

MINUTE of MEETING of the ENTERTAINMENTS  
COMMITTEE of the SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE  
ASSOCIATION held at 8, Kinnoull Street,  
PERTH at 10.30a.m. on Friday, 11th May,  
1979

- PRESENT: Messrs. D. H. Lindsay, K.A. McKenzie, P. Miller and A.K. Powrie with D. Blackmore (Assistant Secretary) in attendance.
- APOLOGIES: Mr. Blackmore intimated apologies for absence on behalf of Messrs. J.H. Barr, J.R. McArthur and R. David Hunter (Secretary).
- MINUTES: The Minute of Meeting held on 19th April, 1979 (copies of which had been pre-circulated to each Committee Member) was formally approved.
- GOLF OUTING: Mr. Blackmore reported bookings received and notified for 79 Golfers and 10 non-golfers (compared with 66 and 13 respectively in 1978) and tabled lists of participants. The Committee agreed this to be a very satisfactory response indeed and immediately proceeded to the task of handicapping the golfers and arranging the various matches. Mr. Blackmore undertook to send a copy of the Draw for each player later today.
- In reply the Committee instructed that Prizes be awarded on the same basis as last year.
- DINNER/DANCE: Mr. Blackmore explained he had still to ascertain from Mr. Blues when and where his next booking with Mr. Ron Dale is to occur. Similarly he had still to obtain further information regarding Mr. Robbie. Mr. Lindsay explained he had now learned that Mr. Robbie's Band is long-term-contracted to the Green Hotel, Kinross and must therefore be excluded from further consideration. As an alternative he had recent favourable experience of a local 4-piece plus pianist group which he understood usually played for the Lovat Hotel, Perth. They appeared very versatile and he believed they could be engaged for a fee not exceeding £75. It was agreed this be enquired into.
- Mr. Powrie confirmed his concern over escalated, non-sustainable costs. He felt that arrangements should be chased on and progress be defined, to lead on to firm bookings being made. Discussion turned to the possibility of a small disco group downstairs for the benefit of the younger company but this was felt to be potentially divisive. In supporting this view Mr. McKenzie felt it was all-important to establish unity within the company. Although his personal experience of Association dances was limited it had been clear to him that individually named tables encouraged cliques to be maintained. Regarding this as a counter-unifying factor he suggested that named tables be discontinued that all tables be for six to ten people each and that the new format of the forthcoming function provided an excellent opportunity to discontinue former practices once and for all. Discussion of this suggestion did not provide a firm decision.
- Mr. Blackmore next reported that, having enquired at the five travel agents in Perth, Thomson Holidays were accepted to be market leaders and the most competitively priced in the "Majorcan week-end" sector. In the cheapest period (7th Feb. to 5th March) per person, full-board, inclusive prices ranged from £82 to £171 each, compared with the previous Turnberry Hotel quotation of £38 to £44 per person. The Committee agreed this indicated that the Majorcan suggestion was over-ambitious and decided against seeking a quotation from Stita Tours.
- To further consideration of Mr. Lindsay's proposed draft format for invitations, Mr. Blackmore tabled copies of tariffs obtained from the Station Hotel, Perth. The Carved Buffet price of £6.50 per person, including service charge and V.A.T. (Finger or Fork Buffets being agreed to be inappropriate) had been used in his original cost Estimates. It did not include prawn cocktail, paté or fruit juice in the Starters. Enquiries had determined that inclusion of prawn cocktail (priced at £2.20 each) would add £1.50 to the total cost.
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In view of the many varieties of paté available it was not viable for inclusion. Fruit juices were included automatically.

The Committee agreed the offered Menu would be negotiable and accepted the indications that the hotel was determined to apply maximum effort to ensure the function's success.

CURLING:

Mr. Blackmore tabled a booking request form received from Perth Ice Rink Ltd. and explained he had telephoned Mr. McClung in this same connection to learn that an Edinburgh or Glasgow booking for the first leg of the annual Match would not be available. After a short discussion of possibly suitable dates it was agreed to apply for 5 Rinks from 3p.m. on Friday, 23rd November, 1979 and again on Friday, 7th March, 1980 requesting prior consultation should alternative dates be necessary.

Thereupon the meeting was concluded.