

Cygnets

The newsletter of the South West Federation of Croquet Clubs Issue 37: August 2022

Here we are again – the season is well under way and all the club competition managers are chivving us up to finish our games so finals weekends can run smoothly.

But do spend a few minutes to read through this edition – lots of news and photos, so thanks to everyone who sent in contributions. It's lovely receiving these and sharing them.

The SWF Committee met in July and the minutes are now available on our website – so it's easy to keep up with the topics of the day. www.swfcroquet.org.uk

Talking of which, we have just reviewed our policies and the updated versions will be available on the SWF website in a few weeks. In the meantime, if you'd like further information on any of the following, please email Linda: lindawithani@hotmail.com

- Development Grant
- Qualifications Bursary
- Expenses
- Judith Moore Bursary
- Privacy statement

Contents

SWF AGM	1
Croquet Comes Home	2
GC Success for Dowlish Wake	3
Bug-Off	3
Camerton & Peasedown GC x 2	3
Budleigh Salterton Open SC	4
Coach of the Year	4
Fixtures Fixed	5
Peninsula Wars	5
Well I Never!	6
Bradford on Avon seeks Playmates	6
PHC Mallets	7
Appendix 1: AGM proposals	8
Appendix 2: Pesticides	10

SWF AGM – Call for nominations and proposals

Your clubs will have received a call for Nominations to the SWF Committee and for proposals to the AGM. The deadline for receiving these is 9th October – full details may be found in Appendix 1 p 8



Cygnets is emailed to our club contacts who are requested to pass it on to individual club members. It is also available shortly after publication on our website: www.swfcroquet.org.uk

We welcome queries, suggestions and feedback about Cygnets or any aspect of the SW croquet scene. Contact: lindawithani@hotmail.com

Croquet Comes 'Home' to Moreton

You will have seen in the previous Cygnet how Moreton in Marsh CC is raising funds for a new clubhouse. This is their first year of League play but members have been working hard creating three lawns, building up their membership and creating a 'can-do' ethos that has seen them make tremendous progress.

Members Gill Hindshaw and Gordon McCrae tell us about the day croquet 'came home' to Moreton.



On Saturday 16th July an intrepid group of walkers brought Croquet from its new home at the Moreton in Marsh Croquet Club, to visit Chastleton House, just over five miles away. They had numerous games at Chastleton House against National Trust players, and then returned to celebrate playing in the new home of Croquet at Moreton in Marsh.

Chastleton House is where the first national laws of croquet were codified by Walter Whitmore Jones in 1866, and he also arranged the first World Croquet Tournament at Moreton in Marsh in 1868– so the walk connected these two important historical facts of our wonderful sport.



The sponsored walk is part of the important fund-raising efforts by this new club – "Help Moreton Croquet get a Clubhouse".

David O'Brien and Bob Hann organised the co-operation between the two venues, and it was supported by many of the Club members and their friends. We were also proud to welcome Linda Shaw and Dave Kibble who did the walk, played croquet, and were impressed by what we have achieved so far. Thank you for coming.

Many members cheered the walkers off at 10am on a very hot morning as they walked through an arch way of mallets at Moreton in Marsh croquet club. They walked through the beautiful Cotswold farmland to Chastleton House, where our croquet club was also fundraising by supplying cakes and refreshments, so a good crowd welcomed them.

They all had the opportunity to experience the Chastleton lawns. By the time the walkers returned to Moreton and had a game, it was about 7pm – a very long but very successful day!



The Club wishes to thank all those who gave small or large amounts towards the sponsored walk. Anyone who would still like to contribute towards our drive for the Clubhouse are very welcome to do so on Spacehive, or directly to the Moreton Club.

<https://www.spacehive.com/get-moreton-croquet-a-clubhouse>

Dave Kibble adds:

The codification is commemorated at Chastleton House by a plaque unveiled by croquet legend John Solomon, former President of the Croquet Association, and reads "The field rules of croquet were first codified at Chastleton House by Walter Jones Whitmore and published on 7th April 1866"



I was very impressed with what has been achieved at the club in just a few years - a patch of scrub transformed into three fairly level croquet lawns and more than 40 members playing regularly. The enthusiasm exhibited was very impressive.

GC Federation Shield - Dowlish Wake through to Semi Finals

On one of the hottest days of the year Dowlish Wake entertained Phyllis Court in the GC Federation Shield.

The team of Keith Bryant (5) (Captain), Andrew Campbell (5), Richard Gardiner (6) and Mark Gooch (7) were playing in the event for the very first time against last year's winners of this National Competition. Phyllis Court fielded a team with a handicap range of -2 to 11 so there were plenty of extra strokes on offer which made for some very competitive games with one taking over two hours.



Keith and Mark lost the doubles but wins for Richard and Andrew in their respective singles rubbers gave Dowlish a 2 - 1 lead at lunch. Two more singles wins in the afternoon from Keith and Richard gave Dowlish an unassailable 4 wins with the final rubber ending as a draw at one game each. The semi-final is against Southport at a venue yet to be agreed.

Pesticides

You will have seen the recent communication from the CA on new regulations concerning the use of pesticides – see Appendix 2 page **x**

We're interested in hearing from you if this affects your lawn maintenance programme. Let us know your thoughts and experiences and we'll share them in the next issue of Cygnet.



Camerton & Peasedown Croquet Club
www.camertonpeasedowncroquet.co.uk

Open GC Level Play Doubles Tournament

Present holders: Ros Key-Pugh & Colin Britt

Tuesday 20th September
10.00 start

£12 per person
Enter as a pair: max 16 pairs
am: block play – pm: play off

Bring your own Lunch

Entries to Mo Boys 0792 973 3640
Or moboyes@talktalk.net

By 30 August



Budleigh Salterton Open Short Croquet Tournament

Tuesday, Wednesday 4th – 5th October 2022

BSCC, Westfield Close, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 6ST

Short croquet is a form of AC played on a half lawn. Perfect for beginners and experts alike.

All AC handicaps welcome

SC handicaps will be allocated to those without one

9+ timed games guaranteed

Manager: Chris Donovan

Entry Fee: £25 inclusive of tea/coffee (light lunch available on day)

Max entries: 32 "first come first served"

Closing date: 29th September

Format: American Blocks depending on numbers (AMD)

Email entries to: David Warhurst (toursec@budleighcroquet.org) with 'Open Short Croquet' as the subject.

Details on how to pay available on entry.

CA Coach of the Year Award

It's time to be submitting your nominations for this award – these must be in by the end of October.

This is awarded to the coach who:

- ✓ Has shown dedication, innovation and enthusiasm in expanding knowledge and skills of the game.
- ✓ Carries an endorsement from Federation Officials, National/International players, or club committees.
- ✓ Has a significant length of service as a coach.
- ✓ Has made a particular contribution within the relevant playing season.
- ✓ Is recognised as helping individual players, a group of players or a team achieve significant success.
- ✓ Has led a successful reorganisation or development of coaching that has reached a number of players.
- ✓ Has dedicated significant time and expertise to producing a widely-used CA coaching asset, such as a manual or technique.



For full details see: <https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=games/coaching/coty>

Get your fixtures fix

There's an exciting new feature on the SWF page on the CA website – you can now find a list of all the tournaments happening on the region.

<https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=games/federations&FederationID=3072>

And if you're planning to travel, just click on the relevant Federation's page and you'll be able to see what's happening in that region.

It should make planning your visits so much easier and thanks to Dave Kibble for coming up with this.

Friendly Rivalry at Plymouth Croquet Club

Linda Lang writes:

What better way to enjoy the outdoor life than to play a few games of croquet before enjoying a well-earned Cornish Pasty outside our Clubhouse.

Saturday 18th June saw the annual Cornwall versus Devon croquet match. Last year our Club members living in Devon were triumphant and this year Club members from Cornwall were out for revenge.

A short version of Golf Croquet was played and players had the opportunity to play as many games as they wished. The score was evenly matched most of the way through the day but Cornwall came through with a flourish in the closing games.

Plymouth Croquet Club is situated at Hartley, near enough to the Tamar to attract members from the other side of the river. Members dressed in the tartan of Cornwall arrived to play games against the superior in number Devon team.

Everyone had a lot of fun, even the very new members took part. Cornwall were victorious winning 25-21 but Devon were generous serving scones with the jam on first!



The Hartley Shield is presented to Joanne Harding of the winning Cornwall Team by Plymouth Croquet Club President Bob Savage. And below, the victorious Cornwall team resplendent in their Cornish tartan



Have you ever seen anything like it?

Robert Upton (Glamorgan CC) learns an important lesson. He writes:

In the coaching manuals you are told to keep your head still and not to walk after the ball as you are playing your stroke. This photo shows coach, Peter Dyke (Nailsea CC) demonstrating where I have been going wrong.

Thanks to Peter Allan of Blewbury CC for capturing the moment.



Bradford on Avon seeks friendly playmates

Bradford on Avon recently played its inaugural match v Kington Langley at Bradford on Avon's new home at the town's bowls club.

The friendly short croquet match was evenly balanced with BOA winning 10 - 6.

Many thanks to John Grimshaw for suggesting the match.

Any club wishing to visit BOA for a friendly GC match please contact Paul Francis.

[Email paulwfrancis@icloud.com](mailto:paulwfrancis@icloud.com) or phone 07411044109



PHC
mallets



Beautifully crafted mallets from South Africa.
Aluminium or Carbon shaft, peripherally weighted,
Ex stock or bespoke. You choose
From £140 inclusive of postage

A Delight to Play With
Contact: Marie Stuchfield
Tel: 01392 757672
Mob: 0792940893
Email: mlstuchfield@gmail.com

Advertising in Cygnet

All adverts must be sent fully formatted in such a way as they can be easily inserted (copy and pasted) into Cygnet. We are not in a position to undertake any artwork or correct for errors or omissions.

Charges include a 2/3-line entry in the Diary Dates column in up to three subsequent issues.

Charges Full Page: £12 Half Page: £6 Quarter Page: £3

Appendix 1: SWF AGM 20th November 2022

Call for Proposals for consideration by the AGM and Nominations to Committee

The deadline for receiving proposals and nominations is 9th October 2022

Amongst the purposes of the AGM are:

- To consider proposals presented by member clubs or the SWF Committee
- To elect the committee for 2022 - 2023

Please see our Constitution for full details: <https://www.swfcroquet.org.uk/constitution/>

The official notice of the AGM will be circulated by the by 23rd October and will include the agenda, all proposals, all nominations and further details about the event which will be held by Zoom.

The application form to enter SWF League AC and GC events will also be circulated then.

Proposals for consideration by the AGM

- A proposal for inclusion in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting may be presented either by the Committee or by a member-club (duly signed by its Secretary or delegate)
- Proposals to the AGM will not be tabled if they were considered in the previous AGM.
- Please include the following information:
 - Name of Club
 - Proposal
 - Rationale
 - Name and contact details of club secretary

Nominations for Committee

We are looking for enthusiastic, skilled and reliable people to join the committee in a number of roles and would particularly love to hear from people in clubs not currently involved in the Committee.

Our constitution states:

- a. The Committee shall consist of up to 12 persons to be elected annually comprising Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, League Secretary, Development Officer (candidates to be directly elected to these positions) and up to 7 other people.

When completing the application form, please state which role you are standing for. If you are standing as a General Member, please state your particular area of interest or expertise e.g. coaching, handicapping, lawns management, IT.

To be eligible to stand you must be a member of a fully paid-up Full Member Club. If you are not sure – ask your club committee, check out our website www.swfcroquet.org or email lindawithani@hotmail.com

Please use the form below or ensure that all the requested information is provided in an email or letter.

SWF of Croquet Clubs: Nomination for Committee	
Name of nominee	
Please state the role/s they wish to be nominated for	
Proposed by	Name
	Email
	<i>I am an officer of – please insert name of club and position held</i>
Seconded by	Name
	Email
	<i>I am an officer of – please insert name of club and position held</i>
Consent to nomination	Name
	Email
	<i>I am a member of – please insert name of club</i>

Please send any queries, completed proposals and nominations to:

SWF Secretary
Linda Shaw
lindawithani@hotmail.com
21, Grove Avenue, Bristol, BS9 2RP

They must be received by 9th October 2022

Appendix 2

CA guidance on the use of pesticides

Regulations came into force on 22nd June 2022 requiring users of plant protection products, PPP, usually known as pesticides, to register. The CA has queried whether volunteers are required to register and if so whether so-called domestic products used on croquet lawns fell within the remit of this new requirement.

We have finally received a definitive response today (21st July) from the OCR-PPP Team at Defra's Pesticides Hub as follows:

"Sports clubs, that are non-profit or volunteer-run, using professional plant protection products are required to register under the official controls regulations. Acting on behalf of the club, although not employment in the traditional sense, is applying the PPP on behalf of the club, and is therefore classed as being part of their job. If your volunteers are using any plant protection products, they do therefore need to register, this includes whether they are using professional products (in which case they must be appropriately trained in doing so) or ready-to-use products such as those available in supermarkets and garden centres. If the lawns are on private property, there is no need to register."

If you have a professional groundsman then he/she should be registered and trained to use the products and you do not need to do anything. Similarly, if your club is on private property, you also do not need to do anything, although you may wish to consider the insurance implications if an accident were to occur and your personnel were not registered or trained. For everyone else using these products at your croquet club, you should register. In order to register you should go to Register work involving pesticides - HSE.

You have three months in which to do it. Further information on the use, storage and disposal of PPPs can be found at Using, Storing and Disposing of Plant Protection Products ([hse.gov.uk](https://www.hse.gov.uk))