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Minutes of the Men's Golf Section

Tuesday 9th December 2025

1. Minutes of the previous meeting recorded as a true record.
Proposed. S Johnston. Seconded. P Beech.
2. Present; J Parry. S Johnston. D Callaghan. R Mansfield. M Friend. P Beech.
R Richardson. A Taylor. S Smith.
3. Apologies received: L Woodall. A Forster. A Hatch. D Hobbs. T White.
4. Outstanding AOB.
China Fleet Golf Team attire (bundle) **In progress for 2026**
It was discussed if a group of volunteers were created to assist in menial tasks on course.
(Bunkers, Bins, Ball Washers, Fallen Branches. Course presentation.) **To be revisited.**
CGU Winter Knockout Matches. (Golf & post-match Meal) Match Fees **This item was
discussed and a new flyer will be produced for the team Captain's going forward (2026) Winter
CGU K/O's, All here present voted unanimously in favour.**
5. Captains Report.
Dear, members and friends,
As we come to the end of another year, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on what has been an
absolutely incredible season for Men's Golf here at China Fleet.
It has been a year filled with achievement, progress, camaraderie and great memories both on
and off the course.
Firstly, the condition of the course has been outstanding throughout the year. The course has
been a pleasure to play on, and that is all thanks to Nathan and his team, who work tirelessly
behind the scenes to give us such a high-quality playing environment. Their efforts have not
gone unnoticed, and on behalf of the entire section I'd like to express our sincere appreciation.
We have enjoyed many highlights competitively, and we should be extremely proud of what we
have achieved.
Our Club Champion, Jason Friend, has had a remarkable year, not only securing the title here
at China Fleet but also going on to become Cornish Under-21 Individual Champion, as well as
Individual Foursomes Champion alongside Dave Sleet.
Their success is a fantastic representation of the talent within our club, and we congratulate
them both.
Our Plymouth Area League team were crowned champions, showcasing determination,
teamwork, and consistency throughout the season. A brilliant result for everyone involved.
In addition, our Presidents Cup team have fought their way into the semi-finals, demonstrating
the strength and depth we have within our ranks and we wish them well for the rest of the
campaign.

But success isn't just measured in trophies.

It's also about the friendships made, the new members welcomed, all the competitions supported, and the laughs shared in the clubhouse after a hard-fought round.

The spirit of the Men's Section has never been stronger, and that is down to every one of you who continues to show up, get involved, encourage others and represent China Fleet with pride.

To our members — Thank You.

Your ongoing support, participation and enthusiasm are what make this golf community special. Whether you played every weekend, joined us for a few events, cheered on the teams, helped organise, or simply enjoyed the game we all love, you have contributed to what has been a truly memorable year.

As we now look ahead to 2026, may we carry this momentum forward.

I hope to see more great golf, more new faces, more successes on the course and more good times together.

Let's continue to build on what we've achieved and make next year even better.

From myself and everyone on the Men's Golf Committee,

I wish you all a **Very Merry Christmas** and a prosperous **New Year**.

Enjoy the break, have a wonderful festive season with family and friends, and I will look forward to seeing you all out on the course soon.

Here's to another fantastic year of golf at China Fleet

James Parry

6. Competition Secretary report.

It was lovely to see everyone attend this year's presentation evening.

Thank you to all who made the effort to come along. We hope to keep this tradition going for many more years.

With our Winter season competition now underway, we have played our 2nd round which was Winter BB 2, on the 22nd November Please see the current positions after two rounds.

Our CGU Winter Golf Presidents team has progressed to the next round. Congratulations. Please see the Presidents' Captain report.

Our annual Turkey Trot took place on Saturday 6th, with 68 golfers participating. Sadly, due to the British weather, the decision was made to make the event carry-only, which prompted several people to drop out. The event proceeded, and luckily, the weather on the day was exceptionally kind.

Congratulations to Matt Tamsett and Kevin Tamsett, winning the day with a score of 44 points.

Name	4BB 1	4BB 2	Greensomes 1	Foursomes 1	Winter Singles 1	Greensomes 2	Winter Singles 2	Winter Singles 2	Total
Bird A	9	4							13
Forse P	8	3							11
Harrison D	10								10
Harrison M	10								10
Rogers A		10							10
Wellington L		10							10
Cowie C		9							9
Crothers A	9								9
Fraser I		9							9
Pratt T	8								8
Taylor A		8							8
Woodall L		8							8
Berry R	7								7
Foy J		7							7
Hudson I	7								7
Jones A		7							7
Coles R		6							6
Curtis R	6								6
Porter H	6								6
Richardson R		6							6
Corbett D	5								5
Mansfield R		5							5
Massey W	5								5
Mitchell A		5							5
Baxter K		4							4
Ryder J	4								4
Ryder S	4								4
Blake A	3								3
Kerslake M		3							3
Viera S	3								3
Ball R		2							2
Friend J	2								2
Friend M	2								2
Harper S		2							2
Barret G	1								1
Lowden T		1							1
Patrick T	1								1
Screech J		1							1
									0
									0

Scott Johnston.

7. CTC Team report.

Sunday 16th November 2025
Q/Finals match @ Newquay GC
Opponents St Mellion GC.

Team Captain. M Friend.

Team Players.

J Friend.

D Sleat.

A Taylor.

R Coles.

R Richardson.

H Woolway.

R Mansfield.

L Wellington.

J Screech.

Seven days after our historic victory against Bude we travelled down to Newquay to play local rivals St Mellion in the CTC quarter final. Setting off at 5.30 am. was not great, especially coming after our clubs presentation night. Unfortunately, we had Tom White missing, but we welcomed back Harry Woolway and Andy Taylor to the team. After our bacon sandwich we set off for the mornings foursomes.

Leading us out were our very own county foursome champions, Dave Sleat and Jason Friend. Some great golf was played, with Chinas first pair keeping their 100% win record intact in a 3 & 2 victory.

Next out was Andy Taylor and Lee Woodall and in a tight match gained us another half point. Rory Coles and Ross Richardson were out third, and again showing what a strong pairing they are, beating a top Mellion duo 2 & 1.

Last out were Harry Woolway and Rich Mansfield, they played well, but unfortunately went down 4 & 2.

Lewis Wellington was again our Ninth man in the morning singles.

Unfortunately, he was unable to pull off a repeat of his victory the week before, losing 3 & 2. A great mornings session left us just needing four wins in the afternoon singles to proceed to the Semi-Final's.

Our club and county under 21 champion led us out in the afternoon.

Despite shooting one under on the front nine, found himself only all square.

Dropped shots on 12,13 & 14 put him three down, unable to get back Jason went down 3 & 2.

Dave Sleat was put out second and in a close match was able to get our first afternoon point on the board, winning on the last.

Next out was Rory Coles, who was not able to get another point and he went down 5 & 4.

Harry Woolway was sent out 4th and showing his class as well as a calm head and got us another afternoon point winning on 18.

I was starting to think we could possibly pull this off now. We needed two more points from our last four players.

Jack Screech was out next and for the second week running came up against one of the County's top players. Although only being one over par, he lost 5 & 4 against Oban Webber.

Ross Richardson battled hard, but came up against the impressive Matt Piper leading to a 5 & 4 defeat.

We now needed Andy Taylor and Lee Woodall to both win. With three holes to go in their respective matches Andy was up and Lee was all square. A two from Lee's opponent on the 16 put him one down.

A strong finish from Andys rival ended in a half match, thus giving St Mellion the points they needed. Lee shook hands on the 17th tee with a sporting half.

We came up a point short.

My conclusion: Long gone are the days when China Fleet do not enter the counties premier team event. We beat a strong Bude team and came within a whisker of knocking an exceptionally talented St Mellion team who might well go on and win the C.T.C.

In Dave/Jason. Lee/Andy & Ross/Rory we have pairings that would be a match for anyone at club/county level. I see Harry and Tom as a young pair going forward and it was a shame, because of other commitments I was not able to get them together this year.

Rory and Ross are an amazing duo, but we need them to continue this form in the singles.

Jason is still improving and coming up against a top multi county player showed him he has work to do to get to the next level.

Dave is a gritty match player and it is no surprise that he won all four of his matches this year along with being unbeaten last year. Andy is a match for anyone in Cornwall and I hope he knows this.

Lee loves a battle and I know through speaking to him can't wait to have another crack again next year.

We need all our four, five six handicappers to work at their games as well as get more match hardened to give the Captain a selection headache. These matches are tough, we have a great young team, so let's all get behind them.

Thank you to the Captain and committee for giving me the chance to lead them.

Mark Friend.

8. Frank Wills Salver report.

Sunday 23rd November @ Trevoise GC.

Opponents were Budock Vean GC.

Team Captain. R Mansfield.

Team players.

John Williams and James Perry

Alan Blakie and Steve Vieira

Richard Keith and Darren Billing

Andrew Hatch and Edward Shapland

Kevin Tamsett and Matt Tamsett

It was very, very windy that day! We started very promisingly: the first pair was all square, the second pair was all square, the third pair was two up, the fourth pair was up, and the last pair was one up. But as we got through to 11 it was getting very tight. John and James were level Alan and Steve were three down Richard and Darren were two down Andy and Ed were one up and that left Kevin and Matt and who were also two down.

But the team battled on in those very high winds and quite cold conditions.

but sadly the Team lost. 3&2

John and James win 2&1 which was a great result as I've never seen the Captain so cold.

Alan and Steve lost 2&1

Richard and Darren lost 2&1

Andy and Ed won 2&1

Matt and Kevin Lost 2&1

I would also like to mention that both Budock Vean and China Fleet players played with great spirit and it was a pleasure to be their Captain this year.

Richard Mansfield.

9. Presidents Cup report.

Sunday 28th November 2025 tee 8.00am.

Quarter Finals Day @ Bowood GC.

Opponents Perranporth GC.

Team Captain R Richardson.

Team Players.

C Cowie.

T Lowden.

L Friend.

J Burford.

M Fox.

M Friend.

G Court.

R Smith.

N O'Sullivan.

With an excellent weather forecast the team were buzzing and were up and ready. After the first 6 holes Perranporth had taken an early lead, we were all sq. in 1, up in 3 but down in 5. Plenty of time for the team to recover as it stands.

Through 12 holes, Perranporth were still holding the advantage. We were All sq. in 2, up in 3 but still down in 4.

Final push from the team, 7 players in with score standing at 3 & 4 to Perranporth, 2 players still out playing are both 1 up at 16. Final push, with the team players encouragement.

Both remaining players recorded a 2/1 win & giving us a fantastic win 5 & 4 against a very strong Team & past Trophy winners 2022/23 & 2023/24.

This was an all-round team performance by all that took part.

All games were very competitive throughout the day & were played with exceptional high standards.

China Fleet's decisive five match win, seals a confident progression into the next round.

Semi Finals 25th January 2026.

China Fleet v West Cornwall at Perranporth 11.17am start

Ross Richardson.

10. Seniors Captain report.

Since the November meeting the winter season has been hampered by bad weather with course closures, 1 player turned up without first checking the course conditions.

The 2nd week we did manage to get out and play.

The 3rd week a few braved the weather again but the rollup had already been cancelled.

A few changes have been put in place since our AGM within our Terms of Competitions.

The Seniors Turkey Trot schedule for the 1st December, was also cancelled due to the bad weather forecast, which was a decent call, as the course was also closed for two days.

Seniors Turkey Trot had been re-scheduled for the 8th of December, but unfortunately the weather has again hampered its progression.

So unfortunately I've had to Cancelled this year's Seniors Turkey Trot due to weather.

Phil Beech.

11. Treasurers report.

Current balance to date £1749.86

12. Greenkeepers report.

Weather:

What can I say?!

A very wet end to October, was followed by an extremely wet November with around 8 inches of rain falling. We then enter December with over 4 inches falling in just 9 days so far. All in all, very frustrating for everyone. We were delighted to have somehow got the turkey trot played, the greens held up well, and the wind having dried the course from the torrential rain the day before, just about making it somewhat playable, albeit with many plugged lies etc, but the call was made to make it preferred lies through the green making it the fun event it is meant to be.

Greens:

Before the course was too saturated to get machinery out there, we were able to deep slit the greens with our newly replaced Sisis slitting tines, which enabled us to get 3 inches lower in the profile than we had been able to for a long time, with minimal surface disruption. This aerates the soil and also aids drainage. We also applied a wetting agent at the same time, pulling moisture away from the surface.

Since then, no large machinery has been on the course apart from run around vehicles.

We are now hand mowing greens with our pedestrian mower.

We will be transitioning from our summer fertiliser programme to our winter hardening/disease prevention programme from November.

Tees:

We have now moved to our green tee card and are playing from the winter mats or forward winter tees. The 17th yellow tee has seen the installation of an artificial grass strip at the back of the tee to be played from in winter. The area behind the tee has been landscaped and rotavated in preparation for sowing wildflowers into the usual area but also the bank facing the competition tee.

This Autumn we will be levelling and slightly enlarging some tees. We have already completed the 5th medal tee, made good progress with the 5th yellow tee, with seed now germinating, and have also stripped turf/rotavated the 13th medal tee in preparation for levelling and seeding when the weather improves.

With the awful ground conditions hampering any normal cutting regimes/winter work, we have turned our attention to tree management, beginning with cutting back many trees around the site of the new 15th competition tee. Construction of this new tee will continue in January, weather permitting.

The removal/pruning of these trees will also aid the 14th green, as there will be a lot more sunlight and airflow now reaching this green in the winter. This green sits very wet during the winter months, not helped by being at the base of a slope, but also sits in shade for long periods when the sun is low in the sky this time of year, the tree work will allow more light to reach this green and also the 15th tee complex.

Hedges/drains:

All hedges have now been strimmed and tidied, and we are routinely checking the open ditch drains for leaf build up to allow the water to flow.

Many thanks
Nathan

13. AOB

Green Tee. Course Handicap Table. missing from our informative Web page.

This is being looked into and updated.

There were a couple of double up photos from our recent presentation evening in our web page galley. **This has now been actioned.**

The new 2026 Fixtures list recently emailed out by the Pro shop has now been added onto the Web page.

Under discussion were;

Handicapping committee, Various members were being viewed.

Falsification of score cards being submitted.

Score cards not being returned/submitted without a valid reason.

Presentation evening ref Trophies. The evening which was the 1st for many years which included the Ladies section needs looking at going forward. (Trophy & Photography)



and a

Happy New Year.

Meeting closed 20.20

Next meeting 10th February 2026