

Nailsea & District Croquet Club
Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 16 February 2015

Chair: Andrew Wimshurst

Present: Kathy Wallace, Coral Harrison. Peter Dyke, Mike Tracy,
Brigit Clayton

1. **Apologies** Brian Roynon

2. **Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 12 January 2015**

These were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 12 January 2015

3 **Matters arising from Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 12 January 2015**

Geoff had acquired a grinder

The membership form is now on the website and has been distributed to all members

Andrew will contact Erica re recruitment initiatives

AW

Brigit is making good progress with her archives

The release of the Club copy of the lease from HSBC had been arranged and it would soon be available for collection from the Nailsea branch. Mike had also obtained a scanned copy of the Council copy of the lease.

Andrew had sent out the forms inviting members to give their League team preferences. Not many had been returned so far.

The letter about the payment of the second stage of the grant had been sent to the CA but there had been no reply to date. The Chairman of the CA Development Committee had been on holiday but a meeting was due to be held at the end of February

Peter had looked into the feasibility of the proposed shortened seasons during any levelling periods. He thought it was possible to schedule all the events but was concerned about the difficulties in holding Finals in August. It was pointed out that two lawns would still be available in September and with three days available, this should be sufficient, particularly if some events had semis and possibly Finals on the same day as the main competition.

The Skittles Evening had been a success with a profit of £250, thanks to the efforts of Brian and Brenda, Ruth and Ricky, Liz Tracy and Sandra Bath. As the teams were small, "sticking up" had been quite an effort and it was suggested that we might employ the services of some youngsters next time.

Brigit had had a meeting with Mimi, the Sports Development Officer at Tynesfield. Mimi was very enthusiastic although progress at Tynesfield was slow. Mimi was keen to come to the Club with some Tynesfield volunteers so that they could all be introduced to croquet. Brigit will arrange this when the lawns open for the season

BC

Andrew had been in contact with Clifton College but they seemed reluctant to arrange anything that involved payment. Andrew will write to the head of PE inviting him to come to visit the club so that he can see what might be on offer.

AW

Andrew had been to see Alison about the website. Alison is continuing to develop the site and has plans to give a demonstration for officers using a projector in the Clubhouse. This would show the officers how to update their pages, Andrew, Mike and Brigit will form a sub-committee to advise Alison on our requirements for the site

AW MT
BC

4. Treasurer's Report (report attached, hard copy only)

The lease is due for renewal in 2018. There was a debate about the advisability of attempting to purchase the land or asking for the lease to be renewed early. Either of these options would give us security of tenure and enable us to apply for grants – possibly from Sport England.

Andrew to seek advice from Mrs Taylor and/or others.

AW

Mike was concerned about the potential cost of replacement reels for the Toro and is going to investigate this

MT

5. Property Report (report attached, hard copy only)

6. Lawn maintenance report (report attached, hard copy only)

The decision on whether to proceed with the watering system was deferred until the LAG discussed it

7. Membership report (report attached, hard copy only)

It was decided to invite the members of Wrington Vale croquet Club to join NDCC as Associate members. Andrew will make contact with them

AW

8. First day of season

Mike volunteered to lay out the lawns; soup will be served from 12.30-1.30

MT

Kathy to inform members and check that all is in hand

KW

9. Open Day and Croquet Challenge Publicity

It was thought that the two events should be kept separate from a publicity perspective.

Andrew will contact Erica and make sure that she knows the Nailsea Paper ("Publishing Today") deadline is early March. An advert and editorial would be placed there.

AW

A budget of £50 was agreed for Croquet Challenge publicity – this would be for flyers and posters but it was not expected that as much as that would be required

Coral suggested “Streetlife” as a vehicle for publicity and we may use Andrew’s Facebook page.

It was decided that Pimm’s should be served at the Challenge and that sponsorship should be investigated.

KW

10. CA matters

(i) SGM vote

It was decided to support all the CA motions as NDCC wishes to support the CA in its attempts to restore stability and fairness to its finances. Andrew completed and signed the hard copy of the ballot paper which is attached (hard copy only) to the minutes. Kathy to e-mail the ballot form to the CA, from the address registered as Club Secretary

KW

(ii) completion of annual forms

It was decided to make provisional entries for 6 people for the All England (AC) Handicap Tournament and 12 entries for the All England (GC) Handicap Tournament

KW

Kathy to inform Linda of this and make sure she is aware of the dates for confirmed numbers of entries and payment.

KW

11. New Balls

We now have 8 sets of new balls for Tournament use. It was decided to store these in a padlocked locker in the gents cloakroom. One key would be kept in the Committee Locker and another key in the machine room so that hoop-setters could access it.

MT

Kathy to make a notice for the locker advising members that the balls should not be used except for tournaments.

KW

The Barlow (GT) balls will now be redundant and will be offered for sale to other SWF clubs and also to NDCC members. The cost will be £15 per set. There are 9 sets but one set of secondaries may belong to Greta.

Kathy to inform all Club secretaries, John Grimshaw and NDCC members. The balls will be sold on a “first come, first served basis”. The Short Croquet teams event may well be a useful time for collection of the balls.

KW

Kathy will consult Greta about her set of secondaries

KW

12. Handicaps

(i) changes

Peter listed some AC and GC handicap changes, as made by the handicap committee. The handicap committee had been unable to agree in some cases and Peter was planning to assess these members. Several members had not handed in their cards

PD

Andrew asked Peter to let the committee know what the handicap committee intended to do this season.

PD

(ii) Short Croquet cards

These will be issued to all the players at the SWF teams event and a conversion chart from AC handicaps will be available.

Kathy will start cards for the NDCC members who play Short Croquet

KW

13. AOB

Violet and Erica were going into Backwell School on 19 May to talk about croquet and Erica was hoping to arrange another visit to the Club from Golden Valley School - earlier in the summer than last year to enable follow-up before the term ended.

The Committee agreed that John should register the Club on the Sport England website so that he could look at the application form. Kathy will inform John of this

KW

Mike and Liz offered their house for a barbecue with a choice of dates:
5/6 June; 24/25 July; 31 July/1 Aug
Choice to be made at next meeting

Mike would like to bring a group from his French classes to try croquet. There would be no charge for a first visit

Mike has various opinions about the website - these will be discussed with the sub-committee.

14. Date of next meeting

This was arranged for 10am on Monday 23 March

Signed as a true and accurate record

Name.....

Signature..... date.....