

Minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting held at Notts. Golf Club, Hollinwell on Monday, 23rd August, 1971 at 3 p.m.

The Association Chairman opened the meeting at which there were approximately 60 members present and invited Mr Carl Bretherton to occupy the Chair. Mr Bretherton thanked the Chairman and expressed his willingness to conduct the meeting.

1. *Minutes of the last A.G.M.*: On the suggestion of the Chairman, the Minutes of the last A.G.M. were taken as read in view of the fact that they were put in the Association Journal.

The Hon. Secretary then read the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting which was held on the 8th May 1971. Arising from the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting, the Hon. Secretary reported that this was called in view of the proposed increase in subscriptions and although the meeting was not fully represented owing to lack of attendance, in view of the fact that the Executive Committee had agreed proposals put forward and there had been no objections raised by any member during the period of notification in the Journal of this meeting, the A.G.M. with this limited attendance had agreed to the proposition which was brought before it. The Hon. Secretary asked this meeting to accept the increases as called for. His request was carried unanimously.

2. *Annual Report*: The Hon. Secretary read the Annual Report and its adoption was proposed by Mr Carrick and seconded by Mr Herrington. At this stage, the Chairman asked the meeting to stand in silence in memory of the deceased members whose names had been submitted in the Report.

3. *Financial Statement*: The Hon. Treasurer then presented the accounts to the meeting and explained that they appeared to be in a reasonably satisfactory position and as no questions were raised by the meeting, their acceptance was proposed by Mr Walsh, seconded by Mr Fry.

4. *Executive Committee Report*: The

Tournament Sub-Committee elected at the Executive Meeting were as follows: Messrs Robertshaw, Carrick, Smith, Walsh and Folkes. Three to form a quorum.

The Hon. Secretary then reported that the North-West Section, who are handling the arrangements for 1972, had nominated Mr Walsh to act as Vice-Chairman and also that the Association had been offered the courtesy of the St Annes Old Links Golf Course for the tournament to take place on the 14th, 15th and 16th August.

5. *Election of Officers*:

President: At the unanimous request of the meeting Mr Carl Bretherton was re-elected President of the Association. Mr Bretherton thanked the meeting and said he would be very pleased to accept this office for 1971/1972.

Vice-Presidents: Following the proposition of the Northern Section, it was agreed that the name of Mr W. Mountain should be added to the list of existing Vice-Presidents who would be nominated as listed in the Association Journal. This was carried unanimously.

Chairman: It was proposed by Mr Fretter, seconded by Mr Dodds, that Mr J. Carrick, present Vice-Chairman, should be elected Chairman for 1971/1972. This proposition was carried unanimously.

Mr A. Robertshaw, the retiring Chairman, then rose and invited Mr Carrick to occupy the chair and in so doing, expressed a few remarks concerning his own happy association with the chairmanship in the past year. Mr Carrick then thanked the members for the honour bestowed upon him and he sincerely hoped that he would be able to carry out his duties to the satisfaction of the members. He thereupon presented to Mr Robertshaw a tankard in recognition of his services in 1971 to which Mr Robertshaw replied how delighted he was to receive this recognition as he had assured all his associates in the Northern Section that he would not go back without a trophy as he felt sure that somebody would give him a tankard before the end of the meeting.

(contd. on page 10)

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Vice-Chairman: On the proposition of the North-West Section it was unanimously carried that Mr H. M. Walsh should take over the office of Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

Secretary and Treasurer: At the general request Mr C. H. Dix was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer for another year to which Mr Dix responded that he would be willing to continue in office.

Executive Committee: It was unanimously agreed that the Executive Committee should be elected as nominated by Sections.

Hon. Auditors: The Hon. Treasurer reported that the services of Messrs. Smallfield, Rawlins & Co. had been most efficient and at his proposal, it was unanimously agreed that the Hon. Auditors should be re-elected.

Hon. Solicitor: It was unanimously agreed that Mr H. Dowding, who had kindly taken over the duties for the Association, should be re-elected for the ensuing year.

6. *Proposition from Mr Fretter of the East Midlands Section that any groundsman be allowed to become a member of the British Golf Greenkeeper's Association wherever he is employed:* As this proposition came from an individual Member, it was put to the meeting but failed to obtain a seconder whereupon the meeting agreed that this proposition could not be considered.

7. *Proposition from Mr J. Scott, seconded by Mr A. Robertshaw that Mr W. Mountain, President of the Northern Section, be nominated as a Vice-President of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association:* This proposition was unanimously accepted by the meeting with a note of appreciation of Mr Mountain's services over many years for the Northern Section.

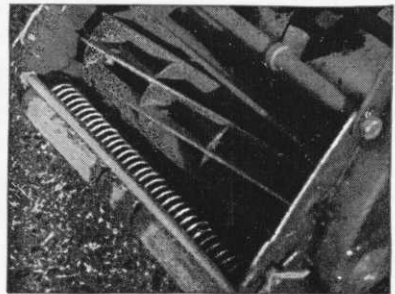
8. *Any other Business:* The question of members' passes was raised as it was felt by several members that these did not entirely meet their requirements and it was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should consider the possibility of making them more attractive.

The question of non-arrivals at the tournament by members who had

forwarded Entry Forms was discussed as it was felt that the efforts put forward by the Secretary and his Committee to arrange the tournament were badly disturbed by members not appearing and not giving previous notification. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Executive Committee should consider this problem with a view to making possible changes to the Form of Entry.

Following the advice of Mr F. W. Hawtree to the Executive Meeting, this meeting was informed that 1972 was the 60th anniversary of the foundation of this Association and it was suggested by the Executive Committee that some form of celebration should be put in hand to mark the occasion. After some discussion, it was thought that a function in Blackpool on the evening following the end of the Tournament would be a good idea and it was finally agreed that Mr Walsh should be asked to make enquiries at this venue to see what was possible in the way of holding possibly a dinner and cabaret or dinner-dance Mr Walsh said he would be most happy

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to see what was possible and he would advise the Secretary when he had any views to offer.

There being nothing further, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair by Mr G. Herrington.

GOLF FOR THE OVER SIXTIES

By George Herrington

At my last Greens Committee meeting I was asked if it would be possible to bring the fairways ten yards nearer to the tees to make it easier for the older players.

I have already done this but have warned my committee that it may take a year before we can call them fairways which are up to the standard of the present fairways.

Whilst I was on holiday, I had the opportunity to re-consider the problem and wondered if this was the answer. I have now decided a much better solution would be to make forward tees, say on holes where one has to walk back twenty yards or more, to give us

old uns a start and the opportunity to reach the fairway. Also on holes of 160 yards or more there are not many elderly golfers who can get up with an iron. Having to take a wood means more often than not a ball dropping on the green will go over giving little chance for a three. Again a forward tee might well provide the answer. This in effect would be like many seaside courses which have forward tees for visitors.

Some may ask why not use the ladies tees? I think this would be the last straw for men who have played golf all their lives. As more and more elderly people now have more time and opportunity to go round other courses I think they should receive some consideration.

Many elderly visitors who have come to Lindricksay state that some of the carries over the gorse are too much for them and can spoil a day's outing. I think the time has now come to make a shorter course for the older player without spoiling the course for the younger, stronger players.

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