

The Association of Buckinghamshire Golf Captains



Newsletter 44 SEPTEMBER 2013



Captain's Day 2013 winner – Tony Jefferies

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Captain's Corner
- 4 2013 AGM notice
- 5 Minutes of the 2012 AGM
- 10 New members
- 11 Accounts and Treasurer's report
- 13 Secretary's report

Captain's Corner

January is a quiet start to a New Captain's year with only a meeting of the new Committee to arrange. Life soon changes however with a mixture of Dinners and Golf accompanied by good fellowship. South Wales is the first Dinner, held in Cardiff, and gave me and my wife the opportunity to spend a weekend in a City that we had not visited before. This was followed quickly by the Association's Dinner held this year at Mentmore. I was pleased that over 60 of us were well entertained by the comedian, Ian Richards.

We lost the first match of the Season against Bedford where all holes count. If normal match results had counted the result would have been different! Normal service then resumed with wins against Hampshire, Northants, Surrey and the South Wales Coast. The win at Newport was especially memorable as we rarely win in South Wales. Well done Team.

We all look forward to the meeting with the Bucks Lady Captains. This year we decided to change the venue to Lambourne from Whiteleaf. As we drove up the Rhododendrons and Azaleas looked magnificent but it was raining. Full of optimism we started from the first tee but it was raining so hard the Course was soon badly flooded and after three holes we reluctantly let the weather win. Lambourne were excellent and brought the meal forward but unfortunately a new date did not prove possible to arrange.

The Tour this year was to North West Norfolk and seventeen members enjoyed the three nights and four rounds of golf. The highlight was the game at Hunstanton on a very sunny benign day with the Course behaving itself and allowing some good scores. All four courses played proved different challenges and beat most except the eventual Winner, Tony



Jeffries, who took the Miner's Lamp by a big margin.

We came back to reality by losing to London at Chesham and Ley Hill but then followed the highlight of the year when we actually WON the Four Counties South for the first time since 21 years ago. It was nearly a whitewash of the prizes but unfortunately our top pair lost the Pairs Cup on count back.

July saw my Captain's Day at Mentmore during a very hot spell of weather. Pimms was served at the halfway house together with some nostalgic doughnuts for those whose golf needed some encouragement. Thanks George for the inspiration. Tony Jeffries continued his great year with easily the best score of the day to take first prize and the Trophy. Well played Tony, sorry that we can't reduce your handicap until you've played a few more matches for us.

A busy August saw us start by narrowly losing to Cambridge, then Warwickshire beat us at the lovely Copt Heath. Four Counties North all beat us at Old Fold Manor. Not a good results month.

It has been a very enjoyable year meeting so many of you. Your support for the Meetings and Matches has been terrific. Organisation is the important part of any successful Association and we are very lucky to have Peter Short holding the reins. Thank you, Peter, for all your hard work during the year.

My sincere thanks to all the Committee for their work during the year Doug for clothing us, Derek W for taking our money, Derek H for stepping in where necessary and also the ball sweep organisers. John has been a very involved Vice Captain and I wish him well next year. The necklace will be going to a fitting recipient. Roger reaches the end of his Committee work and steps down after 6 years Thank you Roger for your help and good counsel.

Many thanks to you all for your support and friendship throughout this special year.

Ken Heaver – Captain 2013

"If I had cleared the trees and, driven the green, it would have been a great tee shot."

Sam Snead

AGM 2013

Notice is hereby given that the 34th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Buckinghamshire Golf Captains will take place at the Gerrards Cross Golf Club on Friday 25 October 2013 at approximately 4pm prior to the dinner.

Peter Short – Honorary Administration Secretary – August 2013

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of the 33rd Annual General Meeting
- 3 Matters arising
- 4 Captain's report
- 5 Financial reports
- 6 Elections of Officers and Committee

Captain: John Pettitt, proposed by Ken Heaver, seconded by Peter Short

Vice-Captain: Doug Ebdon, proposed by John Pettitt, seconded by Roger Warren

Honorary Secretary: Peter Short, proposed by Ken Heaver seconded by Doug Ebdon

Honorary Match Secretary: Vacant
- 7 **Honorary Treasurer: Derek Williams**, proposed by Roger Warren, seconded by John Pettitt
- 8 **Committee: J Hardcastle , Rob Southerden and Brian Rodgers**, proposed by Ken Heaver, seconded by Roger Warren
- 7 Change to Constitution re Club eligibility of Membership. Paragraph 3 of the constitution defines the Clubs eligibility to belong to the Association and names the clubs. In order to increase membership it is proposed that **all** Clubs in Buckinghamshire affiliated to the English Golf Union be eligible and that the constitution be changed accordingly. Proposed by Ken Heaver and seconded by John Pettitt
- 8 Any other Business, please give advance warning if possible.

Association of Buckinghamshire Golf Captains

Minutes of the 2012 AGM held at Beaconsfield Golf Club on 24 October 2012

Present: Roger Warren (Captain), Ken Heaver (Vice-Captain), D Hill (Hon Secretary), D Williams (Treasurer), P Short (Match Secretary), Doug Ebdon, Ed Fraser and 50 members.

The Captain opened the meeting and welcomed members to the AGM and then asked the Secretary to read out apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence: The Secretary read out the names of members who had apologised. P Agius, A Wicks, K Robertson, J French, S Chandler, J Pettitt, D Balfour, N Rathbone, K Farrar, Crabtree, D Draffan, B Donnelly.

Minutes of the previous AGM (32nd) held at Harewood Downs Golf Club on Thursday 27 October 2011. The Secretary reported that these had been circulated to all members in Newsletter No 42 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 by Phil Price and Seconded by B Shanks and approved unanimously.

Captain 's report

I must start by saying what a very enjoyable year I have had as Captain and I hope you have all had as good a time playing for the Association. We have played some excellent courses meeting friends from other counties in good natured competition. The weather this year conspired to put a damper on our golf but the only fixture that was affected was our first match of the season against Bedfordshire were due to the state of the ground we were forced to play the first nine holes at Leighton Buzzard twice, the rest of the season we played full but occasionally soggy courses.

The results of our endeavours in the single county fixtures, was that we lost four, halved two and won six. This good result was wholly due to you the team members who thank goodness did not follow my lead in the first two thirds of the season. Having mislaid my golf swing in the spring I didn't find it again until the autumn, and now all is well, or as well as can be expected. The Four Counties South competition at Gerrards Cross was won by Oxfordshire with Buckinghamshire second equal. However, two of our members, Tony Jeffries and Trevor Murphy won the trophy for the best pairs score with a total of 48 points. The defence of the Four Counties North cup at Thetford ended in victory for Worcester and third place for Buckinghamshire.

The tour to the Wirral was, I think, a golfing success with the courses living up to expectations, unlike the hotel which did not. The food was especially poor.

However, on a positive note I particularly enjoyed Caldby and Wallasey, and the other two courses at Bromborough and Delamere Forest were also well worth our visit. Congratulations to John Hutchins who won a very close fought contest and the miner's lamp with a high scoring final round at Delamere Forest just edging out Tony Jeffries.

Now I must give some thanks to those members who keep the wheels of the Association turning.

I have to say that your committee has made my job easy. Particular thanks go to Derek Hill for organising our golfing programme, and to Peter Short for his work as Fixture Secretary often entailing last minute calls to make sure we have a full team. Thanks also to Derek Williams who continues to do an excellent job as Treasurer, and to other members of your Committee who help to make everything run smoothly. And last but by no means least I thank Ken Heaver, vice-captain, for his support at all our fixtures. He has been sweeper, out last at every match to make sure we are all off in good order. But the last shall be first, and I know he will do a very good job as our captain and I wish him well for next year.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as Captain. It has been a privilege and an honour. I have not always been able to pick winning teams, but success is not measured solely by results but by the enjoyment to be had from being part of a team and from meeting other golf captains with whom we have much in common in some wonderful locations. I think this is what I shall remember of my year. So I end with a final thank you to all the members who have supported me and the association throughout the last year.

Financial report

The Treasurer, Derek Williams pointed out that his report and Statement of Accounts is shown in the Newsletter. Derek highlighted the fall in membership and therefore subscriptions. There was however a clothing surplus and lower administration costs due to the use of the website and emails. There was a loss on the annual dinner due to fewer members attending, but Derek reported that other Counties were having the same problem and some are changing the format. Matches were continuing to show a loss but the internal meetings still showed a small profit. The Committee have therefore decided that match fees for 2013 would be raised to £55 but internal meetings would remain at £50. Proposed by Mike Morris, seconded by Gordon Bull and carried unanimously.

Election of officers and committee 2013

CAPTAIN

The Captain introduced the Captain elect Ken Heaver from Mentmore GC. Proposed by Roger Warren and seconded by Derek Hill.

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

The new Captain thanked Roger for all his efforts during the year and for making 2012 so enjoyable, and he then presented the Past Captains Badge to the outgoing Captain.

VICE-CAPTAIN

The Secretary read the nomination – John Pettitt, proposed by Ken Heaver and seconded by Ed Fraser. The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

HON SECRETARY

The nomination is – Peter Short proposed by Derek Hill and seconded by Peter Hill.

The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

HON MATCH-SECRETARY

The nomination is – Peter Short proposed by Peter Hill seconded by Doug Ebdon.

The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

HON TREASURER

The nomination is – Derek Williams proposed by Roger Warren seconded by John Pettitt.

The Captain asked for approval. Carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE – 3 NOMINATIONS

Ed Fraser, Doug Ebdon and John Hardcastle. Proposed by Derek Hill, seconded by Ken Heaver.

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

The Retiring Captain Roger Warren remains on the Committee for a further year.

The new member John Hardcastle was welcomed to the Committee by Ken Heaver.

Any other business

Ken Heaver said what an honour it was to become your new Captain and hoped for more sunshine in his year. He mentioned that the opening meeting would be at East Berkshire on 25 April 2013 and that his tour would be in North West Norfolk from 23-26 June 2013.

The Secretary gave a preliminary run down of next year's fixtures as far as was practicable which included matches at Newport, Frilford, Old Ford Manor, Copt Heath, North Oxford, Chesfield Downs, Canterbury and Willington ,details to be advised in the January Newsletter. We have also been approached by Wiltshire, Dorset and Leicestershire, but nothing has yet been finalised. The Men's dinner would be at Mentmore on 22 February and Captains Day there on 24 July 2013.

Ed Fraser announced that with regret he would be leaving sometime next year to move back to Scotland.

The Captain thanked Derek Hill for his 12 years as Secretary and presented him with a gift. He also proposed that Derek be given Honorary membership for life which was unanimously agreed. Derek then said a few words and offered his full support to Peter Short in the future. He also said how he has enjoyed every minute of his term as Secretary.

There being no other business the Captain closed the meeting and advised members that the 34th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at Gerrards Cross Golf Club on Friday 25 October 2013.

New Members 2013

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
JonJoe Power	Stowe	2012
Simon Roberts	Stowe	2011
Ken Browne	Harleyford	2005 (Huntswood)
Kevan Robinson	Harleyford	2013
Bob Clarke	Mentmore	2003
Peter Sheridan	Mentmore	2013
Rod Latham	Mentmore (returning)	
Doug Blomfield	Mentmore(returning)	2004
Bob Welfare Ford	Mentmore	2012
Bill Dodd	Buckingham	2011
Gary Marler	Hazelmere	2013
Peter Atwell	Oaklands Park	2001

“Don’t play too much golf. Two rounds a day is plenty.” Harry Vardon

Statement of Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2013

RECEIPTS	2013£	2012 £	EXPENDITURE	2013 £	2012 £
Subscriptions	2668	2896	Administration expenses	841	867
			Loss on Men's Dinner	681	1118
Interest	1	2	Cost of prizes less ball sweep	313	212
Profit on sale of clothing	596	147			
	3265	3045		1835	2197
Surplus on matches:	-1746	3317			
Internal Meetings:	73	835			
			Profit / (Loss) for the year	-243	5000
	1592	7197		1592	7197

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2013

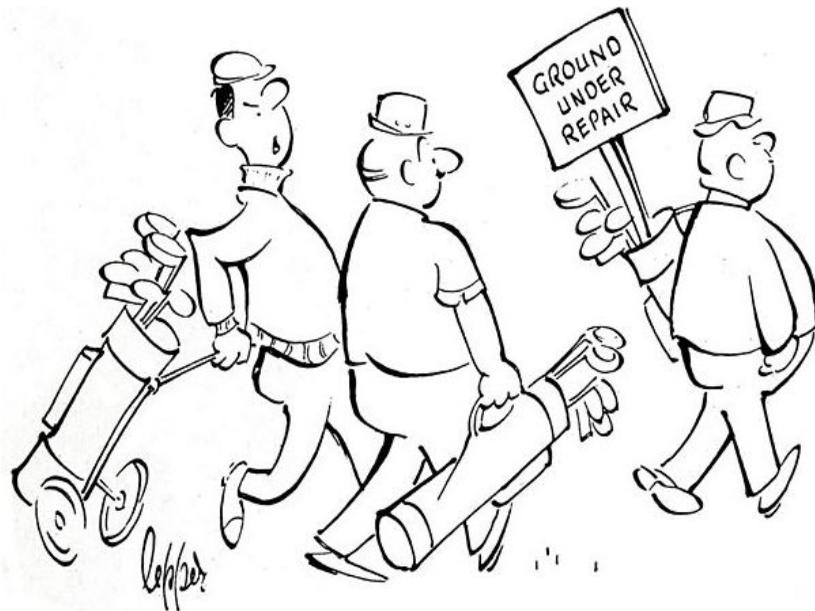
Bank balances	14322	15812
Clothing Stock	2294	2627
	16616	18439
Prepaid Deposits	620	300
Sundry Creditors less Debtors	-420	-1680
	16816	17059
Reserves brought forward	17059	12059
Profit / (Loss) for the year	-243	5000
Reserves carried forward	16816	17059

Treasurer's report

The year ended 31 August 2013 may be considered a financial success as it resulted in only a small loss of £243. Considering the greater number of home fixtures in this year it is a very welcomed outcome and was mainly due to the increase in match fee to £55 agreed at last year's AGM.

However annual subscriptions were again lower than the previous year, but this was partially offset by a further reduction in administration expenses and an increase in the profit from the sale of clothing.

Derek Williams – Treasurer



"Let's keep an eye on him. He's tricky."

Secretary's Report

My first year as Secretary has flown by and kept me busy. The match administration have gone smoothly this year and Derek Hill has continued to fix up the match venues for 2014 which has been a great help to me. Unfortunately the help with the matches did not work out and I am now conscious of the fact that we do need some assistance with this as I am the only one who knows how to operate the website.

The membership got down to under 140 after the subscriptions came in and of that a good 20 were not actually playing. This meant that the playing member pool for all of our matches was getting too low. We discussed this at our meeting and started a recruitment campaign with a poster and letter to all Secretaries. We have done this to all clubs in

Buckinghamshire which does mean we need a slight change to the constitution as described above. Ken and I spent two days going around all the clubs trying to promote the Association. However the best way to get new members is still yourselves promoting the Association to all past and present Captains who are not yet Members. So I encourage you all to speak to the Captains both present and past from your Clubs and encourage them to come and join us. We have recruited 15 new members this year and are now back to 150 but we still need more.

The Captain has commented on the team's performance during the year and the events that we have attended on behalf of the Association. Our thanks go to the Clubs who have continued to support our Association.

Assistant Match Secretary?

Can you help organise some of the matches. Full training and access to the website will be given. Please contact Peter Short for more details

Looking forward to next year, the fixture list nearly complete. We will of course be at Harleyford for the Annual Dinner and John Pettitt has lined up an entertaining speaker from the R&A. Captains day will also be there and the next AGM will be at Beaconsfield in October 2014. A full list of the events will be made available at the Annual General Meeting. A tour will also be advised once the Vice Captain has finalised his plans.

*“Every shot counts.
A three foot putt is
just as important as
a 300 yard drive.”*

Henry Cotton

We continue to encourage members to use the standing order system to pay their annual subscriptions which are being held at their present level at £20, details and forms for use are available on the website. Renewal date continues to be 1 February annually.

Doug Ebdon is the clothing officer until the end of the year and members are encouraged to contact him with their clothing requirements. Email and telephone numbers for Doug are on the website.

Should there be any past members known who wish to dispose of their Association jackets please let us know and we will make a nominal payment for the jacket if required.

It is with pleasure that we are able to advise members that Rob Sutherland and Bryan Rodgers have agreed to stand for election to the Committee at the Annual General Meeting and would extend our best wishes to them. One of them fills the vacant slot from Ed Fraser. Roger Warren is due to stand down as Immediate Past Captain and we thank him for all his good work over the past 5 years.

Peter Short – Secretary

FAQs

Can you let me know the phone number, email, address of a member?

Go to www.abgc.org.uk/memberdownloads and download the *Member Handbook* where all personal details of members are shown.

What time are we meeting for the match?

The start or meeting time for each match is shown in the notes. Select the relevant match from the home page at www.abgc.org.uk

Can you tell me if a particular member is playing in a particular match?

All the matches on the web site show who is playing and it is updated daily.

Can you tell me where a club is?

All details are available on the match page. Simply click on the club's postcode to be taken to a larger map on Google Maps, or click on the club's name and that will take you to that club's web site.

Got any more questions, or handy tips to share?

Please let me know at match@abgc.org.uk

*“At my age its tough getting out of bunkers.
I mean after I have hit the ball.”*

George Burns

Newsletter 44, September 2013

written by Ken Heaver, Derek Williams and Peter Short

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www.abgc.org.uk

