objections to the new plans for the Fortfield Hotel site development are still in place. The Croquet Chairman and Secretary stated that they only have mild reservations about the plans.
 7. The Budleigh May tournament was very successful from a Sidmouth point of view. Mike Taylor and Philip Harris won their singles events and Ian Friedlander won the Doubles with Chris Donovan from the Budleigh club.
3. **Secretary's report:** (a) The new Table Tennis table has been ordered but the Secretary is wondering how to go about disposing of the old one.

- (b) Derek Haydon from Cheltenham wants to come and play some Golf croquet while he is on holiday in Sidmouth. The Secretary has answered in the affirmative with terms.
4. **Membership Secretary's report**: (a) Muriel reported that the club membership now stands at 124 and may soon be 125. All 124 have paid their subscriptions.
- (b) Muriel's arrangements for keeping the place clean and tidy are working.
- (c) The small outdoor notices about the game of Croquet need to be refurbished and brought up to date. David Temple will take the necessary action.
5. **Keith Thorley** (a) Entry numbers for the Dorothy Toye tournament are low.
6. **Pam Bowra** (a) Tickets for the Sparkling Wine Evening are going very slowly.
- Colin Walls needs some help with his gazebo.
- David Temple will purchase the wine and will operate the "bar" with David Clarke. The evening will begin at 5.00 pm and supper will be available at 6.30 pm.
- (b) Pam wishes to hand over responsibility for the Social Secretary's job to someone else next year but would be prepared to back up whoever takes the job.
7. **AOB** Muriel reminded the committee members that the Croquet Section have agreed to assist at the fete in aid of the hospital, which is to be held on July 16th at the Rugby Ground. Rob Matthews has been asked to provide some hoops and balls. John Dixon, although not available on the day, will provide suitable Croquet games material. Muriel is in charge.
- More pens are available for runners up prizes.
- Pam will 'phone David Laidler about the Treasure Hunt possibility.
8. The next meeting will be held on Monday 4th July at 9.30 am at Frensham.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 04/07/2011

Apologies: Graham Harford,

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising: None

1. **Chairman's Report:** (a) The Chairman wishes to thank Barbara and David Clarke for organising and managing the Corbett Spoons One Ball competitions.
(b) **Folk Week Parking.** The Chairman repeated that volunteers are required to help with organising the parking on the Cricket field during Folk Week.
(c) The Chairman stated that Julie Horsley, the manager of the June Midsummer Tournament is aware of the possible anomalies which could arise if a final takes place between two players who have been competing in the same block.
(d) John and Alsia Dixon's coffee morning for new members went very well. The new members were full of praise for the club. John will continue with follow on coaching on Thursday evenings.
(e) The Chairman asked Pam Bowra to impress on the members, new and old, the etiquette which needs to be observed on the lawns before, during and after a Croquet game.
(f) There will be another public meeting re the proposed development of the Fortfield Hotel site on August 21st 2011.
2. **Secretary's report:** (a) The new Table Tennis table is due to arrive today. The Secretary has dismantled the old one. Some of the wood has been salvaged for possible use in the future.
(b) The cup which will be presented to the winner of the High Bisquers' Tournament is now in the manager's (Nancy Temple) possession.
(c) Mike Taylor expressed a wish to enter the All England Handicap. The Secretary will check with Geoff Young, the overall manager if this is possible at this stage. The Sidmouth heat of this event will take the form of a knock out competition. The Secretary will organise this very soon.
(d) Nancy Temple asked the Secretary to suggest that the booking sheets should be amended so that the 4.00 pm slots last for three hours on lawns 1 and 3, and for two one and a half hour sessions on lawns 2 and 4. In other words the 4.00 pm sessions will run to 7.00 pm. This will help with fitting in the large number of tournament games which have to be played.
(e) The Chairman will formally ask John Dixon to organise the games at the Fun and Food event. Rob Matthews will help him. John has a quiz available if the weather is bad.
(f) The Chairman will ask David Baldock and Howard Quarrell to run the New Members' Competition. They have suggested Monday 8th August as the date which they would like. Pam will organise tea.
(g) John Dixon has told the Secretary that he will run a Shot Game practice at the Club Afternoon on July 8th.
3. **Membership Secretary's report:** (a) Muriel is still looking into the pros and cons of cloth or metal club badges. *£197 for 100 metal badges. Embroidered badges quote.*
(b) Rob Matthews will help Muriel set up, hoops at the fete in aid of the hospital which is due to be held at the Rugby Ground on July 16th. More helpers would be useful.

4. **Derek Powell** (a) Derek says that Brian Shorney doesn't like the engraving which he (Brian Shorney) had done on the Sidmouth Challenge Cup. In addition, over the years the fonts and sizes of the names on the band around the base have varied and the combination of fonts looks untidy. Can something be done about it? The Secretary will consult our engraver.
5. **Pam Bowra** (a) Pam reported that members of the group playing Golf Croquet on Monday and Wednesday mornings had complained to her that the sessions for practising competitive Golf Croquet on Lawn 2 were interfering with the 10.00 am Golf Croquet sessions, particularly on busy mornings when the weather is good. At these times the members of the above group want the competitive sessions to start later than 11.30 am, perhaps at 12.00 noon. Helen agreed that this would be done.
6. **AOB**: The Secretary reported that Cliff Jones might consider re-joining the Sidmouth Club as he is considering cycling to the lawns from his vehicle, having left it parked in Bickwell Valley.
7. The next meeting will be held on Monday 1st August at 9.30 am at Frensham.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 01/08/2011

Apologies: Rob Matthews.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising (a) The alterations to the Sidmouth Challenge Cup were admired with some minor reservations. The Chairman thanked David Temple for organising the work. The total cost (inc VAT) was £40, of which Brian Shorney has agreed to pay half.

(b) Muriel Philpott gave a brief follow-up on the badge situation. She showed a sample of the metal version, which was universally admired. The committee preferred the metal badges to the cloth ones.

1. **Chairman's Report:** (a) The Chairman has been investigating the ongoing problems with the confirmation of some of the Grade 1 Coaches following Cliff Jones' course in April 2010, and also the similar situation re the Referees course and exam this year. She has contacted the CA office and then Bill Arliss and finally the Chairman of Council Barry Keen. He (BK) is looking into it all. To summarise, it seems that Cliff Jones is great for coaching but is not so great for the necessary follow up paper work for exams and qualifications.

(b) The Chairman asked the committee to make sure that the June Tournament in 2012 does not clash with the proposed Classic Car Rally which has been set for Monday June 4th 2012.

(c) Similarly, we should try to avoid the Colclough and Sidmouth Doubles clashing with the Budleigh Seniors or Veterans CA tournaments in 2012.

(d) The Tennis Section have asked Croquet members to keep an eye open for unauthorised use of the Tennis grass court by non-members. There should be a lime green/yellow band on all members' rackets.

2. **Secretary's report:** (a) The new Table Tennis table has arrived. Some vital parts were missing but these were sent for and have arrived more recently. The table will be assembled asap. Derek Hewett is going to help the Secretary.

(b) Julie Horsley has written suggesting that we submit our proposal re handicaps to the AGM of the SW Federation as soon as possible now. The Secretary will take action.

(c) The Secretary will speak to Ann Holbeche re her continuing payments to the Sprinkler fund.

(d) the Secretary intends to organise the placing of a duct, which could carry water and electricity at some time in the future from lawn 1 under the private road to the pavilion. The opportunity will arise when the new single-phase electricity lead supplying power for the Tennis Section's proposed floodlighting scheme is installed. The duct would be a great asset if the Sprinkler system is ever extended to include Lawn 1.

3. **Membership Secretary's report:** (a) The fete, held at the Rugby ground on July 16, in aid of the hospital was successful and Muriel expressed her thanks to Tony Philpott, Keith Thorley, Ann Holbeche and Rob Matthews for their help.

(b) Muriel reported that nine people had expressed interest in joining the Croquet Section next year, 2012.

(c) Muriel told the committee that the present travel expenses for away matches do not cover costs. She suggested that a small increase may be necessary. No decision was made but the subject will be discussed at a later date once the 2012 Federation matches are arranged.

4. **Derek Powell** (a) Derek has produced a comprehensive draft list of actions which need to be taken in advance of, and at the time of, all the CA Open Tournaments played in Sidmouth.

These actions would be coordinated by the secretary for these tournaments. The roles of the various committee members and others involved in preparation for these events will be clarified.

5. **Pam Bowra** (a) The Christmas lunch at the Bedford Hotel will be held on Wednesday 7th December 2011 and the charge will be £21 per head.

(b) Pam told the meeting that the Chairman's garden had, yet again, won an award from the "Sidmouth in Bloom" panel. However, the Croquet Section do not wish to enter in 2012.

(c) Pam mentioned that the new Sidmouth Sports shop might be interested in sponsoring the croquet section. It was felt that this might interfere with the efforts of Lynne Whitehall and the SCTC&H Club shop. Further discussion may be required.
6. **Keith Thorley** reported that progress in the Internal Tournaments was satisfactory. The Belmont is the most urgent. The committee decided that Robert Hammond was a special case, in view of his severe illness, and that he should be allowed some extra time to complete his matches.
7. **Graham Harford** (a) suggested that there were too many internal tournaments in the summer, but the committee generally thought that the idea was to provide competition for members of different handicaps. Some revision of handicap limits for the different tournaments may be necessary. It was considered that members didn't have to enter all the tournaments for which they were eligible.

(b) Graham asked whether it was necessary to close all the lawns all day on the day prior to open tournaments held in Sidmouth. David explained that all four lawns had to be mowed that morning. The hoops then have to be moved and reset away from the worn areas. This involves much time and labour (several hours in fact) by a small team of helpers. All the lines have to be remarked. He suggested that the lawns could be reopened for tournament play in the later part of the afternoon but the committee decided that this would not be practical or desirable. It must be remembered that the lawns are available for practice by the tournament competitors on the late afternoon/evening of the day prior to the tournament.
8. **Helen Pryor** said she was still having problems organising the competitive Golf Croquet sessions. To quote: "there is no cooperation between the people running the Monday, Wednesday and Friday Golf Croquet, and those running the competitive GC training".

She expressed, in writing, the need for more help and support from other committee members and/or other Golf Croquet players. The committee suggested that Lawn 2 might be used on Tuesday afternoons for Competition Golf Croquet training.
9. **AOB**: Rita Field would like to give up looking after the small garden adjacent to Lawn 2 next summer (2012). This will be raised at the AGM in October with a view to finding someone else to do the job.
10. The next meeting will be held on Monday 5th September at 9.30 am at Frensham.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 05/09/2011

Apologies: Graham Harford.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising (a) Para 2. Ann Holbeche has closed her standing order to the Sprinkler Appeal.

(b) The Sidmouth proposal for the SW Fed AGM re handicaps has been submitted to Julie Horsley.

1. **Chairman's Report:** (a) Neil Gamble has been asked to be our guest at the Croquet Section AGM and will bring his wife, Sue. Neil will present the trophies.

(b) The broken chairs from Lawn 1 have been sent to the tip. They have been replaced with two of the white chairs donated by Barbara Jennings.

(c) The High Bisquers Tournament is to retain its present format and rules.

(d) The Sidmouth entry to the Parkstone Qualifier will continue next year as this is the only level advanced competition in the SW Federation in which Sidmouth enters a team.

(e) The Chairman stated that the parking permits are not intended for shopping trips to Sidmouth town centre.

(f) Lawn preparation before the All England Handicap and its clash with the Friday 16th Sept Golf Croquet session was discussed. It was decided to offer Thursday 15th Sept evening to the Golf Croquet players.

2. **Secretary's report:** (a) Derek Andrew had five wins out of five matches at the SW Regional Final of the All England Handicap held at Nailsea, and will now represent Sidmouth at the final to be held in Sidmouth on the 17th / 18th September. Congratulations to him.

(b) Cups are to be returned to John Dixon by 17th September in preparation for the Croquet Section AGM.

(c) Rita Field would like someone to take over her garden adjacent to Hut 2 as soon as possible. Pictures and a notice have been posted in the racket room.

(d) A cold drinking water dispenser in the pavilion would cost £5.99 per week to rent (all service charges included). This was considered expensive, and the effect on the sales from the drinks machine has to be taken into account. The suggestion will be put to the GMC.

(e) Sheila Blenkinsop's letter to the committee, in which she proposed that the format for the Owen Cup be changed to level advanced play for players with handicaps between 10 and 18, was discussed. The idea was not well received by the Chairman and some of the committee. Further thought will be given to revising the format for this competition.

(f) It was suggested that the membership subscription should stay at £150 for next year 2012. The Secretary expressed some doubts as to whether this would be approved by the GMC. It was suggested that the internal tournament entry fees could be raised to make up any deficit.

Muriel agreed to look into the costings involved.

3. **Membership Secretary's report:** (a) Further discussion re SW Federation match fees will take place before next season, when details of the SW Federation calendar are known.

4. **Pam Bowra** (a) The Christmas lunch at the Bedford Hotel will be held on Wednesday 7th December 2011 and the charge will be £21 per head. Tickets will be on sale at the AGM.

(b) Tickets for the AGM supper are now available at £10 per head.

5. **Keith Thorley** (a) reported that progress in the Internal Tournaments was satisfactory. The committee collectively expressed dismay at the fact that one block of the Macadam Cup was abandoned because some of the players involved were "unable to find time to play the necessary games". This situation has never been allowed to arise before. The Secretary agreed to speak (tactfully) to the players involved.

(b) Keith drew the committee's attention to Tony Dustan-Smith's proposed session on cannons and wiring and he suggested that Tony might be prepared to do further coaching sessions for advanced play either later this season or next. David volunteered to ask him.

(c) David also asked Keith if it would be possible to avoid the situation where two players play against each other several times in the block tournaments but do not play other players of identical or similar handicap at all. Keith expressed doubt.

(d) Keith agreed to prepare a paper with Derek Powell and the Chairman about the internal tournaments, for presentation to the committee.

6. **Helen Pryor** said she would prefer not to read out her reminder re Golf Croquet handicaps to the SW Fed AGM. The Secretary suggested that John Coombes should do it.

7. **Derek Powell** is working out the proposed Sidmouth open tournament programme for 2012 in conjunction with Budleigh's dates.

There are 12 players opting for lunch in the pavilion at the Handicap weekend on 10th / 11th September.

8. **Rob Matthews** (a) Rob described and explained some of the grounds work that he and his team had performed recently. He says that the team require another hoop adjustment clamp, a heavy nylon mallet and a 50 metre tape. He will ask the SCTC&H Club Treasurer for permission to purchase these.

(b) The hoops will be moved on Friday 16th September, just before the All England Handicap Final.

(c) Rob suggested that the committee should try to recruit a new grounds representative for 2012 and beyond. He agreed to continue to do the job in 2012 in the meanwhile, provided more team members can be found.

AOB The Chairman stated that the Friends coffee morning had made a profit of £969. The committee expressed surprise and admiration.

Peter Hills has offered to show slides and talk about his trip to Norway, and Roger Hendy has offered to give an "advanced play" presentation based on Cliff Jones' course.

It was suggested that these might go together one evening in November, and might be accompanied by drinks at the bar and nibbles.

The committee was reminded that the SW Fed Golf Croquet Final will take place at Sidmouth on 1st October. Tea will be available in the pavilion.

10. The next meeting will be held on Monday 3rd October at 9.30 am at Frensham.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET, TENNIS, CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB.

CROQUET SECTION.

Minutes of the committee meeting held at Frensham on 03/10/2011

Apologies: Rob Matthews, Keith Thorley.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and signed.

Matters arising (a) Para 5(b) David asked Tony Dustan-Smith whether he would be prepared to give more advanced Croquet tutorials next summer (2012). His answer was "yes" but no more than three sessions.

1 **Chairman's Report**: (a). Preparations for the Croquet Section AGM are going ahead. Neil Gamble will be our guest and will present the cups to the tournament winners. David Clarke will give the vote of thanks to the retiring committee.

Terry Riding will be asked to set up the audio system for the evening.

(b) The Chairman and committee discussed the possibility of a joint Peter Hills (Norway)/ Roger Hendy (Advanced Croquet) evening. It was decided that the subject matter of the two talks would not mix well. It was suggested that David Baldock might give a presentation in conjunction with Peter Hills.

(c) "Rita's garden" adjacent to Hut 2 has been taken over by Maureen Thurlow and Carolyn Sprott. Many thanks to them.

(d) Sue and Kelvin Dent have joined the team looking after the Chairman's garden. Great!

(e) The mentoring scheme will be discussed further with Roger Hendy. Improvements are needed for 2012.

2. **Secretary's report**: (a) The Secretary reported on the most recent GMC meeting.

(a1) Mike dibble warned the GMC committee that, as he was taking over the Chair of the Cricket Section next season, he would not have time to run the Festival Parking scheme. He considers that this ought to be run by each section of the SCTC&H Club in sequence.

(a2) Neil Gamble explained, in more detail, the arrangements for the Chamber of Commerce Classic Car rally on 4th June 2012. This will include hog roast and bars, Devon Cream teas, Jazz band and sideshows.

(a3) The proposal for partial (evening) membership at a reduced fee was vetoed by the GMC on the grounds of it being "the thin edge of the wedge".

(a4) Freezing the Croquet Section annual subscription at £150 was also vetoed by the GMC. Inflation is now running at around 4% per annum which would suggest the sub ought to be increased by £6. However it was decided that next year's subscription would be £155.

(b) Arrangements for the SW Federation AGM are in place. It is to be held at The Batch Country Hotel, Lymsham, Weston-Super-Mare on Sunday 20th November 2011 at 10.30 am.

(c) Doubt was expressed over continued participation in the All England Handicap Tournament. It was decided that we would "test the water" at the beginning of next season depending, to some extent, on the venues of the SW Regional Final and the actual All England Final.

(d) The Table Tennis table has now been assembled and is ready for action.

(e) The Tennis Section wiring for their floodlights is under way and has been completed very tidily at the south end of Croquet Lawn 1 adjacent to the fence. It has enabled the Croquet Section to lay a duct under the road to carry water pipes, and possibly an electricity cable to Lawn 1, if, in the future, the sprinkler system should be extended to Lawn 1.

(f) Security on the grass Tennis court is difficult to enforce because it is difficult to see the lime green bands on members' racquets. Would wrist bands be a better alternative?

3. **Membership Secretary's report**: (a) We now have 125 members and 11 people have expressed interest in joining next year.

(b) The new badges, which look very good, will be available for sale at the AGM.

4. **Rob Matthews** (a) wrote to say that the hoop setting clamps are a great success and that the second one has cut working time by half!

(b) He and Philip Harris have dug out and removed stones from under hoop 3 on Lawn 4. In the past, this has always been a very difficult hoop to set because of the stones. The soil has been replaced and compressed.

5. **Derek Powell** (a) Sidmouth Open Tournaments for 2012 have been sorted out and dates have been selected. Allocation dates for all will be 1s March and there will be no closing dates.

6. **Helen Pryor**. Suggested that tapes may be better than white lines around the lawn boundaries. She has spoken to Colin Whitehall, who has no objection. Further discussion will be necessary and perhaps a trial.

AOB none.

10. The next meeting will be held on Monday October 17th at 9.30am at 8. Deans Mead.

Elaine Woodward

SIDMOUTH CRICKET TENNIS CROQUET & HOCKEY CLUB

Minutes of the Croquet Section AGM

Wednesday 12th October 2011

Chairman Elaine Woodward welcomed approximately 60 members to the meeting. Members then stood in silence to remember Katherine Holroyde, Doreen Cross, Shirley Hide and Mary Hardman.

Apologies for absence: Richard Godfrey, Richard Wood, Julie Horsley, Nancy Temple, Howard and Marjorie Quarrell, Sheila Blenkinsop and Kay Peers.

Minutes of the 2010 AGM: proposed by David Clarke, seconded by Mike Taylor, approved and signed.

Cashier's Report: Tony Holland and Graham Dodd deal with the SCTC&H Club accounts. All cheques and cash payments are paid into the main club account. Membership 125. There were 23 new members in 2011. SW Federation match fees did not quite cover expenses. Internal tournament entry fees together made just over £1000

Total monies in £4016.75, and out £3832.91. Account... plus £183.84

Secretary's report: Now have about 70 members' email addresses. Notice of the AGM of the SW Federation on November 20th 2011.

Committee Members Reports: The Handicap Committee Report was given by David Temple who made suggestions to members re internal tournament entry next year and named some of the members who have made rapid improvements in their handicaps during the season.

Helen Pryor hopes there will be standardisation of the Golf Croquet handicaps across the SW clubs. Mike Taylor reported on the SW Federation Association Croquet matches. Graham Harford reported on the annual Budleigh "Friendlies". Rob Matthews described the success of the hoop setting clamp. Pam Bowra described the social scene in 2011. Keith Thorley described the internal tournaments held in 2011. Derek Powell talked about the Open and CA tournaments held in Sidmouth in 2011 including the All England Handicap Final.

Adoption of reports: The Committee members' reports were adopted. Proposer Tony Dustan-Smith seconded by Graeme Pryor.

Chairman's Report. Elaine Woodward thanked members and committee for their contributions during the season.

Vote of thanks to the retiring committee was given by David Clarke with special mention of those members retiring from the committee i.e. Pam Bowra, Graham Harford and David Temple.

Nominations for the new committee.

ChairmanElaine Woodward.

Secretary.Barbara Clarke

Marian Harris Rob Matthews Muriel Philpott Helen Pryor Mike Taylor Keith Thorley Derek Powell

The new committee was proposed by Tony Dustan-smith, seconded by Graeme Pryor and elected en bloc.

Elaine Woodward welcomed our guest Neil Gamble and his wife, Sue. Neil made a short speech about the value of the Croquet Section to the Sidmouth CTC&H Cub club. He then presented the trophies to the competition winners.

Tony Dustan-Smith gave a vote of thanks to Neil Gamble.

Any Other Business Roger Mills spoke briefly on behalf of the new members thanking the club members for welcoming them.

The Chairman then closed the AGM.