

C.C.C. UPDATE - September 2020

The last issue of 'Update' was in April, when we were full of uncertainty – would we be able to play at all, would our finances be impacted by a reduction in membership numbers or, worst of all, would we lose one or more members to Covid 19? As it happened, we were able to play from mid-May and this has continued up to now and will continue for as long as possible. Since that time there have been many changes in what is and is not allowed. I have kept up to these through the CA which issues updates on changes in rules and recommendations as well as how these can be followed by clubs to maintain access to their lawns.

At this point I think it is worth reminding ourselves of what we all must do to continue playing at club. This is particularly important now we are moving into the usual 'flu season and are already seeing an increase in Coronavirus cases in Cornwall:

- 1) Maintain a distance of **2 metres** from each other. This may be reduced to 1metre if necessary **if both, or all, members of a group wear face coverings**. As a rule of thumb, 2 metres is two croquet mallets lengthways.
- 2) **Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer** as soon as you arrive and at intervals during your stay.
- 3) Do not handle anything more than absolutely necessary and wash your hands or sanitize afterwards if you do. Members playing in pairs or doubles games could agree who will handle each type of equipment when setting out and clearing lawns
- 4) Door handles, padlocks, chairs, pegs, bisques etc should be wiped after use, using the wipes provided. The last person to leave the site should take a wipe and use it on the door handles and padlocks and keys as they lock up.
- 5) Balls and hoops should be cleaned and dried using the detergent spray provided.
- 6) Do not go into the cabin unless absolutely necessary. There should be no more than 2 people in there to maintain the necessary social distance.

I am sorry to be so prescriptive but it is worth remembering that we are not immune in Cornwall. The rate of infection is rising in county and it is up to us all to ensure that our club remains a safe place to be to enjoy Croquet.

And on to something lighter!

Last Saturday saw the final of the GC Blocks which have been running throughout the summer and what a close match it turned out to be. The winner, after three games was Francis Browne. Thank you to all who attended, you were rewarded with a good match to watch.

Other match results were:-

AC: President's Cup (AC Level Play) – Bob Burnett;
Plymouth Cup (blocks throughout summer) – Dorianne Forsdick;
Wilson Salvors (AC Handicap Doubles) – Peter Cutting & Rhona Foster;
Read Trophy (High Bisquers) – Graham Varcoe;

Jennings Cup (Short Croquet) – Ian Wilson.
GC: President's Cup (GC Level Play) – Des Honey;
Golf Handicap Doubles – Ron and Pam George;
Golf Singles – Graham Varcoe,

All these lucky winners will be having their trophies engraved. If they haven't already done so they will need to know that St Austell Trophies has moved again. With effect from 1st October they will be at Unit 8A, A30 Business Park, Indian Queens, TR9 6FZ, Tel: 01726 73077.

AGM

One or two members have asked me what will be happening about the AGM this year. Unfortunately we will be unable to meet in the Pattern Hall as it can only accommodate 16 people under the Covid regulations. We have enquired about the Cuddra WI Hall and they are not even opening for bookings until next year. So, it appears that we will not be able to have an AGM in its usual form. However, the committee are looking to send a full report on all aspects of the club over the past year to each member with the opportunity for members to vote by post or email where required. You will probably be aware of this format being used by large businesses to ensure they reach as many shareholders as possible. Not ideal, but in these difficult and strange times we have to adapt to circumstances.

As you know, the election of officers and committee normally takes place at the AGM. This will be included in the above proposals, but now is the time when you should be thinking of filling the vacancies which will arise. These are:

- 1) **Chairman** – my 3-year term officially came to an end in March this year but, as with others previously, I have continued to the AGM to align elections with the new year ending. To be absolutely clear, I will not be standing for re-election. I have enjoyed the past three years and hope that I have left my mark upon the club (in a good way!), but the club needs new blood 'at the helm', and I am anticipating increased work and responsibility on the home front. I will still be happy to stand for committee etc. but in a reduced role.
- 2) **Secretary** – As you know, Felicity's term of office also came to an end in March and, despite my request to members for a volunteer to take this on, sadly the vacancy remains.
- 3) **Committee** - There will be three vacancies for committee members.

Please think long and hard about what **you** could do for your club as well as thinking of a fellow member who could fill one of these vacancies. The old adage of 'many hands make light work' couldn't be truer – if more people played an active part none of these roles would be too onerous.

Online Lawn Booking System

I hope you are finding this system useful. The committee first approved it as a trial, but at a recent meeting agreed that it could continue indefinitely. We would like to see more doubles and find

a way for members seeking different opponents for games. The latter is easily overcome! When you want a game but haven't got an opponent lined up just put your name in the top line of the booking form together with a request for someone to play you. All they need to do is drop you an email to volunteer.

If you would like to play doubles there is a way in the system to request other players to join in. I have set the lawns up so that they will take a maximum of four players. All you need to do is fill in the 'Add Entry' form with your name and a note such as 'anyone for doubles?'. Then scroll down the booking form and you will see a box titled 'Participant List'. Just put a tick in there and then confirm your booking. You can then click on the booking again and you will see that there are now 2 boxes on the right hand side of the page, headed Participant list. Click on 'Add Yourself' (you don't want to be left out!). Now, when another member sees your booking and wants to join in all they have to do is click on your booking and then select 'Add yourself' by the 'Participant list' box. When there are four players named in the participant box the system will not allow any further additions. I have booked a mock-up for lawn 2P on 1st December for you to see and try it, but please remove yourself from the box afterwards to allow others to try it out.

One or two more points about the system in general:

- i) Please ensure that you record the names of **all members** who will be playing when you make a booking. This is so we have a record of who has been present at the club each day. It is a requirement that we keep this record for 21 days for Track and Trace.
- ii) Don't forget to give your booking the appropriate colour, i.e. Blue for Association and green for Golf Croquet. You do this by using the drop down list in the box labelled 'Type' on the Add Entry Booking Form. This gives us a good idea of how the lawns are being used.

Rhona

Stop Press: I hear that Howard is expected to be home from hospital in the near future. I am sure you all join me in wishing him a speedy recovery.