

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
Held at Burnham & Berrow Golf Club  
Tuesday 13 September 2011 at 7:15pm

PRESENT

S.Butterfield	President	N.Long	Chairman
J. Keight	Elected member	A.King	Secretary
B. Evans	Elected member	G.Gregg	Seniors Captain
D. Hughes	County Junior Organiser	G. Yates	Co-opted member
P. White	Captain	J. Parker	Treasurer
I. Pamplin	Vice President		

The meeting paused for a moments silence before the start of the meeting to remember David Kent, Past President of the Union who had passed away recently.

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chairman welcomed the members of the Executive committee. Apologies had been received from J. Cunning, M. Rossiter, C. Nicholls and T. Hoskings.

The Chairman congratulated Phil on the team's achievement in winning the Channel League and going through the season unbeaten. He advised the meeting that he had written to Phil confirming his appointment as Captain on a rolling 12 month basis, subject to ratification at the AGM.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 11 were agreed.

3. Matters arising (not covered in later minutes)

3.1 para 3.1 AP 1/2/10. A meeting to review the Policy Document has been arranged.

**Action Nigel AP 1/2/10**

3.2 para 4.3 AP 1/8/11 The Secretary will arrange for a list of players 2 handicap or better to be sent to the Captain

**Action Alan AP 1/8/11**

3.3 para 6.1 The Chairman complemented Cannington GC on their hosting of the Trounson Trophy. Although the number of teams entering had been a slight disappointment, the event was a success with all teams complimentary on the course and its condition. The Category Championships at Worlebury had also been successful with the greens having recovered to their best condition.

**Discharged**

3.4 para 12 AP 4/8/11 The meeting to discuss the proposed merger has been arranged for 22 September, clubs have been invited. An item will be placed on the agenda for the meeting on 25 October to mandate the Voting Member

**Action Alan AP 1/9/11**

## Somerset Golf Union

### 4. Captains report.

- 4.1 Phil reported on the recent matches. The fixture against Gloucestershire at The Mendip had been interrupted by a thunderstorm but thanks to the efforts of the greenkeeping staff it had been possible to resume play after the singles had been suspended. Leading 4-1 from the foursomes, the players kept their concentration after the resumption of play and ran out impressive 11-4 winners. The final match of the season against Glamorgan at Minehead & West Somerset was played with the Channel league already won. With the team missing 4 first choice players, the morning foursomes saw the team 3-2 down. However, the team rallied in the afternoon and it was fitting that the Captain should clinch the half from the match by closing out the final game on the 18<sup>th</sup> green to retain the team's unbeaten record.

The team overall had enjoyed a good season, special mention was made of Max Brittan who had gone through the season unbeaten in his singles in both South West week and the Channel League. All the players are working hard to improve their game and are looking forward to the winter program and further improving their skills.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> team's match against Gloucestershire had also been affected by the weather with the foursomes cancelled. The singles had been halved.

#### **Information**

### 5. Forthcoming events

The Champion of Champions event takes place at Woodhall Spa this weekend and Sam Day and Jamie Clare will be representing Somerset in the Men's and Junior's competitions respectively. Unfortunately the Senior County Champion is unable to attend. The Pickeridge Bowl and Somerset Bowl finals are on 25<sup>th</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The Secretary encouraged Executive members to rally support for the Seniors Autumn meeting on 7 October at Long Sutton. It was agreed that an approach would be made to David Trick to be the guest speaker at the Annual Dinner.

#### **Information**

### 6. Competitions.

- 6.1 The Seniors Bowl final had been an exciting day with Wells beating Long Sutton with the final match going to extra holes.

#### **Information**

- 6.2 Problems have been experienced with Club 2000 with scores not passing through to the CDH. This has been reported and the immediate issue resolved. EGU have been advised of the difficulties.

#### **Information**

## Somerset Golf Union

### 7. Treasurer.

- 7.1 The Secretary is following up a few clubs who have not submitted their affiliation fees in accordance with the revised timescale agreed at the AGM.

#### **Information**

- 7.2 The Finance committee had delayed the examination of whether it is advantageous to move to Limited Company status in view of the possible impending merger with the ramifications at County level unclear.

#### **Information**

- 7.3 The requirement for the accounts to be audited was discussed. Although the financial activity levels have increased over recent years, it was agreed that a full audit in the technical sense of the word was not required and an independent examination would be sufficient. There are issues in terms of the payment of bills and the best arrangement for settling match expenses and the Finance committee will review them at their next meeting.

#### **Action Treasurer AP 2/9/11**

- 7.4 The current financial position is healthy as it includes a windfall from the change in the arrangements for affiliation fee collection.

#### **Information**

- 7.5 The proposed budget was discussed. There were still some details to be worked on in respect of the Coaching and Development plans which would affect the final figures. It was agreed that in line with other teams the Seniors would be paid for travel outside the County.

#### **Information**

- 7.6 The Chairman advised the meeting that the Finance committee had considered the salary of the Secretary in relation to other Counties in the region, an increase was recommended and this was agreed by the Executive. After discussion it was agreed that the Finance committee would review the current arrangements for mileage payments.

#### **Action Treasurer AP 3/9/11**

- 7.7 The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for his work in presenting the financial position and the budget, his first since taking up post.

#### **Information**

### 8. Juniors

- 8.1 The Junior Organiser gave a review of the season by age group. He felt that the Under 18s had slightly underperformed given the quality of the squad. He complemented Worlebury on how quickly the course and greens recovered from a torrential downpour during the recent match there.

The Under 16s had been unfortunate to lose one game due to being a player short at very late notice, had that game gone the other way, they may have won their league.

## Somerset Golf Union

The Under 14s had suffered from a shortage of quality players. This reflects a problem being experienced at club level with clubs being unable to complete fixtures in the Junior League. The Secretary has arranged to meet with the Secretary of the Junior League and the Partnership Development officer to address the situation. This raised a debate on the number of players in all teams and it was agreed to discuss this as an agenda item at the next meeting.

### **Information**

- 8.2 An agreement was being negotiated with Farrington to become a Somerset performance Centre which would allow all squad players to use the facilities. The meeting authorised Derek to finalise the arrangement, including membership of the gymnasium facilities if possible.

**Action Derek AP 4/9/11**

9. Seniors.

- 9.1 There were no matches to report on; the Seniors Captain welcomed the decision to pay travelling costs.

### **Information**

10. Somerset Golf Partnership

The second South West golf week had been held in the week following the Open Championship. Participation levels had been less than for the one in April.

### **Information**

11. Marketing.

The SGU Bowmaker had gone well albeit the number of teams was disappointing. John Keight stated that he will try to get the 1<sup>st</sup> team fixtures sponsored next year.

**Action John K. AP 5/9/11**

12. Secretary & correspondence

- 12.1 The Secretary updated the meeting on the progress with the new website. A target date of 30 September has been set which coincides with the end of the annual payment term for the existing provider. The new site and competitions software will throw up opportunities to improve our visibility with live scoring among several benefits. A web design form had been completed, one question being whether we have a 'tagline' which encapsulates what we do. All Executive members were asked to consider this aspect in advance of the next meeting when a discussion will be held on the aims and objectives of the Union.

**Action Alan AP 6/9/11**

- 12.2 The visiting speaker for the Annual Dinner was discussed and it was agreed to approach David Trick the former Bath and England rugby international.

**Action Alan AP 7/9/11**

13. Safeguarding

There are no issues at present. The record of CRB certificates and courses attended by the Junior Managers will be held by the Secretary

**Action Alan AP 8/9/11**

14. Presidents remarks

Before the President spoke, the Vice President addressed the meeting. He apologised to the Executive that he had been unable to commit the time and do justice to the Vice President's duties due to work pressures. His assessment was that this position is unlikely to change in the short term and he therefore tendered his resignation with effect from the AGM in February. The Chairman thanked Ian for his contribution and understood entirely that his priorities needed to be directed elsewhere at this time.

The President said that he was looking forward to supporting our players in the Champion of Champion tournament at Woodhall Spa at the weekend. The County Dinner season is also about to start.

15. Any other business

The President stated that at the Seniors Bowl final, he had been involved in a discussion about the possibility of a Seniors league being established. The intention would be that the competition would mean converting existing fixtures into league fixtures rather than extending the number of fixtures played. It was agreed that Stephen would circulate a paper to the executive to consider further.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 9.30 pm  
NEXT MEETING Tuesday 25 October 7.15pm – Burnham & Berrow GC

Approved

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Chairman

Nigel Long

25 October 11