

Minutes of Committee Meeting of April 5th 2016 at 10:00.

Andrew Stow had tendered his resignation with immediate effect; DA and AP were welcomed as new members.

1. **Present:** Les Facer , Dave Anderson, Allan Davies, David Fawbert, Robin Marling, Tony Pawson, Andy Peet, John Williams;
2. **Apologies:** Nigel Teale, David Wood;
3. **Previous Minutes/Matters arising:**
 - **Office management** update: Simon Dennis had taken up his Business Manager position; ***subsequent to the meeting Dennis resigned and left;***
 - DF would take up the issue of a **dedicated car-space** for Seniors' captain with the Business Manager; ***action shelved for the moment***
 - Opens Prizes/ **Foremost:** the issue was shelved;
 - the Seniors' **bridge** had been completed and carried the Seniors' plaque; DF had been told by the Course Manager that the **drinking-fountain** would be in place in the short term;
 - Club **Welcome Board** on the access road; this was judged to be a good initiative but deferred;
4. **Secretary's Business**
 - the 2016 brochure '**Introduction to the Senior Section**' had been redrafted and mailed to 67 current gentlemen **members** aged 50 + via the Club's Subs mailing;
 - **AGM issues:** Constitutional changes had been accepted;
 - the ramifications of **55+ entry qualification** were discussed: minimum age for Club vets comps was unclear but felt to be 60, prizes for 2017 Opens would be redesigned to include an age weighting; ***subsequent to the meeting DF discussed the issue with Chair of Board: Club Vets Comps would retain the 60+ label in 2016; Club and Senior Section would move in tandem in 2017;***
 - **emergency procedures:** the issues raised by Ivor Dalgeish were discussed and the text of a letter to the Board approved; in brief, Board was urged to review the AED situation, to publish a policy, to ensure the training/retraining of named staff in key areas and to communicate emergency instructions to all club members. The Senior section would pursue its aim to produce a credit-card sized plastic printed with SOS details, initially for all Senior members; LF indicated the possibility of redesigning the current Bar-card; the idea of a fob attachable to trolleys/ bags was also considered; ***further action: DF letter to Micael Hanna; emergency card LF;***
 - **Honours Board:** the Board's request for Senior Section to meet the cost of its new Honours' Board (£192) was agreed after discussion; ***subsequent to the meeting DF indicated the decision to the Chairman;***
 - **fixtures 2017-8:** following DF's Autumn-2015 (non-productive) round-robin consultation with sister clubs, committee accepted his request to address the 2017 fixture list in its current shape;
 - **Senior Section development:** RM indicated his general satisfaction with roll-ups; the Captain v Vice Captain match had proved very popular; he would continue to ring the changes to maintain interest; he had nothing to report from Handicaps and Competitions Committee;
 - **AP** was congratulated for adopting **internal comps** organisation with such energy and flair; **AP** indicated that everything was operational;
 - **AP** offered proposed changes to the **Champion of Champions** play-off; the following were agreed: date – December 7, 2016; current participants + Yarworth Plate winner + Club Vets winners (3) provided they were paid-up members and that they came 1st; a Tankard would be offered to the winner;

Opens: current state-of-play:

- May 19 **Open Singles**: about 80 entries had been received;;
DF summarised his views: numbers have slowly declined over time; the 2016 green-fee hike may have discouraged some (the Club will allegedly review that decision in the light of 2016 Opens across the board); the inclusion of a food voucher meant that all Club facilities benefitted from Opens; the Open would not make a loss since Prize values would continue to reflect the Prize Fund available in each case;
- July 14 **Open Pairs**: 12 pair-spaces available;
- August 5 **Am/Am**: full
- Sept 19 **Mixed Open**: filling slowly as per 2015;

Forthcoming events:

- May 19 **Open Singles**: **TP & RM** agreed to front the event on the day; **DF** had already publicised the Open via Notice-Boards and would complete all the preparation work; he would provide TP and RM with copies of documentation;
- June 6 **Senior Captain's Day**: **LF** was encouraged to post information at least 4 weeks in advance; he was reminded to include prize money in his costings (*TP can help you here, Les*);
- June 15 **Tankard 1**: **RM** agreed to continue to front Tankards & liaise with Proshop;
- July 11 **Senior Captain's Away Day**: **LF** was encouraged to post information at least 4 weeks in advance; he was reminded to include prize money in his costings (*TP can help you here, Les*);

5. Treasurer's Business

- **TP** reported: positive balances were in line with projected income and planned expenditure; 99 fully paid-up members and strategies for recovering outstanding subscriptions; 7 applications from 55+ group;

6. Captain's Business:

- Les was congratulated for achieving second place in the Winter League (won by Leominster);
- he was delighted with **AP's** contribution to upgraded notices and presentational materials;
- Summer friendlies had produced positive results so far;

7. Any Other Business

- **Match v WGCC** of April 28th: a late request had been received from Di Wilde to alter the start-time of this home match to accommodate an important booking. **LF** indicated he would contact WGCC and confirm change to **DF** and Office; ***subsequently carried out***;
- **Notice Board**: **DF** indicated that dedicated N/B sections might have overlooked the need to accommodate very mixed flow of documentation and unpredictable shortage of space;
- **Seniors/Club** relations: a number of agenda discussions suggested the existence of an 'Us-Them' mentality in some quarters at Club level. **DF** agreed to propose a meeting of interested parties to discuss cross-club relationships and clarify Senior section role and policies within WGC; this was approved; ***subsequent to the meeting DF met the Chairman who agreed to facilitate such a meeting***;
- **AP** suggested that greater transparency and better understanding would be achieved by distributing **Committee Minutes** more widely; he linked this with the Club **Website** offering examples of sites whose format offered access to all Senior matters including Minutes; ***subsequent to the meeting AP met with the Chairman and gained access to the website; as a result of this the Minutes you are currently reading and other useful materials are on global display thanks to Andy's initiative***;
- the purpose of the **Seniors' Fixture List (SFL)** alongside the **Club Diary (CD)** was discussed; the following points were raised: two sources of like information were potentially confusing; however,

because **CD** has no space for Seniors' roll-up information some kind of alternative calendar is required for Senior members; Club diary deadline for entries (early September for December issue) had resulted in numerous clashes that could only be put right using a **SFL**; a cross-Club **Diary meeting** instigated by DF in September 2015 had reduced but not completely obliterated clashes; until this year's changes in subscription arrangements Club year and Seniors' year ran differently creating planning complexity; DF could not see a reason for deliberately omitting Seniors' scheduled events from a necessary roll-up schedule but, if it helped, offered to change 'Fixture List' to 'Seniors' Calendar ' on the 2017 version;

- 8. Date of next meeting June 28** at 10:00 to allow consideration of
- July 14 Seniors' Open Pairs
 - August 5 Am/Am
 - Sept 19 Mixed PairsOpen

David Fawbert, April 5th, 2016.