

WELSH CROQUET ASSOCIATION
50 COLERIDGE AVENUE PENARTH SOUTH GLAMORGAN
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**Minutes of the AGM of the Welsh Croquet Association held at Dyffryn Gardens
on Saturday 4th July 1998**

Present

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| W Prichard | ✓ | 1999 |
| J Grimshaw | ✓ | h |
| C Williams | ✓ | |
| J Evans | ✓ | |
| G McElwain | ✓ | |
| I Burridge | x | |
| S Carter | x | |
| T Mrozinski | ✓ | |
| P Pristavec | ✓ | |
| L Palmer | x | |
| D Walters | x | S. Harding |
| C Tuthill | ✓ | D Morgan |
| E Williams | ✓ | |

Apologies

| | | |
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| B Marsh | ✓ | Tal Golestan |
| D Morgan | | Mike Evans |
| K Ham | | |
| B Lewis | ✓ | |

Item 1. Minutes of the Meeting of July 19th 1997.

The minutes of the meeting of 19th July 1997 were read to the meeting.
P Pristavec proposed and T Mrozinski seconded that they be accepted as a true record
and the meeting approved.

Item 2. Matters Arising.

I Burridge referred to the minute that discussed possible Sports Council funding. He said that the CA felt very strongly that Wales were not doing enough to pursue these possibilities. The Secretary acknowledged that he had not made contact with the CA for advice as suggested at the last meeting and undertook to do so. W Prichard had received the minutes of the last CA Council meeting which were somewhat critical of a letter that the Secretary had written in response to their soliciting comments on the question of CA domain, in which it was pointed out that the Welsh CA were a very small body with limited resources of both finance and manpower.

The Secretary saw the problem of Sports Council funding as one of criteria. He had spoken to them on a number of occasions with regard to support for World Championship participation and had been told that funding could only be obtained on an individual basis for elite players i.e. top three nationally with World Champion

potential. However he accepted that discussions should take place on such matters as equipment, coaching and international team participation.

Item 3. Chairman's Report.

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and thanked Dyffryn Croquet Club once again for the continued use of the lawns. He thought that they were much improved and were clearly responding to the increased maintenance regime. He was pleased that Welsh Championship entries had returned to twelve in number and it was also good to see new blood. He thanked S Carter for again providing the balls.

The first team international of the season in May had seen a Welsh team victorious in Geneva where they had beaten Switzerland 11 - 9. Wales again finished second in the Home Internationals and were very close to overcoming England but finally succumbed 2 - 3. John Evans had represented Wales in the USA at the Sonoma Championships.

Forthcoming events included the first ever visit of a Canadian team to these shores and Wales had chosen a strong team to compete with them in a three-day match. John Evans had been selected as representative in the European Championships in Palermo, Italy in November but, to date, no representative could be found for the World Golf Croquet Championships at Leamington Spa in September.

He then asked Liz Williams to comment on the current stage of development at Dyffryn House. It was understood that the "No Ordinary Hotel" group had taken over, but as yet there was little sign of activity. It was clear that the premises would not be opening as a hotel in 1998.

Item 4. Accounts.

Proforma accounts were presented to the meeting which showed a surplus for the year to 31st December 1997 of £146.88 resulting in a balance in hand of £634.56. This surplus had arisen as a result of staging a European Championship Qualifier and donations from the Museum of Wales and Monmouth Borough Council for demonstrations at St. Fagans and Caldicot respectively. P Pristavec proposed and G McElwain seconded that they be approved and the meeting agreed.

Item 5. Election of Officers and Committee.

I Burridge proposed and L Palmer seconded that the officers and committee be reelected en bloc and the meeting agreed.

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| Chairman | W Prichard |
| Secretary | J Grimshaw |
| Treasurer | C Williams |
| Committee | J Evans |

Item 6. Any Other Business.

The Secretary sought permission to purchase a trophy for the international against Canada. He suggested a pewter plate. C Tuthill proposed and L Williams seconded that a maximum of £50 should be spent to acquire a 12" plate. The meeting agreed and also agreed that it should be called the Atlantic Plate.

I Burridge then raised the question of future international participation. We were invited to a return fixture in Canada next year and perhaps we should try to tie this in with a visit to the USA. Furthermore, perhaps we should lead the development of a strategy for competition between the smaller croquet nations. This led to a discussion on the World team Championship and the lack of development on it. New Zealand had proposed an eight nation event over nine days and were seeking opinions. The meeting concluded that we agreed in principle with such an event and would communicate this to J Prince of the New Zealand Croquet Council.

I Burridge informed the meeting that the 1999 Home Internationals were to be held at Budleigh Salterton.

S Carter offered to donate a trophy for the Welsh Championship consolation event and the meeting gratefully accepted.