



August 2013 Newsletter

A monthly summary to the WCF Members of what the Management Committee has been doing during the past month and what is on the agenda for the coming month. Your comments always very welcome.

Martin French
departing Secretary-General (till 31st August)
& Stephen Mulliner
Secretary-General designate (from 1st September)

Council debates and decisions

The draft version of the new edition of the GC Rules (Topic 22) is still out for the 2 month consultation period. Please focus comments from any of your players into Member responses if possible.

At the 13th August Council Meeting at Surbiton, 21 people representing 11 Members plus the MC, discussed a number of documents circulated as recent Council topics:

- Topic 19, Allocation & Seeding consultation: a number of questions were posed to get Member input on the policy choices behind how places are allocated and filled at events.
- Topic 20, Seeding the GCWC Knock Out: following the trial in Cairo and player feedback, some options were proposed to Members.
- Topic 23, Financial Review: the out-going Treasurer analysed our finances, considered the impact of a regular four year event cycle, and made a number of recommendations including doing away with License Fees and increasing the daily player entry fee.

All the Council papers are available on-line at <http://www.wcfcroquet.org/joomla/index.php/meetings/69-meeting-papers/300-2013-council-meeting-papers>. The minutes have been circulated for comment.

2013 ACWC

The event was very successful. Player feedback has been requested and from the 25 responses so far received, overwhelmingly positive. Our thanks to the CA and the 4 clubs in the London area for hosting the event, and to Stephen Mulliner as the WCF Event Lead.

2014 AC World Team Championship

Tier 1 – the MacRobertson Shield – is being hosted by Croquet New Zealand, starting on 30th December 2013 and running till 15th January. Details of Tiers 2 and 3 are being firmed up and will be published shortly, along with a call for definite entries. It currently looks like Tier 2.1 will be in Ireland from 12th to 17th May, while Tiers 2.2 and 3 will be in the same week in England.

2014 Women's GCWC

This Cairo event has been postponed from March to 16th to 21st November. More details will be available in February when the entry process will be re-started.

2014 Over 50 GCWC

This is scheduled for 5th to 11th October in Cairo – details will follow in January.



What have we been doing in August?

Staging a successful ACWC with 80 entrants – congratulations to Robert Fletcher (AUS) being the youngest ever AC world champion. Alongside the event, we held a positive Council Meeting.

Perhaps because of these two events, and the resignation of the S-G and Treasurer, general MC activity has been unusually quiet.

Stephen Mulliner is to take over as next Secretary-General and he and Martin French have been running a handover plan through August.

Gabrielle Higgins has offered to take over the role of Treasurer from Ian Burrige, who resigned in July. Using Statute 105.12, the MC has appointed Gabrielle to fill the vacancy, subject to confirmation at the usual MC elections later in the year. Ian and Gabrielle are aiming to meet up during September to handover.

MC Topics completed/ closed this month

247 – Hall of Fame regulations – refinements agreed to regulation 2.2, about the composition of the HoF committee

248 – Treasurer application - Gabrielle Higgins' appointment approved by 8 vote to nil.

Open topics

220 – Refereeing - USCA have asked we re-open topic154 (Handicap/ Refereeing/ Coaching Coordination) and some initial thoughts circulated.

Outlook for September

1. Stephen Mulliner taking over as S-G
2. Handover from Ian Burrige to Gabrielle Higgins as Treasurer
3. Progressing the outcomes of Council topics 19, 20 and 23
4. Progressing and publishing details for the 2014 AC WTC.

*Stephen Mulliner
Secretary-General*

And finally, I'd like to thank the Members, the contacts I've worked with, the members of the MC and the various sub-committees for an interesting and productive 34 months. We have achieved a great deal in that time: we have more Members and more of them have a vote; the Council consultation and voting process has been brought into the 21st Century; our Statutes and all of our Regulations have been reformed and updated – more aspects are now covered and yet we have removed 60+ pages from their length; we have a 10 Year Schedule of events giving a rolling future plan; our event formats have been refined and now regularly get good player feedback; we have raised our pace of Development and held a successful training Academy for coaches and referees; and perhaps most of all we have communicated better with our Members and the wider croquet world about what we do. The WCF has a good base to go forward from – my best wishes to all involved in its future.

*Martin French
departing Secretary-General*