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Minutes of the Men's Golf Section

Tuesday 19th May 2026

Apologies from Committee for the late minutes as to many members were away for the 12th and late arrival of the minutes that were taken whilst I was away, member had work duties.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting accepted as a true record.
Proposed. S Johnston. Seconded. R Richardson
2. Present.
J Parry (C). R Mansfield. A Taylor. R Richardson. S Johnston. M friend. A Hatch.
3. Apologies received.
D Hobbs. D Callaghan. S Smith. P Beech. A Forster.
4. AOB from previous meeting.
How to improve , Presentation evening. **This will be an ongoing discussion.**
Winter series point/scoring system.
This was lightly discussed with the alternative scoring system on display.
It was elected to be carried forward into our next meeting, as many members were sick or away. **This will be an ongoing discussion.**
5. Unfortunately Lee Woodall has resigned from the committee due to extra family duties.
The Committee wish to Thank him for all his input and service to the group over his duration as a committed Committee member. We will continue see you out there on the course.
6. **Captains report.**
The 2026 season is now well underway, and it is encouraging to see strong engagement across competitions and club activities as we move into the summer months.

Battle of the Ports

All arrangements for the Battle of the Ports fixture in August have now been confirmed, and we look forward to another enjoyable and competitive event.

Junior Section

Supporting our junior section remains a key priority. Following the success of previous initiatives, an additional fundraiser will be organised in the coming months to support costs associated with matches, meals, and general development.

We are also still seeking a Junior Organiser to lead the section and coordinate volunteers. Any suitable candidates should be put forward to Ben, and all interest will be warmly welcomed.

Any Other Business

- **White Tees Usage**

A query was raised regarding the use of white tees for General Play scores. While this is not currently feasible, there is renewed discussion around introducing white tees for Saturday roll-ups. This idea has been raised previously but not implemented, Ben, Matt, Nathan & James will now liaise to explore options for competition play outside of scheduled fixtures.

Presentation Evening

The 2026 Presentation Evening has been provisionally booked for Saturday 7th November. Further details will follow in due course.

Competition Withdrawals

Matt Tamsett raised ongoing concerns regarding late withdrawals from competitions and the impact this has across all sections. It has been proposed that each section reviews how this is currently managed and considers whether a consistent club-wide approach—potentially including measures for repeat offenders—should be introduced. Feedback will be gathered and reviewed.

Plymouth Area League

The team has made a positive start to the season, with a narrow 3–2 away loss at Launceston followed by an excellent 3–2 home win against St Mellion.

The next fixture is the first-round knockout match on 22nd May.

James Parry Captain.

7. Competition Secretary report.

Our Saturday Roll Up / Eclectic competitions have commenced successfully, attracting an average of 40 participants. Results can be found on HowDidIDo.

We held our first Trophy competition, the Hong Kong Cup, with 93 Members taking part.

Congratulations to Ian Scoble for winning this event.

The Spring Team Challenge was also successfully supported with a total of 46 pairings.

Congratulations to P. Myerscough and D. Best for their victory in this event.

The Men's Section Terms of Competition have been revised.

Revision 5 will be published and posted on our Web page.

Members are advised to review the document, as it encompasses all competition regulations.

Modifications are detailed in the revision summary.

Upcoming fixtures to look out for in May and June.

30/05/2026 Anniversary Plate (Men & Ladies)

06/06/2026 Men's Monthly Medal 0-19 (20+ Stableford)

13/06/2026 Saturday Roll Up

20/06/2026 Saturday Roll Up

Regards S. Johnston

8. Seniors Captain report.

With the weather now vastly improved the Monday events are seeing increased turnouts with some of our more Senior Members taking advantage of the better weather.

It is planned to hold more combined qualifying events (Medal Div 1 Stableford Div2) in the near future, and to take advantage of the "Orange course" when the weather closes in late Autumn / Winter.

The friendly matches are now well underway with some promising results, beating both Dartmouth and Woodbury at home both 5-1, and then winning 5 ½ to 2 ½ at home against Carlyon Bay giving us a 9 ½ to 6 ½ overall win.

We also played away at Bigbury we came away with a 3-3 draw.

Tuesday the 5th of May was the funeral of our past Seniors Captain 2025 Keith Chapman. His funeral was held at the new Plymouth Park venue with the Wake taking place in the Atlantic suite at China Fleet. There was a great turnout from the Seniors Section and a few visiting golfers alike, along with past work colleagues joining his Family and friends to say farewell to a popular and well respected member.

Phil Beech
Seniors Captain.

9. Treasurers report.

The Treasurer is away on Holiday with the family.

10. Greenkeeper report.

Weather:

Following ridiculous amount amounts of rain over the winter, always sudden in the rain has stopped with us only having just over an inch of rain for the whole month of April and not much in May so far.

This has been a slow start to the season for growth especially as temperatures has been quite low and inconsistent with just the odd day of warm weather here and there.

This has resulted in slightly inconsistent growth so we're not quite there yet but soon we'll be. All tees and approaches have been granular fed so we should start seeing a little bit of growth soon.

We have just started our summer feeding package on the greens and are very much into our routine mowing and aeration practices.

We have already Verti cut several times to discourage lateral growth, remove thatch, and essentially speed the greens up, we are well ahead of schedule with regards to top dressing with 50 tonnes having been applied already.

Greens:

Believe it or not we have already needed to use our irrigation system several times and even had to hand water dry spots on greens, which sounds crazy after the winter we had. Regular checks are taken with the moisture metre and currently we are just about on target.

Heights of cut have started to drop over the past few weeks now we are seeing some growth, and are currently at 4mm. The use of growth regulators are now in use to combat the early stages of seedhead bloom from the annual meadow grass.

Tees:

All tees were granular fed last week and are showing signs of recovery. The 13th medal tee will be played on for the first time this weekend.

Fairways:

Growth on the fairways is very slow currently; however we are due to do give them a liquid feed when temperatures stable and warm up and then we should get some good recovery. We will also be spot treating weeds with a selective herbicide over the next few months.

All fairways will be divotted over the next few weeks, and we will look to take winter rules off on the 22nd May.

Bunkers:

All bunkers have now been flymo'd and strimmed, and sand distribution checked. Just a few bunkers remaining to be edged.

15th Tee

Drainage has now been installed, and next week we have an excavator and dumper on hire once more to complete the banking and landscaping of the old blue tee. These machines will also be used to take around 40 tonnes of rootzone from the loading bays to the site. This will then be levelled and seeded during the summer ahead of irrigation being installed.

Water hazards

All water hazards have now been strimmed and tidied.

Many thanks

Nathan

11. Dail Mail Knockout update & report.

As you know Mark and Jason have reached the 3rd round of this competition (I believe we haven't got this far) But were unable to defeat the Trevoise pairing.

Wasn't able to write a report earlier as we were so gutted.

Jason and I were giving 5 shots today. We raced into a 3 up lead after 9 and probably should have been more. Then our opponents birdied 10, parred 11 and birdied 12. All of a sudden we were all square. We missed from 6 foot on 15 to go 2 up. The killer was on 16. A great driver from Jason and a tee shot from them, which hit the trees. They hit a wood and came up 50 short. I hit a wedge and went half a yard long. White flag. They pulled their pitch way left, hit the edge of the bunker, ran around, and stopped about 3 foot away. We copped a bad lie even though only being 8 foot from the flag. Jason chipped down to 12 feet, I missed, they didn't. All sq. A 5 nett 4 put them 1 up on 18th tee. Poor drives from both pairs left them ok and us behind a tree. They made a 5, we didn't. Lost 2 down. After playing well to beat St Mellion and Whitsand Bay we feel that we should have won this too.

Many Thanks for giving us the chance in representing China fleet.

Best wishes Mark and Jason.

We the Committee Thankyou both in representing China Fleet in this Prestigious Event.

12. Cornwall Golf

"A" Team played at the Point at Polzeath. Sunday 19th April.

Team member were.

Jason Friend & Harry Woolway

Andy Taylor & Lee Woodall

Ross Richardson & Rory Coles

On a chilly and fresh day the team were in good spirits and were looking forward to the challenge and hoping to make it into the top 4 finalist places. Some exceptional golf was noted around the course by our team players.

Many thanks to Joe Burford for caddying & running forward (Run Forrest) to ball spot one of the pairings.

Returning scores were 75.77 & 81 putting the team in 3rd place overall qualifying for the finals on Saturday 16th May.

The Draw was that we were to play against Mullion GC, this was a far warmer day and no changes were needed with the team except Run Forrest was away and not available. Hee-hee.

Again some exceptional golf was played and all matches were very close coming into the final stretch.

Team 1 & 2 had finished with a result as Won 1 & Lost 1 with Team 3 still out in a close match. They were 2 down with 3 to play. 16th ended in a ½. 17th hole, there drive was way short of the green where our drive was greenside leaving a chip and a putt. 1 down 1 to play.

18th 2 good drives, 2nd shots on the green. It was all down to putting, we were in for 4 & Mullion missed giving us a well deserved Draw. Off now for the extra holes.

Starting at the 10th. 1st extra was a ½. 2nd extra hole, our tee shot was a bit right unknown landing, whereas Mullion were on the fairway, a re-tee went in the same direction and after the allotted time neither balls were found and our players shook hands, conceding the semi final match.

Congratulations and well played to all Team Players.

As we have only just returned to playing this event over the past 2 years.

This is an achievement & commitment by all in itself.

Royal Cornwall Goblets @ Point at Polzeath. Sunday 10th May.

Team Players.

Jason Friend & Dave Sleat

Harry Woolway & Joe Burford

Mark Friend & Luke Friend

Andy Forster & Robin Smith

Jack Screech & Tom Lowden

No returning report was recorded.

The Winning pairs were from Bowood Park GC with 36 points.

Our pairing returning points were (not in any order) 32.32.30.28 & 26.

Congratulations and well played to all the players in representing China Fleet.

Upcoming Event.

Over 55's Team Championship. Friday 19th June @ Looe GC

Independently

Seniors & Founders Cup @ Point at Polzeath 11th May

Taking part in this event were Mark, Jason & Luke Friend.

Seniors Cup. Mark 19th. Winner 40points West Cornwall GC. 153 entrants.

Founders Cup Mark 22nd Luke 43rd Jason 92nd. 175 entrants.

Royal Cornwall Challenge Cup @ Point at Polzeath 12th May

Taking part in this event were Mark & Jason Friend returning with 40 points 7th overall.

96 entrants. Winners Truro GC with 44 points.

Lawrence Cup @ Point at Polzeath 14th May.

Taking part in this event were, M Friend, J Friend, L friend, Jon Williams, R Mansfield.

Mark 34 points 7th overall. 67 entrants. Winner Luke Friend 41 points Bovey Castle.

Well played & Congratulations to all those who took part in the County Week.

13. AOB

Away Members participation.

Away members will now be permitted to enter men's competitions, subject to meeting the minimum card submission requirements, in recognition of their full membership fee.(no reduced fees for away members)

Social Media

Activity will be increased to improve communication and engagement.

Ross Richardson will coordinate

Website

Refresh and update of the Men's Section website

Meeting Closed at 20.15

Next Meeting June 2026