

Special General Meeting
Saturday Sep 17/49 8 30 p.m.

The Captain and 52 Members.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Captain said that the Meeting had been called consequent to a requisition for a Special General Meeting signed by 25 members which he read as follows:

We the undersigned beg to petition for a Special General Meeting to be held forthwith as per Rule 4 9b) to consider ballot procedure for the election of Officers and General Committee under Rule 3(b).

The Captain then reminded the meeting that the general question of the ballot procedure was referred to the Committee by the Annual General Meeting in May last and the matter had been given a full & careful consideration. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the General body of members in a notice dated August 1st 1949 posted in the Smoke Room as promised at the Annual General Meeting in the following terms:

“The Committee does not consider that any good reason has been shown for alteration of the present procedure which has served the interests of the Club and its members in a satisfactory manner since the Clubs formation.

The Captain explained that in the opinion of the Committee, the effective voting for members of the Committee should be exercisable by the members who were prepared and were interested enough to attend the Annual Meeting, and pointed out that there was ~~ample~~ accommodation in the Clubroom for 100 members which experience had shown would be ample. He then read Rules 3(b) and 4(b) and declared that it was now for the members who had submitted the requisition to make their case.

M^r J W Whitworth said it was unfortunate that M^r C I Baker, the mover of the original proposal at the May General Meeting was absent through illness and therefore unable to put forward his views. Personally he felt satisfied that the Committee had in fact considered the matter from every angle. He was of the opinion however that if there were, for example, four vacancies on the Committee to be balloted for, then each member voting should exercise the full number of votes allowed and that every ballot paper with less than the four should be declared invalid.

M^r W E Sowerbutts thought that every member should have an opportunity of voting, although prevented by business or other reasons from being present at the meeting.

M^r S H Battersby was of the opinion that as the Clubroom is not capable of accommodating all the Members, all Members present in the Club at the time of the election should have the opportunity of voting and be supplied with a ballot paper for that purpose.

The Captain enquired of anyone was prepared to move a resolution, but as none was forthcoming, he put it to the meeting “That the present ballot procedure be continued”. On a show of hands this was carried by a substantial majority 36-16.

It was then proposed and seconded “That in future any ballot paper in respect of which the full number of votes available was not exercised should be declared invalid. This proposition was carried

by a large majority.

The Meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Captain for presiding.

J H Firth
1.10.49