

Devon Dumpling Golf Society AGM
held at the Devon Dumpling on Sunday, 9th February 2014

1. Members Present

Ray Baldwin, Adrian Lardner, Jimmy Banks, Ray Ford, Paul Bishop, Chris Bater, Chris Pallister, Bernie Fenner, Keith Fenner, Dave Fenner, Phil Porter, Libby Porter, Rob Harvey, Tony Brinsley, Richard Brinsley, Alan Tucker, Nigel Ford, Mel Wilks, Billy Tucker, Jan Reed, Dave Copping, Stuart Medway, Sue Baxter, Andy Hayes, Lynne Lyon, Dave Wensley, Mike Cox, Danny Davis, Tom Greenwood, Barry Privett, Stuart Medway

Apologies

Pete Higgins, Jon Yeo, Alan Yeo, Paul Green, Jan White, Bob Grogan, Mike Hill, Val Banks, Chris Porter, Anne Glanville, John Woollacott, Pat Harris, Doug Harris, Chris Hucker, Tom Howard, Paul Howard, Ben Howard

Resignations

Brian Easson

2. Confirmation of 2013 AGM Minutes (Chairman – Ray Ford)

Ray reminded members that Minutes are published on the Society's website. He then ran through the 2013 AGM Minutes page by page.

3. Matters Arising from 2013 Minutes

No matters arising.

4. President's Report (Ray Baldwin)

Ray asked Phil (retiring Captain) to present the Order of Merit prizes for positions 4th through 10th as only the top three (1st Alan Tucker, 2nd John Woollacott 3rd Tony Brinsley) had been presented at the Christmas dinner: 4th Sue Baxter, 5th Dave Wensley, 6th Doug Harris, 7th Ray Ford, 8th Chris Pallister, 9th Ray Baldwin and 10th Rob Harvey.

Ray said that the Society had suffered a great loss during the last year with the sad death of Bob Bradbury, a lovely guy. All members stood to give a toast as a mark of respect and friendship. Ray also mentioned that another past member, John Haine, had suffered a substantial heart attack in Florida and Ray would keep members informed of John's condition.

Ray went on to thank Phil and the rest of the committee for all their hard work during the year and he thanked all the members for supporting the fixtures and wished everyone a good 2014.

5. Treasurer's Report (Jimmy Banks)

Jimmy explained the financial position and reported that the Society had made a loss of £400.00 during the year. This was predominantly due to the donation made to Cherry Bradbury after Bob passed away. It also reflected a change to giving sleeves of quality balls for 2s prizes as opposed to using recycled lake balls. In previous years we had made about £200 by using the cheaper lake balls.

Jimmy said that the issue of whether the membership fee should be increased would be raised later on the Agenda. Also, we should remember that the cost of the Christmas meal is currently £12.00 excluding the cost of wine and the first free drink. It has remained at that level now for a number of years. He felt that it was a good thing for the Society to have a reasonable level of funds that would enable it to help deal with difficult situations for members as and when they arrive.

6. Election of Officers

- Chairman: Ray Ford
- Treasurer: Jimmy Banks
- Secretary: Tony Brinsley
- Fines Chairman: Ray Ford & Chris Bater

All were accepted unanimously by the members.

7. Retiring Captain's comments (Phil Porter)

Phil said he did not have much to report other than that the year had been nearly all high points, except for the passing of Bob Bradbury.

He went on to report some statistics for the year:-

- 265 players, an average of 27 per fixture
- Ladies played 47 times, = 17%
- 10 guests played
- We played 44 par 3s and we achieved 12 twos all year!!!
- 9 doghouse winners
- 10 different people won the men's longest drive
- Ladies played longest drive 4 times and prize was awarded 3 times!
- 5 people played every event; Dave Wensley, John Woollacott, Tony Brinsley, Doug Harris and Pat Harris.

During the year the order of play had been decided for each event in the way the balls were drawn, apart from when an adjustment had been made to save members playing in the first or last group more than once.

Phil said that we now have a new par 3's competition trophy, the Marie Smith Trophy that will be played on the date of the Jim Smith Trophy.

Phil thanked Tony for arranging some new courses for the Society to play during the year; something that he felt had been very good addition.

He then thanked all of the committee for their help during the year and for the support he'd received from the Vice-Captain, Mike Cox

8. Election of Captain & Vice-Captain

Phil introduced Mike Cox as the Captain for the coming year. The Chairman welcomed Mike who then confirmed that his Vice-Captain for the year would be Pat Harris.

9. Election of new Members

The following new members were proposed and were accepted by the members:-

Jan Reed, Stewart Wilkinson.

10. Membership Fee

The Treasurer, Jimmy Banks, confirmed that, after discuss with the committee, he was proposing an increase in the membership fee from £10 to £15. He explained that members who play regularly would effectively get their money back by way of not being charged for the Christmas meal and generous drinks allocation. Also, members should be aware that the Society always leaves a generous tip, in the region of £30 for the staff at each club, taken from the fines money.

Chris Pallister said there was little difference between those who play regularly and those who play just 5 events!

The Chairman reminded everyone that those who don't play a minimum of 5 times have to pay for their Christmas meal which will be £15.00 this year.

The Treasurer suggested there be a review of the membership fee again next year depending on the level of funds the Society is holding then.

A vote was taken to increase the fee to £15.00 and was carried by the majority.

11. Competition & 2's Fees

The current level was £4.00 towards prizes and £1.00 for 2's. Phil said that it worked well for him last year.

Tony Brinsley suggested that the Society should not be about prizes and he felt it should be £3.00 for prizes plus £1.00 for 2's.

Jimmy Banks said that the previous year, the prizes fund had reduced from £5.00 to £4.00 and if it were reduced further it would make it difficult for Mike Cox this year.

Mel Wilks questioned why we were awarding a prize for best guest and a debate was then had about guests and prizes and what they might win.

Nigel Ford suggested that guests could pay a premium to play as they did not have to pay a joining fee.

Phil Porter said the issue of guests and prizes was not a big issue as we only awarded a guest prize six times throughout last year.

A vote was taken and the majority voted to keep the cost the same as it is now.

12. Fixtures (Tony Brinsley)

Tony said that 4 Society members had turned up to play at Torquay today as Bovey Castle had been cancelled due to the poor weather. Alan Tucker & Andy Hayes beat Tony Brinsley & Jimmy Banks on the 17th in a friendly game. It was agreed that the Dave Hyne trophy would not be awarded and would be carried forward.

Tony explained that Oak Manor, Thurlestone and Tiverton had been dropped from this year's fixture list as they had come in too expensive. He was looking towards Fingle Glen, Borringdon Park and Tiverton (he thought they may reduce price) to fill the three gaps.

He said that Dainton Park was most expensive but considering the proximity and the level of hospitality that we're offered there, including drinks buggies, meal etc. it was worth the cost.

Sue Baxter asked why we did not play Teignmouth and Tony explained they would not accept a society on a Sunday.

Dave Fenner asked if we could play Bovey Castle at another time of year as, during the winter it was often wet and if the cost was higher we could come back to Dumping for a meal.

Chris Pallister asked if we could play Torquay in the summer and the winter. Tony said we could keep Torquay as a backup for any of the venues if we did not get sufficient numbers or if a fixture was unplayable for any reason.

13. Any Other Business

Discussion on guest players:-

Sue Baxter said she did not think that guests should be limited to the number of times they could play.

Nigel Ford said that was OK if they paid a premium.

Andy Hayes said that if a guest plays more than twice a year they should pay the membership fee.

Alan Tucker said finances apart we should let guests play 4 or 5 times.

Ray Baldwin said that guests already pay the same prize money but can only win a bottle of wine.

Tom Greenwood said a guest should be able to join as a member at any point by paying the membership fee.

Ray Ford said that, after a guest has played 3 times, they should join and pay the full membership fee before they are able to play again.

Ray Baldwin said it was the Captain's choice if he decided to award a best guest prize such as a bottle of wine.

It was agreed that a guest could play 3 times and after that they would be asked to join as a member and pay the full membership fee before they can play again.

Discussion on 2's:-

Barry Privett said that perhaps there should be a maximum number of balls per 2 and we should set a maximum per event such as 20 balls.

Phil Porter said that last year there were only four occasions when we did not give out balls for a 2.

Chris Pallister said perhaps there should be no rollover on 2's.

Tom Greenwood wondered why we don't give money for 2's.

After further discussion - **It was agreed that if there was a large rollover of balls from the 2's that the Captain and Vice-Captain would go to the committee for advice.**

Mike Cox announced that for the coming year he would be awarding prizes from 1st to 5th place.

Ray Ford thanked everyone for attending the meeting; he wished everyone the best of health and reminded members that we are a friendly society, so enjoy it!

As no other business was forthcoming he declared the meeting closed.