

**BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE 46th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

held at the Club House, Royal Birkdale Golf Club, Southport, Lancashire, on Monday, 12th August, 1963, at 3-0 p.m.

The President, Mr. Carl Bretherton, took the Chair for the Meeting. There were 60 members present.

The Chairman asked all present to stand and pay silent tribute to those who had died during the year.

The Hon. Secretary expressed apologies for absence on behalf of Messrs. Bridges, Thornton and Crawford.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

#### **Annual Report**

This was read by the Hon. Secretary and its adoption was proposed by Mr. Crabtree and seconded by Mr. C. A. Moore.

#### **Financial Statement**

The Hon. Treasurer presented the accounts, which he stated again showed a sound position. The Annual Draw had shown an increased profit on last year, but that on the Journal was only £137 this year against £198 last year. Contributions were also up, thanks to a substantial increase in membership. He again emphasised the need for earlier return of Section accounts to enable him to complete the books for Audit in reasonable time. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mr. Lord and seconded by Mr. W. E. Moore, and carried.

#### **The British Golf Greenkeepers' Journal**

The Hon. Editor thanked members for the increased postage which had been requested at the last Annual General Meeting. The profit was down on the year by about £60, mainly through increasing costs. He was sure that if forthcoming proposals for increased funds were accepted, they would allow for more original articles and pictures, and all round progress. The Hon. Editor assured sections that if any item of news from Sections could not be forwarded by the due date, he would do his best to include urgent items. He also regretted some occasional delay in publication, due entirely to staff changes. A sincere vote of thanks to Mr. Hawtree was given from the Chair and generously approved.

#### **Apprenticeship Scheme**

Mr. Hawtree informed members that a Joint Council for Golf Greenkeeper Apprenticeship had now been formed, with representatives for the English, Welsh and Scottish Golf Unions, the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association and the Sports Turf Research Institute. The next stage, now in preparation, was to prepare a guide to Golf

Clubs on how to run the scheme, and a draft of a booklet for Youth Employment Officers. Further thanks and appreciation were again expressed to Mr. Hawtree.

#### **Executive Committee Report**

The Tournament Committee had been elected to consist of Messrs. Geddes, Lord, Benbow and G. Herrington. Following the questionnaire sent out last year concerning the Annual Tournament, the main question arising from the replies sent in was that of changing the date from mid-August to early September. After discussion a proposition was given by Mr. C. A. Moore and seconded by Mr. Drewitt that no change be made, and that the Tournament should continue to take place in August. Carried by 41 to 3. It had been agreed that the Tournament for 1964 should be in the S.W. Section, and they had also been asked to nominate a Vice-Chairman for 1963/4. It was also agreed that the 1965 Tournament should be in the N.E. Section, and they would also be asked to nominate a Vice-Chairman for 1964/5.

#### **Election of Officers**

##### *President:*

It was proposed by Mr. Lord and seconded by Mr. Geddes that Mr. Carl Bretherton be re-elected President of the Association. Carried unanimously. Mr. Bretherton expressed his thanks for the generous approval of the proposition, and was very happy to continue in office for as long as they needed him.

##### *Vice-Presidents:*

It was proposed by Mr. Cashmore and seconded by Mr. Cockfield that the Vice-Presidents as listed in the Journal should be re-elected.

##### *Chairman:*

It was proposed by Mr. Lord and seconded by Mr. Sumner that the Vice-Chairman, Mr. G. T. Geddes, be elected Chairman for the ensuing year. Carried unanimously. Mr. Geddes thanked the meeting for the honour they had bestowed on him, and sincerely trusted he would be able to justify their choice. He then proceeded to present a silver Tankard to Mr. Lord as a token of thanks for his efforts during his year of office. Mr. Lord replied expressing appreciation of the loyal support he had received from officers and members alike.

##### *Vice-Chairman:*

No nomination was yet to hand, but the South West Section would forward one as soon as possible for publication in the Journal.

##### *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:*

It was proposed by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. O. P. Jones that Mr. C. H. Dix be re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer. Carried. Mr. Dix thanked the members and said he would be very pleased to continue in office.

#### Executive Committee:

It was proposed by Mr. Cashmore and seconded by Mr. Kingston that the Executive Committee should be elected as nominated by Sections. Carried.

#### Hon. Auditors:

It was proposed by Mr. Kingston and seconded by Mr. Dixon that Messrs. Smallfield, Rawlins & Co. should be appointed Auditors under the same conditions as this year. Carried.

#### Hon. Solicitor:

It was proposed by Mr. W. E. Moore and seconded by Mr. O. P. Jones that Mr. R. A. Beck be re-appointed Hon. Solicitor for the ensuing year.

#### Journal Postage

It was proposed by Mr. Ford and seconded by Mr. C. A. Moore that last year's resolution to increase Journal postage from 2/6 to 3/6 be confirmed. Carried.

#### Alteration to Rule 7

##### Proposition from the Executive Committee:

That, having regard to the resolution of last year's Annual General Meeting increasing the contribution of Journal postage to 3/6, the need to develop the Journal to the fullest extent possible, and in order to assist Section finances, Members' subscriptions be increased as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Class 'A' Head Greenkeepers ...	1	10	0
Class 'B' First Assistants ...	1	0	0
Class 'C' Associates ...		15	0
Class 'D' Greenkeeper/Professionals ...	1	10	0
Class 'E' Honorary Members ...	2	2	0

These subscriptions shall be allocated as follows:—

Class 'A'	Class 'B'
8/6 to Section Fund.	7/- to Section Fund.
13/- to Central Fund.	4/6 to Central Fund.
3/6 to S.T.R.I.	3/6 to S.T.R.I.
5/- to Journal.	5/- to Journal.
Class 'C'	Class 'D'
6/6 to Section Fund.	8/6 to Section Fund.
3/6 to S.T.R.I.	13/- to Central Fund.
5/- to Journal.	3/6 to S.T.R.I.
	5/- to Journal.

#### Class 'E'

£1 18s. 6d. to Section Fund.  
3s. 6d. to Journal.

After considerable discussion it was proposed by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. Kingston, that with the alteration to Class 'E' allocation to read £1 17s. 0d. to Sections and 5/- to Journal, the new rate of subscriptions should come into effect from 1st May, 1964. Carried by a large majority.

The Hon. Secretary informed the meeting that the increase in the allocation to Headquarters Funds was considered necessary in view of the increased charges for Audit, from £10 to a possible 50 guineas. With an approximate Class 'A' membership of 300,

this would bring in £45 to H.Q. funds, which would offset this increase.

#### Proposition from the North West Section

"That all Golf Clubs be circularised as to the rates of pay recommended according to the grade of Golf Greenkeepers."

Agreement was reached that steps should be taken in an attempt to arrive at a recommended scale of wages in some form, but it was also agreed the question was too involved for any immediate action. After considerable discussion Mr. Crabtree proposed and Mr. Brennan seconded that the Executive Committee should act as a Sub-Committee on this matter, with its members obtaining local information in their Sections for consideration at the next Executive Meeting. Carried.

#### Proposition from the Southern Section

"That, if possible, Members' Passes should be recognised as a free entry to all Golf Tournaments."

The Hon. Secretary replied to this proposition to the effect that this Association was not in a position to say "Yes" or "No". He had been in communication with the Secretary of the P.G.A. and had confirmed that the only people who could give this authority were the Promoters and Clubs concerned with the Tournament. If it was the wish of the Meeting, he would communicate again with the Secretary of the P.G.A., who had very kindly offered to approach the Tournament Promoters with a view to obtaining this permission, but this could not happen until next year.

The Hon. Secretary was asked to put forward this request.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair by the Association Chairman.

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## Viewpoint

### SERLBY PARK GOLF CLUB

Field House,  
Barnby Moor,  
Retford, Notts.  
12th August, 1963.

Dear Mr. Hawtree,

We have now been able to fix ourselves up with a first-class Greenkeeper. He is coming from the Bacup Club, in Lancashire.

We had a very good response to our advertisement in the "Greenkeeper", with twelve replies to choose from.

Very many thanks for your help in this matter

Yours truly,

CHAS. H. COLLINSON,  
Hon. Sec.