

## **HALESWORTH GOLF CLUB – GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2025**

#### **Members:**

Ben Townsend – Managing Director (BT)  
Richard Davies – Club Professional (RD)  
Ellie Andrews – Assistant Manager (EA)  
Paul Kent – Club Captain (PK)  
Gerry Jackson – Club Vice-Captain (GJ)  
Barbara Dennis -- Ladies' Captain (BD)  
Viv Leech – Ladies' Representative (VL)  
Mandy Wickison – Ladies' Secretary (MW)  
Dave Tower – Seniors' Captain (DT)  
Andy Frances – Seniors' Vice-Captain (AF)  
Rob Sherington – Competition & Handicap Secretary (RS)  
Colin Hillier – Handicap Secretary (CH)  
Ken Parry-Brown – Treasurer Secretary (KPB)  
Don Wellman – Secretary (DW)

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**Present** BT,PK,GJ,BD,MW,AF,RS,CH,KPB,DW

**Apologies:** DT,

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Accepted as a true record.

**Matters Arising:** None that are not dealt with later in the meeting.

**Club Update:** BT reported the following:

#### **Upcoming events -**

- BBQ & Music Afternoon – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May, please book for the BBQ
- Wednesday night meals continue to be very successful
- Restaurant evening – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June – menu to follow
- Junior Open Day – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June – being advertised this week
- Updates to the constitution regarding the creation of a Gents Committee will be completed by the June committee meeting with the plan to start in July
- Locker room door, lock broken, temporary solution in place currently, door will be replaced soon
- Main entrance signs have been updated and placed in a more prominent position
- Clubhouse opening hours, from this week – open every day from 7am, close 7pm Mon/Tue/Sat/Sun, 9pm close on wed/Thur/Fri
- Light scarifying and top dressing of the green on the 18 hole Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May and the 9 hole course on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- Estate Ecologist, Harry Read is very keen to host an evening to discuss all things wildlife later in the year, date and details TBC

#### **Ladies' Captain Report:**

So lovely to see the sun out this week – lots of sunscreen being used. The Blyth Course is looking so pretty – spring has sprung in abundance. All the greenkeepers are working so hard to make our courses great. NO more preferred lies now.

Lots of golf has been played since my last report. Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> April saw 84 playing in the Anniversary Cup – only 9 ladies though. Please look out for further mixed events happening.

Three friendlies have been played in April – we were away to St Audrys on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> – a friendly half. On Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> April saw a first for Halesworth Ladies. Two friendlies were played against Felixstowe Ferry. One over 18 holes on the Blythe and the other was 9 holes on the Blythe. Initially this was going to be played on the Valley course but as it was greens week, we moved it across to Blythe. We won both matches convincingly. The third friendly of the month was played away at Woodbridge captained by Mandy and Julie – thank you. This was always going to be a tough match to play but to come away with 1.5 to 2.5 was great. Well done to all the ladies playing in these matches. If you have not played in one yet, then please look under Matches and add your availability. Such a lovely day of golf played with great company and some lovely food to finish off the day. Our next Friendly is on May the 9<sup>th</sup> at home against Fynn Valley.

On Good Friday we had our annual Easter Bunny Day. This was over 10 holes on the Blythe. The competition was capped at HI 36 with the remainder playing off 100%. This was felt to be the fairest way. £5 per lady charged – 100% to go towards the ladies section.

The weather was almost perfect... it was dry but windy which chilled a few ladies. Those dressed up in full bunny outfits were nice and snug. This year saw a record number of ladies – some 21. Lots with bunny ears and a number of teams in fancy dress.

Everyone had a buttered hot cross bun to take out with them – which went down very nicely. Once everyone were in we moved upstairs to the Wenhaston room – ladies ordered their own drinks and food if they wanted to and took upstairs too.

I arranged for a couple of games upstairs –

Lots of laughter had trying to play a game with little Velcro golf balls and a plastic club.

Sally Slaymaker and Cathy Chandler were the ladies with the highest score – although Sally has inside knowledge as she has one at home. We also played Bingo for one line and then a full house – I need to get Ged to do the calling next time – I was useless. Prizes chocolate bunny for one line and an Easter Egg for the two lines. Everyone was given an easter party bag containing a key ring, sweets and various little chocolate eggs.

Now to the winners for the day: -

1<sup>st</sup> Sally Baxter, Jennifer Read & Julia Hill (Easter Sheep with dangling legs and easter egg)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sally Slaymaker, Jo Calver & Cathy Judd (china egg with a rabbit on and an easter egg)

NTP in two on the 2<sup>nd</sup> – HI 20 and above – Julia Hill (a Mug and Easter egg)

NTP in two on the 5<sup>th</sup> – HI 19.9 and below – Rita Fossey (a Mug and Easter egg)

Best Dressed Team – Rita Fossey (Angry bunny) and her security team of Sara Higgins & Viv Leech – (Light up bunny and an Easter Egg for each)

Each week I have started to do a Rule of the week which appears to have gone down well so will be continuing to do these. These provoke conversations around rules which is always good. We all need reminders which in turn gives us confidence when confronted when playing.

We had our first group teaching lesson from Ali, to help with course management. These are for the ladies who are playing in The Haskell, The Weston, The Stearn, The Cranworth or the Jubilee Shield. There are two more planned over the month of May. Many thanks to Sara, Rita, Caroline and Ali for organising us so well.

The golfing season is now really in full swing – Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> May saw our Weston team ably captained by Viv Leech play our first match away at Stowmarket. We are now in Division 1 which is a great achievement for our ladies section. These are played Home and Away. It was a very tight fought battle against some very good golfers – their lowest HI was 3.7 whilst ours was 7 and their highest HI in the squad was 12 whilst ours on the day was 17. So to come away with one win out of 5 was a score to be proud off. Many thanks to Viv.

After playing a hard battle yesterday at Stowmarket, Sara and Rita went back to Stowmarket today to play them in The Haskell – this is one of the hardest ladies matches in our calendar – Scratch Foursomes over 36 holes to conclusion. Viv and I went to watch the ladies and were hiding in the trees. By lunch our ladies were only 3 holes down.... But they were not deterred by this – they came back fighting – there were birdies and pars by both pairs. It was tense seeing the score going up and down. What a valiant effort but despite pulling back home advantage came into play and the home team won through and the final score was 4&2. It was a privilege and honour to watch our ladies today. We are very proud of you both.

On Bank Holiday Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> May the mixed Withey Cup Trophy is being played – Unfortunately, I am unable to play in that as I'm away but hope everyone who played had a great day. And on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> the annual Mixed Dementia Day is being held with 64 players. This is a great day of golf and making lots of money for a very good cause. Many thanks must go to Sara Higgins who has done such a great job of organising this along with John Giles.

#### **Competition Secretary report April 2025 – (Sara Higgins)**

##### **Results Combined April medal played 6/10<sup>th</sup> April 23 ladies signed up to play**

###### **DV 1**

1st	Susan Fraenzel (24)	70	£11.00
2nd	Barbara Dennis (16)	72	£6.50
3rd	Viv Leech (13)	74	£4.50

###### **DV 2**

1st	Ged Moreton (27)	69	£11.00
2nd	Sonia Lord (26)	69	£6.50
3rd	Cathy Judd (27)	69	£4.50

**Results combined Stableford played 20/24<sup>th</sup> April 30 ladies signed up to play – Yearly we support the Marie Curie charity in the combined April Stableford. This year we raised £105 which Viv has sent to the charity from our entry fees, so no money vouchers on cards**

###### **DV 1**

1st	Sian Tutak (14)	38
2nd	Mandy Wickison (20)	35
3rd	Susanne Wilson (21)	35

###### **DV 2**

1st	Karol Perley (36)	41
2nd	Angela Middleton (38)	40
3rd	Joanne Calver (29)	37

##### **Australian Spoons played 13/17<sup>th</sup> April 18 ladies signed up to play – no money vouchers on cards as external competition**

1st	Sue Hellman & Clare Woods	45	
2nd	Lynda Baldry & Nicky McQueen		41
3rd	Sue Millard & Karol Perley	37	

Unfortunately, Sue and Clare can't make the regional event at Bawburgh on July 25<sup>th</sup>, so Lynda and Nicky have been put through. Best of luck Lynda and Nicky, fly that Halesworth flag for us all! Excellent scoring from Sue and Clare, think that's a Halesworth record!

The yearly Easter competition was played in tradition on Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. 21 ladies entered and all supported the 'Easter' theme. Some good bunny scores and some not so good bunny scores were posted on the day, every bunny out there behaved extremely well and no angriness was seen. Thanks to Barbara for arranging all the prizes and treats for us all. I'm sure Barbara will be reporting in more detail on the day and with monies raised for our ladies section.

#### **Results for 2 out of 3 rumble**

1st	Sally Baxter (26), Jennifer Read (36) & Julia Hill (28)	53
2nd	Sally Slaymaker (24), Joanne Calver (31) & Cathy Judd (28)	52
3rd	Clare Woods (22), Sally Watson (34) & Karol Perley (36)	52

#### **County matches**

With an ever-increasing ladies section and golfing talent to go with it, choosing teams for our up and coming inter county matches is always hard with so many ladies to choose from. This year, Caroline, Rita, Viv and myself as team Captains wanted to put forward training and course management sessions for the squad players. With the help of Ali Hall, we have managed to put 3 training dates in the diary throughout April and May. Each session accommodates 4 pairs playing on the course for 2 hours. We had our first training session last week which we all thoroughly enjoyed and benefitted from Ali's way of teaching. We look forward to more of these and are thinking of extending this to the entire section to brush up on course management thinking. Thanks Ali! 🙏

#### **Knockout matches**

The knockouts seem to be jogging along nicely, everyone is managing to get their matches in nice and early before we get too busy in the season. With changes we made to the HI in the singles knockouts it has slightly increased the numbers in the draw. We have as follows: -

Rabbits' trophy	6 entries
Summer pairs	28 entries
Summer singles	16 entries

I'm sure Susanne will keep you updated in the eclectic and birdie tree standings. The only competitions I will expand on are as follows. The Goldsmith Bowl (Best of series on IG) which is the combined lowest aggregate scores from 4 medals played between April and October. Results so far this year (too early to call) but some steady scores. The figure on the right is the combined medal score, so far from two medals played. IG will work out the best scores across the time parameter finishing end of October. Very tight at the top – Keep going Rita!

1st	Rita Fossey	2	167
2nd	Sara Higgins	2	171
3rd	Viv Leech 2	172	

The Order of Merit OOM (player of the year) is well under way. The first column denotes games played, second column is 1<sup>st</sup> place winning within the monthly competition, third is accumulative points from 10 points for a win and 1 point for 10th place. Early days but Viv has leapt out of the starting grid! Keep it going ladies.

1st	Viv Leech	8	1	47	
2nd	Rita Fossey		7		34
3rd	Susanne Wilson	7	1	25	
4th	Judith Bedwell	5	1	23	
4th =	Ged Moreton	6	1	23	
4th =	Karol Perley		6	1	23
7th	Clare Woods		4		22
8th	Julia Hill	6	1	20	
9th	Sian Tutak		7		19
10th	Sue Millard		7		18

May is set to be a busy month with diaries already full. Much to report in May where we see the Withey Cup, Dementia Day, Haskell County match, Kyocera matchplay, with Jubilee and Cranworth kicking off looks to be a big report to compile.

#### **Treasurer's Report (Viv Leech)**

A busy time this month with five competitions, collection of the summer competitions and payout for the winter ones.

Competition fees this month amounted to £387 of which £72 will go out to Golf England in respect of the Australian Spoons competition and £112 to charity, leaving £203 retained in the section's funds.

The summer competition fees of £367.50 were slightly down (£42) this year on 2024 (£409.50) due to the reduced players in the mixed and eclectic comps but increases in the Rabbits and singles were seen. The winter competition prizes (eclectic & singles) pay out totaled £63.50, in line with 2024.

On the Charity front, I finalized the Captains Drive In, paying out £4277.85 to the three Captains Charities, and we raised £112 for Marie Curie from the April Stapleford competition.

Continuing the charity theme, Dementia Day is approaching and we are currently holding the fees for this so whilst the bank account is looking healthy at £1783.18, £1155.00 relates to DD, leaving £628.18 to the section. However, after adding the April fees due, we will have a balance of £1382.68.

This will hold us in good stead for the approaching Weston, Haskell, Stearn, Cranworth and Jubilee County matches.

## **Handicap Secretary (Susanne Wilson)**

**New Ladies** - Two new juniors this month

<u>Name</u>	<u>Handicap</u>	<u>Join Date</u>	<u>Category</u>
Deliah Bird		04/04/25	Junior
Jessica Hewson		01/04/25	Junior

### **Handicap Changes**

The good weather in April has brought out some good scores particularly from the newer players. I still haven't worked out why WHS gives a more complete picture than IG when reporting handicap changes, but I think it is linked to qualifiers, and the number of cards held on the system.

Overall, in April 24 ladies reduced their handicaps and 15 had increases.

Notable changes were:

Ged Moreton	reduction of	1.3	down to 25.2
Karol Perley	"	"	down to 33.7 second month in a row
Sally Catt	"	1.1	down to 26.4
Sally Baxter	"	1.0	down to 23.5

### **Soft CAP**

	HCP Index	Low HCP Index	Soft CAP in Effect	Hard CAP in effect
Hilary Jeffrey	27.8	24.2	Yes	No
Cathy Judd	26.3	23.3	Yes	No
Anne Legg	25.6	22.2	Yes	No
Angela Middleton	36.5	33.1	Yes	No

### **Eclectic - Summer 2025**

A quick start for the eclectic helped I am sure by the good weather in April the current leader is Sian on count back: -

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sian Tutak	64.6
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sara Higgins	64.6
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lesley King	66.71

### **Birdie Tree**

Currently a strong showing from the top three, Rita is just leading Sara and Lesley

1 <sup>st</sup>	Rita Fossey	5
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sara Higgins	4
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lesley King	4

### **Club Captain's Report:**

**Since the last General Committee Meeting on 09.04.25 –**

1. I continue to note the different players I play golf with throughout my second term as captain. This is to a) demonstrate the variance of players I join during my year as captain b) ensure I interact with as many members I can during the year and c) be 'visible' as captain to as many members as possible. Since the AGM I have accompanied **60** different players on the course. At this stage last year, the total was **52**. I also had several weeks out following my hand operation last summer so I am looking to exceed last year's total of **104** different playing partners.
2. **Captains' duties this month have included –**
  - 10.04.25 – Chaired a disciplinary meeting
  - 13.04.25 – Captained the Tolly team first round match
  - 15.04.25 – Chaired a disciplinary meeting
  - 16.04.25 – Held a complaint meeting
  - 23.04.25 – Represented HG at funeral

- 26.04.25 – Dealt with a competition issue.
  - 07.05.25 – Supported and played in the Mixed Dementia Golf Day
  - 11.05.25 – Hosted the Gents Invitational Day
  - I continued to meet with BT on a regular basis to discuss developments around the club.
3. **Dementia Day - “Fore” Get Me Not.** I am liaising with SH and JG, about the potential for linking this to our Dementia Day competition in 2026 (too late for this year). Sky Sports video can be viewed based on Seckford’s initiative. Congratulations to both Sara and John for hosting another successful Dementia Day on 07.05.25.
  4. **Gents Invitational** – 11<sup>th</sup> May. Much better turnout this year. 58 played in glorious sunshine and whilst the course is starting to show signs of the effects of a lack of substantial rain, I had very good feedback about the course condition. My thanks to everyone who made it so successful.
  5. **Past Captains Brassie** – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025. I have confirmed meal and cost arrangements for the day. All ex-captains contacted with 12 responses to play and 2 to join us for a meal only. Four away on holiday that week who have sent their apologies. Four yet to confirm.
  6. **Suffolk County Competitions** – Good luck to all the teams this year. I am hoping to attend all matches to support each team.
  7. **Trophies.** - All Gents trophies have been photographed by myself and Sara Higgins, ready to be uploaded onto IG along with description of event, donor, year donated and past winners.
  8. **Halesworth Golf** is proud to host this year’s Suffolk Golf Union scratch competition on **24.05.25**. I have asked Danny Milne to captain our team. Alongside Danny will be Tony Mardon and Paul Coby.
  9. **Greenkeepers** – Our continued thanks to Mark and his team for battling against very challenging conditions currently. Visitors feedback remains positive.
  10. **Stone Picking – Bunkers.** I am once again recruiting volunteers to join me in the stone picking exercise. I have had a great initial response. I will start on 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> May, targeting the worst bunkers. I have liaised with Mark and Ben regarding this. What great members we have at our club.
  11. **Race to Woodhall Spa 2025** – our representatives all have the details of this competition held at Sheringham Golf Club on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025.
  12. **Gents Finance surplus 2024**– process in place.
  13. **Surplus 2025** – I have asked GJ and KPB to review current predicted year income as it appears that we are building another surplus which is not acceptable. Need to identify what rate of entry fee will cover costs as we clearly have too much revenue.
  14. **Summer competitions** – It’s great to see the seniors summer competitions numbers exceeding last year’s entrants – Singles up by 5 players, pairs up by 8 pairs and Quaich up by three players. Gent’s entrants fairly static as you would expect - Singles down by 2, Gents pairs down by 4 and scratch up by 1
  15. **Juniors Fund** – Members continue to give old clubs and equipment generously. I met with JJ on 03.05.25 to review Juniors proposed budget and focus on expenditure and processes. I have sold two golf bags and some clubs this month.
  16. **‘Opens’** – it is great to see that we already have 76 entries for the **Seniors Open on 10.06.25**, 9 entries for the **Junior Open on 05.07.25** and 74 entries for the **Mixed Open on 16.08.25**.
  17. **Halesworth Golf Pro-Am** – I have agreed with Ben that I will be investigating sponsorship for a potential Pro-Am next year. At the early stages.
  18. **Gents AWAY DAY** – I am still looking to negotiate this with another club. Two potentials.
  19. **Main item for discussion** – Charity sub-committee. Do we need one?

#### **Matters raised with me, by members, since my re-election as Captain continue to be contained within this report**

- A. **RD – SOCIETIES** – BT advised LPK will act as greeter. Spoke to member of Tanner society who walked across white line and between green and greenside bunker in front of clubhouse. Spoke to youngsters who walked trolley right across 9<sup>th</sup> green on Valley course.
- B. **DM – DOGS** – BT has clarified no dogs on course apart from dog walkers using bridleway alongside 7<sup>th</sup> fairway.

## **Captains Diary April / June 2025**

15.05.25 – Supporting the Parks team first round match at home to Fynn Valley  
24.05.24 – Supporting the scratch team in SGU event, which we are hosting at HG.  
25.05.25 – Supporting the Hambro Teams 2<sup>nd</sup> round match at Rookery Park  
04.06.25 – Hosting 2<sup>nd</sup> Gents match at home v Southwold  
10.06.25 – Supporting Dave Tower at the Seniors Open  
Tbc.06.25 – Stone picking days 3 & 4

### **Items for discussion at Committee Agreed Jan 2025**

#### **Course**

1. Measurement of course (Completed 28.02.25)
2. Slope Rating Review – externally completed. (Booked for 28.07.25)
3. To review the Stroke index of each hole (Initial discussion March 2025)
4. To review the issue of gender-neutral tees

#### **Club history**

1. To capture all our Trophies history on the website. To also confirm donor in summary section of competition so all members know history of competition (CF)
2. To review and update all current documents and name and date stamp each one. Agreed Sept 24 – Each section to update its relevant policies and date accordingly. (CF)

#### **Members**

1. We will all demonstrate members views are brought to its monthly meeting
2. As committee members we will actively encourage feedback about our club and the competitions

#### **Finances**

1. To review each sections financial process so that we have commonality and transparency across the club. (CF)
2. To review competition entry fees and payments
3. Charity Days – to review whether we need a ‘charity committee’ in order to better coordinate fundraising at the club

#### **IG**

1. To review the clubs’ sections use of IG. Share good practice (CF)

#### **Competitions**

1. Mixed Competitions – to continue the aim of closer communication between three sections when setting up and running the mixed competitions (CF)
2. To support all our teams and players in reaching their potential in Suffolk Golf Union & (Ladies affiliation) & Junior’s competitions.

#### **Constitution**

1. To Review the club’s constitution and all relevant documents in the Gents section

#### **News**

1. All sections to provide management with relevant items for consideration for inclusion in the monthly Club newsletter.

#### **Items completed**

1. To have an improved ‘on course’ toilet facility – Agreed by HG (Half way house construction 2025)
2. Gents’ surplus dispersal agreed Feb 2025 meeting and actioned March 2025

3. New Trophy criterion for BT consideration. Agreed by BT Feb 2025
4. Club Captain to raise the issue of neutral venues for County Competitions in the men's section. PK raised at SGU AGM 28.03.25 and it is on SGU agenda for next formal meeting.
5. To review any perceived barriers for joining committees. Outstanding item Agreed Sept 24 that we will keep current process for this year but review in committee in 2025. (CF). Agreed to move toward a separation of committees and move toward the captains and vice captains meeting with club manager. Also, to have 'extra' non-role committee members on Gents committee.

*At the meeting PK mentioned a suggestion that he wished to implement to help Junior members understand better the etiquette of the game. This would involve 10 Juniors (say) with 10 members who would accompany them on the Valley course, possibly on a Wednesday evening. There are a number of considerations to take place first (eg safeguarding) but PK would test the support for this idea by putting out a note to members to determine who might be interested in being involved. He would also seek a meeting with BT, Jeremy Jenkins and Steve Ward to discuss the details if sufficient support was forthcoming.*

#### **Senior Captain's Report :**

Please accept my apologies as, once again. I cannot be there for this month's meeting.

Numbers continued to remain high for our competitions, and we can only expect them to increase as the good weather comes along. To that end, we have been flexible in allowing members to play outside the block bookings.

#### **Golf and Matches**

Our friendly matches are split between home wins and away defeats, plus one home draw. It has been good to see new members joining the flock and, to date, 44 different players have represented us in friendlies this year. Visiting teams continue to be highly complementary about the condition of the course and the standard of catering.

Since the last meeting we have played the following friendly matches:

15 April - Caldecott Hall (away) – lost 1-5  
 22 April – Fynn Valley (away) – lost 2.5–5.5  
 29 April – Sprowston Manor (home) – drew 3-3  
 2 May – Ufford Park (home) – won 4.5–3.5  
 7 May – Barnham Broom (away) – lost 2-4  
 12 May – Eaton (home) – won 4.5-1.5

We still await the first matches in the Parks and Beaumont.

The Parks are at home to Fynn Valley tomorrow (15<sup>th</sup> May) and the Beaumont play Southwold at home on 5<sup>th</sup> June.

In trophy and qualifying competitions this month, the following were successful:

Stableford Qualifier	11 <sup>th</sup> April	Mike Slater	42 points
Medal Qualifier	25 <sup>th</sup> April	Paul Raynes	Nett 68
Medal Qualifier	6 <sup>th</sup> May	Peter Foulger	Nett 68

#### **New members**

Since the last meeting, four new members have been notified to us and they have been welcomed by Steve Bacon.

#### **Committee**

At the Seniors Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> May, it was decided that:

- The proposed policy for Seniors County competitions would be formally adopted. The seniors will pay for up to ten practice rounds for away fixtures and a buggy for the captain where the host club do not provide one. There will be no contribution for refreshments.
- Prizes for all competitions were discussed. A proposal to introduce cash prizes for knockout competitions was defeated in a split vote. Full details of all competition prizes will be circulated in due course.
- A proposal that, following the recent communication from England Golf, all scores in individual "roll-up" competitions off standard tees should be entered for handicap purposes was unanimously agreed. This will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025.

The next Seniors Committee meeting will be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at 3pm.

#### **Competition Secretary's Report:**

Since the last meeting the following competitions have been completed.

**Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> – IAN RANSBY TROPHY – 82 Entrants**

**Winner Lee Adams Net 65**

2<sup>nd</sup> Clive Seward Net 67

3<sup>rd</sup> David Pryke Net 68

**Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup> - GENTS SPRING TROPHY (Spring Championship) – 68 Entrants**

## **GROSS Competition**

<b>WINNER Daniel Milne</b>	<b>Gross 76 (After Play Off)</b>
Runner Up George Swallow	Gross 76
3 <sup>rd</sup> Neil Coby	Gross 78
4 <sup>th</sup> Tom Feveyear	Gross 81 OCB

## **NET Competition**

<b>WINNER TERRY JEFFREY</b>	<b>NET 68</b>
Runner Up Chris Turner	Net 69 OCB
3 <sup>rd</sup> Stephen Brown	Net 69
4 <sup>th</sup> Graham Drury	Net 69

## **Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> – ‘OPEN to ALL’ Stableford – 19 Entrants**

### **Winner Luke Smith 41 Pts**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Payne 36 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Troy Wilson 36 Pts

## **Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup> – M.R King TROPHY April Medal – 86 Entrants**

### **Winner Jack Payne Net 65**

2<sup>nd</sup> Martin McGinty Net 66 OCB

3<sup>rd</sup> Jo Catt Net 68

## **Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup> – QUEEN ELIZABETH CUP May Stableford – 86 Entrants**

### **Winner Curtis Hammond 41 Pts**

2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Busby 40 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Connor Adams 39 Pts

## **Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup> – GENTS INVITATION DAY – 58 Entrants**

### **Winners Rowan Naismith Robertson & Rory Robertson 49 Pts !!**

2<sup>nd</sup> Graham Drury & Paul Duggan 44 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Tyron Prins & Ben Burgess 42 Pts OCB

**Gary Slaymaker Player of the Year: - Current Leader Joint leaders are Mark Coby & Rob Sherington 56 pts, 3<sup>rd</sup> Oliver Last 54 Pts, 4<sup>th</sup> Joe Catt 50 Pts**

**Gents SUMMER Eclectic – Current Leader Bob Judd Net 58, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Catt Net 61, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Slaymaker Net 62 OCB**

## **All Summer knockouts now underway**

### **Next Competitions due as follows: -**

- Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup> - Eric Felgate Memorial Trophy (Valley Course)
- Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> – Gents MAY Medal
- Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup> – ‘Meal Deal’ Stableford
- Sunday May 25<sup>th</sup> – OPEN to ALL Betterball Stableford
- Wednesday May 28<sup>th</sup> – ‘Meal Deal’ Stableford
- Saturday May 31<sup>st</sup> – OPEN to ALL Saturday Stableford
- Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup> – Gents JUNE Medal
- Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup> – Gents JUNE Stableford

*At the meeting RS made the point that the Invitation Days, although quite well supported, were worth promoting more. He felt that it would be good for as many of our own members as possible to hear the positive feedback that nearly all our visitors give us in relation to the state of the course, the welcome that they receive and the standard of the food on offer. He also believed that the cost of £60 per pair was high and that more would be encouraged to enter if the cost was a little lower.*

## **Handicap Secretary's Report**

### **Penalty Scores –**

There have been no penalty scores added since the last meeting. There have been a few people starting rounds unaware they need to complete it or it has been started in error, but they are unable to delete them.

## **Soft Cap/Hard Cap**

Currently 17 players with ‘Soft cap’ enabled. No player’s with ‘Hard cap’ enabled.



We have had 15 members drop off the soft cap list in the last month, which will likely be due to the improved weather and playing conditions lowering scores.

There are 9 new additions to the 'soft cap' list. All those members have been looked at and all have played a large majority of competition rounds for score submissions. No cause for concern.

### **Competition vs General Play**

The Comp vs General Play statistics show up any irregularities between a member's scores as above and the comparison between them. This will now be checked monthly, looking back at the previous 3 months. The handicap committee will discuss any members who show up in this list and may need action depending on findings from further checking of their scores and handicap.

No members on this list meet the criteria set by the Handicap committee to require any further action.

We are now producing the above Competition vs General Play report but reproducing it in 'ascending' order of shot differences. This can then be used to identify members whose scores have caused their handicap to go up but may still be struggling to play anywhere near to their current handicap. This will then be discussed by the Handicap Committee at the next meeting.

### **Stroke Indexes**

The five members who formed the stroke index committee met last night. Ben Brown and Chris Haslam both had information and opinions on the stroke indexes that should be in place along with their suggestions.

Between their information and the information produced by WHS and adapted by me, we have now managed to agree on a new set of stroke indexes. These will be presented to Ben Townsend for the club to ultimately decide on these later this Summer.

Thanks to go particularly to Ben Brown and Chris Haslam but also to Rob Sherington and Gerry Jackson. They all gave up their time to meet and discuss this and they all offered valuable viewpoints to come to a decision.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

1	The bank balances are:	Current a/c	£ 1,791.23
		Deposit a/c	£10,827.94
2	Junior Funds	Coaching	£ 2,684.00
		Sale of Clubs	£ 2,451.00
		Other	£ 1,211.15

Please note that the fees totalling £1,150.00 for April for our Professional staff have not been paid. They are awaiting authorisation.

It should be noted that no sum has been received from the Golf Foundation as would have been expected.

- 3 Whilst I have received the monies from April competitions, I still await the breakdown from the office. As a result I cannot update the 'account'.

'Subsidies' have been paid for the April qualifiers, Stableford £174, Spring Trophy £272, MR King £172 and QIE £170. This means that a total of £1,124 has been spent out of a total agreed of £1,250. Do we give a subsidy of £2 for each entry in the next Qualifier?

Also a payment has been made to Great Ormonde Street in respect of the MR King competition of £76.

- 4 100 Club

It is one of the Treasurer's duties to promote the 100 Club. This has been done in the past by the Club sending out a flyer enclosed with the demand for renewal of members subscriptions.

There has been a fall off of membership partly as a result of this no longer happening. A large proportion of the membership sit on this Committee. The current membership is listed on the attached appendix.

A consideration might be that the Juniors Section does not need the money. Coaching is paid for by the kind promise by the Proprietor to give the Junior Subscriptions back to pay for coaching, and the further balances arising from the Captain's Sale of Clubs and other fund raising.

At the meeting KPB suggested that there was no specific plan for dispersing the large amount of money accrued for the development of the Juniors and that perhaps a Juniors Committee should be set up to look at this.

In relation to Junior funds PK mentioned that the Junior Captains had been given Halesworth Golf tops and that similar tops would be purchased for those representing the club in matches with the money coming from the aforementioned Junior funds.

KPB stated that the original sum put aside to reduce Sunday Competition entry fees from surplus money had nearly been used up and it was agreed that fee reduction would continue until further notice. KPB went on to mention the 100 club and the need to promote this. He presented a list of the current members to the Committee making the point that the majority were either Committee members, Past Captains or the wives or husbands of those already mentioned.

**Matters for Discussion:**

The Committee decided to discuss the work that had been done on reviewing the stroke indexes rather than the original topic on the agenda.

A group consisting of Committee members CH, RS, GJ and Club members Chris Haslam and Ben Brown had met as a "Stroke Index Committee" to look at the score data for each of the holes on the Blyth Course that had previously been shared by CH. At the General Club Committee meeting CH was able to offer a set of amended stroke indexes agreed by the Stroke Index Committee and generated by AI with the help of Chris Haslam who had a professional working knowledge of AI from his employment. Ben Brown also gave some valuable insights and observations from a player's point of view. To demonstrate the powerful logic available when using AI, the Stroke Index Committee asked AI to justify the change in the stroke index for the 18<sup>th</sup> hole from the existing index to the new recommended index. It came up with a logically argued set of considerations which we agreed took into account far more than would normally have been considered. In conclusion the Stroke Index Committee were of the opinion that based on the information available and the work carried out formulating all the data available that they would recommend that the stroke indexes suggested should be adopted by the club when the score cards are reprinted. In answer to a question by DW we were told that the decision reached did take account of both stroke play and match play and that the Ladies stroke indexes could be formulated in the same way in response to a question from Ladies' captain, BD. It also reminds us that there is a great deal of knowledge from within the club's membership that could be made more of in the future.

**Health & Safety:** No issues were raised

**Any Other Business:** Nothing to report

**100 Club:**

1st.: P.Kent  
2<sup>nd</sup>: J.Bedwell  
3<sup>rd</sup>: S. Morris

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2025

*Don Wellman*