



**MINUTES OF THE WHEATHILL GOLF CLUB MAIN COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2016**

PRESENT:	Janette Stewart-Burnett	JSB	Chair
	Mike Strode	MS	Club Captain
	Pam Frith	PF	Ladies' Captain
	David Eynon	DE	Seniors' Captain
	Dave Gregory	DG	Club Treasurer
	Chris Whyntie	CW	Competitions & Handicaps Secretary
	Pete Dunford	PD	Club Secretary
	Jill Byrne	JB	Elected Member

**1. Introduction**

JSB welcomed everyone to the April 2016 meeting.

**Apologies**

An apology was received from Les Wills and Andrew England

**2. Minutes of the Last Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

The Minutes of the last Meeting were agreed, proposed by MS and seconded by PF

**3. Matters Arising from Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

Matters arising were addressed either at appropriate Agenda Items or as follows:

Archiving – Update

PD stated that the sub committee consisting of JB, DG and PD had met and started work; it had been decided to share the work between the three of them with each being given sections to prepare.

He went on to say that it is a large task and will take some time to complete.

**Action – On Going JB, PD and DG**

Club Rules

Point 1.1 of the proposed club rules needs further definition.

**Action: - PD in-conjunction with JSB to expand point 1.1 on going**

Club Handbook – Update

PD stated the handbook was now complete and the changes suggested had been incorporated. It was agreed that the handbook should be forwarded to Andrew England for incorporation into the Wheathill web site and to all officers of the club.

**Action: PD**

#### Shoe Cleaner

DG asked if we could have a pit with grating over it next to the shoe cleaner to catch debris produced by wheel and shoe cleaning.

**Action: AE On Going**

#### **4. CONGU – Club handicap**

The senior's section is considering a trial run using the Codgers Cup competition.

**Action: DE On Going**

DE stated that in discussion with other clubs they allow members to have two handicaps, one for competitions and one for general play.

It was unanimously agreed that CONGU clearly states only one handicap is allowed, no further discussion ensued. **Closed**

#### **5. Slow play**

MS reported:

It was reported to me that a member was marking his card on every green with a queue of players behind. I am afraid that the person who reported the situation would not give the offending members name.

I also followed a four ball on two buggies they were like a rash they certainly would not need the aid of Andrew's new course guide as they saw the biggest part of it on their way round. This also included the group in front of them as their golf was to a similar standard with no one in front of them.

We need to implement the Marshalls as soon as possible as the course is getting a lot more congested.

I suggest that the courses Marshalls are used on regular basis when available not just for competitions but also during general play.

MS has a list of volunteers, and is to discuss with Andrew England on the use of Buggies, a rota and the possibility of providing snacks for the volunteers

A Course Marshall Sign is to be produced for attaching to the buggy when needed.

**Action: MS to coordinate with AE.**

It was stated that the course clocks are not working and need to be fixed

**Action: MS**

#### **6. Competition Entrance Fee**

AE requested that the issue of match fees which have been static for many years be increased, guide line being £12 for home players and £15 for away players.

This would apply to 3 Counties League, Avalon League and all Senior Matches.

The Ladies section has a different match fee structure.

CW has requested a cost breakdown from Andrew England

**Action: CW, DE, and AE & JSB On Going**

#### **7. Qualifying History**

A change made to Club V1 has altered the way in which a players playing history can be obtained.

A list of players qualifying rounds is to be produced every month and displayed on the notice board.

**Action: Closed**

Mark Singleton to be asked to approach Club V1 to reinstate software to allow players to access their own qualifying round record via the touch screen.

**Action: Closed**

## **8. Club Electronic Diary**

DE asked if the club diary on the club web site could include senior's matches

**Action: AE On Going**

## **9. Club Captains Fund Raising**

MS reported:

I have arranged two dates with Andrew these events will be open to all sections of the club. I am donating a Claret Jug to be presented to the winning team. Team details to be arranged, if anyone has any suggestions on how to set the events up it would be very much appreciated. The first event being the 23<sup>rd</sup> June with a start time of 14:00 hrs, this day will be named Joints, Hearts and any other Ailments. (Basically everyone.)

The second being the 5<sup>th</sup> August with a start time of 09:00 hrs. No name as yet.

I am also looking to organise a weekend event later in the season.

To get the fund raising going Mary my wife is donating a sum of £100.00 as this is for the benefit of all members we should give Mary a big thank you.

The committee were in full agreement with this proposal and a letter of thanks is to be sent to Mary Strode for her kind donation

**Action: PD**

## **10. Members Contact Details**

DE asked if a list of members contact details could be provided, AE agreed to provide a squad list.

**Action: AE On Going**

In light of the data protection laws it was suggested that consideration be given to providing a list for members to sign to allow their personal data to be shared, perhaps a letter with subscription fee and or a statement in the next news latter.

**Action: All to consider**

## **11. Secretary's Report & Correspondence**

PD reported: -

We have received an invitation to enter a second team into the EGU Club Team Championship.

After some discussion it was agreed that we would not enter a second team this year, but it will be reviewed again next year.

I have also received from England Golf a reminder of the Gold Medal competitions for this year the South West venue is Burnham & Berrow, the cost being £25/person. The competition has 120 places available in each venue and club medal winners for 2015 can apply. Places are allocated to the players with the best nett differentials of their qualifying scores. The best 14 scores from each venue go forward to the grand final

CW is to prepare a list of players who qualify for this event.

**Action: CW**

I have also received an e-mail from Gemma Hunter of England Golf providing clarification on supplementary scores for Category 1 golfers, preferred lies and bunkers marked as GUR.

Attachment 1 attached refers

The contents of the Attachment 1 will be an agenda item for the next meeting

**Action: PD**

## **12. Treasurer's report**

DG presented the accounts, attached as Attachment 2

DG presented cheques of £150 to both the Ladies and Senior's sections as a contribution towards their operating costs

## **13. Captain's Report**

MS reported:

All seems to be going smoothly with no major issues.

I enjoyed our three counties match on Saturday last with the teams 3 1/2 to 1 1/2 win over Yeovil.

**BHF Day.**

BBC Somerset's reporter Jack Murley is coming to the event on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> May to interview Andrew, the BHF representative and Myself and this will be live on air with Ben McGrail.

I have had some issues with the etiquette in the clubhouse with members ignoring the signs and still wearing hats and golf shoes in the clubhouse and in some cases a very unpleasant response when asked to abide to the rules.

On a lighter note after the majority of players on Sunday had the most horrendous rounds. I asked Andrew if he had something done to the course. Andrew's response was we all need lessons.

## **14. Management Report**

AE reported:

The course is hanging in there well considering the awful weather. The greens are improving week on week and will be vertidraind and top-dressed in the coming days. The scars of the fuserium disease suffered in the autumn will finally grow through and we are optimistic of producing good surfaces for the summer.

Fairways have been fertilised now the temperature has increased and this will give them a much-needed boost. On this note, last week at Wincanton the green keeper called for a posy of members to help with a morning of divoting (picture included). We walked the fairways with a bucket and trowel accompanied with a truck of sand and seed for quick refills, along with pitchforks. Would the committee like to gather the troops for an attack on our course soon? Bacon Roll and coffee to follow at lunch time courtesy of the Management! List on the board? Clear date early start!

We continue to have teething problems with the touch screen in the corridor upgrade. Hopefully to be sorted ASAP!

The issue of qualifiers has raised its head yet again. The management urge all sections to rethink and fall in line with CONGU's recommendations of 3 qualifiers. We are the only club in Somerset requiring 5 qualifiers and England Golf and Somerset Golf Union advise us to do the same as everyone else. A top player could qualify to play in County Championships and not in one of our own competitions! It's time for a fresh start next season. (Email included from county attached as (Attachment 2)

The Professional shop is developing an Astroturf launch monitor area to the side of the putting green. This will enable us to test equipment, swings, distances and flight to improve all aspects of people's long game. We shall be advertising special days for game improvements, watch this space!

We hope you like the new sign on the front of the golf club which we think looks much better and would also like to thank all those who have been planting trees and painting benches to get us ready for a good season.

Team matches must speed up and stay close together. Players are losing numerous holes on matches in front causing delay to the match, other players on the course and food service in the clubhouse. Team captains are urged to help keep play moving.

MS volunteered to get a group of players together to repair the fairway divots

**Action: MS to liaise with AE**

The issue of qualifiers is to be addressed in time for the start of the 2017 season.

**Action: All to Note**

## **15. Ladies' Section Report**

PF reported:

We had a practice round for those playing in the prestigious Rogers Cup team and then we played the match against Oake Manor on 15<sup>th</sup> April, where Wheathill suffered a loss 6 games to 1. The team all played very well in adverse conditions with some of the matches having to go on to the 19<sup>th</sup> hole.

Wheathill hosted the Somerset under 14s championships. A very cold and windy day, needless to say the players didn't feel cold. The ladies section provided drinks and biscuits for the boys. The ladies section had their first inter league match of the season at home against Wells.

Wheathill won the rubber 4 games to 3.

The Pro-captain's competitions start this month, good luck to all who are entered.

The Margarita went of very well, always a popular competition with the ladies. The winning pair was Lesley Wills and Denise Malling with 36 points. Well done to them both.

## **19. Seniors' Section Report**

DE reported:

Senior friendly matches have started: 1 win; 1 draw; 2 losses.  
Good to see 'new' players enjoying their matches.

The Senior Team lost their match in the Somerset Bowl to Enmore Park at Vivary Park.

The BHF charity day is 11<sup>th</sup> May.

Thanks must go to Alan Frith for his stupendous efforts.

Over 100 players are due to start. Currently 108.

The George Philpott and Admiral Thring competitions have begun.

## **20. Junior Section Report**

JB reported:

Good to report this month that the Junior Qualifiers are back on, Oliver England played his first qualifying card in the medal this weekend and Callum's Net 63 lost him another shot off his H/c – Well done Boys!

Both are taking part in the Judith Rowsell Alliance on Bank Holiday Monday.

In the Somerset U14 champs held at Wheathill on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April, Tomas Wray shot 99 – Net 65 to come overall 6/33 and Callum shot 87 / 67 Nett which put him 9<sup>th</sup>.

We currently have 11 junior members, only a couple now without H/c.

Jill and I have been helped by Nicki England (who is tremendously supportive of the section) in securing an afternoon in May to attend Butleigh School with the Xtreme Golf. We are also attending Castle Cary School in the same week then Keinton on 14th June.

Efforts to organise a Junior Friendly match with both Farrington and Yeovil have sadly not come to fruition but we are hoping to take 4 or 5 of the juniors out next Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May for some match play regardless.

In conjunction with the pro shop we are proposing an Academy afternoon tournament with Year 6's of the schools that we have visited already and those we are due to visit, which Andrew is keen to get organised.

## 21. AOB

Volunteers to repaint the benches had been found and the benches painted

**Action: Closed**

Apple and other various trees have been purchased and planted thanks to DG

**Action: Closed**

LW asked why in the Judith Rowsell Alliance Stableford it was stipulated only one junior per team

**Action: Closed**

DG asked why a certain member was allowed to play in a medal and a single match play event simultaneously

CW to check the rules, and if necessary disqualify the player.

**Action: CW**

CW to produce a note defining the rules on simultaneous play, which can be posted on the notice board and included in the member's handbook.

**Action: CW**

Meeting closed at 19:30

## 22. Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 18:30 on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 in the Clubhouse

Signed:



Date:

25.5.16

Chair

**ATTACHMENT 1**

## WheathillGC

**From:** Gemma Hunter [g.hunter@englandgolf.org]  
**Sent:** 11 April 2016 11:39  
**To:** Undisclosed recipients:  
**Subject:** Clarification of CONGU clauses and Bunkers as GUR.

Good Morning,

Over the last few week we have received a number of questions regarding supplementary scores for category 1 golfers, preferred lies and Bunkers marked as GUR.

I though a quick email to all Counties and handicap advisors may help.

### **Supplementary Scores for Category 1 Golfers:**

If a player in this category holds a `competition` handicap they are unable to return any supplementary score until 1<sup>st</sup> September and then only if they have not returned enough scores to maintain their competition handicap beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. ( as in the CONGU book Clause 21)

If a player in this category has lost his `competition` status they are entitled to return 3 supplementary scores to regain the `competition` status. Please note this is a digression for England Golf and has been missed out the CONGU book but is included in the software specification.

### **Preferred Lies:**

As CONGU have now asked each Home Union to define the period for the use of preferred lies, England Golf have decide to keep this as 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> April. Clearly with the current weather conditions this may not be long enough, so I am going to extend this for 2016 till 31<sup>st</sup> May should clubs need to extend beyond this you can give extensions within your county.

The following local rule wording must be used:

*'A ball lying on a closely mown area through the green may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within 6 inches [150mm] of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green. A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it is placed, Rule 20-3d applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule apply. If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke.'*

*Note. 'Closely Mown Area' means any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.*

*Penalty for breach of Local Rule: Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes*

*If a player incurs the general penalty for a breach of this Local Rule, no additional penalty under the Local Rule is applied'*

**Note:** Competition Play Conditions will only apply when the specified area is within six inches (150 mm). See Clause 15.3

### **Bunkers marked as GUR.**

This has caused some debate within CONGU as to the impact of Bunkers can have on a competition retaining it qualifying status.

CONGU state that when `some bunkers` are out of play due to maintenance, and are marked as GUR an qualifying competition can be played.



**What counts as some?**

CONGU have struggled to define this, so England Golf advise that if more than 50% of bunkers are out of play due to maintenance or weather conditions then the competition must be declared as a non-qualifier.

CONGU had previously suggested that all bunkers could be out of play but this is likely to have an effect on the SSS/CSS and this also goes against a ruling from the R&A re flooded bunkers ( See below)

Local Rule Providing Relief Without Penalty from Bunker Filled with Casual Water

Question:

May a Committee make a Local Rule allowing a player to drop out of any bunker filled with casual water, without penalty, contrary to Rule 25-1b(ii)?

Answer:

No. The Committee may not make a Local Rule providing generally that flooded bunkers are ground under repair through the green, as such a Local Rule waives a penalty imposed by the Rules of Golf, contrary to Rule 33-8b.

However, in exceptional circumstances, where certain specific bunkers are completely flooded and there is no reasonable likelihood of the bunkers drying up during the round, the Committee may introduce a Local Rule providing relief without penalty from specific bunkers. Prior to introducing such a Local Rule, the Committee must be convinced that such exceptional circumstances exist and that providing relief without penalty from specific bunkers is more appropriate than simply applying Rule 25-1b(ii). If the Committee elects to introduce a Local Rule, the following wording is suggested:

*"The flooded bunker on [insert location of bunker; e.g. left of 5th green] is ground under repair. If a player's ball lies in that bunker or if that bunker interferes with the player's stance or the area of his intended swing and the player wishes to take relief, he must take relief outside the bunker, without penalty, in accordance with Rule 25-1b(i). All other bunkers on the course, regardless of whether they contain water, maintain their status as hazards and the Rules apply accordingly."*

In a competition played over more than one round, such a Local Rule maybe introduced or rescinded between rounds.

Hopefully this will answer some of these questions and ensure that we are all giving the same information to players and clubs.

If anyone has any question please feel free to contact me.

Regards  
Gemma

**Gemma Hunter**  
**Handicap & Course Rating Manager**  
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**WheathillGC**

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**From:** SGU Secretary [secretary@somersetgolfunion.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 30 March 2016 10:29  
**To:** Wheathill GC  
**Cc:** keintongolf@hotmail.co.uk  
**Subject:** Ian Fraser, CDH 1005327205

Good morning,

Via England Golf I have received an enquiry from the above who says the Club are requiring from him 5 qualifying scores all in qualifying competitions and none as supplementary scores.

May I refer you to the CONGU Handbook and may I suggest that the minimum requirement might be 3 qualifying scores in a 12-month period including supplementary scores.

Kind Regards,

Nigel Long

Secretary, Somerset Golf Union

Tel: 01934 425225

Email. [secretary@somersetgolfunion.co.uk](mailto:secretary@somersetgolfunion.co.uk)

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Visit our Website [www.somersetgolfunion.co.uk](http://www.somersetgolfunion.co.uk)

for Team News, Competition Entry Forms, County Card, Junior Golf & Links to Somerset Clubs, England Golf & R & A websites.

Wheathill Golf Club Accounts      24th March 2016 - 27th April 2016

	General Section	Mens Section	Junior Section	Ladies Sections	Senior Section
Opening Balance	£2,712.26	£1,246.02	£551.99	£950.20	£1,167.66
Income	Nil	Nil			
Competition Income		£68.50	£9.00		
Wheathill Ladies			£560.99	£940.68	£1,167.66
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£2,712.26</b>	<b>£1,314.52</b>	<b>£560.99</b>	<b>£940.68</b>	<b>£1,167.66</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Cheque Number					
842					
Keys to store box	£22.92				
Cheque Number					
843					
Seniors Engraving	£110.00				
Trees and Fencing	£78.49				
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£2,500.85</b>	<b>£1,314.52</b>	<b>£560.99</b>	<b>£1,430.53</b>	<b>£1,249.16</b>
<b>General/Mens/Junior</b>					
Cash at bank	£4,376.36				
Cash in hand	£4.45				
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,380.81</b>				