



Middlesex Golf Ltd

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUDBURY GOLF CLUB DATE: TUESDAY, 5th FEBRUARY 2019 TIME: 7.00 PM

MINUTES

Present

Stephanie Beer (SB)	Chairman	Beryl Herlihy	Haste Hill
John Penn (JP)	President	Alan Plumb	Strawberry Hill
David Taylor (DT)	Finance Director	Robert Afia	Highgate
Diana Williams (DW)	Vice President	Elizabeth Bowen	Stanmore
Anne Koychev (AK)	Co-opted Director	Crispin Roche	Trent Park
Robbie Martin (RM)	Competitions Director	Peter Brand	Wyke Green
Tom Powell (TP)	Coaching Director	Patrick Walsh	Whitewebbs

Delegates

Adam Middle	Crews Hil	Bill Carey	Muswell Hill
Clare Connolly	Hendon	Eamon Kneafsey	Sudbury
Pat Farag	Enfield	Sue Katz	Pinner Hill
Ray Andrews	Grims Dyke	Henri Saha	England Golf
Neil Jennings	Ruislip	Suzanne McPherson	Haste Hill
Irvine Walker	Pinner Hill	Jennifer Winn	Highgate
David Sharp	Harrow School	Ricky Willison	Ealing
John Nugent	Ealing	Angela Templeman	Mill Hill

1. Apologies

Jason Mitchell	County Secretary	Robert Afia	Highgate
David Booth	Golf Development Director	David Morrison	Ashford Manor
Diana Rowlands	Co-opted Director	Stuart Cella	Haste Hill
Graham Jones	Sudbury	Phil Tiddy	Enfield
David Kingsman	Highgate	Dickie Smart	Enfield

2. Chairman's Report

SB reported as follows:

2018 has been a year of consolidation during which we have tried to improve performance across all our operations.

Our first Awards Dinner in February was sold out, with many worthy winners being presented with their trophies and awards. This year's dinner will take place on 16th February at the Copthorne Tara Hotel, Kensington. There are only a few places left now.

Four clubs have celebrated 125th year anniversaries this year; Enfield, Hampstead, Muswell Hill and Stanmore. Many congratulations to them all.

When I wrote this report last year, we had just been nominated for the England Golf "County of the Year" award. As most of you will know, we were successful in our nomination and will sadly relinquish our title to one of this year's semi-finalists, Wiltshire or Lancashire at the England Golf Dinner in March.

Detailed reports by the Sub Committee Directors will be given at the AGM but there are several points I would like to highlight. South Region Girl's County Week was held at Bush Hill Park in August. The Club provided a vast amount of support to all the players and officials enabling us to run a very successful week, which was eventually won by Sussex. This year we will be hosting Ladies' County Match Week at Hendon.

More players have received coaching this year than in 2017.

Safe Guarding has continued to be a focus for us all. Two golf specific courses were offered this year which were very well attended. England Golf are planning to audit all Counties and Clubs over the next couple of years on safeguarding principles. Middlesex Golf will be one of the guinea pig counties to test the process.

January 1st saw the introduction of the New Golf Rules 2019. This involves every golfer in the county. Board Members and Referees have been giving presentations to several clubs as well as offering sessions at Enfield, Ealing and Hendon which are open to everyone. All qualified referees across the UK are having to re-sit their exams and we will be holding refresher sessions and exams on behalf of England Golf in March.

We continue to be indebted to numerous club members and officials who give freely of their time and expertise to ensure smooth running of all our events. We cannot thank them enough as the county would not survive without them.

Three Board members stand down this year. David Taylor (Finance Director), Robbie Martin (Competition's Director) and Di Rowlands (Co-opted Director). They are all willing to stand for re-election.

3. Finance Report

DT reported as follows:

Year End Accounts for 12 months to 31 October 2018

DT reported that the accounts circulated in advance of the AGM had been audited and that the accounts in Companies House format would be duly filed

There was a deficit of £7813 on the Income and Expenditure Account for the year which was in line with expectations

The Balance Sheet at 31 October 2018 has net assets of £205,433 of which £205,030 were bank balances

The accounts were approved by JP and seconded by IW

Re-election of Auditors

It was proposed that David G Simmons & Co., who were Auditors for the Middlesex Golf Union continue as Auditors for Middlesex Golf Limited.

Proposed by: John Penn (North Middlesex)

Seconded by: Irvine Walker (Pinner Hill)

The proposal was unanimously accepted and the floor was opened for questions.

Q – Who sets affiliation fees?

DT - Middlesex Golf affiliation fees are set by Middlesex Golf, England Golf affiliation fees are proposed and agreed by County delegates

Q – Increase in IT expenditure by £2000, why?

DT – the IT expenditure for next year encompasses a wider range of expenses than this year.

Q – Ricky Willison (RW) – Does the County have a strategy to assist clubs to get more members in?

Henri Saha – The work being done by EG Club Support Officer with clubs is focusing on this area for the clubs that are interested. Not all are. There has been some excellent work – 35 new members from one club. There are possibilities to do more with the County.

DT – forecasted budget is worst case scenario.

RW – There is money in the bank. Can Counties assist clubs? How much is required to stay in the bank? Can the county subsidise membership? Clubs are doing their best to try and

survive. The best players are moving to clubs outside of the County due to practice facilities etc.

DT – what is an acceptable amount to have in reserve?

TP – Current board inherited this money and is trying to spend it

Bill Carey (BC) – there is no allocation towards marketing. Clubs have marketing budgets. MG has no assets and therefore nothing to maintain – worst case scenario. Some people do not know there is a golf club 1 mile up the road. Could more be spent on marketing and communications.

2019 Budget

DT presented the 2019 budget which showed a deficit of £9,355

- Competition costs for all MGL tournaments were presented showing that they broadly break even
- Memberships were budgeted to fall by 5%
- 2019 affiliation fee was unchanged at £12.75
- Administration costs to rise by 1.7%
- That there were sufficient bank balances to finance deficits of the amount budgeted

4. Board Elections

Director of Finance

Proposer

Secunder

David Taylor (Hendon)

John Penn (North Middlesex)

Irvine Walker (Pinner Hill)

David, who was due to retire in accordance with Article 17.5, was standing for re-election and his election was unanimously accepted by the meeting.

Director of Competitions,

Handicapping & Course Rating Robbie Martin (Bush Hill Park)

Proposer

Secunder

Diana Williams (Bush Hill Park)

John Nugent (Ealing)

5. Re-appointment of Diana Rowlands (Hendon)

Diana was unanimously re-appointed as a Co-Opted Director

At this point SB explained that the purpose of having Co-Opted Directors was to provide gender and skills balance.

6. Competitions Report

RM reported that he was pleased with how the competitions were run in 2018. All were ran efficiently and with great support from both players and host-clubs. Entry numbers were up across all events, highlighted by an exceptional 92 entries received for the Men's County Championship. RM hoped this would continue into 2019.

RM reported that he is in the process of re-writing the men's and ladies' rules following the changes introduced at the beginning of the year, and to include the new competitions that have been created.

RM informed the meeting that four new competitions were being introduced in 2019; the Men's Seniors Knockout; Ladies' Seniors' Championship; The Junior Champion Club; and U16s County Championships.

RW – Clubs were not consulted over the neutral venues. It is difficult to manage from a club's point of view i.e. current members. Is it possible to spread the competition out a little further? Many matches to be played within the season, difficult to squeeze them all in.

RW – to email RM with concern.

7. Teams & Coaching

TP reported that the new format 2018 coaching program's objective was to provide effective, popular and affordable coaching to all player categories. It was recognized that each group would have individual needs and therefore require bespoke content.

If you can judge the popularity aspect of each individual coaching program by the positive feedback received from all groups, and then add the increased participation levels, then we have achieved this.

Each of the player groups with further consultation have now received their respective 2019 coaching programs some with further modification as laid out below.

Our financial challenge was met by negotiating better deals with (and in some cases changing) the professionals. Jason and I are very happy with the current personnel who we feel are committed to the task and give more than they are paid for.

In 2018, more coaching events with more players took place with less expenditure than recent years.

The last of our KPIs is a little harder to evaluate as Middlesex Team positions remain largely unchanged. Team managers' report that although team results remained unchanged, individual performances were improved, results show many lost games finishing on the 17th/18th holes with individuals being far more competitive.

Middlesex Ladies teams won more individual matches in their respective County Week tournaments than in previous years and the Ladies Senior team won all their matches.

Middlesex male entries into the champion of champions events saw a 17th place in the boys (of 30), a 15th in the seniors and a highly creditable 4th in the main event.

Daniel Parsons qualified well to reach the match play stages of the English Amateur winning through to the last 16 in the match play finals.

It is not possible to evaluate a trend from a single year of the new coaching programs, but it might be fair to state a small improvement is visible.

An improvement of communications between the Team managers of the different age groups has been highlighted for this year. With the creation of a new role to coordinate the Junior groups.

GROUPS

UNDER 14s now split into 2 ability groups:

- Intermediate
 - Advanced
- format:
- Chris Payne began Winter Series coaching in November, all groups receiving structured range-based sessions and the popular fitness coaching.
 - Continuation of the popular Summer Series competitions.

MEN'S 16S/18S/COLTS

- An "away day" coaching/playing event at the Shire.
- Focusing on team preparation/bonding as well as player development.
- Work with a long driving specialist and range coaching sessions.

LADIES 16/18

- mixed age group receiving group tuition at different venues.
- some players within this group will be included in the Ladies First Team Squad coaching.

LADIES FIRST TEAM

- receiving coaching at match venues (this year Hendon GC)
- Range work out and general play session
- Specific course management, strategy and team preparation

MEN'S FIRST TEAM

- 2019 preparation is in the form of 4 organised friendly matches and a triangular tournament

LADIES SENIORS

- Have elected to continue with their daytime range sessions (8) including short game tuition.

MEN'S SENIORS:

- 8 Structured 2-hour evening range-based coaching including short game sessions.

On an individual player basis, the County can also provide:

- One 2 one coaching
- Putting clinic
- Fitness training
- Dietary guides

RW – Best players are moving away to counties with better facilities. What can we do?

Also – Communication – Where do I send good players and when?

Where are details of the coaching programs?

SB – Confirmed details of all programs are on the website – Contact details are not – Action – add contact details of captains/TP in relevant spaces.

CR – Communication seems to be coming up quite often, is there a director of marketing/communication?

SB – The board is bound to the articles of association and no director of communications is currently in place.

8. Any Other Business

SK – Handicap limits have been altered by England Golf however, competitions are still within the old limits. Are there plans to adjust?

RM – Currently no plans

SK – Ladies Bronze – could we consider based upon EG recommendation?

RW – Are competitions full? Do we actually need limits?

AM – Men's handicap Championship – on website there is no upper limit

CR – All female golfer who have joined over last 3 years have had handicaps over 36

RM – we can consider the possibility of adjusting handicap limits for Ladies Bronze

SB – no further competitions can be added to the calendar at this stage, if the handicap limit were to be relaxed, competition would need to take place on same day (Ladies Bronze)

RW- can we put forward Fulwell for a National championship?

HS- Will forward recommendation of Fulwell to championships team.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.