



Scottish Blind Golf Society

The driving force behind blind golf in Scotland since 1982

Patrons: Andrew Coltart, Sir Sean Connery, Sandy Lyle MBE, Paul Lawrie, Alan Rough.

The Annual General Meeting for year ending 2018, to be held at RNIB Scotland, 12 – 14 Hillside Crescent, Edinburgh EH7 5EA on Thursday 28th March at 11.30 am

Meeting Minutes

1. Roll call/apologies, establish quorum

Apologies received from Barry Hampton, Gerard Kelly, Ian Moncrieff, Eddie Pawlik, Bennet Ward and Colin Simpson

Present: Gordon Dickson, John Imrie, David Paterson, Charlie Forbes, Darren Healey, Willie Cheape, Kris Adams, Sam Sloan, Ally Reid, Gill Lowther and Craig Clarke. Meeting established as quorate.

2. Captain/chairman's welcome and comments

Charlie opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming. Thank you to Craig for coming as outgoing Treasurer and for all his hard work over the previous year. It was nice to see our new member Willie Cheape here today.

3. Minutes of last AGM 2017, matters arising & adoption

Minutes were adopted.

4. Secretary's report/comments

Gill felt that since she joined at the AGM last June, she had settled in well and got a good feeling for how the society worked. The big task that she had taken on during 2018 was to source a website builder and work with them to get a new website up and running. The new website went live at the end of 2018. She confirmed that it should not necessarily be seen as a finished site, as more can be added to it as is seen fit. However it should provide a stable base going forwards and now gave the society a web presence again. John asked if we would add more photos etc. Gill confirmed that this would be the case. Kris provided feedback on the voiceover capability within the site.

Action: Gill to work with website builder to check this functionality.

Gill indicated that she wanted to make sure that she had an accurate up to date list of members. John has one from 2017 which would be a good basis for this.

Action: John to send this list through to Gill.

5. Financial report and SBGS accounts

5.1. Adoption of accounts

Craig went through the headline figures, which are that there was a surplus of £32,292. This was mainly due to having the Scottish Disabled Trust money paid directly into our account whereas previously

it had been held by the Trust ring-fenced for us. Gill questioned if the money from the Scottish Disabled Trust should be classed as restricted. However Craig confirmed that when he worked with the Trust to get the money paid into our account, they agreed that it was unrestricted money. If we take this money out of the equation, there was a profit of roughly £10,000 which was broadly in line with previous years. We have a restricted amount of £9,960 which is the money received from the National Lottery. However the accounts incorrectly show that the restriction is for overseas travel – this must be amended to training for new young people.

Action: Gill to get this updated.

We received £20,120 which was restricted for the purpose of the British Blind Open, which is as can be seen by the corresponding payment. Other payments similar to last year with the exclusion of the Celtic cup which did not happen.

David proposed, Darren seconded and all agreed that the accounts can be adopted on the proviso that the update for the National Lottery happens and then they can be signed.

John asked if we had a clear picture of what money we had received in the accounts and since then and what it can be used for. All agreed that this would be useful.

Action: Gill/Ally to pull this together.

5.1.1. Membership fees

It became clear while doing the end of year bank reconciliation that only 12 people had paid their membership last year. Much discussion was had around members vs districts paying. However only Glasgow district paid for its members in 2018. After a discussion it was agreed that we would not ask for last year's subs from last year. The Exec Committee should have picked this up earlier and this coming year will be on top of this. It is important that members pay their subs and confirm to Secretary/Treasurer that they have done so.

David proposed, Darren seconded that the membership fee of £30 should stand and that the first year is free for new members. All agreed.

6. Other Office bearer's reports/comments

6.1. Match Secretary

The Match play will be cancelled if there is not enough people to play in it. Previously at an Exec Meeting it had been agreed that if less than 6 people played the merit points available should be halved. However there was a general feeling that this penalised the people that did put themselves forward and played. John proposed that every member should get full points if they played at Classics. David seconded and all agreed.

6.2. Handicap Secretary

Ally informed those present that how the IBGA calculates handicaps may change, but nothing is confirmed or clear what it might change to. Doug who is the Handicap Secretary for the IBGA is looking to retire but will stay on until a replacement is found. Derrick Sheridan has resigned from the IBGA Board.

New handicaps will be issued on the 1st April.

6.3. District News

Glasgow – Kris confirmed that their Classic will be on the 15th July at Bothwell Castle Golf Club. 11.30 am tee off. Expecting £20 fee.

Membership – potentially Jim O’Hara, John Miller may join again but may have health issues.

Grampian – Sam confirmed that the Classic will be at Edzell on 20th August, 11.30 am tee off. £20 fee, there are 6 buggies

Strokeplay at Portlethen on 4/5 August. 11.48 am tee off. John proposed £60 fee for golf and one night hotel stay. Darren seconded, all agreed.

Tayside/West – Charlie confirmed Tayside Classic/Ron Black Memorial at Drumoig on 14th May. West Classic at Prestwick St Nicholas on 28th May.

Edinburgh – Charlie confirmed Edinburgh Classic at Prestonfield Golf Course on 8th July.

Jim Watt Trophy at Liberton Golf Course on 2nd September.

7. Written proposals & motions received

7.1. Code of Conduct

None received.

7.2. Constitution

This does need changing but is a big job to take forward. Maybe a sub-committee could take this on. John proposed that we use the operating name of Blind Golf Scotland, but keep SBGS at OSCR. He also proposed that a review of 7.1 and 7.2 should be carried out for the AGM next year and they could be submitted with the 2019 accounts. David seconded, all agreed.

7.3. General

7.3.1. B1 golfers (Kris Adams)

Kris proposed that B1 golfers should wear blackout glasses at Scottish events. This already happens at IBGA funded events. Kris proposes that this should be a rule for SBGS events. John seconded. Sam counter proposed that this should be optional and not a rule. Ally seconded. The two proposals were put to a vote, Kris’s proposal won 5 votes to 4. Organisers should check glasses before teeing off.

8. Election of Office bearers

8.1. Captain - Charlie Forbes, proposed by Sam, seconded by David.

- 8.2. Vice-Captain – Sam Sloan, proposed by Charlie, seconded by Darren.
- 8.3. Treasurer: This position is being advertised on Volunteer Edinburgh website, hopefully we will have this filled soon.
- 8.4. Secretary: Gill Lowther – serves for 2 years.
- 8.5. Handicap Administrator –Ally, proposed by Charlie, seconded by David
- 8.6. Match Secretary – carry on as is between Ally and Sam, with nobody coming forward.

9. AOB

Advertising fundraiser at Dalmahoy on 22nd April 2019