

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
Held at Burnham & Berrow Golf Club  
Tuesday 22 March 2011 at 7:15pm

PRESENT

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

1. Welcome and apologies  
The Chairman welcomed the members of the Executive committee. Apologies had been received from Iam Pamplin and Tony Hoskings.
2. Minutes  
The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 11 were agreed.
3. Matters arising (not covered in later minutes)
  - 3.1 para 1 AP 1/2/11. The sub-committee structure had been published.  
**Discharged**
  - 3.2 para 1 AP 2/2/11 The County is committed to supplying 3 volunteers for the 4 days of the Brabazon and some members have submitted their names. Any member yet to advise their availability was asked to advise the Secretary.  
**Discharged**
  - 3.3 para 3.1 AP1/2/10 The review of the Policy document by Nigel is in hand  
**Action Nigel AP 1/2/10**
  - 3.4 para 9.1 AP 4/2/11 Graham has recovered the kit held by Adrian Deakins.  
**Discharged**
4. Captain of England.  
The Chairman was pleased to advise the meeting that Colin Edwards had been re-appointed as Captain of England. The Executive committee were unanimous in their congratulations to Colin and the Secretary was asked to write to Colin.  
**Action Alan AP 1/2/11**
5. Captain of Somerset.  
Nigel congratulated Phil on his appointment as Captain and wished him a successful season. Nigel also congratulated Graham on his nomination as Junior Vice President of the SWCGA. The achievement of Laurie Canter in winning the Spanish Amateur title was also recognised.  
**Information**

6. Team Manager. Adrian Bishop has been appointed as Team Manager and the terms of payment agreed. A letter has been sent to him setting out the specifics of his pay and expenses.

**Information**

7. Captain's corner. Phil pointed out that the player development program had been difficult this winter due to the late start of the process. Players would be supported through the season with a review of the whole program at the end of the season with a view to defining the winter's program. The first match of the season is at Gwent on Sunday 27 March and support from the Executive committee will be appreciated. Chris Nicholls, together with Sam Hughes will run the 2<sup>nd</sup> team as a Development squad trying to create the next batch of 1<sup>st</sup> team players. They have 4 games in which to demonstrate their talent. Nigel thanked Chris for taking on the role and wished him and Sam every success.

**Information**

8. South West week. The team for SWW will be selected after the game against Cornwall on 8 May and the players will be advised although the formal announcement of the team will take place at the County Championship the following week. Two visits to Saunton have been planned for practice rounds. The Executive will continue to take the responsibility for the support activity to leave Phil and Adrian free to concentrate on the playing task.

**Information**

9. Future of County Golf.  
Some discussions have been held examining the way County golf is organised. The EGU Director of Coaching, Peter Mattsson, had given a presentation to the Secretaries and Treasurers conference and Counties have been asked to discuss the issue and mandate their Voting member in advance of the June meeting. The Secretary was asked to distribute the presentation from Peter Mattsson and the Executive were asked to consider and be prepared to debate the subject at next month's meeting. Graham advised the meeting that he had attended a working party meeting and he thanked Phil for his thoughts and contribution to the debate.

**Action Alan AP 2/2/11. Executive members**

10. Brabazon.  
The SGU is committed to providing 3 volunteers for the 4 days of the competition. Alan will re-circulate the list to finalise the number of volunteers.

**Action Alan AP 3/2/11**

## Somerset Golf Union

11. Warm weather training.  
The squad that has been selected for this year's warm weather training in Spain will depart for their week's activity on Tuesday 29 March. Alan will circulate the Players Diary that has been prepared to the Executive.  
**Action Alan AP 4/2/11**
  
12. Juniors.  
The first major event of the season is the Junior Four Counties which we are hosting at Clevedon from 19-21 April. Alan will circulate to the Executive the booklet that has been produced and distributed to the competing counties. Coaching is continuing and 2 new players for the Under 14s have recently joined the squad having moved into the County when Chedington Court closed and they moved their membership to Windwhistle. The program of matches commences over Easter. Jamie Clare and Lewis Casserley have both gained entry to the McEvoy Trophy.  
**Action Alan AP 5/2/11**
  
13. Seniors  
The Seniors began their season with a friendly against the County Ladies which resulted in a halved match at Wells. The County needs more good senior golfers and Graham Gregg asked that members of the Executive to advise him of any players at 5 or 6 handicap or better in their club who are eligible for the Senior team.  
**Action Executive members AP 6/2/11**
  
14. County Golf Partnership.  
Nigel advised the meeting that he had attended the Partnership AGM and regular meeting. There is a SW golf week in April and another planned for July. Various taster sessions have been organised for the week involving 23 clubs. These sessions are designed to expand the exposure of the game. Town Centre days are also scheduled at Bath and Taunton where the recently purchased equipment will be utilised. Following an advertisement and interview process, Paul Barrington has been appointed to the position of County Development Officer for the Partnership on 18 hours per week. It is important that his performance is monitored and Steering Group members will receive a monthly report on his plans and performance. There is also a need to examine the partnership constitution to ensure that the arrangements for representatives and voting are clear.  
**Information**
  
15. Merger EGU with EWGA.  
Graham Yates reported that the talks are ongoing although there is a delay in issuing the proposal document due to issues surrounding the EWGA lease of their offices. All counties will receive the proposal document and be able to have briefings before

mandating the Voting member. It is anticipated that the vote will not now take place until September or October.

**Information**

16. EGU Members benefit package

Several Executive members have already registered and the cards are now being received. Executive members were encouraged to promote the scheme in their club.

**Information**

17. County cards

The distribution of the cards is now virtually complete. A meeting will be organised with the County Ladies Association to agree the apportionment of the income from cards given or sold to Ladies.

**Information**

18. Expenses.

The Treasurer had identified some anomalies in the current expenses arrangements which would be included in the review of the Policy document. It was agreed that members of the Executive could purchase a sweater and a shirt at a 50% discount. The arrangements with respect to the mileage allowances paid to various members of the Executive committee and Junior Team Manager were agreed.

**Information**

19. Finance issues.

The finance sub-committee met on the 17 March. The final phase of the handover from Graham Yates to John will be completed very shortly. John expressed his thanks to Graham for all his help during the transitional period.

Affiliation Fees. These have been received by all except for Vivary & Tickenham. There are some anomalies to be sorted out concerning some underpayments.

Limited Company. The transfer of the SGU to a limited company is to be investigated. Regrettably we live in an ever more litigious society & if greater protection can be achieved for the Executive members then that must be an advantage. A paper will be prepared in order for the Executive to be able to make an informed decision which if decided in favour of a change can be put before the AGM next year.

Contracts of Employment. A draft contract has been produced by Graham Yates which Nigel Long will take forward and discuss with Alan and Jenny King.

Banking Arrangements. Cheque books are held by Derek Hughes, Alan King and the Treasurer. Debit cards are held by Derek and Alan. The account operates by one signature with no financial limit. If any spend is to be incurred in excess of £500 then the Treasurer must be informed before a commitment to incur the cost is made.

Insurance. It was noted by Alan that the SGU insurance includes the Somerset County Golf Partnership. The Partnership are about to purchase various items of equipment which will undoubtedly increase premiums. It was felt by all at the finance meeting that the time has come for them to be separately insured & be responsible for this cost.

**Information**

20. Secretary.

Competition entries are coming in slowly. The first individual competition is the Under 14 Championship on 21 April and the Under 14 Team Manager has been asked to encourage entries. Graham Gregg enquired whether it would be possible to reduce the entry fee, for members of Burnham & Berrow GC, to the West of England Seniors Open. The Secretary undertook to raise the issue with the Golf Club.

**Action Alan AP 7/2/11**

SWCGA meeting feedback. The match versus the Midlands is to be reviewed and the Secretary undertook to produce a paper to the Executive to outline the issues involved so that the Executive can discuss the issue at its next meeting and mandate the SWCGA delegates.

**Action Alan AP 8/2/11**

21. President.

Stephen wished the team well for the matches at the weekend. He had attended the Dorset and Wiltshire dinners. He had also attended in a personal capacity the Rules School at the Kendleshire and is looking forward to the 2<sup>nd</sup> part in a few weeks where he will undertake the practical session and the exam. The venue for the Trounson Trophy in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Presidency will be at the course of the Chairman.

**Information**

22. Any other business.

Phil thanked the President, Chairman and all the Executive committee for the support and encouragement he has received.

Mike Rossiter enquired whether anything was planned in relation to the British Boys qualifier. It was explained that this is a R&A event and they will provide the majority of the resource required.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8.55 pm

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 12 April 7.15pm – This is a change of date.

Burnham & Berrow GC

Approved

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Nigel Long

Chairman

12 April 11