



Ipswich Croquet Club Newsletter

Issue 6

Hello All.

Welcome to Newsletter 6.

Special report from the Chairman

After eight years at Fynn Valley the time has come to move on. When we came to FV in 2012 it was felt expedient by both clubs to have an open ended arrangement whereby either party could terminate the tenancy with 12 months' notice. Then in 2018 discussions took place about a more permanent agreement in the form of a 25 year lease. Unfortunately the terms required by FV would have meant a considerable increase in our costs which was felt to be unsustainable.

Furthermore our current location, at the end of the driving range with the hazard of flying golf balls, was seen as temporary and in phase 2 of the golf club's remodelling we would be moved to a safer and more permanent site. This second move would involve us in constructing new lawns at significant cost which we planned to meet with the help of a Croquet Association grant.

Now Fynn Valley wishes to implement phase 2 and take back the area we currently occupy. However a suitable alternative has not been found. Also with no security of tenure neither club is keen to invest in new lawn construction.

The upshot is Fynn Valley has asked us to find a new home and has given us 18 months in which to do so. This allows us one more season at Fynn Valley after the current one ends. Both parties are keen that there should be no animosity.

Your committee is taking a positive attitude. A new home presents an opportunity to get better security of tenure and the ability to develop better quality lawns. **I wish to assure you that we have no intention to shut up shop**, and we are wasting no time in preparing the necessary Business Plan, Accounts and Presentations for potential landlords and financiers while compiling lists of potential landowners – public and private.

If you are able to help or know of any possible site please let me know. I would however urge that no direct action is taken without first consulting me. It is imperative that we are fully prepared and all singing from the same song sheet.

I will keep you informed of progress on a regular basis. In the meantime should you have any questions or suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me.

I am looking forward to a bright new future for ICC.

Brian Hunt
Chairman.

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Report from the Club Secretary

The Saturday morning introduction sessions.

These have proved successful with most people having seen our editorials in the Flyer and Ipswich 24 magazines. Others have joined after introduction by present members.

Bearing in mind quite a few of last year's members are still shielding, but hopefully planning to return next year, the club membership should reach a healthy total. At present we have 37 paid up members.

Tournaments.

Fees for winter tournament remain as at present - all day £2, half day £1.

Valerie suggested giving the fee money as prizes rather than wine. We will try this and see what people think at AGM - **Date for diary AGM February 28th 2021.**

Congratulations. The last Doubles GC winners were Bernard Button and Angela Hunter after a thrilling golden hoop.

Finals Day 18th October

Tournament finals and speed doubles tournament will take place. Only those participating in playing should turn up unless Covid 19 guidance changes.

Winter programme

See website for details

High/low singles tournaments (manager Kevin Knights) first Wednesday of the month

Doubles GC tournaments (manager Simon Holloway) third Wednesday of the month

Sunday GC events once monthly (manager Valerie Harding) Last Sunday of the month

Booking on website and/or notice on pavilion wall

Club LOGO

Our thanks to all who took part in the voting.

On the second vote between David's bridge and the original logo, our original logo got the most votes and will now appear on stationary, publicity material and the website.

Thanks to David, Lisa and Martin
for their contributions.

Peter Allnutt

After over 20 years on the committee, for eleven of which he was Club Secretary, Peter has decided to step down. He will remain a valued member of the club and lead a GC team once league competitions return.

Peter has been a croquet club member for many years, a former chairman and representative to EACF. Thank you very much Peter for your time and efforts on behalf of the club.

Ria Hunt

Club Secretary

Report from the Members Secretary

New Members

On behalf of the club may I extend the warmest welcome to those new members who have joined us since the last newsletter. – Ann Thaine, Donna Matthews, Lucy Ratcliffe, Mary Saunders, Maurice Cordy-Ramsey, Pat and Robert Dawkins.

Our website

We are putting the finishing touches to the Winter Tournament program on the Members Area of our website. Once this is up and running you can enter any tournament by clicking on the **Sign Up** button beside the date of the tournament you wish to enter. This will call up an email (there might be a little delay depending on the strength of your WiFi) to which you can add comments or simply press **send**.

As a new feature you will see an additional button **List of Entries**. If you click on this button you will see the list of people who have already signed up. This is a manual system which we will try to update on a daily basis, so please be patient the very latest entries may not appear for 24 hours.

Covid-19. With government restrictions under constant review it is a good idea to regularly click on the **COVID-19 Club Guidelines** (Members Area) button to see if tournaments have been affected.

Martin Brown

Members Secretary