

**2008 AGM – HRCHGS – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at 07.30pm**  
Horsham Rugby Club (Bill Grant Room)

**Present:** Derrick Belcher; Chris Wright; Paul Holmes; Peter Stokes; Barry Quantrill; Alan Fisher; Keith Russell; Graham Boswell; Phil Allen; Rob Newton; Maurice Jones; Rick Harman; Brian Stickley; Steve O'Carroll; Ian Howard; Graham Sinclair; Chris MacAuley; Phil Mobsby; Kevin O'Neill; Mark Sillett.

**Apologies:** John Guest; Tony West; Barry Johnson; Dave Ashby; Roger Pitts.

**Minutes**

1. Apologies for absence were read out.
2. Minutes of 2007 AGM were approved. Proposed by Alan Fisher and seconded by Graham Boswell and passed unanimously.
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
4. **Derrick Belcher gave his report from the Chair.** He confirmed the current membership as 29 and hoped we might see a few more younger members, particularly resulting from the strengthening of the links with the Rugby Club. During the season, 9 'merit table' matches plus the usual Christmas event and summer Ruserper event were played. 26 members played at least 2 matches and 19 played 5 or more. An average of 15 members played in these events, supplemented by guests. This is slightly down on the previous year. Sweetwoods was played for the first time and also became the venue for Captains Day. The French Tour meant we played on some new courses with the average scores on these courses being the lowest of the 9 matches played during the year. Omaha Beach was the worst of these with the highest lost ball count. We are keen for Geoff's Pot to continue and the Committee is looking at different formats and opposition. On the social side, the annual dinner was successfully organised by BQ and Sarah and Gill Wright was thanked for organising the Christmas event. The London to Brighton bike ride was again a success and thanks were due to all those involved. The Strollers also had another successful year with their monthly walks. Innovations within the Society have included the development of our website, thanks to Graham Sinclair's input; the introduction of internet banking to improve the efficiency of money gathering for events; and of course, Maurice Jones' connection to the internet. Finally, thanks were due to the retiring Captain, Brian Quantrill; Moira Merry for all her hard work with the Newsletter and Keith Russell for his contribution as Treasurer.
5. **Peter Stokes gave his report as Secretary.** The meeting was reminded of the insurance scheme taken out to protect ourselves, and more importantly, those around us. A donation of rugby balls was made to the rugby club last season and the Society needed to consider how else to support them in future seasons. The Strollers started on 12 occasions during the year (only finishing 11 of them because of the weather). Everyone is welcome to participate. Finally, thanks were due to all those who contributed to the Newsletter during the year; Derrick Belcher and

Roger Pitts for organising a successful French Tour and for other members of the Committee for their tireless efforts.

6. **Chris Wright gave his Treasurer's report.** The Society remains in a comfortable financial position and continues to maintain an operating balance whilst always seeking ways of providing extra support to key events. Alan Lord, the Society's auditor, has audited and signed off the year end accounts and has also agreed to continue this role for the forthcoming year. Following discussion and clarification on aspects of the accounts the proposal was to continue support for the HRUFC, similar to the previous year; maintain the Society subscription at £40; and to adopt the accounts as presented. Proposer: Rick Harman, Seconded by Maurice Jones and unanimously passed.
7. **Election of Officers.** The existing Chair (Derrick Belcher); Secretary (Peter Stokes); Treasurer (Chris Wright); Fixtures Secretary (Paul Holmes) all agreed to stand again and were voted in unopposed. Brian Stickley was elected Captain by a show of hands. A Tour Committee was not elected but after discussion about various potential venues, Chris MacAuley agreed to obtain information on Norfolk and liaise with Peter Stokes.
8. **Calendar of Events.** Plans for the forthcoming season were discussed.
9. **Competitions.** Rick Harman agreed to make an initial contact with the Sussex Referees Golf Society to enquire if they would be interested in contesting Geoff's Pot during 2009.
10. **Any Other Business.**
  - A new organiser was needed for the London to Brighton Bike ride. Steve O'Carroll was nominated to obtain details of the 2009 event
  - From October it was announced that volunteers would be sought to be Match Managers for the Society's outings in order to spread the load
  - Following discussion with the rugby coaches it was Proposed by Derrick Belcher and Seconded by Phil Allen that a fund should be created to cover the cost of donations to the Club and that this money should be held in premium bonds. Agreed unanimously.
  - It was agreed Mr Woody should become active again and be awarded by the Match Manager to the 'Plonker of the Day' who had experienced a senior moment
  - It was agreed the Christmas Dinner should continue but preferably not held at Christmas. A volunteer was needed to organise it.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 08.30pm to allow everyone to enjoy a fish supper.