

F3-02

THE WORLD CROQUET FEDERATION

Minutes of a Meeting of the Management Committee held at The Roehampton Club,
Roehampton Lane, London, at 3.30pm on Thursday 12th September, 1991.

Present: Mr A.D.J. Heenan, OBE (President)
Mr C. Hudson (Secretary-General)
Mr F.J. Rogerson (Treasurer)
Mr R.E. Carter

Apologies: Professor M. Ikeda
Brigadier C.J. Miles

Mr Heenan took the chair.

1. Matters for Approval

The Management Committee approved the following papers which were circulated prior to the meeting:

- (a) The Minutes of the WCF Annual General Meeting, held at Hurlingham on 7th September 1990.
- (b) The Secretary-General's Report on the 1990 WCF World Championship.
- (c) Re-Draft of WCF Rule 5 to read:
"The Committee shall consist of persons who have attained the age of 21 and satisfy the conditions for delegates specified in Rule 4D."

The Secretary-General was thanked for his efforts in preparing the papers.

1990 Accounts

The Treasurer presented his Report & Accounts for 1990. It was agreed that WCF policy should be to build up capital funds to provide financial backing for future activities. The Secretary-General was asked to write to Croquet Canada to point out the WCF Rules regarding subscriptions. It was agreed that £200 should be paid to the New Zealand Croquet Council towards the travel costs incurred by the President in attending the meeting.

Mr Rogerson answered a number of questions on the accounts which the Management Committee then approved for presentation to the General Meeting the following day.

2. Matters for Decision

(a) 1992 World Championship

A draft bid had been received from the United States Croquet Association to host the 1992 WCF World Championship at Newport, Rhode Island from 20th to 30th May, 1992.

Some sponsorship had been obtained, but more was required. The USCA bid would be circulated to Management Committee members for agreement when more details were available, and the Secretary-General offered to help with preparation of the bid. The bid would detail the number of players to be nominated by each country.

It was agreed that:

(1) The licence fee for the 1992 World Championship would remain at £1000, and that this would be put into the capital account.

(2) The USCA would not organise any qualifying competitions for the 1992 World Championship, but there would be an increase in the number of WCF Wild Cards which could be used to encourage "emerging" countries.

(3) Players would be nominated by their National Associations. Every full and Observer member of the WCF would have the right to nominate at least one player. Additional nominations would be allocated taking into account the size of membership of each WCF member country and the "World Ranking" list.

(4) Sponsored places would be allocated only to Full Members of the WCF, depending on funds available. The first place would be sponsored for every Full Member, and available sponsorship funds would then be allocated as fairly as possible amongst the other players from Full Members.

(5) It was expected that South Africa would be invited to compete in 1992.

(b) 1992 Budget

Discussion took place on the budget for 1992 and a provisional expenditure budget was prepared (See Appendix 1).

It was agreed that:

(1) The Secretary-General should continue to be paid an annual honorarium of £1000.

(2) £1250 should be allocated to the production of a WCF folder/brochure in folder form aimed to publicise the WCF and assist member organisations in obtaining sponsorship for international events. The Secretary-General undertook to produce this document.

Provision of £1000 was made in the budget to cover travel expenses expected to be incurred by WCF officials in WCF meetings during the year and in attending the 1992 World Championship.

(c) Subscriptions for 1992

After consideration of the 1992 expenditure budget, it was agreed that membership subscriptions for 1992 should remain the same as for 1991.

(d) Appointment of Auditors

Mr Rogerson was asked to convey the World Croquet Federation's thanks to the Auditors for their work during 1991, which had been carried out free of charge. It was agreed to recommend to the Annual General Meeting that the present Auditor, Mr John G. McAuley, FCA, be re-appointed for 1992.

(e) Championship Ball Specification

The Secretary-General explained that the (English) Croquet Association's Equipment Committee were drawing up a Championship Ball specification on behalf of the WCF. However, progress had been slow, due to more balls appearing on the market and continuing problems in defining the effect of temperature on the bounce specification.

A situation was now developing where there had to be a procedure for decisions to be made on which balls to use for international matches. It was agreed that it should be left to the host country to decide which ball to use, provided it conformed to the existing international ball specification.

The Management Committee received a proposal from the English Croquet Association's Equipment Committee that there should be an international standard for the design of hoops. It was felt that this would be difficult to achieve, in view of the soil and climate variations in each country, and it was agreed that this work should be given low priority.

3. Management Committee Report

The Secretary-General presented a Report which he had prepared on the work of the Management Committee covering the period September 1990 to August 1991. In approving this Report for presentation to the Annual General Meeting on the following day, members of the Management Committee made the following points:

(1) It would be better to hold the proposed Management Committee meeting in January/February 1993 rather than December 1992.

(2) The Management Committee should endeavour to set up a working party to develop a WCF Ranking List. The Secretary-General was asked to contact ranking list managers in member countries to submit details of their software for consideration by the WCF. Otherwise the proposal to use John Walters list in the short term was acceptable. National Championships should be given official WCF recognition for use in future World Ranking systems.

(3) It was agreed that the WCF should ask for a licence fee whenever it sanctioned an international event or was asked to provide WCF officials. This fee could range from £100 upwards.

4. Matters for Discussion

Criteria for selecting national teams

It was agreed that the WCF could not dictate selection criteria for National teams but could offer guidelines to member organisations. (WCF Rule 18 sets out the qualifications of a player to represent a country. However, it is not clear that individual member countries are specifically required to agree to these conditions on joining the WCF, and it may be that the rule is only intended to apply to events sanctioned by the WCF.)

It was proposed that the Secretary-General should ask member organisations to provide details of their selection criteria so that an attempt could be made to define criteria guidelines.

It was agreed to suggest to the Annual General meeting that a player would have to wait for a period of 5 years if wishing to change national representative status. It was intended to implement this rule on 1st January 1993, to give a period of grace to any player affected.

International & National Championships

It was suggested that a programme of international fixtures be drawn up, providing a number of 1st and 2nd class fixtures to encourage "emerging" countries.

It being 6.30pm, the meeting adjourned at this point to attend a social event at the Wimbledon Tennis Museum. It reconvened at 2.30pm on Friday, 13th September at the Roehampton Club, after the AGM, to discuss the 1992 World Championship in more detail. Those present were Mr A.D.J. Heenan, OBE, Mr R.E. Carter, Mr C. Hudson, Mr F.J. Rogerson, and (by invitation) Messrs E. Peterson and T. Arkley, both of the USCA.

1992 World Championship

Mr Carter presented the USCA proposals for the 1992 World Championship. Seven full-size lawns were available at the Newport Casino, and it was envisaged that 28 or 32 players would be invited to take part.

The format would be all-play-all blocks, followed by a knock-out. Players would be seeded by country in the blocks.

Some sponsorship had been obtained already, but more was needed so that at least one player from every Full Member country could be offered a sponsored ticket. An entry fee of \$US 100 was proposed by the USCA and accepted by the meeting.

Following the presentation, the Management Committee agreed that the 1992 World Championship should be held at Newport, Rhode Island, from 20th to 30th May 1992. The Secretary-General offered to help prepare a detailed bid for circulation to all members of the Management Committee for final approval.

APPENDIX 1

WORLD CROQUET FEDERATION

Budget for 1992

	£'s 1992	£'s 1991
1. Estimated Opening Balance (1st Jan, 1992)	6300	4835
2. Anticipated Expenditure:		
Stationary	400	1000
Secretary's Honorarium	1000	1000
WCF Brochure	1250	-
Newsletter	-	250
Travel	1000	1000
Marketing	-	400
General Administration	400	400
General Council Meeting	700	700
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	(4750)	(4750)
3. Anticipated Income:		
Membership Subscriptions	2700	2700
Championship Licence fee	1000	1000
Bank Interest	500	350
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	4200	4050
4. Projected Closing Balance (31st Dec 1992)	<u>5750</u>	<u>4135</u>

(All Figures in £Sterling)