

BURGHAM PARK SENIORS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

WEDNESDAY 18TH JANUARY 2023

IN ATTENDANCE - Paul Thornton (Captain); Doug Lyons (Treasurer/Competitions Secretary); Bill Tarbit (Secretary); Derek Harrison (Committee); Clive Ross (Committee); Alan Johnson (Treasurer/Committee)

Peter Coates; Steve Martin; Charlie Errington; Peter Dawson; Don Price; George Wright; Dave Harbertson; Charlie Smith; Jim McMillan; Allan Robinson; Alan Mitchel; Dave Lee; Ian Harries; Dave Angus; Kevin Olney; Tony Clarkson; Terry Scaife;

1. APOLOGIES - Phil Finegold; John Megoran; John Beynon; Mike Irwin; George Nicholson; Brian Johnson; Tim Bellamy; Ray Murphy; John Davies; Bill Cole; Bob Yuill; Mick Walker; Chris Berriman.

2. Captain's Report

All to Note - Course Inspections are now scheduled for 8.00am - early starters to note.

- Northumberland Seniors County Championship 2023 at Arcot Hall on 14/15th June 2023 -details on Notice Board

- Welcomed everyone to the Meeting which will be Paul's last as Captain (for the time being) with his hope in the future that we could have a rotation and a succession route for Vice Captains to Captains.
- Paul thanked the Committee for their support and welcomed more members to volunteer to help with the running of the section and the Club as a whole.
 - **NNGL Seniors League Matches** - Paul thanked Tony Clarkson for organising the Teams and agreeing to do so for the new season; BT agreed to email all Members with how to get involved in NNGL Matches.
 - **Friendly Fixtures** - difficulty on occasion to getting a Team together especially home games;

Committee have agreed -

- Increase competition entry fees from £2.00 to £2.50 from 1st April which will be under review as the season progresses
- (Competition entry fees have not changed in over 10 years!)
- 80% of @2.00 to be paid out in prize money - although we will keep an eye on available funds **as we always do** and if funds allow pay out 100% of prize money - **as we have done during the last year.**
- The additional competition entry fee - 50p- will further subsidise members' contribution to friendly fixtures so that team players will pay £5.00 per match. (By far the least amount members at other clubs pay to play in friendlies)

• **Members Committee Update** -

- "Communication" issues before David Armstrong took over last April; only way forward was to set up regular meeting with the club Captains and send out regular Newsletters
- New Members Committee established;
 - Paul is chair;

- Constitution has been updated;
 - Representatives, 3 from each Section have been identified
 - Seniors currently have 2; first meeting in February
- **Course Development**
 - Planning Appeal Update -Still awaiting the outcome. Expected end of January 2023
 - Course improvements
 - Bunkers are often the main cause for discussion and will be a major part of discussions at the first Members Committee Meeting in February.
 - If Seniors have any other improvement suggestions please forward these to the Committee and they will be tabled at the meeting,
- **Global Email system** - despite best efforts we still find people replying to global emails! .
 - **PLEASE REPLY TO THE SENDER – DON'T JUST CLICK REPLY!**
- **2023 Opens**
 - The Seniors will be holding 2 Opens this year - 7th June and 2nd October - £30 per pair; £10 per Burgham Member over 55 - regardless of whether or not they play regularly with the Seniors.
- **Team Clothing**
 - On the back of club developments, David is looking to provide polo shirts/mid layer for team players.....BUT
 - The Seniors are not like the Ladies and Gents Team members - not the same team for every match and upwards of 30 people regularly play in Friendly Fixtures throughout the year
 - We also need to factor in the people who play in the NNGL Seniors Competition who might not play in Friendlies.
 - Another decision taken is to use the money from David together with the usual subsidy we offer for club polo shirts to offer cut-price polo shirts/mid layer for the Seniors group as a whole.
- **Spring Away Day - Date for the diary**
 - Dunstanburgh Castle GC - 8th March 2023
 - Coffee & Bacon Roll on arrival, Soup & Sandwiches after
 - Notice to go up shortly with costs which will include a subsidy from funds.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Statement of Income and Expenditure Year to 31/12/2022 tabled (Independently Examined and endorsed by Ian Potter) and Receipts and Payments Account for year ended 31/12/2022 tabled. This will be posted on the Seniors web site in due course.
- Overview of the Accounts - funds have been managed within the £500.00 parameter while continuing to return funds through subsidies of Friendlies, Away Days etc. Our Year End position of £790.00 in the Bank and cash is before we make a contribution of £150.00 to the agreed Charity (Cancer Research UK which will go to the NE Branch for work at Newcastle
- Competitions - income same as in 2021
- Friendlies - increase in income and costs due to playing 11 Friendlies v 9 Friendlies in 2021
- Away Days - we had 3 Away Days in 2022 at less expensive courses v 2 Away Days in 2021
- Engraving and Trophies - increase in cost due to purchase of one trophy, replacing one and buying medals
- Xmas Lunch - increased cost over 2021 due to more attending and increased cost
- Donations - Charity donation as above
- Sundries - cost of NNGL = £150.00; cost of soup/sandwiches at AGM= £160.00 and some miscellaneous expenses of £110.00

4. Competition Secretary's Report

- Our open was very successful again, with 112 entries. We will be running two in 2023, one in June (7th) and the other in October (2nd) Any help with the organisation on the day will be greatly appreciated. It is one of the main sources of income for the seniors , so needs adequate support.
- We had 11 friendlies home and away, 3 away days, Dunstanburgh in March, the Bridlepath in July and the Hobson in September. Everyone who attended them had a good time at each course.
- We took part in the seniors' NNGL tournament, not as successfully as in previous years, but it was still enjoyable if a somewhat more competitive environment.
- We introduced a prize for best gross in our stroke play competition and have had a mix of Yellow/ white tees and stroke play/stableford competitions with the occasional pairs and team competitions thrown in.
- We are always open to suggestions for alternative formats and proposed changes to the programme – however, these need to be submitted well in advance as the programme is fairly cast in stone in the club's systems by the beginning of each year.

5. Appointment of Officers 2023

Captain - Bill Tarbit

Vice Captain -

Competition Secretary - Paul Thornton

Treasurer - Doug Lyons

Secretary - Phil Finegold

Committee - John Megoran; Derek Harrison; Clive Ross; Alan Johnson and Dave Angus.

6. Member Questions -

- *With Kevin's departure in March were all Seniors Open entry fees made via Golf Empire or directly with Kevin before his departure handed over to the Seniors ? If not how much was retained by Kevin and should the Seniors membership been notified of this material shortfall in funds via Committee Notes? If funds were retained what steps have been taken to recover them? Was the Open prize pot reduced to reflect any shortfall in receipts?*
 - **All entry fees from the Open Competition were handed over to the Seniors.**
 - **Therefore no need to "recover"**
 - **Open prize pot was not reduced to reflect any perception of shortfall in funds.**
- *Seniors Matchplay first round. Will this revert to being played by a fixed date this year as was the case in previous years and applies to the Gents Singles rather than being part of the full programme? Having it as part of the Seniors programme impacts on those who do not enter the Singles match play as it cuts out a comp on one of the Seniors days. It also impacts on any senior who cannot play on the stipulated day either due to illness on the day, as happened in 2022, or due to a prior committed engagement. Having it on a stipulated date also reduces the*

sections funds as one comp that is open to all the section has been removed from the programme.

- **The first round of the matchplay singles will be played on the same date; AGM agreed to this with no change of date and arrangements from last year.**

Captain stressed the need for questions to be put to the AGM before the 14 day deadline prior to the AGM date and to bring any concerns or issues that Members have to his and the Committee's attention as soon as possible so that they can be addressed.

Other Member Questions -

Bunkers/Course Improvements - Member questioned the state of the bunkers and what action was being taken to improve them and the need to communicate better with Members on progress with improvements ; In response, Paul said that some of the bunkers suffered from poor drainage and it was hoped that their improvement would be addressed by the owners; it was agreed that the issue would be raised at the first meeting of the Club Committee in February. It was also agreed that the question would be asked at that Meeting as to the priority list from the Owners of improvements to the course - e.g. flag pole replacement (short fix improvement?)

"2"s - Question asked as to how much was in the kitty; In response - £15.00 - but there hasn't been a "2's" for some time.

7. Any Other Business

- **Xmas Lunch 2022** - Bill agreed to discuss with Management on the details of our Seniors Xmas Lunch in December 2023 following the experience of Xmas Lunch 2022.
- **Away Days 2023** - Doug would welcome Members suggestions for Away Days (in addition to Dunstanburgh on 8th March) on 12th July and 13th September.

Meeting Closed at 1.55pm

**Bill Tarbit
Secretary**