



**STURMINSTER MARSHALL GOLF CLUB
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday 2nd October 2019, 7pm start

1. **Those Present** – Barry Moore, Tony Morgan, Denis West, Jay Allen, Jenny Piercy, Dave Piercy, Mike Whicher, Alan Sims, Barrie Willis, ,Myra Foster, Ian Foster, Sarah Mattingly, Colin Mattingly, Beryl England, Claire Perry, Lisa McIntosh, Dave Dorrell, Trevor Snoxell, Chris Evans
2. **Apologies** – Mike Dodd, Peter Moore, Debbie Curnow, Gerri King, Geoff Fugatt
3. **Minutes and Matters arising**
 - October 2018 minutes – taken as a true and accurate record, proposed by Jay Allen and seconded by Trevor Snoxell.

4. Chairman's Report

Dear All,

Welcome to the SMGC Members AGM for 2019.

It's been a privilege to serve the club as Chairman this year and I hope, as members of the club, that you've all enjoyed your golfing and the full calendar of competitions and events that have been held at the club.

There's a lot of work behind the scenes to make the year a success and so my report as Chairman is a simple list of thank you's to the hardworking team at the club who make things happen:-

Thank You to :-

- The section captains Claire, Trevor and David who are the focal points for members with help and queries.

- To all my fellow committee members who give freely of their time to help set up monthly competitions, social events, league competitions, adjust and keep handicaps and ensure the various monies are collected, banked and accounted for and audited.
- To the Charity committee and the super efforts put in to help raise over £3000 to our chosen charity the YMCA
- To Mike, Charlie and Brad who help the academy thrive and to the Greenkeepers who keep the course in such great condition.
- To Andy and Louise for their continued investment into the club that drive forward improvements and enhancements. I'm sure members appreciate not just financial investments in equipment and mowers but also the hands on approach to work both on the course and in the restaurant.

All these people are the reason our golf club is the friendly, welcoming, successful and well presented club it is today.

Chris Evans 2nd October 2019

5. Club Captains Report

Ladies and Gentlemen

We the committee would first like to welcome all our new members and hope that all members old, existing and new have enjoyed their golf this year.

The Committee Members – Chris Chair, Dave Senior, Claire Ladies, Lisa Treasurer, Barry Mens Comps, Dave Handicaps, Thomas Junior, Colin, Sarah, Debbie & Peter Moore & Mike Course. These, well we all represent you the members and they/we work tirelessly to ensure that the club runs as smooth as possible.

We have had another successful / mixed season for the men, ladies, seniors and juniors.

The Men's – The medals and stableford had good attendance this year, the competitions have gone well with a lot of different winners.

The Senior's – What a strong section under Dave they have got stronger and with another Dave in place who knows where they will end up.

The Junior's – with Thomas Cartwright-Terry as Captain he has done a good job. We as a club have the best Junior section in Dorset if not the south.

The Ladies – Well what can be said about the ladies, they are the back bone of the club with the events they put on to encourage other, this year Claire did a sterling job of making them all happy and next year well Claire you know what to do, as you have done it all before.

The Treasury – Lisa, well to say the least has worked hard behind the scenes to change the signatories on the bank account. It took 18 months of telephone conversations, emails and frozen accounts to sort the accounts out. But now we have the accounts set up, for the future. 99% of you in the room have no idea how much effort went into this, so therefore a big thank you to the only non-golfer in the room.

Charity – With Dave & Claire we would like to extend a special thanks to all who helped on the charity day in June, it was a big success and we managed to raise £3,794.87 for YMCA. We felt that the 9 hole competition went extremely well, we had 120 golfers playing. Well done to all of us that is a huge achievement for such a small club.

The Course - The course has been fantastic good order throughout the year, this is down to the hard work of the green keeping staff. The bunkers have sand, the fringes are trim and neat.

Hardy B - Chris the Hardy B team very well with mixed success.

Little Gem - Special thanks to Colin and Tom Miles for running the Little Gem (the teams had some great matches and more importantly everyone enjoyed themselves) and well done Colin and Tom for organising the end of season bash.

Handicaps – Dave has run the system with meticulous ability. He has an uncanny ability to enjoy producing the result.

During the year we have carried out all sorts of tasks including talking to Dorset Golf union about our fees and who should pay them. then a small task of sorting out the honour's boards, one hell of a task to ensure the correct names are in the correct places. also talking to Dorset golf and negotiating the fees we pay, but that is another story.

It has been a pleasure being captain this year with a great committee.

I say this every year because I feel passionate about it, but this year it was stated by another member and I agree with him. The club still has a family feel to it, not like other clubs where a shirt and tie are required in the bar. It also means that we have a range of members. The course allows for not only young and old but also those starting out!

This year to ring a bit of change we have decided to have a day on 20th October as the 'Captain's Drive in and out', this will embody the drive ins and also the presentation evening (although it will be the afternoon) everyone who is a member is invited.

And very lastly - I would also like to wish the new Captains and committee all the best for the coming year, and finally a big thank you to all the members at SMGC.

6. Lady Captains Report

Good evening all,

I would like to start off by saying how pleasant it has been working with Trevor and Dave (Dorrell) this year, it has made the Captaincy role so much easier and we have been in agreement on most things, so thank you very much chaps. It is always a pleasure to participate in mixed competitions and it will be my aim next year to try and get even more ladies taking

part in things like the Little Gem Competition in order to raise their confidence of playing in mixed competitions.

It is a joy for me to see the Ladies Section thriving. At the start of the year we did lose quite a few of our more experienced players to larger clubs, but it has been very encouraging to see other ladies improving their golf this year and coming up the ranks to fill the spaces. It is also especially nice to see ladies winning competitions who have not done so before – in fact this year we had no less than 20 ladies who had won competitions throughout the year and are eligible to take part in the Champion of Champions Competition. I think that all of our ladies are brilliant at supporting each other and they really enjoy each other's successes.

When I think back to when I joined the Ladies Section we were lucky to get 8 ladies along on a Thursday morning. Nowadays, we usually fill "golfers corner" downstairs to overflowing and there is a real buzz before (and after) we go out to play. Apart from the fact that I struggle to get any quiet for making any announcements, it is very satisfying.

As usual we had a very active year both on and off the golf course.

With the golf, I think the ladies have been encouraged to participate in medal competitions more this year with the reassurance of the 10-stroke per hole maximum ruling being brought in – although we obviously never get up to that many! We saw a new trophy being played for this year – The Paula Skinner Summer Stableford Trophy – which has been hotly contested, and all of our usual competitions have had good numbers of participants.

Socially, we have participated in friendly golf games, coffee mornings at several clubs, we've been 10-pin bowling, had a theatre trip and quite a few trips out for lunches, coffee and cake or ice cream – a very important element of our Section! We have also had two golfing trips this year – going to sunny Spain in October last year and then wet and windy Devon in April – both occasions were great fun in their own ways. There was one day in Devon when only two ladies managed to complete the course in the adverse weather conditions but we had hot

drinks, with suitable accompanying alcoholic beverages, waiting for them on their return so all was good.

Our friendly games have all been very close this year and we had 21 different ladies who played in them. We are very much continuing to encourage ladies reluctant to take part in matches to join in and give it a go.

My thanks, as always, goes to all of the ladies on my committee as well as everyone on the main Club committee who give up their spare time to enable the Section and the Club as a whole to run smoothly. It is much appreciated, hopefully by all members of the Club.

Also thanks to Mike, Andy and Louise, the catering staff and all of the ground staff for giving us a nice course to play on and nice surroundings and food to come in to.

Our Club Charity this year, the YMCA, will be benefitting by over £3,700 so many thanks to everyone for your generosity and support for this cause. It is an amazing effort for a small Club such as ours. The ladies section also made a small donation to Julia's House as well as supporting Cancer Care.

I would just like to finish by saying that I am proud to be a member of this Club, we are still small enough to know most of the other members and enjoy playing with our own and other sections and I hope that this continues for many years.

Claire Perry

7. Senior Captains Report

As I said yesterday, at our Seniors' AGM, it has been my great pleasure to lead our section for the third year running.

Our committee has, once again, given me tremendous support and we have continued to do all we can to ensure the seniors section plays a full and active role in all aspects of the club. I

am really pleased that the three club adult captains have again worked well together, meeting outside club committee meetings to coordinate club activities.

We have continued to welcome a few new seniors and I am sure we will continue to do so in the future. I think though, that we may need to set up more opportunities for senior aged men to come and enjoy 'taster' sessions with us – like the vintage clubs morning we held earlier in the year.

Last year, I expressed my concern at a reduction in numbers playing our monthly competitions. Happily, I can report an increase this year with an average of approximately 19 entering each competition. Participation in seniors' friendly matches has also increased with 33 seniors playing in at least one match, the highest during my time as captain.

This year our results in friendly matches with other clubs have been disappointing. Part of the reason for this is, I believe, the differences in handicaps. In most matches we have given significant numbers of shots to our opposition. Whilst handicaps should, in theory even the 'playing field' giving 8 or 10 shots on our course is an almost impossible challenge. However, I know we have all enjoyed these fixtures and I am sure we will in the future.

Despite several changes to ground staff during this year the club has succeeded in maintaining the course in what I consider to be fantastic condition. I would like to congratulate the owners and staff for this. A significant amount of money has been spent, by the owners, on improving the course and clubhouse and we all benefit from this. I know that further improvements will be made in the future, but it is important to remember that the owners do not have infinite funds!

As I have already said, the three adult captains having been working well together and our latest 'project' has been to revise the way in which our Club Presentation Event is structured. This year we are combining the presentations with the Captains' Drive-In. It will take place on

Sunday 20th October. The drive-in will take place in the morning and be followed by a free buffet and presentations. Members from all sections are invited to participate. Trophies from all sections will be presented, to make it a truly 'club' event.

The seniors' constitution has remained unchanged for at least six years and we have just adopted a revised version that includes 'rules' making it more inline with the structure of the club constitution.

In my time as senior captain I have realised that decisions can be made in committee and then 'forgotten'. When some time, later an issue is raised, around that decision, it is very difficult to find the reference. The Rules section of our constitution provides a location to record decisions somewhere they can easily be found. It may be that our club committee can consider using the 'rules section' of the club constitution in a similar way.

Seniors' funds remain stable and our end of year balance is similar to last year's. This has been possible thanks, once again, to Lynne Lewis' acquisition and bottling of wine. The wine is used for raffles at each match. The income from these enables us to avoid making a loss. Without them we would be forced to raise match fees which, the senior captains from other clubs suggest, may make our matches unaffordable.

Before I finish, I would like to minute my thanks to all staff and especially the owners, Andy and Mike, for all that they have done for the club this year. I would also like to thank the other captains. As I have already said, we have worked extremely well as a team and it is fantastic to see all sections working together for the benefit of our members.

I am now looking forward to a relatively quieter year as I hand over the Senior Captain's role to Dave Piercy. I wish him and the rest of the club committee an enjoyable and successful year.

Dave Dorrell 2nd October 2019

8. Junior Report – see Mike Dodd e-mail below

I am carrying on as Junior Organiser so will do another term. We are getting more juniors with handicaps but need to find a way to get more to play in the monthly comps.

9. Course and Clubhouse Report -see Mike Dodd e-mail below

We have now appointed Tim Neighbour as our head green keeper and Arron Parry is his new assistant. The investment in the new rough cutter is keeping the course looking good. We will be looking at getting the irrigation system on a timer which will help tremendously for next year. The outdoor changing rooms and toilets will be completed next year. We are pleased with the condition of the course and the new timer for the greens we have just invested in will help the greens.

10. Competitions [Hardy B & Little Gem]

Little Gem Report for October 2019 Committee Meeting

All games for this year have now been played, with as reported last month, Somerley Park being the overall winners, with SMGC sixth out of six.

The annual challenge game at Crane Valley was a great success with again Somerley Park providing the overall winner.

I would also like to thank Martyn Case who stood in as Start Marshall at the Crane Valley game.

The LG financial report as detailed in the Treasurers report needs to be updated as detailed in the attached LG spread sheet which shows a total balance of £258.35 as two further amounts of £70.00 and £3.00 has been forwarded to the Treasurer.

Following discussion with Tom Miles, we have decided that, subject to approval, we will both act as joint captains next year for SMGC , with Tom remaining also as LG Secretary. We would like to co-op a vice captain for SMGC and have a couple of possibilities in mind.

Hopefully next year will see a better overall result for SMGC, but I would like to thank Tom for all the work he has done this year, also all the SMGC members who played.

Hardy B

Hardy B AGM to be held at Dudsbury Golf Club 7pm Monday 11th November 19.

An enjoyable season although we finished last in our division. Geoff Fugatt was the top of the Hardy B order of merit table. Highlight of the year was having both Honor Johnson and Elle Read represent the club in Hardy B. They were the first ladies in Dorset to play in the competition after the rules change last November.

11. Treasurers Report

Trevor confirmed that the SMGC accounts had been prepared by Lisa and signed off by a partner in her accounts firm. Trevor thanked Lisa on behalf of all of the club for carrying out her role as club treasurer and wished her successor Jannine Rabe well for next year.

12. Change to Constitution: Proposal - add 1.11 *Playing two competitions at the same time (i.e. match play and stroke play) is not permitted*

AGM agreed to the proposal [proposed by Dave Dorrell and seconded by Mike Whicher]. It was agreed that a copy of the Golf Rules would be on display.

13. Election of Committee 2019/2020

The New committee will comprise:-

Men's Captain – Barry Moore

Ladies Captain – Claire Perry

Seniors Captain – Dave Piercy

Chairman – Dave Dorrell

Treasurer – Jannine Rabe

Competition Organiser – Trevor Snoxell

Handicap Secretary – Dave Piercy

Little Gem Organisers – Colin Mattingly / Tom Miles

Hardy B Organiser – Chris Evans

Members – Sarah Mattingly, Debbie Curnow, Mike Whicher, Geoff Fugatt, Tony Morgan

14. AOB

Jay Allen – Requested that members put results of singles and pairs competitions into the computer, so that people can track the draw for next round arrangements. Jay also asked LG and HB organisers to try where possible to avoid fixtures and so competing for players. [LG /

HB organisers]. Jay also asked if the pro shop should consider selling only wooden tees as more environmentally friendly than plastic tees [Mike Dodd]

Colin Mattingly – Queried when the new pc would be installed. Barry confirmed he was purchasing [Barry Moore].

Denis West – Looking for a maximum handicap of 28 in seniors competitions. To be discussed at Seniors committee [Dave Piercy]. Requested that Ball Washers are filled with water. Alan Sims confirmed that he does that for the club [Alan Sims].

Alan Sims – Concept of two divisions for seniors i.e. 28 handicap or less and above 29. To be discussed at Seniors Committee [Dave Piercy]

Tony Morgan – Suggested that pro shop hand out pitch forks as freebies to pay and players to encourage good etiquette now that greens are softer [Mike Dodd] Also that more effective and more numerous rubbish bins were needed on the course [Mike Dodd]

Mike Whicher – Requested that the pro shop controlled pay and players starting on the course so as they don't cut in on club competitions. Instance of club championships quoted where pay and play pair introduced between 1st and 2nd club comp groups at 10th hole.[Mike Dodd]
If we're trying to encourage dog walkers to keep to the designated path across the course, shouldn't we put a stop to members playing the course with their dogs tied to the golf trolley?
[2019 / 2020 committee to discuss]

Meeting Closed at 8.14pm

C.D.Evans