

**SOUTH OF SCOTLAND GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING 20 FEBRUARY 2018**

Held at the Selkirk Arms Hotel, Kirkcudbright at 7.15 pm

**Present:**

Tony Clark, President, in the Chair; J Forrest; S Kingston; A Millar; G Sharp; P Watson; D Moore; W Tyrrell; R McKnight; J Sutcliffe (KGA) and I Robin, Secretary.

**Apologies:**

B Duguid

**In Attendance:**

Peter Strain, President, Wigtownshire Golfers' Association

**President's Welcome:**

The President welcomed the members and in particular Peter Strain and Jeff Sutcliffe

**Executive Meeting 26 September 2017**

The Minutes were approved by Alastair Millar, seconded by Stephen Kingston

**Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising.

**Secretary's Report:**

Iain Robin reported that invitations had been sent to Portpatrick, Kirkcudbright and Crichton Golf Clubs to attend this Committee Meeting. He had heard nothing from any of the Clubs.

The Annual General meeting of Scottish Golf will take place on 4 March 2018 at Dalmahoy Golf and Country Club at 1.00 pm. Papers for the AGM can be downloaded from SGL website.

The new CEO of Scottish Golf has been appointed. He is Andrew McKinlay from the Scottish FA and takes up his post in May 2018

A Meeting with the Clubs has been arranged for Thursday 22 February at Castle Douglas GC at 7.30 pm to discuss the implications of the papers for the AGM.

On 14 February the Secretary had a meeting with Fiona Hunter and Linda Scott (Galloway Ladies) to explain details and up-to-date position of the amalgamation of Counties and Areas as Galloway Ladies were unaware of recent developments.

Lewis Cheetham (Junior) had applied for membership of Thornhill Golf Club and they were seeking clarification of the reasons of his removal of membership from Dumfries & County in July 2017. It is not the intention of Thornhill to admit him as a member.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer reported that the Summary of Accounts up to 9 February 2018 was as follows:-

Income		Expenditure	
In bank 1/9/17	7,979.66	Matches	262.30
Comps	380.00	Vouchers	2,035.00
IMT	230.00	ATC	1,772.64
Sponsor	300.00	NCF	332.80
Sundries	24.00	Sundries	244.02
Subscriptions	<u>5,272.50</u>	Coaching	320.00
	14,186.16		<u>9,219.40</u>
			14,186.16

Subscriptions have been paid by Powfoot, D & G, Castle Douglas, Brighthouse Bay, Kirkcudbright and Lockerbie.

There was still no indication a Coaching grant for 2017/18 will be forthcoming.

**SGL Draft Strategy:**

The Secretary reported that all correspondence to do with the SGL Draft Strategy and

AGM had been forwarded to the Executive and Clubs.

Each of the Resolutions for the AGM was discussed in detail so the South representatives would be able to vote accordingly. The Resolutions Nos. 1 to 10 were normal votes for Minutes, Accounts, appointment of President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President and Directors and it was agreed these would be supported.

Resolution 11 was to increase the Affiliation Fee from £11.25 to £15. Scottish Golf reported that the grant from SportScotland had been reduced by £300,000 this year and the increase will in part cover the resultant shortfall and the remaining income will be invested in front line services for Clubs. At present Scottish Golf were not doing the “day job” or attending to their core objectives efficiently or effectively and until they did and learned to live within their means there should be no increase in the Affiliation Fee.

Resolution 12 was for changes to some of the Articles of Association to remove historical references and fix grammatical errors. Included in the Clauses to be removed was one which would remove the Audit and Governance Committee. This committee was essential to the proper governance of the Company and should be retained. It was agreed that this Resolution be opposed.

Resolution 13 was for further amendments to the Articles of Association and in particular to Article 49, that the Company intends to reduce the Board to seven directors by 2020. I approved the Chair, CEO and President would fill three places but what roles would the other four have. Mention has been made of a youth, a Club representative and a representative from the areas and Counties. More detail required.

Resolution 14 was for more amendments to the Articles of Association agreeing to put the CEO on the Board. This was thought unnecessary as he already reports to the Board and attends Board Meetings.

It was agreed that these decisions and the reasons for them be notified to the Clubs at the Meeting on Thursday 22 February.

It was disappointing to note that of the nominations for the Board there was no representative from the smaller Clubs. The Board has to start from the basics and construct a good foundation of proper governance based on the core objectives before exploring ways forward to expand the organization.

## CONVENORS REPORTS

### **Championships 2018**

Graeme Sharp reported all the events for 2018 had been arranged and the Clubs notified.

The posters would be prepared soon and sent to the Clubs.

### **Coaching Convenor**

Pam Watson reported that since the last meeting there have been two more coaching days. 6 boys attended Powfoot on Saturday 3rd February where they concentrated on course management. The following week 10 boys came to Brighthouse Bay where the day was shortened due to the conditions. The focus was wedges and distance control inside 100 yards. She thanked both venues for their support.

She and Iain have had a discussion on the programme for next year and we will discuss this further with Chris Robinson. The initial thoughts are to shorten the days, involve more coaches and spread the venues across the region.

### **Senior Team Manager**

Graeme Sharp reported that the normal two matches had been arranged, against Borders at D&G and Cumbria at Eden. Due to the weather no practice matches had been organised. The teams may have to be selected from the 2017 OOM.

### **Junior Team Manager**

Iain Robin reported that Bothwell Castle Golf Club had decided not to host the Scottish Boys ATC on Sunday 10 June. He was awaiting an alternative date and venue.

He was presently arranging dates and venues for the NCF league matches and hoped to have these finalized soon.

## **Course Rating**

Robert McKnight reported that Wigtown & Bladnoch and St Medan would be rated from the Ladies' Tees probably around the end of April beginning of May: Pat Magill will accompany the team.

Further re-rating results had been received from SGL:-

Brighthouse Bay (New SSS) White 71, Yellow 67, Red 70. Both White and Yellow reduced by one shot and Red down two shots.

Gatehouse (New SSS) White 65, Yellow 64, Red 68 Both White and Yellow reduced by one shot and Red unchanged.

Castle Douglas White 66, Yellow 65, Red 69. All unchanged

## **D&G Golf Partnership Coordinator**

Jean Forrest reported that the VisitScotland media promotion had again successfully made a dramatic increase in the number of hits on the SSG site, but, as before, the length of stay on the site was disappointing. VS is committed to media promotion in preference to other avenues for advertising so we need to find the way to encourage people to explore our site for longer.

The Golf Show is only a month away and most things are in place. The rota for our "sales reps" has had a few changes, but we are more than adequately covered for all three days. The wall map is ready and Wave has used one of the Itinerary schedules constructed a few years ago, to create South of Scotland Golf Flyers for the show, and for further promotion elsewhere. Visit South West Scotland has also provided brochures to be distributed at the show. She had been in contact with Ian Barr, Events Communities Directorate of the Council, and he is in the progress of creating with the Council's Graphics department, advertising material for 10/15 regional festivals and events happening in 2018. If this can be produced in an acceptable format, such as a poster, we can add this to our stand and help to promote the Region as a venue for other things as well as golf. Sixteen Clubs have indicated that they will supply flyers, hopefully offering both discounted green fees and discounted accommodation. Some clubs seem to be finding the accommodation side of this more difficult than others. Also some clubs would appear to be adding additional information to existing leaflets rather than having new flyers created. How these will be displayed on the stand has still to be decided. Prompted by an enquiry from one of the clubs, she had updated her knowledge of the Data Protection Regulations and realise that the personal data collected at the Show cannot be given to clubs. This means that to allow clubs to make use of this data, the clubs will have to send any promotions they wish advertised to the Partnership and it will be sent out on their behalf by the Partnership. The end result will be the same, but will require this additional step to remain within the Data Protection Regulations.

## **Webmaster and Fixture Secretary**

Wave Tyrrell reported that the fixture list was up-to-date.

He had ordered 1000 new flyers at a cost of £190. Unfortunately there had been a misunderstanding and the flyers produced were brochures, A4 in size with 6 pages, when what he had ordered were an A5 size which could be triple folded to provide a flyer. The printers admitted their mistake and produced the flyers and offered another 1000 free.

A suggestion to encourage people to explore the site for longer was to provide a quiz, based on the information provided by the Clubs on the website. This way visitors would have to look at the details of the Golf Clubs to get the answers.

## **Child Protection**

There was nothing to report

## **Dumfriesshire**

Tony Clark had nothing to report

## **Kirkcudbrightshire**

Jeff Sutcliffe had nothing to report

## **Wigtownshire**

The Executive joined Stephen Kingston in offering congratulations and best wishes to

Chris Robinson on his impending wedding.

**A O C B**

There was no other competent business

There being no further business the President thanked the members and visitors for their attendance. The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 3 April 2018 at 7.15 pm in the Selkirk Arms Hotel Kirkcudbright.