



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SPARTA GOLF SOCIETY HELD AT BIRCHWOOD PARK GC ON 13 OCTOBER 2011

Those present:

Owen Hydes, Chair

Darren Cooper, Secretary

Mike Arney, Treasurer

Vince Rossiter

Alan Rowland

Steve Carter

Ray Owen

Phil Patten

Peter Gray

Phil Alker

Pete Frost

Matt Michael

Paul Goff

Kevin Mcanuff

Kevin Walsh

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

1.1 The Chairman gave a warm welcome to all. He commented on the good turnout for the AGM. He thanked members for the good turn out at all meetings during the year which had made the days very enjoyable and competitive. He also thanked the officers of the club who had ensured that the affairs of the Society ran smoothly. The Chairman mentioned that this was his last AGM as President after 14 years, and that Geoff Dawe will be the new President in 2012.

1.2 Special thanks went to

- Darren Cooper for work throughout the year.
- Mike Arney for his work on the accounts
- Vince Rossiter and James Donaldson for their work during the year
- And to Alan Rowland for being Captain

2 Apologies for absence

2.1 Apologies for absence had been received from Andrew Gardner, James Donaldson, Will Donaldson, Ian Dibbens, John Reeves, Len Kirton, Peter Millard, Tim Morgan, David Cooper, John Tranter and Peter D'Costa.

3 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

- 3.1** Comments were made that the attachments mentioned in the minutes had not been sent, and a couple of changes to be made to wording at 8.1. These were noted, the minutes of the 2010 AGM were then agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4 Matters Arising

- 4.1** There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the 2010 AGM.

5 Captain's Report by Alan Rowland

- 5.1** I have enjoyed my year as Captain and am pleased to have been able to bring good weather to the matches held this season. Our excellent website has plenty of detail regarding the various events but I will just pick out the main points from the games.

The Spring Meeting was held at Braintree in deepest Essex where we found the greens a bit tricky and the wind a bit blustery .The Addison Plate went to Maurice Rossiter, the Astor Cup to Mark Hitchen and new man Matt Wilson and the Woodgate Cup for best gross score to Will Donaldson who has equaled the record by achieving 6 consecutive wins. There is a challenge there for someone else to step in next year!

President's Day at Guildford turned into a Gray day as Peter scored a gross 75 for the President's Tankard and he also won the Lovell Salver playing off 11 which resulted in a cut in handicap. Despite this, paired with Darren Cooper, he won the Pepler Cup in the afternoon with an impressive 50 points. These wins brought Peter's total society wins to 30 and he has equaled the number of wins of one individual cup by taking the Lovell Salver 8 times.

At the meeting, Owen Hydes announced that he would be stepping down from the Presidency after many years, though nobody knew exactly how many! I also announced that Mark Kitchen had been pleased to accept the post of Captain for 2012.

The Summer Meeting was held at Thorndon Park and was notable for close scoring in all the matches where the winners were all determined on countback. This may have been due to the tricky greens and the presence of plenty of trees. Phil Mills won the Summer Cup whilst Will Donaldson won the Claret Jug and James Manning the Cook Cup. Around £400 was raised for David Cooper's charity in Africa.

Captain's Day took place at Hindhead where I was pleased to find that the front 9 had been cleared of a lot of vegetation which made the finding of errant balls easier. The greens were fast and the heather a constant factor. In the morning, Len Kirton won the Anniversary Cup but a par round in the afternoon gave Will Donaldson the Harrop Cup for the 36 holes. Pete Frost won the Queen's Jubilee Cup in the afternoon despite having back trouble in the morning. The Captain's special prize for best scoring on mystery holes went to Mike Arney.

For the Autumn Meeting we went to Wrotham Heath, a little known but interesting venue. It turned out to be a very good day for Ray Owen who shot the second best gross score in the morning to take the Robinson Bowl and the Spring/Autumn Adams Salver. Will Donaldson won the Chapman Cup for best gross score. In the afternoon the President's team almost wiped out my valiant side, only Mark Hitchen and his partner managed a win for us. The best pair score was achieved by Graham Hoy and Peter Millard.

The title of Golfer of the Year went to Will Donaldson on 175 points with Vince Rossiter second on 169 and Andrew Gardner third on 168. Vince Rossiter won the Mond Cup beating Doug Little at Birchwood Park on a slow day following two societies around the course.

It is sad to have to mention the death of John Richards who died on 8th May, not long after he played in the Spring Meeting. He had been a long standing member of the society and his quiet enjoyment of the game had increased since his retirement and his golf became even more consistent. Representatives of the Society attended his funeral.

I am sure you will all join me in thanking Owen Hydes very much for his long tenure of the post of President of the Society. The precise date he became President is something of a mystery but it is around 16 years ago. Geoff Dawe has been pleased to accept nomination for the post as Owen's successor.

As I mentioned above, Mark Hitchen will take over the captaincy next year bringing some young blood to the post after two pensioners have occupied the position and I wish him all the best. He cannot be here today at the AGM, using the flimsiest of excuses that he is on his honeymoon!

Finally, I would like to thank those who do the behind-the-scenes work that keeps the Society ticking, Darren Cooper, Mike Arney, Vince Rossiter, the Scorers and anyone else I have missed out.

6 Treasurer's Report

6.1 Happy to report that we have enjoyed another excellent year of golf which has been well supported by the members of our society.

My thanks go to our auditor David Boone for once again working on our accounts nice and quickly so that I could present completed audited accounts for our AGM.

As always the money collected by the membership fees has helped enabled us to play better than average courses and still, I hope, keep the prices at a reasonable level.

You can see from our Statement of Account below that we have a healthy closing balance. This is somewhat helped by

the fact that not having seen David Cooper for some time I am still holding the £395.02 raised for charity. In addition we also have to pay for today's AGM as well as the Hastings challenge match. This along with some outstanding deposits will eat away at most of the balance shown.

You will also see that as members we paid £8,384 in green fees and this should ensure that once again SPARTA will be more than happy in granting us our requested contribution for next year's meetings.

Finally, thanks to Darren for his assistance as secretary for collecting the cheques and getting them to me in time for banking etc. and thanks to all of you that have once again made it a very pleasant year of golfing in this society.

6.2 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 2010/11:-

INCOME		£'s	EXPENDITURE		£'s
Opening Balance (1st Oct 09)		£2,116.56	CSSC Fees		£60.00
SPARTA Contribution		£4,450.00	Prizes and Trophies		£489.00
SPARTA Fees		£178.00	Engraving Costs		£238.00
MEMBERSHIP Fees		£675.00	Competition Costs		£281.00
Society Contribution to Charity		£395.02	Fund Raising		£0.00
Green Fees Contribution		£8,384.40	Green Fees		£13,696.60
Misc		£0.00	Web Page		£206.75
			Closing Balance		£1,227.63
		TOTAL: £16,198.98			TOTAL: £16,198.98

6.3 There were no questions from the members for the Treasurer.

7 Motions

7.1 Motion 1 – Peter Millard: The events where the Society have a singles round and a pairs round, Peter’s recommendation was that the pairs round could be held in the morning and the singles in the afternoon.

7.1.1 After a general discussion, this motion was approved by the members and that it will be trialled at the Spring Meeting in 2012.

7.2 Motion 2 – John Reeves: To consider having a 9 hole Senior event in the morning.

7.2.1 This motion was not approved.

7.3 Motion 3 – Pete Frost: To change the name of the Challenge Trophy so that it says “In memory of Mike Pauley and John Richards”.

7.3.1 This motion was approved.

7.4 Motion 4 – Vince Rossiter: To amend the rules of the Mond Cup so that the Final can be played at a neutral venue if agreed by the players and a contribution to the green fee to be made by the Society.

7.4.1 This motion was agreed by the members and that a contribution of up to £50 per person for green fees was also agreed.

7.5 Motion 5 – Floor: A proposal was made from the floor to include the AGM round as part of the Golfer of the Year Trophy, to try and get more members to come to the AGM.

7.5.1 This motion was approved so that the Golfer of the Year will now be changed to the 5 best scores from 8.

7.6 Motion 6 – Floor: A proposal was made from the floor to change one of the greensomes rounds to foursomes.

7.6.1 This motion was approved by the members to be trialled at the Spring Meeting is 2012, and that the pairings to be drawn.

8 Election of Officers and Committee of the Society

8.1 Owen Hydes confirmed that Geoff Dawe would be taking over as President in 2012 and this had been agreed by the Committee. For other posts on the Committee there was only one nominee for each position so the following were elected unopposed:

Position	Nominees for 2012	Proposed by	Seconded by
Captain	<i>Mark Hitchen</i>	<i>Alan Rowland</i>	<i>Committee</i>
Vice Captain	<i>To be proposed by Captain</i>		<i>Considered and co-opted by Committee</i>
Secretary	<i>Darren Cooper</i>	<i>Vince Rossiter</i>	<i>Mike Arney</i>
Asst Secretary	<i>James Donaldson</i>	<i>Darren Cooper</i>	<i>Pete Frost</i>
Treasurer	<i>Mike Arney</i>	<i>Vince Rossiter</i>	<i>Darren Cooper</i>
General Committee	<i>Will Donaldson</i>	<i>Mike Arney</i>	<i>Phil Alker</i>
	<i>Pete Frost</i>	<i>Peter Gray</i>	<i>Ray Owen</i>
	<i>Vince Rossiter</i>	<i>Owen Hydes</i>	<i>Phil Patten</i>
Auditor	<i>David Boone</i>	<i>Mike Arney</i>	<i>Vince Rossiter</i>

9 Any Other Business

9.1 Events for 2011

The Secretary said that he had booked most of the venues for 2011. These were as follows:

- Tuesday 10 April – Hasting Challenge Match at Chart Hills GC
- Thursday 3 May Spring Meeting at Rochester&Cobham GC
- Friday 1 June President's Day at Farnham GC
- Friday 29 June Summer Meeting Dale Hill GC
- Friday 27 July Captain's Day at Burnham Beeches GC
- Autumn Meeting - TBA*

The Chairman thanked Darren for a schedule which looked very exciting.

9.2 Charity for 2012

It was suggested that the charity to consider for next year would be the British Heart Foundation, in memory of John Richards.

As there were no other nominations for a charity, the SGS would support the Charity during 2012, and that Mike Arney would write to John Richard's brother to let him know.

9.3 Awards

The Secretary's Cup was won by Vince Rossiter with 42 points and Mike Arney was runner-up with 41 points.

10 Close

- 10.1** There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 4.45pm.

October 2011

** Autumn meeting later arranged for Burstead GC, Essex on 7 September 2012*