

MINUTE OF MEETING of the ENTERTAINMENTS
COMMITTEE of the SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE
ASSOCIATION held at 8, Kinnoull Street,
PERTH at 12 noon on Friday, 9th FEBRUARY,
1979.

PRESENT:

Messrs. D. H. Lindsay, J. R. McArthur and P. Miller, with R. David Hunter (Secretary) and D. Blackmore (Assistant) in attendance.

APOLOGIES:

The Secretary intimated apologies on behalf of Messrs. J. H. Barr and A. K. Powrie.

GOLF
OUTING:

Mr. Blackmore tabled copies of the draft Account of the 1978 Outing. He explained the Account required to be updated to include further Bank Interest received since the draft was prepared. Nevertheless, (although a modest subsidy had been instructed to keep ticket costs down and to reduce the cash balance in hand), this had increased already by nearly £8. The Committee agreed this to be a satisfactory out-turn.

Mr. Hunter next tabled costs quotations for 1979 now to hand. These showed increased over 1978 of 3p. for morning coffee (to 45p ea), 45p. for lunch (to £3.95ea.) 40p. for high tea (to £3.40 ea.) and £1 for green fees (to £8.50ea.). Together with prizes, printing and administration costs these indicated 1979 tickets to cost £16.80 for golfers and £8.30 for non-golfers, compared with £14.50 and £7.50 respectively charged in 1978.

During discussions regarding the high-tea menu, it was felt the Secretariat should pursue the possibility of reducing the cost, or increasing the portions, (inclusion of a mixed grill being decided against) to provide a more favourable comparison with the very acceptable lunch arrangements and costs.

Reverting to costings, the Committee agreed the tickets for 1979 be priced at £16.50 each for golfers and £8.00 each for non-golfers (including V.A.T.), all Association members being advised in due course of the subsidisation involved and adopting appropriate invoicing procedures to enable them to recover the V.A.T. element, if eligible.

CURLING:

Mr. Blackmore next tabled copies of the details he had obtained of the ten Rinks to participate in the Second Leg of the annual Northv. South Curling Match, to be played for the Willie Paul Trophy at Perth Ice Rink on Friday next, 16th February, 1979. Subject to instructing him to confirm that Mr. Ian McKenzie would agree to provide a Rink for the North again (as in the first leg) and obtaining Mr. Tom McClung's assurance that Mr. D. Henderson of Airdrie would provide a full Rink for the South, the Committee approved the tabulated details.

A short discussion of prizes arrangements recorded that these would be self-financing, as usual. Mr. McArthur undertook responsibility for this aspect. It was explained that the ice charge being £1.50 per head, a price of £2.00 for each of the participants would provide a total sum of £20 for prizes, a price of £2.25 each providing £30. For eight prizes (4 for the winning Rink from each of the North and South sides), this would allow for individual prizes to the value of £2.50 each or £3.75 each respectively.

DINNER/DANCE
1979:

Turning to discussion of the proposed arrangements, Mr. Hunter reported that provisional bookings had been made with the Station Hotel, Perth for both Friday, 14th and Friday 21st December, 1979. The Committee agreed to retain the provisional booking for Friday, 14th December, 1979 and instructed the Secretariat to cancel the alternative provisional booking.

Detailed discussions resulted in unanimous agreement to proceed with a buffet-style dinner. Details could be finalised later, but emphasis should be directed towards/

towards securing a top-quality consommé. It was also confirmed that the (former) Whist and "Sandwiches at midnight" arrangements would be discontinued but that "hot soup on departure" arrangements would be retained, the Secretariat also to enquire as to the most favourable overnight hotel rate that could be negotiated.

In further discussion it was felt that, since "buffet-style" ought to prove less expensive than a served hot meal, it should be possible to aim at a meal cost of £5.50 to £6.50 per head. This being so it should still be possible to meet for the increased costs (of a cabaret) without increasing the ticket charge beyond the 1977 level of £8.00 each.

It was also agreed that, in pursuit of a complete change of format, Mr. Willie Simpson's Band should not be engaged but that, despite obviously higher charges, Jim Blue's and Ian McLeod's Bands would be asked to provide quotations, to include "Cabaret" facilities, at about the £100 level.

Consideration of the "cabaret" aspect included Fiona Kennedy (as female) and Alistair Gillies (as male) among various possibilities. It was eventually decided that, through his contacts with the hotel industry, the Secretary would approach the appropriate theatrical agencies primarily to secure the services of Jim McLeod's Band but with "advice only" on additional cabaret "back-up" capability.

In further discussion of re-designing of invitations/tickets (to include menu and programme details), the Committee accepted Mr. Lindsay's offer to prepare a draft format for submission to the next Meeting of the Entertainments Committee. It was then agreed that the next meeting will take place at 8, Kinnoull Street, Perth at 12 noon on Friday, 30th March, 1979 and that Committee Members will meantime give thought to devising a new "title" for the Association's Annual Dinner/Dance function.

Finally it was agreed that, to provide additional time for lobbying activities, an informative announcement to the whole Association Membership would not be made until the next meeting of the Entertainments Committee had taken place.

Thereupon the Meeting was formally concluded.