



HIGH WYCOMBE CROQUET CLUB

Minutes of Committee Meeting Held via Zoom

Tuesday 19th April 2022 commencing 19.30

1) Attendees

Present: Richard Peperell (Chairman RP), Duncan Reeve (Treasurer DR), Nigel Clogg (Secretary NC), Wendy Kingon (WK), Ed Olhausen (EO)

Apologies: Raouf Allim (RA), Alan Clark (AC)

Meeting Closed 21.40

2) Matters arising from the last minutes/actions outstanding

1. As no progress has been made in contacting Venessa White, Richard said that he would take this up as Vanessa is seen as being an important person to get on board to manage the club's marketing. (RP)

2. Nigel to continue trying to enlist volunteers to fulfil Who does What roles but also all committee members who regularly attend the club to pursue the co-opting of new committee members such as Chris Webbley, Nigel Moore and Gill Priestly (NC/ALL)

3. Richard to ask Raouf Allim and Keith Toovey to set up half lawns on lawn 1 prior to Come and Try 7th May. (RP)

4. Nigel to investigate alternative Club Clothing source to keep costs down to an affordable level (NC)

5. Nigel and Richard to keep leaflet holders stocked until someone is appointed as marketing manager (NC/RP)

6. Nigel to obtain quote for professional painting of the proposed new gate colours and welcome arch (NC)

7. Easy fundraising still not being subscribed to. Duncan to send image/details to Richard to consider how it can be incorporated into all club emails in the future. (DR)

8. Ed to update membership fees on website (EO)

9. Free sessions to be advertised on the Get Involved page of the website Ed to liaise with Chris Webbley (EO)

10. Ed is keen to avoid duplication of our members list and will look into ways of making the Croquet Association listings for our club easy to utilise for our own emailings Particularly for Richard and Nigel who send emails to all members which involves more than the 50 limit currently on the CA list. Ed to investigate this (EO)

3) Chairman's Report

1. More Lawns Project

Richard asked if anyone was willing to take this on. No-one stepped up.

2. Maintenance Tasks

It is anticipated that following the replacement of the equipment store roof the clubhouse and loo rooves will need replacing next year. Richard asked Duncan to budget approx. £500 for next year. (DR)

3. Sprinkler System

Following an enormous amount of work by Richard he was happy to report overall great satisfaction with the new centre sprinklers.

4. Flood Lights

Generally considered worth pursuing to enable working members the opportunity to play after dusk in spring and autumn. Richard suggested using armoured cable to avoid the high costs and disruption of burying cables also investigate temporary lights bearing in mind cost, storage and convenience.

It was agreed that Richard would revisit this later in the year. (RP)

8. Playing Equipment

Ed agreed to order one set of new corner flags (EO)

9. GC Roll-Ups

Monday and Friday roll-ups to be extended to all day from first week in May. Richard will issue an e-mail to all members to announce this (RP)

4) Lawn Manager's Report

The main point of discussion and concern was the under performance of the ground staff.

Richard to speak again to the team at Phyliss Court to see if we could employ them. It was agreed that nothing should be said to Russell and Aaron until we are sure that we have someone to replace them.

Ed, rightly, pointed out that our lawns and club are looking great and are admired and coveted by visiting players.(RP)

5) Membership Secretary Report

Ed gave up-date to submitted report. Renewals already up to 73 from the 62 in the report. Ed said that some of the new members that were not renewing were stating that with COVID restrictions lifted they were able to return to previous pursuits and lifestyles. Richard said that an approx. 10% fall off was fairly normal.

6) Come and Try Day

- 1) A general up-date was given. Duncan suggested that AC and Golf should be promoted separately. It was agreed that one of the half lawns should be dedicated to AC.
- 2) A5 leaflets to be given to members to distribute and be placed in the new leaflet holders that Ed has ordered.
- 3) Wendy and Nigel to recruit helpers for the day (WK/NC)
- 4) Nigel to issue an email encouraging members to share the HWCC Facebook page which advertises the event. (NC)
- 5) Richard suggested Nigel take over the Facebook page. Nigel agreed to investigate (NC)

7) E-Newsletter

Ed was asked what he meant by this. It transpired that it referred to the
It was generally agreed that Chris was doing an amazing job and nothing should be done to upset trying to co-opt him on to the Committee.

8) Anniversary Party

Nothing much said. Richard confirmed that he will be conducting the prizegiving and that Mark Higgins and Kay Vickery were aware. Nigel suggested that he shorten roll-up to morning only on the day to give time and space to set up the party. Geoff Brooks had already given his blessing to this.(NC)

9) The Structure of the Committee going forward

Firstly Richard reiterated his intention to not stand for re election as Chairman at the next AGM and the urgency of co-opting new committee members.

The Committee members present joined in their thanks for his energy and dedication over many years.

No one present put themselves forward as his successor.

Two ideas were discussed

1. For Richard to remain as Chair but relieved of all other pressures and responsibilities. The committee to consider how these duties to be shared amongst themselves or managers. (ALL)
2. Duncan and Ed believe that Ian Shore would be prepared to step up to the role. Ed was happy to make the approach and this got a majority approval.(EO)

It was unanimously agreed that Richard's standing down should be kept quiet for now.

Possible new Committee members were mentioned

Chris Webbley, Gill Priestley, Nigel Moore

3. Nigel and Wendy were asked to continue to woo these people (WK/NC)

Duncan expressed his wish to not stand again as Treasurer in 2023 and this was respected.

10) A.O.B

1. Ed pointed out the fact that Google Workspace had flagged up that they are intending to start charging for each Gmail address that the club uses. Ed to forward this message to Duncan (EO)
It was agreed that alternative hosting of our email addresses be investigated as a matter of urgency (EO)
2. It was unanimously agreed that no further discussion or action would bring benefit to the comments received within the 2022 AGM voting forms.
3. Welcome Packs in the clubhouse were found to contain out of date membership slips. Ed to update these (OE)
4. Hosting Hospitality to visiting clubs and teams.
Richard said that Alan Clark had recently been impressed by the welcome shown by another club whereby drinks were bought by the hosts. Alan has asked if HWCC could do similar.
Richard agrees with the idea and would like Alan to outline how this would work in practice (AC)
5. Richard mentioned that Brian Maple was looking into a smart meter for the club. It was agreed that Brian does incredible work.

11) Date of next Meeting

Wednesday 1st November 2022
19.30 via Zoom

Action Points Summary

Richard 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 3.4, 3.9, 4

Duncan 2.7, 3.2, 9.1

Nigel 2.2, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 6.3,6.4, 6.5, 8, 9.1, 9.3

Ed 2.2, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 3.8, 9.1, 10.3

Wendy 2.2, 6.3, 9.1, 9.3

Alan 2.2, 9.1, 10.4