

## **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CFCC SENIOR GOLF SECTION 2021**

The Annual AGM was held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 in the Atlantic Suite CFCC. The meeting was conducted as a PowerPoint presentation and to reflect the different way of conducting the AGM the minutes will refer to the presentation to avoid duplication with relevant slides indicated.

The Captain welcomed everyone to the meeting which was attended by over 50% of the Seniors membership (approx 70 members in attendance), there were 14 apologies (slide 2).

Prior to the opening remarks from the Captain it was his great pleasure to present a cheque for £5123 to Dean Lawrence of The Fisherman's Mission his chosen charity over the past 2 years (slide 4).

### **ITEM 1 – OUTGOING CAPTAIN'S REPORT**

When I took over from Graham Powell two years ago I think it was Graham Clatworthy who said to me "Once the match season gets going your time will fly by" what he didn't say or nor did anyone else know my season would not really start for 18 months. Graham also said to me when you are captain do it your way, by all means ask for advice if you need it but do it your way.

During the first lockdown an enormous amount of work was carried out by the committee to develop the website and a system that would allow us to continue with our Monday mornings, and with the expert tech advice from Joe and the blessing of the golf management we were successful.

In 2020 we had just one match - in late August, and after being castigated from the catering manager for having the audacity to announce the winners and attempt to give the NTPs a bottle of wine I decided it was not worth continuing with the two matches left on our calendar! We did however have success with having a memorial day for the late Rick Evans MBE and also managed to hold our seniors club champs, again very successful.

All of this was only possible due to the hard work put in by the committee.

Then of course came two more lockdowns and our first proper match was 1<sup>st</sup> of June. We had a miserable day before that at Launceston on the 12<sup>th</sup> May that soaked us all and not even a hot drink after as I sat shivering under the stairs with Joe waiting for the rest of the team to come in - I thought who would be a captain?

With the goodwill of the management achieved over the last 12 months and negotiation with several teams we were able to re arrange some of the early fixtures but both Carlyon Bay and Bowood pulled out of any fixtures, we also had a problem with Stover which has resulted in them no longer being on our fixture list for next year.

We have used just 39 different players this season despite there being plenty of opportunities for others to participate, results have been good at home with just two losses but we won't talk about the away games. I would like to thank those 39 players some who have jumped in on more than one occasion when I have needed them. For some of the players it was their first experience of matchplay and the meal and social side after, all of them have thoroughly enjoyed that experience.

For those of you that have not played for whatever reason be it COVID or the mistaken belief that they are not good enough please give it a go next season and give Joe the headache of too many players rather than not enough players.

I would also like to thank you all for your kind contributions to my charity; many of you will have seen the fishing series Cornwall this fishing life, many of you have a nautical background and will be aware that fishing is such a dangerous job and the Fisherman's Mission is the first point of contact for many desperate and often bereaved families.

I would also like to thank the committee for their support over what has been at times a difficult two years and you as members of our section for putting your trust in me to run the section for these years. The membership has grown quite considerably during my tenure by around a third and I know there are some that feel we should have a cap on numbers, however, the section has a span of 20 years for most and very few will play into their 80s so we will at some time have a number that are no longer able to play for whatever reason, numbers of under and over 70s are fairly equal at the moment and will probably remain that way for some time, many of those in their seventies joined when the age was 55.

Fortunately this is not on the agenda this AGM.

What, however, is on the AGM and I am jumping the gun slightly here, is reverting to the old roll up system - I will give you my thoughts now. When Graham Powell was captain we discussed what we could do about the chaos that always happened at the roll up desk and both Graham and I alternated between going out first and last. It is extremely unfair for you as section members to expect someone to sit on that desk with no idea of who was going to come and sort out the mess at the end if a huge block came around the corner with only a couple of tees left, and then have to explain to the golf shop why we were running half an hour late or the opposite, three tees too many. As I said I am jumping the gun here the matter will be discussed fully later in the Agenda but please think what you are asking your elected committee members to do.

## **ITEM 2 – SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Firstly, my apologies for not being there in person, however, I know I can rely on the Captain and old friend Dave to read this out and hopefully get a laugh or two on my reflections on my period as Secretary.

Despite the long breaks due to covid there was still plenty for the Committee to discuss and quite a few difficult issues to overcome. Due, probably to my popularity during the time I was in office, the membership grew from 93 to 127, that's a 36% rise and apart from Covid it is one of the major reasons why things have had to change. Whether or not there has to be a restriction on numbers in the future is up of course to the new Committee.

We've had a couple of changes to the Constitution over the last couple of years and these have given more security to the people who put themselves forward to serve on the Committee. There were also changes due to Covid which enabled the Committee to carry on the administration of the section by internet. I have managed to get us quite a lot of press coverage over the last few years although it hasn't exactly made people household names. My one major failure with reporting was in the week Rob Evans won his first tournament for

goodness knows how many years, and it wasn't reported !! I know Jim, if elected will be carrying these on and apparently the Herald does have a translator!!

The Matches for 2022 are all agreed and the list is on the Notice Board and also on the web site. We have a new fixture next year with Elfordleigh which replaces Stover who decided they didn't want to play us anymore.

The section is in good hands going forward, from my point of view I just want to play golf and enjoy the company of the members here . It would also be nice to win a bit of money but I always seem to be in a bad team!!

Finally, my personal thanks to Joe, we've had our differences, some of which were down to our mutual love of wine in the evenings but once we decided we closed at 7pm, things improved! The web site has been a huge boost for us and through Covid the on line booking system has been excellent. Also, well done Dave, unless you have been in the role of Captain you have no idea how much time it takes out of your day. My only criticism is that the one prize I won this year was a bottle of wine I had taken to his place a few weeks earlier!!

### **ITEM 3 – TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer briefed the members on his various methods of receiving payments and the pros/cons of each. This included cash, online banking (easy to set up and gives both parties copies of any transactions), card transactions, via website and using a newly purchased card reader. The charges, however, vary greatly between methods and to save the Section money it is preferable that when using a card the card reader is used. Copies of the income and expenditure statement were presented to the members at the meeting for perusal, the current balance being £436.16

### **ITEM 4 – COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Thanks to all those that entered the competitions this year and to Vice-Captain Joe for his work creating and updating the website and arranging the committee meetings whilst we were in lockdown. The Zoom meetings were somewhat different! But we got there. Thanks also to Secretary Mike for writing all those articles for the Herald, Cornish Times and Gazette.

Competitions: 22 Trophies in total. St Mellion hold the Duck Trophy. Last year, we couldn't complete 4 competitions due to the lockdown; they were the Seniors Open, Pairs,

Plate and Matchplay. We managed a full house this year although some were delayed.

County Cup (Devon v Cornwall) – Started in the 2005 season and played in the Spring and Autumn. In 2007 it reverted to an annual competition, to date we have had 5 Draws, 5 Devon, 7 Cornwall. Cornwall winning this year.

Dinosaur Trophy (Seniors v Super Seniors 70+) – Competition has been running for a number of years. Unfortunately there is no record of the winners until a trophy was awarded to the winning Captain in 2018. The Seniors won that year. 2019 draw 6/6; 2020 Seniors. It was a draw this year 9/9. Chance for the Supers to get their name on the trophy next year!

Winter Eclectic – There were 37 golfers in total, a record entry and good scores achieved. Due to Covid restrictions all cards needed to be photographed and forward to Captain Dave or me. Next year's Eclectic has just started, currently 28 golfers. 5 months to submit 8 cards! As this is the first time we have attempted to run it online we shall run it in parallel with the analogue system. You can enter the competition at any time even after it's started. All payments (£3) to Treasurer Mike.

Summer Eclectic - There were 43 golfers in total, just the 1 golfer that didn't submit any cards. Very good scores with the winner recording a gross 58. Late start and finish, only 4 months not the usual 5.

Summer knockouts - Singles, Pairs and Plate this year, we only managed the Singles last year due to the lockdowns. Fairly well supported with 32 golfers and completed in good time.

There were 41 handicap reductions this year, well done to those that were reduced! Many of you enter 'casual' cards in addition to playing in the monthly qualifiers. This is the only way to ensure you have a fair and accurate handicap.

Membership: The membership entry age was increased from 55 to 60 in 2013/4. There was a vote at the 2019 AGM to reduce the age back to 55, this was voted against. Membership has increased by 50 since 2016. There are now 66 (59) 'Super Seniors' aged 70+ which is 52.4% (51%) of the membership. Total membership stands at 126 (116). May reduce slightly as some may not re-join the section next year.

FINALLY: Having taken over from Michael Gilford at the 2014 AGM it's time for me to handover the reins of Competition Secretary to Doug Fletcher who was a 'willing volunteer'.

### **ITEM 5 – 2021 AWARDS**

In recognition of their status as original members of the Section which is now approaching its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Captain awarded Honorary Memberships to Ken Spyer and Dave Ferris, rumours that they still have to pay a £5 annual administration fee may be false! (Slides 7-10).

Rob Evans and the Captain conducted one of their final duties by awarding this year's trophies, full details of all the winners can be found on slides 14-35 of the presentation.

### **ITEM 6 – RETIREMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The Captain presented Certificates of Appreciation to Rob Evans for his 7yrs of service as Competition Secretary and to Mike Brightwell for 2yrs as Honorary Secretary (slides 37-40).

### **ITEM 7 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO THE COMMITTEE**

The following officers have been elected to the Committee for the period

Nov 2021 – Nov 22, all were elected unanimously by those present:

- Captain: Joe Francis
- Vice Captain: Rob Smith
- Competition Secretary: Doug Fletcher

- Honorary Secretary: Jim Johnston
- Treasurer: Mike Vine (re-elected)
- Dave Cuthbert will remain on the Committee as past-Captain

#### **ITEM 8 – INCOMING CAPTAIN’S REPORT**

Please see slides 44-68 for full details.

#### **ITEM 9 – MOTIONS**

2 motions were put forward to the meeting for consideration (slides 69-79):

- Motion 1 – Michael Gilford proposed that we go back to using the notice board for entry into competitions and qualifiers and that roll-ups be exactly that with no advanced bookings. This was discussed at length and full details can be seen on the relevant slides, the motion was NOT CARRIED unanimously although the debate raised a couple of further issues to be discussed under AOB.
- Motion 2 – Paul Jarvis proposed that we adopt casual clothing at the end of matches. The Captain explained that we have no control over the dress code required at host clubs but that we will adopt a smart casual dress for home matches. Only 1 member present voted against this response.

#### **ITEM 10 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Following on from Motion 1 (above) it was further requested that consideration be given to reducing the current 5 week lead in time on HowDidiDo for booking Monday events and changing the opening time of bookings from 1200 Monday when most members where on the course. Due to the strength of feeling heard on this it will be discussed at the next committee meeting when the practicalities of changing the existing process will be discussed.

With no other AOB the meeting was closed. The date of the next AGM will be Monday 7 November 2022.

Jim Johnston

Honorary Secretary