

Minutes of WCFMC Meeting 21st August 2010 at Surbiton at 5.30p.m.

Present

Amir Ramsis, Rhys Thomas, Chris Clarke, David Openshaw (chair until 18.45), Charles Jones (chair from 18.45), Stephen Mulliner,

Apologies

Andrew Hope, Stephen Meatheringham, Gordon Smith, Keith Aiton

1. Review of Agenda for Council Meeting

It was agreed that we should try to focus on development policy at the Council meeting

It was agreed that the following would speak to the motions;

5.1 Andrew

5.2 Keith

5.3 Stephen

5.4 Charles

It was agreed that the discussion in relation to the Women's AC Worlds would be open to members of the MC who could express their personal views

2. Future Development/Expenditure

SMu suggested that there were three levels for development;

- a. Assisting existing associations to improve by offering items such as weekend coaching/refereeing courses etc.
- b. Assisting countries who have expressed an interest in starting croquet (e.g. Portugal/Qatar etc).
- c. "Missionary" development where we attempt to generate an interest in the sport within new countries.

It was agreed that we should limit our development activities to levels a. and b.

It was agreed that Charles would explain this policy and seek approval from Members at the Council meeting

A discussion then took place as to how best to implement this policy. It was agreed that we needed to create a "Development Team". SMu suggested that the Development Leader (DL) should be a member of the MC and said he would be prepared to act in that capacity. Reporting to him would be Development Officers (DO). Various names were discussed as potential DO's including Colin Irwin, Simon Carlsson, Amir Ramsis and Michael Hague. David said that he would only be prepared to assist in this area if he could see a more positive stance being taken towards development by the MC. It was agreed to ask Members for feedback as to potential additional names at the Council meeting. It was noted that since the majority of development activity was likely to be Europe-based, this would limit the number of countries who would be able to supply DO's in the immediate future.

3. Sources of Future Income

It was agreed that we should maintain a principle to retain some part of entry fees. **This issue would be considered once we had a new Treasurer and a 3 year budget to consider.**

4. Under 21 GC Worlds

Amir requested that the MC review an increase in the age limit for this event. He suggested either U25 or U23.

It was agreed that we should plan to hold an event in 2011/2012 probably in the UK and that **Chris would contact the USA, ACA and CNZ to try and find dates between May and September on which each country would be most likely to be able to send players.**

A suggestion was made that the WCF should set up a "Bursary Fund" to provide financial assistance to younger players who may otherwise be unable to attend World Championships.

5. MacRob meeting held on 17th August

Chris updated members on the discussions from this meeting.

6. World Team Championships

This seemed to be a success. It was noted that some of the teams in the lower tiers had expressed a desire to play stronger teams (even if this meant losing heavily). Additionally, some teams had expressed a desire to play more games.

It was agreed that Chris would look at alternative formats for future years and produce a discussion document.

It was also agreed that Chris would produce a questionnaire relating to this years' event and the future and circulate to all Members.

7. 2011 World Golf Croquet Championships

Chris reported on a meeting between John Spiers and himself on 17th August.

It was agreed that Evelyn Martin be approached with a view to being a referee for this event.

It was agreed that the "Burrige" method of seeding be used for this event and that details of this be circulated to Members for comment.

It was agreed that Chris would write a discussion paper for the format of the Plate which was both flexible and provided a final ordering of all competitors and would cater for between 20 and 32 entrants.

David noted that Hurlingham had been very helpful in hosting the 2010 World Teams Tier 2 and that one of the items that had been helpful in gaining their support was the offer of expert coaching for Hurlingham members. This may be something that could be used for the future.

8. Relationship with CNZ

It was agreed that Chris would ring Sue Piper on his return to NZ.

9. Qatar

Chris reported on a contact that he made during the Nottingham Test of an East Midlands player who wanted to start a croquet club in Qatar. The player was a teacher and wanted to introduce the sport as an option at his school. He was also in regular contact with Graeme Beale. **Chris will send information and Amir will act as DO.**

10. AOB

David once again requested that we make contact with Denmark. **It was agreed that Chris would contact Denmark to find out the dates and venue for their National Championships and see if they would accept entries from outside Denmark.**

It was hoped that we could send a few players to the event and provide a one day clinic on AC/GC before/after the event. **It was also agreed that we should invite them to the European Teams Champs. It was also agreed that we should try and find someone who was able to translate the basic laws (say 2-3 pages) into Danish**

David also suggested that we needed a DO for China. George Wood and Ian Burrige were both mentioned. Chris would follow-up.

The following discussion about the upcoming O50's took place between David, Amir and Chris after everyone else had left.

It was agreed that Dawson balls would be used – **Chris to ask the CA if they would lend them. Amir to sort out customs clearances etc. 6 sets plus 2 spares were required.**

It was agreed that Egyptian hoops could be used.

It was agreed that Egypt would provide Cups and medals for 41 players. Various formats were discussed. Amir had a format that would give just over 1 match per player per day. **Chris was asked to prepare an alternative that would offer more play.**

The meeting ended at 8.10p.m.