

## **Minutes of the AGM of the Welsh Croquet Association held at Dyffryn Gardens on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2012**

### **Present**

IJ Burrige (Chairman), MJ Evans (Vice Chairman), CN Williams (Secretary), GJ McElwain (Treasurer), DM Richards, P Pristavec, S Melvin

### **Item 1. Apologies**

SM Mackay, L Potter, DR Walters, A Morris, B Shorney, RQ Barrett, TF Jenkins, DW Scott, J Bowen

### **Item 2. Minutes of the Meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> August 2011.**

The minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> August 2011 were not read to the meeting, but taken as read. J Evans proposed and DM Richards seconded that they be accepted as a true record and the meeting approved.

### **Item 3. Matters Arising.**

It was pointed out that the lawns have improved a lot this year. The Welsh CA needs to write to Dyffryn to thank.

### **Item 4. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman said that he thought the most important things that the Welsh CA do is to run events and get players to participate in individual and team events. He reported that one of the most important events was to come later in the year when Wales play in the second division of the first World Team Golf Croquet Championship in Cairo in December. He wished the team of David Walters, Kevin Ham, Tudor Jenkins and Chris Williams, well.

The Chairman said that a problem that he could see approaching is that we are all getting a bit old and he is a bit concerned that in 15 years time we may not have a national team. The Welsh CA has an aging membership. He asked "Is there anything we can do to improve matters?"

The Chairman stated that he would like to see more contact with North Wales and that we need to try to set up a match versus Llanfairfechan. We should also think about trying to set up some sort of inter club tournament.

There is still not a Welsh Golf Croquet Open. There was then a discussion on formats. It was felt that if it was made 2 days (preferably early in the season) we could get 8 players at Dyffryn.

### **Item 5. Accounts.**

The accounts for 2011 were presented to the meeting and they showed a surplus for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010 of £215.74 and a balance of £2459.50

The accounts are showing a fairly healthy balance. There was no shirt income in 2011, but the lawn hire for 2011 was not paid until February 2012 and so will appear in the 2012 accounts. There was a discussion on whether the Welsh CA should keep paying the entry fee for team events, such as the WCF Teams and Home Internationals. It was decided to continue to pay them.

There was a discussion of the lawn hire fee paid to Dyffryn. It was pointed out that the National Trust are taking over the running of the Gardens in 2013 and it is not known how much the Dyffryn club will be expected to pay. The Welsh CA still pay an amount (£25 for a weekend day and £15 for a week day) agreed with the club about 15 years ago and it is well below what the CA pays (£25 per lawn per day). The Welsh Championship costs the Welsh CA £65 in lawn hire. This would be £150 at CA hire rates. If the club's rental is increased a lot then the Welsh CA will have to pay more.

The accounts were proposed by J Evans and seconded by P Pristavec.

### **Item 6. Fixtures and Events.**

The Secretary reported that the 2012 handicap weekend for the Trickey Trophy was cancelled because there was only one entry. It was suggested that we try for a split 1 day Handicap and 1 day Golf Croquet next year. Alternatively we could make it a B level AC event.

Wales finished third in the 2012 Home Internationals at Southport.

The Scottish CA were due to visit in 2012, but due to the poor state of the Dyffryn lawns it was decided to hold it over to 2013. The Swiss CA visited in July. Unfortunately the Saturday was completely rained off and Wales won on Sunday 6-1.

The Canadians have expressed interest in resurrecting the Atlantic Plate matches, but the Secretary said he thought Wales would struggle to get a team to travel.

Another match versus Uruguay was held in August before the Olympic football match (GB v Uruguay) at the Millennium Stadium. Unfortunately Wales lost.

The first World Golf Croquet Team Championship is being held in 2012. Wales will be in the second division in Cairo.

Cliff Jones will be representing Wales in the European Championship in Jersey later in the month.

A B level GC event was again held and is likely to continue in 2013.

#### **Item 7. Election of Officers and Committee.**

Under the constitution the three Officer bearers are elected for three year terms whilst the two ordinary members are elected annually. The following committee had been elected in 2011

Chairman	IJ Burridge (retires 2014)
Secretary	CN Williams (retires 2013)
Treasurer	GJ McElwain (retires 2012)
Committee	MJ Evans, DR Walters

The following new committee was elected for 2012-2013

Chairman	IJ Burridge (retires 2014)
Secretary	CN Williams (retires 2013)
Treasurer	GJ McElwain (retires 2015) (proposed P Pristavec, seconded IJ Burridge)
Committee	MJ Evans, DR Walters (proposed P Pristavec, seconded DM Richards)

#### **Item 8. Any Other Business.**

- 1 IJ Burridge reported that the Welsh Championship plinth was now full and we either need a new trophy or another layer added on the bottom. It was decided to ask Liz Williams to add another layer.
- 2 We need to find and display the honours board. (Post meeting note – the board is in the Dyffryn equipment room, propped up next to the door to the electricity meters. It has not been updated for a few years.)
- 3 John Evans has been in discussion with a Golf Club in Swansea about setting a club up. Unfortunately the club owner wants 12 to 18000 pounds to lay lawns and about 5000 a year rental.
- 4 John Evans reported that he has been offered the use of a bowling green in Llandovery
- 5 The Chairman reported that there was a possibility of the Welsh CA attempting to host a tier of the 2014 WCF World Team Championship – possibly at Cheltenham.
- 6 The 2013 Welsh Championship is to be held on the weekend 28-30 June 2013.

The 2013 AGM will be held on the Sunday of the 2013 Welsh Championship.