

**MINUTES OF THE 56th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT
CLEVEDON GOLF CLUB, CLEVEDON, SOMERSET, ON MONDAY,
13th AUGUST 1973, AT 3 p.m.**

The Chairman opened the meeting at which there was approximately 80 members present, and in the absence of the President, asked Mr. F. W. Hawtree if he would kindly occupy the Chair. Mr. Hawtree thanked the Chairman and expressed his willingness to conduct the meeting.

1. Minutes of the last A.G.M.

The Chairman asked the meeting that as the minutes of the last A.G.M. were printed in the Journal, if they would agree for these to be taken as read. This was agreed and the Hon. Secretary was thereupon asked to read the minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting which was held in London on 19th May, 1973

2. Annual Report

The Hon. Secretary read the Annual Report and its adoption was proposed by Mr. C. Moore, seconded by Mr. F. Ford. After its adoption 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

Copies of the Accounts had been passed round the meeting and the Hon. Treasurer stated that he thought the figures would confirm the reason for his request for increased income to the General Account which had necessitated the Extraordinary General Meeting. He felt reasonably confident that with the additional income which he now anticipated, that the expenses incurred could be satisfactorily met and that in the future a reasonable balance could be main-

tained. After some discussion, it was proposed by Mr. Heeles, seconded by Mr. Folkes that the accounts should be accepted.

4. Executive Committee Report

The Tournament sub-Committee elected by the Executive Committee were Messrs. Walsh, Scoones, Smith, Herrington and James.

It had also been agreed that the competition should be played from tournament tees and the Executive Committee had been pleased to accept five late entries.

The Executive Committee also nominated an International Team to represent England at Woodbridge Golf Club on October 3rd. This team to be the Scratch Winner of this Tournament, the Senior Handicap Division Winner and the Junior Handicap Division Winner, plus the Runner-up in the Senior Handicap Division to be included as Reserve.

With reference to the 1974 Tournament, the Committee regretted that they had been advised through the Hon. Secretary that the N.E. Section were unable to find a suitable course and had expressed a wish to be excused the privilege, and had asked for the arrangements for 1974 to be handled by another Section. The next Section in the rota sequence was the Midland Section and the suggestion was made that they should be given the opportunity to handle the 1974 Tournament. Mr. F. W. Hawtree raised the question of the possibility of taking next year's Tournament abroad possibly to France. This idea was thought to be quite a possibility but would depend

on the costs involved for transport and accommodation. After some discussion, it was agreed that the incoming Chairman would make inquiries in an effort to obtain the views of the members, and to avoid the necessity of calling an Executive Committee meeting, he proposed advising the Secretary of their views which could be circulated to Executive members and if it was felt that an Overseas Tournament was favourable, further inquiries could be made as to more complete details. Otherwise, it was agreed that the 1974 Tournament should be passed to the Midland Section.

5. Election of Officers

In the absence of Mr. Carl Bretherton it was proposed that he should again be approached and asked to continue office for the ensuing year. This was unanimously agreed.

Vice-President

It was agreed that the names as listed in the Association Journal should be re-elected and this proposition was also carried unanimously.

Chairman

The Chairman proposed that Mr. I. Scoones, Vice-Chairman should be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year. This suggestion was carried unanimously. Mr. Walsh, the retiring Chairman, rose and handed his badge of office to Mr. Scoones and expressed his pleasure at the choice of Mr. Scoones as his successor. He then addressed the meeting and thanked the members for their support during his year of office and said that it had been a memorable occasion for him and trusted he had given satisfaction by his efforts. Mr. Scoones then thanked the members for their support to his nomination as Chairman and sincerely hoped he would be able to fulfil the office as satisfactorily as his predecessor. He

then asked Mr. Walsh to accept a Tankard in recognition of his services during his year of office and Mr. Walsh once again expressed his thanks for the kind gift which would always remind him of a very enjoyable year.

Vice-Chairman

Owing to the inability of the North East Section to handle the 1974 arrangements, there had at the moment, been no nominations for Vice-Chairman and this office would therefore remain vacant until the decision could be made regarding next year's event.

Secretary and Treasurer

As was generally understood Mr. C. H. Dix had requested last year that he would like to vacate the office of Secretary and Treasurer as soon as a successor could be found. He was also well aware that at the moment no successor was forthcoming, and at the general request of the meeting, he agreed to carry on in office until 30th April, 1974 but he sincerely hoped that every effort would be made to find somebody to take over the reins from that date.

Executive Committee

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

Hon. Auditors

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the services of Messrs. Smallfield, Rawlins & Co., had again 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 the Southern Section

'That the title of Head Greenkeeper should be changed to Golf Course Manager.'

Before this proposition was discussed a representative of the Southern Section asked for it to be amended to read 'that the title of Head Greenkeeper should be changed to Golf Course Superintendent'.

Once again this annual discussion took place and after several members had voiced their opinions and a vote was taken with the result that there were 19 for the change and 25 against, whereby the proposition was not carried.

7. Any Other Business

The question was again raised regarding venue of the Annual Tournament as to whether it must be a seaside course or whether an inland course could be accepted, if it was thought advisable by the Section concerned. The Hon. Secretary reminded the meeting that a similar proposition was discussed at the A.G.M. in 1970 and a firm agreement was made at that time, if a Section could not find a seaside course, another Section should be asked to take over the arrangements for the Annual Tournament. However, after a lengthy discussion it was obvious there was considerable disagreement on this matter, and a vote was called for, which resulted in 2/3 majority for any inland course if it was thought to be more suitable, which in effect reversed the decision of the 1970 resolution.

Mr. F. W. Hawtree advised the meeting of the First British Turfgrass Symposium which was being held at Messrs. Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, Ipswich on October 4th, and he sincerely hoped that as many Greenkeepers as possible would be there.

Accommodation would be available for approximately 300 people but it would have to be a question

of first come, first served, if all the accommodation was called for and he hoped that early applications would be made by any of the members who would like to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair by Mr. Herrington.

Book Review

THE DUNLOP BOOK OF GOLF

The Dunlop Book of Golf consists of a highly entertaining series of short stories which describe the origins of competitive golf and which trace major competitions and tournaments over the past 50 years. Exploits and achievements of the great players past and present are depicted, as are incidents at British and American Open Championships and the Ryder, Walker and Curtis Cups.

In 500 anecdotes, the author David Guiney has succeeded by detailed research and through his intimate knowledge of the game in capturing the highlights of every great golfing event since the inception of the modern game.

The Dunlop Book of Golf is available from most leading booksellers at a recommended retail price of £2.00.

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