

## "Belgian History 2023"

During the month of November 2022, we learned that a Belgian group of bowlers "La Petanque des gens Heureaux" started using the courses in Mil Palmeras. They play on days our club does not normally play, i.e. Tuesdays and Thursdays. We contacted the municipality to check if they have the right to be there because they do not live in the municipality. The answer was that they have the right to play boules in the park owned by the municipality. We then decided to contact the "Belgians" to reach an agreement on cost sharing. At the end of 2022, this had not yet been arranged.

On January 22, Annika and I were at the municipality and met Jose Antonio, Sport Councilor and Pedro Quesada Ferrer, responsible for sports facilities in the municipality. We showed our costs for maintaining the municipality's land and our facilities, which was accepted. They said that if the municipality were to do the same maintenance as us, this could only happen once every six months. They could consider contributing to the costs of paint for repainting.

They pointed out that EVERYONE has the right to stay in their park and play boules as much as they want but said that it would be good to have meetings to schedule the game so that our associations do not clash in time. They also considered that a club as big as the Belgian one and with as frequent games should reasonably contribute to the maintenance costs. They discussed in terms like €20/year/member. We argued that it would be better for us with a fixed sum. Then we don't have to count the number of members.

We decided to meet at the Boule track on March 2 together with the Belgians. On this day, one of the municipality's "old men" became ill and could not come. But we had a fruitful meeting with the Belgian group who were then more friendly to the idea of compensation. The Belgians said they were set at a level of €400 per year. Another meeting a week later with a good agreement on how to proceed. The municipality's representatives were completely on our side.

We parted and met a week later bringing with us a €400 contract for 2023 and an agreement to meet again in a year to evaluate the past year. It was decided that the money would be paid out as "cash" on the Tuesday before the annual meeting.

On Tuesday the 21st we received €400 in cash from La Petanque des gens Heureaux and agreed to continue working in a collaborative group. Ulf Johansson and Lennart Måssebäck are part of this group from our club

Mil Palmeras 2023-03-22

Lennart Måssebäck