

BRADFORD & DISTRICT RABBITS GOLF ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE 61ST A. G. M. HELD AT BRADFORD MOOR GOLF CLUB

WEDNESDAY 14TH JANUARY 2009

The President Mr T.Walker opened the meeting at 7.30pm, which was attended by 41 members.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr A. Lister, Mr T. Jandzio, Mr A. Mawson and Mr J. Fortes all Past Presidents and Mr K. McGuinness, Shipley G.C., Mr A. Dorymeade, West Bradford G.C., Mr C. McLaughlin, Calverley G.C.

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the 60th A. G. M. were taken as read and proposed by Mr P. Wilkinson Shipley G.C. and seconded by Mr K. Jackson Headley 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 T. Walker welcomed all to Bradford Moor Golf Club. He said that this was where it had all started in 1948 and last year was our Diamond Jubilee. It was his first year in Office and he was proud to be President at this special time. It should have been a year to remember, and how can we forget. At the Diamond Jubilee in April at Bradford Moor we had snow and the match was close to being called off, but the players played on. The President's Trophy at West Bradford had heavy rain but the players played on. The Nine Hole Team Championship at Rawdon, torrential rain but the players played on. The Team Championship at Silsden was cancelled due to flooding and replayed in October with lots of mud and sliding about and lost balls but the players still played on. It must have been the worst year ever for golfers but thanks to you Rabbits we managed to complete all the Competitions. It had been a pleasure to represent BDRGA at all Yorkshire Area Matches. We retained two trophies but lost to Leeds and got the "Ugly Trophy". He thanked all the Clubs who had invited him to their Annual Dinner. He had some great times meeting old friends again and quite a few new ones. The 18 Hole and Team Championship Trophies had been replaced thanks to the Committee fund raising and yourselves for buying raffle tickets. We are in a good financial position and able to hold subscriptions as last year.

He thanked the Secretary, Mel Smart for once again doing a marvellous job and keeping his eye on the money. David Oakes the League Secretary for running the League in spite of all the bad weather and rearranging postponed matches. Roy Headon the Chippendale Secretary for running the Chippendale and the Referees involved in the competition.

Lastly he thanked all the Committee for all their help and Meeting attendances through the year. Well done everybody. At this point he was going to thank the Vice President but he had sadly resigned both from his home Club, Baildon and from the Association and this was due to personal circumstances. He hoped that everyone had a good year playing golf and looked forward to meeting all again during the year. He thanked everyone for attending.

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 League Secretary, Mr D. Oakes and the Chippendale Secretary Mr R. Headon for

the sterling work they had done in their respective offices. He thanked Mr G. Brumfitt, the retiring Yorkshire Rabbits Secretary

for his help and guidance during the year and also Mr A. O`Melia who is retiring as Yorkshire Fowler Secretary. He also thanked the Executive Committee and the host of former Presidents who had assisted him and kept him on the straight and narrow. It had made the job that much easier and had made his fifth year that much more enjoyable. He was looking forward to working with the new Executive Committee. He looked forward to another year working with the President whose contribution to the Association has been immense.

The Association has 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 Cup and the President's Cup results. The website is WWW.BDRGA.net

He had continued with the News- Letters, which were being sent to all Clubs from time to time. The purpose of the newsletter being to advise all Clubs of the activities of the Association in advance, and to circulate results of Championships and any other information for those not on the Web.

The Team Championship and 18 Hole Team Championship Trophies had been replaced. There were plans to replace the four League Trophies.

He went on to describe some of the Results for the year.

The Diamond Jubilee took place in April in snowy conditions at Bradford Moor G.C. and was won by Silsden with a score of 134. The President's Cup had been played for in June at West Bradford G.C. and was won by Baildon G.C. with a score of 128. The 9 Hole Team Championship had been played in July at Rawdon G.C. in the rain and was won by Rawdon G.C. with a score of 275. The 18 Hole Team Championship was at Howley Hall G.C. in August and the winners were Shipley G.C. with a score of 207. The Team Championship was eventually held at Silsden G.C. in October after being postponed due to rain and was won by Baildon G.C. with a score of 206. Champion Rabbit of the Year was Mr A Robinson of Skipton G.C.

He reported on the Association's activities during the year.

He said that we had had Committee Meetings at Shipley, Bradford Moor, Northcliffe, Baildon, Cleckheaton, and East Bierley. He thanked each Club for allowing the Association the use of their Courses and facilities.

The Association had played Inter District matches against Wakefield Area drew 3 to 3, Harrogate Area drew 3 to 3, Leeds Area lost 3½ to 2½, Huddersfield Area lost 4 to 2, and Flamborough Area won 3½ to 2½ . We had played a Triangular Event against the Bradford Union and the 8-15's and had finished second.

The President, the Secretary and Mr T. Jandzio had attended Y.R.G.A Committee Meetings at Low Laithes, South Leeds, West Bradford and Crow Nest Park and a Bradford Team had played in the Plowright Trophy at Flamborough won by Flamborough Area with Bradford finishing fourth.

He then gave the dates and venues for 2009.

The President's Cup is at West Bradford on Sunday 14th June

The 9 Hole Team Championship is at East Bierley on Sunday 12th July.

The 18 Hole Team Championship is at Woodhall Hills on Sunday 2nd August
The Team Championship is at Branshaw on Sunday 6th September.
The Annual Dinner will be on Friday 23rd October at Woodhall Hills G.C. at 7.30 pm.
All these dates will be in the 2009 Handbook.

He hoped that as far as the organisation was concerned that the Association has as good a year as 2008 and was looking forward once again to working with Terry Walker 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; it is always a difficult task to get everything right. And he wished all Club Captains a good year in picking their teams. He would always be available to answer any queries.

League Secretary's report: Mr Oakes said the 2008 Season was once again a huge success. The season was affected by the weather, though not to the extent of 2007. Once again the weather throughout the season was wet and more often than not windy. All Clubs managed to rearrange cancelled fixtures within the thirteen day time limit introduced last year. The results were a little more defined this year with clear cut winners and runners up in each Division, other than Division B. West Bradford lost out on promotion to Ben Rhydding purely on the number of games won. In Division B Branshaw and Ben Rhydding were promoted for the second season on the trot. Once again most Divisions went down to the last week before the final places were decided. He took this opportunity to thank all Captains and Vice Captains for ringing results in promptly each week. This allowed him to collate the results and get them to the Telegraph & Argus and on to our Website each Thursday night.

The final League positions for 2008 were as follows:

Division A. Winners Woodhall Hills G.C. 45pts. Runners up Baildon G.C. 42pts.
Relegated to Div. B Howley Hall G.C. and Riddlesden G.C.

Division B Winners Branshaw G.C. 43pts Runners up Clayton 41 pts.
Promoted to Div A

Relegated to Div C Bracken Ghyll G.C. and Halifax G.C.

Division C Winners South Bradford G.C. 38pts Runners up Hollins Hall G.C.
Promoted to Div B.

Relegated to Div D Northcliffe G.C.

Division D Winners Silsden 47pts Runners up Rawdon G.C.44pts
Promoted to Div C.

For the 2009 Season, the changes to the divisional structure to accommodate Bradford are now complete and in the 2009 season we will revert to the normal practice of two teams promoted and relegated. Divisions A, B and C comprise seven Clubs with Division D comprising of six Clubs. Therefore this season's matches will commence on Thursday 23rd April for Divisions A, B, C. Division D will start their fixtures on Thursday 21st May.

To finish he wished all the teams in the Bradford League the very best of luck for the coming season and looked forward to talking to you as you ring in the results.

Chippendale report: Mr Headon reported that as usual the Season got off to a slow start with the majority of Clubs waiting till the last minute before organising their matches. This always leads to problems so please arrange your matches as soon as possible. The rest of the season did not have too much trouble apart from Rawdon not receiving the message about the Semi Final thanks to the phone being disconnected. The semi final was played at South Bradford G.C. on Sunday 3rd August. Part one between Howley Hall and Clayton with Howley winning at the first extra hole. Part two was played between Clayton and Rawdon, with Rawdon winning. Both Clayton Teams lost in the semi final which was bad luck to them, better luck this year. The final was held at Shipley G.C. on Sunday 14th September with Howley Hall winning by 5 & 4 with some good golf played by both teams. He thanked all the Referees who attended the matches and in particular John Kettlewell who helped at another venue on the same day as the semi final. He looked forward to the new season and to seeing some of you at the semi final and the final.

He reminded Captains about the production of Handicap Certificates at **ALL** matches.

Treasurer's report: We had a starting figure of £3042.23. As you will see from the Balance Sheet this figure has fallen to £2763.19 and this is principally due to purchasing computer equipment and renewing trophies. These were planned expenditure.

Dealing with the Income Side first:-

All the Subscription and Championship Fees are up because Bradford G.C. rejoined the Association . Ties sold better than expected. Players entries are up because of the Diamond Jubilee Trophy. The Dinner made a surplus of £7.80. Fund Raising had made £781 and this was excellent. It was down on last year. We put it down to the Credit Crunch despite the tireless efforts of Mr Terry Walker. The Bank Interest had increased slightly.

The funds are in a healthy state and it was decided to leave the Subscription in 2009 at £11.50 in line with the other Entry Fees. The total Fee will remain the same at £69.

Dealing with the Expenditure Side second:-

Handbooks increased to £155 because more were ordered. The Golf Insurance is the same. The Website Fee had increased to £10.56. There was a Presentation in this years Accounts. Hospitality was up because of the Diamond Jubilee Trophy. The Administration was up due to Printing Ink Costs. There were extra Phone Calls and Postage due to the Diamond Jubilee Trophy. The Team Championship and 18 Hole Team Championship Trophies had been replaced at a cost of £368 and the Diamond Jubilee Trophy bought. The Committee had authorised the purchase of new computer equipment. These Costs had been planned. He thanked all others who had assisted him during the year, particularly the Fund Raising Team. He thanked all golf Clubs for their prompt payment of bills etc into the Association funds. The funds are in a healthy state and he long hoped they would continue. He looked forward to another prosperous and successful year.

Committee Recommendations: Your Committee recommends that the Handbook under MANAGEMENT on page 4 have added:-

Only 7 Day (Full) Members of a Club Rabbits Section may be elected to the Executive Committee.

The thoughts of the Committee were outlined by the Secretary.

A discussion took place and the recommendation was proposed by Mr A.O`Melia, Bingley

St. Ives G.C. and seconded by Mr J.Lee Northcliffe G.C. and carried by the Meeting by 36 votes in favour to 5 against.

Election of Officers:

Your Committee recommends that the following Officers be elected for 2009.

President	Mr T.Walker	Bradford Moor G. C.
Vice-President	Mr G.H.Senior	East Bierley 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 six nominees for the Committee and the President said because Mr Senior had been elected Vice President there was two places available. He then read out the nominees names as follows;-

Messrs, K. Jackson Headley G.C., D. Armstead Cleckheaton G.C., J. Lee Northcliffe G.C., J. Raybould Bingley St. Ives G.C., I. Bannister Keighley G.C., S. Kowalczyk Baildon G.C.

Mr D. Evans East Bierley G.C. and Mr S. Hunt Silsden G.C. offered their services.

All were elected by the Meeting.

Resolutions and recommendations received:

The Secretary said that there were no resolutions received.

Any Other Business.

Use of Buggies.

Mr S. Greenwood Howley Hall G.C. raised the question of whether the use of golf buggies was allowed in BDRGA Competitions. The Secretary explained that the use of buggies is dependant upon the Local Rules of each Golf Club in the Area

and in the specific case of his concern which was at Shipley Golf Club in the Chippendale final , the answer was that they were allowed.

A discussion took place and it was resolved that the Executive Committee would discuss the matter in detail at the next Committee Meeting and make a decision.

Vote of Thanks.

Mr G.H.Senior the Vice President proposed a vote of thanks to Bradford Moor Golf Club for the use of the Clubhouse and facilities for Meeting; this was carried by the meeting.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 8.12pm.

President T.Walker

Secretary M.J.A.Smart M.C.I.T.