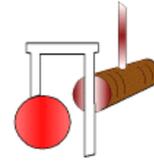


CORNWALL CROQUET CLUB

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Newsletter No. 59 June 2011

Chairman's Corner

The season is now well and truly under way. April produced mostly marvellous weather, warm, not much wind, and amongst the more cynical of us, a feeling that this was too good to last. However, May, and so far into June, have remained largely dry, but cold winds have been a major feature, making play difficult.



A Sidmouth player is floored by a ferocious gust, but still clutches his ball!

A small working party is to consider whether any changes are needed to the Club Constitution, and will report to the main Committee. A copy of the Constitution is on the board in the pavilion, and if anybody has any suggestions, please let us know. The 2012 AGM will consider any suggested amendments.

Driving range As most members will know, the driving range is now closed, the land having been bought by Children's Hospice South West. The problem with golf balls is now over, a major relief.

I recently was invited by the Project Manager to visit the Hospice, and to say that I was

impressed by the building & facilities is an under-statement. I understand that the mound of topsoil near the boundary adjacent to the equipment hut will be moved & redistributed on site, also that a close-boarded fence is planned along the boundary with the Hospice land, which will probably run just their side of the rabbit fence.

Lawn 3 The prolonged drought has meant that although the thin patches are filling in, the process has been slow. Conditions have been unsuitable either for further fertilising, or for weedkilling. However, on the basis of a forecast of heavy rain, all three lawns have just been given a further dose of fertiliser, and it is expected that weedkilling will be undertaken shortly. Mowing has taken place regularly, mainly thanks to Des Honey's efforts, and as growth improves, the cut will be made shorter. We have marked out court boundaries again, trying to get the optimum corner positions, to see whether & by how much we may need to cut into the banks to give a greater playing or margin area. No cut is needed to provide a full lawn, but some cut back of the banks is desirable to provide wider margins particularly for Golf croquet. Fortunately, the extent is quite limited.

The matter of the rabbit and personnel fence along the steep bank is still being discussed.

Site maintenance We are all used to coming to the Club, and seeing the surrounds to the lawns neatly cut, boundaries strimmed, and the various decorative shrubs doing their best to withstand the difficult conditions. Our grateful thanks go to Howard for the considerable time he puts into this work.

Tournaments & competitions The League programme for Association & Golf matches is under way – at present, the Association Intermediate team has completed most of its

fixtures, with three wins from three, with one to play. Congratulations also to Cornwall Porthpean for two good wins in the Golf league.

Five Cornwall players entered the Budleigh Salterton High Bisquers tournament on April 16th & 17th. Weather over the weekend was perfect. Congratulations to Tony Dyson who reached the semi-finals of the main competition, and to Margaret Read who was third in the Egyptian. Rosemary Bradshaw very kindly invited members for drinks on the first evening, and competitors & supporters enjoyed evening meals together. *High bisquers who have not yet played an away tournament, why not give it a go in 2012? – it's a good event, and does not require CA membership.*

News from other members who take part in away Tournaments would be welcomed.

Reports on League matches are posted on the website, usually with photos – have a look at Wellington's rather idyllic setting, (although their single lawn is reportedly somewhat agricultural!)

The draws for the Club competitions where entries have closed are now on the notice board. Please play your games by the due dates. Don't forget that entry for the Golf Doubles closes on June 25th, for the Read Trophy (handicaps 20+) on July 1st, and for Faith Hoop & Hilarity on July 15th.

Both the Association short lawn and the new Thursday morning Golf competitions are proving well supported & popular. These run throughout the season, with no closing dates for entries – just turn up, please no later than 9.45, on the day.

Handicap cards Please ensure that these are up to date. If you are uncertain about how to record results, or to change your index or handicap, please ask any of the more experienced members. A handicap list is posted, but figures are of course subject to change. Please check!

Visits Poltair School will be visiting the Club, as part of its activities week, on July 5th, between 9.15 & 10.45. Members of Truro Probosc Club are coming for the day on June 27th, and Truro Rotary on the evening of

Friday July 15th. If you can come along and help, this would be much appreciated.

Open Day Our second Open Day will be on July 3rd, the format being as before. The May Open Day saw about 15 visitors, and so far, we welcome 2 new members as a result. Again, please come along if you can.

Guests Guests are welcome – a green fee is payable, £1 per session for a visitor introduced by a member, or £5 for casual visitors from other Clubs. Please fill in the visitor forms which are in a folder in the bookshelves – this is for insurance purposes.

Junior section Members will I'm sure be delighted that the wagtails have successfully produced a pair of youngsters, who are by now well aware of the benefits of the Club as a café! Already I have had to escort one of the fledglings out of the Pavilion.



A satisfied new customer

Contributions Possible contributions to the Newsletters – laws reminders, photos, anecdotes, coaching tips etc – would be welcomed.

Happy Hooping,

David