

# HOYLAKE GOLF CLUB

## AGM MINUTES

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HOYLAKE GOLF CLUB HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY, 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020

Present

Mike Down – President  
John Lawrence - Captain 2018  
Tony Kerkhofs – Captain 2019

D. Armitage, P. Bond, T. Brown, A. B'Simon, J.N. Callan, I. Chantler, T. Coleman, D.M. Cowley, P. Davies, P.G. Davies, D. Denton, N. Down, G.R. Edwards, A. Fowler, F.R. Gilmore, R. Goodall, K. Hanrahan, T.A. Hughes, J. Humphreys, M. Jones, A.G. Kearney, P. Kelly, R. Koreman, R. Lally, D. Lloyd, P. Martin, M. McCabe, P. Mobbs, J. Nolan, M. Pleass, P. Qualtrough, W. Rogers, C. Ruse, D. Smith, R. Winstanley and A. Wyn-Jones.

#### 1. Harry Grimshaw

At the request of the President members stood to applaud the memory of Harry Grimshaw, Club Captain in 1980 and a founder member of the Seniors Section in 1992, who had passed away earlier this month and whose funeral service would be held at Landican on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted in writing from M.A. Baker, K. Bruffell, P. Chatterley, Davies Jnr, D. Francis, G.M. Handley, J.S. Hay, G. Hicks, T. Hughes, Mtn. Jones, L. Kelley, T.A. McNamara and D. Sefton.

#### 3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

Members noted that the minutes for the Annual General Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 had been posted on the notice board immediately after their approval at the next following Council meeting. It was moved by Dave Denton, seconded by Tom Brown and resolved unanimously that the minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings without discussion.

#### 4. Club Secretary's Report (Alan Fowler)

The Club Secretary reported on the organisation of the Club during the past year and on the activities planned for the season ahead. It had been a hectic year involving a much greater workload and time commitment than he had anticipated. The Club Secretary was to stand down after this meeting and after thanking members for their support during his period in office he

asked them to continue to support the Council, in its efforts to provide a full programme of events, by paying careful attention throughout the season to the Club notice board, website and Facebook page, each of which was regularly updated. The Club Secretary thanked the Captain and Council for their support and the members showed their appreciation of his excellent contribution to the Club.

## **5. Club Treasurer's Report (Peter Davies)**

The Club Treasurer introduced his Annual Financial Statement for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 and thanked Mike Baker and George Edwards, the Club's auditors, for their diligent work in certifying the accounts and for the support they had given to him during the year. The Club Treasurer was pleased to report a surplus of £835.49 for the year particularly after recommending last year that a single annual subscription rate be introduced. The Club's overall reserves remained healthily above £7,000.

The Club Treasurer answered questions from members in relation to specific lines of income and expenditure referred to in his Annual Financial Statement. Income and expenditure figures for the annual dinner were significantly higher than the previous year but this was due to the fact that the Club had to collect and pay the green fees for those having a round of golf at the Royal Liverpool, and therefore include them in the accounts, whereas in previous years fees had been paid to the Club Professional in the shop. Income and expenditure for charity donations was zero because this year the Captain and President had dealt with their respective charities directly and donations were not handled through the Club's accounts. Summer competition income had been affected by course closures because of bad weather. The expenditure was greater than income on pre-booked tee times because the Club was billed for four members against each time even if less than four had booked. The Club Treasurer urged members to organise themselves into groupings of four if they wished to pre-book a tee time.

The Club Treasurer answered questions from members. The greenkeeper gratuities were awarded because the problems experienced with course maintenance were outside their control, such as the failure to repair essential equipment. We were aware of the difficulties with the green staff and the course maintenance but felt that the actual greenkeepers do not have any powers in determining the number of staff etc and the committee felt that maybe it was difficult all around and decided to maintain the gratuities for last year. Members had agreed to an increase in the level of honoraria offered to the Captain and the President at the annual general meeting in 2018, to reflect the increasing cost to them personally of providing prizes on their respective days.

It was proposed by Rick lally, seconded by Frank Gilmore, and resolved unanimously that the Club Treasurer's report be accepted and members congratulated him on his continued astute management of the Club's funds.

## **6. Annual Subscriptions**

Members were pleased to note that the annual subscription rate would remain at £50 for the coming year.

## **7. Captain's Report (John Lawrence)**

The Captain was very happy to report that he had enjoyed a very successful year and in great part that was due to the tremendous support he had received from members; and he wanted to acknowledge specifically the generosity of their contributions of more than £1000 to his nominated charity, the RNLI.

The Captain had also been greatly assisted by the Council members and he was sure that his successor, Tonny Kerkhofs, would receive the same magnificent support from the Council and the Club members as he had; and wished him and his Vice-Captain, Dave Smith, an enjoyable and successful year. The Members applauded the Captain for his sterling efforts during his year of office.

## **8. Welcome to the Captain for 2020 (Tonny Kerkhofs)**

The new Captain was welcomed in the traditional manner and took the Chair. He thanked members for their reception and said he was both honoured and delighted by his appointment. The Captain was grateful to be nominated by Rick Lally and the Past Captains and would do all he could to ensure the new season was a memorable one; and he hoped he could follow the example set by his predecessor, John Lawrence.

The Captain was looking forward to the season's main events. He hoped as many members as possible would attend the Captain's Drive-In on 21st March, before the early and late morning sessions, to observe the traditional start to the season. The Drive-In would mark the launch of his nominated charity for the year, Autism Together, building up to the Captain's Day Charity Medal on 4<sup>th</sup> July. The prize presentation for Captain's Day would take place at 4.30pm on the day and the Captain trusted that members would support his presentation and that on President's Day on 8<sup>th</sup> August.

The Captain informed the meeting that a special event was planned to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Alan Peacock's passing and, although the Council was yet to determine the final arrangements, a Memorial Stableford would be played on 30<sup>th</sup> May.

The Captain had chosen Padeswood and Buckley Golf Club for the Club Day Out on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June and was pleased to announce that the Annual Dinner and Prize Presentation would be at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> November. He hoped that both events would be as popular and entertaining as they had been in previous years. The Captain announced that the format for the Doubles Knock Out event would be 4BBB.

The Captain finished his first address by saying that he was looking forward to working with his Vice-Captain, Dave Smith, and the members of the Council; and he wished all members a very enjoyable and successful season.

## **9. Election of President**

It was proposed by Dave Lloyd, seconded by Rob Goodall, and resolved unanimously that Mike Down be re-elected to serve as President.

## **10. Election of Officers**

It was proposed by Frank Gilmore, seconded by Roland Koreman, and resolved unanimously that the following members be elected to serve the Club in the positions indicated – Dave Denton (Club Secretary); Peter Davies (Club Treasurer); Billy Rogers (Competitions Secretary); Dave Sefton (Handicap Secretary); Tom McNamara (Council Secretary) and Peter Bond, Jimmy Humphreys, Mike Jones, Pat Martin and Phil Mobbs (Ordinary Members).

## **11. Election of Auditors**

It was proposed by George Edwards, seconded by Paul Davies and resolved unanimously that Mike Baker and Dave Francis be appointed to serve as the Club's auditors for the ensuing year. Members passed a vote of thanks to George Edwards who had given significant service as an auditor but had chosen to step down from the position this year.

## **12. Honoraria for Officers and Concessions for Members**

Members noted that no change had been recommended in the level of honoraria awarded to Officers and concessions had been granted in 2020, as in previous years, to the Club's Webmaster and Photographer in recognition of their significant and on-going contribution to the management of the Club.

## **13. Other Matters Raised for Discussion**

Members discussed the items raised and introduced by Dave Lloyd and Peter Bond relating to the possibility of introducing (a) 12-hole competitions to encourage more senior members to take part and (b) the use of portable astro turf squares during adverse weather conditions in order better to protect the fairways. Members noted that both matters would automatically be considered by the Club Council.