

BHSP-1974

NOTES ON CRICKET IN LISBON 100 YEARS AGO

Mr. Douglas Rawes has presented the Society with a copy of the Lisbon Cricket Club's Annual Report for 1873/74 and with some Club records of the same period.

The Report was printed at the «Anglo-Portuguese Printing Office, 28, Rua direita das Janellas Verdes». The Officers for 1874/75 are listed as:—

CAPTAIN; Mr. W. F. Hickie
VICE-CAPTAIN; Mr. D. Barley
HON. SEC. AND TREAS; Mr. J. W. Chaster
COMMITTEE MAN; Mr. F. Creswell

The list of members for 1873/74 is given as follows:—

Rev. T. G. P. Pope	Mr. T. Appleton
Mr. J. Garland	Mr. C. Appleton
Mr. W. J. Garland	Mr. H. W. Roberts
Mr. T. Creswell	Mr. W. Lambert
Mr. J. Ellerton	Mr. W. J. Garland Junior
Mr. W. F. Hickie	Mr. J. Jauncey
Mr. W. R. Ellicot	Mr. G. Shaw
Mr. J. Sasseti	Mr. R. F. Pinto Basto
Mr. J. J. Ellerton	Mr. A. Sleigh
Mr. D. Barley	Mr. J. Chassereau
Mr. T. Creswell Junior	Mr. C. Munro Junior

Mr. F. Creswell	Mr. J. E. Tugman
Mr. J. W. Chaster	Mr. F. Tugman
Mr. W. Medlicott	Mr. C. Tugman
Mr. A. Galveias	Mr. W. Martin
Mr. D. C. Shore	Mr. O. B. Ivens
Mr. H. J. Hickie	Mr. J. S. Howorth
Mr. E. A. Hickie	Mr. F. Fenn
Mr. T. F. Pinto Basto Junior	Mr. W. Wells
Mr. A. F. Pinto Basto	Mr. D. Appleton

The annual subscription was 3,000 Reis, and it was laid down that 'any member failing to pay within one month of a receipt of notification from the Secretary, be considered as having ceased to belong to the Club; but that in the case of young members, the Committee be empowered to depart from the strict observance of this rule'.

Clause 7 of the Bye-Laws stipulates, 'That the Club be guided by the rules of the game (actually in force) as printed by the Mary-le-bone Club'.

It is believed that at this time cricket in Lisbon was still played at the Campo Grande, and it is clear that no pavilion then existed, since another Bye-Law reads 'It is expected that every member will lend his assistance in pitching and striking the tent'.

It was also ruled that the Club funds 'be expended solely in the purchase of cricketing materials'. And the accounts show that in May 1874 the Club spent 68,085 Reis on the purchase of '4 bats, 2 pr. W. K. Gloves, 24 balls, 6 stumps, 1 score book and 4 pr. leg-guards'.

The balance-sheet shows that 6 matches were played in 1873 at a cost to the Club of 30,240 Reis. In 1874 there were only 5 games, and the outlay on these fell to 8,250 Reis.

Evidently there was some fear of lack of enthusiasm on the part of members, for the Bye-Laws ruled that 'any member having promised to play in a match, and failing therein, be fined

500 Reis — excepting only in the case of illness', and again that 'any player on a match day, appearing after the Umpire has called play, be fined 200 Reis; but if he do not appear within an hour of the commencement of the game, he be considered as absent, and fined 500 Reis'. Two of the letters are in connection with this ruling. One of them may be quoted here: —

Rua do Crucifixo 7
Lisbon 26th May /75

My dear Jim

I feel too seedy to play tomorrow for I have the shakes. & I *calculate* the sun would do me harm so please strike my name off the list

Dear Jim
Yours very truly
J. J. Ellerton

In 1874 the Club was challenged by the Oporto Cricket Club which had been in existence since 1855. From the following letter, however, the challengers do not seem to have had much confidence in their own abilities.

Oporto 22 May 1874

H. J. Hickie Esqre
Hon Sec Lisbon C.C.

Dear Sir

We are in receipt of your letter of 18th inst, & are much pleased to hear that the Lisbon C. C. accept our challenge. The day named by you Saturday 13 June, will suit us very

well indeed, but we fear we cannot make it a two days match as you suggest, principally because we are convinced that *our* innings will be short ones & unless *yours* are very long, it would be impossible to spin out the match so long. We would therefore suggest that the play begins at 10,30 punctually on Saturday & we have no doubt we shall be able to decide the match on that day.

Believe me
Yrs very truly
Wm Roughton Hon. Sec. O.C.C.

An analysis of Bowling and Batting Averages for 1877/78 show W. F. Hickie and D. Bruce as the leading bowlers, and C. Richards as the most successful batsman, with an average of 38,33 runs over 3 innings. As a bowler, Richards appears to have been more erratic. He is credited with 9 wides in 19 overs. The Rev. Pope's highest score was 12 runs. He also bowled 21 balls, or 3,4 overs, but took no wickets.

It is interesting to note that the Eastern Telegraph Company had already formed the Carcavelos Cricket Club. Two of its members Messrs. Moore and Taylor, are recorded as having played one match for the L.C.C., in which Moore made 85 runs, the highest score recorded.

W. J. C.