

# **ORMONDE FIELDS GOLF CLUB LIMITED**

## **MINUTES OF THE GOLF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.00pm.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr A Dale (Chair), Mr C Pepperday (Captain), Mrs L Spurr (Lady Captain), Mr K Carnell (President), Mr I Chambers, Mr P Cope, Mr P Derbyshire, Mrs P Holloway, Mr R Skinner, Mr C Stubbs.

Apologies: Ms M Jago, Mr M Painter, Mrs C Shepperson, Mr R White.

Minutes taken by Mr R Skinner.

**The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were proposed by Mr I Chambers and seconded by Mr K Carnell as being a true record.**

### **1.0 MATTERS ARISING/ACTIONS**

1.1 None

### **2.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

2.1 Mr Skinner advised he had received a list of all upcoming fixtures for DCG competitions for May/June. After discussion, it was confirmed that all relevant competitions had been entered, as in previous years.

### **3.0 CAPTAINS' REPORT**

#### **THE CAPTAIN:**

3.1 The Captain confirmed that the 'Drive-in' had been well attended and successful and wished to pass on his thanks to Mr White for his help and contribution.

3.2 The Captain queried whether guests playing the course are given the gate code to facilitate their subsequent exit. The Chairman stated that the code should be printed upon the initial receipt given when signing in, but agreed to check this point.

#### **ACTION: The Chairman**

#### **THE LADY CAPTAIN:**

3.3 The Lady Captain gave positive news that more Ladies were joining and being integrated into the club. Many Academy attendees were keen to become involved further and were joining the club as members.

### **4.0 BUSINESS REPORT**

4.1 The Chairman updated the meeting on the following business issues:-

a) Finances are generally positive with members renewing membership status and paying their subscriptions at the start of the new financial year. There is some natural 'wastage' which is a normal annual occurrence.

b) A new 'Gator' has been purchased and the existing one repaired. The intention is to purchase less new equipment this year.

c) Will Painter the new Professional has commenced work with a new teaching bay under construction on the practice field, with further bays and a perimeter fence under consideration.

d) A meeting has been held with the Clubhouse representatives regarding ongoing problems including opening hours, menu availability, attitude and the possible introduction of a card system. This is an ongoing issue.

4.2 Mrs Holloway raised the issue of members being out of pocket having paid for lessons from Mr L Sheldon which were not forthcoming. The Chairman confirmed he had written to Mr Sheldon but would write again.

## **5.0 COURSE REPORT**

5.1 Mr Derbyshire briefly outlined the work undertaken on the course since January. February was dry enabling tombstone and markers replacement, undergrowth and tree removal, reseeding/fertilisation of tees and greens and essential machine maintenance. March/early April was exceptionally wet, however, which has delayed the start of the season.

5.2 The plan is to verticut all greens once a month to encourage better grass growth and to roll the greens at least once a week. Tee box surrounds will be cut with a hover mower.

5.3 The first tee is to be cut to a stripe pattern to improve initial aesthetics as an experiment.

5.4 The sand filler will not be used this spring as originally planned owing to the extended recovery period and adverse appearance it will entail.

5.5 Mr Carnell wished to extend thanks to Mr Ward and his staff for their efforts this year to date under trying weather related circumstances.

## **6.0 HANDICAP REPORT**

6.1 Mr Chambers confirmed that 210 entries had been received for Knockout competitions by the cut-off date. This follows last year's discussions that 207 entries were required for break-even purposes.

6.2 Mr Chambers raised the issue of members entering scores into the computer when playing non-qualifiers. A method is required to stop people signing in.

**ACTION: Mr Chambers/Mr White**

6.3 Mr Chambers stated that GUR areas should be highlighted with white paint including when it has faded after adverse weather. He requested that the greens staff be reminded

**ACTION: Mr White**

6.4 Mr Carnell raised the issue of the new drop zone on the 4<sup>th</sup> hole. The precise area where the drop zone applies to needs to be identified and communicated to members and visitors alike. Mr Stubbs considered a superior quality mat should be considered for the drop zone. Mr Derbyshire agreed that this would be the case in the future.

**ACTION: Mr Chambers/Mr White**

- 6.5 Mr Carnell raised the issue of competitors marking their own card in the recent Len Knight Salver. After discussion, it was agreed this should not be a problem.
- 6.6 Mr Cope raised the issue of the computer showing a different result to that calculated by members of the handicap team in a recent competition. Mr Chambers agreed to check.

**ACTION: Mr Chambers**

**7.0 HOUSE REPORT**

- 7.1 Mrs Holloway confirmed that the first House Committee meeting will be held shortly. Some Ladies events are to be considered now their numbers are increasing.

**8.0 HEALTH, SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

- 8.1 None

**9.0 LADIES REPORT**

- 9.1 Mrs Holloway confirmed that following the recent England Golf meeting with the Ladies, a new club support officer appointed by them has volunteered to come to talk to the wider Ladies section.
- 9.2 Mrs Holloway advised that she had seen an advert for Shirland Golf Club within a Country Life magazine. The Chairman responded that the Directors had researched several ways of advertising the merits of the club.
- 9.3 Mrs Holloway confirmed that a separate Ladies Committee has been set up.

**10.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS DECLARED**

- 10.1 Mr Skinner raised the issue of Presentation Evenings and in particular the exemption dispensation which is being abused by some members. After extended discussion the meeting agreed that unfortunately the dispensation should be withdrawn.
- 10.2 Mrs Holloway advised that Mr P Longdon from DCG had offered to hold a Rules evening for members possibly in a questionnaire format with possibly a prize/buffet involved. Mrs Holloway agreed to discuss possible dates with him (not Presentation Evenings).

**ACTION: Mrs Holloway**

- 10.3 Mrs Holloway asked who was managing the upcoming new members evening. Mr Carnell confirmed he was undertaking the role.
- 10.4 Mr Derbyshire asked how many 7-day members over the age of 80 there were and why the subscription dispensation was not offered to them. The offer is actually a new Category of membership involving a reduced rate and reduced benefits (no competitions or busy tee times at the weekend). Members may remain in their existing 5 or 7 day Category with associated benefits if they so wish.
- 10.5 Mr Derbyshire raised the issue of visitors commencing play before the Shop opens at 8am without paying green fees. This was recognised as a problem but is difficult to police.
- 10.6 Mr Carnell advised the meeting about the new members meeting scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm and the proposed format.

- 10.7 Mr Carnell advised the meeting that replacement of the existing major trophy boards would soon become critical as some are almost full. After discussion, the option to procure new Perspex boards was agreed. Location of the existing boards is to be confirmed.
- 10.8 Mrs Holloway asked if the hire price for club buggies had been established. The Chairman confirmed this was so and advised her to consult the General Manager.
- 10.9 The Chairman advised that the extra committees being created would need to satisfy all relevant paperwork concerning safeguarding in relation to young people.

Date of the next meeting is Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023. Meeting closed at 7.50pm.