

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES REPORT



Meeting Date: 7th July 2025 7.00 pm.

In Attendance

Paul Davis – Captain (PD) / David Dudley (DD) – Vice Captain / John Burnett (JB) Handicap Secretary / Rob Ashfield (RA) / Craig Andrews (CA) / Neil Beech (NB) / Alan Ratcliffe (AR) Club Secretary / Jason Dudley (JD) – Outgoing Captain / Matt Highway (MH)

Apologies

Terry German (TG) – Treasurer / Peter Furnival – President / Nick Hirst (NH)

Minutes of last meeting

These were accepted.

Correspondence

None

Suggestion Box

- 1) Rearrange Steelman for August to increase uptake. – committee reviewed but concluded the ethos of the competition was for a January 1st date, hence the name.
- 2) Captains Breakfast can this be changed to a midday Cavery and have a later start time. Issues with cost, tee time availability, will move the question to the Management Meeting and allow PD to discuss with Adrian on costs and viability. Also may be put to an AGM vote.

Matters Arising

Matters still outstanding; -

See AOB for carry over from the previous meeting.

Captains Report

On Sunday 1st June we held the JR Bailey major competition with 52 entries competing.

Congratulations to Neil Beech winning with a net score of 67 points

On Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th we held a midweek front 9 Stableford competition with 9 entries, congratulations to Mark Hull winning with 19 points.

On Sunday 15th June we held the anniversary shield major competition with 53 entries spread.

Congratulations to Ken Jones who beat our club president Pete on countback with 41 points.

On Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd we held a Stableford competition spread across 2 divisions with 36 entries.

Congratulations to Dave Simeon winning division 1 with 38 points and Dave Beale winning division 2 with 35 points.

On Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th we held a midweek Stableford competition with 25 entries, Congratulations to Marc Land with the win with 40 points.

On Sunday 29th we held the captains breakfast competition with 48 entries with a very early 6.30am shotgun start.

Congratulations to Matty Jackson with the win on countback with 40 points and thank you to Amanda our lady captain attending.

I must admit that it was an amazing breakfast in which i have received numerous compliments to Adrian and the staff.

On Sunday 8th June our vice-captain Dave Dudley held our annual invitation day with an amazing attendance of 85 golfers, well done Dave for hosting a great day.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to our senior captains away day at Handsworth golf club, I must say that it was a brilliant day and was very well organised by Steve and his team so thank you for the day

Lastly it saddens me to see Simon our head green keeper leaving us, but it has now been published that Wayne is our new head greenkeeper, and I am sure that he will do a great job for us.

Paul Davis

Club Captain.

Income & Expenditure report

No update for this month.

Handicap / Competitions report.

My apologies for not having the results of the Club Championship and Secretary's Bowl completed, there has been a technical error within the system which I will be looking into.

I would like to raise three questions in connection to Club Championship and Secretary's Bowl 2026.

1. Will we allow Buggy's in any major competitions, *Committee agreed to only restrict them for the Club / Secretary; s Bowl and Calderfields Cup due to the significance / rewards of these comps.*

2. Split the two competitions up – Many members were telling me they only wanted to play in the Secretary's Bowl. *Committee – difficult to split up as they are two-day events and having them together helps the prize amounts for both comps as well as the fact we are not requiring members to find two full weekends to participate in the comps.*

3. Could the competition/s be run in one day - some members find it hard to commit to playing two days due to commitments, it may stop a lot of members dropping out leading up to the day and overnight. Suggest R1 in the morning R2 in the afternoon and have light entertainment after, with a choice of food available. *Committee felt this was how it previously was held but found less people entering as two rounds in one day is a big ask both time wise and physically and was moved to a 2-day event.*

The Matchplay Knockouts are going to plan and being monitored.

I have had the information from Adrian now so I will be able to complete the 2nd quarter for Terry and complete the winners list for Alan.

I have investigated the women joining the men's competitions and if I set 3 divisions it will automatically set the handicap indexes. I will carry on investigating as there may be another way round it.

I was a bit disappointed in the response to an email I sent out to the committee and only received 4 replies. I'm finding it difficult to speak to someone at the club as they seem to be doing other stuff, due to staffing problems.

I will decide on the outcome of this meeting if I will be attending every meeting in the future or I may do every other one, as nothing really changes, we hold meetings every month and seem to discuss the same thing over and over when it involves anything from the club side. To be perfectly honest with what I've been hearing and seeing I feel as if the members are only needed or thought of when there are no functions on.

John Burnett

Handicap secretary.

Handicap sub-committee to assist John will be Alan Ratcliffe, Rob Ashfield and Nick Hirst.

Greens Report

On 28th May head green keeper Simon Farmer left his role at the club and was replaced by former assistant Wayne Petty on the 2nd of June first in a temporary capacity which has now become permanent. Wayne brings a wealth of experience to the role having been in various Green keeping roles across 5 clubs across the midlands over 28 years. He also has good knowledge of our course having been here in various areas for a few years already.

It was another record-breaking month for weather as we had a total of 234 hours of sunshine in June whereas the average is usually 171 hours. The monthly rainfall was a low 37.1mm compared to the usual average of around 65mm. These factors have impacted the course resulting in very dry areas all throughout the course.

Wayne and his team combined with both Adrian and Dan have been watering greens 2-3 times a day during these testing conditions. Since Wayne began, he has been verti-cutting the greens weekly to improve grass quality and promote growth on areas that require it. The greens were cut to 5mm for the first 2 weeks of June then from 16th they were fertilised and cut to 4mm. Wetting agent and heavy watering have been occurring almost every day since.

The fertiliser has taken very well, and much better colour is across all greens. The 2nd, 6th, 7th, 8th, 13th and 14th are noticeably worse off but this is due to only having 3 active sprinklers per green instead of the required 4 for full coverage so they are being watered by hand but not responding the way they would to regular sprinklers on them.

The final week of June all greens were solid tined over 2 days to get air circulation to root and help water absorption to a greater depth. M & W did soil core samples across a few greens in various locations to see water depth and some areas of greens only had 1 inch of water absorption and not the 5-6 mm where the roots are located. These areas are the brown areas of the greens and is a sign of how the roots are dry and distressed. Wayne is very confident however that with a bit more rain the greens will be in a good place in the coming months.

Fairways and tees are being cut to a standard length across the course f(15mm) and t(12mm).

A couple of greens (11&17) have been reduced in size back to their original design due to the extended areas being unable to use for playing areas due to the poor nature of the grass covering.

The new signage is out on the course and looking good and Wayne has asked to thank everyone for there in help in the installation of it.

We are currently in the process of recruiting another full-time member of green staff so the current team of 3 are doing there upmost to keep it in a good condition.

Wayne has asked if we can remind members about pitch marks and they're repair because he's noticed that a lot more have appeared in recent weeks.

Some jobs around the course have been listed to do but at the moment their priorities are watering and cutting until the weather eases off a little.

Wayne is hoping to set up a long-term Verti drain program every September and March to improve the greens even further so a greater depth of water levels can be obtained.

Matt Highway – Committee Leader, David Dudley and Craig Andrews

A.O.B.

Arranged in subject sections.

Handicap / Competition questions

July

DD – Can the summer KO comps be staggered to prevent congestion of matches, committee felt there wasn't sufficient time within the summer (long nights) period to do this but would look to extend finishing dates from a Sunday to a Friday to prevent clashes with weekend comps.

General – to be brought up at next Management Meeting by President / Captain and reported back to committee.

Can something be done about the service at the members end of the bar as members are still having to wait to be served – Can the partition be pulled across as before, this may help with reducing the number of carvery diners taking up the seats in the golfer's lounge (Alans Bar).

JB and PD – On Bank holiday there was no food available for members due to a wedding event, leaving them disappointed and some questioning if it's better to not stop behind but go elsewhere or move to other clubs.

PD – Exit gate, move electric gate to rear entrance.

NH – Thanked John for doing the Raffle tickets on the Race Night, disappointed with the lack of representation from members, was this due to it being on a Saturday?

July

JD – Shop was empty for while whilst I was there, surely there should always be someone in the shop.

PD – Will ask Adrian to reference Captains Away Day on BRS messages – 29th August (£44).

Pathways overgrowing and getting narrower, trees on 16th overhanging.

JB – Ditch on 16th from tee down the left side, can we remove red stakes or clean out the ditch, was suggested members could help staff to clean out. Note it has since been decided to temporary class the ditch as OB until staff have time to clean the area up.

Wildflower seeds, can we have an update on the condition of these seeds or have the money we paid out returned?

AR – New boards falling over, what is the plan to reestablish them and prevent then falling over again.

Course – to be actioned by Greens and reported back to committee.

NB – Conifers 7th & 11th need “Lolli popping” – note PD will be looking to assist with this. General tree maintenance and grass length between trees, i.e. 14th.

July

RA, the stakes around the drainage pool on the 2nd fairway need repainting yellow as they are mistaken for OB stakes from a distance

Updates /News.

Following discussions about the effectiveness of monthly meeting and very often lack of feedback / response from the management it was decided to trial having the meeting every other month to fit around the Management meetings. Any urgent business in between these times can be raised either via WhatsApp group or by phone.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Next meeting

Monday 1st September – 7.00pm