

RHGS 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes

20th February 2022 10:30 am
Railway Hotel, Cheam

Opening

Howard Tonge, the Society Secretary, opened the meeting and said that with 32 people, this was the largest attendance we had ever had at an AGM. The last AGM was held in the Railway in January 2020; because of Covid there was no AGM last year.

Members Present

Adrian Blows, Alan Bradbrook, Alan Pooley, Bob Tisdall, Brian Joy, Brian Williams, Charles Foster, David Caddy, David Hiscocks, David Maltby, Graham Powell, Howard Tonge, Jo Blows, Josh Tonge, Mike Keane, Keith Flower, Ken Gardiner, Kevin Offer, Leonard Singh, Mal Chapman, Mandy Hiscocks, Mike Cullen, Mike Pilfold, Nigel Worth, Paul Murphy, Richard Ivory, Richard Whitehead, Robert Livingston, Simon Shore, Steve Chasty, Steve Holland, Steve Pepperell

Apologies for Absence

A total of 38 apologies were received from Aaron Langley, Alan Rodwell, Annabel Faulkner, Nick Barton, David Caddy, Ben Cairns, Carl Cavallo, Chris Douglas, Darren Sutton, David Blows, David Glennie, David Nurser, David Perrett, David Yadoo, Glen Locke, Graham Hill, Graham Ridout, Ian Dias, Ian McGraw, Jack Chasty, Jason Bird, John Faulkner, Julian Taylor, Kyle Symonds, Malcolm Ralston, Marcus Foster, Martin Cox, Matthew Flack, Nick Blake, Norman Clarke, Pat Huggins, Patrick Conboy, Patrick O'Hagan, Peter Linch, Brian Holden, David Horwill, Paul Smith and Steve Polkey.

Minutes of Previous AGM (2019)

Howard read the salient points from the 2019 AGM minutes, this included:

- **General – more sandwiches and chips and back to the Railway.** The balance of single course meals and one or two substantial lunches was thought to be about right.
- **What about event and raffle prizes, should they stay as is?** The meeting agreed that they should
- **What about Social events?** The meeting discussed various social events and venues that had worked in the past. It was agreed that the 2020 Committee would look at running a Social event during the year.
- **Do we need to order more logoed clothing?** The meeting agreed that the Society should hold some clothing stock. The Committee would agree what was stocked.
- **Handicaps.** CONGU will be changing the rules and regulations regarding handicaps in November 2020. The Society will take this onboard once agreed, but in the interim handicaps will be restricted to a maximum of 36.

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Howard went on to say that we have now adopted the World Handicapping System using an HCI from a club or generated for non-club members. The spread of playing handicaps last year was -3 to 39.

There were no questions or clarifications called for. The minutes of the 2019 AGM were accepted.

Captain's Address

Brian Williams, the Society Captain, addressed the meeting thanking all for the turnout today and said that although only one course was played in 2020, The Away Day East Sussex National, 2021 had a strong turnout. From the listed 67 Members, the attendance was

- 4 events played, 1 postponed to 2022
- Golf days played – 146 (125 Members and 21 guests)
- 12 played 4 times
- 9 played 3 times
- 19 played 2 twice
- 12 played once
- 15 did not play

Brian thanked the Committee for their support and presented Howard with a bottle of Paddy whisky.

Treasurer's Report 2021

Bob Tisdall, Society Treasurer, addressed the meeting.

- Bob said that he was indebted to Mrs Tonge who provides the bookkeeping and account presentation.
- 2021 was another good year for the Society. We started the year in a strong financial situation and, with continued sound control over expenditure, we ended the year in a similar vein.
- Because of the Covid pandemic we did not recommence playing Society golf until July 2021 and played 4 out of 5 planned courses. We did not charge subscriptions in 2021, but the net contribution remained high at £1,129.
- The Society's reserves stood at £3,116.
- The Member's subscriptions were held at £20 for 2022.
- The final accounts have been audited and signed off by Adrian Blows. There were no questions from the floor.
- RHGS Financial Guidelines and Management to be discussed in AOB

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President's address

David Maltby, the Society President, addressed the meeting.

- David echoed Brian William's sentiment on a year-well-run.
- David outlined the plans for the Society's 40th Anniversary which will be comprised of two events, one at Banstead Downs and two weeks later at Cuddington to be followed by a celebratory evening meal. Details will be made available in due course.
- In terms of organisation, David implored all Member's to respond to the emails sent in a timely manner.

Presentations

The winners of the four events were

- Spring Trophy, The Addington – Carl Cavallo 38 points
- Summer Trophy, East Berkshire– Graham Ridout 37 points
- Captain's Day, Hever Castle – Ken Gardiner 36 points
- Autumn Trophy, Tandridge – Alan Bradbrook 40 points

The Past Captain's was played within the Autumn Trophy and won by Alan Bradbrook. There was no Memorial Match last year.

The Captain made the following presentations

- President's Trophy – Pat O'Hagan with 104 points (best 3 out of 4).
 - Pat was not present, but asked Howard to read the following "I DON'T WIN MUCH AT GOLF THESE DAYS SO I WAS DELIGHTED TO HEAR I HAD WON THE PRESIDENTS TROPHY. SORRY I CAN'T BE WITH YOU TODAY AS I AM IN THE CANARY ISLANDS YES YOU'VE GUESSED IT PLAYING GOLF AND TRYING TO WIN ANOTHER TROPHY. AND SO IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO BUY THE ASSEMBLED MEMBERS A DRINK AT THE BAR"
- President's Trophy Runner-Up – Ken Gardiner with 103 points
- The Trier's Trophy was won by Richard Ivory with an Aggregate score of 132 points from all 4 events – this was 6 points higher than both Pat and Ken. The Trier's Trophy is for the best aggregate score over all 4 trophy events, where the "Trier" does not win an event.
- Knockout – there was no Knockout in 2021

Election of Committee Members

As there are no duplicate candidates for any of the Committee roles, it is proposed that the election of the 2022 Committee is taken en masse.

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- Graham Powell has been nominated as Captain
- Brian Williams will stand down as Captain and become a Past Captain
- Bob Tisdall will become Vice Captain and continue as Treasurer.
- Mrs Tonge continues to as the bookkeeper
- Steve Chasty has said that he is available as Trophy Master
- Mike Cullen and Josh Tonge will remain as Event Managers
- David Maltby remains the President of the Society
- Howard will remain as Secretary
- Adrian will remain as auditor

There were no objections to the above and the 2022 Committee was duly elected.

Events for 2022

The incoming Captain, Graham Powell, presented the courses he had selected for 2022

- Spring Trophy Chartham Park - 08.04.22
- Summer Trophy Pyrford – 10.06.22
- Captain's Day Sunningdale Heath – 22.07.22 with a BBQ
- Away Day in September. This will be a single day event
- AGC Day 1 BDGC 29.09.22
- AGC Day 2 CGC 13.10.22 followed by a meal
- Autumn Trophy Woking 04.11.22
- Memorial Day TBA
- Past Captains' Day TBA

Details of the courses along with the calendar, handicaps, results and blog are on the Society's website www.rhgs.net

Any Other Business

Prior to the meeting, Howard had asked all including those that had sent their apologies if there were any points or comments they wanted raised at the AGM. There were none. However

- **Membership movement**
 - 7 new members have joined to Society in 2022, most of whom have already played as a guest. The new Members are Aaron Langley, Nigel Worth, John Faulkner, Annabel Faulkner, Malcolm Ralston, Peter Linch and Richard Whitehead
 - Chris Douglas will be re-joining the Society
 - It looks likely that we will be losing 5 Members this year. This includes Adrian Pursey, Glen Locke, Steve Bradley, Terry Freeman and Nick Barry.
 - The current Membership for 2022 is projected to be 69 Members

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- That said, Membership is still open.
- **Match format** – “twos” will be reintroduced.

- **RHGS Financial Guidelines and Management**

At the last Committee meeting, it was suggested that the financial guidelines should be included within the Society’s rules and regulations. The suggested wording is;

- Minimum bank balance of £2000
- Ordinarily guests will pay an additional £5 per golfing event over and above the Members’ golfing fees. This reflects the Member’s annual subscription of £20.
- Members’ and Guests’ fee uplift will contribute to the fixed costs of glassware and golf balls given as prizes (£105 per event in 2021)
- Raffle monies raised will be used for
 - Event cash prizes
 - Shortfall on event costs
 - Pay raffle winners
 - Surplus into RHGS bank account.
 - Two’s
 - Captain’s drive-in
- Surpluses generated will be used to subsidise Members’ golfing events
- Reasonable Committee meeting drinks will be paid out of Society funds. *David Hiscocks asked how many drinks would be consumed. Bob replied that it was two-per attending Committee member. Howard also said that there were generally four Committee meetings each year.*
- Annual Committee meeting meal will be subsidised by £20 per head
- All clothing to be sold at cost or cost plus i.e. not subsidised
- Annual budget to be agreed at the AGM
- Expenditure to be agreed with Treasurer and one other Committee Member
- Away Days will not be subsidised
- **Ladies playing handicap** – Mandy had asked that the playing handicaps from the red-tees be amended at the various events to reflect the fact that men’s handicaps can be more advantageous at some courses and as such amending the playing handicap can “level the field”. There were no objections to Mandy applying this.
- **HCI updates** - Keith said that given that the HCI’s move quite frequently when should these be updated to the Society. Howard said, that if needs be, changes to the HCI and subsequent playing handicap can be made on the day.

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- **Survey** – Howard said that the response to the survey was very high, 64 in total. The results of projected attendance are
 - The Post AGM Sunday lunch has 43 attendees.
 - Spring Trophy Chartham Park - Friday 8th April 2022 - 39 attendees
 - Summer Trophy Pyrford Lakes – Friday 10th June 2022 - 36 attendees
 - Captain’s Day Sunningdale Heath – Friday 22nd July 2022 – 47 attendees
 - 40th Anniversary Golf Celebration Day 1 Banstead Downs 29th September 2022 – 43 attendees
 - 40th Anniversary Golf Celebration Day 2 Cuddington 13th October 2022 – 47 attendees
 - Autumn Trophy Woking Friday 4th November 2022 – 36 attendees
 - RHGS Knockout – 19 players
 - RHGS 40th Anniversary Golf Shirt – 32 said yes 21 have said maybe. Josh will provide costings for the shirts; it was decided to approach both Ian Golding (Kingswood) and Paul Schunter (Cuddington) for prices.

This gives a projected 248 golf days during 2022. This figure does not include guests or “maybes”.

Howard went on to say that on some courses we might be limited to the number of attendees and as such registration will be on a “first-come” basis.

Vote of Thanks:

The outgoing Captain thanked the staff of The Railway for their hospitality, and the Members for their support and the Committee for their hard work.

Close

The AGM closed at 11.27 am with a round of drinks bought by the Society. A second round was bought by Pat O’Hagan the winner of the 2021 President’s Trophy.

Howard Tonge
RHGS Secretary
20 February 2022