

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of February 10th, 2017.

A minute's silence was held for 'absent friends': Jeff Jones and Brian C Davis.

The Captain and 35 Senior members were in attendance; there were 4 apologies.

The **Minutes of February 10th, 2016** were accepted as a true record of the meeting. **Matters Arising** were addressed under other headings.

Captain's Report:

Les indicated how much he had enjoyed his year at the helm and thanked all who had helped him: players who had turned out in all weathers for matches and Captain's Days and the Committee whose contributions ensured the stability and management of the Section; he wished Nigel well for the year ahead

Secretary's report:

- David offered Les his warmest good wishes;
- he paid tribute to **John Williams** standing down after years of invaluable service to Senior Section and taking up Club Captain duties; also **David Wood** who was not seeking re-election;
- **fixtures and diary coordination** represented David's most difficult Secretarial challenge and **Robin Marling** who had done such a good job with Roll-ups and integration of new members via coffee roll-ups had offered invaluable support in establishing a programme for the year; they are reasonably confident that Seniors Fixture Card and Club diary are reflecting the same information; thanks too to Andy Peet for driving **Seniors' competitions** to timely conclusions
- David applauded **Tony Pawson** whose judgement, financial control and sound management would provide a set of healthy end-of-year figures; the work involved was considerable;
- Committee was not currently considering recommendations for recycling surpluses from Open comps but would, as agreed in 2016, forward information via Notice Boards;
- he thanked **Judi**, relatively new to the Office, for her unstinting support over Opens and the like; also the **Caterers and Bar staff** for their friendly efficiency;
- Andy Peet had ensured that the Seniors' section of the **Club website** had made improved information available at the click of a mouse; thanks, finally, to the **Committee** who had helped ensure successful outcomes in Senior events organised in support of the club;
- **for the first time Seniors' committee had conducted a valuable face-to-face dialogue with members of the Board:** David felt that any 'Them 'n Us' issues had proved unfounded; it became clear as the discussion unfolded that the Board regarded Senior section as an intrinsic part of the Club and was very happy for it to continue with current practices; having listened to Senior submissions **the Board granted a variation/ reduction of Seniors' Opens' green-fees aimed at reversing dwindling numbers; it agreed to a Seniors' Captain dedicated car space; Nigel Teale was enlisted to help the Club design and produce its Club tie** for which set-up funds would be provided; the Board felt unable to offer tee-closures for roll-ups;
- in the event a large influx of **55+ members** following last year's vote did not materialize; Tony Pawson had reviewed internal and Open competitions, concluding that no age-related changes to Tankard format were justified by the results; the **Open Singles** would, however, offer prizes in **2 age-related divisions;**
- **David advised those present that, after 12 years in post, 2017 would be his last year as Seniors' Secretary; 2018/9 schedules would be in place and he would continue to support Opens; his data base and advice would be available to his replacement;**
- he offered Nigel and those supporting him his warmest good wishes for the year.

Treasurer's Report:

- Tony reported a small drop in **membership** numbers in 2016, standing at 131;
- he thanked Euan McClelland for auditing the accounts and led those present carefully through the figures clarifying detail;
- Tony confirmed changes in the way figures were presented (based for example in the case of Tankards upon the principle of 'money handled');
- he noted that surplus from the new Am/Am Open competition had swelled income considerably;
- he confirmed that guests invited to the Annual Dinner (3 attended in 2016) were charged to the Section rather than levied from those attending;
- he presented a very **healthy carry-over**, which including the one-off water-fountain costs, was broadly similar to 2015;
- the figures were approved *nem con*; and **warm thanks** directed to Tony;

Election of Officers and Committee members:

- of the 2016 committee John Williams and David Wood were not seeking re-election; Mike Travis and Peter Kirton had agreed to be nominated in their place;
- **nominees, with proposers and seconders were offered en bloc to the floor and accepted *nem con***;
- **Andy Peet's nomination as Vice-Captain in 2017 and Captain elect for 2018 was thereby approved**;

Nigel Teale took the Chair.

- Nigel paid tribute to Les; he expressed the privilege and honour of his appointment and would strive to be an effective Captain and to further the best interests of the Section.

AOB

- Tony Pawson requested that the Senior Section should offer to provide the **winner's trophy** for the newly inaugurated **Club Junior Open**; this would be retained at the Club after the presentation; the Junior Open winner would take away an engraved glass memento along the lines of the current Tankard model;
- members present unanimously approved both the initial cost of a Cup and the on-going annual cost of the memento; the Seniors' Captain or his alternate should be invited to make the presentation;
- Robin Marling introduced the H & C committee's request that the section become involved in the **Club Presentation Evening** in November;
- there was general agreement for the Club to include the winners of the **Yarworth Cup, Frazer Tankards and Corless Goblets only**; they indicated that the convivial Seniors' annual **Christmas Lunch and Prize-giving** must be retained in its current format;
- David was tasked to **forward these decisions** to Mike Sterry and urge him as diplomatically as possible to review the shape and format of the evening, so as, for example, to avoid an extended list and repetitive queues akin to a school Speech Day; review was seen as vital to making the event appealing rather than an ordeal.

The meeting closed at 2:15
Date of next AGM: February 7th, 2018.