



Halesworth Golf Club Gents Committee Minutes

Wednesday 20th August 2025
7.00 pm Wenhaston Room

- 1) **Attendance** – Paul Kent (Club Captain) Gerry Jackson (Vice Club Captain) Colin Hillier (Handicap Secretary) Ken Parry Brown (Treasurer), Paul Coby, Ben Brown & Chris Haslam (Guests)
- 2) **Apologies for Absence** – Rob Sherington (Competition secretary), Don Wellman (Club Secretary – has brought forward his resignation from committee due to family commitments.) Danny Milne.
- 3) **Welcome** – PK welcomed our three guests. The hope is to engender more awareness of discussions within committee and to encourage more participation from members.
- 4) **Minutes from the last Meeting** - agreed
- 5) **Matters Arising** – none.
- 6) **New Committee** –

Background -

- a) Each section (Ladies & Seniors) is now big and established enough to warrant their own separate meetings
- b) The change to a separate Gents Committee from Club Committee meeting, avoids gents' business being discussed at length, with Ladies & Seniors section not always feeling the relevance to them.
- c) This change has enabled the club to create a new General Club Committee.
- d) This creates an environment to have time to focus on club matters for development and planning.
- e) This then creates a chance to refocus the committee's priorities
- f) This also allows the Gents committee to focus on its own agenda items

- g) The old club Committee voted in favour of the changes 6-1 (with one abstaining).

7) **Club Update** - see July Club Committee minutes.

In addition,

- Ben reports we have Stuart Robertson (Pro) assisting on a temporary basis, with the coaching offer for the Juniors section.
- Ali Hall has left & joined Woodbridge Golf Club
- The Valley course slope rating review has been shared. No change to Par (64) or Slope rating (101) but Course rating has changed from 61.6 to 61.2
- Work on the pond on the valley first hole will begin soon
- Tree plantation to left of 1st hole on Blyth fairway is being planned
- Ben will share club update shortly

8) Club Captains' Report

Club Captains Report 20th August 2025

Since the last Club Committee Meeting on 15.07.25 –

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 **85** different players on the course. I continue to seek opinion about the club and course in general.

2. Captains' duties this month have included –

- 15.07.25 – chaired the new format Club Committee meeting
- 16.07.25 – Captained the Gents away match v Eaton.
- 17.07.25 – Supported the Parks team 8 up victory at home to Bury St Edmunds.
- 25.07.25 – Meeting with Ben Townsend
- 30.07.25 – Acted as 'starter' for the Juniors Championship.
- 30.07.25 – Captained the Gents home match v Eaton
- 05.08.25 – Attended Air Ambulance cheque presentation
- 06.08.25 – Played in Staff v Members competition
- 07.08.25 – Supported the Beaumont teams semi-final at Diss.
- 08.08.25 – Played in Seniors Charity Day event.
- 10.08.25 – Presented the Club Championship prizes in addition to the Juniors Gross & Nett prize winners' trophies.
- 13.08.25 – Captained the Gents home match v Police.
- 14.08.25 – Oversaw the Parks semi-final at Flempton (in Stans absence)
- 16.08.25 – Was 'starter' for the Mixed Open competition

1. **County Competitions.** Unfortunately, both the Parks and Beaumont teams failed to progress from their semi-finals v Felixstowe and Bramford. It is a great achievement to be reaching the semi-finals of these competitions again, especially with it being the Parks teams third year in a row. In particular, I'd like to thank Ian Stannard on behalf of the club for his excellent captaincy of the Parks team. Stan has decided it's time to step back and let someone else manage the great squad he has assembled.

** Having successfully persuaded Suffolk Golf Union to hold 'public' draws for the competitions I am now engaged with them regarding moving to neutral venues for all matches, which the Ladies section manage to do in their county competitions.

2. **Club Committee meeting** – minutes circulated. Agenda will evolve but a good start with a focus on looking forward as a club and creating more time for planning diaries & events.
3. **Gents Club Championship** – a very successful event played over a long hot weekend. It was great to see the top three all coming down the last fairway together as the last group out. Congratulations to **Danny Milne** for finally getting it over the line and becoming worthy club champion. **Brad Reynolds** was a very popular nett winner but pushed Danny all the way for the main prize. The ever-present **Paul Coby** was unable to pull back the five shot gap Danny created on Saturday and was last seen cursing his putter! However, it is worth noting that Paul is a record 'seven time' club Champion and it's a fantastic achievement to keep challenging year on year. Well done all that entered.

4. **Junior's section** –

- **Juniors Championship** – 14 juniors entered with George Swallow (0) scoring a gross 76 to win this year's title. George has now equalled Ali Hall & Archie Winters club record of four junior championship wins. He has one more year to break that record. Harry Hinsley (23) became the nett champion with a score of nett 70. Both were presented with their trophies after the club championship where a larger audience could applaud and recognise their achievements.
- **Juniors Open** – 38 competed in the Junior Open this year. Josie Knights (Ipswich) playing off scratch won with a gross 76.
- **Junior Members** - Currently we have 37 Juniors with handicaps & 59 without (96 in total)
- **Junior Coaching** – in the wake of Ali's departure we have golf pro Stuart Robertson covering for a period of time whilst the club seek a permanent replacement.
- **Juniors Fund** – more clubs donated recently and this fund continues to grow. This is to be managed carefully so Juniors have access to it over a long period of time. We are awaiting delivery of the Junior club shirts.

- **Junior Updates** - Jeremy will be providing Ben with a regular Juniors update in future.

5. Gents matches – three matches again this month.

- Away defeat (4.4 – 1.5) at Eaton but close matches overall.
- Home win (4-2) v Eaton. A great atmosphere and some excellent golf played by both teams.
- Home win (4-2) v Police. Great fun played in fantastic spirit.

6. Congratulations to Rob and Chris Reeves Thursday night league teams. Chris's team put up a strong showing but couldn't quite reach the end with sufficient points. Robs strong squad managed to tie first and therefore retain the overall trophy. You may have heard already! It's good that we are developing a winning habit at Halesworth.

7. Trophies. –I will eventually find time to upload all the Trophy photographs to go alongside competition enhanced details.

8. Greenkeepers – pick & place now available. Our continued thanks to Mark and his team for battling against very challenging conditions currently. Visitors feedback remains positive.

9. Halesworth Golf Pro-Am – still liaising with Sizewell re some sponsorship for planned event next year.

10. Gents AWAY DAY – As previously mentioned, I am in negotiations with Stowmarket for this year's event.

11. Main item for discussion –

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

- **Golf Foundation Putter** – I was approached by a member (Bernie Grant) who asked where this putter/trophy donated by a previous lady captain was. Ben has located and this will be displayed and reintroduced next year.
- **Competition Fee's.** Use of Gerry's spreadsheet by Ken to allow discussion on impact of fee reduction and any feedback received.
- **Gent's competition survey**
- **Committee member nominee sheet**

Captains Diary August / September 2025

20.08.25 – Chairing first separate Gents Committee meeting

25.08.25 – Co-hosting the Suffolk Punch with Colin Aldous
29.08.25 – Playing in the Pear Tree Fund competition
03.09.25 – Captaining the Gents away match v St Clements
06.09.25 – Captaining the Gents home match v St. Clements.
16.09.25 – Chairing the club General Committee meeting

Paul Kent

Halesworth Golf Club Captain 2025.

9) **Treasurer's Report** – new format spreadsheet.

Discussion about the accuracy of some of the figures on the initial spreadsheet. It was agreed not to include in the minutes until we are satisfied that the figures reflect the accounts fully. Recognition this is a new method of reporting. We do wish to share monthly finance report with members for transparency. **Action - KPB to review and provide accurate figures for next month's report**

- Ken talked through the spreadsheet
- Request to separate the Juniors fundraising money from Lois's coaching fund. **Action KPB to change format**
- Surplus looks like £2,400. KPB will review this figure as he feels it is inflated.
- GJ highlighted small error on RS sheet – **Action Point GJ to speak to RS**

Competition Money

1. From Rob's figures there were 31 competitions on a Sunday with an average of 75.4 entrants. To estimate this as an annual number of competition entrants, assume there are 44 competitions (this allows for weather disruption in a typical year) and therefore 3,300 competition entries.
2. From my spreadsheet you will see a figure 'Total cash 'out'' at £3,760. This is found from the competition entries.
3. If the number of entries is steady but that there is mild inflation (5%) in expenditure, there needs to be a charge of £1.25 on each competition entry.
4. The 2-ball money is not included in this – it should be self-balancing, maybe not quite each week but in general.
5. Therefore, there is a minimum of £1.75 per entrant per competition required. Anything in excess of this can be used for prize money IF nothing else changes.
6. Earlier this year members were asked if there were any matters on which they would like to see money expended. The result was that all bar one item suggested would be matters for the Management to deal with rather than the members.
7. However, with the acquisition of Mells Court Farm by the owners, there will no doubt be changes in arrangements. Ben may make some comments about this in the

Meeting. These changes may cause there to be matters that might need funding by the members to be addressed.

8. If the competition entry fee is set at £3.50, there would be available for a typical competition a prize pot of £131 (not including 2s money).
9. If the entry fee is set at £5.00, this becomes £244.
10. The distribution of the prize pot in the figures presented by Rob shows the winners receiving £44, with division winners £88 – a total of £132. The total payout averages £230 for next placed etc.
11. Note therefore that the level of prizes is set by the level of entry fee, or the converse the entry fee is set by the level of prize expectation.
12. (The subsidy of £1500 to remove an excess of monies is not relevant to the future).

Ken Parry Brown

10) Handicap Report

- Colin Hillier talked through the process of handicap secretary.
- Ben Brown noted he wasn't aware of how we monitored players.
- Colin highlighted recent issues with Junior cards (not signed, incorrect, months old etc) & has passed feedback to Jeremy. Colin has offered to meet with Juniors to talk through importance of completing scorecards accurately & timely.
- Paul Coby shared the old system which was much more formal and 'educated' young players.

Halesworth Golf Club – Handicap Report 20th August 2025

Penalty Scores –

There have been no penalty scores added since the last meeting.
Still errors when starting rounds on IG in conjunction with entering a competition.
Explaining to each player how to add scores.

Juniors/New Members

Since Alistair left and Richard is on leave, I've received several Junior cards for handicaps. I have emailed Jeremy Jenkins regarding this but wanted to pass this onto the committee.

There were a large majority of cards that were inadmissible for handicaps due to various issues.

No date, not signed, not enough holes scored and held back for too long were a few I can mention.

Ensuring Juniors and new members know how to complete cards correctly will be beneficial. I have offered Jeremy my services to speak to the Juniors.

Soft Cap/Hard Cap

Currently 24 players with 'Soft cap' enabled. Two players with 'Hard cap' enabled. Player 1 has not added any scores from September 2023 until April 2025. Clearly had a break from golf and now returning higher scores. Will continue to monitor their scores being added to see if they need any further upward adjustment now that the hard cap is in effect.

Player 2 has regular scores being added included competition rounds. The majority of their counting rounds are general play scores so this would indicate no intentional manipulation.

No cause for concern and will continue to monitor.

We have had 12 members drop off the soft cap list in the last two months.

There are 12 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.

Colin Hillier

11) Competition Report

Competition Secretary's Report

Since the last meeting **the following competitions have been completed.**

Sunday June 22nd – Additional Gents Betterball – 70 Entrants

Winners David King & Dan Collett 45 Pts

2nd Paul Calver & Chris Calver 43 Pts OCB

3rd Neil Coby & Brett Lockwood 43 Pts

Saturday June 28th – ‘OPEN to ALL’ Stableford – 15 Entrants

Winner Sian Tutak 37 Pts OCB

2nd John Pamment 37 Pts

3rd Viv Leach 33 Pts OCB

Sunday June 29th – Captain ‘ERNIE’ Challenge – 66 Entrants

Winners Will Coby, Kurt Leach & Dan Archer 82 Pts OCB

2nd Rowan Naismith-Robertson, Naomi Lane & Jack Payne 82 Pts

3rd Ed Bowles, Keith Pickering & Steve Driver 80 Pts

Sunday July 6th – JULY MEDAL – 59 Entrants

Winner Bob Judd Net 64

2nd Mike Fulton Net 66

3rd Keano Cross Net 68

Sunday July 13th – JULY Stableford – 83 Entrants

Winner Wayne Jacques 44 Pts Gross 68

2nd Chris Peach 42 Pts

3rd Harry Hinsley 41 Pts

Saturday July 19th – ‘OPEN to ALL’ Stableford – 2 Entrants

CANCELLED – Lack of Interest in sign Up

Sunday July 20th – OPEN to ALL 2 Ball Texas Scramble – 100 Entrants

Winners Paul Bullen & Brett Lockwood Net 62

2nd Mark Swallow & Troy Wilson Net 63 OCB

3rd Jack Payne & Brad Reynolds Net 63

Sunday July 27th – HANDLEY CUP Stableford – 79 Entrants

Winner John Tait 41 Pts

2nd Sam Last 39 Pts OCB

3rd Simon Hunter 39 Pts

Sunday August 3rd – Additional Gents Betterball – 58 Entrants

Winners Daniel Thomas & Dan Smith 52 Pts

2nd Daniel Milne & Justin Martin 50 Pts OCB

3rd Paul Bullen & Dan Shervington 50 Pts

GENTS CLUB Championships

Played on SAT August 9th & SUN August 10th

GROSS Competition

WINNER DANIEL MILNE 73 & 77 = 150

Runner Up Bradley Reynolds 77 & 77 = 154

3rd Paul Coby 78 & 78 = 156 OCB

4th Wayne Jacques 78 & 78 = 156

5th Jack Rawlinson 81 & 77 = 158

6th Mark Coby 79 & 81 = 160

NET Competition

WINNER BRADLEY REYNOLDS 68 & 68 = 136

Runner Up Jordan Payne 73 & 67 = 140 OCB

3rd Oliver Hinsley 72 & 68 = 140

4 th	Chris Peach	72 & 69 = 141
5 th	Paul Raynes	72 & 72 = 144 OCB
6 th	Ben Slaymaker	70 & 74 = 144
7 th	Neville Chubbock	74 & 71 = 145
8 th	Gavin Lugo	79 & 67 = 146 OCB

Round 1

Best Score	Bradley Reynolds	Net 69 OCB
2 nd	Ian Price	Net 69 OCB
3 rd	Darron Ridgeon	Net 69
4 th	Stephen Brown	Net 70 OCB

Round 2

Best Score	Jordan Payne	Net 67 OCB
2 nd	Gavin Lugo	Net 67
3 rd	Oliver Hinsley	Net 68 OCB
4 th	Bradley Reynolds	Net 68

Sunday August 17th – MICKEY HOLLAND Texas Scramble – 100 Entrants

					Gro ss	H cp	N ET	
1 st	R. Ling	A. Canham	K. Leech	D. Archer	61	7.6	53.4	
2 nd	P. Coby	M. Coby	P. Sherwood	W. Coby	57	3.3	53.7	
3 rd	D. Coleman	M. Coleman	P. Calver	C. Calver	63	8.0	55.0	O CB

Gary Slaymaker Player of the Year: - Current Leader is still just Mark Coby 74 Pts

2nd Chris Busby 72 Pts 3rd Rob Sherington 57 Pts, 4th Oliver Last 54 Pts, 5th Brad Reynolds 53 Pts

Gents SUMMER Eclectic – Current Leader Bob Judd Net 55, 2nd , Kevin Bates Net 55
3rd Rob Sherington & Ben Slaymaker Net 56

Summer knockouts.

Scratch – Final due to be played between George Swallow and either Matt Stacey or Paul Coby

ASHURST Summer Singles - Final due to be played between Warren Tydeman and either Clive Seward or Dan Smith

JUDD / JENNINGS Fourball Betterball – Semi-finals – Nick Bloom & Jon Last v Alan Enright & Mark Winwood and Chris Haslam & Alfie Rackham v Robbie Ling & Craig Stammers

Next Competitions due as follows: -

- Sunday August 24th – STEVE FORD Memorial Trophy
- Friday August 29th – **PEAR TREE GOLF Day – RECORD 43 Teams signed up to play 172 players**

- Sunday August 31st – GENTS Monthly Medal
- Sunday September 7th – Gents 2 Ball Texas Scramble
- Sunday September 14th – Gents STANNARD Foursomes
- Sunday September 21st – GENTS DAILY MAIL FOURSEOMES
- Sunday September 28th - GENTS Monthly Stableford
- Sunday October 5th – **Currently a CLASH** I was unaware of as this must have been added after the competition calendar was completed -

Joint Captains Charity Day & Sherwood Bogey

COULD the Charity Day take place on Saturday October 4th?? If not, it will not be possible to fit the Sherwood Bogey in until mid-November!

Discussion took place – PK not keen to move the captain's charity Day further back in the calendar and wants to keep its historical Sunday as likely to achieve more players entries. Consensus that we don't wish to reduce potential fundraising. **Action RS to find suitable Sunday.**

Rob Sherington -Competition Secretary

12) Matters for Discussion

- **Gent's competition fees** –
- GJ explained to our guests why we had reduced fees this year, initially to remove the excessive surplus we had in 2024 and then more recently to reduce the build up of another surplus this year, as identified by our treasurer. The committee voted unanimously to reduce the fee and monitor reaction accordingly. KPB confirmed last year's surplus has gone.
- Concern that we have a new surplus developing but need to confirm accuracy of prediction.
- BB, PC & CH all agree no noise re fees & payments. These could confirm we have it right and need to increase prizemoney rather than decrease entry fees. Also have flexibility re county competitions.
- Seeking views should confirm that we have it right and/or allow us to tweak where necessary.
- Use of surplus - long discussion re competition shirts & payments – colour of tops. PK highlighted cost of competitions should we be successful across three competitions. Potential of Practice rounds (x10) of £250, meal for day (x10) £160 each round so £410 x 3 competitions (£1230 per round) so it was not an easy to either fund or plan for. With members support it becomes easier. Constitution currently doesn't allow us to carry huge surplus.
- All viewed Playing for club as an honour. However, buying new shirt each year if picked is excessive. It will be in survey
- Need to change from white shirts as do not last & look grubby – it will be survey question.

- As an interim we can continue £5 entry fee but with larger prizes so as to not inflate any surplus. The work we are currently carrying out should make it easier for next year
- Chris Haslam pointed out it should not be too challenging to predict main expenses for each year (county competitions aside) nor plot our revenue stream. All agreed

- **Committee member nominations sheet –**

PK shared the draft amended sheet. Committee discussed when & how to circulate to members to garner interest in each post. We had already voted to increase the membership to include those without specific task/roles. It was an opportunity to 'shadow' a post holder to see if it was something they would consider in the future. General consensus that ALL roles should have two people so there was effectively a backup.

Communication –

- Chris H raised the issue general communication from club. Member view is that it is poor at HG.
- Ben B & Colin H suggest club update is emailed to everyone. Club newsletter per fortnight/month. PK shared background of BT time 'away' and that he recognised communication needs to improve & is currently putting newsletter together to email to members.
- All felt Nomination sheet should be emailed to all Gents,
- Paul C raised issue that many felt the nomination sheet was a fait accompli each year and has been same for many years, likened it to a closed shop.
- Colin H shared that we had conversations this year limiting each role to three years to ensure new ideas and sharing of roles.

- **Gents Competition questionnaire –**

- Paul K has supplied a very draft set of questions to start the debate.
- Colin H had provided an alternate framing for questions that was more adaptive version.
- RS (via email) felt it needed a more face to face approach where the background was explained to give a context. RS warned that a survey could well set the club back a few years without background & context
- GJ fed back that members were enthusiastic about being given a chance to have their opinion sought and then heard.
- As a committee we discussed each question and modified, removed or added until we had agreement of what will be sent out.

Action Paul K will circulate the new shaped list of questions to confirm accuracy before sharing with Ben T for authorisation of survey via IG.

- Timescale will be to get survey out and back in September ready for next Gents committee meeting.

13) Any Other Business –

- Gerry J confirmed a new Mixed competition off members tees – 31st May 2026 which will be the Halesworth Harmony Cup

14) 100 Club –

- No response to the recent email Ken sent encouraging new membership.

July Numbers / winners

- 49 – Jennie Jennings
- 112 – Colin Hillier
- 160 – Don Wellman

Aug Numbers / Winners

- 61 – Gerry Jackson
- 166 – Andy Frances
- 141 – Rob Sherington

15) Date of Next Meeting 9th October 7pm.

Apologies in advance Chris Haslam & Colin Hillier