



Middlesex Golf

Minutes of Board Meeting

Held at Sudbury GC

On Monday 6th November 2023

In attendance: Tom Powell – Chair (President), Di Rowlands (DR), David Taylor, Irvine Walker, Anne Koychev, Ruth Holmes, Ketan Raja, Robbie Martin, Lee Patterson

1) **Apologies for absence**

None.

2) **Matters Arising**

RH made the point that Mary McDowell did not Chair the Women's development group. That role was carried out by Darragh Coghlan

3) Chairman TP (Acting Chairman) Nothing to raise outside of agenda items listed for discussion.

4) General Meeting AK enquired the nature of the General Meeting RM stated the meeting is for delegates and the general membership IW asked that notification of the General Meeting was distributed in a timely way LP replied that it would be. DT stated that Delegates are the link to our clubs and that it is important that delegates are encouraged to attend. RH asked if joint male/female delegates could become a priority maintaining 1 club 1 vote. TP delegate interest has been an ongoing issue.
(sec note: I W should be congratulated for the effort he put in to generating interest in last November's General Meeting). DT the General Meeting is a communication opportunity primarily.

5) **Finance**

Memberships and Affiliation

We have paid England Golf £109k in the year for their fees collected by ourselves from the members via their clubs

Affiliation Fees 2024

- Middlesex Golf £16.00 (2023 £14.75) 8.5% increase
- England Golf £10.50 (2023 £9.50) 10.5 % increase
- Combined £26.50 (2023 £24.25) 9.3% increase

Year end 12 months to 31 October 2023

The P&L and Balance sheet are being prepared and will be available for management review and AGM presentation.

I will arrange for the audit to commence to have the audited accounts available at the AGM

Bank Balances 31 October 2023 £000's

- Barclays £8
- Virgin Money £135
- MetroBank £11
- **Total Actual £154**

- Budget Balance 31 October 2023 £152
- Actual Bank Balances 31 October 2022 £178

The closing cash position is broadly in line with what was forecast

Budget 12 months to 31 October 2024

On the back of the year end accounts the budget for 2024 will be prepared

Some preliminary points

- Assuming similar club memberships, affiliated income will be £14k higher due to the increased affiliation fee
- No Bigshots sponsorship with a reduction of £12k sponsorship income
- Inflation on food and travel still appears to be over 10% pa raising our operating costs in those areas
- We may need to consider to flex discretionary spend on marketing, club support and coaching
- We need to introduce a revised expense policy to avoid overspending
- Will we receive from EG our share of golf revenue (2023 £5k) for development ?

Discretionary Grants

RH understands these development grants will be reduced from c£13k due to budgetary constraints and will begin to build a list of priorities.

6) Tournament, Rules and Handicapping Report

RM a meeting with a disability golfing org came to nothing, this aspiration is still a goal but maybe for later on next year.

RM Changes to the Women's 5 a-side Scratch League rules have not gone down well. RH questioned the change RM explained the rule change was historical and fits with the spirit of the match play format. RH questioned why were the rules changed and disagreed with

the change. AK suggested the finals day is not required for a promotion and relegation league. KR it is a scratch competition and needs to be run with the rule change in place and then reviewed next winter.

RM unhappy with multiple rule changes and the time the competition took at tournament committee meetings and happy to look at it further.

7) England Golf Report

DR had nothing further to add to the communications already shared.

8) Women in Golf charter commitments

RH reported on future forums to be undertaken later in the year and that meetings had already been held and that a committee had already been formed and subsequently met.

An updated commitments document was circulated to the Board and it continues to be updated as and when required.

9) Secretaries Report

LP reported that following handover from Darragh and the subsequent loss of Mary the office is extremely busy but with all core activities on schedule, however, the work load is significant, and it is hoped that once the season ends a back log of peripheral but nevertheless important tasks can be brought up to date ready for next year. At that point an administrative assistant with a clear role spec can be considered.

Due to operational issues LP has been looking at switching away from Intelligent Golf, this related to the inadequacy of the IG tournament management offering. Golf Genius is the preferred option and the Board offered their support in investigating a switch with an autumn deadline.

A report on our relationship with Elite Performance Management was offered by LP, a draft coaching schedule was previously submitted.

Disciplinary

An ongoing investigation was briefly discussed but as the investigation is ongoing there was nothing new to report and we await further news from the investigating authorities.

Marketing (late agenda addition)

AM joined via zoom and reported that the relationship with our current sponsor is problematic but fruitful financially. He will look at any ways of improving the relationship

with a view to renewing the deal but has other sponsors who may be interested if the current sponsor withdraws from the relationship.

AM will look at a way of spreading the gospel of Middlesex Golf to a wider audience however, it should be noted that the current work is attaining its targets.

10) Centenary

IW offered an update of celebration actions thus far with a dinner at the Copthorne Tara, Kensington the preferred option. IW is still in negotiation over cost and will ensure we benefit from the best deal possible.

The next meeting of the Centenary Committee is scheduled for July 31st.

AOB

11) Date of next meetings

General meeting at Sudbury GC on Monday November 27th.

Board meeting at Sudbury GC 11am, Monday January 30th 2024..

AGM at Sudbury GC on Tuesday February 6th 2024.