



SEMPITERNA HONESTUS

WOOTTON GOLFING SOCIETY

**Annual General Meeting held on 17 June 2011 at
Wootton Blue Cross Club @ 8:15 pm**

In Attendance:

Peter Bone
Brian Ward
Andy Barlow

Chairman
Treasurer
Newsletter

Adam Wilson
Ben Ruffhead
Chris Gibson
Craig Freestone
Dermot Parker
Gerald Bygraves
Keith Ashpole
Ricky Day
Tony Britton
Pat Clarke

Andy Jones
Bob Buck
Chris Ward
Dave Reilly
Gary Ley
Joe Bygraves
Paul Fisher
Simon Flynn
Tony Freestone
Kieran Day

Apologies

Barry Bavington
Gavin Keens
Paul Greenwell
Paul Nicholson
Larry Scott

Bernie Bone
Mick Keens
Paul Jackson
Alan Ashpole

Absent

Paul Fann
Kev Foreman
Rowland Buck

Larry Scott
Roger Cook

1. Minutes from 2010 AGM

These were read and approved. Andy Barlow proposed and Paul Fisher seconded.

2. **Committee Members**

At present Pete Bone is the Chairman and Captain, Brian Ward is the Treasurer, Bernie Bone is Handicap Secretary and Andy Barlow is responsible for the Newsletter. The members were asked if they wanted to propose any other members to the Committee. The members agreed that the committee was sufficient as it was. Pete Bone, Brian Ward, Bernie Bond and Andy Barlow were re-selected to the Committee in their same positions.

3. **The Constitution**

Basically it was explained that the Society would meet once a month at a different venue for a game of golf and compete under differing formats for various trophies. It was also agreed there may be more events planned for next year.

4. **Membership**

Membership was explained that you do not have to be a member of the Society to play, but if you are not a member you cannot win a trophy.

It was agreed that the annual fee will not increase and will remain at £20 (Twenty Pounds) which is payable at the end of **January** in each year. If not paid by the end of January then you are still able to play but as explained above you will not be able to claim prizes.

The £20 membership fee went towards trophies and hopefully once funds do increase there may be an option for other items to be bought ie towels/shirts etc, etc.

A **VOTE** was called and unanimously it was agreed there would be no increase in the annual subscription.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Brian then handed out a spreadsheet showing how the funds are used and what monies have been paid towards and also how much is earned from each match. The balance at the AGM was £773.36. Although healthy there were still a lot of outgoings in the way of trophies and engravings.

A **VOTE** was called that perhaps the Treasurer's Report could go on the website so that everyone would have an idea of what was going on.

The Chairman thanked the treasurer for his hard work and a **VOTE** was called and the treasurer's report was carried.

6. **New Committee Member**

It was then discussed that a new member be appointed. This is to be a Captain who will be voted on by the members. He will plan the next year's events with the help of the Committee and give out prizes at events. There will also be a

Captain's Cup to play for. Each year a different captain is to be appointed to take post from January to January but to be appointed at the AGM of the previous year to allow the Captain to plan for his year in post.

A **VOTE** was called for to confirm that Peter Bone be the current Captain until January 2012.

7. **Website**

The website was explained and the information is set out below

www.societygolfing.co.uk

Log in – wgs

Password – wootton

The website will now be used to disseminate all society information. If you do not have an email address then please let Pete Bone know so that he can inform you of any information in the appropriate fashion. It will now be down to individuals to check either the website or each for information of what is going on. There will not be repeated texts or other information so **please** check the website for all information.

Singles/Doubles Competition – from next year you will have to sign up to these events via the website before the first draw. The chairman explained the format for both competitions for this current year and stated that the format will remain the same next year for the singles: $\frac{3}{4}$ of the difference between the two handicaps, the lower handicap playing off scratch and the other off the difference as per the stroke index of the course being played.

The doubles format will change in 2012, it will be Four Ball Better ball, on each hole both players play their own ball but only the best net score will count. Each player will play using $\frac{3}{4}$ handicap again off of the lower handicap player who plays off scratch.

The final of the doubles and singles will be at a neutral venue, ie no member of the Society should be a member of the golf club to which the final is played. Venue for both finals for 2011 is Stagsden but should any finalist be a member of Stagsden then a new venue is to be decided on. From now on, the finals will not be named until the semi finals have been completed. It was agreed that the Society will pay for some of the fees for the finalists. It was also agreed that the committee would have the final decision on the venue.

8. **Etiquette**

Please try to dress as appropriate ie some Clubs do have a strict dress code so if you are not sure please email/call a Committee member and they will let you know the code. We need to make a good impression in the clubhouse as well. Please when we visit Clubs can shirts tucked in, in the Clubhouse, can we also ask that you wear shoes and not trainers or sandals.

Mobile Phones – these will now be banned on golf days and in accordance with the rules there may be a fine imposed if you are found to be using a mobile phone.

Slow Play – this is now becoming an issue. Please can you keep up with the group in front. Place bags in the appropriate places and mark score cards off the green, the chairman listed a number of ways to speed up play.

9. **Trophies for 2011.**

There are to be prizes for first, second and third place as well as nearest the pin and longest drive. Competitions this year were as follows:

Player of the Year – Best 6 stapleford scores for the year: automatically generated by the website.

Singles Champion – Played throughout the year.

Doubles Champion – Played throughout the year.

Captain's Cup – this is to be 2 out of 3 events. Cromwell, Abbotsley and Luton Hoo. The venues for 2012 have yet to be decided.

Wootton Trophy - this was played at Pavenham. Adam Wilson won this and the cup was donated by Gary Ley.

Most Improved Player – to be awarded by the Committee.

Player's Player – from 2012

Wootton Championship – this is to be played at Mentmore with a combined full stapleford.

Wootton Cup – is to be played at Belton Woods.

WGS over 50's – a seniors match with their own trophy to be played at Wyboston this year. This will be an annual event for senior's, there will also be an annual seniors challenge trophy between the seniors and the rest of the society starting in 2012.

Nearest the Pins and Longest Drive. - There would be a change to one of the nearest the pins, from 2012 one will be on a short Par 4, second shot, or first shot on the green then still have a putt.

It was also decided that the trophies would not have names on the plaques, instead just the venue and the date to be inscribed. These would start to be presented after Luton Hoo this year.

10. The remaining fixtures were confirmed for 2011.

Luton Hoo – June

Wootton Cup – Belton Woods – July

Abbotsley – August

Wootton Championship – Mentmore - September

The Bedfordshire – October

Millbrook – November
The Bedfordshire – Turkey Trot – December

11. Wootton Cup -2012.

The Chairman read through the flyer relating to this event and it was agreed that the completion would be played in Shropshire. One of the members asked if the date could be slightly changed from 25th May as a few members had other appointments that weekend. The Chairman agreed to look into this.

12. Handicaps

The Chairman stated that the handicap system at present was well run and thanked the handicap secretary for his work, the handicap system was discussed and a better understanding of the position was accepted by the members. Stroke Handicap cards were handed out to the members to assist doubles and singles formats.

The Chairman stated he is trialling “Handicap Master” and stated that the program is excellent and would be of great benefit for the society, once the trial had completed and if recommended, the program will be purchased at a nominal cost. As soon as purchased and in play everything would be automated and there will be some very minor changes to the handicap system. This information will be disseminated as soon as possible after going live.

13. Presentation Dinner – 3 December 2011

The Presentation Dinner will be at The Bedfordshire Function Hall - Stagsden on 3 December 2011. Dress is shirt and tie for the gentlemen and party dress for females. There will be a disco and hopefully a minibus to take everyone back to Wootton. There will be a 3 course meal with wine and presentation of trophies etc. It was voted and carried that the cost per ticket would be £25 and that each member could bring up to 3 guests.

The menu would be distributed in due course.

14. Committee Decisions

If you have an issue concerning the Society please can you make an appointment with the committee to resolve the matter. It was also agreed that the committee decisions are final.

15. Golf Rules

The first amendment to the Wootton Golf Society were produced by the chairman, who stated they would be emailed to all members, all members were asked to read them and if there is anything contentious in them please can you let the Chairman know. If no-one has any issues with the rules then they will be set in stone by the end of July.

16. Any Other Business

Friday's

It was decided that as Fridays were a difficult day for a lot of members to get time off work and as a result some members felt they could not compete fair

and fully in the Society. The Chairman stated that all attempts would be made to play the majority of events at weekends and as such the quality of the venues may not be the best. It would also increase the cost as it was far more expensive to play at the weekends. It was decided that no more than 3 events would now be played on Fridays.

Food

It was decided that food was not necessary. The presentation of trophies would be in the venue's clubhouse

The meeting closed at 21:45.