

BRADFORD & DISTRICT RABBITS GOLF ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE 63RD A. G. M. HELD AT EAST BIERLEY GOLF CLUB

WEDNESDAY 12TH JANUARY 2011

The President Mr.G.H.Senior opened the meeting at 7.30pm, which was attended by 49 members.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr.A.Lister, Mr.A.Mawson, Mr.J.Fortes, Mr.M.Abraham-Thomas, Mr.P.Wilkinson,Mr.D.Barker, Past Presidents and Mr.D.Henderson Bradford G.C.

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the 62nd A. G. M. were taken as read and proposed by Mr.K.Catley Baildon G.C. and seconded by Mr.R.Alden Bingley St.Ives 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 G.H.Senior welcomed all to East Bierley Golf Club and hope everyone had a good Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. He was sorry the room was a bit crowded but at least it was cosy and the bitter was good. It was rare that a little Club like his got the opportunity to host Meetings like this. He said he had enjoyed his first year as President and looked forward to his second term. The Committee Golfers had won Matches against Wakefield and Harrogate. We lost to Flamborough and Leeds and drew against Huddersfield. The President`s Cup was at West Bradford and the winners were The Manor. He particularly enjoyed the presentation afterwards with all the wags present. This was fun , which is surely what the game is all about. He was pleased that East Bierley came second with a score that was normally good enough to win. In July Rawdon won the 9 Hole Course Team Championship at Headley and the home Team came second. Well done to both and to the Vice President,Mr. David Oakes for standing in for him then and at other events whilst he was on holiday. His help was invaluable. This was also the day when the Starter, Mr. John Kettlewell was hit by a golf ball but fortunately survived. We could not do without him. He thanked him for all his efforts during the year and sorting out tee times when problems arose. He congratulated Shipley for winning the 18 Hole Course Team Championship again and the Runners Up, Branshaw. It was unfortunate that the Team Championship at Northcliffe involved a disqualification which affected the Result. The winners were Skipton and runners up were Rawdon. Commiserations to Howley Hall who would have finished first but for the disqualification. A lot has been said about this matter, much of it misinformation. He wanted to make two points. 1. The Committee properly considered all the evidence and held an Extraordinary Meeting to consider Howley`s appeal in which the disqualification was confirmed. 2. There has been no suggestion whatever that the unfortunate player cheated and he had stressed this in his letters to Howley Hall. In fact the individual conducted himself with dignity and retained good manners in a situation which must have been very difficult for him. It was simply that the evidence indicated that he had made a mistake and signed for an incorrect score. The President said that it was particularly difficult for him as he had valued connections with Howley. This should not take the gloss off Skipton`s win. Howley Hall had resigned from the Association over the matter, although, he had been told by their Rabbits Captain that they would probably be leaving anyhow. The President made it clear that the door would always be open and they are welcome to rejoin at any time in the future. Their contribution goes back a long way and they will be missed. He congratulated West Bradford for winning the Chippendale,with both sides reaching the final atCleckheaton Also the League winners, Fulneck, West Bradford, Shipley and Bradford Moor. He thanked Mr.David Oakes for his work as League Secretary and for keeping the website up and running. Don`t forget to visit www.bdrga.net. He thanked Mr. Roy Headon for running the Chippendale. He thanked all the helpers,raffle ticket sellers etc on the days and the various

Clubs for the use of their Courses. Most of all thanks to all the players and Rabbits Captains for organising them. Another big thank you to all the Committee and to Mel Smart for his work as Secretary and Treasurer. A very big thank you to Tad Jandzio who has just completed his term on the Yorkshire Committee. His good sense and calmness is valued on the Bradford Committee and will be missed at Yorkshire Meetings. His place has been taken by Terry Walker and he wished him well. He expected the YRGA finances to take a much needed upturn. Finally he thanked everyone for attending and hoped that they all had a good golfing year. If the golf cannot be good, make sure you at least enjoy it.

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. David Oakes for his assistance and advice throughout the year and for his work as the League Secretary. He thanked the Chippendale Secretary Mr. R. Headon for the sterling work he had done. 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 seventh year that much more enjoyable. He was looking forward to working with the new Executive Committee and to another year with the President.

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

His intention in 2011 will be to use E-Mail increasingly as a means of communication because it gets information better to the user and it also saves on postage.

He said that Howley Hall had resigned from the Association. This was due to an incident at The Team Championship and the subsequent enquiry.

Champion Rabbit of the year was Mr. G. Corrigan of Skipton.

He reported on the Association's activities during the year. He said that we had Committee Meetings at South Bradford, West Bradford, Silsden and East Bierley. He thanked each Club for allowing the Association the use of the course and facilities. The President, the Secretary and Mr. T. Jandzio had attended YRGA Committee Meetings at Bingley, Elland, Flamborough and Wetherby and a Bradford Team had played in the Plowright Trophy at Low Laithes won by Flamborough Area with Bradford finishing fourth.

He then gave the dates and venues for 2011.

The President's Cup is at West Bradford on Sunday 5th June

The 9 Hole Team Championship is at South Bradford on Sunday 3rd July.

The 18 Hole Team Championship is at Shipley on Sunday 7th August

The Team Championship is at Halifax Ogden on Sunday 4th September.

The Annual Dinner will be on Friday 7th October at Bingley St. Ives G.C. at 7.30 pm.

All these dates will be in the 2011 Handbook.

He hoped that as far as the organisation was concerned that the Association has as good a year as 2010. 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 2010 Season was once more a great success. with hardly a problem being encountered. In Division A Fulneck managed to win in their first season after being promoted from Division B. In Division B West Bradford managed to pip Rawdon on the number of games won. In Division C Shipley managed to bounce back after their shock demotion in 2009. In Division D Bradford Moor have started their climb back up the divisions. Bradford G.C. managed to gain promotion in their first season back. The final League positions for 2010 were as follows:

Division A. Winners Fulneck 46pts. Runners up Clayton 45pts.
Relegated to Div. B Riddlesden and Woodhall Hills.

Division B. Winners West Bradford 45pts. Runners up Rawdon 45 pts move to Div A
Relegated to Div C Ben Rhydding and Hollins Hall.

Division C Winners Shipley 45pts Runners up Cleckheaton 45 pts move to Div B.
Relegated to Div D East Bierley and South Bradford.

Division D Winners Bradford Moor 43pts Runners up Bradford 40pts move to Div C.
He thanked all last years` Captains and Vice Captains for ringing in the Results promptly each week. Last season was the first in which some results were not reported on time.

Please remember that Results **must** be reported by **10.30pm** otherwise the points from the match **will** be forfeited.

He said that the 2011 Division B be will lack Howley Hall who had withdrawn.

Each Team to play Howley will get two weeks off and no points would be awarded.

In 2011 in Division B one Team will be relegated and two promoted from Division C.

This will give 7 in Divisions A & B and 6 in Divisions C & D in 2012.

Chippendale report: Mr Headon said he must congratulate the teams for the way they got all the results in this season without any late reports or trouble. There was no major problem so the competition ran smoothly. The semi-final at East Bierley on 15th August was between West Bradford and Bradford in A and between West Bradford and Bracken Ghyll in B. The final was at Cleckheaton on 19th September and the surprise winner was West Bradford, the B team beat the A team. He thanked both Clubs for the use of their Courses and also thanked the Referees. He looked forward to the coming season and wished all the best for the new year. He said have a good golfing year and see you in the final in September.

Treasurer's report: We had a starting figure of £3368.01. As you will see from the Balance Sheet this figure has risen to £3453.11.

Dealing with the Income Side first:-

Players Entries are down because two or three Clubs did not send Teams to the 18 Hole Team Championship and the Team Championship. The Dinner made a slight profit due to one Club not sending two people and one Club sending two unannounced. Ties only sold two. This is seasonal. Bank interest was killed by the credit crunch. Fund Raising is down for the same reason.

Dealing with the Expenditure Side second:-

Handbooks increased due to inflation. The website fee, Cups/Shields, Prizes were the same. Hospitality was down due to fewer people taking advantage of it. Postage was down due to sending more E-Mails. Telephone was up due to inflation. The Trophy upgrade is the four new League Cups. The Presentation was for the outgoing President last year.

Condolence was for Malcolm Parker of Ben Rhydding.

We had a very good year considering the economic climate. 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 into the Association`s funds. There are no immediate plans for large expenditure and the funds are in a healthy state, so much so that there will be no foreseen increases in subscription. He looked forward to another successful and prosperous year.

The Treasurer`s Report was proposed by M.Sawley of Bracken Ghyll and seconded by D.Evans of East Bierley and carried by the Meeting.

Committee Recommendations: Your Committee recommends that the Subscription remain the same at £69.00. This was proposed by M.J.A.Smart of Woodhall Hills and seconded by S.Hunt of Silsden and carried by the Meeting.

Amendments to the Rules of Competition in the Handbook (page 6) amended as follows:-
Any Player who plays in any of the Bradford & District Rabbits Golf Association Competitions and League Matches must have an Active Handicap and have played three qualifying rounds in the 12 month period preceding the Competition date.

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for organising any Competition and drawing up and amending (as appropriate) Competition Rules. Its decision shall be final. These amendments were proposed by I.Bannister of Keighley and seconded by R.Headon of South Bradford and carried by the Meeting.

Election of Officers:

Your Committee recommends that the following Officers be elected for 2011;-

President	Mr. G.H.Senior	East Bierley G.C.
Vice-President	Mr. D.Oakes	Woodhall Hills 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 eight nominees for the Executive Committee and the President 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., P.Magee Baildon G.C. Mr.D.Evans East Bierley G.C. and Mr.S.Hunt Silsden G.C.

All were elected by the Meeting.

Resolutions and recommendations received:

The Secretary said that there were no resolutions received.

Any Points of Interest to Raise.

Mr.M.Sawley of Bracken Ghyll asked whether the Names and addresses of Officers could be put on the Website.

Mr.Oakes said it was and he would attend to it. He also said that E-Mail addresses were available through the Links Section of the Website.

The President gave the Meeting a second opportunity for any comments. None was forthcoming.

Vote of Thanks.

Mr D.Oakes the Vice President proposed a vote of thanks to East Bierley 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 8.20pm.

President G.H.Senior

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