

SOUTH OF SCOTLAND GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING 20 May 2014
Held at the Selkirk Arms Hotel, Kirkcudbright at 7.15 pm.

Present:

Neville Wright, President, in the Chair; D Moore, G. Sharp; A Millar; J Burns; P Watson and I Robin, Secretary.

Apologies:

R McKnight; B Duguid; A Learmonth and I McWhirter;

President's Welcome:

The President welcomed the members to the May Meeting and introduced Pam Watson who had been approached to be the Coaching Convenor

Executive Meeting 22 April 2014

The Minutes were approved, proposed by Alastair Millar and seconded by Graeme Sharp

Meeting with Clubs re Amalgamation 7 May 2014

The Notes from this Meeting were approved. All Clubs had been sent a copy.

Executive Meeting 7 May 2014

The Minutes were approved proposed by Graeme Sharp and seconded by Duncan Moore.

Pam Watson explained that she was the Junior Convenor at Kirkcudbright Golf Club and wished to continue in that capacity. She had not yet decided to accept the position as Coaching Convenor but wanted to find out more information. Willie Lumsden had kept her informed of his coaching philosophy and she was aware of the Association's Coaching Policy. Neville Wright explained the role as follows:-

- To ensure that arrangements are made for coaching and performance sessions and juniors are invited
- Communication with County Coaching Convenors
- Set up Coaching sub-group consisting of Area Coaching Convenor, County Coaching Convenors, Area Junior Team Manager and Coaching providers. The group would be chaired by one of the Vice Presidents.
- Willie had dates and venues fixed for sessions over the summer but he did not know if these had been confirmed.
- While watching the Juniors in their match at the weekend the Cumbria boys were more professional particularly in their course management, demeanour, choosing the right shot at the right time, etc. and it was on these performance skills that the South boys required coaching and not on the elements of the golf swing.
- Team bonding sessions over the summer

It was agreed that the reporting and feed back from the coaching providers during the past year had been very poor and this would have to be addressed.

Girls should be invited to the coaching sessions and performance days, The Galloway Ladies were unofficially in favour.

The Rules for the Junior Order of Merit had not yet been finalised but it was hoped to have the details confirmed at the next meeting.

Pam replied that these were her objectives also. She would give the job serious thought and let the President or Secretary know.

Pam Watson left the Meeting at this point.

Amalgamation

Jim Burns reported that he had just received a phone call on the Stirlingshire Meeting with the SGU. There were four points of disagreement with the Amalgamation Proposals document as follows:-

- Voting situation
- Future role of Areas and Executive Council going forward

- Potential regionalisation
- Power of Board going forward

These had been orchestrated by a Club Member and not the Area Executive.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that the website continues to evolve. News items are continuously being added. Please continue to visit the site and let the Secretary know of any errors or suggestions for improvements.

Willie Lumsden, Coaching Convenor, tendered his resignation on 30 April due to family commitments. The work he had put in over the past year in forming the Area Coaching Policy is very much appreciated. He had enormous enthusiasm for helping the Juniors and a lot of good ideas for improving the coaching system in the future.

He reminded everyone that the Meeting re Amalgamation with the Clubs and SGU is at 7.15pm on Tuesday 10 June at Cally Palace Hotel, Gatehouse. All Clubs have been informed and a reminder will be sent out at the end of May.

Permission was given to Wigtown & Bladnoch and New Galloway Golf Clubs to extend the preferred lies rule to 17 May due to waterlogged fairways. Wigtown and Bladnoch had requested a further extension till the end of May. This had been granted.

A Meeting was held on Wednesday 7 May at Castle Douglas Golf Club with Affiliated Clubs to discuss the implications of the Amalgamation Consultation document. There was a poor turnout from the Clubs with only 6 Clubs present. The notes from the Meeting had been sent to all Clubs and Executive Members. Reports from other Areas showed that the poor turnout was countrywide.

The SGU AGM and Conference will be held on 24/25 January 2015 at the Stirling Management Centre.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the summary of accounts up to 23 April as follows:-

Income		Expenditure	
In Bank at 1/9/13	14,677.20	Vouchers	920.00
IMT	1,298.00	Acc/meals	359.80
Sponsorship	840.00	ATC	785.98
Areas	761.73	Travel	406.10
Subs	15,537.00	Sundries	778.39
Sundries	10.00	Coaching	643.90
D&G Partnership	5,000.00	NCF	358.40
Comps	<u>512.00</u>	Matches	466.10
		in Bank 23/4/14	<u>33,917.26</u>
	38,635.93		38,635.93

22 Clubs out of the 23 in the Association have submitted their affiliation fees for the year so far. Only Lockerbie has to pay. A letter has been sent to remind them and offer a monthly payment scheme if required.

The total number of individual members is presently down 268 of which Moffat have lost 76, Dumfries and County 76, Dumfries and Galloway 22, Brighouse 27 and Powfoot 26. On the plus side Crichton are up 42, Lochmaben 22 and Southernness 18. A list of the Clubs and their membership was distributed at the Meeting.

ArmstrongWatson, who last year sponsored the Area Team to the value of £1,000 have this year asked in return, the names of 6 companies whom they can approach for business. Most Clubs had Members who carried out Auditor duties and it was not considered appropriate that the Executive suggest companies for ArmstrongWatson to approach. It was suggested that the Secretary advise the sponsors that the Association were happy to mention their name at any appropriate time. They were also happy to support their company and to forward their details to the Clubs in the Area

as well as erecting their company signage at all Association events.

D & G Golf Partnership

Duncan Moore reported that there had been two meetings of the Working Group and one of all the Members since the last report. Lorna had been appointed to set up the website which would be part of the VisitScotland website. She required general information and photographs from the Clubs which the 3 Area representatives were gathering. A suggestion to use a hovercraft with camera to take pictures of each Club's signature hole was being investigated. Mark Geddes was proving most useful in opening doors to influential contacts. A new group had been set up called ADGAP who were an amalgamation of accommodation providers.

Convenor's Reports

SGU DELEGATE

Jim Burns reported that he had e-mailed George McGregor to congratulate him on behalf of the Association on his appointment as Captain elect of the R & A.

The next Board Meeting would be on 28/29 May followed by a Planning Discussion to set the agenda for next year. The Executive Meeting of the Council would be on 11 June when deliberations would be centred on the re-written GolfClub strategy and the Future Economic Model for Golf Clubs.

The CDH Member Cards were due to be distributed imminently.

The Development Fund to help Clubs with marketing schemes, etc. had distributed £72,000 to 90 Clubs of the £100,000 allocated .

CHAMPIONSHIPS 2014

Graeme Sharp reported that the posters and entry forms for the South Championships, South Junior Championships and South Senior Championships would be sent out soon.

COACHING CONVENOR

There was no report on coaching matters

SENIOR TEAM MANAGER

Graeme Sharp reported that both he and the team members were very disappointed the team did not reach the last 8 and contest the match play stages. The team finished 13th out of the 16 Areas.

The match against Perth & Kinross had been arranged for 3 August, probably at Blairgowrie

JUNIOR TEAM MANAGER

Iain Robin reported that the first match in the Northern Counties League had been played at Stoney Holm Golf Course on Sunday 18 May. The south Juniors suffered a heavy defeat by 7½ games to 4½. He thanked Neville and Duncan for their assistance with transport and management of the team in his absence.

The Boys team for the Area Team Championships is Duncan McNeill, Alex Chalk, Matthew McCulloch and Rory Brunton.

COURSE RATING

Neville Wright reported that on Thursday 17 May Bill Mitchell of SGU had given instruction to Robert McKnight, Jim Arnott and himself at Stranraer. The morning session was devoted to technical issues and a practical session was held in the afternoon. The next stage is to do a practice run over a local course before the final test at Sanquhar later in the year.

DUMFRIESSHIRE

There was nothing to report

KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE

There was nothing to report

WIGTOWNSHIRE

There was nothing to report

A. O. C. B.

Alastair Millar was informed there had been no further communications with the Cally Palace Hotel regarding membership of the Association

It was agreed to keep the Facebook account meantime. It was a useful tool for keeping the Juniors up to date with developments

Iain Robin reported that Brighthouse and Portpatrick had been included in the list of Development Centres for the year starting October 2014. Powfoot had been added to replace the Pines.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

The next Meeting was arranged for 7.15 pm on Tuesday 1 July 2014 at the Selkirk Arms Hotel, Kirkcudbright.