

**Nailsea and District Croquet Club**  
**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on February 17<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**Present:** G. McCausland, A. Wimshurst, D. Hunt, B. Roynon, S. Durston, S. Morgan, E. Malaiperuman

**Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed and signed by Graham.

**Matters arising:** The competition entry fees for 2022 to remain at £2.00

Lawn bookings for league teams have been adjusted to 9.00 to 18.00

John Wallace is still persuing a design for new irrigation system, since Irritech came up with an over engineered solution.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Mike Tracy has examined the accounts, Year end 30 Sept 2021.
- Mike Tracy has agreed to being a “secondary user” to operate our HSBC account
- David would like the club to use Cost of Book keeping software, estimated at bookkeeping software, estimated at £7.00 a month, ie. £84.00 annually. To be decided.
- The EDF new electricity tariff is an increase from 19p pkwh to 52p. Standing charge increase from 25p per day to 35p. The present annual estimate of £226 increases to £504.00
- The Omicron Leisure Grant on offer from the council can not be applied for we as have no employees.
- David to look at Sport England's platinum jubilee grant for sports clubs.

**Membership:** Excellent response from the club. We are delighted that Kriss and Richard will be rejoining this year.

**Work rotas:** Andrew is in the process of recruiting volunteers and drawing up the rotas for hoop setters, mowers and white liners. The hoop setters, whiteliners and the mowers will have an individual coordinator for their group. Graham will be the overall coordinator making sure that the rotas fit in with the tournament preparations.

**Property:** discussed and noted. Thanks to Robin for assisting. Erica to send out Brian's request for a work morning on the outfield on 28<sup>th</sup> March. (Friday 1<sup>st</sup> if poor weather)

**Cleaning rota for the new season:** Joan to put up rota in the clubhouse. Joan has already thouroughly cleaned the clubhouse, the kitchen and the kitchen cupboards.

The proposed north boundary shelter will not go ahead as there is an underground electricity cable running along our north boundary. Hardcore to be removed. Graham to ask Kathy if she would draw a visual reminder of this in her next plans of the lawns. ( safety reminder in case anyone should think of digging up this area for any reason)

Brenda and Brian to coordinate the Social evening booked on 24<sup>th</sup> May.

**Recruitment:** Kathy's report noted and discussed. (Report below) The Nailsea CC facebook page and North Somerset Times have regular posts from Kathy and John Hancock.

**Tournaments and Competitions:** See Kathy's report below for more details. Graham to check further on how much interest there is in the club for players to enter the GC Grass Roots Tournament, the final being on the Isle of Wight.

**One Ball Charity Event:** To go ahead on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. **Marcus** to organise.

**League Fixtures:** The captains appointed for the April SC tournament (SWF) will be contacting players for their teams. **Geoff, Kathy and Peter.**

**Graham** to contact Peter as to whether he will be able to prepare the invaluable Club Calendar.

**Catering for tournaments:** **Sandra** has contacted members requesting help with cakemaking. The freezer will be turned on a couple of days before our season starts. Since no meals are being provided for our tournaments (Marcus's tournament excepted) **Sandra and Erica** will be responsible for asking for volunteers for helping with the refreshment slots. The first tournament will be on 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**Handicaps: AC GC and SC**

Handicaps have now been scrutinised and finalised for all longstanding players. Ryan has organised dates to ascertain GC handicaps for new players who wish to play competitively. The committee agreed that, in line with other clubs, the CA website would be updated with the names of our club handicappers. AC (and SC) Peter, Marcus, Erica and Brian.

For GC – Peter, Ryan and Brian. **Kathy** to pin up handicap tracking sheets in the clubhouse.

**Preparations for first day of play:** Soup and rolls for lunch. (**Brian, Libby and Erica/or Pat**) hot cross buns available at tea time (**Brian and Brenda**) **Graham** to send out details in his next update.

**Coaching:** As lead coordinator for coaching Martin Kerly has created a detailed draft document on how coaching will be conducted this season. The committee and coaches have welcomed it .

**Safeguarding:** Marcus and Ryan are now have enhanced DBS certificates.

**AOB:**

- The committee agreed players should be encouraged to learn Advantage golf with a view to using it in competitive play. (SWF still to agree with this) **Graham** to pursue.
- Brigit is standing down as trophy manager – a new manager to be found for next Autumn
- It was agreed that Louis Smith could visit Nailsea for a day with her PFC Hoopmaker mallets for a hands on trial for anyone ready to consider buying a new mallet.
- Keeping club records in the archives was discussed. One suggestion was using a memory stick for each year to download club records. No decision reached yet.

**DONM:** THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH. 10.00 AT THE CLUBHOUSE

The Meeting closed at 12.00

signed as a true and accurate account

Name.....

Signature.....

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**The Property Report  
for Committee Meeting  
17<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

There is not much to report at this time

**The temporary repair to the car park**

One of the pavers just inside the gate has collapsed. I will purchase some more gravel then Robin and I will lift the paver and carry out a repair.

The Honours board has been updated.

We will need a work morning before the Club opens.

**Work Morning**

We will need a work morning before the start of the season. I suggest Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March with a backup of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April

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**Social**

We currently have one confirmed social booking for 24<sup>th</sup> May from Clevedon Twinning Ass.

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**The Hundred Club**

We have sold 47 units so far for this year which is worth £564.

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## **Competitions and Tournaments Report Feb 2022**

### **Competitions**

Entries are coming in nicely, including some from new members, who have sought and taken advice about suitable competitions for them. List as at 8 Feb attached. I will send a reminder shortly. I have written a new version of the Competition Handbook. It will also serve as a Competition Manager's Handbook

### **Tournaments**

Entries opened on 1 Feb and we have the following as at 8 Feb:

June Advanced: 8 entries                  July Advanced: 5 entries

August Advanced: 2 entries                  August GC: 15 entries

I am hoping that the GC tournament won't be oversubscribed by the Allocation date of 15 Feb as I don't want to have to apply the ridiculous procedure laid down by the Director.

My thoughts were invited re the **Grass Roots GC Competition**. Naturally, I have some!

- I have no objection in principle but would hope someone else would manage it. This is because I simply can't keep up with GC Rules and their interpretation, and I would be unlikely to have the luxury of a referee.
- The arrangements are a bit vague with no clearly defined number of qualifiers from the Club rounds. The number of qualifiers will be dependent on the total number of entries, nationally, which will be difficult to predict. This means that at the Club round stage, the players will have to be put in a strict ranking order so that when the number of qualifiers from Nailsea is announced, we can decide who goes through.
- The reason Graham suggested for us entering this competition was to encourage our new or higher handicap players to get involved in competitive play. I do think our internal programme satisfies this role. I'm delighted that some of the class of 2021 have entered GC competitions. GC players are usually quicker off the mark than their AC counterparts. I'm attaching my current list of entries for Committee interest. It's far from complete yet and the deadline isn't until the end of March but it does tell a story. The highlighting indicates named Doubles partners who haven't yet completed a form or paid their entry fee, but I'm sure they will do so.

### **Inter-clubs**

I don't think there would be much interest in entering any Inter-Clubs competitions. The venues can be at the other end of the country and we have so much croquet in the south-west that there is no need to travel and incur overnight expenditure. Marcus volunteered to actually make any entries but that's the easy bit!

### **CA event 2024**

Nailsea has been awarded the GC Third Eight (Suzanne Roberts Memorial) on 24-26 August 2024. The First and Second Eights will be together, at Budleigh. Bid Document from CA attached.

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## **Recruitment Report Feb 2022**

I am ramping up the publicity for adult lessons and Youth Croquet – via printed media and social media. I also asked three different Scouts Groups to forward an e-mail about Youth Croquet to all their parents. We have 7 fairly definite new adults, 2 possibles and 1 unlikely. We also have two players from 2021 who wish to repeat their lessons – both as full members. I have placed a paid ad in the March “Nailsea Paper”, together with an editorial piece and there should be an article in the NS Times this week, although the Sports Editor is a law unto himself. I have full permission from both Jack Good’s father and the photographer (Tony Thomas from Southport) to use a photo of Jack to promote Youth Croquet. I hope to use our own Youths in photographs next time but Jack is photogenic, just the right age, and it’s a great pic.

Marcus will shortly be contacting the Youth Croquet players who came last summer and also the two who attended Peter’s Junior lessons. He will arrange the best mutually convenient time slot. So, we have a nucleus of Youth Croquet players and two fully certificated and highly competent young coaches. I hope we will produce some competent players and some young muscle power!

The Youth Croquet letter/form re safeguarding and membership is now finalised after agreement with all concerned, including Linda as LSO. Erica has put a copy in the Club Handbook. As agreed they will be asked initially for £25 to cover them until 31 July, giving them full U25 membership of the club (and hence the CA and insurance) and entitlement to weekly coaching sessions. Marcus and Ryan are definitely both now in receipt of their enhanced DBS certificates. I am attaching the finalised letter/form separately.

