

Veterans' Section Committee

Minutes of meeting held on February 14th 2018

(The meeting commenced at 2.20pm)

Present:

Mike Donovan (Captain), Eric Hoffman, Harry Whiteman,
Barry Trickett, Ian Smith, Alan Wilson.

Apologies for absence:

Jim Sadler, Steve King, Ron Stovell

Minutes of last meeting:

These were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Captain's Report:

The Captain said that this month had been particularly difficult, with the non-stop rain, causing havoc with the course. He said that he knew from conversations that he had with many of the members, one particular area of concern had been the 5th green and the 6th tee.

He said that he knew that Geoff Pettitt, our Course Committee representative, had asked on several occasions for a temporary green on the 5th and temporary tee on the 6th hole. However, the Head Greenkeeper, Jeff Taylor, felt that these areas were far from unplayable and not worse than other areas around the course.

The Captain said that sadly we had to cancel the 6th round of the Winter League. Although the course was playable the greens had a layer of snow on them which made it impossible to putt. The Captain said that he did ask Jeff Taylor if he could remove the snow from the greens but Jeff said that this could not be done prior to the competition commencing. Unfortunately with no more free days available in the diary, the Winter League this year, will comprise the best 5 rounds from (hopefully) the 6 played.

The Captain said that despite the very difficult conditions, we have had some very good scores recorded in the competitions and he would like to offer his congratulations to all the winners. He said that he would also like to note that again, despite the conditions, we have been completing the prizegiving by 2pm on most Wednesdays, so well done and keep it going.

Finally the Captain said that he would urge everyone, where they can, to stay to the end for the prize giving, he said that he believed that this had always been a big part of why the Vets Section had been so successful and would like to see it continue.

Treasurer's Report:

Income and Expenditure account:

Jim said that the surplus during the month was £400 and year to date £1,075.

He said the increase was attributable to the surplus on the 5 competitions held during the month and continuing lower value of prizes awarded with no special events,

Jim said that we need to increase the value of prizes paid out back to 50% of weekly entry fees. A suggested solution is to increase the number of prizes. A general discussion then took place and it was decided to either increase the number of prizes and/or the individual value of prizes to meet Jim's requirements.

Balance Sheet:

Cumulative Members Balance now stands at £2,813.

Prepayment of £100 relates to the deposit paid for the Captain's Away Day in June at the Burstead Golf Club.

The money held, a value of £382, for Cancer Research, was paid over to the Men's Section during the month for presentation.

Cash Resources:

Net resources at £1,992 are more than sufficient for our current needs.

Jim apologized for his absence from the Committee due to having an ongoing chemo session.

General Secretary's Report:

Harry said the two members, Barry Whelan and Bill Quirk had left the Section for pastures new, Barry to Norwich with his work and Bill to Benton Hall because his wife wanted to join the gym.

Don Dunham, the long standing Secretary of the Clacton Seniors has decided to call it a day and is being replaced with Bob Baggalley, as their new Secretary.

Harry said that Geoff Pettitt, our representative on the Course Committee, had handed him the Committee minutes for December and January together with the associated Greenkeeper's reports within the past few days. These are clearly not being issued frequently enough, with all the information they contain being "old news." There is no blame attached to Geoff because he had only just received the documents himself. If Craig cannot issue the minutes in good time, due to work commitments, perhaps someone else should be designated to produce them. When Reg Brunt produced them we always received them in good time.

The Captain intends to bring up the matter at the next Club Captain meeting in March.

Competition Secretary's Report:

Ron asked all members to put their tee time next to their name when putting their names on the cancellation sheet. The same applies when contacting him direct. This helps him greatly in tracing their name.

He also asked that members PRINT their name within the appropriate box on the late entry/cancellation sheet. This makes it easier for him to read/update the competition sheet.

Ron said, in addition, that if members tick their names on the tick list and later find they cannot play, could they simply write NO beside their names rather than trying to cross out or obliterate the original tick.

He said that all this information is within his written instructions which nobody seems to be able to read, So please follow the above instructions and make his life easier.

Otherwise things are going well and many thanks to those members who do follow my instructions.

Update on members health:

Alan said that this was his first report since mid November and that he was pleased to report that Rick Anstey and George Lintner had recovered and were playing again.

He said that a few others have been missing over the past couple of months other than those not wanting to play in the cold and mud.

Peter Barker	Recovered from problems, hopes to be back in March.
Malcolm Bottomley	Recovering well, Not yet ready for golf.
Peter Cowley	Rheumatic problem. Treatment progressing.
Terry Jones	Cancer, caught in the early stages. Treatment going well.
Peter Murrell	Wife broke pelvis. Hopes to be back in March.
Bob Oatham	Bladder cancer. Treatment going well.
Frank Porter	Progressing well. Hopes to be back in March.
Jim Sadler	Cancer. Treatment going well.
Les Willsher	Prostate cancer. At hospital in 2 wks time to discuss plan.

Harry also noted that Ray Quy, Malcolm Bottomley and Ken Horner were not on the club handicap list at present.

Competition Boards:

Barry Trickett informed the Committee that the majority of the competition boards were now full and no further winners names could be added. He also noted that the existing positioning of the boards at the rear of the spike bar meant that very few golfers saw them. He said that he had asked Katie whether we could put boards in the area above the food counter and had yet to receive a reply. The Committee also discussed the type of board required thinking that the original boards were a little old fashioned and bulky, Both Barry and Alan Wilson said that they had seen a more modern design at Ballards Gore Golf Club and would investigate further, We need to make a decision by the Autumn for purchase by the end of the year,

Any Other Business:

The Captain was concerned that bearing in mind the state of the course at present and the first friendly at home being in late March, that Maldon Golf Club be advised of the situation. Harry agreed to contact their Vets Secretary and advise him of the present situation.

Eric Hoffman asked who would make the decision to cancel a competition if the Captain was not present, After a general discussion It was agreed that if the Captain or Vice Captain were not present on a competition day, the

decision to cancel or not cancel the competition would be taken by two Committee members present.

Harry said that he had been contacted by Gosfield Golf Club and advised that they had taken the decision to limit the maximum handicap to 28 for their home friendly matches, although not stopping higher handicap members from taking part off of a 28 handicap maximum. He said that this seemed to be the attitude taken by a majority of other clubs. The Committee decided to take the same decision with our home matches.

Alan Wilson presented an entry form for the Veterans Trophy competition, an inter club competition arranged by the EGU. Two members of the Committee usually attend and the Captain would make the arrangements.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 21st March 2018.

(The meeting closed at 3.20pm)