

WARKWORTH GOLF CLUB

COMMITTEE MINUTES 11 MARCH 2020

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

Apologies:

DC. DB (lady Captain)

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th February were approved as a true record after amendment to record DC as being present.

Matters Arising not Covered Elsewhere:

1. It was agreed to offer Garesfield the same reciprocal arrangement as we currently have with Tynemouth GC.
2. Noted that the Club already has a Winter League trophy.
3. Noted that we have previously carried a course usage survey to ascertain 'busy' periods but the results had been inconclusive. Also CH already has read/write access to the BRS booking sheet for details of visiting parties.

Correspondence:

None

Membership and Finance:

The Treasurer tabled the February income figures
item withheld

No significant matters concerning outgoings.

The Secretary updated on membership
full male 172 (a drop of 29 on the 2019 final membership)
full female 27 (NC)
Junior male 20 (-15)
Junior female 2 (-2)

It was noted that non-renewal rate for full members of 14% is broadly in line with previous years. Assuming all those paying by installments continue to the year-end the projected income will deliver the annual budget and any joining later in the year are a bonus'.

The junior membership is a little misleading because some are 'caravanners' and tend to renew when they return in the summer. However, in line with England Golf directions all who have not paid have been removed from the club membership record, regardless of the likelihood of them returning later in the year.

The Treasurer and Secretary will meet before the next committee meeting to carry out the mid-year financial review.

It was noted that the recent Open had generated a surplus of £360.

Greens Matters:

The March greens report had been circulated previously.

After discussion it was agreed the re-modelled bunker on the third represented a potential hazard and so would not be brought into play. When time allows it will be re-modelled to a safe design.

Conditions of play:

- noted that the County have given permission for clubs to extend 'preferred lies' until 31 May (rather than the usual 30 April). Agreed that we will continue with preferred lies in competitions until the greenkeeper advises otherwise.
- noted that considerable work has gone into divot filling to improve fairways but time is needed for the seed to germinate. Consequently the current practice of placing to the side will remain in force for the time being.

Handicaps/Competitions:

1. It was agreed to leave the format of the Turkey Trots as now and not to take any proposed changes to the next AGM.
2. Competition timings will revert to two slots up to the date the clocks change.
3. The Secretary will let PJ have the competition list for the Anne Bell Trophy and the Captain's Grand Prix.
4. Confirmed that the best gross scorer in competitions (stroke play only) receives a sleeve of balls
5. Arrangements for the Inter-County foursomes.
 - a. Saturday 28th March - there is one match in the preliminary round, City of Newcastle v Magdalene Fields. This will tee-off at 09.10 and the slots from 09.00 to 09.30 have been reserved on the competition that day. ML will meet and greet players and officials.
 - b. Saturday 4th April - the Club, represented by Ross Young and Wayne Gair have been drawn against Blyth GC. 09.30 tee-off at Newbiggin.
 - c. Sunday 5th April - the Club is hosting rounds 3 and 4 and the tee has currently been reserved all day. KB and TC will meet and greet.
6. Noted that England Golf is producing a presentation for clubs on the WHS to use with members and when this is available (date from England Golf is currently late-April) we will run a couple of seminars/information evening for members.
7. PJ will arrange the knock-out tournaments. When the entry is closed he will determine the round dates depending on the number of entrants/matches to be played. To avoid the problems arranging matches encountered last year he will include on the draw sheet the rules for arranging matches.
8. The paper circulated by the ML on course closure was discussed. It was agreed it is too long/detailed to publish but forms a useful guide to the committee. Key points:
 - a. Course closure/opening is normally in the hands of the greens staff. Course closure information is made available to members via Facebook, HDID and the website. Normally when the greenkeeper closes the course he highlights when the next inspection will take place.
 - b. If the greenkeeper is not available course closure is in the hands of the Committee (ideally two members if available). Again this is reported via the website and HDID. Normally a time for re-inspection will be included in the advice.
 - c. If the course is open and visibility becomes limited it is the personal responsibility of all members to cease play if it is dangerous to continue.

Captain's Matters:

The Captain updated on plans for his opening day on Easter Saturday. Tickets for the evening event are available from him and at the bar.

Ladies' matters:

No matters

Juniors' Matters:

1. An article about the need for a Child Protection Officer will be placed in the next newsletter.
2. Noted that Linzi Hardy will again provide the junior coaching 0 three Mondays in May, two in July and one in August.

Seniors' Matters:

No matters

Personnel:

No matters

House/Social Matters:

KD updated members following her previously circulated report.

1. The old cooker will be disposed of. GD to arrange.
2. The new fryer unit is overloading the electrical circuits and also is larger than needed. It will be removed and the old fryers reinstated with some re-modelling of them and the grill. DM to arrange. ML will arrange for the new fryer unit to be sold with the proceeds going to the greens committee.
3. The cleaning of the honours boards is not satisfactory and the Ladies have taken it upon themselves to clean them again.
4. Other on-going work - electrics behind the bar and re-tiling in the kitchen.

The coffee machine was discussed. CH does not want it as it loses money and she would like to replace it with a plumbed in hot water dispenser and honesty box. It was agreed this should go ahead. GD will arrange disposal/return to the manufacturer of the current machine then the change can be made asap.

Noted that the list of preferred contractors still needs dealing with. The Secretary will action.

DM updated on the wiring. He should have a full report for consideration in the near future.

Health and Safety:

The asbestos survey has been completed. There is only some limited asbestos and this is in good condition so no action needed. ML will arrange for the report to be made available to contractors as necessary.

Marketing:

The usual advert will appear in the press and ditally w/b 16/03/2020

AoB:

1. PL raised the matter of five-balls. Reiterated that Club policy is four balls maximum and the Secretary will include a message to this effect in the next newsletter.

Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 8th April 2020, **5.00pm**. Note change in time. KD tendered her apologies in advance.