

Halesworth Golf General Committee Meeting, Wednesday, 29th June, 2022

Minutes of the Meeting:

Richard Davies – Club Professional (RD)
Rob Sherington – Club Captain & Competition Secretary (RS)
Gary Slaymaker – Club Vice-Captain (GS)
Clare Woods – Ladies’ Representative (CW)
Sally McCoy – Ladies’ Representative (SM)
John Ashton Seniors’ Vice-Captain (JA)
Tom Fletcher – Seniors’ Representative (TF)
Don Wellman – Secretary (DW)

Apologies: Ben Townsend, Ken Parry-Brown, Sara Higgins, Richard Fernley

Minutes of last meeting: It was agreed that these were an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising: Gary Slaymaker was welcomed to the Committee for his first meeting as Vice-Captain having taken over at short notice from Bob Judd. Gary is a former Club Captain whose experience will prove to be an invaluable asset to the Club in the future.

The delay with the promised bicycle rack is due to deciding to install the electric car chargers first but the bicycle rack will appear in the near future. The recycling bin was now in place outside the pro-shop and a sign to distinguish it from the ordinary waste bin would shortly be included. RS would determine whether or not the Anniversary Cup was a mixed Competition but confirmed that it was the responsibility of the Gents to organise the competition. CW confirmed that the Ladies had paid their share towards the biodegradable McDivot pegs.

Club Update: RD explained that additional non-slip mats had been put on the floor area in the Gent’s showers. SM suggested that a similar arrangement for the Ladies would be in order and RS agreed to her request. RD went on to say that the Ladies’ tees on the 12th, 13th and 15th tees had been hand watered by the green staff to improve their condition but that the suggested sign on the 5th hole was not a practical proposition as on investigation it would need to be at least 26 ft in height to be seen by those waiting on the tee. A sign would be placed on the 5th tee reminding players to ring the bell and the board supporting the bell would be painted a bright colour to remind players that it needed to be rung as they pass by. The photos for the Seniors’ board have also been ordered and currently awaiting delivery.

RD then continued with an explanation of his ideas to help increase the number of Juniors playing at the club and on how to bring them through from beginners to more competitive golf. RD already has the Juniors on Saturday morning and Alistair sees them on Wednesday evenings but there is a need for more tuition time if they are to develop from golf sixes, for those without a handicap, to playing and enjoying more competition golf. The meeting arranged with parents attended by 20 to 25 Juniors confirmed this but money is needed (approx. £8,000) for suitable group and individual tuition. Mrs Hunt has kindly agreed that all annual subs for Juniors (approx. £2,500) could be used for this but an additional £5,500 or so would be needed. RD wanted to know what the Committee thought of his suggestion and whether or not they had ideas as to how the club could support this. Various ideas were put forward to support the suggestion but RS felt that we needed to make a more considered decision as to the best way forward and that placing it on the agenda for the next Committee Meeting would give members time to consider how to proceed with what was clearly an idea very much in keeping with the future of the club. RD also suggested that some help with organising Junior matches etc would be of great benefit and that this might come from one or more of the members or parents. It was agreed to return to the topic at the next meeting. A special mention was also given by RD to George Swallow who played in the Suffolk Amateur Championship played at the Club last weekend and won the net competition. (See RS’s Captain’s Report for further details)

RD went on to explain that he had been in touch with Charlie Wilderspoon (SGU) in relation to preferred lies and it was agreed that we could continue with a local rule for preferred lies on the rook-damaged holes 6,7,8 and 13 but that it would not apply to the remaining holes. RD would need to apply on a monthly basis for this local rule to be applied. GS suggested that members would need to be reminded that the current preferred lies for all holes would not apply after the end of June.

RD concluded his update by thanking Gary Slaymaker and Steve Ward for their incredible work in running a highly successful Air Ambulance Day which raised in excess of £20,000. The Seniors’ team of JA, TF and RF was also thanked

for a successful Seniors' Open as was Sara Higgins for agreeing to take over as Ladies' Vice -Captain together with thanks to all the other Ladies' Committee members and Rachael Goldsmith for their work behind the scenes.

Lady Vice-Captain's Report: I would like to start my report on behalf of the ladies' section to firstly reassure everyone that 'we are turning a new leaf.' Whilst we are aware there has been a few problems arising in the ladies' section of late I wish to convey my thanks to all for giving me an opportunity to get back the camaraderie we once had. So, leading on to my report as you are aware, I have offered to serve on committee as Vice, we have voted in Kiran Brice as a non-voting member for now to help with running the competitions and an insight to the committee. We really appreciate Kiran stepping forward to do this.

I would like to thank the ladies committee in general for putting in so much time into the ladies' section, as we know, it is a wonderful package but takes time to earn its benefits, of which we are now seeing by way of payment taking, results, stats, and all that goes with it. An especially useful tool to have within our club. With the release of this package, we have seen it has highlighted some rules which need revising. I would like to reassure you that with the help creating a subcommittee namely Clare Woods and Rachael Goldsmith (co-opted) the revised rules and planning sheets will then mirror it and a hard copy that can be posted on the main web site. Can I please give my thanks to Clare as on her own effort and hard work has spent much time collating rules, dissecting and bringing them up to speed, we really appreciate this Clare as we know this is very time consuming which will benefit our section moving forward.

With this duly scrutinised our thanks to Rachael for checking the rules over, as always Rachael's wealth of history of our section and endless golf knowledge has certainly been an asset to us all. And a big thanks to Sally McCoy for translating rules into user friendly reading. Without all their help and time, we would not be where we are now – we as a section are so grateful to have these ladies on board, on a personal note I wish to thank you for your time spent on this.

I have been liaising with Richard and Ellie regarding friendlies, invitation day, the open and mixed open, thank you to you both for your valuable input and so generously offering your help with these events. Many of the ladies are getting involved which is lovely to see. And to Ali with a meeting soon to discuss the Williams Cup.

May has proved to be a busy month in the golfing diary, at least the weather has improved, and the course is looking and playing lovely. We started May off with the Sunday medal and first putting, followed by the Thursdays Millennium plate and Nielsen putting with twenty-one ladies taking part. Well done to all the winners and runners up and will look forward to seeing through the putting competitions be concluded in July.

Our first mixed competition held on bank holiday Monday was The Withey cup, sixteen pairs signed up with some great scores on the table. The trophy winners were Paul and Jo Calver, a well-played game with forty-eight points. Congratulations to Karen and Clive, Spike and Jackie and the entire field that entered.

Twenty-two ladies entered the Candlestick foursomes and congratulations to Lin Smith and Angela Middleton with 37 points, a great win ladies. To Cathy and Lesley in second and Rita and Clare in third.

The Weston kicked off in great style under Barbara's captaincy. Both away games, one at Haverhill and the other at Seckford coming away with a 4/1 win on both matches, an exceptionally good start for your squad Barbara and keep up the winning streak!

The ladies stableford both Thursday and Sunday produced worthy winners, congratulations to all namely Caroline and Clare in Division 1 and Sonia and Sue H in Division 2.

Well done to Sue Millard winning the Lady Rabbits trophy and runner up Jo Calver, always nice to see new lady members join in and win!

We as a section would like to convey our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Hunt who has so generously sponsored the ladies club shirts; with costs ever increasing it really is very much appreciated and by now all the ladies have been given their lovely shirt, so from us all a big thank you. I would also like to thank on behalf of the ladies all the green keepers for keeping our course in immaculate condition, we really are so lucky to have the best group of green keepers in Suffolk looking after us so well!

We had two friendlies booked in May, unfortunately Rookery cancelled due to inclement weather, these matches will be rescheduled should the diary allow it. We did manage to play at Ufford on a very wet, damp, and cold Monday and ended up losing all four games. Conditions were tricky but the atmosphere afterwards in the clubhouse made up for it with very tasty cheese scones to soften the defeat!

To conclude my report on competitions I must finish on The Cranworth. Captain Rita with her squad of ladies played a formidable game of foursomes in the morning, taking all three matches. The afternoon with six singles is always a hard ask but securing three early on was to our advantage. The games slowly crept away, and our opponents Flempton were creeping back at us. With the final match still in play we as spectators knew we needed the last match to secure a win. Well done to Lynda for taking it to the wire, a well-played match under exceedingly difficult circumstances knowing this was a make or break. Well done to all that played as we came away with a make! Good luck to you in your next round at Felixstowe against Brett Vale.

Ladies' Treasurer's Report for the Committee Meeting on 29th June, 2022

Since the last meeting there have been receipts of TOTAL £835.50 and payments out of TOTAL £573.38

Implementation of the new competition entry fee system using fee management on iG taking money from competitors' cards continues with one or two hitches! It is still early days for me getting used to the way iG works and finding the best time to take fees from cards. I have settled for now on taking them on the Monday before a Thursday competition and Friday for a Sunday competition. After a competition is finalised, I can check that all ladies who paid to enter did play, if not a refund to card can easily be done. There have been a couple of times when ladies paid to enter a competition using iG on their phone, so I sent a message on HGC WhatsApp asking ladies not to do that as it complicates everything. I want to thank Sara for all her help as, bit by bit, we are getting there!

Carol Hume

Ladies' Handicap Secretary report June 29th 2022

1. I have just submitted 3 cards on the Valley Course, for a new lady Naomi Lane. She has no previous handicap. I have allocated her a lifetime CDH number and am awaiting her first handicap. Going by her scores I guess low 30s.
2. Mixed Match v Thorpeness away is on Saturday July 16th. The lady captain has been in contact with me, and interest is growing for this match. When I last ran the mixed matches (for 3 years) it was on a first come first served basis for the team and in most cases, we were short of players. I am not sure if this is still the way it is run but am playing it fairly if necessary. 5 pairs so far (8 pairs required) I have put up 2 posters, one in the passage and one in the ladies changeroom (which includes the ladies friendlies) they have a QR Codes that take you straight to the page where you can check your availability for all matches.
3. Past and Present Captains Day. All past captains have been notified and several have got back to me. Several ladies only for lunch. The Stableford had to be moved to the 7th because it clashed with the Ladies Open, as we need ladies to help, so now the Past Captains Day competition will be a qualifier.

All handicaps, Eclectics, Birdie Tree, and Player of the year up to date and no problems.

Lesley King

Captain's Report: How great it has been to see the superb weather over the last week or so although I am sure the course would benefit from rain in the next few days / weeks. This has enabled the green staff to really crack on and the impact of cutting fairways is creating such lovely definition for all to see. The greens are rolling well again and the cuts around the green make for far more testing chipping increasing the challenge of what continues to be a great course to play commented so favourably by visitors.

SO MUCH has happened since our last meeting!!!

Air Ambulance Day on Friday June 17th was MAGNIFICENT. It has become without a doubt the highlight of the club's annual diary. Thank You to Steve Ward and Gary Slaymaker and all who helped make the day so enjoyable and an opportunity to show off our golf club at its best in all respects. £20000 raised to support the Air Ambulance!! a

remarkable achievement. It was a pleasure to speak at the end of the event and pass on the clubs thanks to all who have been involved so many people played their part to ensure it was such an enormous success.

The Queens Platinum Jubilee weekend was celebrated in style with a Team Event competition using a shotgun start. This really encouraged mixing afterwards along with a lively Prize Giving. This event was kindly sponsored by Kiran Brice through her Puppy Play Barn Business; I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Kiran for doing this. Afternoon Tea was provided in individual boxes for all players and enjoyed by all who took part.

What an impressive performance from our Hambro Team against Stowmarket on Sunday May 22nd. In the morning we finished 6 holes up and in the afternoon 1 hole up winning overall by 7 holes.

The Stowmarket team was strong, consisting of mainly 5 - 8 handicap players meaning we gave 1 shot in 2 matches, 4 in another and none in the last. A lot of good golf was played by all players which was a pleasure to watch during the day. An effective team spirit was engendered by Mark and Higgy - Well Done!!

- George Swallow & Mark Coby
- Wayne Jacques & Ben Brown
- Andrew Higgins & Sam Pollexfen
- Graham Shillings & Paul Coby

+ Mark Henderson who was reserve supporting the team throughout the entire day.

Thanks also to all members who came along and supported the team at some stage during the day. It was great to see the support for our team all around the course.

This was followed by another home fixture against Flempton on Sunday June 19th Lots of great golf was played by all involved and after 18 holes we led by 4 Holes

1. Mark Coby & George Swallow 4 Up
2. Ben Brown & Wayne Jacques 2 Down
3. Sam Pollexfen & Andrew Higgins, All Sq.
4. Paul Coby and Mark Henderson 2 Up

The afternoon did not start well with the first 3 pairings starting badly and at one stage the match was all square overall. All pairings responded so well to the pressure they were put under and eventually we won by 12 holes overall

- Paul Tillett & George Swallow 2 Up
- Ben Brown & Wayne Jacques 5 Down
- Sam Pollexfen & Andrew Higgins 2 Up
- Paul Coby and Mark Henderson 9 Up

Congratulations to Mark and Higgy along with all the players playing supported by many members who came along during the day to support our team - thank you.

We now play Rushmere in the semi-final on Sunday July 17th at Ufford Park Golf Club. I am coordinating the Hoppa to be available to take members who would like to go along and support providing the opportunity for a celebration drink or two afterwards. It would be great if many members are able to come along and offer the team their support and encouragement on the day.

Our Stenson Team played against Haverhill Away on Saturday June 11th. They all played well but unfortunately lost overall 7 – 5 not helped by Graham Shillings being hit on the head by an errant golf ball from one of the opposing players!

It was really pleasing to hear all the positive comments regarding the condition of the course at the Suffolk Amateur Golf Championship that the club hosted on Sunday June 26th. This is a prestigious event and attracted 54 of the lowest handicap golfers across Suffolk. Three players from our club put themselves forward and played in the event which consisted of medal play over 54 holes. A cut was made based on gross score after the first round and George Swallow despite playing off a handicap of 9 made the cut set at 82 with a gross 78 putting him first in the net competition.

George Swallow played superbly over the entire weekend, and it was a pleasure to watch him in his final round on Sunday afternoon. He went on to win the Net Competition – What a Superb Achievement for him and our club. Well done George - all members should be proud of what you have achieved representing our club over the weekend.

Everyone was so complimentary with regards to the condition of our course - well done Mark and his team, it was so great to hear all the positive comments. SGU also praised the way in which all aspects of the club from ball spotters to

our superb bar / restaurant embraced the whole event and enabled it to run so smoothly. A phenomenally successful weekend for our club which will go back to lots of clubs across our county. It made me proud to be able to represent and promote our club as Captain.

The Thursday Foursomes League run through the summer is now in full flow with both teams having played 9 matches each including against each other. Both have performed well with Team Rob 2nd by half a point and Team Bob 6th in the latest table. All those who have played so far have really enjoyed the format and meal afterwards – it is really proving to be a tremendous success.

It is great to continue to see new members still joining the club and integrate themselves into all the golf clubs' different activities. It is also nice to see how welcoming our members are to both visitors and new members alike. Thanks to all on the committee for their continued demanding work in running their sections and supporting the work across all aspects of the club.

Seniors' Captain Report: COMPETITIONS / MATCHES

June Medal 31.05.22 51 entries won by Tom Fletcher with a Net 65.

June Stableford 16.06.22 55 entries won by David Tower with 38 points.

Eddy Metcalfe Rose Bowel 24.06.22 56 entries won by Stephen Ward & Julian Sanger with 46 points.

FRIENDLIES

A series of away matches saw us lose 4 in a row to Sprowston, Rookery, Gorleston and Diss.

But the rot was stopped by a fine win at Southwold on 22nd June.

PARKS TEAM

After a glorious win at Gorleston we sadly lost at Diss in sweltering heat and on a very fast and bouncy golf course.

SENIORS COMMITTEE MEETING 24.05.22: MATTERS ARISING

It was agreed that in "Roll Up" individual stableford competitions, that cards of the prize winners should be submitted for handicap purposes if they scored 38 points or more.

This has also been approved and already implemented by the Club Captain.

CLUB SHIRTS

Thanks to the owners for club shirts that have arrived, to be worn by those representing the club in matches.

We think it's impracticable to have players borrowing, washing, ironing and returning shirts after each match.

Can shirts be given to regular players or maybe sell to these regular players at a discounted price.

SENIORS OPEN 14.06.22

48 entries

The winning pair were David Cook and Greg Carter from Gorleston

There was a lot of praise for the condition of the course, also the quality of the food and service.

Well done to all at the club.

The crow damage to fairways has meant the club has preferred lies in operation until the end of June.

This of course ends on Thursday, we have a Seniors Medal on Friday, so a decision needs to be made without delay.

Sara Higgins

We welcome Sara and appreciate her taking on an executive role in the Ladies Section after the resignation of the Ladies Captain.

We look forward to working with her and arranging combined Seniors and Ladies events in the future.

At the meeting TF raised the question of club shirts for those playing in Senior club matches. Mrs Hunt has kindly given club shirts to all those representing the club in the County competitions as a one-off gift and also provided a number of shirts for club matches which would need to be returned by players after each match. TF did not feel this was a practical arrangement for those playing in a number of club matches (see JA's report above) and it was agreed by RD to offer club shirts at a discount price to those who were genuinely representing the club in official matches.

It was also noted how well the team of JA, TF and RF were continuing to organise Seniors' golf and they were thanked for all their hard work and commitment.

Competition Secretary's Report: Since the last meeting the following competitions have been completed.

Sunday 29th May **BATES & CALVER Founders Bowl – 67 Entrants**

Winner Billy Thurston Net 65

2nd Daron Ridgeon Net 67

3rd Ed Bowles Net 69

Sunday 5th June **Queens Jubilee Puppy-Barn Team Stableford – 66 Entrants**

Winners Lee Adams, Lee Warren & Clifford Brown 83 Pts

2nd Bradley Reynolds, Ed Bowles & Justin Martin 82 Pts

3rd Mary Pickering, Stephen Driver & Keith Pickering 82 Pts

Sunday 29th May **June Medal – Road to Aldeburgh – 67 Entrants**

Winner Craig Bacon Net 70

2nd Stephen Boothby Net 70

3rd Chris Peach Net 71

Gary Slaymaker Player of the Year: - This has recently been changed to only include the monthly medals and Stablefords Current Leaders are **Warren Tydeman & Lee Adams** from Daniel Brown and David King- This runs until October 31st

Gents Summer Eclectic – Current Leader Martin McGinty from Stephen Driver and Liam O'Donovan

Next Competitions due as follows: -

- Sunday July 3rd June Stableford
- Sunday July 10th Daily Mail Foursomes
- Sunday July 17th July Medal
- Sunday July 24th HANDLEY Cup
- Sunday July 31st Mikey Holland Texas Scramble
- Sunday August 7th Steve Ford Memorial Trophy

Treasurer's Report: Balances at Bank:

Current Account £3,987.80

Deposit Account £2,470.28.

Competition entry fees are now collected through IG and monies paid into the Club Accounts.

A reconciliation of these has to be made

Cheques have been drawn for:

McDivot £246.00

St Clement's lunches £ 82.50 These have not been presented.

Handicap Report: RS, together with all his other work for the club, was continuing to look after the Men's handicaps and he felt that this was going well without too many problems. He also confirmed that Tom Feveyear was still interested in helping with handicap administration in the future.

Matters for Discussion:

CW mentioned a problem with IG for the Ladies' Eclectic Competition. RS would look into this but had the matter in hand.

Health and Safety: No Issues

AOB: GS raised the question of a possible scratch category for the Gents in the Sunday Competitions explaining that a number of the low handicappers felt they stood little chance of winning with the current category set-up. RS replied that the Committee would look at this at the next meeting but that his initial feeling was that a scratch prize would take out a significant number of the field before the competition began and that there was already a mechanism to equalise the prize money between the existing divisions. It would be an agenda item for the next meeting and RS would look at evidence from previous competitions to help determine a fair response.

TF mentioned that the Seniors had a competition (Blyth Trophy) for lower handicappers and the Wolf Cup for those with a higher handicap. He also wondered if the handicap allowance for some competitions might be varied from 95% to 80% or even 75% to make it fairer for the low handicappers in some competitions.

100 Club:

1. L.O'Donavon
2. S. McCoy
3. G. Slaymaker

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 20th, 2022 at 7.00pm

Don Wellman