

Apologies.

A notice was published in our last issue concerning the British Olympic Association's Dinner, but the main item, i.e., the date, was omitted. This should be November 10, 1937.

Subscription to "Lacrosse."

Club Secretaries are once again reminded that their lists of subscribers should be sent to Mr. F. T. C. Honnor *as soon as possible*.

It is heard often that readers are not securing their copies satisfactorily, and it is usually due to the fact that notification of change of address has not been made. Readers who are thus situated will help the Business Manager greatly if they look after this.

Contributions.

Articles for inclusion in our columns are always solicited, whether serious or humorous, critical or helpful, and should be sent to the Hon. Editor, 114 Boundary Road, Carshalton, Surrey.

Willoughby.

We are glad to learn that this old club is again in a position to turn out two teams, and we are asked by their Secretary to point out that other clubs with any dates vacant for second team fixtures should get into touch with him at 23 Glebe Gardens, New Malden, Surrey.

CORRESPONDENCE.**A PROTEST.**

Sir,

May I be allowed to express my entire disapproval of the proposed amendments in the laws of Lacrosse? Some of them appear to me to be completely against the best interests of the game, while the remainder seem quite unnecessary.

I am not so much concerned with the suggestions to alter (a) the length of the pitch (b) the centre rule or (c) the playing time, as these, apart from being pointless will not materially affect the game.

I must, however, protest strongly against any move to reduce the number of the playing side, and any law-embryo which will provide for the substitution of players. I am led to understand that every effort is being made to prevent the decline of Lacrosse in the South of England. To make it a ten-a-side game at the moment, is in my opinion, one of the surest ways of killing the interest which does exist. Assuming that there are twelve matches arranged each Saturday; under the new proposals, forty-eight players will have to stand down every week.

By way of illustration I should like to show how my own club would be affected by the proposed new rule. (This is perhaps a selfish point of view; but when the position is studied carefully other clubs will no doubt find that they are faced with the same problem.) We have a regular playing membership of twenty-six with six "possibles" to call upon in an emergency. There have been five recruits from School this year and if their services are to be retained, games must be found

for them. The adoption of the proposed new rule would add to what has already been a difficult task, i.e. finding games for these youngsters, all of whom are keen. In addition one very certain result would be a falling off in membership, and the present healthy state of the club would not last long.

I don't propose to dwell upon the effect of "ten-a-side" upon the game itself. All those who saw the recent International at the White City, knows how disappointing that was.

The substitution of players seems to me to be eminently undesirable. Apart from its savouring of Americanism and the worst features of ice-hockey, I am convinced that it is quite impracticable, for the following reasons:

(1) The game is played in winter in weather that is wet and/or cold.

(2) On alternate Saturdays teams have to travel several miles.

(3) Dressing rooms are often quite a distance from the pitch and substitutes would have to stand shivering for perhaps 45 minutes.

(4) To expect a man to turn up to a game on the chance that he **might** be required in the last twenty minutes is, I suggest absurd. No one could be accused of bad sportsmanship if he refused to play under these conditions.

I hope that these few points (and there are plenty more) have occurred to other members of the Lacrosse World and that by the time the next edition of Lacrosse is published, wiser counsel has prevailed to squash the revolutionary proposals which have called for so lengthy a protest.

Yours faithfully,
Old Thorntonian.

Match played 16th October, 1937.**Purley 6 v. Hampstead 4.**

Owing to one of their players being misdirected on a cross country journey to Addiscombe, and consequently arriving 10 minutes from the end of the match, Hampstead were one short on attack almost throughout.

The scoring was opened by a lucky goal for Purley, a pass being deflected off the stick and body respectively of two Hampstead defence men. Apart from this each side scored one goal before half-time, though Purley had done most of the attacking.

In the second half Hodgson's tactics of coming up of an extra man on attack permanently caused one of Hampstead's attack to fall back with him, thus leaving Hampstead's three attack men to face four defences, and Ewen, who played exceedingly well in goal. His anticipation and interception was brilliant but against a full attack would have been very risky. Hampstead drew level at two all but Purley took the lead again and with good shots by Walker finally won by 6-4.

The game was fast with the ground in good condition the handicap of the free man proving the decisive factor in a clean game. Mollett's whistle thus being seldom in use.