

Veterans' Section Committee

Minutes of meeting held on July 4th 2018

(The meeting commenced at 2.30pm)

Present:

Steve King (Vice Captain), Harry Whiteman, Jim Sadler, Eric Hoffman, Barry Trickett, Ian Smith, Alan Wilson.

Apologies for absence:

Mike Donovan, Ron Stovell.

Minutes of last meeting:

These were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

Captain's Report:

In his absence the Report was read out by the General Secretary.

The Captain said that it had been an extremely busy month, he said that we had played several friendly matches, the first up of which was Clacton away, and that in spite of a lot of close games, we lost the match 6 – 2. He also said that fortunately we managed to gain revenge in our home match, winning by a magnificent score of 7 – 1. Roy Valentine had previously kindly donated a trophy to be played between the two clubs (The Valentine Vase) over the two matches which we managed to win in the inaugural year.

The Captain also said that we had played two tight matches, away at Harwich and home to Burnham both finishing in honorable 4 – 4 draws, It also meant that Burnham retained the interclub cup, we play, for 10 – 6.

The Captain said that we had played our first Captain's Away Day at the Burstead Golf Club and that he admitted to being a little disappointed with the numbers, with only 21 Vets members taking part. He said that the course was in very good condition, although difficult in places with some very thick rough. He said that the competition was won by his guest for the day Dave Booker the main men's club Captain, with 33 points. He said that there were five members on 32 points, which on countback was won by Trevor MacDonald. The Captain said that he thought that everyone attending felt that it had been a good day all round.

The Captain went on to say that fortunately the weather has been very kind to us these past couple of months and that we had an excellent Fun Day and he thanked Ian Smith and Barry Trickett for all their hard work in making it such a successful day.

Finally the Captain said that we still had a lot to look forward to in the coming month with matches against Harwich, Rochford and Benton Hall plus our Guest Day. He urged members to keep an eye on the Vets Notice Board and Website for coming events and asked them to enter events as early as possible.

Treasurer's Report:

Income and Expenditure account:

Jim said that there was a surplus for the month of £303 reflecting a small increase in numbers playing and prudence on the purchase of prizes.

The cumulative surplus for the year to date is £866, down on last year of £1,411 and reflects the significant reduction in competition entry fees over last year of £1,578.

Balance Sheet:

Members balance has increased by £303 to £2,604.

The Captain's Charity balance has increased by the surplus on the Away Day of £63 and now stands at £1,166.

Cash Resources:

Stand at £1,823

Outlook for Year:

	£	£
Surplus to 30 th June, 2018		866
Less: Vets Anniversary Lunch & prizes	700	
Guest Day prizes and expenses	300	
Over 70's, Under 70's match, lunch & prizes	600	
Expenses for July & August EST	<u>200</u>	
Total	1800	

Plus estimated surplus from July and August competitions.

500

Deficit for Year:

£434

Members Surplus brought forward from last year:

£1,738

Members Surplus carried forward to next year:

£1,304

Jim then asked the Committee to study the above figures and confirm their agreement to the expenditure outlined and the running of a deficit for this year thus reducing the cumulative Members Balance.

The Committee confirmed their agreement to the above.

After a discussion it was agreed that the amounts available for prizes should be limited to 50% of the entry fees on the day minus £15 for birdie balls.

General Secretary's Report:

For those members of the Committee not having seen it before, Harry brought along the Valentine Vase which is being played for between Forrester Park and Clacton annually. It was decided to provide the means to engrave the winners names and year on the base which Barry Trickett was tasked to do.

Harry suggested that in order to facilitate a more orderly routine when going up to lunch for the home friendlies, that we should have place cards on the individual tables showing which teams have been allocated which table. This would be of the same format as other clubs we play. Suitable notices could be laminated by Ron Stovell and be available for home friendlies. This was thought to be a good idea by the Committee and will be put into practice. Harry said that we now have the Captain's Cup which is charged at £10 for a substantial meal when the members finish their round, no changing, prizes awarded then home and the Autumn Bowl charged at £15 for two course meal, jacket and tie, prizes awarded later in the fashion of the friendly matches. The changes to the Captain's Cup were made last year due to falling entry numbers. Harry suggested that we change the Autumn Bowl to the same format for 2019 to see if any difference was made to entries. The Committee, as a whole, said that the change to the Autumn Bowl should be made for this year 2018. The Autumn Bowl this year will therefore follow the same format as the Captain's Cup.

Harry also said that he had been in contact with Burnham golf Club concerning some radical changes they are making to the format of their friendly matches with certain other clubs. These are being discussed under a separate item on the agenda.

Harry said that otherwise things are progressing OK.

Burnham Golf Club's Proposal for change in friendly match format:

Harry said that he and the Captain had a discussion with the Burnham Seniors Captain, Len Bailey, during the recent home match against them. Len said that their Committee had been thinking about changes to the friendly match format for some time and that they had arranged with Stoke by Nayland to have a breakfast upon arrival, play the match, come in for drinks and the results and then travel home, no changing, no jacket and tie. This would obviously cost less for the day. Len asked us whether we would be interested in the same sort of format, both Mike and myself thought it was worth considering and said they would put it to the committee.

Having put the proposition to the Committee there were mixed results with some members saying that they would not like to eat before they started playing and that it may cause clashes with our earlybird competition. The overall position could not be judged properly due to the absence of two members, but general opinion was generally 50 – 50 for members present, a non committal result. It was decided however that for new year, 2019 all our home games would be smart casual, not jacket and tie, we would however fall in with other club requirements for away matches.

After thoughts from General Secretary.

I personally feel that some sort of change needs to be applied to our standard friendly format, used for many years, but attracting less and less members wanting to play as each year passes. It may not be the solution adopted by

Burnham but I feel we should seriously consider other options. A differing arrangement may be to play the match, have sandwiches and chips when the game is finished, have drinks, announce the results and travel home all for say £10. This was the arrangement for the recent John Day Trophy match at Burnham and I feel this type of arrangement would attract more members to play in the friendlies. It may be worth asking other clubs what they think, Clacton were talking to me, a few weeks ago, about changing the format.

Competition Secretary's Report:

In his absence the Report was read out by the General Secretary.

Ron said that everything was going satisfactorily with reference to the competitions and tick lists, his only comments were that when members are cancelling on the Late Entry/ Cancellation sheet or texting and emailing him to cancel, they do not always give their tee time and position. He said it was not the end of the world but would help him considerably.

He also said that when writing on the Late Entry/Cancellation sheet would members please ensure that their name is clear to read because some have been difficult to decipher, please print if possible. He emphasized that it was important that all members check the Vets Notice Board and Website for any changes or notes that he may have added. Ron said that he tried to ring most members if moving them at the last moment but that he could not guarantee to do so, due to the time of day it happened.

Update on members health:

Alan advised the following:

Alan said that the Committee welcomed back:

John Cain

Peter Gamester

Franz Morley

Alf Root

These members are either already playing or will be due back within a week or two.

Trevor Baines

Recovering well from op, hopes to back soon.

Malcolm Bottomley

Recovering well but not yet ready for playing golf.

Peter Cowley

Rheumatoid arthritis. taking tablets, slow progress.

Roy Davidson

Back injury, undergoing treatment.

Ian Gibbard

Recovering from op.

Allan said that there was great news from the following three who have had a long road to recovery and it will be great to see them again.

Les Willsher

Recovered from treatment, now playing.

Roy Gooch

Although not now playing, He has been home for a few weeks and it is good to see him on the road to recovery.

Ken Hornett

All clear, now playing 9 holes, back soon.

Alan asked that if any member becomes aware of any of our member, who become ill or injured, to let him know.

Data Protection Review:

Alan Wilson raised the subject of members approval to use their telephone numbers for access by all members. A general telephone list available to all members has been the norm for many years without any complaints from members. However in this age of data protection it may be prudent to obtain some type of permission from individual members to broadcast their individual numbers to the general membership. Harry stated that all new members filled in an application form detailing this general information and it would be a simple matter to add a sentence to this form giving the member's permission. We could then get all members to fill in a form at the AGM, when subs for the year are due. This procedure was agreed by the Committee.

Any Other Business:

Eric Hoffman brought up the fact again that the Vets section did not have a dedicated Captain's Day as was the case with the Men's and Ladies sections. After a general discussion it was decided to nominate a specific day starting in 2019, an existing Captain's Choice day was chosen, Wednesday June 5th.

The format will be discussed and decided at a future meeting.

Barry Trickett brought up the fact that there had been some conflict between the earlybird and friendly matches on a Wednesday and wondered whether the friendly match could start at a later time say 9 am. Harry Whiteman explained that the differential between the last of the early bird teeing off and the friendly match starting had already been increased, in the past, to 20 minutes and that lunch should be around 2 pm in order to allow the away team to get away in good time, he did not think we should change it. This was agreed.

Steve King asked if anyone was arranging the Bill Hymas Invitational match with Harwich this year, Harry said that Peter Cowley was and that it was in hand. Harry also suggested that the title be changed to the Bill Hymas Memorial Trophy for future years and this was agreed.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th August 2018.

(The meeting closed at 3.55pm)