

The British Golf Greenkeepers' Association

Minutes of the 52nd Annual General Meeting held at the Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club near Porthcawl, on Monday, 11th August 1969, at 3.00 p.m.

The Association Chairman opened the meeting, at which there were sixty-two members, and invited Mr Carl Bretherton to occupy the Chair. Mr Bretherton thanked the Chairman for the invitation but said that owing to slight trouble with his hearing he did not feel that he could justify the position and said that Mr F. W. Hawtree would be very pleased to deputise for him and conduct the meeting. Mr F. W. Hawtree asked the meeting to stand in silent tribute to those who had died during the year as named in the Secretary's Report.

At the suggestion of the Chairman, the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Seacroft Golf Club, Skegness, on Monday 12th August 1968 were taken as read, and approved as published in the Journal.

Annual Report

This was read by the Hon. Secretary. Its adoption was proposed by Mr F. W. Ford and seconded by Mr Tucker and unanimously accepted.

Financial Report

Copies of the annual accounts had been posted in the club-house and further copies handed round at the meeting. The Treasurer considered that the finances of the Association were healthy and satisfactory and informed the members that the £200 which had been repaid from the Journal funds had now been transferred to the Benevolent Fund, £100 as investments and £100 in the deposit account. This had been requested at the Executive Meeting when the balance of the Benevolent Fund came under consideration at the last Meeting. It was proposed by Mr Folkes and seconded by Mr Finch that the accounts be adopted. Carried unanimously.

Tournament Matters

The Tournament Sub - Committee elected at the Executive Meeting were Messrs G. Herrington, H. Fry, E. Folkes, F. Cashmore and O. P. Jones, three to form a quorum.

It had been agreed that the forward tees on the course should be played during the whole of the Tournament.

The Northern Section had nominated Mr A. Robertshaw as Vice-Chairman to succeed Mr Fry and they were making arrangements for the venue for the 1970 Tournament. They had made enquiries at Filey Golf Club, South Scarborough and proposed, at the request of the Executive Committee, to make enquiries at Ganton.

Election of Officers President

At the unanimous request of the meeting Mr Carl Bretherton was re-elected as President of the Association. Carried unanimously. Mr Bretherton thanked the members and said he would be very pleased to accept this office for 1969/70.

Vice-Presidents

It was proposed by Mr Goodwin and seconded by Mr Drewitt that the Vice-Presidents be re-elected. Carried.

Chairman

It was proposed by Mr Cockfield and seconded by Mr Tucker that Mr H. A. D. Fry be elected Chairman of the Association, in succession to Mr Herrington. Carried unanimously.

Mr Herrington rose and wished Mr Fry every success in his new office and presented him with the badge of chairmanship. He then thanked the President, Secretary and Executive Committee for the help they had extended to him during his year of office which had been again a very happy experience for him. Mr Fry rose and thanked the meeting for their acceptance of him as their Chairman and hoped he would be able to carry out the necessary duties to their satisfaction. He then presented a tankard to Mr Herrington in appreciation of his services during 1968/69.

Vice-Chairman

It was proposed by Mr Benbow and seconded by Mr Noakes that Mr A. Robertshaw should be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. This was carried unanimously and Mr Robertshaw expressed his appreciation for the compliment shown by his election.

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Secretary and Treasurer

It was proposed by Mr Ford and seconded by Mr Machin that Mr C. H. Dix be re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer. Carried unanimously. Mr Dix thanked the members and expressed his willingness to continue in office.

Executive Committee

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

Hon. Auditors

It was proposed by Mr O. P. Jones seconded by Mr W. Sumner that Messrs Smallfield, Rawlins and Co. be re-elected as Hon. Auditors.

Hon. Solicitor

It was proposed by Mr Grealy and seconded by Mr Fordham that Mr R. A. Beck be re-elected Hon. Solicitor. Carried.

Any Other Business

Mr Kingston was of the opinion that something should be done by the promoters of major professional tournaments for this Association to receive a small percentage of the prize money which is made available for these events, particularly in view of the essential part taken by greenkeepers in the preparation of golf courses for these tournaments. After considerable discussion the members were not generally very optimistic of this possibility, but Mr Hawtree said that he would approach Major Bywaters as he thought that if anything could be done this would probably be the best approach.

Mr P. Malia had approached the Secretary with a view to the possibilities of forming a new section comprising the South Coast area of West Sussex, Hampshire and Dorset stating that in this area he thought that about 40 clubs would be interested and that it could well mean a large intake of new members if there was a local centre, possibly in Southampton. His object in bringing forward this suggestion was that the focal point of the Southern Section in London was too far away for the majority of Southern Section members to attend any arrangements made by the Section such as

lectures, tournaments and so on. This idea was discussed at some length but it was pointed out that no decision could be made at this stage and the matter would have to be referred to the Executive Committee for their consideration, who would then advise the Southern Section of their findings. Mr Malia offered his apologies for the incorrect approach to this matter which should have been through the Section and he was quite happy to leave the matter for further discussion by the Executive Meeting when fuller information as to its possibilities would be available.

In reference to the election of Vice-Presidents there was a general request from members that the names of Mr P. Marshall and Mr W. Payne, should be added to the list of Vice-Presidents, in appreciation of the tremendous assistance given by these gentlemen at Golf Tournaments throughout the country. The Hon. Secretary was asked to put this proposition forward for the next meeting.

There was nothing further to discuss and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair by Mr Goodwin.

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