



2022 AGM Minutes

(Covering financial year Oct 2020-Nov 2021)

11.30hrs on Thursday 24th February 2022 at Ageas Bowl
(Attendance also on Zoom)

PRESENT:

President & Chairman:	A Drayton	(Stoneham)
Past Presidents:	C W Cole	(Stoneham) <i>via Zoom</i>
	J Moore	(Blackmoor)
Vice-President & Seniors Captain:	S Williams	(Stoneham)
County Captain:	N Dawson	(North Hants) <i>via Zoom</i>
Junior Manager-outgoing:	W Matthews	(Newport)
Junior Manager-incoming:	D Matthews	(Basingstoke)
Jersey GU:	T Gray	(Royal Jersey)
Guernsey GU:	M Marley	(Royal Guernsey)
County WHS Advisor:	G Merry	(Cams Hall)
Secretary/Treasurer:	R Arnold	(Hockley)
Also, Judy Andrews (Hampshire Golf), Kate Dymott & Ben Martin (England Golf) & Andrew Griffin (County Press Officer)		
Affiliated Clubs: Alresford, Army, Blackmoor, Cams Hall, Corhampton, Gosport & Stokes Bay, Hayling, Hockley, Lee on the Solent, Liphook, New Forest, North Hants, Ordnance Survey, Paultons Golf Centre, Petersfield, Romsey, Royal Jersey, Southampton, Stoneham, Wellow, Hockley & Wickham Park.		

The meeting commenced at 11:30am

- 1. Introduction** – The President welcomed everyone, confirmed evacuation procedure, and highlighted those on Zoom can communicate via the ‘chat’ feature. We were in receipt of 12 Postal Votes and wished these to count.

The President highlighted the tragic loss of Terry Riddett on 14th February 2022.

Terry was a huge part of Hampshire Golf as Finance Director, Head of Referees and involved in the safeguarding and development of the County.

Our thoughts are with his wife Elizabeth, son Nat and the family at this difficult time.

The President called for those present at the AGM to stand in silence for a minute to remember Terry.

2. Apologies for absence: Apologies had been received from Alton, Basingstoke, Bohunt Manor, Bramshott Hill, Hartley Wintney, La Grande Mare, L'Ancrese, Old Thorns, Osborne, Portsmouth Golf Centre, Rowlands Castle, Royal Guernsey, Sherfield Oaks & Southwick Park. Also, Keith Maplesdon, David Harrison OBE, Bruce Willard, Andy Bow, Matt Blackey, Alan Mew & Jill England.

3. Minutes of AGM (held on Zoom on Thursday 18th March 2021)

Circulated by email on 30th July 2021 and with the agenda.

Proposed by: The President

Seconded by: John Moore

Unanimously Approved

4. Matters Arising – There were no Matters arising

5. Report from the President (The full report from the President can be found on the Hampshire Golf Website)

The President indicated that this was his third report as President, and that following the shortened 2020 season due to the various Covid lockdowns, 2021 had allowed a more or less full season of County (and competitive) golf.

There were no major amateur titles or County Finals success to report upon, but the President did highlight that there had been a number of individual successes – which hopefully may build into more Team success in the coming years.

Toby Burden continued his success from 2019 and in 2021 won the Courage Trophy, the Cole Scuttle and the Hampshire Order of Merit (for which Toby was presented with the Cullen Quaich by former President Mr Tony Cullen. Martin Young and Alan Mew were recognised for their achievements, as was Charlie Forster from the Junior ranks. A full list of the winners of the County Honours can be found in the President's report.

The President also verbally recorded the success of one of the 'legends' of Hampshire Golf – Richard Bland – and his success in winning the British Masters at the Belfry in May 2021 – at 48 becoming the oldest first winner on the European Tour. Huge congratulations to Richard.

The President reported on the retirement of the County Secretary – David Wheeler, and the subsequent appointment of Richard Arnold as the new County Secretary.

Reference was made to the new workings of the Committee and Board structures, following Incorporation in 2019, and also to the release of the new Website for Hampshire Golf.

The President reported on the developments in Junior Golf within the County and that David Matthews and Chris Farr would be leading the charge in this area.

The President concluded his report with thanks to the many volunteers that enable Hampshire Golf to function – in particular, to Terry Riddett, Steve Williams and John Moore. Also, to Nicky Harden who leads the Course rating Team. To Judy Andrews (Accounts), Referees and all members for the Board and Committee. To both County Secretaries involved in 2021, and to all of the Golf Clubs that allowed the use of their facilities to the County during the year.

Finally, thanks to volunteers who stepped down during the year – Nat Riddett the Colts Manager, and last but not least to Rob Mulcahy and to Wayne Matthews – who put in huge efforts on behalf of the Juniors during the past nine years. A commemoration salver will be presented to Wayne in due course.

6. 2021 Accounts & Finance Report.

The Accounts and Report had been emailed to all Clubs. The company accounts for the year show a slight excess of income over expenditure totalling £3,561.

The Covid refund - which was provisioned for in the last accounts - was paid out during the first quarter of 2021. Close to £43,000 was repaid to all clubs that were up to date with their fees. Due to Covid restrictions in the early part of 2021 there was a slightly reduced level of training and friendly matches, but the majority of competitive events were complete.

There was a recognition that whilst 2021 was significantly better in Covid terms than 2020, there were a number of Clubs that were lagging in the collection and reporting of affiliation fees and it was not felt appropriate to be inflexible in the collection of this income in the relevant period. Affiliation fee income is therefore lower than expected but is now being recouped and will show in next year's accounts.

It was noted that with the proposed cessation of the sale of Individual County Cards we will be putting all our financial eggs in one basket, but this should allow us to reduce the overhead in terms of running the County Card system whilst providing an added benefit for the average golfer and hopefully removing any burden on the club management.

Lastly it was reported that England Golf were indicating a desire to use WHS to facilitate the collection of Affiliation Fees – and though this has not yet been approved, it was noted that it would probably be sensible over the next year or so to clear out any duplicates or deadwood in your WHS systems as the link to Affiliation Fee collection is (probably) more of a when rather than an if.

Proposed by: The President
Seconded by: Steve Williams
Unanimously approved.

7. 2023 Affiliation Fee (due from 1st November 2022).

The Committee recommended that the fee is increased to £9.50p to include access to a County Card for all Affiliated members. The County Secretary highlighted the rationale for the proposal and gave the opportunity for questions to be asked. There were no questions.

Proposed by: The Committee

Seconded: Tony Cullen

Approved by Large Majority.

8. Approval of Auditors

HWB Chartered Accountants

Proposed by: The Committee

Approved unanimously

9. Proposal for the President to serve one additional year

Proposal for Alan Drayton to continue as President for one additional year. The President reiterated the rationale circulated on the agenda.

Proposed by: The Committee

Approved Unanimously

10. Appointment of HG Directors (The Board)

There are no appointments on the Board for election this year

11. Affiliation Update

The Secretary highlighted that Blackwater Valley had been in communication regarding the possibility of affiliating to Hampshire. This is ongoing.

Since last year, the Dummer & Basingstoke merger had been completed, resulting in the loss of Dummer Golf Club by name. Basingstoke Golf Club continuing to function but now out of the old Dummer course.

12. South-East Group & England Golf Update

South-East Group - Colts has moved to a league of five teams and now in line with the 1st Team playing two home and two away. As there is only one league, there will be no final. Some counties choose not to support the Colts for various reasons, but as a County, we are strong believers that the Colts still gives those within the 18-25 age group a chance to progress and fight for a place in the first team.

Otherwise, events remain similar to previous years and there is a full calendar in place for 2022.

England Golf – The Secretary highlighted a potential change of the Senior's age limit to 50, in line up with Europe. This is still in preliminary stages of discussion and EG are consulting with counties re their thoughts.

At the recent Treasurers Meeting, EG are looking at a possible move to a single database, with the WHS being the obvious choice to use. Again, this is early days,

but another reason for clubs to consider keeping the WHS as 'cleansed' as possible as part of your working month.

13.Responses to Questions raised by Club Delegates

There had been no questions received in advance. The President did open the floor for questions.

John Douglas (Liphook) questioned if the Affiliation Fees would be collected using the information from the potential WHS database. The Secretary responded saying that there was certainly merit in this but does rely in all parties being comfortable that the data is correct. Also, that following a meeting with the South-East group counties yesterday, they were all strongly of the view that all must still be collected by the County (not England Golf) as the relationship with the Clubs is with the County and the WHS database would then be for information and the final numbers being finalised still between the Club and County.

John also raised a concern that England Golf had previously highlighted the fact that the Handicapping System was not robust enough to use as a database and used that as a reason for collecting individuals' emails and date of births. In response the Secretary highlighted that the single database seemed a positive progression (particularly to include such things like the insurance the affiliation gives to individuals), but how that database is compiled is still very much up for debate, it is just the WHS seems the most obvious strategy at this point. There will be more discussion and Clubs will be updated as things progress.

14.Next AGM

Provisional date: Thursday 24th February 2023 @ 10.30hrs.

Meeting closed at 12:18

Signed:

Date:

Alan Drayton
President, Hampshire Golf