

The Association of Buckinghamshire Golf Captains



Newsletter 40 SEPTEMBER 2011



Captain's Tour 2011 winner – Roger Warren

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Captain's Corner
- 4 AGM notice
- 5 Minutes of the 2010 AGM
- 10 Accounts and Treasurer's report
- 12 Admin Secretary's report
- 15 Match Secretary's report

Captain's Corner

Who was it that said "Time flies by when you're having fun"? Well time has certainly flown for me this year. It doesn't seem five years ago that, at the half way house at Buckingham on David Carr's Captain's day, he asked if I would like to join the committee. This year especially has flown by.

So far we have played ten matches with five wins, four defeats, and one halved. There have been inevitable highs and lows this season. The low must be arriving at Burford in the **Four Counties South** match with what I thought was a really good team, only to finish bottom of the pack, and having my score dropped! Oxfordshire, the very worthy winners, dropped a better score than that of three of our pairs! The greatest high was the **Four Counties North** match which we won. Well done and thank you to everyone who has played in any of our fixtures this year, especially if you came in as a late replacement.

The **Tour to South Wales** was one of the most enjoyable weeks of my year in office. Well done to Roger (our Vice-Captain) for winning the miners lamp. Jim Begley valiantly offered me a lift to Wales. The antics and stories told whilst travelling home and trying to stay awake will stay with me for a long time to come.

Captain's Day proved to be a great success, especially for those that played on what turned out to be a very nice summer's day.

Congratulations must go to Cliff Darlington for his fine performance. The half-way house was manned (or to be more politically correct 'personned') by my wife Fran with help from Sue



Captain's Day 2011

John Barton Trophy

Winner – Cliff Darlington

(Peter Short's wife) who served us various home-made cakes, fruit and savoury dishes along with welcomed drinks.

Thanks must also go to our committee who have served us very well this year. It is impossible to list all the work that has been done, but special thanks need to go to Peter and Derek. Peter has succeeded in dragging us into the 20th century with the web site and e-mail system. I suppose that as over 90% of us have received this newsletter by electronic means, I could say that Peter has dragged us into the 21st century. Derek has, as always, sorted out our fixture list and found us some good courses to play. He has also made sure that I have turned up at the correct place at the right time. Thank you both. Ian stands down from our committee this year and I must thank him for all the work that he has done over the last six years. A mention also needs to be made of Roger, (our vice-captain) who has given me fantastic support this year and I wish him well for the year to come. I know that the association will be safe under his guidance. To all the other members of our committee "Thank you."

Traditions take a long time to establish, but can be lost very quickly. Therefore in conjunction with Chiltern Forest, I intend to re-instate the **Association's Dinner Dance** this year. This is an opportunity for us to thank our wives/partners for their forbearance with all the golf absences over the season. This is also the only occasion that they get to meet the rest of the members of our association and see what a wonderful group of people we are. This will take place at Chiltern Forest on Friday 21 October 2011. Please put this date into your diary. You will soon be bombarded with information about this event via our e-mail system.

Finally thanks to you all for supporting me this year. As I think you will have gathered in reading my comments, I have had a fantastic year and I have felt really honoured and been extremely proud in representing you and our association at the many functions and golf matches that I have attended. I now have many treasured memories and stories to tell which will be added to my collection, and will spring to mind in future years whilst thinking of "Glory Days!"

Peter Hill – 2011 Captain

AGM 2011

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Association of Buckinghamshire Golf Captains will take place at the Harewood Downs Golf Club on Thursday 27 October 2011 at approximately 7pm.

Derek Hill – Honorary Administration Secretary – August 2011

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting
- 3 Matters arising
- 4 Captain's report
- 5 Financial reports
- 6 Elections of Officers and Committee

Captain: Roger Warren, proposed by Peter Hill, seconded by Derek Hill

Vice-Captain: Ken Heaver, proposed by Roger Warren, seconded by John Pettitt

Honorary Secretary: Derek Hill, proposed by Peter Hill, seconded by Peter Short

Honorary Match Secretary: Peter Short, proposed by Derek Hill, seconded by Ed Fraser

Honorary Treasurer: Derek Williams, proposed by Peter Hill, seconded by Ken Heaver

Committee: J Pettitt, Ed Fraser, D Ebdon, proposed by Peter Short, seconded by Roger Warren

- 7 Any other business

Association of Buckinghamshire Golf Captains

Minutes of the 2010 AGM held at Denham Golf Club on 28 October 2010

PRESENT

Ian Smithe (Captain), Peter Hill (Vice-Captain), D Hill (Hon Secretary), D Williams (Treasurer), P Short (Co-opted Match Secretary), R Warren, K Heaver, J Pettitt and 62 members

The Captain opened the meeting and welcomed members to the AGM.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Secretary read out the names of 6 members who had apologised. B Wheeler, W Reynolds, F Scott, D Etherington, A Scott, M Lightfoot.

Minutes of the previous AGM (30th) held at Beaconsfield Golf Club on Wednesday 28 October 2009. The Secretary had reported that these had been circulated to all members in Newsletter No. 38 and further copies were available if required. Therefore these minutes would not be read out unless requested.

As there were no requests, the Captain asked for approval of these minutes as a true record. Proposed, seconded and approved unanimously.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The Captain extended his welcome to all at the AGM and made a point of welcoming all new members to the Association. Whilst his newsletter report covered the first part of the year for the purposes of update he added that

having played 12 matches, the Association won 3, lost 6, and halved 3. Whilst not the height of success as always these are most enjoyable days with excellent company and good hospitality and hope those that played also enjoyed their matches. The opportunity to welcome everyone to Woburn for the Annual Dinner, gave great pleasure and whilst golf was not available on the day everyone had a most enjoyable evening. Visiting Secretaries and Captains were given the opportunity to participate in golf a few weeks later and from a letter received, this was well appreciated. The Captain's Day also went well and congratulations to all the winners and hope the experience leaves good memories of Woburn. The tour to the New Forest was successful and thanks to all that participated. The Captain wished to extend his thanks to the officers and the committee for all their hard work and support throughout the year. Particular thanks to Derek Hill and in particular to Peter Short who stood in at short notice to undertake the role of Match Secretary following the death of our dear friend George Axeworthy. Peter has settled quickly into the role and has offered his services ongoing and stands for election during the course of this AGM. Our thanks go to Derek Williams for the efficient maintenance of our finances and Ken Heaver who has done a magnificent job as clothing officer. Thanks also to Peter Hill for his support as Vice Captain for being on hand to help when needed and to you all for your support. It has been a privilege being your Captain and I wish Peter every success during 2011. The Captain then asked the Treasurer to present his report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer, Derek Williams pointed out that his report and Statement of Accounts is shown in the Newsletter. The Treasurer was happy that the match fee could be retained at £50 for a further season. No questions arose and the Captain thanked Derek for his report and asked for approval. Proposed, seconded and carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE 2011

CAPTAIN

The Captain introduced the Captain elect Peter Hill from Chiltern Forest Proposed by Ian Smithie and seconded by Derek Hill retiring Immediate Past Captain.

Approval for the appointment was sought from the membership present and carried unanimously. The chain of office was duly handed over to Peter Hill.

The new Captain thanked Ian for all his efforts during the year and for making 2010 so enjoyable, particularly the events at Woburn and the tour to the New Forest and presented the Past Captains Badge to the outgoing Captain.

VICE-CAPTAIN

The Secretary read the nomination – Roger Warren, proposed by Peter Hill and seconded by Ken Heaver. The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

HON SECRETARY

The nomination was – Derek Hill proposed by Ian Smithie and seconded by Peter Short.

The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

HON MATCH-SECRETARY

The nomination was – Peter Short proposed by Derek Hill seconded by John Pettitt.

The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

HON TREASURER

The nomination was – Derek Williams proposed by Ian Smithie seconded by Roger Warren.

The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE: 3 NOMINATIONS

Ken Heaver: Proposed by Mike Morris, seconded by Derek Hill.

John Pettitt: Proposed by Mike Morris, seconded by Derek Hill.

Ed Fraser: Proposed by Mike Morris, seconded by Derek Hill.

There were no nominations from the floor so the Captain asked for a block vote and all were duly elected.

The Retiring Captain Ian Smithie remains on the Committee for a further year.

Peter Hill thanked the members for electing him and looked forward to another successful year with the Captains and working with the new Committee welcoming Ed Fraser to his new role.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The question of Match fees was raised again and whilst the Treasurer had made a comment that figures could remain there were questions raised as to the payment of a green fee when playing at a members own club. As a society we get charged a discounted price and it was felt that all should pay the same.

The Secretary explained that this year it was not proposed to hold a dinner dance principally due to a lack of support for the event over recent years. The matter will be looked at again in 2011.

The Secretary gave a preliminary run down of next year's fixtures as far as was practicable which included the Spring Meeting at Royal Ascot, the AGM at Harewood Downs, with matches at Burnham Beeches, Royal Blackheath, Southerndown and The Dyke. Men's Dinner plus Captain's Day being at Chiltern Forest. The tour for 2011 will be to South Wales, details to be advised in the January Newsletter.

In a previous newsletter the Secretary had made comment of the difficulties being experienced in obtaining fixtures at venues such as Gerrards Cross, Lambourne and Beaconsfield principally due to a lack of dates and / or pricing. Due to the efforts of some of our members from those clubs it is now believed that this matter is resolved and the Secretary will be speaking to those clubs during coming years to see if we can once again arrange fixtures at those venues. Thanks are expressed to those club representatives with apologies for any embarrassment that had been caused.

The Association continues to receive the occasional jacket from retiring members and these will continue to be made available for resale when possible. The clothing secretary has also obtained a further supply of Association caps and they will be available for sale.

Thanks were expressed to Peter Short for the work he had undertaken to establish a new website for the Association. Peter was able to outline what will be available to members this coming season to support fixtures and provide members with relevant match information.

There being no other business the Captain closed the meeting and advised members that the 32nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held again at Harewood Downs Golf Club on Thursday 27 October 2011.



New Members 2011

We are pleased to welcome the following members into the Association and we hope they will enjoy their golf and social occasions with us.

MEMBER	CLUB	YEAR OF CAPTAINCY
Derrick Clarke	Flackwell Heath	2010
Colin Elwell	Harleyford	2009
Gerry Cotter	Beaconsfield	2010
Alan McBlane	Whiteleaf	2011
Jonathan Dymock	Mentmore	2011

Statement of Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2011

RECEIPTS	2011 £	2010 £	EXPENDITURE	2011 £	2010 £
Subscriptions	3,024	3,528	Administration expenses	1,519	1,362
Ball sweep Surplus, less costs	139	257	Loss on Men's Dinner	556	1,601
Interest	2	2			
Profit on sale of clothing	369	546	Loss on Dinner Dance	0	135
	3,534	4,333		2,075	3,098
Surplus on matches:	-3,848	5,500			
Internal Meetings:					
receipts less costs:	962	285	Profit/(Loss) for the year	-1,427	7,020
	648	10,118		648	10,118

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2011

Bank balances	10,009	11,384
Clothing Stock	1,618	1,755
Other Stock	330	
	11,957	13,139
Sundry Debtors	100	345
	12,057	13,484
Reserves brought forward	13,484	6,464
Profit/(Loss) for the year	-1,427	7,020
Reserves carried forward	12,057	13,484

Treasurer's report

Considering that the year ended 31 August 2011 had three more home fixtures than away matches, a loss of only £1,427 can be regarded as most satisfactory. Although subscription income fell by over £500, the reduced loss sustained on the Annual Dinner more than compensated.

A useful surplus was realised from the three internal meetings, helping to offset the deficits sustained from the three more home than away matches that were played.

With a bank balance of over £10,000 and a reversal of the number of home events than away fixtures in the current financial year, the financial outlook is considered to be sufficient to cope with the ever-increasing prices charged by some of the venues we use.

Derek Williams – Treasurer

BACK FOR 2011!

The Association of
Buckinghamshire
Golf Captain's



Dinner Dance

Friday 21 October 2011

7.30pm–12.30am
at Chiltern Forest Golf Club

*A great opportunity for us to thank our
wives/partners for their forbearance*

Tickets £40 per person available from
any of the committee members

Administration

Secretary's report

A year of fun, mixed golfing fortunes but most of all good company on some excellent courses ably led by the humour and enthusiasm of our Captain Peter Hill, we still have some matches to play including a new venue for us The Three Locks.

I hope all of you that have taken part have enjoyed the fun relationship we have not only within the Association but also with our other County Captains. We are still eager to grow the membership numbers so once again you are all asked to speak to Past Captains within your clubs if they are not yet part of our friendly group.

A very big thank you to Peter Short for all his support this year and for the development of the Association website which I hope you all have found interesting, helpful and informative. The whole aspect of circulating information, picking of teams and searching for the inevitable replacements is much easier and quicker using emails; I would draw your attention to Peter Short's notes elsewhere within the newsletter. The majority of you will indeed be reading this via your own email addresses and this is an opportunity to gauge member's reaction to this form of communication rather than the printed newsletter. There are noticeable cost savings to the Association in this way but we would welcome your comments at the AGM. It is stressed that your committee has decided to continue to produce the handbook and fixture card in printed form at the beginning of the year as well as having the same on the website. So this is just a sampler, feel free to add your views.

The numerous positive responses received for the Men's Dinner in February were very gratifying and the guest speaker from "Help for Heroes" was extremely well received and the evening raised close on £1000 for that worthy cause. We really did get off to a great start and that was further supported by a

great day at Royal Ascot for the Spring Meeting. The Captain will I am sure be commenting on some of the matches so far this year but on behalf of all I would like to thank Peter Hill for a first-class Captain's Day at Chiltern Forest. I am sure participants would like to thank Peter's wife and ladies who helped with the halfway house refreshments.

"The numerous positive responses received for the Men's Dinner in February were very gratifying and the guest speaker from 'Help for Heroes' was extremely well received and the evening raised close on £1000 for that worthy cause."

Moving forward to 2012, fixtures are already coming together with a Spring Meeting at Redbourne and of course Captains Day plus the Men's Dinner next year will be at Flackwell Heath. We are hoping that with the help of club members we should be able to book Beaconsfield for the AGM in October 2012 and it being our turn to host the Four Counties South, an approach has been made to Gerrards Cross and more definite news of that will hopefully be made available at the AGM. Hampshire has advised that we will visit them at Cams Hall, London at Strawberry Hill, Cambridge at Ramsey and Four Counties North will be at Thetford. The Ladies are arranging Whiteleaf again as it is their turn next year and we have booked Lambourne and Mentmore for fixtures with further plans to utilise Burnham Beeches and Ellesborough although much of this is still to be confirmed. Roger Warren's tour at the end of June is still in early stages of planning but information will be made available at the AGM. Thanks are extended to all members who have spoken on behalf of the Association to ensure that the venues approached have enabled us to agree pricing much more competitively.

Your Treasurer will comment on the trading figures but I would wish to draw members' attention to the fact that a decision has been taken to establish an ongoing banker's order system for the payment of the annual subscription. The amount is not changing from the current £20 but members are requested to

complete the bankers order and to ensure that this is lodged with their Bankers in good time for the payment to be made to the Association on 1 February 2012 and then annually thereafter. There are savings in both administration and potential bank charges in adopting this method of collection.

Thanks again to Ken Heaver for his work in administrating the clothing and a new committee member will be asked to undertake the role as Ken will, subject to the AGM, approval assume the role of Vice Captain from 1 January 2012.

If anyone knows past members who no longer have a use for the Bucks Captains jacket, please ask them to contact a member of the committee, since there is a growing demand for second hand Jackets, and the Association benefits.



Your committee are once again running with a Dinner Dance in 2011 and your attention is drawn to detail elsewhere within the body of this newsletter.

It is with pleasure that members are advised that Douglas Ebdon has been approached and accepted the nomination to the committee now that Ian Smithie stands down at the end of this year and once again a big thank you to Ian for his ongoing support. The nominations are shown as part of the Agenda and on a personal note I am happy to stand again as Administration Secretary for a further year, if that is your wish. However, one more year would make 12 years and I feel it would then be time for me to stand down and I have given notice to the Committee that I would not seek re-election at the AGM at the end of the 2012 season. Your committee would therefore welcome nominations for the post during the coming 12 months.

Derick Hill – Secretary

Match Secretary's report

I hope you are all now using our web site www.abgc.org.uk, I have gradually been extending its use and you can now see: all the matches for this year (and last), who is playing, who is invited and if you are a reserve. Additionally you can also browse the official club clothing and view a list of past ABGC captains.

To help those who have not visited it yet, simply click on a match name to see all this information as well as details of the venue, a Google map (for directions) and any notes or results. This year I put entry forms for the Spring Meeting and Captains Day on the site, which many of you have used. Some of you have fed back that the Microsoft Word files I send out for the invitations are quite big and take a while to download, so I will investigate another way of doing this next year.

We currently have 162 members, which is quite low compared to other associations. Our new database of members gives me easy access to all your email address, home addresses and phone numbers. I also have a record of all the matches and competitions you have played in, and upcoming ones you are invited to play in. Next year I will be sending out a list of the matches you are specifically picked for, rather than a list of all teams you are in, which will cut down the number of emails you will receive. All teams can also be seen on the site.

www.abgc.org.uk

Trying to search for ABGC via Google is an interesting experience as you get both The American Board of British Counselling and the Australian Banana Growers Association! It is much better to **bookmark our home page** in your browser and that way you don't have to remember the address.

For the 26 of you without computers I will continue to send you everything by post, but if you do get a computer in the meantime, or change your email or other contact details, please let me know.

There are also still a few of you that don't seem to get my emails. To fix this you need to look into your spam folder (or in the case of BT Internet on their web mail using your account details). I know when your emails are returned as undeliverable, but cannot deal with those stuck in your spam. I still sometimes get emails from you in my spam and I have to look regularly to ensure I don't miss one. Even when I click to allow future emails they sometimes still go back in, so we all need to check!

Lastly on the subject of matches I appreciate those of you that give me early warning of availability, and understand if you have a last minute problem, but so far this year every match has had late withdrawals. This means I have had to make a lot of phone calls to ensure we get a team together, so please give as much warning as possible, and please respond to the invites (as a few of you do not do that until close to the date of the match).

We have decided to implement a £25 fee for last minute withdrawals (up to 3 days before). If I am able to find a replacement they will only have to pay £25. However I would like to thank my reliable members, who I know will play at the last minute when I have these withdrawals.

All this keeps me busy in my retirement, but I do enjoy it. Playing in the matches and competitions, and meeting all of you, the members of the Association.

Peter Short – Match Secretary

Newsletter 40, September 2011

written by Peter Hill, Derek Hill, Derek Williams and Peter Short

designed by Tony Short – tony@tomodomo.net

www.abgc.org.uk

