



80th Anniversary (1935 – 2015)

Minutes of Men's Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 21st January 2015, at 7.30pm

Present: - Bruce Bull, Gerry Santangeli, Alex Coull, Stuart Martin, Callum Richardson, Andy Hendry, Kevin Willis, Craig Clark and Bernie Mullen.

Apologies: - Elliot Coulter, David Wallace and Robert Martin

Welcome: - Captain welcomed all to the meeting and relayed the recent news of the untimely passing recently of David Wallace's Father. Our sincere condolences are extended to David and his family at this difficult time.

Previous Minutes: - Proposed by Craig Clark and seconded by Kevin Willis.

Matters arising: - Kevin commented that the new bunker at the second has not increased in size or in height of face. Being consistent Alex Coull is still concerned regarding the 'bail-out' route to the left and the unfairness for anyone if unfortunate to land adjacent to the face.

Bruce confirmed that Keith Miller's Band had agreed to perform at the Presentation Dance.

Secretary's Items: - Letter from DEBRA, a charity dealing with skin disorders etc who are looking for a charitable donation. Letters and supporting guidance from the SGU regarding the likely amalgamation of the SGU and SLGA organisations. Early bird offer with regards to tickets etc, for the Scottish Open, which, this year, is at Gullane. Thank you letters etc from SIMBA, CRY and CHAS were received and they have been posted on the foyer notice board.

Treasurer's Report: - Draft year end accounts were distributed and they

make very encouraging reading. The books are currently with Bill for auditing. The Club have made an operating profit of around £900 for the year. A great achievement when you consider that we funded the bar improvements which were nearly £5000 in costs. A well deserved vote of thanks to Bernie for his sterling work over the past year.

Competition's Report: - Gerry circulated the current schedule for both the Men's and Juniors Competitions for 2015-16. We received a request from the Lothian's Golf Association to move our Boys and Girls (Junior) Open from July to August, as our open is part of the Order of Merit Series.

Also some Committee members had received an email from Kevin Phillips regarding nominating a tournament, the winner of which would qualify for a Finals Day on the 12th June at Gullane. The April Medal on the 5th April was chosen. The winner of the Gullane event would then participate in the Scottish Open Pro-Am.

Emails from Elliot Coulter and Graeme Turnbull both raised concerns regarding the result of the Sclaffers Trophy played on the 1st January. In short four balls (2) played in the competition and this is not allowed in official competitions and those who did so should all be disqualified.

After consideration of all these points a proposal for retrospective disqualification was proposed by Stuart Martin, seconded by Callum Richardson. A counter proposal that the result should stand was proposed by the Captain and seconded by Bernie Mullen. The counter proposal was carried by a majority vote. As a consequence of this discussion we must learn from the many mistakes made and move on, perhaps, downgrading the competition to a fun event.

With regards to the forthcoming Inter-Club match against the Levenhall Arms, Callum was asked to organise a notice requesting names. Also he will talk to Kevin, Alan and Eddie regarding tee times, catering and team numbers.

Green's Report: - Kevin reported that he had at last met with the Head Green Keeper for an update on course matters etc. He has been assured that the 1st tee will not be set up behind the green keepers shed. However there was concern that tee positions were being moved by persons unknown. Kevin dis request that relief tee positions are be better positioned on properly prepared ground locations. The Head Green Keeper confirmed that no new maintenance works will be started this year but has assured Kevin that those works that have started or are in progress

will be completed in time for the new season.

Kevin also expressed his disappointment that despite the course being one of the few open last weekend, the visitors that we received displayed scant disregard for the greens by failing to repair their pitch marks. A sign regarding this issue will again be posted in prominent positions within the clubhouse to augment the various signs on the course.

Junior's Report: - As previously discussed the Junior Open date has been moved. Kate Green ELC's Junior Golf Officer has asked the club to host the Secondary School's Order of Merit competition on Friday 20th March. They have requested use of the computer to publish the competition etc.

The committee will again approach Graeme Turnbull to take up the role of Junior Convenor.

The Junior Competition schedule has been finalised with the summer season events taking place on Wednesday's.

House Committee: - We await details of the scheduling of a committee meeting, which we hope will advise on the status of a kitchen floor repair.

The issue of the provision and consumption of coffee was raised; it is clear that both Kevin Phillips and Alan Watt will have to meet, preferably with the House Manager present, to discuss a way forward to serve both parties and the members' interest.

Elliot Coulter raised the issue of Bar Vouchers in his email to the Captain. He reminded the Committee that we had considered lowering the amount of vouchers provided from £15. This did not happen last year as they had already been printed. It was decided that Elliot's suggestion of reducing the amount from £15 to £10 was a proposal which was seconded by Stuart Martin. A counter proposal for the voucher amount to remain the same was proposed by Kevin Willis and seconded by Bernie Mullen. The original proposal was carried by a majority decision.

Any other Business: - Kevin Willis suggested a 70's and 80's Karaoke Evening being held in the clubhouse during the first fortnight in March. The idea was backed by the Committee and Kevin would assume responsibility for posters and organisation with the Bar Steward and the Caterer. It was also suggested that Kevin Phillips could assist (even vocally!).

The issue of scorecards being available for those playing earlier than the Professional's shop opening times was raised by Andy Hendry. Andy would take ownership of this particular item by stocking cards in an appropriately accessible location near the locker rooms.

Callum Richardson raised the issue of the club's Wi-Fi access code after recently being unable to provide members of a visiting club with the number. The code is held behind the bar. The committee was reminded that the current setup for Wi-Fi was at best poor, and overuse would cause the system to crash. Investigations are to be made as to how best improve this service.

Callum reported that the Club Outing will take place at Duns G.C. in May. Cost is £70. Tee times are from 10.32am till 11.36am. The numbers are restricted to a maximum of 36. The notice is up inviting members to append their names after a £20 deposit has been paid. The Club have already paid a deposit for the green fees etc.

Callum also reported that he had sent emails to Eyemouth, Haddington and Castle Park golf clubs with regards to potential Inter-Club games. No replies have been received so far although the matter would be discussed at Haddington's next committee meeting. Callum had also been approached with regards to a Seniors match with Gifford, and it was decided that Alan Buchanan be approached to seek names etc and organise such a match assuming there is suitable interest.

Stuart Martin informed the meeting that it was hoped to have another Friday night Masters Sweep on the 10th April. The format would be 9 holes of golf, curry, followed by watching the golf on TV in the clubhouse.

He also suggested selling football tickets to raise funds for new cues and a white ball for the pool table.

Graeme Turnbull in his email to the Secretary raised this issue of the flag not being raised as a mark of respect following the recent death of former club member Eck Cockburn (Gary's father). It had been agreed to put the flag up but adverse weather conditions resulted in the flag not going up. Vic Young also volunteered to put the flag up the Monday but various circumstances again saw the opportunity missed.

Elliot also raised the issue of slow play in his email, what was the Committee going to do about it etc. After discussion regarding recent

sweeps etc that this is still a serious issue, notices will be put up again on the notice boards. We are still considering 'Naming and Shaming' the main protagonists.

The date for the A.G.M. was set for Saturday 21st March. It was agreed that club membership fees would remain the same in total.

Amendment 14th February 2015.

Captain Bruce Bull called an Emergency Meeting of the Full Committee on Saturday 14th February to discuss the Sclaffers Trophy result. Bruce informed the Committee on a timeline of events, emails and letter from various people regarding the competition. A discussion then took place regarding the result and interpretation of the Rules of Golf in particular Rule 33.3 regarding play order, groups etc. The Committee agreed that the result stands and now considers the matter closed. The Captain closed the meeting by reminding those present that the all items of committee business are not to be discussed externally until the minutes have been agreed and posted.

**The date of the next meeting 25th
February at 7.30pm**