

<p>Present from the committee</p> <p>Michael Blanning (MB) Captain; Ian Farrington (IF), Treasurer and Secretary; Fraser Nicol, Competition and Handicap Secretary (FN); Paul Miles (PM), Assistant Competition and Handicap Secretary; David Frost (DF); Larry Davis (LD); Andrew Drummond (AD); Trevor Barker (TB), Immediate Past Captain, John Moss (JM), Seniors Captain.</p> <p>In attendance: none</p>	
<p>1 Apologies for absence</p> <p>Ben Blackburn (BB); Glen Halsey (GH).</p>	
<p>2 Approval of minutes for September committee meeting and matters arising</p> <p>Minutes agreed and approved.</p> <p>2.1 Matters arising</p> <p>MB reported that Broke Hill Golf Club had announced that it is to close and accordingly will not be participating in the Four Hills competition. The committee agreed that Kings Hill Golf Club is willing to continue in the competition with the other two clubs.</p> <p>IF confirmed he had spoken to GH who had confirmed that the Company's insurance policies covered liability for injury on the course during competitions organised by the committee.</p>	
<p>3 Draft AGM minutes and matters arising</p> <p>The draft minutes were noted by the committee and it was agreed that they would be put before members for approval at the next AGM. Matters arising from the minutes for this committee to consider are covered in the agenda for this committee meeting.</p>	
<p>4 Communications with members</p> <p>MB reported that the first communication with members had been issued and that feedback had been positive. The communication had highlighted the events coming up before Christmas. For the Winter Festival it was agreed that FM/PM would arrange to provide the competition rules with score cards; FN offered to provide BB with support if BB needed it. The committee debated how to deal effectively with prizes for the Turkey Trot, particularly in the light of past experiences. Despite common custom it was agreed that prizes for 2017 will comprise multi-store gift vouchers to enable winners to purchase either a turkey or other products as appropriate to accommodate their own particular circumstances.</p>	<p>FN/PM FN/BB</p>
<p>5 Introduction of new R&A rules and recommendations</p> <p>MB gave a factual account of the pace of play comments made at the AGM, the additional comments made to him on other occasions, and the key points arising from his discussion on the subject with BB.</p>	

<p>FN and PM reported that the R&A has been pushing to improve pace of play for some time. Until new rules are adopted, good practice is set out in the R&A Pace of Play Guidance Manual covering Player Behaviour, Management Practice, and Course Design and Set-up.</p> <p>FN and PM commented that action on Management Practice and Course Set-up is within the remit of the Company to implement and as such the most immediate impact this committee can make is on improving player behaviour. PM introduced the document "KHGC Men's committee recommendations on ready golf" highlighting the R&A view on good practice as set out in its Pace of Play manual. It was noted that the Ladies section had already adopted this good practice, as have a number of other prominent clubs, and also noted the guidance being given to players routinely at major amateur events. After discussion it was agreed that the Men's Section should align itself with the Ladies and that these good practice points should be communicated in a form substantially the same as set out in the document, and with links to relevant R&A documents and videos. Furthermore, key messages should be highlighted by the captain in his covering email.</p> <p>The committee noted with disappointment that (except where very occasional delays were augmented by Sunday Kent and Invicta League matches) the club management do not yet appear to recognise that pace of play is an issue of widespread concern to members, nor the wider trends in the game to deal with such concerns. After discussion it was agreed that it would be extremely helpful if the management are requested to provide a detailed account of the action taken, and planned to be taken, by the Company to improve pace of play in the areas under its control. This in particular should cover all relevant aspects of the R&A Pace of Play Guidance Manual covering "Management Practice" and "Course Set-up" as well as what it plans to do to support this committee to improve player behaviour.</p> <p>The committee discussed whether to designate certain holes as "call-up" holes. Having weighed up the respective merits and consequences it was agreed that on balance not to adopt any call-up holes for the time being.</p>	<p>FN/PM</p> <p>MB</p> <p>BB</p>
<p>6 Extra weekend competitions</p> <p>MB reported that the appetite, again as raised at the AGM, among members to have more competitions, particularly (but not exclusively) those with lower handicaps where supplementary cards cannot be used for handicap purposes. The committee acknowledged that (i) to enable this club to maintain its reputation it was necessary to move with the times and improve its service to players by providing more handicap qualifying events; (ii) any additional qualifying events may require additional resourcing should the uptake in player participation become material.</p> <p>It was agreed to trail one additional qualifying roll-up stableford competition per month (excluding March 2018) commencing January 2018 and to reassess matters again later in the year. There will be no entry fee and no prize for such events: players can operate their own sweep should they choose to do so. FN will consult with BB on the operational and course qualification aspects of the competitions. Members will be notified of these competitions as part of the captain's periodic communications and by placing banners on the booking site in the same way as Monthly Midweek competitions are advertised.</p>	<p>FN/PM</p>

<p>7 Trialling new and revised competition formats for 2017/18</p> <p>Monthly competition entry fee. The committee discussed the document “Providing better value for our section – a discussion paper” and agreed to change the balance between entry fees and sweep amounts in respect of monthly competitions for a trial period commencing January 2018: members will be notified in advance of the trial as part of the captain’s periodic communications. Winning Sweep allocations will be made to the top nine players and follow the existing rules covering sweep payments set out in the Men’s Section Competition Policy.</p> <p>Eclectic. It was agreed that the new Eclectic (announced at the AGM) would commence in March 2018 with the prizes awarded after the last eligible competition in September 2018.</p> <p>As this is a new competition for which no entry fee is paid, the committee discussed various options for prizes taking into particular consideration the R&A guidelines for amateur golfers, and noting that the award will coincide with the Company’s annual bar card advance payment request. It was agreed that prizes will be in the form of multi-store gift vouchers to give winners the freedom of being able to choose something they really want and can enjoy.</p> <p>Board Event prizes. The committee agreed to fix in advance the value of prizes for all Board events in 2017/18 and where necessary to amend the percentage of entry fees allocated to prizes (usually 60%) to meet those fixed prize obligations. DF will present his recommendations (to the extent they vary from those already provisionally reflected in the financial budget below) at the committee meeting in January 2018 ready for the summer season.</p> <p>It was noted that the Competition policy will need to be updated to reflect these revisions.</p>	<p>DF</p> <p>FN/PM</p>
<p>8 Target Bank Balance for coming years</p> <p>The committee discussed the document “Bank Balance in coming years-a discussion paper”. After due consideration the committee agreed that it had planned to reduce the bank balance naturally over the next few years through its normal programme of competition events and prize giving policies and no additional action was required.</p>	
<p>9 Budget and key financial assumptions for 2017/18</p> <p>IF presented the draft budget for 2017/18 which the committee discussed and in particular noted: (i) the key assumptions on pages 2 and 3 of the draft; (ii) the bank balance is expected to reduce as revised competition and prize formats come into effect. While the bank balance is sufficient for our foreseeable working capital requirements it will not accommodate new unfunded projects; (iii) insurance is covered by the Company’s policies and accordingly no expense falls to the Men’s section; (iv) final proposals covering fixed prize allocations for board events is to be considered at the January 2018 committee meeting (see item 7 above) and this may result in a change to the actual financial results for the year from those budgeted, but that any such change can be accommodated within the sections reserves; (v) while the subsidy to the Kent League is agreed, MB,DF and IF are to consider whether subsidy payments can be improved operationally.</p>	<p>MB/DF/IF</p>

After due consideration, and subject to consequential changes arising from decisions made in Item 7 above and the elimination of junior competition entry fees (for which the Company are responsible), the budget was approved.	IF
<p>10 AOB</p> <p>MB introduced a request from the management on the subject of establishing a joint committee for Juniors. After consideration and discussion, it was agreed that while the Men's section was always keen to encourage junior development at the club, and indeed already does so to a considerable degree according to feedback from parents, all committee members were already fully engaged in driving improvements to the member experience and so unable to devote time or expense to supporting a juniors committee.</p> <p>MB reminded the committee about the upcoming teams information evening designed to widen participation in matches. It was agreed by the committee that A and B team players should not be selected for Invicta matches except in the most exceptional circumstances, in order to maximise the opportunities for other members to participate in competitive matches.</p> <p>MB proposed that there is an awards evening at the end of the season but in a more casual format than has been undertaken in the past. This was agreed by the committee.</p> <p>The committee considered and agreed some tweaks to the events diary and these will be shared with members.</p> <p>FN agreed to tidy up the competitions section of the web site and to bring it up to date where applicable.</p> <p>IF tabled the management accounts for October 2017 for the committee's information only.</p>	<p>MB/JM</p> <p>MB</p> <p>FN</p>

There being no further business the meeting finished at 21:00

Next meeting Saturday 27th January 2018