

Barnard Castle Golf Club.

Management Meeting.

Tuesday 22nd Aug 2023

Attendees:

Colin MacLeod, Geoff Wall, Andy Hall, Graham West, Tony Buckley, Joy Pallister, Dianne Wilkinson, Yvonne Carr

1) Apologies

Craig Hamilton

2) Minutes of last meeting.

Proposed: Geoff Wall

Seconded: Andy Hall

3) Actions List

Action list reviewed and updated.

4) Updates

1. Chairperson

- Options continue to be pursued concerning vacant Treasurer position. Role currently being covered by Chairperson (Colin).
- Membership numbers currently are at 471 against budget of 472. Changes v pervious year: -

Subscription Category	Budget		Δ
	2023 / 2024	Actual 18-Aug-23	
5 Day	15	10	-5
9 hole	8	17	9
Honary	8	14	6
Adult	297	263	-34
Young Adult 26 - 28	13	10	-3
Country	29	33	4
CASC	4	5	1
Intermediate 22-25	9	4	-5
Student	0	5	5
Junior (12 -21)	20	20	0
Octogenarian	21	25	4
Pay and Play	19	37	18
Social 2	14	11	-3
Staff	2	2	0
Junior under 12	13	11	-2
Medical Suspended Memberships	0	4	4
	472	471	-1

- Financial performance for first quarter achieved budget.
- AGM scheduled for Friday 15th September.
 - **2020 – 2022** (18-month period) and **2022 – 2023** accounts to be posted on club notice board, by Tuesday 30th August (**Action: Colin**)

- Notification of AGM to be sent to all members via e-mail by Tuesday 30th August **(Action: Colin)**

2. Admin

- Mid-year Health and Safety Audit took place on 08 August 2023. Dr Juliette Lowe is pleased with the work that has been completed over the last 6 months by Greens and Clubhouse building/grounds.
- Emergency procedure document in place for committee information.
- Feedback from visiting parties has been consistently good for both organisation and Greens. Many compliments have been passed to Greenkeeping staff.
- Quarterly review with Caterers to be carried out **(Action: Geoff / Lisa)**.
- Safeguarding board has been put in the main lobby with appropriate information and certificates displayed.
- Work underway with Golf England on new Equality and Diversity Policy.
- Still awaiting new car park signs from William Smiths - Signs to be expedited **(Action: Lisa)**
- Letter sent to HGK and team highlighting quality of the course.

3. Welfare

- England Golf's "Respect in Golf" initiative currently being implemented **(Action: Joy)**
- All Welfare policies to be posted on club's noticeboard **(Action: Joy)**

4. Greens Report

WEATHER

The last week of July and throughout August has seen extremely unseasonal weather, resulting in the course being closed for 6 days. A total of 179 mm (7 inches) of rain fell, with average temperatures of 16 degrees provided lots of growth in all areas of the course – a challenge for the team to keep on top of. This, coupled with it being the team's main holiday period meant resource concentrated mainly on mowing and blowing.

GREENS

With the volume of rain over the last 5 weeks, we have seen the greens soften up substantially. Putting surfaces therefore, have not been as good as expected and a little bumpy / bobbly due to wheel and footprint. Use of both granular and liquid feeds, trace element liquids and wetting agents have maintained a good coverage of grass and latest granular feed should be applied w/c 21-Aug, (weather permitting). Weekly verti-cutting has been carried out as much as possible when dry enough. **AUTUMN MAINTENANCE is scheduled for TUESDAY 5th and WEDNESDAY 6th of September** - the front 9 will be closed on the Tuesday and the back 9 closed on the Wednesday, whilst hollowcoring, clean up, overseed and top dress the playing surfaces are carried out.

Unrepaired pitch marks are back on the increase... Members are reminded to repair their pitchmarks and if possible one more where someone has left.

APRONS / approaches

The aprons have come back strongly in the last 6 weeks due to the rainfall and temperatures. Fertiliser and wetting agents were applied to give them a boost. Unfortunately some members are still seen driving their buggies straight up to the green. *****all buggy users are reminded to refrain from driving over the aprons***.**

TEE Boxes

Levelling of the 7th white tee is planned by the end of the month (weather dependant) - *work has been suspended twice due to lengthy wet periods.* The tee will be reseeded rather than turfing, therefore

members are requested to keep off until fully grown in. Hollowcoring and top dressing of several tees will take place during the Autumn Maintenance.

FAIRWAYS

All fairways have come back strong from the drought and with the aid of a little liquid fertiliser and lots of rain we have seen a lot of growth - too much in fact and are now mowing 3 times per week until the weather balances out. Divotting days for volunteers during Autumn Maintenance will be scheduled - members who can donate some of their time during this period as asked to advise the pro shop of their availability. The drainage issues on the 17th will be investigated in October with a view to adding new drainage and gullies to aid quicker relief. *The main issue is that the outlets in the ditch are below the water level after prolonged heavy rain.*

BUNKERS

Due to the wet weather and increased growth we have paused our bunker renovations but will resume late September / early October. You may have noticed we have changed our bunker raking method where we flat rake sides and rough up the bottoms – this is to aid the ball rolling off the face down to the flatter bottoms to prevent plugging and improve player stance etc.

Finally concerning Green's staff safety, in the last 3 weeks there has been 11 near misses relating to golfers hitting balls whilst Green's staff are either driving towards them or facing the other way. This is due in the main, to members not waiting until they are out of the way or at safe distance. Members are reminded that Green's staff have priority and they should be allowed time to complete their task and give way to members.

5. Competitions

- The two postponed competitions have been rearranged - The Club Championship for the 3rd Sept and the August Cup for the 16th Sept.
- Draft underway for 2024 fixture list.
- 2024 Open competitions will be posted on the club's website and Golf Empire by the end of August.
- The July Open weekend went smoothly – The budget income was achieved.
- The Senior Opens continue to be exceptionally well supported – the last two events exceeding budgeted income.
- Positive feedback continues to be received in the shop concerning the course and the course condition.
- The club competitions continue to be well supported with income to the club from April to August being to budgeted income.

6. Shop

- Staffing remains haphazard, as the club relies heavily on volunteers and the goodwill of a few members. A review of hours required, and a more "formal" staffing plan is required in advance of the Winter season (**Action: Colin / Craig**)
- Shop sales, April through July have been above budgeted income.
- The shop has supplied all team colours at cost price and has also donated significantly to raffle prizes in support of various events.
- Some of the additional revenue is being reinvested in new stock. We will shortly be receiving a delivery of Pro Quip waterproofs.

7. Captain

- The Teesside District Union matches concluded with a home match v Middlesborough GC (Brass Castle). We had already been demoted, however M'boro needed to win the match by 20 points to secure their place in Division 2. The final score saw Barny with a great win amassing 17 points to M'boro's 7 points. So next year M'boro will join us in Division 3.

- Ross Murray was our team's top scorer during the season.
- A special thank you from me to Paul Raine who managed the team throughout, attending league meetings etc. We now look forward to next year and securing promotion back to Division 2.

8. Ladies Report

- Ladies Invitation took place, August 22nd and was very well supported.
- On September 1 the rearranged match for the Ladies v Seniors trophy will take place.
- September 27 a Rules Night is planned... all members welcome (notification to all members to be sent out via e-mail **(Action: Yvonne)**)
- On November 7th, the Ladies' AGM will take place. At the AGM a number of key roles will become vacant - this includes that of Lady President... Mrs Shirley Lind-Jackson will be succeeded in the role by Mrs Sheila Kilgarriff.
- The Past Captains competition was won this year by Mrs Joy Pallister.
- The Away Day at Ponteland took place on 8th August.

9. Seniors

- Matches Results.

19th July - Thirsk / Northallerton AWAY.

WIN 6 – 2 Glorious weather, Delightful Course and hospitality.

17th August – Catterick HOME.

WIN 6 – 1, Could only field 14 players so conceded a walk over... (Lots of positive comments about the condition of our course.)

- Captain's Away Day.

Held at Durham City Golf Club on 27th July. During the very wet spell of weather and arrived at the course to find it closed! A review by the Greenkeepers (and possibly the Treasurer) ensured that the course opened at 0930 for our 1000 first tee. A rather damp but very enjoyable day had by all 32 golfers.

- Seniors' Open 9th August.

More than 200 golfers checked in for the 4BBB competition. Great weather for the whole day and AGAIN very complementary comments from lots of visitors about the condition of our course!!

5) (Matters Arising

- None

6) Correspondence

- None.

7) AOB

- Emergency Procedures communicated and sent to all committee members.
- AGM date set. Actions assigned regarding preparations **(Action: All)**

The next management committee meeting will take place, Tuesday 19-Sep.

Colin MacLeod