

Website; [chinafleetgolfcommittee.co.uk](http://chinafleetgolfcommittee.co.uk)

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Minutes of the Men's Golf Section  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

1. Minutes of the previous meeting recorded as a true record.  
Proposed. R. Richardson      Seconded. J. Hall.
2. **Present.** S Smith. J Parry. D Callaghan. M Friend. S Johnston. R Mansfield. L Woodall. H Woolway.  
R Richardson. J Hall. M Fox.  
**Apologies** D. Hobbs. A. Forster.
3. Action from previous meetings.                      Captain. (Unless included in his monthly report.)  
Terms of Competitions. **Update review in progress, finalisation, and implementation by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025**  
Handicap Committee member. . **Ross Richardson has been unanimously elected and accepted the role of handicap review coordinator on behalf of the men's section.**  
Website and costs. **We will continue to use the website.**  
Broken tee caddies. **These are now in place on all par 3's.**
4. Since our previous meeting Mr Mark Fox was asked to join the Committee.  
It was put out to all the Committee members to vote. The returning vote was passed unanimously.  
Captain Steph introduced and welcomed Mark to tonight's Committee meeting.
5. Captain's report.  
The 1st Turkey Trot took place on Saturday 9th November which was well attended. Well-done to Mark Fox and Andy Forster for winning the event with 45 points on count back. The next Turkey trot is live and scheduled for Sunday 1st December. The format of the event will be the same with the same prizes as Turkey Trot 1.  
Post this event we conducted our annual Prize giving for all the competitions held year to date. Well done to all the winners for this year Prizes winners. All photographs have been promulgated on the Website.  
2024 Winners Gallery  
[Fixtures 2025](#)  
Fixtures have now been agreed for the Men's section so should be promulgated in the shop very soon. There are a few changes to next year's fixtures with all Men's Section competitions being on a Saturday and only 1 Turkey Trot that will be in December.  
[Broken Tee Caddies](#)  
We have installed broken tee caddies on all the par 3 as a pilot. If they are used and successful we will install them across the remaining holes.  
Winter Competition series  
Just as a gentle reminder that the Winter competition series has changed for this year to 2 x Betterball, 2 x Greensomes, 2 x Foursomes and 2 x Singles .  
The first competition is scheduled for the 23rd November which is a Betterball .

6. Competition Secretary report.

Men's Monthly Medal 0-19 (Hcp 20+ Stableford)

Div 1

1. Barry Bunworth
2. Richard Mansfield
3. Andrew Hatch

Div 2

1. Kenny Kennedy
2. Mark Hoar
3. Peter Mackley

Gross Medal Winner Jordan Davidson.

Div 3 Stableford

1. David Dugmore
2. Peter Grant
3. Steve Hatherley

There was only a total of 46 competitors throughout all divisions.

Men's Monthly Stableford

Div 1

1. David Harrison
2. Joe Francis
3. Nigel Hill

Div 2

1. Joe Syndercombe
2. Steve Lamb
3. George Broadey

Div 3

1. James Taylor
2. Steve Hatherley
3. Terry Dorrian

There was only a total of 84 competitors throughout all divisions.

**CGU Winter K/O Team events.**

Unfortunately CFCC have been knocked out in the following,

CTC in the 1st round.

President's Cup 1st Round.

Frank Wills Salver 1st Round.

Cornish Bowl 2nd Round.

Thank you to all who gave their time and for representing the club.

**Cornish Bowl.**

**1st Round v Budock Vean at Looe on 13th October. 11.00am**

Players were.

- Graham Street and Gerry Cheffey
- Raj Patel and John Sanders
- Justin and Steve Ryder
- Terry Dorrian and Andy Bird
- Jack Rendle and Ian Scobie

I did feel that the course favoured our players as many had played there before. The weather was windy and cold, but spirits were high. The teams were well balanced with very few shots given either way.

Through 5 we were down in 3 matches and up in 2 so all the play for. After 9 holes the score was still the same and looking like team 1 was going to be the deciding result who were 1 down. After 13 holes Team 1 went 1 up so we were up in 3 matches and down in 2 matches. Through 15 Team 1 was dormie 3, Team 3 won 5&4 and team 5 were 3 up. Through 17 Team 1 were dormie having lost holes 16 and 17 and the result hinged on this result. Graham hit a great drive down the right-hand side of the 18th fairway with their opponents driving shorter to Left hand side of 18. Budock hit their 2nd shot short and left which left Gerry an opportunity to take the advantage. He hit an amazing shot to the middle of the green. Budock Vean hit

a great chip to within 6 feet. Graham had a putt to win the hole but just missed however Budock Vean had to win the hole to get a half which would mean they would play the 1st. They missed their putt which meant we had a putt to win the hole which was completed by Gerry to win 2 up.

As always, the match was played in get spirits by both teams. Looe were a great host with us having a well-deserved roast.

Our opponents next will be Whitsand bay on the 10th November at Launceston and the team are ready for that challenge

### **2nd Round v Whitsand Bay @ Launceston. 9th November 10.00am**

The 2nd Round match that was scheduled for Sunday 10th November however as Launceston do not have post-match dining facilities on a Sunday it was rearranged by the CGU at short notice to Saturday 9th November.

As Captain I challenged this date with the CGU Secretary as it was our Turkey Trot and presentation day, some players could not play due to family commitments and could we play on the following Saturday 16th November. The CGU discussed this with Whitsand Bay who stated that the rescheduled date should stand, and we were given 2 options play or concede.

I was very disappointed with this decision and we were not conceding so requested the support of the Golf Management and Seniors to get a side together as 3 players were not available.

As Captain I was unable to attend as Cornish Bowl Captain and as the normal reserve player. Keith Chapman and Tony Frost stepped in at short notice and thanked them for their support

#### **Players were.**

- Gerry Cheffey and John Sanders
- Keith Chapman and Tony Frost
- Justin and Steve Ryder
- Jack Rendle and Ian Scobie
- Terry Dorrian and Andy Bird

At 09:00 I rang the team Captain to get an update to be informed that a player had not turned up as yet. My heart sank and I called the player to be informed that he hadn't realised that they were in the team even though this had been promulgated on the WhatsApp chat. We were therefore 1 down before a ball was hit. I informed the captain and stated to do their best and get the result. This changed the team dynamic as the pressure was on to win 3 of the 4 games. As per the first round the handicaps were balanced except for the 1st team that had 3 shots and team 5 had to give 3 shots. The 1st team was conceded as we only had 1 player, but they played a round with his competitors. The team did their best but lost 4 – 1 and gutted that this had ended our competition.

We had a good team to go a long way into this competition but knew that Whitsand Bay would be tough opposition with a full team. I have spoken to many of the players since this result who were also gutted how this ended and stated that it was there for the taking but the pressure got to them. I would like to personally thank all my players for their commitment during this competition.

**Team Captain. Steph Smith.**

### **CTC report.**

#### **1st round v Tehidy @ Bowood GC. 20<sup>th</sup> October 8.24am**

##### **Players were. (pairs)**

- L Woodall & A Taylor
- I Ashenden & S Matthews
- C Kitt & D Sleat
- J Williams & J Whiteley
- R Coles (9<sup>th</sup> man)
- Singles. R Richardson
- S Matthews
- I Ashenden
- A Taylor
- C Kitt
- D Sleat
- J Friend

- J Whiteley

Firstly, it was an honour to be asked to Captain China Fleets C.T.C team.

After spending months getting a squad together, on Mondays evening, our first round was approaching fast.

We had a tough draw, playing Tehidy. I had a squad of our clubs fifteen best players.

Unfortunately when the first round date was announced, Jordon Davidson and our scratch league champion, Tom White were unable to play. Then with three weeks to go Jason Friend was told he had a Devon Champion of Champions event on the same day.

Losing three of the clubs best young players was a shame. Then with 10 days to go Harry Woolway pulled out, followed by our club champion Matt Shapland a few days before the match. Five players, all under 30 (the future) would have played in this nine man team.

Thankfully, I was able to call upon our clubs lowest handicapper and England International, Ian Ashenden to come in at short notice. On to the day. We were up at 5.30 am, left home at 6.15 and drove up to Bowood in 55mph winds and driving rain! Our first match out was our club foursomes champions Andy Taylor and Lee Woodall, and after a medical incident on the front nine, agreed to a generous, sporting half in their match. Second out was Shaun Mathews and his county colleague Ian Ashenden, in a tight match, they also finished all sq. Third out was Colin Kitt and Dave Sleat who got us our first point winning 2&1. The fourth pairing was John Williams and Jack Whiteley, who were all sq. after 8, but in the end going down 5&4. Our 9th man playing singles, was Rory Coles. Rory raced into a 3 up lead early on (whilst Ross was his caddy) but in the end lost 2&1. We were 2 ¾ to 2 down at lunch. Ross Richardson lead us out in the afternoon singles and only lost on the 18th to an ex west of England Champion. Shaun's and Ian's match also went to the last but both finishing 1 down.

It was starting to get dark now.

Andy Taylors match finished all sq. and when Colin lost 2&1 the match was effectively over. Dave Sleat and Jack Whiteley both battled to obtain halves with Jason Friend, whose Devon match was called off at late notice, coming in for John in the afternoon, losing 5&4. We had lost 9 to 3.5.

The main stat was we had 8 matches go down the 18th and didn't win any of them.

Throughout the day our team spirt was fantastic and the support I received from the team was first class. Thank you. Even with 5 of our top players not there, this was still the best team China Fleet has ever put out. Going forward, we have an extremely talented team and if we can get everyone playing, we are a match for anyone in Cornwall! My only disappointment was that the team selected was not fully supported by certain members of our club.

Whoever is asked to pick teams in the future, they must not have to have their hands tied behind their back.

**Team Captain. Mark Friend.**

Can I also thank Scott and Dave for coming down to support the team.

#### **Frank Wills Salver report.**

**1<sup>st</sup> round v Perranporth @ Launceston. 26<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am**

**Players were.**

- R Mansfield & A Mitchell
- C Blatchford & N O'Sullivan
- A Blakie & S Vieira
- E Shapland & L Fedrick
- J Parry & A Hatch

The course was in good condition and the weather was nice.

With a good start from China fleet in the 1st half but Perranporth came through to beat us on the 18th with two teams going down the 18th.

Yet again it was a very close match and the team were in good spirits. I would like to say well played to Perranporth and wish them well in the next round.

**Team Captain, Richard Mansfield.**

## **Presidents Trophy report.**

**1<sup>st</sup> round v Trethorne @ Launceston 2<sup>nd</sup> November 10.00am**

### **Players were.**

- C Cowie
- L Friend
- J Syndercombe
- M Friend
- M Fox
- R Smith
- S Milligan
- L Wellington
- T White

We took an early lead with a great win from Clay Cowie winning 10&8.

The rest of the matches were extremely competitive with the scores ending 4.5-4.5.

This saw Tom White enter a playoff which was won by the Trethorne player on the second play-off hole.

All matches were played in good spirit, with everyone from the CF team staying for the meal afterwards. Thanks to Dave for coming along to support the team on the day and thank you to the committee for all of your support and guidance with it being my 1<sup>st</sup> time captaining and organising a team for China Fleet.

**Team Captain. Ross Richardson.**

**We the Committee would like to thank all Team Captains and the selected players for representing China Fleet.**

### 7. Treasurers report.

Current running balance . £2747.67

1 invoice pending.

### 8. Greenkeeper report.

#### **Weather**

With an awful amount of rain for October, (well over 5 inches), we are happy to see the course still firm under foot and buggies in use.

#### **Greens**

The height of cut on the greens is slowly raising, now we are going into winter. This week, the greens have had their monthly pencil tine and top dressing; we have since raised the height of cut by 0.5mm.

We will be slightly adjusting the shape of a few greens very slightly in order to gain pin locations, and also to reduce sharp turning on the greens mowers. This will be done progressively by lowering the height of cut over time using our new pedestrian hand mower.

#### **Fairways**

All fairways have now been verti drained, and the new Shockwave machine has been operating in some of our renowned wet areas. We should see the benefits when the wet weather inevitably returns. This machine will aid the water escaping by providing slits in the soil for the water to escape to the low points.

#### **Projects**

With the dry weather we are experiencing, the greens staff have been pushing ahead with a few projects. So far, we have completed the levelling and extending of the 17th yellow tee, and we are currently working on the new bunkers on the 15th hole, which will hopefully be ready for turf next week. We will then be looking to commence some drainage work on the 13th fairway and 7th approach.

#### **Winter tee boxes**

As with every Autumn, all the winter matts are in the process of being cleaned, levelled and any rotted wooden frames replaced and painted.

#### **New machinery**

We recently took delivery of a new hand mower. This will be used to cut greens during the winter when ground conditions are not suitable to take a ride on mower over the green. Although this is a much slower

practice, the lightweight machine and quality of cut will make a huge difference. The hand mower can also be used to maintain the short new game area.

The new Shockwave has already been used in key areas as previously mentioned.

Our new Toro multi pro sprayer is another huge investment from which we are already seeing the benefits. We have also taken delivery of a new extendable pole saw which will be used to raise low hanging branches over winter, and an Echo leaf blower, just in time for Autumn leaf fall!

Many thanks  
Nathan

9. Any Other Business.

Terms of Competitions.

Communication Protocol.

Committee meeting venue (when the lounge is busy)

On course Autumn Leaves.

Create a Team select Committee 2025 (3 or 4 members)

It was proposed and accepted by Mark Fox to undertake this role going forward.

**Meeting Closed 21.15**  
**Next Committee Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> December**