

LINCOLNSHIRE UNION OF GOLF CLUBS

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on the
7th May 2014 at the Petwood Hotel, commencing at 18.15hrs

PRESENT:

D.J Brotherton (President- in the chair), T Ireland (Immediate Past President)
H.Harrison (Hon Sec), A. Hurst (Hon Treasurer), D.Price (Past President/EG voting
member), J.Lammin (President Elect), C.Lloyd (Comps Sec), P.J Rogers (Past
President), R.Kedzlie, J.Hodge (Asst Junior Organisers), G.Pearce (Match Sec),
T.Haggerty (School Representative), S.Brattan (County Captain) J.Flindall (Vice
Captain), K.Moody (Junior Organiser),
K.Farrow (Lge Chairman)
Club Representatives: A.Drennan, D.Culyer, S.Forth, L.Toyne, D.Jackson, P.Martin,
D.Carter, J.Smith, A. Thompson, R.Burnsnel, P.Davis.

(1) APOLOGIES:

J.Halmshaw, JTR. Price, S. Graves, GD Smith, J.Barley, H.Castell, R.Boot, K.Onyon.

(2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 4th December 2013

Agreed as a true record. Proposed by D.Culyer Seconded by C.Lloyd

(3) MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising that were not agenda items.

(4) ENGLAND GOLF REPORT: (D.F PRICE)

“Mr President the LUGC has continued to be fully represented at the various England
Golf meetings which we are entitled to attend. The report as usual reflects decisions
taken at the last voting members meeting as well as providing a commentary
regarding ongoing matters from various committee meetings at EG and seeks to
anticipate issues on and over the horizon.

Strategic PlanDelegates will recall that the strategic plan has been out for
consultation for the past year. It has now been approved, as have various funding
streams to deliver parts of it. The following was agreed by the board

- 15k for each of 3 years ...Women and girls participation officer (117k also from R and A)
- 92k operational plan delivery
- 15k ...Ladies access series event in return for amateur places in this and other LET events
- The following was agreed by voting members at the last general meeting and will come from the special projects reserve.
- 30k (10k per annum for 3 years)..... Women and girls participation officer
- 225k per annum for 3 years (reviewed annually)county talent lead officer (50k per annum) and grant support to county developments

Property leases at Woodhall Spa..... It appears that this long running difficulty is
now approaching conclusion and the 2 separate boards of England Golf and

Woodhall Spa Property are now at a position where all major issues are agreed with help of Farrers solicitors/accountants.

Budgets etc..... a reduction of 5% has been assumed from the reduction in fees as a result of affiliated members only paying for one club membership only . Time will tell if this is accurate. An Audit committee meeting was scheduled for 4 April and a principle agenda item was the discussion of future affiliation fees. An update is anticipated at the next EG meeting

CASC ... EG are still in discussion with HMRC regarding the introduction of new rules, hence these are delayed.

Bridport and West Dorset ruling.... HMRC had still not issued guidance

VAT and the UKGCOA (UK Golf Course owners association)..... EG have committed £20k to a study by KPMG into potential distortion within the golf sector.

Governance changes.... the election of directors and appointment of non board members to the committees of the board is under review

Affiliation fee process.. A major review will be part of the ongoing Governance review but in the mean time it is anticipated that some revisions may be put to the July voting members meeting.

Commercial Strategy Group ... they are looking proposals from some digital companies.... any formal proposals will need to be put before the board. (and I assume the voting members!)

Active People survey.... Reduced participation figures will impact on Sport England funding and in turn a review will be needed to achieve best benefit from available funding. There is a debate taking place with the board regarding whether Golf should remove itself from Govt funding ... at present the consensus is that we should continue to accept funding but maximise other sources of income and revenue. This is inline with previous thinking

Meetings and communication with counties etc ... proposed that the AGM and general meeting be held on 15 April 2015 and that there be one further general meeting in the autumn. This would be a reduction in meetings from 3 to 2. It is also suggested that committee meetings be reduced from 4 to 3 per annum. This will be put to the July 2014 meeting of EG. Although the need for enhanced communication with counties and voting members is acknowledged and the point is made that for any significant issues an EGM could be called it is not clear at the present time how the enhanced communication will be effected. ... **Members present are invited to comment.** “

(5) M. G. U. REPORT (H. HARRISON)

The year end surplus is likely to exceed last years of £4747.00.

Burghley Park has agreed to host the Midland Boys in 2015.

Greetham Valley are hosting the Junior Qualifying later this month and Lincoln are hosting the Seniors championship in July.

Our seniors are now playing in both the Anglian and Midland leagues.

David Joy gave an excellent presentation at the last meeting regarding the EG strategy.

The Under 16 Midland team event will go ahead on the 19th October at Kedleston Park. Nine counties are playing with Warwickshire deciding not to enter a team.

(6) COUNTY CAPTAIN'S REPORT (S.BRATTAN):

“Flowing with so much positivity and enthusiasm when taking on this role.

Positives:

New kit has been well received and been very popular among the county squads

The fabulous support from Harvey, Jeff, Jim, David and Gerald.

Successful county trial despite the dry and very windy conditions – over 50 players both juniors and seniors put themselves out to show what kind of standard LUGC have in the golfing pot

Short game coaching by Steve Bennett was well received and well attended (18)

My attendance at Junior Coaching meeting our future potential players

Squad day at Waltham Windmill GC 24 – turned up and played foursomes -created team bonding and pairing ideas

Blooded new players in pre season friendlies – resulting from county trial

Lost to Yorkshire – but got more points than last year (2.5) – classing as a positive

Good morning foursome's results v PGA not so good singles though to cause a defeat

Beat RAF with weak-ish team but new players performed well and gained experience won 10-5 on excellently turned out Cleethorpes GC – greens excellent

Narrowly lost to a strong experienced Notts side with a relatively inexperienced team – so pleasing way the lads fought and played

Concentration on more short game and putting coaching – in progress

Juniors – Ollie Harrod / Ollie Mitchell / Sam Done / Adam Barnard – proving capable and will be given valuable experience over the season

Return of older heads may arrest our current slide but no guarantees sorry Mr President

Seems to be a general buzz about the county – have used and looked at over 30 players in preseason

Negatives:

Same old story

- trying to address commitment issues of elite players
- all positive then pull out –
- Outside top 12 players in county we do not seem to have any depth or quality players coming through
- Our juniors while plenty not all a level to compete at 2nd team level
- My own golf suffering as a result of not knowing who will pull out etc
- My stress levels - didn't envisage the difficulty involved in finalising teams – but still dedicated

Felt like calling it a day but hope that once we have restructured and gained trust of elite players I can manage out a successful season – or improve on last – I don't think we are ready for the top four and Champions league just yet!!”

(7) COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT (C. LLOYD):

“I am disappointed to have to report that the first Championship of the season, the Mid Amateur due to have been held at Blankney last Sunday, was cancelled due to the lack of entries, 18 in total. Following requests some time ago it was due to revert to a 36 hole Championship this year but whether this has actually been a deterrent or not is something we will be looking at for future years.

On a more positive note both the Elsham and Bramley competitions attracted 31 entries, only very slightly down on last year, and the first rounds of both competitions have been completed.

As regards the other competitions I have 34 entries for the Seniors Championship and a few entries for all the others which normal.

Venues for the 2016 Championships have almost all been agreed and confirmed, the only exception being the Poacher, and they are:-

Amateur – Holme Hall

Hotchkin, Taylor Butlin – South Kyme

Jubilee – Carholme
Sir Henry Lunn – Sleaford
Mid Amateur – Burghley Park
Open – Elsham
Seniors – Spalding
Rita Hurst Salver for 9 hole clubs – Sutton Bridge “

A general discussion ensued around the problems with participation in the Mid Amateur, venues, 18/36 holes, time of the season. Competitions committee will consider possibilities at their next meeting.

(8) JUNIOR ORGANISER’S REPORT (K.MOODY):

“First of all may I say what an honour it was to be nominated and then elected as the County Junior Organiser.

I will do my best to repay your faith.

This is my first report to the executive since my election and I am delighted to report that everything has, so far, been trouble free. My colleagues on the executive, club secretaries, managers and professionals have all been very helpful when I’ve had reason to speak to them – some even beyond my expectations – so much so that many of next year’s fixtures and some into 2016 have already been either confirmed or provisionally booked.

This is really appreciated

So far this year we have completed about the first ten items on the fixture list without any major issues.

1. The ‘A’ and ‘B’ Squad February coaching went extremely well.
2. Three juniors played in the Men’s Trials in March and have subsequently been used in a couple of the pre-season matches with some success.
3. The Boys vs. Girls match at Waltham was also successful but had to be cut short after about 15 holes - due to a severe storm on the day.
4. Peter Rogers held a successful Little Imps session at Belton Woods.
5. A field of about 60 contested the Jennings and Peggoty Cups at Lincoln Golf Club – Jack Evans of Cleethorpes took the net prize, Rhys Mayers of Sleaford the gross prize and Erin Brown of Boston the girls’ prize - the winners have been posted on the web site.
6. Steve Cooper, John Barley and I visited Greetham Valley last Sunday with the ‘A’ Squad for coaching and a practice round – this was done in preparation for the MGU Boys’ Qualifier that is to be held there at the end of May. It proved most useful.”

(9) REPORT OF LEAGUE CHAIRMAN (K.FARROW)

• ***SOUTH LEAGUE REPORT***

Richard Gilbert (Burghley Park) has now replaced Dennis Millington as Secretary of the South Lincs Golf League. There are no other changes to the South Management Committee.

Thorney Lakes & Tydd St Giles withdrew from the South Junior Leagues prior to the start of the 2014 Season. This leaves 12 teams (3 Leagues of 4)

- **NORTH LEAGUE REPORT**

Simon Moody (Louth) has replaced me as North Lincs Golf League Secretary.
There are no other changes to the North Management Committee

Sandilands GC went into administration early in the New Year As a consequence their future is uncertain and they felt it was only fair to everyone to withdraw their team from the Scratch League prior to commencement of the season.

Holme Hall have applied and been accepted to join the Handicap League commencing 2015

Arrangements have been made to hold the 2014 North League Scratch Play Off Semi Finals & Finals at Immingham Golf Club on Sunday 24.8.2014.

Following several discussions at previous recent North League Meetings regarding the current North Scratch League format - at the March 2014 North League Meeting a proposal had been received to revert back to Promotion and Relegation within the Scratch League. But with an East (Divisions A & C) & West (Divisions B & D) split. This would involve separate Promotion & Relegation within the East and West respectively. There was a further proposal to revert back to Promotion and Relegation but within and across the whole four North Area Divisions A-D.

The Scratch League Club Representatives present were asked to vote initially on whether they wished to remain as at present (4 Divisions of 5 Teams each played on a regional basis) or to revert back to Promotion and Relegation.

The vote was in favour of Promotion & Relegation.

They were then asked to vote on whether they wished to adopt the East West split or whether the preferred option was to do this across the whole four North Area Divisions.

This vote was in favour of the East West split.

This matter will be escalated through the League Management Committee and subsequently to the next PAC Meeting. The intention would be to implement this for the 2015 Season.

- **2014 FINALS**

Junior Final

Boston Golf Club Sunday 28.9.2014

Scratch / Handicap Finals

Spalding Golf Club Sunday 5.10.2014

COMMENT RE COUNTY PLAYERS

Within my League Chairman's Reports delivered at the recent pre season North and South League Meetings I included comments regarding player priority being Country : County : Club : and asked that all Players and Team Managers should play their part in ensuring this protocol continued to be implemented.

I look forward as the new League Chairman to working with both the North and South Area Management Committees together with the LUGC Executive and maintaining the high standards set by my predecessor Jim Lammin.

(10) REPORT OF THE HON TREASURER (A.HURST)

Alistair gave an overview of our current financial situation; we are still awaiting 6 clubs to pay their affiliation fees. Numbers appear, as in recent years, to have continued a downward trend.

(11) GOLF PARTNERSHIP UPDATE (J.LAMMIN)

National Golf Month May 2014

30 of the county clubs have agreed to participate in the NGM

The clubs have uploaded 96 activities during May on the GIG activities webpage for taster days, beginner sessions, improvers & play, green fee offer, trial membership offers or introductory membership offers.

GIG Activities

- 15 Golf Centre's have been set up for April 2014 - March 2015 to put on beginners sessions followed on by 5 weekly 1 hour sessions for £25.
- Golf Centre's will be supported with marketing materials.
- Looking to increase in trial membership offers from clubs for newcomers into golf and looking at best practice in implementing the player pathway.
- Partnership shall continue to increase Golf Centre participation and have other clubs interested, shall also speak to clubs to see if they will continue into GIG centres.

Participation 26+ - all targets achieved with

- 14 public events attended,
- 15 GIG centres established
- 11 workplaces visited.
- 1 Community Club
- Club memberships from direct measured CGP activity up to 141

Disability Activities

- Continuing strong links with Linkage College and Inspire links. Using Sportivate funding we have an additional 3 programmes for young people with disabilities starting spring 2014.
- Working with North Lincolnshire NHS in the Grimsby area connected with adults with learning disabilities to integrate with Golf Clubs.

Partnership Work

22 clubs continue with Golfmark

- Play more Golf Fund Application Form sent to all clubs through England Golf, up to £1,500 can be requested through a project plan for adults, women & girls, juniors under 18 and disability by structured coaching.

(12) AOB:

Hon Sec thanked everyone who had helped in the distribution of county cards and particular thanks to Trevor Ireland who had co-ordinated the exercise.

Hon Sec informed the C'tee that the Administrators for Sandilands GC had been in touch and that they were sending affiliation fees to us on behalf of the members.

(13) Date, Place, Time of next meeting- 10th September 2014 at the Petwood Hotel – 18.15hrs

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.25 hrs.