

Holt Shield

2017 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 10th January

Dunmurry Golf Club

Minutes

Present

Tony Campbell (Fortwilliam) Paddy Kearney (Ballymena) Brett Borkowski (Kirkistown) George Hawthorne (Whitehead) Brian Hakin (Clandeboye) Maurice Shannon (Hilton) Paul Hughes (Galgorm Castle) Jonny McDowell (City of Belfast) John Hinds (Rockmount) Ivor Walker (Lisburn) Kenny Craig (Rockmount) Sam Braiden (Carrickfergus) Colin Black (Ballyclare) AlanMcMillan (Belvoir Park) Thomas McIvor (Castlereagh Hills) Colin Crozier (Carnalea) Darryl Flannagan (Dunmurry) Andrew Dick (Malone) Ian McNaught (Bangor)

Apologies

Johnny Greer (Greenisland) Paul Douglas (Temple) Nathan Lamont (Edenmore) Johnny Guest (Shandon Park) Gary Patterson (Knock) Mark Surgenor (Ballymena)

Minutes of the 2016 Holt Shield A.G.M.

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Brain Hakin and seconded by Darryl Flannagan. There were no points of accuracy and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

Matters arising from the minutes.

Although it was agreed that future past chairman medals would be ordered in bronze because only one would be required every two years it was agreed to continue to order silver medals.

Proposed Rule Amendments.

The following proposed rule amendments were proposed by Darryl Flanagan and seconded by Tony Campbell.

- a) The proposed amendment to Rule 3 was unanimously adopted and now reads,

Rule 3

Handicap – minimum of 6 (5.5) as at the 1st January in the current year. In addition, in the event of a player's handicap lapsed (i.e. not having a handicap on 1st January in the current year) then they may compete in the Holt Shield on their return to competitive golf, subject to meeting all other requirements and getting the Holt Shield approval, as long as they were not a category one player when their handicap lapsed. It is the responsibility of the Team Captain to get clearance for the player by providing proof to the Holt Shield Committee in advance of the player's first match.

- b) The proposed amendment to Rule 4 was adopted by a majority vote and now reads,

Rule 4

A player whose handicap is reduced to 5, even before he has played a match, is still eligible to compete. A player is no longer eligible to compete if his handicap is reduced to 4, even if his handicap returns to 5. However should the handicap of a player who has played in the first leg of the final be reduced to 4, he is permitted to play in the second leg of the final.

Two optional amendments to Rule 4 were both defeated.

Option 1 Should a handicap of a player who has played in at least one leg of the semi-final be reduced to 4 he is permitted to play in the final.

Option 2 To keep Rule 4 unchanged.

- c) The proposed amendment to Rule 17 was unanimously adopted and now reads,

Rule 17

The Holt Shield Committee will offer financial support towards the cost of the winning Club hosting the Presentation Dinner and the purchase of the winners and runners-up medals and pennants.

Honorary Secretary's Report 2016/17

The Honorary Secretary read aloud his annual report. The full report can be accessed on the Holt Shield website. Confirmed in the report was that Ormeau Golf Club will host the 2017 George Stuart Memorial on Friday 28th July, tee-off 2.00pm.

Statement of Accounts for 2016.

The statement of accounts can be accessed on the Holt Shield website. Several items were purchased this year and improvements were completed to the Holt Shield Trophy and George Stuart Shield. A detailed Holt Shield Asset Inventory lists all items owned by the Holt Shield.

The Hon. Treasurer served notice that it may be necessary to purchase a new computer during the coming year to facilitate Holt Shield business.

A brief discussion debated the idea of how the Holt Shield could financially assist or promote Juvenile golf in Ulster. Members were asked to give this some consideration and contact the Holt Shield committee with any suggestions.

2017 Holt Shield Draw.

The provisional 2017 draw was distributed. It will only be confirmed when all entry fees have been received. It was explained that the draw is designed to ensure that no club will be in the same section together within three years.

It was confirmed that Blackwood Golf Club are first reserves should a club withdraw.

The final draw will be posted on the Holt Shield website and facebook page.

Holt Shield Website.

Brett Borkowski who is responsible for including Twitter on the Holt Shield website encouraged clubs to use Twitter especially towards the latter stages of the competition.

Election of Officers for 2017/18

The following Officers were unanimously elected.

Chairman: Paddy Kearney (Ballyamena)

Honorary Secretary: Tony Campbell (Fortwilliam)

Honorary Treasurer: Darryl Flannagan (Dunmurry)

The retiring Chairman Colin Crozier said he was delighted and proud to have served as Holt Shield Chairman for the past two years. He regretted due to health issues that he couldn't fulfil his promise to visit all 36 participating clubs during his term in office. However while attending numerous matches both as a player and Chairman he was greatly impressed by the high standard of the golf and the calibre of the players competing. He spoke of his love of the Holt Shield and that he fully intends to continue to be an active member of the Holt Shield committee.

Darryl Flannagan presented Colin with a silver Past Chairman's badge as a memento of his time in office.

Presenting Paddy Kearney with the Chairman's badge of office Colin said he was delighted and privileged to propose Paddy as his successor and he wished him every success.

Gratefully accepting the badge of office Paddy said he was honoured to be the first member of Ballymena Golf Club to be Chairman of the Holt Shield. He said that he holds the Holt Shield in very high esteem and loves the unique format of the competition. Having represented Ballymena both as a Holt Shield player and team captain he considers being Chairman a fantastic honour. He fully endorsed the Holt Shield ethos 'competitive but friendly' and intends to promote this sentiment during his time in office.

Any Other Business.

Brett Borkowski wished Drew Meek (Carrickfergus) who is seriously ill best wishes from the Holt Shield. Over the years Drew has been a loyal supporter of the Holt Shield. He was a member of Carrickfergus' double winning team and is a past winner of the Bobby Conroy Award. Sam Braiden who was representing Carrickfergus at the meeting said he would pass on the good wishes of the meeting.

Brett introduced and explained the new R&A and USGA Local Rule which,

'Eliminates Penalty for a Player Who Accidentally
Causes a Ball to Move on the Putting Green.'

It was proposed by Brett Borkowski and seconded by Tony Campbell that this local rule be included in the Holt Shield Rules. The motion was unanimously adopted.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.