



Ipswich Croquet Club News

Issue 4.

Supplement 1st July 2020.

ICC NEWSFLASH

Just a little note to keep you up to speed.

Brian and David had a meeting with Julian Pennington MD of FVGC this week.

Location of lawns:

They discussed a past proposed move from our present lawns but the cost would exceed what ICC or FVGC can spend at this time, so it looks as if we will remain where we are for now.

Quality of the lawns:

Julian was surprised by comments about the poor quality of the lawns. David will meet with the ground staff to discuss the situation and a way forward. We may have to contribute towards the work needed.

Watering and our machine:

It appears our watering machine is not being used. Aim to change this.

Safety:

The net from the golf range will be reassessed and Julian wants to be informed of concerns raised from balls flying onto our lawns. Please make a note of date and time and leave in the pavilion. Any info to Brian.

The Terrace now has an outside bar open daily for drinks and pizzas on Fridays and Saturdays from 4 PM to 8 PM.

GC and AC Knock out competition:

We will try to run these if enough people are interested. Please let me know or sign up at the Club House by 18th July, please.

We know a lot of members are still shielding from Covid 19, but it would be helpful, if you could indicate your intention to join the club this year or not.

We have stopped using the star key at the pavilion.

That's all folks.

Regards Ria



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June 2020.

Hello All

Welcome to Newsletter number four.

SGM/AGM 2020

Minutes SGM/AGM June 2020 Conducted Virtually

20 people voted at the virtual AGM/SGM, making the elections quorate and the committee members approved by the members who voted.

The changes to the constitution were agreed, as were the minutes from AGM 2019; along with the accounts, Subs and annual examiner of accounts.

Committee member responsibilities:

Chairman: Brian Hunt

Treasurer Bernard Button

Members and Marketing Secretary: Martin Brown

Webmaster: Simon Down

Coaching and in future 2nd handicapper: David Wicks

EACF representative: Peter Allnutt

Secretary: Ria Hunt

Martin Brown writes:

Time for action

For the past few years our club has seen a decline in income and membership. The lawns, buildings and equipment are looking tired. Publicity, communications with the outside world, social and group events have all but come to a halt. Membership satisfaction could be so much better.

A silver lining

The Covid-19 pandemic has been a very black cloud. However, for Ipswich Croquet Club there is a two part silver lining.

- Firstly we have secured a ‘no strings attached’ government grant that not only covers our loss in revenue but also allows us to secure, with prudent management, a bright future for the club.
- Secondly, we now have a great opportunity to promote our sport and club to a population eager once more to enjoy socialising and exercising in the open air.

We’re on the up!

I am also delighted to report that your newly elected committee has a fresh spring in its step. There is a new enthusiasm and determination to get things done, and we have wasted no time in getting started. Already, we have held the first post AGM meeting and agreed a plan of action. A plan designed to increase income, increase membership, improve our facilities, build up the social side of our club, and address member dissatisfactions.

This plan is based on hard work rather than crippling investment and by the end of the year we aim to have greater financial stability than the club has enjoyed for several years, and be well on the way to create a club of which we can all be justly proud.

With a little help from our friends

It is now up to your committee to put the plan into action and produce the desired results.

That said there is always a ‘but’. We need you to play a small part. The best way to get new members is by personal recommendation. To this end, we are producing invitation cards to a free introductory session at the club, and would ask you to give them to family, friends, colleagues, neighbours and associates, whenever appropriate.

We are also producing a series of flyers for you to post if the opportunity arises at other clubs (Bowls etc.) associations, institutes, companies and establishments with which you have a connection.

Any help you can give us will be invaluable and much appreciated. So much so that if we sign up a new member as a result of your introduction we will give you a modest voucher to spend at the Terrace Café as a token of your club’s appreciation.

Your views as to what your committee should do to improve the club are also very important. In the secure ‘Members Area’ of our website there is a Suggestion Box - please use it!

Together **we will** build a bright future.

Martin Brown.

Members and Marketing Secretary.

Simon Down writes:

Ipswich Croquet Club Website

Our recently relaunched website is something we can all be proud of. It will assist us in presenting our club to potential new members whilst allowing existing members to make the most of their club.

Numerous meetings took place to establish the best design, colours and layout, with particular thought for easy viewing on mobile phones. Our website features the following headings: Home, About us, Upcoming events, Group events, News, Getting started, Members area and Contact, which allow for easy navigation.

To access the Members area you first have to register with your email and create a password of your choosing then you will receive an email confirmation.

Our new website will be kept up to date and relevant, so it will be a good idea to check it regularly so as to keep pace with the latest developments, enabling us all to feel informed and involved.

Finally our website proudly displays our new logo, which will become more familiar as it starts to appear on club communications and promotional material.

Simon Down

Webmaster

In addition, take a look at the tutorials and make use of the suggestion box.

Simon Holloway writes:

As a way of raising money for local charities that haven't been supported by the Government during Covid-19, Woodbridge Rotary Club are organising a Marathon Sports Event involving a number of the members in doing some sort of physical exercise 26 times over the weekend of July 25th-26th. Woodbridge Rotary Club are raising the money for Headway Suffolk, a local

Suffolk Charity that helps people with head injuries. The Rotary Club will be setting up a means for sponsoring or giving to the charity either through a "just Giving" site or through Headway Suffolk or through their own website (this part is still work in progress) Simon Holloway has agreed to play 26 games of Golf Croquet over the weekend. He is looking to play some 12 to 15 games on the Saturday at the club and is looking for partners to play with him on the day. Simon Holloway

Tel: 01394 384867 Mob: 07973 712255

Just Giving page: woodbridgerotary.org.uk/marathon

Please let Simon know if you are able to play.

Inter Club Competitions.

We should be able to play the annual Victory Cup – GC croquet where you play best of 3 games and the winner goes through to the next round. The final is played on Finals Day.

Please sign up at the club house or let me know if you are interested. We need someone who could manage this competition. Offers please?

Kevin Knights is managing GC Mid/High handicap 1st Wednesday of the month mornings only with option to take lunch at FVGC club house. He is planning to restart August 5th, so as usual sign up at the Club House or let Kevin or myself know if you wish to play.

Davis Wicks is managing and coaching for a new AC competition played on ½ a lawn, which is in the process of being marked out. Let him know if you are interested in getting a taste for AC croquet.

The role of Fixture Manager is still vacant – Anyone interested? Speak to any committee member if you would like to be involved. It can be more than one person.

I hope you will all soon be enjoying croquet again and that we can start normal club openings without the need for pre booking.

Newsletter put together by

Ria Hunt

Secretary Ipswich Croquet Club.