



November 2010 Newsletter

My intention is to send 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. Let me know what you what level of detail you'd like, issues you have or other comments and I will do my best to include them in future.

*Martin French
Secretary-General*

Handover

I took over from Chris Clarke as S-G two weeks ago. Chris has been very helpful and sent me many documents, a list of 83 tasks and answered endless questions, though the difficulties of a handover between opposite sides of the world are significant. If you feel you haven't had a response to any recent correspondence to the S-G, please re-send it to me (secretary@wcfcroquet.org).

Web site

I must apologise that some of the information on the web site is out of date. I received the software package needed to update it yesterday, but it is a substantial application and it's going to take me a few weeks to learn how to use it enough to begin updating the site. I realise how important this is and will devote significant time to this in the coming weeks. Partly to help fill the void until the web site is sorted out, I have started a blog I update at least once a week (<http://www.wcfcroquet.blogspot.com/>) to give an informal view of what's happening. The blog is also linked from the Management Committee page of the web site.

Contacts

Chris passed me a list of the formal email contacts for each Member. At last August's Council meeting, it was agreed that Members would provide any additional contacts they chose, so that communications to and from the WCF MC could flow more easily. I've had additional contacts from 3 Members so far – please send me any additional contacts you'd like added (the ones I've currently got are all in the address list for this newsletter).

What have we been doing in November?

I've been trying to get to grips with what's going on, what's a priority and how we're organised – the President and members of the MC have been very helpful in getting me up to speed.

We've decided to appoint an MC member as "WCF Lead" for each forthcoming WCF event. This is partly to spread the load and to ensure each event gets sufficient focus. For the 2011 events, Stephen Mulliner is taking this role for the World GC Championships in July in England and Gordon Smith for the Women's World GC Championships in November in New Zealand. A little further over the horizon, we've also asked Stephen Meatheringham to be WCF Lead for the World AC Championships in Adelaide in 2012. The role entails being the liaison with the host's organising body and ensuring the event goes ahead aligned with WCF Regulations.



There are also preparations under way for the U21 GC Championships and the European Team Championships. There are issues with both of these we are resolving urgently and as soon as we have a definite plan, we will publish the details.

We are forming some new groups from the MC to press forward on specific topics:

- Development Group (agreed at last August's meetings) which Stephen Mulliner will lead
- Tournament Development Group, led by Ian Burrridge
- Regulations Group, led by Keith Aiton.

We expect to also revisit the Statutes, but probably not until the New Year. We would welcome thoughts from Members about what changes to these they would like, and also be delighted if there were any volunteers from Full Members to join the group we'll form to work on these – I'll send out a call for input and volunteers when we're getting ready to start, but responses now are also welcome.

Topics

I'm not sure whether you will want this level of detail, but we've started a series of numbered topic threads for email discussions. Here's where we've got to in the last 2 weeks:

- 100 - Operation of MC: proposal largely agreed, out for final comments/ voting
- 101 - Topics, Tasks & Priorities list: started as Chris Clarke's handover task list and expanded into a general "To Do" list. Over 100 tasks. Will revise monthly, so closed as a "live issue"
- 102 - Financial Regulations proposal: mostly agreed but one difficult issue remains
- 103 - Pakistan: application for Observer Membership received in July and further correspondence since, application likely to come before Council in 2011. S-G replied after discussion in MC. Closed for now
- 104 - Privacy of MC discussions: revised proposal out for comment
- 105 - Public Image & Communications: consensus achieved on statement of intent
- 106 - Correspondence policy: revised proposal out for comment
- 107 - Web Site way forward - agreed and closed.
- 108 - U21 GC Championships: In progress.
- 109 - Norwegian Grant Application: In progress.
- 110 - Seeding Knock-Out stages: In progress.
- 111 - Same Country, Block and Family Separation. New topic.

Outlook for December

1. learning the software and getting to grips with the web site
2. sorting out the U21 GC Championships and European Team Championships, and progressing the other 2011 events.
3. get the new MC Groups (Development, Tournament Development and Regulations) up and running, with good involvement across the MC membership.

Finally, we're trying our first Skype conference (voice calling over the internet) on 1st December. We hope to hold regular short calls to supplement the main email dialogue of the MC, although the many timezones make this difficult.

Martin French
Secretary-General