

Seniors Committee Minutes for.

Present: Andy Peet, Keith Hitchcock, Tony Pawson, Peter Kirton, Robin Marling, Mike Travis, Les Facer, Nigel Teale, (Ron Barker)

Apologies: Allan Davies

1. Previous Minutes/Matters arising

The proposal to fund new Club sign on approach road to Club: - Following discussions, it was decided that the Seniors are not prepared to contribute to another temporary banner type sign. However, if the Club decide that they want a new more permanent wooden sign with appropriate signage then we will review the matter of the Seniors contributing towards this.

2. Secretary's Business

Nil.

3. Opens Report

Robin

- Following discussions with the caterers, it has been agreed that the food voucher element of the 2019 Opens entry fee must rise from £5 to £6.
- The Club has set the Green Fee elements as unchanged for next year.
- Discussion was held regarding Start Times for the various Opens. The logic of some of the higher-level decisions escaped the meeting but in general, start times will be in the window of 0900 to 1430 with the possibility of starting at 0830 for the high demand to the Pairs and Am Am.

4. Competitions Secretary's report

Mike

- A point to clarify from the September meeting minutes is that the proposal to move the Champion of Champions event to an earlier date is for 2019, not this year.
- For this years Christmas lunch, the entry fee will be £13 with lunch at 1330. Depending on numbers, the meal will be preceded by a 3 Ball Alliance competition over 14 or 16 holes.

- SPEED OF PLAY, this will be particularly important for the Christmas lunch competition but is of concern across the board of Seniors golf. Advancing age is a cause but some members are unaware that they play slowly, everyone should be encouraged to help avoid dropping behind the group ahead on the course!
- In the event of bad weather, the Christmas lunch will go ahead even if the competition is cancelled.

5. H & C Report

Nil

6. Treasurer's Business

Tony

- Section finances remain in good order giving no cause for concern but future income from Opens is unlikely to benefit the section funds in the same vein as currently enjoyed.
- Bank £2815.60, Cash £656.05, Total £3471.65. £199 has already been paid for purchase of the years engraved tankards.
- We await the invoice for the photo framing, expected to be approximately £450. We still have competition prize money commitments of £360. A further £490 is committed to pay for honorariums, birthdays, staff Christmas gratuities and guests at the annual dinner.
- Final total for the year will leave a balance of around £2171, £118 less than last year.
- Current section membership is 117 (£585)

A discussion took place regarding the Photo Framing project with various opinions voiced. Consideration was given as to how our contribution might be marked. 'Framing Courtesy of the Seniors Section' was hoped for.

Tony then led a significant discussion regarding future financing for the Seniors Section. Topics discussed included:

- The fact that in previous years, profits from Seniors Open events had contributed significantly to the Section finances. We feel that visitors to the Club should not be financing internal section events.
- An analysis of past income vs prize money for section competitions.

- An analysis of the Sections Seniors Birthday cards and gifts. The annual task of administering this is significant and there is an ever-increasing cost attached.

Much discussion took place, options were examined regarding competition funding. In general, it was felt that individual events should be self-funding. One point made is that with increasing longevity, age 70 is no longer the significant milestone it once was.

The conclusions of the committee are:

- Section competition entry fees should increase to £4 (Fraser Cup, Fraser Tankards & Corless Goblets) with prize money for each competition being covered by its entry fees.
- A proposal should be made to the 2019 AGM to alter the Section Birthdays, such that there is a card at 75, a card and wine at 80 and a card and Scotch at 90.
- The meeting felt that most of the excess income from Opens should be channelled towards projects that benefit the Club as a whole.

7. Captain's Business

Andy

- Andy specifically wanted to thank Mike for his organisation of the International Match which had been a great success this year.
- Preparations for the Annual dinner were almost complete despite some meal choices being late. This year there will be no guest speaker, but the event will be run by a Toastmaster.
- There is a total of 5 guests plus the toastmaster at the dinner.

9. Any Other Business:

Les raised the issue of members failing to turn up for events involving a commitment to pay for meals.

- This issue relates particularly to away matches where other Club's caterers are not as flexible as ours at the Worcestershire. Past captains present confirmed that on several occasions they have paid out of their own pockets when team members have left before the meal.

- For internal Seniors competitions involving a meal, failure to turn up for an event has led the event organiser to have difficulties covering the finances.
- The meeting felt that a principal should be established whereby, *‘Putting your name down, and being selected, for an event involving a meal, leads to a commitment to pay for that food. (Except that at the Worcestershire, it is possible to notify the event organiser up until the previous day and not have to pay)’*.

Keith informed the meeting that Ron Barker had agreed to put his name forward to the AGM to be Vice Captain in 2019 and hence Captain in 2020.

10. Date for the next meeting:

Tuesday 22nd January at 1000

The meeting closed at 1115