

Website; chinafleetgolfcommittee.co.uk

Secretary E-mail. dave@zethar.net

Minutes of the Men's Golf Section

A.G.M. Tuesday 12th March 2024 19.00

Present. S Smith, J Parry, S Milligan, S Johnston, M Friend, R Mansfield, D Hobbs, A Forster, L Simpson.

Apologies. D Callaghan (secretary) ill.

No Apologies. L Woodall, J Hall

Members here present. P Jarvis (seniors Captain). R Smith. J Johnston. R Kieth. I Burgess. M Fox. L Johnston.
M Tamsett.

1. We the Committee and our members welcome all those here present to this year's AGM.
2. The Captain asked for a minutes silence for all lost loved ones here at home and around the world.
3. Minutes of the latest meeting February accepted as a true record.

Proposed M Friend **Seconded** S Johnston

4. **Matters arising from our March 2023 AGM. (non-outstanding)**

5. **AOB previous meeting**

Team Captain "A" Team Championship. Harry Woolway has taken on this roll.

6th green offside pathway. **Ongoing**

6. **Captains Monthly Report**

What a month we have had with the all the rain was it ever going to stop. It must be soul destroying for the Nathan and his greenkeeping staff team to keep the course open under these conditions. As members it is frustrating that we cannot get out the course or when we do its difficult. Let's hope the worst of the rain is now in the past so that the course dries out and we can get back to regular dry golf.

Men's Summer Scratch League

I would like to thank Mark Friend for organising the Men's Scratch League running every Monday from the 29th April until the 16th September. This is a great opportunity for all you lower handicappers to play together , get the best from each other, and form great team spirit to enhance the China Fleet Teams to take on, and beat the other Cornish clubs

WHS Handicap Rule 2024

The new Handicap rules come into play on the 1st April so please take the time to visit the WHS website to understand how this affects you as a player

What Are The World Handicap System™ 2024 Updates? - iGolf (englandigolf.co.uk)

[Night Golf](#)

Unfortunately, due to the low volume of members booking for the event it was not viable to go ahead. We will reschedule this event for the Autumn.

AOB Actions from last Meeting

- Website advertising, to be looked into. (still in discussion)

- Team Shirts. Covering all 3 sections. New Logo, Colour, Quality, and value. No change at present but will be discussed at the Golf Management meeting scheduled for the 21st March 2024 with the Senior and Ladies Captains
- Winter Mats, unlevel with weed growth. Part of the Greenkeepers maintenance plan.

7. **Captain's end of 1st year review.**

It has been a busy year for China Fleet Club and that is down to everyone involved, members, players that support the Club Competitions, Committee members, Club Management, staff within the Golf shop and the Greenkeeping staff, so thank you to you all.

I would like to thank the Committee for all their efforts, their support, and the willingness to continue to highlight and make improvements for all members is a credit to you all, so thank you.

I would like to single out a few specific individuals for not only their commitment but their continued drive to support everything that is good about our club:

Dave Callaghan has continued to the Secretary and has agreed to undertake the role again for another year. His attention to detail is amazing and keeps me on my toes when I have not updated any of the AOB actions as part of my monthly reports. He does a lot behind the scenes with activities like contacting the CGU Secretary for updates and responding to queries. Your support is key in keeping the Men's sections running so thank you for all your support it is most appreciated.

Stephen Milligan has undertaken the role as Competition Secretary for several years and has agreed to continue in that role for the next year. This year he took on the responsibility for creating the Men's section Terms and Conditions document which has taken him many hours to produce. I also thank him for his vast Golf knowledge he has brought to this role and have learnt a lot from him.

Andy Sullivan has continued to be the Treasurer and has agreed to undertake the role again. I would like to thank him for all his efforts during the year.

James Parry, as Past Captain, for all his support during my first year as Captain. You have always been there when I call you to ask your opinion on any issues that may occur. Thank you again James it is most appreciated.

Mark Friend and Rich Mansfield for all their Leadership and support in the PAL competitions and CGU Summer and Winter Leagues. Your support has been invaluable to me as I can rely on you to ensure teams are always prepared for the events.

This year has seen a measure of success throughout various competitions, and I would like to thank everyone who has represented the Club and implore all players to add their names for selection to play in both competitions and events throughout the year.

Congratulations to all golfers who won silverware last season, our end of summer season presentations are held after the 1st Turkey Trot to celebrate your achievements.

Team Captains: Undertaking the role of Team Captains can be difficult at times especially with reschedules due to Cornish weather and ensuring they have sufficient team players to meet these changes. I thank you for all the Leadership and time in supporting these key events during 2023/2024 season.

Teams Captains this year were.

- o Andy Forster, Frank Wills and B Team Captain
- o Lee Woodall, A Team Captain
- o Stephen Smith, Cornish Bowl Captain
- o Mark Friend, Presidents Cup and PAL Team B Captain
- o Rich Mansfield PAL A Team Captain
- o Robin Smith, Over 55 Team Captain
- o No Maxam Cup captain as it was schedule on our Club Championship Day.
- Team Results 2023
- o Frank Wills unfortunately we succumbed to second round defeat to Whitsand Bay
- o Cornish Bowl unfortunately we succumbed to Second round defeat to Tehidy
- o Presidents Trophy Unfortunately succumbed to a first round defeat to St Enodoc
- o Team A unfortunately succumbed to a first round defeat to West Cornwall

- o Team B reached the Final and lost to Falmouth 2 & 1.
- o PAL (Plymouth Area League) Two teams entered this year with us unfortunately losing to St Mellion who lost to Elburton in the PAL Final

We did have some success in the winning the Over 55 Team under the Captaincy of Robin Smith

- The teams consisted of
- Robin Smith & Melvyn Carter,
- Mark Friend & James Parry,
- Jimmy Foy, and Alex McMahon,
- The Team won round 1 at China Fleet with any overall net score of 205, 11 under on the day at our own course and then at a later date, a final round at St Austell of 190 shots winning by 5 shots to Polzeath.

Subsequently I would like to thank this year's Team Captains and wish them all success:

- o Andy Forster, Frank Wills and B Team Championship Captain
- o Harry Woolway, A Team Championship Captain
- o Stephen Smith, Cornish Bowl Captain
- o Richard Mansfield Presidents Cup and Maxam Cup Captain
- o Mark Friend – CTC and PAL Team Captain

The annual St Piran Cup was held on the 17th and 18th June at St Mellion this year. Day 1 was 12 players participating in 2 x Foursomes, 2 x Betterball and 2 x Greensomes format on the Kernow Course. The team played well with us losing 4 -2 however the results could have gone either way. As St Mellion were the current holders, we had to win 7.5 to 4.5 on day two to win the trophy. I had confidence in the team that we could do it. The 12 singles played on the Nicklaus course, and we started strong however once again we didn't get the run of the green and lost 7.5 to 4.5 which meant St Mellion retained the cup winning 11.5 to 6.5. The competition was played with great spirit with the team giving 100%. This year we are at home and we intending to change the name of the event in Honor of Gary Pavey who was the founder of this event with the St Mellion Captain.

I would like to personally thank all the Club members also represented China Fleet in other County Competitions, such as Lieutenants Trophy and Royal Cornwall Goblets

Captain Charity – Well, what a day we had on Captains Charity Day. The weather was scheduled to be terrible on the day and it lived up to its expectations. However, as I stated in my letter to all the players this did not dampen the spirit of those that were due to play. We raised £1890 for the MND Associated so thank you all for your generosity and support on that day. With the Captains Bunker contributions the total was £1940 to MNDA . My Captains Charity for 2024 is the Cornwall Air Ambulance. The winner on the charity day will go forward to represent our club and attend the awards presentation and dinner.

Ben Waters, Nathan Sullivan and all the team must deserve special thanks for our Course and facilities. Keeping this course in tip top condition is a tireless task especially with all the bad weather we have received this winter and credit goes to Nathan and his staff to keep going and doing their best to keep the course open where they possibly can.

We have seen several improvements again this year with

- Scores cards updated due to revised stroke Index's.
- Introduction of the Winter Green Card
- New Chipping and Putting area under way and due to open in June.
- Tee signage and Course Notice boards installed.
- Supported a Divot evening where we had a great turnout to support the greenkeepers.

I am sure you will agree they do make a difference to our amazing course.

It has been an honour and privilege to be your Men's Section Captain. I have enjoyed the year and with the team around me have learnt a lot , every day is a school day, and look forward to this coming year.

Thank You

Steph Smith

8. **Re-election of officers. (Secretary- Competition secretary- Treasurer)**

This was put to the floor and all were re-elected unanimously.

9. **Vice-Captaincy.**

As minute'd in the February 2024 meeting James Parry was elected and voted in for this position, we hereby put it to the floor to vote for ratification. A vote was then taken as was passed unanimously.

10. **Competition secretary report.**

The 2023 season has again been another fantastic success, with a large increase in the number of members participating in the different events. Each event was supported well and the re-introduction of the Team and Individual Opens by the China Fleet Golf Management. This year these will be supplemented by x 2 Guest Days (Spring and Christmas)

The monthly medals & stableford were as always, well supported by the members, with the continued provision of a "China Fleet Medal" to each monthly medal winner. This will be continued throughout the coming year.

The scoring format for the Hudson Shield (our player of the year) that took into account each players score to par across each counting event, this year took into account the summer knockout events. This kept competition tight throughout the year and was competitive up till the last event.

The major event of the year, our Club Championships, was supported throughout the two days by the agronomy staff that had the course looking amazing and the greens devastating to all those who didn't have a delicate touch with the putter.

Congratulations to winners of all events throughout the year, the list of all winners is tabled below.

Competition	Winners		
Hong Kong Cup	Andrew Mitchell		
Spring team Challenge	3 Man Team of: T. Mace / J. Jones / D. Bryan		
Anniversary Plate	Gary Sweet		
Dragons Trophy	Dave Callaghan and John Callaghan		
Club Championships	Scratch: Jack Whitely	Nett: Steve Vieira	Over 18(S'ford): Rob Berry
China Fleet Trophy Day	Paul Forse (Kelly Salver)	Scott Johnston (Elliot Bowl)	Rob Berry (Hickman Shield)
Greenkeepers Cup	Alex McMahon		
Nelsons Trophy	Scott Johnston, Raj Patel, Jim Johnston, Andy Booth		
Captains Trophy	Mark Friend		
The Hawtree Cup	Ross Richardson and Rory Coles		
Tamar Trophy	Peter Brandon or Peter Mackley		

***Winter Pairs Series Event Final Result and Trophy Winner will be published April minutes.**

Monthly Medals	Div 1	Div 2
May	Ross Richardson	John Greiner
June	Jordan Davidson	Steven Ryder
August	Harry Woolway	Justin Ryder
September	Jack Screech	Andy Warne
October	Denys Edwards	Lewis Johnston

KNOCKOUTS			
Scratch	Winner	Jake Figg	
	Runner Up	Mark Friend	
High Hcap	Winner	Brian Hill	
	Runner Up	Luke Friend	
Low Hcap	Winner	Andrew Mitchell	
	Runner Up	Kevin Cotton	
Betterball	Winners	Kevin Cotton and B Cotton	
	Runners Up	Scott Johnston and Jim Johnston	
Foursomes	Winners	David Thompsom and Nathan Bowden	
	Runners Up	Sam Ridley and Jack Sleep	
Greensomes	Winners	John Callaghan and Dave Callaghan	
	Runners Up	Andrew Mitchell and Richard Mansfield	

2023 Golfer of the Year	Jack Whitely (Hudsons Shield)
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Final order of business is to introduce 2024 Terms of Competition. This will be introduced for voting upon under AOB, with intention to start 01 Apr 2024.

A thank you to all China Fleet Staff, members of the committee and their families who could support in these events. Administration, card checks and scoring throughout the year couldn't have been done without them.

Stephen Milligan
Competition Secretary



CHINA FLEET COUNTRY CLUB

EST. 1991

TERMS OF COMPETITION Men's Section Competitions 2024

Summary of new items

- Eligibility to win any trophy/prize in Major stroke play or stableford competitions is subject to being a current member and having submitted at least 6 Acceptable Scores [6] (including a minimum of 3 in CFCC Competitions) in the 12 months before the date of the competition. (Roll-ups (weekend or weekday) count as initial 3 competition cards and entry fees are applicable, and prizes can be won)
- Entry fee for all competitions is £5.00 per person
- Breakdown of divisions now formalised (incl . roll-ups)
- Winter Series format changed to:
 - X2 Individual Stableford, X2 Four Ball Betterball Stableford
 - X2 2 Man Texas Scramble, X2 2 Man Foursomes Strokeplay
- No scorecards to accepted without independent marker - no exceptions

Many rules of golf have been ratified throughout the document e.g. - tee times, closing of entry, how ties are decided, prize structures etc.

Further reading can be found here: <https://www.randa.org/rog/committee-procedures/sections/5>

Terms of Competition 2024. This is a 28 page report covering all competitions.

Details and full document can be found here: <https://chinafleetgolfcommittee.co.uk/details>

Stephen Milligan
Competition Secretary

11. **CGU Knockout. Captains Report.**

Club Championship "B" Team

With the match venue firstly being at Launceston GC 10th March. The course was saturated and a new venue was put in place.

This was rearranged with the same date's, and we were then set to play our first round match at Bude GC against St Austell GC.

Team players.

R Keith & J Whitely (Club Champion)

R Richarson & R Coles

J Parry (Captain) & S Milligan

China Fleet Triumphs over St Austell GC B Team in Club Championship Foursomes Match at Bude GC

In a thrilling showdown amidst initial changing weather conditions, China Fleet Golf Club emerged victorious over St Austell GC B Team in a fiercely contested foursomes match playing off a max index of 12 and below at the Bude Golf Club.

Despite the rainy start, the atmosphere remained charged with anticipation as players from both teams displayed remarkable sportsmanship and camaraderie throughout the event. As the match progressed, the weather took a

turn for the better, treating participants to glorious sunshine and enhancing the already spirited competition. In a testament to their skill and determination, China Fleet secured a magnificent 2-1 victory over their opponents.

The success of the event wouldn't have been possible without the tireless efforts of the catering department at Bude Golf Club, who ensured that all participants were well-fed after the event. Additionally, the club's attention to detail on a truly superb course contributed to the overall enjoyment of the day.

Stay tuned for more golfing action and sportsmanship behaviour in the matches to come.

James Parry Captain.

12. Treasures Report.




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www.starlingbank.com

MR Andrew Sullivan

Account Name: China Fleet Men's Section
IBAN: GB84SRLG60837193604961
BIC: SRLGGB2L
Sort code: 60-83-71
Account Number: 93604961

Summary 01/03/2024 - 12/03/2024

Opening Balance	£1461.21
Payments In	£0.00
Payments Out	£60.00
Closing Balance	£1401.21

 Your deposit is eligible for protection by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

01/03/2024 - 12/03/2024 Statement

DATE	TYPE	TRANSACTION	IN	OUT	END OF DAY ACCOUNT BALANCE
	OPENING BALANCE				£1461.21
07/03/2024	FASTER PAYMENT	Looe Golf Club Members a/c (CFCC Pal 2024)		£60.00	£1401.21

We charge interest each day you are overdrawn. We calculate interest on your end of day account balance. For further information about our interest rates, refer to www.starlingbank.com/legal

Date range applicable: 01/03/2024 - 11/03/2024

Interest rate paid on Account Balance	%AER	%Gross	Interest rate charged on Account Balance	%EAR
£0.00 - unlimited	Variable	Variable	Less than £0	Variable
	0.00%	0.00%		15.00%

Date range applicable: 12/03/2024 - 12/03/2024

Interest rate paid on Account Balance	%AER	%Gross	Interest rate charged on Account Balance	%EAR
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

13. Green Keepers Report

With the weather still causing havoc not much change from last month's report.

On the 13th December we very sadly and unexpectedly lost our Deputy Golf Course Manager Martin Coe. Martin worked at the Club for over 23 years in the Golf department, firstly in the golf shop, then as a greenkeeper before becoming the Deputy Course Manager, he was well liked and well thought of by many members of staff.

We have passed on our condolences to his family and offered the full support and empathy of the Company during this time. We would like to thank everyone who kindly donated in support of the family. Ben Waters and I visited Martin's family to pass on some personal belongings and the donations from members/staff etc. The family wanted to pass on their thanks for all the help and support.

The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association (BIGGA) also helped the family out through their green keeper benevolent fund, for which the family were extremely grateful.

Martins funeral was held at St Martin's Church in Liskeard on the 12th January.

Just a few weeks back we received the very sad news of the passing of Gary Pavey.

On a personal level, during his many reigns as Captain, Gary was always very supportive of me in my role which I will always appreciate. The green keeping team pass on their condolences to Steph and the family at this time.

Weather

With some drier weather over the past few weeks, we have been able to get the mowers back out onto the course. All fairways were cut, as well as tees, approaches, and most semi rough. We were also able to complete the verti draining of all fairways, tees, and approaches and also some walkways/high wear areas. The new green on the short game area has now had several top dressings, a granular feed, and it's first mow, we are happy with the progress of the green, however, the bad weather and staff shortages have put us a little behind with completing the remaining area, although the fairway was seeded and fertilised this week. Twice now we have levelled and seeded the new drain on the 16th fairway, and twice we have had heavy rain the very next day which has washed much of the sand away. So this will now be put on hold until the water table drops a little around springtime.

Greens

The greens were double verti cut last week, and we are hoping to complete greens maintenance this week by verti draining and top dressing.

They also had a winter strengthening package applied last week. Due to all our hard work and sand applications over the previous years, the greens have remained firm and in decent condition through a very wet winter so far.

Bunkers

All bunkers are now back in play, but we will continue to mark any bunkers that are temporarily G.U.R. with a green post. We are currently in the process of edging and strimming around all the bunkers to tidy them up for the spring.

Projects

The 15th bunker project has been on hold due to staff shortages, but we will look to continue next week.

The 11th bunker project has been delayed and will be addressed at a later date.

The steps leading up to the 14th tee have been removed and a new sleeper frame installed which will then have an artificial grass slope leading up to the tee.

New signage

A few weeks ago we installed all the new tee signage on the golf course as well as new signage for the 1st tee and driveway. I'm sure you will agree these are a great addition to the club. The discs with each of the yellow, red, and white distance markers will remain, and these will have the stroke indexes fitted to them in time.

Staff

We are pleased to announce that Matthew Frost has been promoted Deputy Course Manager. Matt has been with us for nearly 10 years, is NVQ level 2 and level 3 qualified and also has spraying and chain saw certificates. His energy, enthusiasm and passion for the job will be a benefit to the team. We also sadly say goodbye to Charlie Blatchford who is leaving us soon for pastures new, Charlie has been a great team player over the years, and his knowledge and enthusiasm for the turf care mechanics side of things will be greatly missed.

Last week we welcomed 2 new members of staff to get us back up to full strength. Ross Wellington and David Sleat both come with years of greenkeeping experience in the local area, and both play golf to a high standard.

Many thanks

Nathan

14. [Website page.](#)

This continues to be updated on a regular basis as and when required for the members.

15. [Any Question from the floor \(received prior to the AGM\)](#)

Member Questions 1-14

I have listened to several people through the year, airing their gripes, & have compiled them into several proposals. Below is the first proposal:

1. BUNKERS

The quality of the bunkers have been poor now, for quite a few years. The sand quality is poor, & not enough sand is in each bunker? They quickly get washed out, with a downpour of rain. In a lot of bunkers, there's no sand to play with, only mud & slate!

Other courses have a lot more sand in each bunker, allowing the greenkeepers to take a bit more pride in looking after them?

This was discussed with Nathan and there is an ongoing bunker plan in place to reduce the number of bunkers, reduce the size, remove steep slopes to avoid contamination and washout bunker. This all results in freeing up labour to improve bunker maintenance on the course.

2. WASH STATION

When you finish your round, it is good practice to wash down your trolley, before it goes on the back of the car, or into one of the lockers (if it fits)!

The fitted hose line needs to be longer to allow you to walk around your trolley to wash it down - not move the trolley around to suit the hose! The spray head on the hose, albeit not brilliant, was donated by a member, not supplied by the club. These needs replacing, with a more focused spray head to minimise splash back, better pressure to clean off all the goose/duck excrement stuck to your wheels. Plus, a better head would reduce water usage, & minimise the surrounding area getting dirty.

A small, hard bristled, hand brush could also assist in removing stubborn muck!

A "Sheep Dip" type pool could be constructed next to the cleaning station, where you would run your trolley through the pool? This would clean/pre-soak your trolley wheels, minimising the amount of water being used.

This has been discussed with the Golf management and the following actions will be taken.

- *An improved Spray head is going to be installed on a longer hose to allow it to have different setting to get rid of stubborn muck on the trolleys.*
- *A hard brush will be installed to remove residual muck from the wheels.*

A sheep dip type solution will not be installed due to Health and Safety reasons as improved compressor, Hoses and Brush will be adequate for members to clean their golf equipment.

3. AIR STATION

It's important to your members to be able to clean their gear before they retire to the clubhouse or go home.

Nobody likes putting a muddy/grass ridden cart into the back of their cars, or the locker - they arrive with cleaned equipment, & generally, expect to leave the course in a similar condition?

The air compressor is now coming to the end of its life, & breakdowns are a regular occurrence - the unit has now been out of service for two weeks plus, awaiting a spare part!

If you visit other clubs, they have two compressors - one working, & the other standing by?

The airline & nozzle do not produce a good jet, & you regularly spend a lot more time trying to clear the mud from your shoes. The nozzle needs to have a smaller hole to increase the pressure, thus clearing the shoes a lot easier.

There should also be fitted a "shroud/blowback protector" to the nozzle to prevent any pieces being blown back into the face. If this were on a building site, etc., you would have to don a pair of safety glasses to use the unit - Health & Safety, & all that!

This has been discussed with the Golf management and they are investigating the best option to replace the current compressor that will have a longer hose or hoses to improve the current solution in place.

4. Shoe Brush Cleaners

There is one at the wash station, & another on the way to the back entrance to the club. Both stations have little, or no brushes left!

I have been a member here for 10 years, & I've never seen them replaced!

If these were working efficiently, you would see a significant decrease in the usage of water & air being used at the wash stations.

It would also reduce the amount of mud trounced into the clubhouse hallway, bar, & locker rooms.

Shoe brushes have been replaced this year, but extra shoe brush cleaners will be bought and installed.

5. BROKEN TEES

Regularly, broken tees are just left on the ground - this makes the course look untidy, & unkempt!

At each tee box, there should be a container, clearly marked for broken tees. This would encourage golfers to pick them up, & put them in the respective bins, thus keeping a clean & tidy tee box.

These bins could then be cleaned out on a regular basis by the green keepers, as part of their daily routines.

It is up to the golfers to pick up their tees. If they are broken, they can pick them up place them in the bins already provided around the course which are emptied and cleaned by the greenkeeping staff. I know of some members that want to close the course if they lose their tee.

6. SHORTENED FAIRWAYS

Over the last couple of years, the fairways have been getting further, & further away from the Tee Boxes? This is giving an unfair advantage to the better golfer, as they generally hit the ball a lot further off the tee. You have a lot of golfers who cannot hit more than about 100 - 120 yards off the tee (ladies & men included). if the fairways were closer, they would be able to utilise the run they get on the ball to get further down the fairways? This discourages a lot of them to not enter competitions, as they know they will struggle off the tee.

The Greenkeepers extended the length of the 4th Fairway and will look to cut back certain other fairways as the weather improves. However, the 13th and 17th fairways were shortened due to not wanting wet areas on the fairway, Green staff to look at drainage solutions in these areas.

7. WINTER TEE BOXES

There are several of these in a poor condition.

When you stand on the tee box, you expect it to be flat, allowing you a good stance to hit your ball? This is not the case on several boxes.

The majority of the mats are all in a poor condition, & need to be lifted to allow the boxes levelled out, before refitting the same mats, or new ones as required? The surrounding wood is damaged at several boxes, & needs to be replaced/repared, as they could be a trip hazard?

At the very start of winter, or before, they should all be cleaned thoroughly, in preparation of usage. I have only seen this being done once, since being here!

Each year the greenkeeping staff carry out maintenance of the tee boxes. The mats are cleaned and levelled at the start of each winter, and often for a second time if required.

As part of the Golf Management budget some of the Winter Tee boxes have had wooden surrounds replaced this year and will repeat next year to form part of the 2024/25 budget.

8. WINTER/TEMPORARY GREENS

These are pitiful, to say the least!

It would be good practice to set aside an area for each winter green, & start cutting the grass, preparing it to be of playable quality, not go out on the morning, or the day before, & cut a 20-foot circle on a sloped fairway! The club know exactly where these greens will be. They could ring it off with marker poles, or GUR white markings, allowing proper preparation of the areas? Golfers would simply 'lift & place' their ball outside the GUR area? The greens need to be larger in size, & sited on flatter ground, where possible? Your customers pay good money to play here all year round - don't disappoint them!

The winter temporary greens are classed as frozen greens as in the main are only in place where the course is icy and therefore main greens out of action. To have them maintained during the summer months and marked GUR will only cause extra issues for players as many, like the 3rd is in the middle of the fairway, which will not be accepted by the players. As the name suggests they are temporary and a target when you play the course in these conditions so no permanent Winter Greens will be created.

9. 5th WINTER GREEN?

There is no winter green for the 5th hole. This could be a short 70/80 yarder, siting the green before the fencing to the water hazard? The ladies could be made to play it from the same tee box as the men, should it be deemed too short for them?

People come here expecting to play 18 holes, not 16!

The course conditions are also promulgated prior to your round and will state that temporary greens are in play. You can therefore make the decision whether to play a reduce round. To have a temporary green on the slope heading towards the water hazard is not feasible due to the slope and distance from the tee it will therefore not be installed.

10. 7th WINTER GREEN

The winter green for this hole is unplayable, As it acts as an access/egress route for the cutting of the main green. If it is subject to any rain, it becomes easily clogged up?

A winter green could be the 8th Blue tee box - I have yet to see anyone play off this tee box? This would mean a blind shot into the green but, it would give the hole a bit of a challenge to the golfer.

Signs could be erected telling the golfer to wait until the 8th tee area is clear, or they could follow the same procedure we use on the 14th, allowing the 7th to tee off, before they tee off the 8th? You could also have your shop staff explain this to golfers when they check-in - it's good to talk?

The 7th Green Temporary green will remain as is as moving it to the Blue Tee will add extra hazards as you are teeing off blind across the 8th teeing area and those playing the 11th. The greenkeeping staff are reviewing the current area drainage to improve the access and round in this area.

11. APPROACH TO THE 8th GREEN

When it's wet, or had recent rainfall, it is notorious for your ball to plug, in the approach to the front of the 8th green?

A few years ago, there was a renovation to the pathway to the 9th tee box, & kerb stones were installed - these do not allow any 'water run-off' from the area?

Either a drain needs to be cleared (there is a drainage line running across the 8th fairway about 20 yards back from the green), or the kerb stones removed to allow 'water run-off', or a better solution found?

The kerb stones on the 8th do not hold back the water as drainage goes under these and the fairways. This area and others are always under review to improve and part on the greenkeeper's maintenance plans.

12. TROLLEY STORAGE FACILITY

When the storage lockers were constructed, most golfers would carry their golf bags - trolleys, of any sort, were considered an unnecessary luxury?

The lockers were initially made for stowing your golf bag, clubs, & shoes.

Nowadays, we have evolved & most golfers have a trolley, whether it's a manual one, or electric powered, & if they leave their golf clubs at their respective club, they would like to leave their trolley there as well, in a secured lock up? It doesn't make much sense, in today's world, to have to put your trolley in the back of your car each time you're going to play golf, but leave your golf clubs at your course?

Some trollies fit into the lockers, e.g. some electric Motocaddy units, & a few others, but not all, e.g. new Motocaddy units, Powa caddy, Stewart.

Lockers are of a premium nowadays, & they seldom become available. We have had a lot of new members joining us in the last couple of years, & they should be given an opportunity to take advantage of stowing their equipment at the club, just like us 'Chosen Ones'! Having a lock-up for trollies would release some of the lockers for more of our members to utilise?

It would also be a 'money earner' for the club - people pay a fee for the locker, plus another fee for the stowage of their trollies? The lock-up could also be used to stow 'visiting golfers gear', staying at the course overnight? This would reduce the mess made when a golfer finishes his round, & puts his gear in the hotel room, ready for the next day (don't say we haven't done this) - nobody wants to put their filthy cart into the back of their car! They would also give the club a better review for having good facilities. A win for everyone?

It is suggested the club could site a shed/container that members could utilise to stow their trollies securely, either with their clubs, or just the trolley?

A possible site could be at the putting area, with members padlocking their trollies to a rail inside the lock-up. This could be monitored by the 'Starter' in the starters hut.

A better site could be opposite the golf shop, to the right of the golf buggies. This could be more secure, following this procedure:

- a) A member would come to the shop, & request access to the lock-up to remove, or return their trolley?
- b) They get the key from the shop staff, & proceed to get their trolley, locking the container, before returning the key to the shop.
- c) They could sign a book indicating "time of issue" & "return" of the key, should further security be required?
- d) If this is not suitable, then a staff member could go to the lock-up, & handle the trolley for them, giving them a 'key -fob', or token, which they have to produce each time they want access? We have staff in the shop whilst golfers are playing golf, as the driving range is open longer than when a round would be finished. Also, there are cameras all around recording any movements, should any problems arise?

In general, golfers are honest people, so the theft of goods should not come into play here, but I'm afraid, it cannot be guaranteed - the minority always spoil it for the majority!

This has already been discussed with the Management of the club and the Managing Director and at present this is not deemed as a priority and will be not looked into at this stage.

13. DRESS CODE

It is not the responsibility of members to address fellow golfers about their dress code - this should be done by the golf staff before they start their round, as well as patrolling the course. If anyone is found violating the dress code, they should be escorted off the course! A little severe, I know, but at least everyone gets the message!

There used to be posters up at the first tee box notice board illustrating what could, & couldn't be worn? Putting them on the notice boards outside the back entrances to the locker rooms do nothing, as most visiting golfers do not go there? If they want to use the locker rooms, they mostly go via the bar entrance, as they don't know the keycode to gain access through the rear entrances?

The Golf management team are increasing the hours within the shop team during the main part of the season to help support check in and carry out course marshalling runs and increasing the number of days the 1st tee starter will be

on duty. We always endeavour to prevent golfers from going out onto the course that do not adhere to the dress code rules.

14. SPEED OF PLAY

Some days, the speed of play is really slow, & can be very frustrating - more than 4 1/2 hours for a round of golf, in most cases.

This can be a multiple of factors:

- a) Someone loses their ball, & everyone goes looking for it, failing to apply the '3 minute rule'. Before you know it, five or more minutes have elapsed!
- b) A couple of golfers lose their balls. They all look for one golfers ball, can't find it after possibly five minutes, then everyone goes looking for the second golfers ball, & a similar time elapses. In the meantime, the group behind stand at the tee, twiddling their thumbs!
- c) 'Ready Golf' should be encouraged to speed up play.
- d) On a lot of golf courses, they have signs indicating how much time should have elapsed, e.g. On the 10th hole, a sign could indicate 'It should have taken you no more than 2 hours to reach here? If it's longer than this, please try & speed up, or allow the next group through? Slow play is discouraged at this course.' More signs could be erected at other holes, indicating appropriate duration times of your round.

The introduction of ready golf, 3 minute rule, was introduced to reduce the amount of time players are taking on a round of golf, positioning your bag, trolley or buggy positioned appropriately so you are walking away rather than coming back from the green. It is difficult to police however we all as players can police ourselves and have respect for other players by thinking how long it's taking to search for balls 3 minute rule, time in addressing our shots, making that putt when you cannot score in Stableford or Matchplay. All these minutes add up.

As discussed with the Golf Management we are proposing to put some signs up that an average round of golf at CFCC should take you a set time to complete. In addition, we are looking into putting a second clock on the 10th Tee where you can check against your tee time and gauge how long it has taken you to get there. We can only put things in place but it's the responsibility of all players to understand the Golf Etiquette.

Members Question

Looking at the fixture list I see the course is fully closed to Royal Naval Competitions., 15th May 8th – 12th July and the 9th September. 7 days in all. Has the Golf Management looked at getting any concession rates for local golf courses or giving members free range balls for the days when the course is closed.

As we all know the China Fleet club was originally built in Hong Kong as a Royal Naval Canteen in 1933 so hosting Royal Naval competitions should be an opportunity to promote our club. These events do not happen often, and we should be honoured to host. We fully understand we have played our membership and losing a week of golf is not ideal. The Golf Management have looked at options and worked with Tavistock Golf course for members to play their course at a reduced rate of £20. In addition, members during these periods can have 100 golf range balls for £5.

Ladies Section Proposal

Ladies Section Proposal.

Men's section AGM March 2024.

As we are all aware, the weather, this winter has been very challenging. We have previously raised at the management meeting a suggestion that the rough between the tees to fairways be shortened. This would make it a little easier to reach the fairways. Most of the ladies section consists of mid to high handicappers making a difficult course even more difficult with such a long distance to the fairway off the tee.

So far this has not happened.

We would again like to raise the issue at the men's committee meeting hoping that something might be done about the situation. I hope this can be addressed, and we will be able to find a solution.

As per Point 6. The Greenkeepers extended the length of the 4th Fairway and will look to cut back certain other fairways as the weather improves. However, the 13th and 17th fairways were shortened due to not wanting wet areas on the fairway, Green staff to look at drainage solutions in these areas.

Senior Section Proposal

Seniors Section Proposal.

Men's section AGM March 2024

1) On a number of holes 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 11,13, 17 and 18 a high number of seniors can't reach the fairways with their tee shots which is unfair to them, I would like to see the fairways brought back some 30 yards.
As per point 6. The Greenkeepers extended the length of the 4th Fairway and will look to cut back certain other fairways as the weather improves. However, the 13th and 17th fairways were shortened due to not wanting wet areas on the fairway, Green staff to look at drainage solutions in these areas

2) A number of the winter mats have seen better days.

As per point 7.

3) A number of the summer tee boxes are not very level it would be nice to see more work taken place to improve them through the winter months.

No answer to this question was recorded.

16. AOB

Constitution Update. 11.5.7 rewording. **Proposal was discussed and agreed.**

Terms of competition Ratification (new issue) (view link and summary preceding competition secretary's report)

Equality & Diversity policy Annual review (dated 2021)

The Captain closed this year's AGM meeting.

Meeting Closed 20.37.

Next Committee Meeting

9th April 2024.