

**Minutes of the North West Federation of Croquet Clubs AGM
Saturday 5th March 2022 (Draft v2 issued to Clubs on 11/3/22)
Held on Zoom & YouTube**

- 1 **The Meeting** was attended by 22 people representing 13 clubs:
- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Bowdon | Angharrad Walters, Ken Cooper |
| Bury | Roy Spencer, David Barrett, Jean Hargreaves, Barbara Young* |
| Chester | John Dawson, Jayne Taylor* |
| Craig-y-Don | John Hannah, Roger Edwards* |
| Crake Valley | David Cornes |
| Culcheth | Alan Wright |
| Ellesmere | |
| Fylde | Liz Wilson, |
| Keswick | |
| Llanfairfechan | Sarah Andrew |
| Pendle & Craven: | Paul Rigge, Libby Dixon |
| Penrith & North Lakes | Howard Bowron, Ian Tupling* |
| Southport & Birkdale | John Haslam, Don Williamson, |
| Stonyhurst | |
| Tattenhall | Nigel Worthington |
| Westmorland | Sue Pritchard |

* Attended via YouTube

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Eugene Chang & the CA for their support in hosting the meeting virtually.

- 2 **Apologies for Absence.** Clubs: Keswick, Stonyhurst. Individuals: Simon Robins, Steve Skelton, Robin Tasker
3. **The minutes** of the AGM held on 13th November 2021 were approved as a correct record Nem Con.
4. **Matters Arising** – None.
5. **Officers and Committee Members Reports since the previous meeting.**
- A **Chairman – Paul Rigge**

Covid seems to be behind us, or at least the government thinks so and the CA's guidance on the subject is now 'co-exist with it'.

A full tournament schedule and our own leagues promise a full 'normal' year, laid ahead of us. I for one can't wait.

The CA is proposing that 'Advantage' Golf Tables can be used and carded this season, we as a Federation still view this variant as being experimental and under test, so all our games will be under the normal "extra turns" handicap rules in force, in either the 5th or 6th Edition.

Finally, Don has expressed his wish to stand down as Federation Handicapper at the AGM (indeed so have I) so can our members be canvassed for replacements during the season please..

B **Secretary - Angharrad Walters**

The CA has communicated that all restrictions on play in England due to Covid have been lifted. Hopefully Wales will follow soon. The monthly Zoom meetings of representatives from all the Federations hosted by Paul Brown, to share information & ideas have continued through the winter months. The CA Adult Safeguarding Policy remains under review. Crake declined to take up their places in the national Secretary's Shield & Federations' Shield, so Chester & Southport respectively will be representing the NW next year in those competitions. Millennium Competition Entry Forms will be issued to Club Secretaries as soon as the details are confirmed.

C **Treasurer – Nigel Worthington**

Thanks to Liz for continuing to act as signatory as the mandate saga with Santander continues.

Membership renewal reminders were sent to 18 clubs, but Flixton & Criccieth indicated that they wished to resign. David Cornes will contact Criccieth to discuss the decision and the return of loan equipment. Culcheth & Stonyhurst have yet to pay. Alan will progress the Culcheth renewal & Paul will contact Benedict.

Angharrad will message the CA to confirm which clubs should be listed on the CA website NW Federation page.

D League Manager – David Cornes

In 2021 the shortened league season was contested by 46 teams in 6 leagues. 3 of the leagues were split into 2 groups (North and South) with a play-off final determining overall winner. The 2021 short lawn final game between Chester and Westmorland will be contested on 26th April at Southport.

For 2022 a total of 54 teams have entered. The changes being –

League	2021	2022	Reason
B level Advanced AC	6	7	2021 entries plus Crake Lakes
Weekend Handicap AC	8	8	
Midweek Handicap AC	6	6	
Short Lawn	9	9	Plus 2 nd Southport (Birkdale) less one of Bury 2 teams
Golf Handicap	10	14	New team for Pendle and Additional (2 nd) teams for Bury, Chester & Uanfairfechan
Level Play Golf	7	10	New teams – Bowdon & Southport Additional (2 nd) team for Bury
Total	46	54	Increase of 17.3%

The draft fixture list was issued on 30th January 2022 and quickly updated on 1st February (version 2). A further version (3) issued on Saturday 12th February with the final version due week commencing 14th March 2022.

For 2022, to supplement the league fixture list I introduced a summary list of home matches by club. Feedback suggests this was a welcome addition and will be issued again next year.

From the original list (30th January) there have been 18 fixture amendments (to the 1st March). Most changes could have been catered for had registration forms been more comprehensive in their completion. Difficulties in scheduling fixtures include lawn availability due to the large number of club and CA tournaments.

As the 2020 season was cancelled and the 2021 season was regionalised I took a fresh approach using the Universal Management Format for leagues with various number of entries. There are, therefore, a small number of fixtures repeated from 2021.

As per the AGM in November 2021 the B level Advanced AC league for 2022 is split into 2 groups (North & South). Teams will play “all play all” on a home and away basis. There will be a play-off final to determine overall league winner.

Due to the high number of entrants (14) for the GC Handicap it has been necessary to split this league into 2 groups with a play-off final to determine overall league winner.

All other leagues have 10 or less entries so revert to the traditional “all play all” once on a home or away basis to determine the overall league winner.

In total 184 fixtures are scheduled with the first game being Saturday 23rd April and the last league game on Sunday 11th September. There will be two play-off finals to be played in September before the official end of season date of 25th September. After a discussion, it was agreed that the venue for the play-off finals will be determined by the League Manager & the two captains involved, using the lottery ball method to determine home advantage. Should the two captains agree to use a neutral venue, then any costs would be borne jointly by the teams involved.

There are no rule changes planned for 2022 with the exception of the expected adoption of Golf Croquet 6th Edition Rules by the WCF in March 2022.

Points for discussion prior to 2023 season –

Clubs to consider what level of entrants should a league be split into two groups? What is our “tipping point”? 14 was definitely too big, but 10 appears manageable. Any views as to what the limit should be?

The logical split for Handicap Golf in 2022 was based on geography and travel distances. How to split leagues in future years has to be debated by member clubs. A brief discussion suggested that Fed wide Divisions 1 & 2 with end of season promotion & relegation was the preferred option. A decision should be taken at the AGM. Howard Bowron (Penrith) reminded the meeting that the split of the B level AC League into North & South to encourage participation of the Crake Lakes team will also be due for review at the AGM.

Whether the GC handicap scoring system for 2023 should be extra turns or advantage. If required, the Federation can request a Zoom meeting with Chris Roberts (on behalf of CA)

E Coaching Officer – Paul Rigge

It's spring ; Heard nowt - Anyone want owt? Let me know...

Remember merit badges can now be earned at both disciplines, *if* it's a CA event, to show personal improvement from beginner to expert.

The CA are hoping to participate in a pilot programme with UK Coaching to train a group of coaches to work with people with Long Term Health Conditions e.g. Dementia.

F Development Officer – David Cornes

CROQUET MATTERS

The CA are encouraging clubs to undertake a review of themselves and identify areas of improvement for the club and members / visitors. The link to an introduction to Croquet matters presented by Dave Gunn can be found at https://youtu.be/A5Lii_NNorY

Any club that is interested in progressing with Croquet Matters should contact me by email and I can for Dave Gunn and / or Paul Francis to facilitate a Zoom workshop session specific to your club.

CA GRANTS & LOANS

Are available to clubs for up to 50% of the project costing. For further information see – <https://www.croquet.org.uk/?p=games/clubs/info>

DENNIS MOWERS ROADSHOWS

The CA has been offered a series of “free of charge” Zoom roadshows by Dennis Mowers over the 2022 season. The target audience is clubs with 1 to 3 lawns whose members voluntarily undertake maintenance work. If there is sufficient interest by NW & North Wales clubs then a workshop may be available in the North West.

G NW Festival – David Cornes

There have been two meetings of the Festival 2022 Committee which comprises of Liz Wilson (Festival Secretary), Esther Jubb, Rick Harding, Tony Thomas (Southport), Martyn Tovey (Craig-y- Don), Sam Seal (Llanfairfechan) and Nigel Worthington (Federation Treasurer).

Outcomes:

- i) The calling notice will be issued in May with a closing date of Friday 27th May 2022
- ii) The Festival will be held in Southport on 25th and 26th June
- iii) Cost per team per event is £40 – slight increase necessary to cover increased costs in lawn hire and provision of portable toilets (6 instead of 4).
- iv) The fixtures and scheduling will be drawn up to maximise playing time on the lawn.
- v) Teams will be made up of 2 or 3 players per match (depending on which format of the game is being played). Clubs can bring more members and substitute in players for different rounds if they wish.
- vi) A new on-line system of scoring will be used meaning scores and league tables will be updated throughout the weekend. The last game will finish at 3.45pm on Sunday and the Presentation will take place by 4pm.
- vii) Each format of the game will have a designated score co-ordinator to ensure smooth running of the weekend.

H **Safeguarding Officer – Jean Hargreaves**

At a recent CA Council Meeting it was announced that there is an amendment to the Child Safeguarding Policy relating to the 14 - 18 year olds. This was agreed. An outline for the Adult Safeguarding Policy was presented. This will be voted on presently. There has also been an amendment to the Code of Conduct. Dr. Ron Carter (The CA Safeguarding Officer) is setting up a Working Group to develop a Welfare Policy for the CA. If anyone wishes to join this group please contact him direct. It is hoped this Policy will be ready for the end of the year.

The following is an extract from the CA Council minutes of the January meeting.

CAC012 - Safeguarding of Children:

Those under the age of 18 years are classified as children. The scenarios likely to be encountered will relate to 14 – 18 year-olds. Clubs that are part of a multi-sport facility will have the choice to use an existing club policy and the expertise of a Club Safeguarding Officer, or to adopt a policy agreed by the CA.

The key amendments to the policy circulated the previous May had been considered and amendments made. He invited questions and comments and there were many and all answered.

Situations envisaged included the following: is a coach always likely to be an adult; will 1:1 coaching still be acceptable; is a grandparent a “Responsible Adult”; will parents always have to give permission for delivery and/or collection of a child; is an adult club member who joins a sole child then considered a “Responsible Adult”.

Answers were given by Ron who promoted the use of common sense, a sense of awareness and understanding of a situation and the balance to be drawn along with the education of regional Safeguarding Officers.

Suggested examples of situations can be added to the existing supporting guidance.

The amendments to the policy on Safeguarding of Children were approved unanimously.

CAC033 – Safeguarding of Adults

Ron began by thanking those colleagues who had helped produce the policy including both Dennis Scarr and Ian Shore who were present. The policy had been peer reviewed and approved by the Executive Board. It was noted that it is essential to have two separate policies, one for Children and one for Adults.

The provisions for the Adults policy are similar to the Childrens policy but particularly defining adults known as having particular needs i.e. pre-identified adults.

Questions raised included the following: how to recognize an adult at risk; consideration to the matter for Open days and Roll-ups. The answer is often common sense and careful observation with appropriate enquiries.

As the full policy had not been circulated this will be done and a vote taken by email.

Code of Conduct amendments

The short document had added abuse and neglect. Ron reported that during the recent Covid pandemic child abuse had increased with 30% girls now on medication and plenty of high-profile examples known.

Further discussion followed.

It was agreed to accept the amendments to include abuse and neglect.

Welfare Policy

Forward planning with the aim of looking after members will require another working party of experienced volunteers plus representatives of diverse groups e.g. young members both male and female. The aim will be to produce a draft policy before December 2022.

In seeking suggestions all were asked to be proactive and sound out candidates and let Ron Carter know names.

As an aside, the question of an insurance policy to cover any defence against allegations might need to be considered. The existing insurance policy does not cover such allegations.

Dr. Ron Carter was thanked left the meeting at 10.05

I **Pennine Cup Captain - Liz Wilson**

An initial approaches been made & further communication is expected after Croquet North’s AGM next week.

J **Federation Handicapper – Don Williamson**

No Handicapping activity to report. Clubs, who have not already done so, may wish to hold taster events for Advantage GC, to get their members acquainted with the new alternative.

K **Website Manager – Chris Alvey**

Nothing to report

L CA Council Member (NW) - Robin Tasker

The following outlines the substantive work undertaken by the CA Council in the last 6 months to September 2021. As ever if anyone has a question or comment on the following or on any other CA matter please get in touch with me directly.

Legal Status

A Consultation document was circulated by the CA last autumn with a substantial body of comments and question being returned.

CA Council voted in December by 6-5 to follow the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) structure rather than the Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee (CCLG). While personally supporting the latter, I am satisfied that the CIO option is an entirely appropriate approach.

A working group of Council (of which I am a member) was established to progress all aspects of the move from an unincorporated association of members to a legal entity that better reflects the modern day.

The WG has produced response documents to the comments received on the following broad areas:

Q&A on Charitable Status; Q&A on Legal Structure; and Q&A on the Voting Membership of the organisation. These documents have been published on the CA Website and announced in the CA Newsletters of December, January and February respectively.

The WG has in addition a substantive draft of the new constitution derived from the model constitution provided by the Charity Commission(CC), and this is currently under review by Brabners as a part of their pro bono work before consideration by the CA Council.

The WG have been in communication with Sports England (SE) to understand the governance requirements that would be placed upon the CA in order to be recognised as the sport's National Governing Body and to be eligible for SE funding.

A gap analysis is underway to determine how and to what extent existing CA processes will need to change; and to determine what can be straightforwardly implemented; and what will require further reflection. It is our intent to develop the new constitution to make these accommodations possible in the future.

The CA will also apply to SE for the use of the name "Croquet England" in its new legal structure.

The implementation timeline envisages a Special General Meeting in early summer 2022 where the CA recommendation will be tabled. On the assumption that this is accepted, a subsequent immediate application to the CC for CIO status is envisaged with the aim of establishment by January 2023. The process of moving the entire existing CA operation to the new structure would then be timed across the subsequent 12-15 month period.

To that end all necessary documentation will need to be available for circulation to members by end March with planned presentations and dissemination to members, Clubs and Federations to outline the proposal and all background and supporting material, and to respond to questions and concerns.

6th Edition GC Rules

The CA Council approved Ian Lines to vote in favour of the adoption of the 6th Edition at the WCF Council on 6 March; and, assuming their adoption by the WCF, for the adoption of the 6th Edition GC Rules for use in the domain (that is within the remit of the CA) with a suggested implementation date of 27th March 2022.

That is to say, it is intended that the 6th Edition GC rules are used from the start of this coming season. Presentations are being planned and the relevant material on the website will be updated.

The CA is planning for Stephen Mulliner to be interviewed on the 6th Edition with a link provided from the CA website. Further booklets etc. for referees are also included in the CA budget for dealing with this matter.

Safeguarding

Council voted in December to approve some small modifications to the Child Safeguarding Policy and this is now being implemented. A further amendment to the Child Safeguarding Policy relating to the 14-18 age group was agreed at the January meeting and will now be implemented.

The outline for the Adult Safeguarding Policy was presented at the January meeting and was approved with comments which will now be addressed by the WG responsible for the Policy's development. This will allow the entire Adult Safeguarding Policy to be published and implemented.

A Working Party is being established to report by December 2022 to develop an overarching Welfare Policy. Anyone interested in joining such a WG should either contact me or speak directly to Ron Carter.

Diversity and Inclusivity

Under the name "Opening the Door for Croquet" the recommendations in the CA D&I Report are being rolled out. A competition has been announced to invite Clubs to propose how a prize of up to £500 might be used to advance some area of D&I within their club. The link to this competition is advertised on the NW Fed website.

An invitation to "answer" 10 Easy Questions around the area of Diversity and Inclusivity will appear in the next CA Gazette which it is hoped will set off interesting and constructive discussions within Clubs and perhaps even challenge existing ways in which Clubs go about their business. This is entirely private and of course a Club may choose, or indeed choose not, to try them out. The questions were trialled at Chester (well I thought they'd indulge me...) and, in small groups, led to some interesting and unexpected discussions. And on that basis I would encourage Clubs to have a go...

6 Millennium Competitions

Dates were proposed as follows:

AC Advanced - Pendle - 20/21 August

GC Level Play - Crake Valley - 25 August (Note date changed to avoid clash with AC Advanced).

AC Handicap - Chester - 11/12 June

GC Handicap - Southport - 28 May

Short Croquet - Fylde - 22 May

7 Motions:

Item 6 (b) Proposal to leave the League Rules unchanged for the 2022 season, except to note the use of the 6th edition of the GC Rules, should they be approved by the CA.

Before the proposal was accepted nem con, there was a wide ranging discussion over a number of topics, most of which has been captured under the League Manager's report.

- i) Handicap limit for Advanced AC league. Ken Cooper (Bowdon) noted that the CA had recently created a national B level series of tournaments and adopted 0 as the lower handicap limit. Ken asked whether any consideration had been given to lowering the B League handicap limit to match this. David Cornes said not, but that he was happy to receive direction, if clubs wanted a change, at the AGM. Howard Bowron (Penrith) reminded the meeting that the purpose of the B level League was to try to encourage improving players to take up competitive AC and a lower limit might discourage them.
- ii) The League Manager will use their discretion to determine the venue for play-offs as outlined above in the League Manager's report section, so no change is required to the rules.

8 **Club Announcements:**

Bowdon (Ken Cooper)

Bowdon has been open during the winter months with play available on under-size lawns, concentrating on 1-ball, 14pt, 18pt and short croquet. One ladder covering every type of event has given a more competitive edge to the games.

Entries are open for our programme of CA tournaments, including the May AC Handicap event at the end of April, which has a reduced entry limit of 16, driven by social distancing in the clubhouse but which should also ensure more games for those who want them.

Bury (Roy Spencer)

With regret I must start with a sad note in reporting the loss of one of our stalwart members Malcolm (Mac) Hardman who passed away on 2nd December after a long illness. For a number of years, he acted as volunteer grounds man at both Whitehead & Coronation parks, a great friend and supporter of the club who will be missed.

On a happier note, Margaret Eccles, who until stepping down in November was our long serving secretary and well known in the Fed was awarded a CA Diploma for Services to croquet – congratulations to her.

There has been a change in the committee of the club, Roy Spencer has taken over from Barbara Young as Chairman, and Gail Burnett has now taken over as secretary from Margaret Eccles.

We have had quite an active winter at Bury, holding socials on Tuesday & Thursday afternoons attended by a good number of members who were able to play both indoor croquet in our club house at Whitehead and on 2 small winter lawns, which have been well used by hardier members – particularly at social afternoons.

Despite Covid restrictions we were able to successfully complete our internal competitions, well managed by Phil Nuttall in difficult circumstances. There was plenty of competitive and enjoyable play.

Most of our play, competitions & tournaments in 2021 took place at Coronation Park, which has now been rested over the winter period. Despite a lot of play it held up very well and was often complimented by visitors. This was thanks to our professional paid grounds man supported by club volunteers. Under the guidance of our recently appointed paid groundsman the Club has invested in a regeneration programme utilising biological treatments and processes for the lawns both at Whitehead and Coronation Parks. We are optimistic that they will be in excellent condition for the new season.

We have a busy season planned to include our annual open day in support of Bury Hospice on 23rd April and National Croquet Day on 21st May. Our first national tournament A Level 0+ is being held on 14th/15th May utilizing both venues, this can be entered via CA Website if any Fed club members are interested.

Following this meeting I am attending a funding pitch event organized by Bury Council, we have applied for funding to undertake remedial work on the interior of Coronation Park Club House. (Apologies as this means I may have to leave before the meeting finishes).

Chester (John Dawson)

It has been a quiet time at Chester since the Autumn report with little play as the lawns are rested. Preparations for the new season are well in hand. The main priority will be to secure the significant membership growth seen in 2021 and integrate new members into club playing and operational structures. A planning session open to all members held in February with this aim in mind generated commitment and some good ideas. The club has entered a second GC handicap team in the league this year and four national inter-club competitions (with fifth in prospect if the AC short team win the 2021 play-off in April). Chester will host the Fed AC handicap Millennium event in June and a national GC 0+ crossover event in August. Helped by significant rain in February the lawns look in good condition

Craig-y-Don (John Hannah)

Craig Y Don successfully raised the money required (£1,600) for the installation of an external defibrillator for use by members and the local community over the winter. A £500 grant was obtained from 'Local Giving' and the remainder raised from Crowdfunding through 'Just Giving' and Gift Aid rebate. The unit is currently being installed and will be available for 'emergency' use before the start of our croquet playing season.

Craig Y Don have four sets of club competition hoops all of which were in need of refurbishment. A grant was obtained during the winter from Sport Wales for £460 which has paid for sandblasting and priming and the hoops are now back for glossing by club members to be in pristine condition for the season start.

Crake Valley (David Cornes)

During the November storms we lost a 40 year old pine to the winds. In January 10 members helped a local contractor clear the debris and utilised the shredded wood to help improve our wooded walkway.

2022 is our 125 year anniversary and we have produced an A4 108 page history. We hope people will purchase copies at £13.95 (inc P&P) or £10 in person during the season. details on www.crakevalleycroquet.org.uk

During winter 2021-22 the club signed into the CA Croquet Matters initiative. Dave Gunn hosted a meeting from which we have identified 6 points for action to help the club improve in 2022. We recommend Croquet Matter to other Clubs in the NW.

Culcheth (Alan Wright)

We are looking forward to playing croquet outside from April. We have been able to use our indoor mat from when we finished playing outdoors in October.

Culcheth Sports and Social Club has re-organised sections and facilities but the Croquet section will be able to continue play. The groundsman is tending to our lawn.

We have held social events and welcomed guests from Bury Croquet Club to these and our annual dinner. These were well attended and it is good that we are getting back to normal.

We welcomed several new members last year which was encouraging.

As for the coming season, we shall be entering teams in the Golf League and the Golf Level play and hope to improve on last year's lowly positions. We shall hold our usual club competitions.

Ellesmere – Nothing to Report

Fylde (Liz Wilson)

We are running the Millennium Short on 22nd May and our usual CA Handicap A/C Tournament on 23rd and 24th July. Nothing else to report.

Keswick (Steve Skelton) – Nothing to report.

Llanfairfechan– (Sarah Andrew)

One week ago our Chairman, Richard Hollas, died in hospital in North Wales after a third serious heart attack. Richard was a regular at the Southport Festival and in the league. I am sure all of you wish to express condolences to Georgina, Richard's wife, and James Thomas, his grandson.

During the winter we have redecorated and refurbished the interior of the Clubhouse. We have also had a terrible infestation of moles which are being treated by a local farmer. In previous years they have not impinged upon the playing surface, but this year they have. We are meeting tomorrow to make repairs to the lawn.

Our season will start on 27th March.

Pendle & Craven (Libby Dixon)

Our lawns have been very busy during the year in part due to internal competitions and also our growing membership. Unfortunately the club saw the passing of two members. Abdul Ahmed a long serving member who gave much time to coaching and refereeing. David Widdison, although not a recent member played for Pendle in many league matches and will also be greatly missed.

We have welcomed more than half a dozen players as secondary club members through our Winter Membership Scheme as our lawns remain open through the winter.

Club members have benefited from coaching sessions on AC and GC provided by Paul Rigge throughout winter. These have enabled novice players to develop skills and gain a greater understanding of tactics. There has also been interest in AC from committed GC players. Pendle will have a representative on the Ladies Coaching GC course in Nottingham in April which will strengthen our club coaching facility.

Accolades for members this year

Paul Rigge was presented with a CA Diploma for his excellent contribution to croquet over many years and Peter Uglow was awarded one of the new CA Bronze Awards.

The first for a very long time Pendle CC this year will be entering all the NW Fed leagues; this is due to the support of our members who have nominated themselves for teams. The high intake of players for our league teams will ensure that league captains will have a good pool of players to allocate for each date.

Pendle CC intends to continue its usual programme of external tournaments this season.

April : The John Beech Memorial Easter tournament
May: B-level/C- level Advanced Weekend
Golf Croquet B level Series
June: GC Open Series Tournament
Mid week Tournament AC
Advanced Weekend AC
July: Lancashire International Golf Croquet Open Championship
August Weekend Handicap AC Tournament.
August: The Federation AC Millennium
September: Golf Croquet A-level Series

All these events can be entered via the CA website or via our Secretary.

Our ground works team have a busy Spring ahead of them along with the normal schedule of lawn care there are the foundations for our new North Pavillion to be laid. This North Pavilion will offer shelter and viewing of lawn 3 and 4 together and with an addition of another window, lawn 5. It is hoped the erection of this substantial pavilion can be completed along with groundworks and maintenance before the busy playing season.

Penrith & North Lakes – (Howard Bowron)

The re-establishment of a pre-Christmas social lunch following Covid was very well attended.

Major renovation work was performed on our lawns last Autumn. Work included scarifying, coring, top dressing, fertilising and re-seeding. We intend to also attempt to progressively level hollows in the surface during the growing season.

We will be promoting croquet and our club at the International Marmalade Festival at Dalemain House in Penrith in May. They have 3000 entries, including for the first time a 'triple peel' category for croquet players. We hope to follow up those interested in trying croquet with introductory sessions on our lawns.

We have moved our club bank account from HSBC to NatWest to avoid newly introduced bank charges.

Salford – Nothing to Report

Southport - (John Haslam)

Work has been carried out on all our lawns during the winter.

We had 40 new members last year and we will be running coaching courses for them.

We will also be recruiting using the same format again.

Our 4 CA Tournament's will be held as usual and we are hosting the Spencer Ell in September along with the Federation Millennium Golf one day tournament in May.

Stonyhurst – Nothing to Report

Tattenhall – Nothing to Report

Westmorland - Sue Pritchard

After not being able to water the lawns, after reseeding them in 20-21, because of access during covid which caused them to dry out in large patches, we are now setting up an automated watering system after reseeding the lawn once again this winter.

Our membership is hovering around 30 members about 2 thirds of which are golf players with a possible 3 players willing to give AC a try. We have difficulty attracting new younger players as we are not allowed on the lawns in the evenings nor Fridays and Saturdays.

9 Federation Equipment Assets

Agreed to remove CA Starter sets at Craig-Y-Don & Tattenhall from the list as five year initial periods have expired. As noted above, David Cornes to contact Criccieth re their loan equipment.

David & Sarah to establish when the CA Start up set was issued to Salford.

10 Any other business

Cheshire Inter-Counties AC - Simon Jenkins was confirmed as Captain & Organiser.

11 Date of Next Meeting

AGM 13th November 2022 at Culcheth or via Zoom, Spring Meeting 5th March 2023 (TBC)

12 Meeting Closed at 1158.

Appendix

North West Federation Equipment March 2022

Club	Equipment
Bowdon	None
Bury	Projector
Chester	None
Crake Valley	None
Craig-y-Don	None
Criccieth	6 Hoops & Peg, 5 round headed Mallets, 1 set primary Barlows plus CA Start Up Set
Culcheth	None
Ellesmere	3 Mallets
Fylde	None
Keswick	None
Llanfairfechan	None
Pendle & Craven	None
Penrith & North Lakes	4 Mallets, 1 set hoops, 1 peg
Salford	CA start up Set
Southport & Birkdale	None
Stonyhurst	None
Tattenhall	Set of secondary balls
Westmorland	None
West Pennine (U3A group)	1 set Jacques Hoops, 1 centre peg, 1 set of flags, 1 set of Dawson first colours, 1 set of Dawson 2nd colours, 1 set of primary clips, 5 George wood mallets, 1 hoop puller (All ex Liverpool)
Wilmslow (U3A group)	4 George Wood Mallets in carrying case, centre peg, 1 set secondary Barlow balls, 1 set primary Sunshiny balls, 1 set metal primary clips.
Paul Rigge	1 set Tertiary balls (Dawson)
Available	With David Cornes: 2 sets of Jacques hoops, 2 centre pegs, 1 set of Dawson 1st colours, 1 set of primary clips, 1 set of 2nd clips, 4 mallets, 3 barlow balls (white pink and green), 1 dawson (black), 7 assorted poor condition balls (All ex Liverpool) With Liz Wilson: 2 mallets needing repair (ex Liverpool)