

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 19.6.18:7.30pm

### PRESENT

Chairman Peter Smith (PS) Men's Captain Norman Spiller (NS) Ladies' Captain Mina Crowe (MS) Ladies' Vice Captain Pat Collins (PC) Treasurer Phil Jones (PJ) General Manager Jonathan Grey (JG) Head Groundsman Terry Edwards (TE)

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1. Secretary Rosey Foster (RF) Men's Vice Captain Graham Norris (GN)

### 2. T. EDWARDS' REPORT

2.1 PS offered the thanks of the committee for the excellent condition of the course and for all the ongoing work that has been done.

2.2 Inconsistency of the bunkers. Specifically the bunkers on 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes get a lot of traffic and become compacted. Those on the 14<sup>th</sup> are often wet which affects the quality of the sand. Bunkers are topped up in rotation so those that have been topped up will feel very different from those which have not been.

There are plans to put a soakaway in the 14<sup>th</sup> bunkers in the autumn to help with drainage. It may be possible to introduce a water feature in the future – in the valley of the 7<sup>th</sup> was suggested by TE though some doubt was expressed about the purpose of this.

2.3 The benches on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> holes have been replaced. It is intended that recycled plastic benches will be provided more generally as the need arises.

2.4 Out of bounds posts on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> holes will be moved to make them more easily visible.

2.5 The bunker on the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole has been turfed and the fairway beside the path will be returfed soon.

2.6 The rough on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> will be cut back in the autumn to make the carry to the fairway shorter.

2.7 Teeing areas are being levelled but this is costly and they will be done gradually over a period of years.

2.8 The path by the 7<sup>th</sup> green has been taken back by 5 metres but it is there for health and safety reasons. TE will consider moving it further back. **Action TE**

2.9 The ball washer and bench on the 6<sup>th</sup> tee. This cannot be moved to the other side of the tee as it would interfere with balls coming up from the 5<sup>th</sup>.

2.10 Is there a way of preventing players taking their trolleys between the green and the right side bunker on the 8<sup>th</sup>? The bunker will be reduced in the autumn which should improve the appearance. The bunkers on the 16<sup>th</sup> are also being refurbished.

2.11 PS asked if some trees could be planted between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> fairways. TE agreed to plant them if they were provided. **Action PS/TE**

2.12 The depression on the left of the 17<sup>th</sup> above the footpath will be filled in.

2.13 Can wet ground or bunkers that are completely flooded be marked GUR in winter? TE stated that relief can be taken though it was pointed out that this incurred a penalty if it was not GUR. NS suggested players request areas are marked if conditions are particularly bad.

2.14. NS asked if players could act as divot fillers. TE stated that a special insurance would be needed as this raises health and safety issues.

2.15. PC asked why the greens had now become slower. TE stated that members had complained they were too fast so they had been damped down.

2.16. PS commented that some of the collars in holes are slightly proud. TE stated that new ones had recently been fitted so should now sit flush with the greens.

### **3. MINUTES**

3.1 Minutes of 15.5.18

**Agreed**

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 Charity activities will be promoted by BGL along with fund raising information. RF to send information to BK.

4.2 Are Flexi-members paying Surrey Union Fees? P.S. reported that the matter is ongoing. P. Jones asked how much the fees are; JG will investigate and report back. **Action JG**

4.3. Handing back tee times – the issue has been resolved.

4.4. A list of members leaving the club has been sent to PJ for Club V1. New members are now being notified on a weekly basis, leavers are notified on a monthly basis.

4.5. Members can now sign up on line for the mixed Greensomes as a pair.

### **5.0 Chairman's Report (PS)**

5.1. Website and Hub has not progressed as members are having difficulty accessing it. He would convene a further meeting to discuss the way forward.

5.2 The Club Systems International (CSI) privacy policy is not appropriate to the club – PS has provided them with an appropriate one but CSI appear unable to change it but are considering further.

5.3 New Members – J.G. confirmed that the new members' database will be adapted to include information about playing experience, history etc.

P. J. stated that as from June 1<sup>st</sup> a new reporting system is in place. C Drummond will send a list of new members each week to M Pearce, P Becque and J. Head. The information is forwarded to all interested parties

### **6.0 General Manager's Report (JG)**

6.1. JG reported that sales are growing above target for the year.

6.2 J G reported that we have 475 members of which:  
133 are flexi-members only

64 are Flexi with fees

## **7.0 Treasurer's Report (PJ)**

7.1. Finance meeting has been postponed until July 30<sup>th</sup>

7.2. Jess Howard will replace Sandra Combstock on the Finance Committee

7.3 Prizes for medals and Birdie 2s.- Members were asked for their bank details so that prize money could be paid into their accounts – 12 were contacted, 8 replied and were paid, 4 did not and will receive cheques – one member refused to give bank details. This raised a data protection issue and the possible need for a separate email account in the name of Hoebridge Golf Club.

7.4 A new system for reporting new members and fees paid has been introduced and will be used to reconcile BGL invoice and Club V1 details. If there are no new members in any week then a nil email will be sent from BGL.

7.5 April and May statements from BGL have not yet been paid

7.6 A member was paid Birdie 2s money after the May Stableford in error. He has not yet reimbursed the club.

7.7. Seven BGL employee members have paid HGC fees P.J. will liaise with J.H. to reconcile with Club V1

7.8. Charity Fund currently stands at £8,531.75

## **8.0 Men's Captain's Report (NS)**

8.1 AXTELL and RONDEC knockout competitions progressing.

8.2 Tom Parkinson Texas scramble, The Super Seniors, Captain/Vice captain challenge and the Men's Club Championship were all held successfully. The Men's Club Championship had an excellent turnout of 58 players. JG will get names of the winners of the Club Championships put on Board. PS thanked the ladies for their help.

8.3 Men's Invitation day is due to be held on Wednesday 20th June.

8.4 Norman's Charity run due Sunday 1st July – all sponsorship goes to Prostate Cancer Project.

## **9.0 Lady Captain's Report (MC)**

9.1 The Druce entry has been confirmed and the cheque has now been cashed

9.2 MC and PC met with B Keefe to discuss information given to new members. A number of errors were identified and these will, hopefully, be corrected in future. B Keefe found the exercise valuable and would like to repeat the exercise with other sales staff.

9.3. Taster days: MC met with J Gray and has agreed that 6 taster sessions will be offered at a variety of times with Leighton Kane. B Keefe will handle the publicity and also draft a survey to gather information about participants. MC will draft a handout detailing the next

steps to gain a handicap and join the club. Lady members will attend the taster sessions to establish contacts.

9.4. A Ladies' informal Invitation day will be held on September 27<sup>th</sup> and a visitor's rate of £20.00 has been agreed with J.G. A light meal will also be provided. P.J. said the club could subsidise the event.

9.5. A Coffee Morning will be held on September 18<sup>th</sup> when ladies from local clubs can play at Hoebridge at a reduced rate of £16.00 either as a team of four or with a Hoebridge lady.

9.6. We have five new lady members four of whom have played in a Thursday competition and who are keen to get their handicaps. There is an issue when new members want to sign up for events. Until they have a handicap they have to sign up by direct communication with the competition organisers which means we rely on Hoebridge to give us the details of new members in a timely fashion.

9.7. A new date for the Grand Match is yet to be agreed .

9.9. We have a Lady Vice Captain for next year – I would like to hand over to Pat to make the announcement.

### **10.0 Lady Vice Captain (PC)**

P.C. reported that her proposed Vice Captain for 2019 will be Jess Howard and asked that she be ratified by the committee. The committee were unanimously in favour of the appointment.

### **11. AOB**

11.1. PC asked how much Flexible Members pay if they are categorised as "Flexi with fees"? JG said he would like this information to come from the office.

11.2 PS The SKORE system for recording management procedures will cost £300 per annum plus VAT for one editor's licence and 5 users' licences. It was agreed that this was too costly. PS to inform M Pearce and thank him for all the work he has put into the proposal.

11.3 PJ raised the issue of private data such as members' bank details being held on his and others' private emails. He suggested there should be a separate HGC account to be created to hold such information. He also felt that asking for Charity Donations would have more gravitas and sound more official if it came from a Hoebridge address rather than the individual.

If generic email addresses were introduced then they could be handed from one official to the next. P.J stated that to do this would cost £3.00 per month per email address.

This will be considered at the next meeting.

**Action PJ**

11.4 High Handicaps MC reported that there are now 5 ladies with handicaps of 37 plus and 10 ladies with handicaps of 36 who might potentially rise above the 36 barrier.

This raises two main issues—

a). Entry to Board and Trophy competitions – will there be a restriction on entries e.g. limit of 36 H/C or will we run two parallel competitions with only low handicappers being eligible to win the trophy or board competition? The MC expressed concern over these options.

b). Medals and Stablefords – Medal competitions are less of a problem as players go out in H/C order but Stablefords and midweek competitions may cause problems if low handicappers object to playing with high handicappers.

We will probably have to create 3 divisions which has implications for prize money and will mean redefining division boundaries. Should we segregate the high handicappers and send them out after the main competition?

MC circulated the guidelines from England Golf prior to the meeting which puts forward 3 proposals.  
(see appendix 1)

It was agreed that the issue should be discussed in the men's and ladies' committee meetings and the results reported to the next MCM. **Action: NS/MC**

A Richardson will be at the next meeting to explain the new world handicapping system – this issue can be raised then.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45

Date of next meeting: July 24<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

## **Appendix 1**

# ENGLAND GOLF 2018

## Defining Handicap Limits in Competitions.

Clubs have 3 clear options:

### • Option 1

No handicap entry limits: Allow all players to play off their actual handicap and have the possibility to win. This will apply to any competition format.

### • Option 2

Set handicap entry limits: These should be limited to National/County/Elite Competitions and events that may have large fields and require a ballot. Limits must be clearly stated in the Conditions of Competition upon entry.

It is not expected that Clubs will use this option for their internal Medals/Stablefords/match play competitions.

### • Option 3

A competition is set up without a handicap entry limit, which would allow all players to enter. However, eligibility for the main prize or trophy may be limited to a maximum (or minimum) handicap allowance, and this must be clearly stated in the Competition Conditions before play.

For example: A competition is set up with a maximum handicap which would allow all players to enter (notionally 54), and this would be stated in the Competition Conditions. The Competition Conditions would then state:

"This event is open to all players up to a maximum handicap of (54). However, eligibility for the Trophy will be limited to a maximum handicap allowance of (36). Other prizes will be awarded in divisions, as follows: Div 1 up to 15 handicap; Div 2 from 16 to 25 handicap; Div 3 from 26 to 32 handicap; Div 4 from 33 to 54 handicap." These Divisions could be adjusted to reflect the demographic of the individual Club.

By using this format, everyone can enter the competition (as the handicap limit is (54)); and for handicap purposes, players will receive their full handicap allowance. However, the report produced for prize purposes will limit everyone to (36). In the same way, a limit of (16) to (28) could apply. But players below 16 or above 28 would then not be eligible to enter.

Should the Committee wish to use this option for a match play competition, it is important to note that all players must be allowed to play off their full CONGU handicap, with the full difference between players given (or any approved allowance for format of play). The competition may be split into divisions (say up to 20, and 21 to 54) for prize allocation. **Players must NOT be asked to compete off a handicap lower than that to which they are entitled.**

It is important to ensure that all players have the opportunity to compete in competitions, and that higher handicaps are not discriminated against. Maintaining player interest in the sport is of crucial importance; both for the declining or improving high handicap golfer. If the player is correctly handicapped, there should be no advantage to holding a Cat 5 or 6 handicap over a Cat 1 handicap. Players in Category 5 or 6 do not, of course, affect the CSS calculation in any way.