

REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Introduction

At the inaugural General Meeting of the WCF, held at Hurlingham on 17th July 1986, the (English) Croquet Association's "International Committee" was appointed to act as a Steering Committee, with responsibility to re-draft the WCF Constitution to meet the suggestions of the meeting, and to prepare the way for the formal setting up of the World Croquet Federation.

The Rules

The Rules of the World Croquet Federation have now been amended in line with comments received and circulated to governing bodies. A copy of the Rules is enclosed with this report.

The Steering Committee now wish to propose that the office of "President" should be included in the Constitution, to bring the titles used by the WCF into line with other international bodies. (Provision for the election of a President is included in the resolution contained in item 9 of the Agenda, and effectively, the President will take over the duties previously envisaged for the Chairman of the Management Committee.)

The proposal in item 9 also envisages enlarging the Management Committee by one person.

Any Founder Member (see "Membership" below) wishing to propose a change in the Rules at the meeting should advise Chris Hudson as soon as possible.

Membership

The following nations are de facto "Founder Members".

Australia
Canada
England
Ireland
Japan
New Zealand (when formal application is lodged)
Scotland
U.S.A.

An application form for membership of the WCF has been drawn up, and is enclosed for information. Comments on the format, inclusions or omissions, would be welcome by Chris Hudson. The form has been sent to the following countries who have enquired about membership.

Bermuda
France
Italy
Jersey
South Africa
Switzerland
Wales

Any membership applications received will be considered at the WCF General Meeting to be held on 15th July 1989.

Letters have also been sent to individuals registered with the (English) Croquet Association from the following countries, to find out if they have a national governing body.

Belgium	Germany
Denmark	Holland
Dubai	Norway
Finland	Sweden

Management Committee

The Steering Committee would like to propose Ashley Heenan as the WCF's first President.

The Steering Committee would like to propose that Chris Hudson should continue as Secretary, and that the Headquarters of the WCF should be based in the Secretary's country.

WCF Logo

The Steering Committee has obtained some designs for a WCF Logo. Other Associations are invited to submit proposals for consideration at the General Meeting.

Statement of Accounts

A budgetary statement is attached. This will help the Meeting establish an appropriate WCF joining fee, and to decide the level of members' annual subscriptions.

A second source of income will arise from the "licensing fee" charged by the WCF for recognising events as official World Championships. This fee also needs to be determined by the Meeting.

Applications for Membership

Applications for membership have already been received from the following countries:

- Bermuda
- France
- Italy
- Jersey
- South Africa

These will be considered at the Meeting, under item 6 of the Agenda, subject to the required documents being available.

Revisions of membership status

No requests have yet been made to revise membership status of any member.

World Championships

The 1989 World Croquet Championship (under International Rules) is to be held at Hurlingham, London on 16th-23rd July, and the event will be sponsored by Continental Airlines.

The 10 players to receive sponsored travel have been nominated by their respective associations. A Challenge Cup has been presented to the WCF by the All-England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club (Wimbledon) and this will be held by the winner until the next World Championship takes place under the Laws of Association Croquet. Arrangements for the Championship have already been circulated.

South African participation

Because of differing attitudes and political interpretations of the situation regarding sport and South Africa, Founder Members were consulted by telephone to determine their views.

By a majority decision, it was agreed that South Africans should not be allowed to take part in the 1989 World Championship, even if playing as individuals.

Playing conditions for future events

The Steering Committee proposes that any future World Croquet Championships held under the Laws of Association Croquet (International Rules) should be confined to singles only, and that the conditions set out in the attached Annex A be fulfilled.

Applications to stage future events

Some members have expressed an interest in staging a World Championship under the Laws of Association Croquet in 1990. Those members who have already expressed an interest in putting forward a bid have been sent a copy of the guidelines laid down in Annex A.

World Games 1993

Croquet is being demonstrated at the 1989 World Games in Karlsruhe on the afternoon of Thursday, 27th July.

The nature of the 1993 event at The Hague will be discussed under item 8 of the Agenda. The Steering Committee suggests that each country should provide a team of two players, with a match format of 2 singles and 1 doubles.

Championship Ball specification

Because of the different qualities of ball produced by various manufacturers in several countries, the Steering Committee suggests that the WCF should publish a specification defining the characteristics of balls that may be used in World Competitions. A proposed specification is attached in Annex B.

1st May 1989.

THE WORLD CROQUET FEDERATION

BUDGETARY STATEMENT

Non-recurrent items of expenditure are:

Cost of staging demonstration
at 1989 World Games in Karlsruhe say £550

Recurrent items are:

GAISF subscription: Provisional membership Sfr 750
(Full membership) Sfr 3000

Entry fee to compete in a World Games US \$1000

Administration £500

Materials/Printing £500

Information Sheet
(depends on format & quality) say £500

Travel to GAISF Annual General Meeting say £800

Note: As at 16th May, Sfr 3000 was equivalent to £1069, and US \$1000 was equivalent to £615.

We do not yet satisfy the requirements of GAISF for full membership (a membership of at least 20 national associations from 3 different continents and 3 championships organised at world level).

Assuming therefore that the WCF becomes a provisional member of GAISF, and competes regularly at the World Games every 4 years, the annual recurrent costs outlined above total £2722. (Assuming full membership of GAISF, this increases to £3524).

The main income of the WCF is likely to be derived from members' subscriptions and fees for licensing official World Championships.

ASSOCIATION CROQUET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The following conditions are proposed as requirements for an event to be sanctioned by the WCF as an Association Croquet World Championship.

1. Full size lawns (35 yards x 28 yards) of good quality to be used throughout
2. 3 & 11/16th inch hoops to be used.
3. From the Quarter-Final stage onwards, the competition to be on a knock-out basis, each match best of 3 games.
4. The earlier stages may also be on a knock-out basis, best of 3 games, or alternatively arranged as American Blocks, in which each competitor plays all the others in the block, either best of 3 games or single games twice.
5. If time limits are employed, the total time permitted for 3 games should be at least 10 hours.
6. No double-banking in any games.
7. If the event is invitational, with limited numbers, the arrangements for selection of invitees to be approved by a specially appointed WCF Committee.
8. Adequate funds to be available to ensure that invitees are not prevented from competing by financial problems.

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ASSOCIATION CROQUET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

WORLD CROQUET FEDERATION

Proposed Championship Ball Specification

The Steering Committee propose that the World Croquet Federation should adopt the following specification for size, resilience, and weight for balls which are to be certified as suitable for use in World Championships and International matches.

Diameter: The maximum diameter of a ball must not exceed $3 \frac{21}{32}$ inches and the minimum diameter must not be less than $3 \frac{19}{32}$ inches.
The maximum and minimum diameters of a ball must not differ by more than $\frac{1}{32}$ inch.

The maximum and minimum diameters of balls in a set must not differ by more than $\frac{3}{64}$ inch.

Resilience: When dropped from a height of 60 inches from the bottom of the ball onto a steel plate 1 inch thick and set rigidly in concrete, a ball must rebound to a height from the bottom of the ball of not less than 31 inches and not more than 37 inches.

The rebound heights of a set of balls to be used together must not differ by more than 2 inches

Milling: All balls must be milled with an identical pattern. The pattern must consist of two orthogonal grooves (or other patterns approved by the CA Equipment Committee) and the width of the grooves must be less than the width of the upstands left after grooving.

Weight: The weight of balls must be 16 oz $\pm \frac{1}{4}$ oz and all balls in a set must differ by no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. (Note that this is a change to Law 2(c) and therefore can only come into force if the change to the law can be agreed).