

BRADFORD & DISTRICT RABBITS GOLF ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE 59TH A. G. M. HELD AT THE SHIPLEY GOLF CLUB

WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2007

The President Mr.P.Wilkinson opened the meeting at 7.30pm, which was attended by 52 members.

In his opening remarks the President expressed a desire that the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting may be taken as being read by those present. This was unanimously approved by the Meeting.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr. N.Thornton The Manor G.C., Mr.M.Lambert Bradford Moor G.C., Mr.D.Ostick Bradford Moor G.C., Mr.J.Fortes West Bradford G.C., Mr.D.Barker Keighley G.C., Mr.K.Jackson Headley G.C., Mr.J.Smith Bingley St.Ives G.C., Mr.J.Lee Northcliffe G.C.

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the 58th A. G. M. were taken as read and proposed by Mr.P Starkey Cleckheaton G.C. and seconded by Mr.M.Abraham-Thomas Shipley G. C. as a true record. Carried by the meeting.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising from the previous Annual General Meeting.

President's report: Mr P.Wilkinson thanked all for attending the meeting and welcomed them to Shipley Golf Club. He said it had been a pleasure to represent the Bradford and District Rabbits Golf Association and was looking forward to the coming year. We had been well represented in the Yorkshire Area this year with himself, Secretary Mel Smart and John Kettlewell serving on the Yorkshire Committee. There are three Yorkshire past Presidents serving on the YRGA, John Fortes, Ken Catley and Roy Headon, also Geoff Brumfitt serving as Secretary and Tony O`Melia as the Fowler competition Secretary. We played in all the Area matches with other members of our Committee. We managed to win three and came third in the Plowright Trophy. He thanked all the Clubs that invited him to their Annual Dinner all of which were most enjoyable. One however was a little sad as this was the last time West Bowling would be holding theirs. In fact West Bowling had resigned from the Association as their course had been sold. Phoenix Park had resigned as they are now a pay and play course. Another change during the past year was that John Conyers had to resign from the Committee for business reasons and had moved to Scarborough. We were very fortunate that Terry Walker was able to take over as Vice President and David Oakes took over as League Secretary, for which he thanked them. In John Conyers absence he thanked him for the work he had done running the League over the past few years. He thanked Roy Headon for running the Chippendale Trophy competition and hoped he would continue to run it this year. He thanked the Executive Committee, who have done a great job and will turn up any time for a free game of golf. Other Gentlemen he thanked were the Past Presidents- a fine body of men with the knowledge of the Association going back many years. And of course our Secretary, Mel Smart who keeps the machinery running smooth. As you may have seen we have a website bdrga.net You can keep up to date with all the results and latest information over the season. We have David Oakes to thank for setting it up and keeping it running. When you see the Treasurer's Report you will see our finances are much better than previous

years. This is due to Terry Walker and the Fund Raising Committee. By the way if you have any raffle tickets from the previous events you can see Terry after the AGM to see if you have won a prize.

He wished everyone the very best for the coming golf season.

Secretary's report: The Secretary thanked the President for his report and said that he had enjoyed working with him in his first year in office. He thanked the Vice President Mr.T.Walker for his assistance and advice throughout the year. He thanked the League Secretary Mr.D.Oakes, the Chippendale Secretary Mr.R.Headon for the sterling work they had done in their respective offices. He particularly thanked Mr.G.Brumfitt the Yorkshire Rabbits Secretary for his help and guidance during the year. He also thanked the Executive Committee and the host of past Presidents who had assisted him and kept him on the straight and narrow. It had made the job that much easier in his third year. He looked forward to another solid year from the President and plenty of good advice

Mr.J.Conyers, Vice President and League Secretary had resigned from the Association because he had moved to Cayton Bay.

West Bowling G.C. had resigned from the Association because they had sold their course.

The Association had set up a Website and any relevant information is on it such as the results of the three Team Championships and the League Results and Tables, the Chippendale Trophy and President's Cup results. The website is www.bdrga.net

He had introduced News-Letters, which were being sent to all Clubs from time to time.

The purpose being to advise all Clubs of the activities of the Association in advance and to circulate results of Championships, and any other information.

This year had seen the inauguration of the President's Cup, which is a four-man Team competition, best two scores to count at the first six holes, best three at the next six holes and all scores at the last six holes. All thanks and brickbats go to Mr.T.Jandzio whose idea it was. He went on to describe some of the results for the year.

The President's Cup had been played for in June at West Bradford G.C. and was won by Skipton G.C. with a score of 110. Runners up were Bingley St.Ives G.C. with 104.

The 9 Hole Team Championship had been played in July at Clayton G.C. and was won by Clayton G.C. with a score of 277. Runners up were Ben Rhydding G.C. on 2307. The best net 16-20 was J Cook of Clayton G.C. with a 68. The best net 21-28 was J.Gething of Clayton G.C. with a 65. The Visitors Prize went to A.Maisuria of Headley G.C. with a 69.

The 18 Hole Team Championship was held at Baildon G.C. in August and the winners were Baildon G.C. with a score of 207. Runners up were Howley Hall G.C. 220. The best net 16-20 was R.Garth of Baildon G.C. with a 68. Best net 21-28 was A.Nijad of Baildon G.C. with a 65. The Visitor's Prize went to P.Cairns of Calverley G.C. with a 67. Only four players in a field of 64 beat Standard Scratch on a day when the weather was blowing a gale and the Course in excellent condition.

The Team Championship was at Shipley G.C. in September and was won by Shipley G.C. with a score of 194. Runners up were Baildon G.C. Hall on 204. The best net 16-20 was G.Walker of Shipley G.C. with a 64. Best 21-28 was G.Senior of Shipley G.C. with a 67. The Visitors Prize was won by J.Nixon of Branshaw G.C. with a 64.

Champion Rabbit of the Year was A.Nijad of Baildon G.C. with a 62. The winner of the Chippendale Trophy was Woodhall Hills G.C. who beat Halifax G.C. in the final at Shipley. He reported on the Associations activities during the year. He said that we had had Committee Meetings at Shipley G.C., West Bradford G.C., Woodhall Hills G.C., Baildon G.C. Bingley St.Ives G.C., Bradford Moor G.C. and East Bierley G.C.

He thanked each club for the use of their Course and facilities.

The Association had played Inter District matches against Wakefield, won 3 ½ to 2 ½, Harrogate lost 4 to 2, Leeds Area won 3 ½ to 2 ½, Huddersfield drew 3 to 3, and Flamborough Area, lost 4 to 2. The President, Secretary and Mr J.Kettlewell had attended Y.R.G.A. Committee Meetings at Fixby G.C., Flamborough G.C., Shipley G.C. and Bedale G.C. and a Bradford team had played in the Plowright Trophy won by Leeds Area.

He then gave the dates of Venues in 2007.

The President's Cup is at West Bradford G.C. on Sunday 10th June.

The 9 Hole Team Championship is at Ben Rhydding G.C. on Sunday 8th July. The 18 Hole Team Championship is at Cleckheaton G.C. on Sunday 4th August and the Team Championship will be at Calverley G.C. on Sunday 2nd September.

The Annual Dinner will be on Friday 5th October at Shipley at 7.30 pm.

All these dates are in the 2007 Handbook.

He hoped that as far as the organisation was concerned that the Association has a good year in 2007 and was looking forward once again to working with Peter Wilkinson, the President, and also everyone on the BDRGA Committee.

He wished all Club Secretaries well in the coming year with the organisation of their events and wished Captains well in picking their teams. He would always be available to answer any queries.

League Secretary's report: Mr Oakes said due to his last minute appointment as League Secretary the first sets of results could have been a disaster. Many thanks were due to our Secretary for getting the new arrangements out to all Clubs involved in such a short period of time. The 2006 season was once again a huge success. Three of the four Divisions went down to the wire. All fixtures had been completed on the arranged dates.

Only one slightly controversial incident occurred during the season. This was resolved to the satisfaction of a majority of those involved.

He thanked all the Captains and Vice Captains for ringing in the results promptly, thus allowing him to collate the results and get them to the T & A on Thursday nights. He was also able to update the Website with those results by the end of each Thursday.

One of his main problems experienced was regarding some football games or other, with some Clubs struggling during this period. Outside of this the League changes instigated last year seem to have been a success.

The final League positions for 2006 were as follows:

Division A. Winners Baildon G.C. 46pts. Runners up Skipton G.C. 44pts .

Relegated to Div. B Hollins Hall G.C. 30pts and Bracken Ghyll G.C. 29pts

Division B Winners West Bradford G.C. 40pts runners up Howley Hall 39 pts move to Div A

Relegated to Div C Branshaw G.C. 34pts and South Bradford G.C. 31pts.

Division C Winners Clayton G.C. 50pts runners up Riddlesden G.C. 40pts move to Div B.

Relegated to Div D The Manor G.C. 28pts and Northcliffe G.C. 27pts

Division D Winners W. Bowling 39pts runners up Bradford Moor G.C. 43pts move to Div C.

He said that due to the demise of West Bowling G.C. Division C and Division D will comprise of six Clubs each and would start four weeks after Divisions A and B in order for the season to finish on an equal footing.

Chippendale report: Mr Headon reported that the competition ran fairly smoothly through the season, there were a few minor hiccups during the competition mainly due to Captains and players not following the Rules. He hoped the same will not happen this coming season, if only for his sake in which case he would not need to disqualify anybody. He said Captains please see your players have a copy of the playing Rules and the telephone number of the Chippendale Secretary 01484-712961 not only for the results but for any queries which may arise.

There is one thing which occurs every year and it is that the majority of Clubs leave fixing their matches until the last week in each round. This does not leave much time to sort out any problems that can and do arise, so please make sure you arrange that your matches are fixed in plenty of time. If you are the Home Club, try and give more than one date for the match.

The Final in 2006 was held at Shipley Golf Club in September between Woodhall Hills G.C. and Halifax G.C. and this proved to be quite a thriller as both teams were fairly even over the first round, but due to a dramatic collapse by Halifax G.C. after starting the final round Woodhall Hills G.C. won by 8 & 7. So congratulations to Woodhall Hills G.C. and commiserations to Halifax G.C.....Better luck next year.

He wished all a good golf season during 2007. Good luck to all players and he looked forward to seeing whoever gets to the semi finals and final at the end of the season.

Treasurer's report: The Treasurer presented a balance sheet of £4887.53 in which he said we started the year with £1953.56 and finished with £2543.55.

On the income side :

Ties sold as well as last year.

Players entries are up to £536.00 due to the introduction of the President's Cup.

The Dinner had made a loss mainly because of the price of the meal as compared with last year. It had been expected to break even but made a slight loss due to not everyone turning up on the night. There were two payments not made on the night but the £28.50 was collected later and is in the 2007 Balance Sheet.

Fund Raising made £616.00 and this was excellent. It was down on last year because we sold less than expected at the Team Championship.

The Bank Interest had increased substantially because we opened a new Treasurer's Account with the Halifax B.S. giving a higher rate of interest.

The funds are in a healthy state and it was decided to reduce the Subscription in 2007 to £11.50 in line with the Competition entry fees. There would be a fee for the President's Cup of £11.50 per Club so the total fee per Club will now be £69.00

On the expenditure side:

Handbooks had decreased to £128.00 thanks to Mr.Rose getting a good printing deal. The golf insurance had been submitted but was lost in the post. After a reminder it was resubmitted but the insurer wanted a £25 fee so it was decided to cancel it and seek a new insurer in the new year.

We now have a Website and that fee is £10.45.

There was one presentation in this years accounts £32.31.

Hospitality was up because people had taken advantage of it at the President's Cup, the 9 Hole, 18 Hole, and Team Championships, and at the Dinner.

The administration was up mainly because of the inauguration of the President's Cup and the publicity it involved.

The Team Championship Trophy, the 18 Hole Team Championship Trophy and the Chippendale Trophy had all been upgraded at a cost of £252.00.

This was planned for in 2006 because they were in need of renovation

He thanked all others who had assisted him during the year, particularly the Members of the Fund Raising Team.

He thanked all Golf Clubs for their prompt payments of bills etc into the Association funds.

The funds are in a healthy state and he hoped they would continue.

He looked forward to another prosperous and successful year.

The Treasurer's Report was proposed by Mr.C.Mitchell Skipton G.C., seconded by Mr.A.A.Sharman Baildon G.C. and carried unanimously by the Meeting.

Committee Recommendations: Your Committee recommends that there be a decrease in the Subscription to £11.50 per Club. The entry fees for the President's Cup, League, Chippendale, 9 or 18 hole Course and Team Championship entry fees all to be £11.50 each (Total £69.00).

The Treasurer explained that the reduction was warranted because the Association finances are in a healthy position and can withstand it.

The recommendation was proposed by Mr.M.Sawley Riddlesden G.C., Mr M.Kilburn Cleckheaton G.C. seconded and this was carried unanimously by the Meeting.

Your Committee recommends that: Mr.A.O`Melia Bingley St.Ives G.C. becomes a Life VicePresident of the Association.

The President said it gave him great pleasure to propose Mr. Tony O`Melia as a Life Vice President of the Bradford & District Rabbits Golf Association to join two other members who are Herbert Hardaker and Ron Smith.

Tony has been in golf some 35 years. He joined Bingley St.Ives in 1972 and then joined the Rabbits Committee two years after that, working with them right up to today. Finding he had spare time on his hands he joined the BDRGA in 1976 and has served on it continually,all this time whilst running his own business.

Fifteen years ago he became our Elected Executive Member to serve on the Yorkshire Rabbits Committee and then took over as Fowler Secretary five years ago.

Tony has been asked to be President many timesbut has always declined this honour, si it gave the President great pleasure in proposing Tony be made a Life Vice President oof the Association in acknowledgement of his hard work and dedication to golf.

Mr.J.Kettlewell Shipley G.C. said he had known Mr.O`Melia for fifteen years and it had not been a smooth path but he could rely on his friendship and good sense and wisdom. It was an honour for him to second the recommendation.

The recommendation was carried unanimously by the Meeting.

Mr. O`Melia said he was proud to accept the honour of being a Life Vice President.

He had had his ups and downs as you are bound to do over the space of thirty years but he had enjoyed working with all who he had come across in that time. He hoped that he would go on for another thirty years.

Election of Officers:

The following were the Committee recommendations for the year 2006 and approved by the members present.

President	Mr P.Wilkinson	The Shipley G. C.
Vice-President	Mr T.Walker	Bradford Moor G. C.
Secretary	Mr M. A. J. Smart	Woodhall Hills G. C.
League Secretary	Mr D.Oakes	Woodhall Hills G. C.
Chippendale Secretary	Mr.R.Headon	South Bradford G.C.

This was Carried by the Meeting.

Election of Committee:

There were 8 nominees for the Committee and the President said that no vote was required. He then read out their names as follows:- Messrs , A.Dorymeade West Bradford G.C., K.Jackson Headley G.C. G.Senior East Bierley G.C., A.Sharman Baildon G.C., S.Rose South Bradford G.C., D.Armstead Cleckheaton G.C.,J.Lee Northcliffe G.C., J.Smith Bingley St.Ives G.C.

These were elected unanimously.

Resolutions and recommendations received:

The Secretary said that there were no resolutions received.

Mr T.Walker Vice President proposed a vote of thanks to Shipley Golf Club; this was carried by the meeting.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

President P.Wilkinson

Secretary M.J.A.Smart.