

# WARKWORTH GOLF

## CLUB COMMITTEE MINUTES 11<sup>th</sup>

### FEBRUARY 2020

**Present:** ML (Chair), KB (Captain), GD (Treasurer), DM, KD, PL, PJ (Match Secretary), MM,

**Apologies:** TC (Secretary), DB (Lady Captain), JG

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January were approved as a true record.

#### **Matters Arising not Covered**

**Elsewhere:** None

**Correspondence:** There were two emails received from members and the contents of the emails are noted in the Greens section of these minutes.

Garesfield have suggested a reciprocal 50% reduction in Green Fees for members, there fees are similar to ours. It was not agreed at this time whether we should accept this and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Membership and Finance:** The Treasurer tabled the December income figures (previous year in brackets) Green fees £3085 (1106) Membership £26950 (27249) Bank balance £49970 (53000)

No significant matters concerning outgoings.

2020 subscriptions are coming in and the second 'chase-up' will be sent when the secretary returns from holiday.

**Greens Matters:** Correspondence from RY had raised concern on the bunker lined with timber on the third, work has been complete and we will trial its use and ask for feedback from members to see if any changes are required, the trial will start from when it is put into play for two months.

Correspondence from NH on pick and drop and signs on the fairways. It was agreed to change tee up or pick and place in rough to only pick and place in rough. Signs will be printed and

laminated and placed on each tee by the Greenkeepers, they will have spare copies to replace any that are damaged/blow away. Pick and place in the rough will continue until further notice. The website, Tee Times etc will need to be updated with this information as well. As teeing up was removed and preferred lies accepted as acceptable for general play at a previous AGM any alternative protection should be agreed at the next AGM, to be included as an AGM item.

The Green Keeper has not been available for work with an injured back, the assistant Green Keeper has been maintaining the course in his absence.

**Handicaps/Competitions:** Paul asked that for the summer competitions that we publish details for the following:

Order of merit, it was agreed a £10 entry for the order of merit will be charged this year to increase the pot available to the most consistent players over the Summer competitions Ann Bell Captains Grand Prix

A discussion was held on when competitions should be suspended/cancelled and who had responsibility for suspending/cancelling them. On competitions days the initial decision on whether play should be suspended/cancelled will be made by the Green Keeper or Assistant Greenkeeper.

Below is section 6E from the R&A Committee Procedures on Suspension and Resumptions.

In the absence of the secretary a second/third committee member should be able to update all web pages, BRS etc, passwords and tuition on this should be undertaken by TC.

## **Suspensions and Resumptions**

**Immediate and Normal Suspensions of Play** There are two types of suspensions of play that a Committee can order, each with different requirements for when players must stop play (see Rule 5.7b).

- Immediate suspension (such as when there is imminent danger). If the Committee declares an immediate suspension of play, all players must stop play at once and must not make another stroke until the Committee resumes play.
- Normal suspension (such as for darkness or unplayable course). If the Committee suspends play for normal reasons, what happens next depends on whether a group is between two holes or playing a hole. The Committee should use a way of signalling an immediate suspension that is different than that used for a normal suspension. The signals to be used should be communicated to the players in the Local Rules. See Model Local Rule J-1 - Methods for Suspending and Resuming Play When play is suspended, the Committee will need to evaluate if the players should be left in position on the course or brought in to the clubhouse. Whether a

suspension is immediate or normal, the Committee should resume play when it is possible to do so. Players will resume play from where they stopped (see Rule 5.7c).

**(2) Deciding When to Suspend and Resume Play** Deciding when play should be suspended and then resumed can be difficult decisions for a Committee. A Committee should take the following guidelines into consideration:

**Lightning** The Committee should use whatever means it has available to determine if there is a danger from lightning and take what actions it believes are appropriate. Players may also stop play on their own when they believe there is a danger from lightning (see Rule 5.7a). When the Committee concludes there is no further danger from lightning and orders play to be resumed, players must resume play. See Interpretation 5.7c/1 for what to do if a player refuses to start because he or she feels there is still a danger from lightning.

**Visibility** It is recommended that, if landing areas are no longer visible to players (for example, due to fog or darkness), play should be suspended. Similarly, if players are unable to read the line of play on a putting green due to a lack of visibility, play should be suspended.

**Water** If all the area around a hole is covered in temporary water and it cannot be removed, in stroke play the course should be considered unplayable and the Committee should suspend play under Rule 5.7. In match play, if the water cannot be removed, the Committee may suspend play or relocate the hole.

**Wind** Several balls being moved by the wind may be a reason to suspend play, but only one or two balls moving due to the wind on one green would not usually merit the Committee suspending play. On the putting green there are Rules in place to help players avoid getting penalties or for being advantaged if the ball is blown closer to the hole or disadvantaged if the ball is blown farther from the hole (see Rules 9.3 and 13.1). The Committee should consider suspending play due to wind only if there are several instances of balls moving and players are having problems with replacing the ball on the spot from which it was blown, or at least reasonably close to that spot if the ball will not remain at rest on the original spot.

**(3) Resumption of Play** When play is to be resumed following a suspension, players will resume play from where they stopped (see Rule 5.7d). The Committee should be prepared to consider the following:

- If players were evacuated from the course, whether players should be given time to warm up before resuming play.
- If the practice areas were closed during the suspension, when they should be reopened to give players sufficient time to get ready to play.
- How to get players back to their positions on the course.
- How to ensure that all players are back in position before resuming play. This might

include having members of the Committee in position to observe and report when all players have returned.

- **(4)** Whether to

Cancel Round

**Match Play** A match should not be cancelled once play has begun as both players in a match are playing in the same conditions, without one having an advantage over the other. If the players stop play by agreement as allowed in Rule 5.7a or the Committee feels that conditions are such that play should be suspended, the match should resume from where it was suspended. In a team competition, if some matches are completed while others cannot be completed on the arranged day due to poor light or weather, the Terms of the Competition should clarify how the complete and incomplete matches will be treated (see Section 5A(4)). For example:

- The result of completed matches stand as played and incomplete matches are to be continued or replayed on a later date,
  - All matches are to be replayed, and each team is free to alter its original team,
- or
- Any matches that cannot be completed as scheduled are considered to be tied.

- **Stroke Play** In stroke play there is no set guidance for when a Committee should cancel a round. The proper action depends on the circumstances in each case and is left to the judgment of the Committee.

A round should be cancelled only in a case where it would be very unfair not to cancel it. For example, a small number of players begin a round under extremely bad weather conditions, conditions subsequently worsen and further play that day is impossible, but when play will resume the next day the weather is ideal. When a round is cancelled, all scores and penalties during that round are cancelled. That would normally include any disqualification penalty, but, if a player is disqualified for a serious misconduct (see Rule 1.2) or for a breach of the Code of Conduct, that disqualification should not be cancelled.

**(5) Player Refuses to Start or Picks Up Due to Weather Conditions** If, because of bad weather, a player refuses to start at the time arranged by the Committee or picks up during the round and the Committee later cancels that round, the player gets no penalty as all penalties in a cancelled round are cancelled.

**(6) Removal of Temporary Water or Loose Impediments from Putting Green** If temporary water, sand, leaves or other loose impediments accumulate on a putting green during a round, the Committee may do what is necessary to remove the condition, for example by using a squeegee, or by brushing or blowing the putting green. It is not necessary for the Committee to suspend play to take these actions. In such cases, the Committee may, when necessary, get

the help of players to remove the loose impediments or sand. However, a player is in breach of Rule 8.1 if he or she removes temporary water on the line of play without the Committee's permission. A Committee may adopt a policy that clarifies what actions are considered appropriate for a Committee member, someone designated by the Committee (for example, a member of the maintenance staff), or players, to remove temporary water on the putting green. See Model Local Rule J-2: Model Local Rule for Allowing Temporary Water on Putting Green to be Removed by a Squeegee.

**(7) Match Begun in Ignorance Course Closed** If players begin a match when the course is closed and the Committee then learns of their action, the match should be replayed in its entirety as play on the closed course is considered null and void.

Paul requested that the Gents Winter League winner have a Trophy, at present simply the weekly winners have sweep money paid out. ML believed he may be able to obtain a Trophy and will confirm at the next meeting, if not a Trophy may be purchased from the entry fees.

Entry for the Thompson Bathgate Trophy will be by an Entry/Draw system, Paul will put up a sheet on the Gents notice board at the appropriate time.

With the introduction of the WHS Paul suggested that the Turkey Trots played off the summer tees should be qualifying rounds, this would allow more players to have a 20 round average. This will not be played in 2020 and will be included in the 2020 AGM as a discussion item.

**Captain's Matters:** The Captain informed the committee that the Valentines event would start at 7.00 on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. Kathleen confirmed that draft beers would be available for the evening. Ken noted that a full bar would need to be stocked for the event as he felt any shortfall in service would prejudice any future events.

Ken confirmed that 60 places had been booked for the club trip to Hexham.

**Ladies' matters:**

No matters

**Juniors' Matters:** It was noted that the Club should ideally appoint a Child Protection Officer. The Chair will approach a member who it is thought might be prepared to take on this role.

**Seniors' Matters:**

No matters

**Personnel:** It was agreed to include the need for a Child Protection Officer on one of our email notices.

**House/Social Matters:** The house committee minutes were discussed and the following agreed by the committee:

The work to repair the damage in the dining room should be arranged by GD as soon as possible, the claim details have been agreed in principle and we can reclaim any expenditure after the work is complete.

The kitchen equipment has been replaced; the range should be removed from site CH believes she can arrange storage as a back-up in case it needs to be reinstated.

The asbestos survey has been undertaken and the surveyor confirmed there is some minor asbestos items located in the property, but these are in good condition and not an issue to undertaking any work. ML will chase issue of the full report.

An analysis of who is using the course and when will be undertaken by GD/TC, this will be from Green Fees/Tee Off Times. This will help CH understand when the club is potentially busy and know when to have the bar/catering open. Access to information for days when groups have used online booking systems is required by CH to plan when to be open, TC to confirm whether this is available or can be made available.

CH had detailed she did not want to take out a lease on a new coffee machine but would prefer the club ran this. The committee agreed that CH would need to supply coffee/tea facilities when the bar/catering was not open and she should detail her proposals to supply these services.

**Health and Safety:** The Chair has completed a review of the Clubhouse risk assessment register and sent out documents for checking by the committee

**Marketing:**

None.

**AoB:**

None

**Date of Next Meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> March**