

Harefield Place Golf Club Committee Meeting Monday, 22nd May 2023

Present: - M. Gallagher, R. Cooper, G Reynolds, S Littlejohn, M James

Apology: - A. James, S. Hartley, Z Matev, P Thorpe

No matters arising from previous minutes.

Secretary Report

107 current members (still 21 unpaid).

£18,106 in bank.

A further supply of club shirts has been ordered.

Captains Report

Clapham Common B Team - Captain Steve Littlejohn. All games were played away due to the appalling home conditions. Steve feels this played a major part in us losing the game against Wycombe Heights.

Top Rock - Mick Gallagher, Lee Morgan, Robert Thomson and Stuart Lynn lost narrowly but Steve King and Scott Hartley won their match.

Coming up:

Bourne Vanneck on 28th May

Ballantyne on 29th May

Siemens Bowl on 4th June

Steve has arranged a club match again Haste Hill home and away.

Handicap Report

Two new members have been issued with their first handicaps. A few members' questions answered concerning National ID numbers, etc. I am still having to enter manually away scores. I had to do this for all the cards used on the Bournemouth Tour, which was a bit involved especially having in mind that I was on holiday abroad. Unfortunately, I cannot suggest an alternative other than showing someone else from the committee how to do it, or asking everyone to use the myEG app for their away scores. Report by Zaro Matev.

Competitions Report

Since the last meeting, Six competitions were due to be played but unfortunately the May Medal was cancelled and the McNally Trophy postponed until September due to the wet and overgrown condition of the course. As we are all aware mother nature continues to disrupt the planned schedule, but we will endeavour to have all competitions played when possible.

The results of the club competitions played plus the results of the winter pairs are as follows.

Competition	Winner	R-up
Buchanan Trophy	Peter Thorpe	Ryan Spencer
GGT rd 5 & BG CUP	Rob Thomson	Gus Payne
May Medal	Cancelled	Cancelled
O'Dell Trophy	Rob Thomson	Gareth Reynolds
Winter Doubles 22/23 Kelly-Lyddon Trophy	Rob Thomson & Matt James	Peter Thorpe & Debbie Littlejohn

A superb run of form sees Rob Thomson picking up 3 Trophies this month, including the winter pairs with Matt James defeating Peter Thorpe and Debbie Littlejohn in the final. Thank you to all members for their co-operation in getting the matches played pretty much on time given the problems over the winter. The draw for the summer knockouts has been made, I will be announcing new deadline dates this week as the course is pretty much unplayable at present.

We enjoyed a lovely weekend in Bournemouth, some fantastic scoring over the two days saw three on 39 points after day 1, Dave Clements pipping Gareth and Duane on countback. Day 2 was won by Maurice (38) and Michael Gallagher came second (33). George Gallagher played superbly well to win this year's tour with 76 points, there were 5 players next on 67 points with Scott Hartley finishing second and Stuart Lynn third on countback. Thanks to Mick and Anne in organizing another successful trip. The full list of award winners is listed below.

Day 1

1st – Dave Clements

2nd – Gareth Reynolds

Day 2

1st - Maurice Henessey

2nd - Michael Gallagher

Overall

1st - George Gallagher

2nd - Scott Hartley

3rd - Stuart Lynn

Par 3 total points under 18 Ryan Spencer

over 55's Terry Mitchell

over 25 Handicap winner Dorian Smith

Nearest Pin Day 1 Ryan Spencer

Nearest Pin day 2 Ross Baker

With the club championship coming up on the 17th June, which we want to be accessible to all, we have therefore taken the decision to remove qualification rule for this year's club championship.

The MCGU (Middlesex County Golf Union) official has been to walk the course and we were granted a further extension of one week, to allow pick and place on the "cut" areas of the course meaning fairways and fringes only. The date of expiry was midnight 21/5/23. Competitions are therefore back to being handicap qualifying unless we impose a local rule of pick and place in the rough as well. Both Steve and I had a course walk last Thursday together with 2 MCGU officials along with the greenkeepers and the council's golf team leader Gail Kersey. The objective was to highlight the course condition and discuss why the fairways have been narrowed and greens made smaller. As expected, the wet winter months, budgets, machinery, and manpower were all contributing factors into why the course is overgrown. They are 5/6 weeks behind schedule so with drier weather, a full complement of staff and recently delivered machinery they do hope to have the course in better condition, but it is going to take time. They will also widen the fairways with holes 1&3 being the starting being the focus. Also expect to see the greens being made a little bigger over the summer.

With two holes closed it has been recommended we contact the relevant parties to have the course re-measured using the alternative 9-hole layout of holes 1-7 + 11 & 12. I have created an unofficial scorecard with this format but if used it would have to be non-qualifying as not formally measured.

Let's hope for some drier weather soon so we can enjoy our course again. Report by Gareth Reynolds

AOB

Gareth thanked the Club for an excellent Bournemouth tour.

Matt was to talk to Andy Hills to update the honours boards with Gareth's help with the missing winners.

The Club to subsidise the Club Championship prizes.

Steve Littlejohn ran a book in Bournemouth which made £460. Steve donated £230 to the Club and £230 for his charity. Steve was thanked for this.

The committee have looked at playing a few competitions elsewhere if the condition doesn't improve. Mick has contacted Wycombe Heights and they have agreed to this.

Also if we play comps at Uxbridge we can play off yellow tees.

Bournemouth 2024 to be moved to 31st May - 2nd June 2024.

Next meeting on Tuesday, 13th June 2023 commencing at 6.30 pm.