

Minutes of a Special General Meeting held at the Club-House on Saturday January 16th 1954 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: 76 members.

The Captain (Mr J Harrop) opened the Meeting by explaining the Committee's regret at having to call such a Meeting due to the financial situation. As the members would hear the Club was being run at the present time at a deficit in spite of pruning expenditure wherever possible. It was essential that the Course should be properly maintained and any cuts in this direction might impair its (sic) efficiency in addition to which consideration should be had to Staff requirements due to Course alterations. He referred to the Honorary Treasurer's (Mr N L Wight) illness and that Mr Firth was to act as his substitute in giving the Financial Report prepared at short notice.

Mr Firth gave a comprehensive report of the income and expenditure including estimates for the remainder of the year ended March 24th 1954 which shewed a net deficit of approximately £300. He also explained how the reserved for deferred expenditure at March 1949 had been wholly absorbed and a further £287 used up to the present. He gave percentages of increases in expenditure now as compared with 1938.

The Captain concluded his address to the Meeting by further observations on the figures given by Mr Firth and then proceeded (sic) to put the notices of motion to the Meeting. This was seconded by Mr A Hobson as Acting Ex-Captain.

The Meeting was then throw open for discussion various members asked for details of membership, income, expenditure, Course wages, the reason for the varying of the subscription of younger members, and suggested inter alia: -

The Course Staff should be cut, consideration for older members living on a fixed income, the possibility of a reduced subscription for provisional members (no weekend or competition play). It was also considered that any notice calling a Meeting should permit alternatives schemes to be discussed and voted upon.

Mr R Wood said that the proposed increases would probably not be, in themselves, sufficient to meet the deficit and further cuts in expenditure would have to be considered. Many further relevant and irrelevant observations were also made and finally the Captain put the notices as circularised to the Meeting which resulted in thirty six votes for and forty against and the Captain declared the notices of motion defeated.

The Captain then asked for suggestions from the Meeting and these were: -

1. That any further notices of motion should not be in such cut and dried terms.
2. That detailed figures should be given to members so that they themselves can have a better opportunity of considering them.
3. That the retention of the Game-fee as a compulsory payment by all members should be considered.
4. That the subscription be increased to £8-8-0 and the Course Staff reduced by one man,
5. That if graduated fees be charged older members not interested in competitions or weekend play should be remembered.

Signed J Harrop 1/5/54.

Minutes of a Special General Meeting held at the Club-House on Saturday February 13th 1954 at 7.30 p.m.

Present 65 Members.

Captain, Mr J Harrop, presided.

The Secretary read the Notice convening the Meeting and also the Minutes of the Special General Meeting held January 16th last.

The Captain explained the purposed of the Present Meeting which was to consider modified resolutions planned to increase the Club income without undue hardship.

Notice of Motion "A" was then proposed by the Captain and seconded by Mr A Hobson Acting Ex-Captain. Following which the Meeting was throw open to general discussion. Numerous statements and questions were answered and eventually a vote on the Notice of Motion was lost by 33 votes against and 32 for.

Notice of Motion "B" was then proposed by the Captain and seconded by Mr A Hobson, this resulted in a tie of 32 votes for and 32 against. The Captain did not exercise a casting vote and declared the Notice of Motion lost.

The Meeting was then closed.

After the closure of the Special General Meeting the members were asked to indicate their views on increased subscriptions and the following were proposed.

1. Moved by Mr W C Woods seconded by Mr T Fish. That the subscriptions should be increased to £9-9-0 and £6-6-0 without game-fees.
2. Moved by Mr R Lees seconded by Mr W Walker. That the subscriptions should be increased to £8-8-0 and £5-5-0 without game-fees and that there should be a Provisional Membership for members not playing in competitions or at week-ends including Bank Holidays.
3. Moved by Mr J Whitworth seconded by Mr H Baguley. That the subscriptions should be increased to £7-0-0 and £4-14-0 with annual game-fees of 25/- and 20/- or single fees of 6d.

On a vote being taken, there was a considerable majority in favour of number 2 and it is to be considered by the Committee.

Signed J Harrop 1/5/54.

Minutes of a Special General Meeting held at the Club Saturday February 27th 1954 at 7.30 p.m.

Present 46 Members.

The Captain, Mr J Harrop, presided.

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The Captain opened the Meeting by asking the Secretary to read the Notice convening the Meeting after which he explained that it had again been necessary to call one following the failure of the two previous Special General Meetings to arrive at a satisfactory decision.

The Notice of motion circularised was then put by Mr R Lees and seconded by Mr W Walker. It was then proposed that having regard to the lengthy discussions which had already taken place at previous Meetings no further argument was necessary and a vote should be taken. This was seconded. There was an objection to this from a member who asked for clarification on certain matters such as what income the proposal would bring, entrance fee for Provisional Members, and their reversion to Full Membership at a later date. These were answered by the Captain. On a show of hands the Meeting then signified that it was in favour of taking the vote without further discussion and ballot papers were issued. They resulted in 42 votes for the Notice of Motion, 3 against and 1 spoiled paper. The Captain declared the Motion carried and the Meeting closed.

Signed J Harrop 1/5/54.