

**SOUTH OF SCOTLAND GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING 30 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Held at the Selkirk Arms Hotel, Kirkcudbright at 7.15 pm

**Present:**

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

**Apologies:**

A Learmonth and I McWhirter

**Presidents Welcome:**

The President welcomed the members to the penultimate Meeting of this year.

**Executive Meeting 19 August 2014**

The Minutes were approved, proposed by Alastair Millar and seconded by Robert McKnight

**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 him know of any errors or suggestions for improvements. Wave Tyrrell has not been able to make the News page the first page. It was suggested that the News button could be enlarged.

The SGU have considered the rating implications for recent course changes to the first hole at New Galloway. These have resulted in the following:-

Tee	Length	SSS
White	5006 yards	67
White	4834 yards	66
Yellow	4540 yards	64

These have to be used with immediate effect

Following the re-rating of Sanquhar the SSS has been reduced from 68 to 67

Iain Thomson has approached James Erskine who has agreed to sponsor the Gents OOM next year to the tune of £500. He has three conditions:-

(a) The vouchers will be Dumfries & County vouchers which he will provide to be spent in his shop

(b) Any results posted in the press or the internet to be prefixed with the title James Erskine South of Scotland Golf Order of Merit.

© A link be put on the South website to his website

The Executive agreed this was a very generous offer and should be accepted.

Ian Brotherston was congratulated on winning the SGU Seniors Order of Merit. He has had 4 top 3 finishes in Senior events and reached the semi-finals of the Matchplay in July.

It is proposed to change the dates of the Drennan Salver and Shamash Trophy so that the Drennan Salver will be competed for early in the season and the Shamash Trophy in September. This will enable the Team Manager to assess the form of players before the friendly matches and ATC and hopefully encourage more players outside the area to compete in the Shamash. This was agreed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer presented the unaudited annual accounts for comments.

INCOME	2014	2013	EXPENDITURE		
Subscriptions	15,447.00	16,161.00	D&G Golf Partnership	22,500.00	
SGU Coaching	1,250.00	2,500.00	Three Counties	7,989.00	8,944.90
ATC		500.00	Coaching	2,068.90	2,132.00
IMT Booklets	1,298.00	1,520.00	Travel	406.10	223.20
Competitions	1,342.00	1,725.00	Acc/Meals	719.45	699.45
Sponsorship	1,250.00	3,010.64	ATC	2,426.06	1,824.31
D&G Golf Partnership	17,500.00		NCF	4,673.87	5,864.83

Sundries	<u>1,642.73</u>	<u>864.39</u>	Vouchers	1,630.00	1,395.00
Total	<u>39,729.73</u>	<u>26,281.03</u>	Matches	996.50	2,029.55
			Sundries (Note 1)	<u>1,719.83</u>	<u>1,685.62</u>
			Total	45,129.71	24,798.86
			Surplus/Deficit	<u>-5399.98.</u>	<u>1,482.17</u>
				<u>39,729.73</u>	<u>26,281.03</u>

#### SUNDRY INCOME

Counties contribution for Drennan Salver, Peat Shield And 3 Counties	761.73	864.40
Donations	350.00	
Lockerbie Subs 12-13	<u>531.00</u>	
	1,642.73	<u>864.40</u>

#### SUNDRIES (Note 1)

Honorarium	750.00	750.00
Team Kit		182.70
Engraving	80.00	7.14
HCP Master Licence		165.00
Website	110.18	169.38
IMT Booklets	138.00	134.40
SGU AGM	200.00	
Misc	<u>441.65</u>	<u>277.00</u>
	1,719.83	1,685.62

#### OUTSTANDING CHEQUES

172.50	1,265.82
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#### OUTSTANDING VOUCHERS

850.00	955.00
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#### NOTES

SUBSCRIPTIONS	2014	2013
Brighouse Bay	168	249
Castle Douglas	384	381
Colvend	495	522
Crichton	849	723
Dalbeattie	348	405
Dumfries & County	1497	1725
Dumfries & Galloway	1485	1551
Gatehouse	366	408
Kirkcudbright	486	483
Lochmaben	1128	1062
Lockerbie	441	
Moffat	363	591
New Galloway	246	267
Newton Stewart	285	333
Portpatrick	969	978
Powfoot	1131	1209
Sanquhar	180	189
Southernness	1962	1908
St Medan	273	312
Stranraer	963	996
The Pines		351
Thornhill	711	744
Wigtown & Bladnoch	168	174
Wigtownshire County	<u>549</u>	<u>600</u>
TOTAL	15447	16161

IMT BOOKLETS	2014	2013
	30	56
		360
		24
	610	664
		80
	238	104
	30	
	50	
	30	32
		24
	80	
	50	
	<u>180</u>	<u>176</u>
	1298	1520

The Treasurer explained that although the accounts showed a deficit of £5,399.98, £5,000 of this was donated to the D & G Golf Partnership on behalf of the Clubs. Income was down from £26,281.03 to

£22,229.73 in real terms (ie omitting the D&G Golf Partnership contribution). A reduction of £4,051.30 which is worrying as savings in expenditure in real terms amounted to £2,169.15. Apart from subscriptions the main sources of income are the IMT Booklets and Sponsorship. The monies from the sale of IMT Booklets has been falling steadily over the past few years even after a small increase in the price last year. Various suggestions were made to increase the return including increasing the subscriptions by £1 per head and giving each member a free booklet. This had been proposed before and did not get support from the Clubs. It was pointed out that by using the SGU Membership Card a reduction on some green fees could be obtained. It was agreed to bring up the subject at the AGM and ask the Clubs what they saw as the future of the IMT Booklets

All efforts should be made to increase sponsorship but it was acknowledged that this was becoming increasingly difficult in the present financial climate. The only way to guarantee an increase in income was to increase subscriptions and a sum of 50p per head was agreed. This would be proposed at the AGM.

#### **Constitution:**

The draft of the new Constitution was approved subject to the whole document being typed in the same format. The Secretary was asked to send a copy to all Clubs well before the AGM and ask for comments so these could be discussed before the AGM.

#### **D & G Golf Partnership:**

Duncan Moore reported that the latest Meeting of the Partnership was held the previous day. 50,000 e-mails were being sent to Herald Readers regarding the Golf Safari holidays, to the Scotsman in three weeks' time and adverts placed in the Scottish Club Golfer and in their Irish issue. The website is progressing well but is receiving complaints from VisitScotland who are concerned about the inefficiencies of the SGU Development Officer's role. The Executive were concerned that the South supports their Clubs but her input to Dumfries & Galloway is limited. What do the other Development Officers do in their Areas? Could they not share their ideas with our Clubs? Jim Burns agreed to take these concerns to the SGU Council Meeting on Friday. Descriptions of the 23 Clubs in South Area were now on the website with photos and aerial photos

The Secretary was asked to invite Donald McDonald and Mark Geddes to the AGM to report on progress.

Brian Duguid offered to speak to Wave Tyrrell regarding posting adverts, links etc. on South website.

The next Meeting will be held at Crichton Golf Club on 15 October and followed by a SGU Roadshow entitled "What does the future of your Golf Club look like?"

#### **Convenor's Reports:**

##### **SGU DELEGATE**

Jim Burns reported that the Scottish Golf Strategy had been previously circulated by e-mail for information and comments to take to next Council meeting on Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> October The Working Together paper also requires feedback at meeting and he would appreciate any comments for noting He asked for observations on whether "Packed Lunches" should be provided for long journeys home from the Boys ATC He reported that the Area Satisfaction Survey was still in the design stage. The Accounts are on track to achieve a surplus of £23.8k at end of Financial Year.

In the Budget for 14/15 "More member" pillar being consolidated into other pillars( Stronger Clubs in the main) and the creation of a new pillar "World Class Coaching" With regards to Income the Subscription per capita will rise to £11 and projected. Sponsorship Income to rise by £57K to reflect additional Commercial Executive headcount. Scottish Amateur fee increased by £6 to cover cost of marquee at Muirfield. SportsScotland funding has been kept at same as previous years. The Expenditure Budget includes World Class Coaching which is a new area with £19k direct costs plus an allocation of overhead and marketing costs. Outstanding Championships will reduce as there are no one off major events in year (European Individual in 13/14) Excellent Governance has accounted for decrease in SGU Conference , Bank Charges and Open Championship Tent in 2015. Salaries

include a provision of 1.8% inflationary increase and 1.7% bonus which is in line with previous years.

With regard to More Golfers at the Clubgolf Festival, 88 of 95 camps who registered delivered. Junior Membership scheme is closed. 510 vouchers have been redeemed. One of the Clubgolf Coach Developers has resigned but has been replaced by a former South Junior – David Gemmell at Aberdour. Recent Scoreboard results include:--

Clubs receiving support 99 (108 target)

Coaches receiving support 306 (324 target)

Get Into Golf currently 55 Clubs signed up

Within the Membership Concept, six seminars have taken place and an additional has been planned for North East due to demand. He attended one at Dullatur and although it was informative the main targets are for increases in central belt where population numbers are higher. The Business Planning Process was also presented upon with useful handouts for Clubs to use as guides if engaging the process. RBS supported these given the link with Future Economic Model of Golf Clubs being the topic headline. The CDH continues albeit slowly with 544 clubs now uploaded. Clubgolf Regional Managers and Area and Counties reps have also been requested to encourage outstanding clubs within their jurisdiction to upload. The Scottish Membership Card distribution phase is now complete. CDH number now known as Scottish Golf ID number as it is more consumer friendly! HandicAPP now also available for the Techno Geeks.

In the Stronger Clubs initiative the Business Planning Programme continues to support Clubs through the full 10 step process. Governance remains the main area the majority of Clubs use as main trigger point for improvements. The Management Development Programme continues to lead the field of Education with over 90 clubs having committed to this already. The Club Development Team completed its analysis of education and training needs and it is hoped that a Club captain or Vice Captains seminar will be available before the end of 2014.

All Course Rating questions from last meeting have been dealt with and responses given.

In the Winning Golfers section 5 KPI now all met or exceeded. 2015 Schedule will be

ATC at Blairgowrie

Open Strokeplay at Moray

Boys ATC at Tulliallan

Seniors at Deeside

U16 at Arbroath

U14 at Glenbervie

Youth at Irvine

Boys Stroke Play at Royal Burgess

Scottish Amateur at Muirfield

In the Gents Order of Merit South finished with 3 in top 10 namely Connor Syme finished 5<sup>th</sup>, Scott Gibson 7<sup>th</sup> and Greig Marchbank 9<sup>th</sup> but pride of place to IR Brotherston who won SGU Seniors OM for 2014. In the Boys OM D.McNeill was 15<sup>th</sup> and A Chalk 25<sup>th</sup>

A report on SGU Investment in the Typical Golfer had been circulated for information and comments. Similarly the Working Together paper was circulated for information and comment

Colin Wood is retiring as a Director at the AGM and is not being replaced at the present time.

#### CHAMPIONSHIP SECRETARY

Graeme Sharp reported that Dumfriesshire won the Drennan Salver at Lochmaben on 21 September. It was a good competition and some excellent golf was played.

David Brodie (Wigtown & Bladnoch) won the JAL Brown Trophy at Portpatrick on 28 September to increase his winning margin in the Order of Merit. He thanked Clark Riddick for compiling the results over the season and having them published in the local press, the website and on the Scottish Golf View website.

#### COACHING CONVENOR

Pam Watson reported that she had had meetings with Chris Robinson (Portpatrick) and he was willing to take on the lead coaching role for the Performance Squads. He was given assurances that the Executive was intent to follow the SGU Coaching Pathway even though there had been issues in the past with Development Centres and Coaching Squads.

The Assessment Day had been arranged as part of the Brighthouse Bay Open Day. Chris would spend time with each competitor to assess their potential. Each successful boy would get a letter

through the post informing him of his selection to a Performance Squad and those not selected would get feedback to give them data to work on over the winter. Chris was particularly keen on work ethics and attitudes. To ensure there was a good turnout at all the Performance Days boys would have to attend for a percentage of hours before they could be selected to play for the South. The President insisted that Bonding Days were most important and all boys would have to attend. There had been issues in the past regarding individual swing coaching and it was essential that there was transparency and fairness across the board.

There would be no residential weekend at Brighthouse Bay this year, although this was not ruled out in the future, due to difficulties with the Leisure Complex.

#### SENIOR TEAM MANAGER

Graeme Sharp reported that Cumbria had asked to change the date of the annual match next year due to the Easter weekend. It had been agreed to play the match on Sunday 12 March at Lochmaben. Borders had also agreed to change the date of their match to Sunday 5 March at a venue in the Borders to be determined. He hoped to arrange squad days over the winter depending on the weather. He noted that the ATC next year had been scheduled for Blairgowrie again. The Seniors team did not do well at their ATC at Dunbar. The greens were in very poor condition.

#### JUNIOR TEAM MANAGER

Iain Robin reported that all matches for season 2014 had been completed. A final Jamboree competition had been organised for Southernness on Friday 17 October. This will be open to boys and girls under 18 and there will be scratch and handicap prizes. Posters have been sent to all the Clubs and the information posted on the website. A good turnout is hoped for.

It was agreed that the Boys Order of Merit would be compiled from Junior Opens at D & C, D & G, Lochmaben, Kirkcudbright, Stranraer and the Southernness Jamboree although there had been a poor turnout at all events so far.

#### COURSE RATING CONVENOR

Robert McKnight reported that Dumfries & Galloway had been rated and the forms sent to Kevin Weir. There had been no communication regarding the recent rating at Portpatrick.

#### DUMFRIESSHIRE

There was nothing to report

#### KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE

Brian Duguid reported that Clark Riddick won the Order of Merit and Rory Thompson was runner-up. Castle Douglas held their second flag day for Juniors. Dalbeattie and Kirkcudbright had attained Roving Pro Funding. Castle Douglas had a programme in place. Clark Riddick won the Douglas Maxwell Trophy after a play-off. Jeff Sutcliffe is to resign at the AGM on 6 November.

#### WIGTOWNSHIRE

Robert McKnight reported that Robin Shaw with a gross 72 won the Wigtownshire Seniors at Newton Stewart on 14 September. Jim Arnott and Fred Colvin won the Foursomes on 21 September. Newton Stewart won the Club Trophy. The AGM is on 6 September.

#### A.O. C. B.

Jim Burns reported that an Advanced Level 1 Coaching course was being held at Stranraer on 25 October. Applications are out for the next Vice-President of SGU

Pam Watson was having great difficulty getting information on the Counties Development Squads.

The President requested that all members due to present a report to the AGM provide a draft for the next meeting so that any duplication of information can be avoided.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.30pm

The next Meeting was arranged for 7.15pm on Tuesday 4 November 2014 at the Selkirk Arms Hotel, Kirkcudbright.