

# Studley Wood Golf Club Seniors' Section

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 1.30pm

**In attendance:** Bob Clarke (Captain 2019/20), Stephen Painter (Captain designate), plus 35 members, including Committee members. Ken Heathcote represented the club management.

**Apologies:** Terry Davies, John Walker, Richard Ellis, Neil Walker, John Deller, Graham McGowan-Smythe, Allan Cumberland, Bill Taunton.

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| 1. | <b>Welcome</b> – Bob Clarke welcomed members to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.   |
| 2. | <b>Minutes</b> - The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 5 March 2019 were approved as a correct record.  |
| 3. | <b>Captain's Report</b> – Bob Clarke reflected on his enjoyable year as Captain and in particular thanked the members of the Seniors' Committee for their support and the Club staff, notably the catering/bar staff and the greenkeepers, for their work.<br><br>During the year 18 inter-club matches had been played with home and away fixtures with Harleyford replacing matches with Kirtlington. Eight matches had been won and 1 drawn, with 43 members participating. He pointed out that there was a trend away from formality at the post match socialising and he hoped this would encourage more to play.<br><br>Away trips to Nottingham and Bournemouth and Away days to Wragg Barn and Leamington had been enjoyable and well supported and he thanked Peter Nicholls for organising all of these events.<br><br>This year's Charity Day had been raised £1572 for the Rennie Grove Hospice and further funds had been raised at the Christmas event.<br><br>He concluded by expressing his satisfaction that the Club had a vibrant Seniors' Section and wished Stephen Painter well for the year ahead. |
| 4. | <b>Treasurer's Report</b> – Martin Wilkinson (Treasurer) presented an audited Income and Expenditure statement for the year ending 31 December 2019 (attached) and thanked Roy Fulton for undertaking the audit. Martin highlighted key elements in the accounts including the £1612 raised for charity. It was noted that reserves had increased from £756 to £1072, largely due to the release of funds previously held, but no longer needed, for inter-club matches.<br><br>For the year ahead Martin predicted that income was likely to be down marginally, as a result of the periods of course closure due to inclement weather.  |
| 5. | <b>Election of Officers</b> – Stephen Painter was elected as Captain for 2020, Stephen Capaldi  |

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|    | <p>was elected as Vice Captain and Martin Wilkinson as Treasurer.</p> <p>At this juncture Stephen Painter assumed chairmanship of the meeting.</p>   |
| 6. | <p><b>Election of Committee</b> – In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution four members of the Committee were retiring from the Committee with Phil Chaundy, Bob Clarke, and the Captain, Vice Captain and Treasurer continuing for 2020/21. There were four nomination for new members of the Committee; namely David Drew, Terry Davies, David Scott and Hans Menzel who were duly elected for a 3 year term.</p>   |
| 7. | <p><b>New Captain's Address</b> – Stephen thanked Bob Clarke for his fantastic captaincy in the preceding year and for his support and encouragement. He and David Scott also paid tribute to Alan Cross, the club's first Seniors' Captain who had passed away recently. Stephen explained that Alan had been instrumental in introducing him to the golf club and they had stay in contact in the intervening years.</p> <p>He said he was looking forward to the year and in particular to working with Stephen Capaldi his Vice Captain and the new Committee. His chosen charity for the year and that of John Dennis the Men's Captain, was the Mabel Pritchard Special School in Cowley.</p> <p>He concluded by thanking everyone for supporting him and expressed his gratitude to Roy Fulton for preparing an outline programme for the whole year.</p>   |
| 8. | <p><b>Management Report</b> – Ken Heathcote expressed his thanks to Bob Clarke for his excellent Captaincy: in particular he felt that Bob's knowledge of golf and the new World Handicap System, had been invaluable to the Club.</p> <p>Ken indicated that the inclement weather had inevitably affected the Club's finances and every effort was being made to keep the course open, whilst protecting it from damage. He outlined thoughts about the development of the club, for which planning and negotiations were ongoing. He answered questions about the plans and reassured members that he and Balgit were wholly in agreement about the future direction of the club.</p> <p>Doug Green asked about the use of hedgehog wheels on trolleys during the wet weather period and Ken emphasized that members were being encouraged to carry their clubs if possible, but if some felt unable to carry their clubs he and the Head Groundsman were in agreement that a trolley with hedgehog wheels was the best alternative.</p> <p>Roy Fulton asked whether the course was being re-measured so the BBO could issue a slope rating for the new handicap system. Ken reported that on 9 March the course was being measured from gold, silver and bronze tees and the details would then be made available to the BBO.</p> |
| 9. | <p><b>Members' Proposals</b> – four proposals had been submitted for consideration at the AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Seniors' Club Championship:</b> a proposal to play day 1 of the Championship from the bronze tees was advocated as a way of encouraging higher handicappers to participate in the competition. It was pointed out that this was a Club competition and therefore any changes to the format would require the approval of the Men's Committee. The proposal was discussed and the general consensus was that the range of prizes should be adequate to encourage a wide range of entrants. It was <b>agreed</b> that no change should be made to the competition rules.</li> </ul>   |

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|     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Seniors' Winter League:</b> a proposal was made to change the 6 matches from qualifiers to non-qualifiers to reflect the abnormal conditions experienced during the winter months. It was pointed out that the Committee were able to change Winter League matches to non-qualifiers if, on the day, conditions were not suitable for a qualifying competition and this had been invoked on a number of occasions during the last two winters. In consequence it was <b>agreed</b> that no change should be made and adherence to the Winter League rules set out on the Seniors' website should be maintained.</li> <li>• <b>Winter Tee Times</b> – It was pointed out that on several occasions, particularly during the Autumn, there had been a large turnout at Seniors' events and this had led to long delays in completing competitions and announcing results. In consequence it was proposed that during the period from November to March the first tee time should be changed to 8.45am with registration by 8.30am. Following discussion this was <b>agreed</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Order of Merit</b> – it was pointed out that for several reasons the Order of Merit did not fully represent the best performers in the Seniors' Section and it was proposed that it should be discontinued. Following discussion it was <b>agreed</b> that it should be discontinued.</li> </ul> |
| 10. | <b>Coronavirus</b> – Ken drew attention to the health advice about the importance of hand washing by everyone and self-isolation, if any individual had symptoms of the virus and he reported that hand sanitizers were being made available at the Club.  |
| 11. | <b>Europro 2020</b> – Ken reported that the Club had been selected for both the qualifiers and the main competition and he hoped that a number of seniors would volunteer to assist with the running of these events. He also emphasized that if members wishing to play elsewhere whilst the club was closed, every effort would be made to help members with bookings at reciprocal clubs.   |
| 12. | <b>Seniors' Committee</b> – Mike Atkins propose a vote of thanks to the outgoing Captain and his committee, which was endorsed by the meeting.   |
|     | The meeting closed at 3pm.   |

**Stephen Painter**  
**Seniors Captain**

**March 2020**