



Donnington Grove Golf Club	
Attendees:	Nigel Thorne (NG) Steve Warren(SW) Iain Cottingham (IC) Kieran Watson (KW) Sandy Byfield (SB) Andrew Meredith (AM) Andy Storer(AS) Tom Fleming (TF) Gill Lane (GL) Sarah Jolly (SJ) Helen Lake (HL) Berni Martin (BM)
Apologies:	Joanne Newman (JN) Dave Knight(DK) Giles Bennet (GB)
Minute Taker:	Andy Storer (AS)
Venue /Date	Tuesday 16yh January 2024 19.30

Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of last meeting.
Items Carried forward.
 - a. Competition charging review.
 - b. Election of President.
 - c. Hillman Trophy entry - Complete.
 - d. Marker reinstated on 8th fairway.
 - e. Alternative calculation for annual handicap reduction prizes - SB.
 - f. Honours boards in bar completed.
- Approval of Minutes.
3. General Managers Report.
4. Director of Golf Report.
5. Treasurers Report.
6. Competition Secretary Report.
7. Lady Captain Report.
8. Seniors Captain Report.
9. Members Questions / Members Reps.
10. AOB.

Matters/Actions arising from minutes

- a) (AM) Continuing review.
- b) B) (AM) No applications received
- c) Complete
- d) Complete
- e) (SB) still reviewing the changes, has watched, and completed relevant material and seminar.
- f) (AS) Has instructed Ultimate signs to compete all late finishing competitions and new boards. (GL) Zhana Powers has an "s" missing on a board.

Minutes of last meeting

December minutes approved and will be posted on the Club Website

General Managers Report

As always January is expected to be a quiet month, in regard of footfall through the business both golf and hotel. The new light bites menu offer has been accepted well and is driving some much-needed revenue.

Parts have been ordered for the sauna in the men's locker room, and a new full-length matt will be installed in the shower area.

We have discussed extending the patio area to allow more seating for the summer months, and the possible implementation of a scan order and pay App, which should enable golfers and guests to order food and drink more efficiently.

Hopefully we should see some work start on the replacement/repair of the main bridge to the tenth tee.

Matters/Actions arising from the GM report

(AS) I have had some comments regarding the cheese scones which do not have cheese in them, they are serving plain scones with slices of cheese with them.

(JN) will speak to the kitchen team.

Director of Golf Report

The green keepers have work hard through the autumn and into the winter, the course will benefit from the removal of the trees, and brush which has grown out of control over the last few years. Trees have been removed due to ash die back and some others have been taken out to enable tees and greens to get more sun onto them and maintain moisture levels better. The remaining stumps will be removed with a stump grinder. The first tee has now been turfed, it may not look much bigger, however extending the tee will enable us to reduce wear in places.

The course is drying out well at present, let's hope we don't get much more rainfall. The trolley ban will carry on into and possibly through February.

I will shortly be carrying out a membership pricing review.

England Golf ED&I policy is almost up to date but will need to be adopted by committee and may need some alteration to the constitution, I will work with Andy Storer to complete. Once complete we will need to confirm with EG.

EG have changed the process for new tees, we can now put in the measurement stones for tees, Clere Golf can measure the new lengths of the hole and we can mail the new measurements to EG and it is then just a paper exercise, I would like to work with a cross section of members with differing handicaps to assess and decide on possible placement of new tee areas.

Finally, the guys are working hard, micro coring, dressing and fertilising the greens and aprons, the scarring from the disease on the greens will grow in when warmer weather is with us.

Matters/Actions arising from the D.O.G report

(SW) Are we still employing the consultant green keeper.

(TF) he will be back with us in the spring, the plan is in place and will be implemented.

(NT) Hole distance markers were taken in when DP World tour was here, will they be put back out?

(TF) I will speak to Dave and get them put back out.

(BM) the posts and ropes have been taken down around the greens will they be reinstated.

(TF) They will be reinstated, they were taken down to enable the team to mow, and as there is a trolley ban in place it is not a problem to be down for a few days.

(IC) when the new WHS comes into play later in the year, will it effect playing handicaps, and will we need to replace the calculation boards we have at present.

(TF) I believe it will, EG however have not made it mandatory to calculation boards on the tees when the new system is implemented. Our present boards are around £8000, I believe the BB&O may be giving clubs some financial help with replacement if needed.

(AS) If and when the team reshape the bunker on the fourth hole, would it be possible to use some of the spoil to level the men's yellow 5th tee.

(TF) I will speak with Dave (DK)

Treasureres Report

Quiet time at present. All men's and lady's county and national entry fees have been paid, which shows a loss at present on the I&E account of £71.13, as competition fees come in this will soon move back into a positive. The captains charity account stands at a balance £745.54.

Matters/Actions arising from Treasureres report

No Questions or matters arising

Competitions Report

Competitions Sub Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

1 Attendees: Bernie Martin, Steve Martin, Simon Vines, Gill Lane, Andy Meredith, Rob Hinson, Sandy Byfield, Jools Black, Steve Lillywhite

2 Apologies – None.

3 Minutes of Last Meeting – Approved.

4 Items Carried Forward

- a. No Shows – Winter Warmer – GL to speak to TF about RH/TP payment.*
- b. Manual – BM to update. Include amendments to TOC that SB has found.*
- c. Various Boards need to be updated. BM to remind AS.*
- d. Change to Slope coming in next April 2024. SB will send an update to all members.*
- e. Qualifying / Non-Qualifying keep checking with TF.*
- f. Competition charging – AM ongoing.*
- g. OOB on 11th TF is checking.*

5 Rota – Updated.

6 Upcoming Competitions

- a. Winter knockouts – deadline 14th January. BM*
- b. 20th January Robert Burns Trophy SB. £3pp entry. Could be played off the reds for both. Men and ladies.*
- c. Members Memorial changed to 10th February. SL/JB. £20 per team. TF to update BRS -done. V1 information has been updated.*

7 AOB

- a. SM the January Monthly Stableford was not set up correctly.*
- b. 4 Clubs and Putter need to add four scores, so that GL knows how many entries. SM done.*
- c. In competitions some people do not put their cards in. AM to take this to the main committee.*
- d. AM adding club championships to the next Agenda. BM*
- e. SB will run reports for the Handicap Review. Also check team competitions. SB*
- f. Retired Injured – need to speak to their playing partners. BM to keep a list.*
- g. GL – need to abandon/close the 31st of December competition. SM done.*
- h. Competition password was updated at the beginning of November.*
- i. RH – there should be no “gimmees” in competitions. BM to email all members to include a reminder to put name, date, and competition on competition cards – done.*

8 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 7th February 2024, 7.00pm in the upstairs bar.

Matters/Actions Arising from Report.

There have been several amendments to the competition's manual, the updated manual will be uploaded to the club web page.

(GL) It was suggested that both men and ladies play from the red tees for the Robert Burns Trophy.

(ALL) A discussion took place regarding members views regarding all playing from the red tees, the men's yellow tees are forward not to make the course easier but to protect the golf course through the winter wet months. A decision was taken for the men to play from the yellow tees and ladies from the red, and that both courses would be adjusted to make the competition fair for both men and ladies.

Lady Captains Report

1. Congratulations to Grace Canning going forward in Race to Woodhall Spa - hoping to play area final at Bramdshaw.

2. Ladies survey conducted in December regarding commencing a Ladies Morning - 46% plus response. Monday's most popular 1st and 2nd choice. 1st Ladies Morning to be held on 22/1/24. Also requested preferences for a Ladies Away Day - preferred month being May with April as close second- to be discussed with Tom Flemming.

3. Zhana Powers name on board needs to have an 's' added.

4. Shey Walder asked for compliments to be given to Dave and his green-keeping staff for the excellent condition of the course following all the wet weather.

Matter/Actions arising from report.

No Questions or actions

Senior Captains Report

As previous reports a quiet time for the senior section. Winter matches are in progress as is the senior knockout matches. We seem to be struggling with competitiveness in our home matches, a few are asking if the WHS rating for the course are correct. Planning for the coming golfing year with the help of the senior's team of helpers. Ted Shaw has asked if there is a document which outlines the days the course will be closed due to outside events throughout the year, he has checked the diary, but doesn't look complete.

Matters/Actions arising from report.

(TF) I will update the club diary on V11 to show the days the course will be closed.

(GL) The ladies are not as competitive as in the past before WHS. It is interesting the seniors appear to have the same thinking around the calculation.

(All) A general discussion took place. It is thought that it is the same for all teams, and the thought was that we in the past had an advantage due to DG being a proper championship course compared to many of our opponents, using the old handicapping system, which has somewhat been tempered by the WHS system. Let's hope it changes a little when the changes come in.

Questions from Members Reps

There is a cross section of views regarding the ongoing winter work on the course.

(TF) The team are undertaking some major works, which are part of the plan to encourage growth and drying by allowing the wind to blow across the course. Much of the work should have been completed on an annual rota in the past, so it now looks dramatic.

Some of the tee mats on the range are in poor condition could they be changed.

(TF) Will get costings.

Can anybody take cut down wood from the course.

(TF) thy must go through myself (TF) before any thing is removed from the course.

Who is responsible for hotel event marketing to the members, some may attend events if they knew what was on.

(TF) I will send out anything I am made aware of to the members.

A.O.B

There has been some inappropriate post on the DG Social group Facebook page.

(AS) It is the old page which we wanted to close, I do not have administration on the page. I believe Tony Coleman has access I will give him a call.

Are we looking into why entry levels have dropped in club competitions.

(All) We will keep a close eye on entries and compare to previous years.

Shey Walder has asked if we can minute the appreciation of the work carried out by the Greenkeepers on the course.

Simon Has completed a new matchday menu, can all catering for matches etc please go through Tom

The Captain Closed the Meeting :- 20.26

Next Meeting –

Date – Tuesday 13th February

Time – 19.30

Location-- Avon Room Donnington Grove GC