

BLANKNEY GOLF CLUB
MINUTES of the COMMITTEE MEETING
held on Tuesday 4th June 2024 at 4pm in the Clubhouse.

Present:

Chairman – Lynda Ramskar, **Club Captain** – Simon Smith, **Ladies Captain** – Sue Battle, **General Manager** – Alec Bradley, **Course Manager** - Vacant, **Fixtures Sec** – Kev O'Rourke, **Secretary** - Anne Smith, **Treasurer** – Richard Tasker, **Vice-Captain** – Kev Jackson, **House & Social** – Gordon Mould, **Comps Sec** – Dave Marriott, **Handicap Sec** – John Dempster, **Junior Organiser**—~~Chris Wood~~, **Senior's Captain** – Graham Fletcher, **Past Captain** - ~~Nigel Saunders~~, **Welfare Officer**—~~Simon Tindall~~. **Blankney Estates** – ~~Lizzie Taylor~~.

Apologies: Chris Wood, Nigel Saunders, Lizzie Taylor, Simon Tindall.

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

BGC Ltd Update

All is on track for completion this week. Both BEL and BGC Ltd have prepared statements which will be emailed out to members to confirm that the deal is over the line. Exciting times.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 7th May 2024 were agreed and approved.

Proposed by: Captain and seconded by: Vice Captain

Matters arising from the last meeting:

Captains Weekend allocation of funds – The Seniors Captain presented a case detailing reasons why an increase to £500 should be considered; the case was discussed, and it was also established that there were sufficient funds available. There then followed a vote and the motion was carried, to increase this allowance to £500 on the understanding that this was only for this year. A review of expenditure will take place by BGC Ltd.

Junior Organiser update DBS training – Complete

Club Invitation Day food options and costs – Complete see GM Report

11th Fairway semi-rough cut either side of the track – Complete see GM Report

Missing Ladies Birdie Tree – Found and returned to Ladies locker room.

Correspondence

Nil

Treasurer Report

Expenditure since last meeting:

20.05.24	Transfer to new BGC Ltd	1000
28.05.24	Bramley 1 st round food	64
28.05.24	Ladies League match coffee	7

Income:

07.05.24	200 Club entry monies from BE	2140.00
08.05.24	Comps Levy's from BE	562.20
31.05.24	Credit unclaimed 200 club prizes 2023	30.00

Net funds available @ 31.05.24 = £12490.27 (including Ladies Section £2539.07)

Comps Levy's due from BE = £310.30

Team wear invoice outstanding from Pro Shop £600. But awaiting payments from A & B team players

Note - The Treasurer has updated the 200 Club rules to bring them in line with the current club subscription year; draws will take place from June to December. All winners will be notified in the Club bulletin.

Competitions Secretary Report

Highs

Very successful King Charles Waltz, 30 teams of 3, mixed.

Successful Mixed Friendly Match with Newark (7 pairs) held at Blankney on Friday 10th May 2024, with Blankney being victorious 5 ½ - 1 ½. Dave Coucill is trying to arrange further mixed friendly fixtures during the year, home and away.

Discussions

I did not cater for a 2's pot in the 4BBB, however, proshop paid out on them before consultation. Apparently 'we always have a 2s pot' – can we discuss.

Note - It was agreed that for Gents individual and pairs competition there will be a 2s pot.

Results not reported are the Open competitions and the Roll ups, input from Nige and Proshop for future reports would be appreciated, suggest copying the finance sheet to me when sending to Richard?

Note - Results of Opens and Roll ups are available on HowDidIDo. Pro shop requested to clarify Roll up finances is a levy applied to Roll ups?

Action - General Manager to confirm and apply levy if not already in place.

June - the Sunrise Stableford has been moved to the 29th June (was the 15th). This was due to no cooks being available for the breakfast. Good reason why as the second cook had already booked that

time off before starting to work for BGC. However, I'd like to take this as an opportunity to discuss the 'core hours' for provision of food in the club house

Note - Due to the imminent transition to a Members Club, the provision of food will be under the new entity's control.

We have the Club Invitation Day on the 9th June. 13 Gents' pairs and 10 Ladies pairs have signed up so far. As a result, I have put a list of June competitions on the notice board to advertise.

Captains' Weekend

The following questions/points were raised in the comps sub-committee meeting for consideration

1. Is any help needed on HDID from comps people?
2. Shot gun start, playing 3 balls or 4 balls?
3. Will Saturday entrants pay for food?
4. Presentation Sunday at Hog roast – prizes only to those present?
5. Will the prize table be re-instated?
6. Are 5 qualifying scores required? Is it a qualifier

Note - See Captains Report.

I have been contacted by LUGC reference an entry into the Presidents Day competitions at Woodhall Spa on the 22nd August 2024, the entry must be the winner of a Gents stableford competition held in April or May. It was decided that the Wilson Cup winner will be the member who qualifies for this competition.

Fixtures Report

Gents Friendly Matches

I have contacted both Worksop and Belton Park to request matches for 2025. Worksop appear open to a biannual fixture, home one year and away the next. Tbc later in the year. No response from Belton Park yet. We already have arranged new Gents matches with Spalding, to be played during August.

The current matches are going along nicely, recent matches being played with Woodhall Spa, Gainsborough, Newark and Lincoln. There was also a mixed pairs match with Newark.

Handicaps Report

Handicaps are going smooth even through the changeover to the new system. I have had a couple of queries regarding Handicap changes due to the better ball scores, but once I showed them the calculations, they seemed happy or just confused.

Action – Handicap Secretary to draft item for the bulletin which clarifies how playing handicaps are calculated for competitions.

Course Manager Report

Height of cut all down to our Summer lengths now; greens 3.5mm, tees and collars 12mm, fairways 14mm, 2 laps around fairway & green 37.5mm rough 75mm but still growing with our recent wet and humid weather.

Rainfall for May 71mm.

Priority for the next few weeks, in no particular order:

- 1 Application of fertiliser to the greens.
- 2 Application of wetting agent to the greens.
- 3 Verti Cut to greens.
- 4 Strimming of Trees.
- 5 Strimming of bunkers.

Great to be back up to 5 green staff from Monday 3rd June, this will ease the load on the team.

General Manager's Report:

Actioned: LUGC Officials have been on site twice this month measuring greens and course rating aspects. Thank you to Simon Smith who assisted on May 20th.

Actioned: Oliver Wells is helping the greenkeepers by refilling seed/soil pots.

Actioned: Invitation day (club) food options discussed and agreed.

Actioned: All BGC staff have met with the new club directors to grasp and understand the plan/journey were all on, together.

Actioned: Course rating board has now been updated.

Actioned: Fairway has been blended in on hole 11 as requested, this is where the road was surrounded by semi rough.

Actioned: Range ball supply has increased from member donations. Thank you to all who did so.

Actioned: Locks and security screens updated and installed for F and B staff to feel safe in the evenings.

Mark has introduced new fairway double cutting with stripes and a new way to rake bunkers. Really improving the overall presentation with Tees/Aprons/Fairways and Greens, which are now at 3.5mm. Overseeder on site for 1 day earlier in May.

A new greenkeeper starts with us on Monday 3rd June, the team will be back up to five. Richard Parsons joins us from Holme Hall where he has worked for the bulk of his greenkeeping life. An ideal appointment to ease the pressure on course cutting i.e. rough.

Irrigation system upgrade has been pushed back to Autumn 2024, Wroot Water will be involved.

2nd Pond repair is ongoing with Blankney Estates team starting the work next week w/c 3rd June. The lining is compromised and will be repaired, from there we look to refill hazard.

Smarter Open competition approach for 2025, time to make radical changes. Every club is having to think differently.

Action – Competitions Secretary to contact Past Captain (Open Organiser) to arrange a meeting.

A more planned approach when ordering team wear in the future, nothing major just working smarter.

Ladies' beginner class continues to thrive with another blocked session planned to go ahead.

Saturday morning Junior class returning.

A very busy month with lots of positive remarks on course condition.

Captains Report

May was busy with Gents friendlies, a Mixed friendly and Club v Ladies. Mostly well supported and played in a good atmosphere. Lots of positive feedback on the course from visitors and members alike. The Captains' Charity Quiz (7 Jun) has been postponed until late summer/autumn due to a lack of entries/support.

The Lincolnshire Seniors Championship will be held at Blankney on Thursday the 4th July, committee to be aware that the LUGC may require assistance on the day.

Captains' Weekend Plan

Individual Stableford; played from yellow and red tees respectively. Non-Qualifier, pick own groups, 5-day members' welcome.

No entry fee, although a donation to the Captains' Charity would be appreciated.

Sun 7 Jul - Main day – Shotgun Start (3/4 balls) – Hog Roast – Live Music – “Bar” – Prize Table – winners will receive prizes whether there or not.

Sat 6 Jul – Members not available on the 7th July are welcome to book a tee time as part of the Captain's weekend, also welcome on Sunday for presentation/food/entertainment if available.

Ladies Section

The Ladies section have re- introduced Dawn to Dusk competitions for the summer months. There are more ladies signing up for the 9-hole competitions. The ladies have donated a 1944 trophy to be awarded to the player who scores 44 points or more in a competition. A collection was taken for John Hart for a leaving gift from the ladies and a bottle of English whiskey and Celtic football strip purchased. The plant sale was a success and £150.50 was raised.

Senior Section

We have been approached by Market Rasen to arrange a friendly match. Several fixtures played in June; Stoke Rochford away - lost, Boston, away – win, South Kyme – cancelled & Carholme, home – win.

Junior Section

Not too much going on in the Juniors world to report back on ... I still need to have a session on strategy which I will try and sort with Alec and Ollie now the Junior Lessons are starting up again.

I am also booked on the Safeguarding in Golf Course on the evening of the 23rd of July the next available slot. £35.

House & Social

House:

I have asked General Manager to ask the Estate to fit a lock on the door leading to bottom dining room and to find the code for the keypad lock on the Pro shop store so that it can be locked. This will make the Bar staff job easier and make them more secure when working alone and locking up. These two doors need to be checked & locked by the pro shop when they leave for the day, this ensures these rooms are secure for the Bar staff. I have also asked for the camera monitor screen behind the bar to be fixed to add to the safety of the bar staff, when cashing up and securing the club house at the end of their shift.

Note – See General Manager Report

Social:

I have booked several socials event so far for 2024 with 2025 still to come. I have various ideas for these nights to keep the members interested.

July 12th Golfer – Non-Golfer

Aug 17th Singer/ Musician Colin Stevens. £10 per head.

September 21st Casino Night, Black Tie & Posh Frocks event. Chance for all to Dress up, 4 tables have been booked, Roulette, Blackjack, Poker & Wheel of Fortune. Themed room set up and Croupiers are part of the deal. Cost will be £25 per head which will include food (to be confirmed) and £10 worth of gambling chips to start everyone's evening off. Further gambling chips will be available to purchase on the night.

December 21st Christmas Party - Sax Jaxs - singer saxophonist £10 per head.

Any Other Business

The Chairman informed the committee that there were reports of Buggies kept in the compound had been damaged and petrol syphoned from them.

Action – General Manager (GM) to install a camera which covers the compound.

The Seniors Captain requested that the compressor area be cleaned.

Action – GM

The Seniors Captain asked for confirmation of where decision making powers of the BGC committee end and those of BGC Ltd begin, what is the new hierarchy? The Chairman stated that the GM is the point of contact for all members, the GM then reports to the BGC Ltd board of directors.

The Seniors Captain asked how many members are there in 2024 vs 2023.

Action – GM

The Seniors Captain asked if there will be an Agronomist report planned for later in the year, the benefits of the of the previous reports are tangible.

Action - GM

The Seniors Captain asked for detail of any Schafer bugs plans in place for this year. The GM stated that there is a plan in place with the intention to spray again this year.

House & Social (HS) representative informed the committee that there were visitors booked on to the BRS system on a Saturday before it went live to the members.

Action – GM

Competitions Secretary (CS) informed the committee that the previous Sunday Gents competitions there were visitors booked in for the same tee time as the afternoon competition entries.

Action – GM

The Treasurer stated that the Clubhouse clock still seems to work intermittently, can this be investigated.

Action – GM

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 5.40pm.

Date of Next meeting

Tuesday 2nd July at 4pm.

Per AS v 22.06.24