



**THE MINUTES OF THE
DORSET GOLF CAPTAINS
52ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held Thursday 8th December 2022
At Bulbury Woods Golf Club**

- 1) The President Bill Kent began the meeting at approximately 1.30pm with 25 members present. He noted that during the past year we had been informed of the deaths of our members Gerald Clarke (Ashley Wood), Charles McIntyre (Came Down), Harry Scotting (Lyme Regis), David Grinter (Sherborne) and Pat Richardson (Sturminster Marshall) and he expected there were others we did not know about. The meeting stood for a minutes silence in memory of our members who had passed away.
- 2) Before the meeting the Record of the inquorate AGM held Thursday 2nd December 2021 and the Record of the online voting of AGM Agenda items completed 31st December 2021 had been circulated by email. These Records were approved.
- 3) There were no matters arising from the records of the inquorate AGM and online voting.
- 4) The 2022 Captain David Woodroffe gave the following report:

The past nearly three years have been something none of us has experienced before. COVID has really left its mark and still continues to effect our daily lives. Thankfully 2022 has allowed us to more or less get back to normal in golfing terms. We managed to fulfil all the matches both home and away that had been planned.

Yes there were some hiccups along the way with team selections.

Last minute "drop outs" due to COVID, last minute hospital appointments or just no shows on one occasion. Still every match was played in a good competitive spirit and most could have gone either way.

We had success against Wiltshire, Devon, Gloucester and the Ladies.

We drew with Hampshire and Somerset. However, we lost to Sussex, Oxfordshire and Cornwall all by the odd point.

The Surrey match was a complete hammering but that's the way it goes sometimes.

I'd like to thank all those who played in the matches this year and well done.

Each and every county put on a great day and I have thanked them all throughout the year. Their hospitality and golf courses have been superb.

The President and Spring Meeting was played at Broadstone and the winner was Nigel Mobbs.

My Captains Day and Autumn Meeting was held at Bridport and West Dorset. The winner of the Les Watson Chalice was Phil Dowell. The Harry Roffey Trophy for the best combined scores for both Presidents and Captains Day was won by Andrew Sutherland of Somerley Park.

The mixed Greensomes held at Highcliffe Castle was won by Julie Jenkins and Andrew Sutherland.

In August the Founders Day at Rushmoor Park was won by the team of David Picton, Charles Foster, Neil Paul and John Skinner. The Invitation Day at The Dorset was won by Chris Langston and Roger Willets from Dudsbury GC. It goes without saying that all these matches and events don't just happen without someone to organise them.

I am most grateful to the team behind the county scene who all deserve a big thank you.

To Nigel for sending out all the information to all the Captains throughout the year. To David Kimberley and David Recardo for their efforts with the Webb site and Clothing. To Brian Hansford for keeping the purse strings in order.

To Bill Kent for keeping the committee in order.

To Dave Picton for the unenviable task of finding clubs that will take players and matches at a competitive rate. He must use his charm wherever he goes cap in hand.

To Peter Brickell for his contribution when standing in whilst I was unable to attend the Somerset match.

A really big thank you to Peter Foster for the outstanding evening at The Dorset for the annual dinner. Whilst not as well attended as in previous years it was still a most enjoyable evening. The speaker Paul Boardman was excellent and well received.

Finally how could I possibly forget Derek Grimes who has suffered most of the year with a serious leg injury.

Derek has made himself available whenever there was a problem. I sure most of the time against doctors orders or his wife's. He is an inspiration and that is what being a true gentleman is all about.

It's been a great experience visiting all the counties on our rota.

I have attended all the county dinners over recent months and have been made most welcome at all of them.

To that end all the 2022 Captains are going to be getting together whenever possible which should be fun. These friendships will last a long time.

I'd like to say that it has been a honour and a privilege to have been the Captain of Dorset Golf Captains. I thank everyone for their support throughout the year and wish everyone all the best for the future.

5) The Honorary Secretary Nigel Mobbs gave the following report:

The Committee met immediately after the inquorate AGM last year and felt there was no realistic possibility of arranging a quorate meeting in the near future. We decided to arrange for on-line voting on the 2021 AGM Agenda items which needed a decision. On-line voting closed 31st December and the results were published early in January. This year the Committee has arranged 9-holes of golf before the AGM and Christmas lunch in the hope of encouraging more attendees. With 17 members on the start sheet this morning, although only 12 played, this seems popular. You will see a Committee proposal later in our Agenda to ammend our Constitution to use on-line voting prior to an AGM to avoid the inquorate situation occuring again.

Derek Grimes retired as President at the end of 2021. The Committee recognised that he had a vast knowledge of Dorset Golf Captains' affairs which we did not wish to lose and co-opted him onto the Committee at our first Committee meeting in February. We also realised that our Constitution did not included the Dinner Organiser as a member of the Committee and item 10 on the Agenda seeks your approval to add that role to the Committee.

Later during the year David Baker resigned from the position of Vice-President for unforeseen health reasons.

This year we had 184 places available for members to play in matches against other counties. 63 members registered bids to participate in matches, which suggests members might expect to be selected to play in 3 matches. The Selection Committee met in early February and used a random draw process to select the teams for over-subscribed matches, which was then reviewed and manually adjusted so that, I believe, all registered members got at least one of their first two match bids and members who made themselves available for a large number of matches were selected for 3 or more matches.

We had expected a 2-day event at St Pierre in September which seemed to be a replacement for the discontinued Saunton Salver, but this was cancelled. The organiser told us the reason was "lack of support".

To increase numbers at our events and to promote membership of Dorset Golf Captains, the Committee decided to invite current Captains who were not members and current Vice-Captains to President's, Founders', Captain's and Invitation Days.

The Committee decided to request members wear the red Dorset Golf Captains shirt at our internal events as well as for representative matches.

The Committee made contact with the Dorset County Golf Union seeking to return to an annual match against the County Juniors and we have located the trophy for this match. At present we have not been able to revive this fixture.

The Committee have been concerned by a large number of drop-outs from our match teams after the Team Sheet is issued, leading to much work for the Captain to complete the team by contacting Reserves, or anyone he thinks will play, often at short notice. The Committee considered re-introducing match deposits, payable at selection, before deciding on a revision of our Team Sheet and Match Fee procedures which we will introduce at item 16 on our Agenda.

Finally I would like to thank all members of our Committee who have worked individually and together to make another successful year for Dorset Golf Captains. While the Committee all deserve equal praise for their efforts, in particular I have found the on-line registration and entry forms developed by David Kimberley well used by you, our members. On-line entries save me some considerable work, which makes me most grateful for David's efforts and I thank all of you who use the on-line forms.

Alex Anderson asked how many current captains had participated in our events and the Honorary Secretary estimated about five. Alex noted current Captains were younger and had work and family commitments.

6) A copy of the Income and Expenditure Account – Year Ended 30th September 2022 (see Appendix

1) had been circulated by email before the meeting and the Honorary Treasurer Brian Hansford gave the following report:

With a full year of events and fixtures the accounts show only a deficit of £441 for the year compared with £2,942 last year.

AGM/Dinner – The dinner was not well supported and expenditure exceeded income by £878, a similar situation will arise this year and this is something the committee will be considering for the future.

Matches - show an overall surplus of £487 despite losses on President's Day, Founder's Day and the Invitation. Again support from Captain's is essential to make these events successful.

Clothing Costs – purchases exceed sales but no adjustment has been made for stock held.

New Captains – only five captains from over 30 Dorset clubs have joined during the year, we need some arm twisting!

Misc. Costs – should read "Trophy Insurance" not Valuation.

Funds held – have changed very little, £4596 compared to £4,588 last year.

My thanks go to all committee members for their input throughout the year and in particular to Secretary Nigel, Captain David and President Bill.

7) The Colin Chataway Trophy Organiser Jim Allan gave the following report:

The competition was held this year on Tuesday, 16th August at Ferndown Golf Club when 36 youngsters representing six clubs competed for the trophy in showery conditions. Whilst the field was similar in size to last year nevertheless it was disappointing not to have more teams given the quality of the venue. The smaller fields seen in recent years largely reflect fewer available youngsters at a number of clubs which, in fairness, are working on increasing their junior sections. The keenly fought competition resulted in a win for Ferndown 1 with Weymouth as runners-up. The full results are on the CC Trophy page on the website. It was again very pleasing to receive positive feedback from Junior Organisers and youngsters alike. The latter always seem to thoroughly enjoy this mixed team competition and appreciate the presence of the ever-smiling Dorset Captains who accompany them on their rounds.

The presence of Captains in every facet of the competition, and in particular in refereeing the matches, is what differentiates the CC Trophy from other junior events. I am always grateful to those Captains who offer to help by ticking the box on the Match Request Form but, sadly, I also usually have to resort to appealing to more Captains to help and even then I do not always have sufficient to cover all the matches. This year the two actions initially provided an "embarrassment of riches" but it soon disappeared as a number of Captains found that, for whatever reason, they couldn't after all help on the day. This was disappointing, particularly when I was in some instances only informed at the last minute, and so I make no apology for reminding you again that as the CC Trophy continues to be so popular with the youngsters the Captains need to show more support for the event so that it maintains the unique feature of their presence.

My personal thanks go to Ferndown Golf Club and to the Captains who helped on the day. Hopefully, we will have as good a day next year when the competition will be held on Wednesday, 26th July at Yeovil Golf Club. The Junior Organisers have been advised of these details.

I have decided that the 2023 competition will be my last as its organiser. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 13 year run as the organiser and am grateful for all the help I have received over that time. I will, if possible, still try to support the competition in the future as one of the volunteers.

8) The Webmaster David Kimberley gave the following report:

The website has run smoothly throughout the year with much information being posted regarding events, initial team lists, results, and match reports. This year's improvement was the addition of clothing ordering pages which appear to function satisfactorily.

Forms for Match Bids, President's Day, Captain's Day, Invitation Day, 9-hole Challenge, Team Event, Our Annual Dinner and this AGM were made available for online completion, together with printable pdf versions for those that prefer them. This online process saves postage costs and puts all applications readily into a spread sheet helping our hard worked Secretary. Please use the online form if you can.

The current plan is to make the website essentially a posting of pdf pages thus virtually eliminating any need for web page programming. The posting process will be straight forward and be scripted so that it will be extremely easy.

The creation of Forms for the various events is very straight forward and easily completed. It is then only necessary to check an Excel file to see who has entered.

Having performed the webmaster role for some 7 years, and although I am happy to continue in post, I feel it is

time that someone else takes over. Training will be given and after initially observing, the replacement would take over. Support would continue to be available should it be needed. Initial enquires for a volunteer have not yielded a replacement.

I would therefore like to use this report to ask ANY member who is able to use a computer to PLEASE let us know if you would contemplate taking on this role.

Wishing you ALL a Very Happy Christmas and a Great Golfing New Year

9) The Annual Dinner Organiser Peter Foster gave the following report:

The day started very well with the sun shining and our guests arriving. We had 5 guests wanting to play golf and along with Committee members and the DG&CC Captain we had a total of 14 players. Despite the recent rain the course had drained and played very well with compliments from our guests.

Our other invited guests arrived later in the day and attended our drinks reception with our guest speaker Paul Boardman. With all our other attendees arrived we then went into dinner at 7.30.

We had a total of 72 for the Annual Dinner down on last year, unfortunately due to ill health one couple had to withdraw leaving 70. Among this number were 12 guests from our invited Counties and our Guest Speaker leaving 57. Apart from the committee this left 27 Past Captains. Despite late emails to members and an email to the Club Reps we were unable to boost the numbers. As a committee we scratch our heads as to why more people do not attend and if anyone here has any comments then they would be very welcome. I could do a roll call of those clubs not represented but I think it would be better if I could have a meeting with all Club Reps to discuss the dinner. There are ways of reducing our overheads for the dinner and I will put these forward to the Committee at a later date.

The dinner itself was very good indeed with compliments for the food and the ambiance was very lively and verbal. Our Guest Speaker entertained us for 45 minutes with a varied repertoire. I think everyone attending really enjoyed the evening as I am sure anyone here who attended would confirm.

I think the Annual Dinner is an important event in our Calendar and it would be nice to increase the numbers next year if possible. I spoke with one Past Captain who unfortunately can no longer play golf but he always comes to the dinner to catch up with friends within the Dorset Captains.

Gordon Mutton said that accommodation was available at the Dorset Golf & CC. David Recardo said the comedian had not used any profanity and he thought him very good. Alan Hebditch said that the Club Reps needed to support and promote the dinner, this needed a discussion with the Club Reps, and he undertook to be the Knighton Heath Club Rep.

10) The Committee Resolution "To ammend the Constitution of the Dorset Golf Captains to add the position of Hon. Dinner Organiser to the elected members of the Committee" was agreed unanimously.

11) As an introduction to the Committee Resolution to ammend the Constitution to permit online voting, the Honorary Secretary Nigel Mobbs spoke about last year's inquorate meeting, saying over 60 members had participated in the subsequent online voting and the Committee wished to avoid the inquorate situation occuring again by adopting the resolution. Alex Anderson said inactive members were not attending meetings and if members voted online he expected fewer members to attend the AGM. Discussion indicated a general feeling we needed to move forward with online voting. The meeting unanimously agreed the resolution "To amend the Constitution of Dorset Golf Captains to permit on-line voting by making changes 11.1) and 11.2) below:

11.1) To replace the sentence: **A General Meeting** shall be held annually, at which twenty shall be a quorum, and the president shall be in the chair.

with the following sentences: **A General Meeting** shall be held annually, with the provision of on-line voting for members to vote on Agenda items for at least 7 days in the 14 day period before the General Meeting date. If a member who has voted on-line should attend the General Meeting, his on-line votes shall be disregarded and any vote he makes in person shall be accepted. Twenty voting members who have voted on-line or are present in person shall be a quorum and the President shall be in the chair.

11.2) To replace the sentence: **Alteration of Rules:** No proposition involving any alteration of the Rules or Constitution of The Dorset Golf Captains shall be adopted unless it obtains the concurrence of two thirds of the members present at a General Meeting.

With the sentence: ***Alteration of Rules:*** *No proposition involving any alteration of the Rules or Constitution of The Dorset Golf Captains shall be adopted unless it obtains the concurrence of two thirds of the members voting on-line or present at a General Meeting.*”

12) The following officers were elected:

1. David Kimberley was elected Vice-President.

Alan Hebditch spoke about spreading the presidency around members from a large number of clubs. Nigel Mobbs said he was concerned a strict rotation of clubs would mean some members would have no prospect of becoming president and he preferred to appoint a president on ability.

2. Peter Brickell was elected Captain.

The retiring Captain David Woodroffe invested Peter with the Captain's Chain of Office and Peter spoke briefly to say it was an honour to be elected Captain, he was the third Captain from Highcliffe and he urged all present to go back to their clubs, promote and drive Dorset Golf Captains forward.

3. David Picton was elected Vice-Captain.
4. Nigel Mobbs was elected Honorary Secretary.
5. Brian Hansford was elected Honorary Treasurer.
6. David Picton was elected Honorary Fixture Secretary.
7. David Kimberley was elected Honorary Webmaster.
8. David Recardo was elected Honorary Clothing Organiser.
9. Peter Foster was elected Honorary Dinner Organiser.

13) Mike Mead was appointed Honorary Auditor

14) The Honorary Fixture Secretary David Picton gave a brief report saying that he was seeing increasing costs at Dorset clubs for our matches and we might need to ask for match fees beyond the expected £45 we had mentioned last year. He spoke about the 6-counties competition which was being organised at Stover in 2023 and how the 6 counties had agreed to rotate the venue with Dorset due to host the event in 2025.

15) The Honorary Clothing Organiser David Recardo spoke briefly about the Dorset Golf Captains clothing items he had brought, inviting those present to look at them today and purchase via the website.

16) The Honorary Secretary spoke about the large number of drop-outs from the teams after the issue of Team Sheets 4 weeks before matches, which required the Captain make many phone calls to complete each team. He said in 2023 he proposed to issue team sheets 6 weeks before a match and ask those selected to pay the match fee in the next 10 days, and if Players did not confirm they were playing by paying the match fee their place would be offered to a Reserve. David Woodroffe explained some of the problems he had faced completing teams this year. There followed a discussion about the use of Match Managers and the Secretary said that Match Managers could be included in his proposal.

17) Suggestions from Eddie Galjaard on the Agenda regarding the format of our inter-county fixtures were discussed, there was a general feeling that the inter-county matches were social occasions and his suggestions did not have any support. At the end of the discussion Gordon Mutton offered to draft a questionnaire to seek more information about our members' wishes.

18) It was agreed to hold the next AGM at Bulbury Woods GC on Thursday 7th December 2023 and The Honorary Secretary undertook to ensure there were paper copies of the Agenda and Accounts at that meeting.

The President closed the meeting at approximately 3.00pm.

Appendix 1 (The Income and Expenditure Account) *is not included with this web version. Members of Dorset Golf Captains may email admin@dorsetgolfcaptains.org.uk to request a copy if the Account.*