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Gwent Golf Union



gwentgolfunion.org.uk

Minutes of the GGU Council Meeting held at Greenmeadow Golf Club **Tuesday 10th September 2019**

Before commencing the meeting the Honorary Secretary apologised for sending out the Agenda and the Minutes of the April Council meeting with the old Gwent website address. Since transferring from the old web site address in June 2019 we have experienced a problem with the old address of gwentgolfunion.eu whereby it appeared to have been hacked with pornographic content. When we approached the Domain Name provider to see if the site could be taken down they informed us that after we relinquished the domain name in June another person had acquired the domain name and was using it to host a pornographic site.

The Honorary Secretary requested everyone ensure that they were using the new county web site address of gwentgolfunion.org.uk

1) **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from:
Mr. Ray Hughes, Mr. Mike Hanner, Mr. Mike Buckley, Mr. Tony Groves.

There were 5 Gwent Clubs represented at the meeting:
Bryn Meadows, Greenmeadow, Pontnewydd, Pontypool, St. Pierre

2) **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held at Greenmeadow Golf Club on Tuesday 9th April 2019 were approved as a true record.

Proposed: Alistair Pannell

Seconded: Mike Nightingale

3) **MATTERS ARISING:**

There were no matters arising out of those minutes.

4) **REPORTS:**

a) **Hon. Treasurer**

The Hon. Secretary reported that since the last meeting the Honorary Treasurer Mr. Robin Jones has resigned from the post and the county were currently without a Treasurer. The Hon. Secretary announced the following balances in the Unions accounts. The Business Notice Account balance stood at £20,840.34 and the Current Account balance was £27,151.88.

There are still 3 Channel League match expenses, 2 Wessex League match expenses, one Seniors Channel League match expenses together with three Junior Channel League match expenses to be drawn on the Current Account. The Hon. Secretary stated that the county had been hoping to have kitted out the 1st and 2nd teams with new clothing this year but because we didn't have stable squads in either group it was decided to leave it until next year and as the items were quite expensive we needed assurance that players would be committed to playing for the county.

b) League Secretary

In the absence of the League Secretary the Hon Secretary stated that there would be a Division 7 in the Leagues next season. There are 3 new teams who have expressed a wish to join the leagues and they are a third team from Woodlake Park, a first team from the Rolls of Monmouth, and a fourth team from St. Pierre.

A unique situation has arisen in the leagues for next season whereby Newport will have three teams in the 2nd Division.

The decision was taken at the Executive meeting last week that the rule will be applied that the teams concerned will have to play all their match (home & away) before they play any other team in the league. There was no restriction as to how many of these matches they play per week.

c) Match Secretary

The Match Secretary Mr. Roger Floyd reported on the Channel, Wessex, and Seniors Channel League matches that had taken place to date.

Channel League

In the Channel League Gwent got their season off to a good start with a win against Cornwall at Llanwern by 8½ points to 6½.

Gwent's 2nd Channel League match was against Glamorgan away at Pyle & Kenfig where they lost heavily by 11½ points to 3½.

Their 3rd match was against Wiltshire at Cumberwell Park where Gwent were defeated by 10 points to 5.

In their 4th match at home to Somerset at Monmouthshire GC Gwent were again defeated by 9 points to 6.

Gwent now have two matches left in the Channel League. The first is against Devon at Newport GC and the second is away to Gloucestershire at Cotswold Hills. Two wins would give Gwent a reasonable end to the season.

Wessex League

Gwents 2nd team began their Wessex League season with a home match against Glamorgan at Pontypool GC. Gwent were narrowly defeated by 6½ points to 5½.

In their 2nd match Gwent were away to Somerset at the Isle of Wedmore where they lost by 8 points to 4.

Gwent 2nd teams final match is against Gloucestershire at Woodlake Park in October.

Seniors Channel League

The Gwent Seniors team began their season with a convincing win against Cornwall by 10½ points to 4½ at Llanwern.

Gwent Seniors continued their winning ways with a victory against Somerset at Newport by 9½ points to 5½.

In their 4th match Gwent were away to Glamorgan at Pyle & Kenfig which was expected to be a very tough match.

Gwent managed to emerge victors by 8 points to 7 against a strong Glamorgan team.

Gwents next match against Wiltshire at Salisbury & South Wilts had to be abandoned due to a water logged course and is yet to be replayed.

Gwent Seniors lost their unbeaten run by losing to Devon Seniors by 8½ points to 6½ at Monmouthshire.

Their final match of the season is against Gloucestershire away at Brickhampton Court.

d) Championship Secretary

In the absence of the Championship Secretary the Hon Secretary gave the following report on the results of the seasons championships:

Cock'o'North

The Cock 'o' North was played at the Parc Golf Club and was won by Sam Boulter and John Sussex of Wernddu Golf Club with a net medal score of 60.

The runners up were David Quartermain and Ryan Donovan of Bryn Meadows Golf Club with a net medal score of 62.

GGU Strokeplay Championship

The Strokeplay Championship was played at The Rolls of Monmouth on Sunday 16th June where we had an entry of just 28 players. The winner was Dan Bearcroft of Llanwern Golf Club with scores of 73,74 total 147. In second place was Rhys Barber of Newport with scores of 75,73 total 148. In third place was Ieuan Phillips of Newport with scores of 75,75 total 150.

GGU Team Championship

The Team Championship was played at Pontypool Golf Club where the host club were the winners of the gross team cup with a score of 286 and also the Arthur Sadler Cup for the best net team score of 265.

Best individual gross score winning the W.P.R. Peters Cup was Gareth Davies of Pontypool with a gross 68.

Best individual net score winning the Ivor Williams Trophy was Nathan Blandford of Pontypool with a gross 69, off 6 handicap, net 63.

GGU Handicap Team Championship

The Handicap Team Championship was played at Monmouth Golf Club where the home club turned out to be the victors with a team stableford score of 140 points. Second were St. Pierre with a score of 134 points, and in third place were Bryn Meadows with 128 points. These three clubs will go forward to the Welsh Handicap Team Championship in 2020 at the Celtic Manor.

GGU Matchplay Championship

The Gwent Matchplay Champion for 2019 is Dafydd Rowberry of Llanwern who defeated Theo Baker of the Celtic Manor on the 19th hole. The semi finalists were Richard Tayler of Llanwern and Ieuan Phillips of Newport.

e) Boys Secretary

Since the last meeting the Gwent Junior Leagues have been played throughout the summer. The two Leagues consist of four teams in each league and three players representing each club. We have also incorporated an Order of Merit for individual players which is very keenly contested.

The Gwent Inter Club Junior Championship is being held at Pontypool Golf Club on Sunday 22nd September. Unfortunately only 5 clubs have sufficient junior members to play in this tournament. The winning club will go forward to represent Gwent in the Welsh Junior Inter Club Championship at Builth Wells on Wednesday 30th October.

In the U18 Channel League Gwent boys have played 3 matches and won 2. Having defeated Glamorgan and Wiltshire they lost to Gloucestershire. Their remaining match is against Somerset U18's at Weston-super-Mare next Sunday.

The U16 Channel League have not fared so well having played two matches and losing both. They still have a home match against Somerset U16 at the Parc GC and a rearranged fixture with Wiltshire away to be played.

In the Severnside Tournament which was hosted by Worcestershire this year at the Worcestershire Golf and Country Club Gwent finished in 2nd place to Worcestershire, ahead of Glamorgan and Gloucestershire.

f) Wales Golf Representative

There was no representative from the Wales Golf.

g) Honorary Secretary

Membership

The Honorary reported he was unable to give the total membership figures for 2019 as two clubs are having difficulty in paying their fees

.5) CORRESPONDENCE

There has been no formal correspondence received since the last meeting.

6) CHAIRMANS REMARKS

It's disappointing that some clubs do not enter the county championships. It is frustrating when clubs pull out at the last minute and some do not even bother to turn up which causes chaos with tee times.

I would like to thank all clubs who hosted the events and all the people who helped run the competitions on the day.

The presentation of trophies will be immediately after the AGM and the county will provide a buffet after the presentations have been completed.

At the GGU Executive Meeting last week the decision was taken to relax the counties stance on not permitting shorts in any of its county championships.

Smart tailored shorts will now be allowed in all county championships for 2020.

No cargo shorts, no beach shorts, and no camouflaged shorts will be permitted.

7) COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS

Bryn Meadows

Mr Roger Giles reported that the course is in good condition and their membership is slightly down. The beginner ladies and juniors are progressing well. The two lady professionals are doing an excellent job.

Greenmeadow

Mr. Mike Nightingale stated that the course was in good condition and they've managed to get more ladies joining the ladies section. The club is encouraging the junior section by presenting a shortened course with the use of blue tees.

Pontnewydd

Mr. Dean Webb reported that Pontnewydd had struggled with their team golf this year with their 1st and 2nd teams losing players to other clubs.

Pontypool

Mr. Graham Burch reported that the course was in good condition and the greens have improved really well this summer. Pontypool have appointed a new professional Leon Warne who is taking a keen interest in promoting junior golf at the club.

St. Pierre

Mr. Alan Tapp reported that St. Pierre was in the best condition that its been in for many years. They enjoyed hosting the Welsh Team Championships in August and their team performed very well losing in the semi-final to the eventual winners Mountain Ash. They now have a new club professional Jack Roberts. They've lost a few juniors over the recent years but are gradually building the section up again.

8) DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING :

AGM: Tuesday 11th February 2020 – Greenmeadow GC 7:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES Approx 9:00 p.m.

BUFFET Approx 9:30 p.m.