

# HOLT SHIELD

## Annual General Meeting 2019

### Minutes

#### Present

P.Kearney (Chairman) Ballymena, I McNaught (Chairman elect) Bangor, T. Campbell Fortwilliam, D.Flannagan Dunmurry, C. Crozier Carnalea, B. Borkowski Donaghdee, A. Shaw Clandeboye, S. Atcheson Clandeboye, K. McMaster Blackwood, G. Stewart Cliftonville, S. Harrison Cliftonville, S. Braiden Carrickfergus, H. Thompson City of Belfast, J. McDowell City of Belfast, P. Dean Malone, A. McElevey Greenacres, A. Hynds Greenacres, R. Brown Scrabo, P. Busby Scrabo, K. Craig Rockmount, S. Moore Lisburn. (Attendance: 21)

#### Apologies

J. Greer Greenisland, J. Taylor Galgorm, M. Perry Knock.

#### Minutes of the 2018 Holt Shield A.G.M. held at Dunmurry on 15<sup>th</sup> January

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Ian McNaught and seconded by Sam Braiden . There were no points of accuracy and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

#### Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

#### Hon. Secretary's Report for 2018

The Hon. Secretary read aloud his annual report. The full report can be accessed on the Holt Shield website. Confirmed in the report is Ian McNaught will be the 2019/20 Holt Shield Chairman and RBGC will host the 2019 George Stuart Memorial on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August tee-off 12 noon. There are twenty places available so early notice of intent is essential to ensure a place.

Mentioned in the report was a proposed amendment to Rule 16 which now reads,

Rule 16. Home team captains should offer two timely and legitimate dates to the away team captain which the match can be played. No extensions shall be given to matches not played for this reason.

The amendment was unanimously adopted.

It was highlighted that Rule 16 should only be applied as a last resort i.e. if dates can't be agreed between the team captains.

A short discussion developed about the merits of playing matches on neutral venues. The idea didn't receive much support. Arranging matches using a neutral venue presents its own problems and tends to be counterproductive to the social ethos of the Holt Shield.

### Statement of Accounts for 2018

The 2018 Statement of Accounts were proposed by Darryl Flannagan and seconded by Kenny Craig and they were unanimously adopted. The Hon. Treasurer presented the accounts in detail and confirmed the 2018 closing balance is £4,097.60. During his delivery he praised Rockmount's proprietor Robert Patterson for being a wonderful host for the 2018 George Stuart Memorial competition. The accounts can be accessed on the Holt Shield website.

### 2019 Holt Shield Draw

It was stated that the 2019 draw will not commence until the number of entries have been confirmed. The closing date for entry is Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019. When the draw is completed it will be posted on the Holt Shield website.

### Limiting the 2019 entries to 32 clubs

After a short debate it was unanimously agreed to cap entries to 32 clubs making 8 x 4 groups with the leading 2 clubs from each group qualifying for the last 16 match-play stages.

Rule 19 will be amended from a limit of 36 clubs to a limit of 32 clubs.

Ormeau, who withdrew during the 2018 competition requested to be reinstated this year. However, the decision to cap the entries to 32 clubs means Ormeau will now be placed on a waiting list until the 2019 entries are confirmed. Only then can it be decided if they will be reinstated.

### Reducing the handicap limit from 6 to 5

After a lengthy debate it was unanimously agreed to leave the handicap limit for 2019 at 6.

Various suggestions were discussed but it was generally felt that reducing the limit handicap to 5 (category 1) would not cater for the purpose of the Holt Shield which is to bridge the handicap gap between the Ulster Cup and Junior Cup. The topic will be revisited through a Notice of Motion for the 2020 AGM. Refer to AOB for details. It was also suggested that the topic could be included in the pending Holt Shield questionnaire.

### Create a WhatsApp group for team managers

The purpose of the WhatsApp group is for ease of information between team managers. For example posting details about the George Stuart memorial, a charity golf day or the AGM. As this facility is open for possible abuse it will be closely monitored by the Holt Shield

committee. It will be strictly used for information purposes only. It was requested that all match results are reported to Darryl as usual and not through the WhatsApp group.

Creating a team managers WhatsApp group was unanimously agreed.

### Proposed Holt Shield Questionnaire

The general feeling was positive about issuing a fact finding questionnaire. The correct and relevant content needs to be included and this could be achieved by identifying what kind of information is required. It was suggested that towards the latter end of the Holt Shield during September would be a good time to administer the questionnaire when issues are fresh and giving time for possible Notice of Motions to be included in the 2020 AGM.

It was unanimously agreed that a questionnaire be formulated and issued to all Holt Shield managers by no later than early September 2019.

### Election of Officers for 2019/20

The following Officers were unanimously elected for the period 2019/20

Chairman: Ian McNaught (BangorGC)

Hon. Secretary: Tony Campbell (Fortwilliam GC)

Hon. Treasurer: Darryl Flannagan (Dunmurry GC)

Colin Crozier as immediate past chairman presented the outgoing chairman Paddy Kearney with a silver past chairman's badge. Colin said he was delighted to nominate Paddy as his successor and praised the excellent job he has done over the past two years.

In response Paddy said he was proud to be the first member of Ballymena to be Holt Shield chairman. He thanked all the participating clubs in the Holt Shield for their continued support of the competition. He highlighted the two great finals he officiated, Fortwilliam/Bangor 2017 and Cairndhu/Dunmurry 2018. He thanked the Holt Shield committee for their support and praised their hard work and dedication.

### Installation of the 2019/20 Chairman

Paddy welcomed and congratulated Ian McNaught as the 2019/20 Holt Shield chairman and presented him with the Holt Shield chairman's silver and gold badge of office.

In response Ian thanked Paddy for his nomination. Being involved in Holt Shield both at Donaghadee and Bangor it was an easy decision for him to accept this honour. He feels passionate about the Holt Shield and was impressed with tonight's attendance and how eagerly topics were debated. He looked forward to the next two years and thanked the Holt Shield committee for their continued support.

## 2019/20 Holt Shield Committee

Chairman: Ian McNaught (Bangor)

Hon. Secretary: Tony Campbell (Fortwilliam)

Hon. Treasurer: Darryl Flannagan (Dunmurry)

Colin Crozier (Carnalea)

Brett Borkowski (Donaghadee)

Paddy Kearney (Ballymena) Ex-officio.

## Any Other Business

Sam Braiden asked if a player who had a lapsed handicap could play in the Holt Shield once a new handicap was issued. Rule 3 applies... 'as long as they were not a category 1 player when their handicap lapsed'.

Darryl requested that now the Holt Shield committee consisted of six members that queries could be directed more to individual committee members rather than him having to deal with the majority of rulings. Committee members contact details can be accessed on the website.

It was raised that it should be obligatory to use the official team sheets. This practise is to be encouraged. Rule 22 applies.

## Notice of Motions for 2020 AGM

- Following a discussion regarding match closing dates in the group stages Aaron Hynds, Greenacres requested that Rule 6 be amended by removing 'extensions may be allowed during April and May'. He felt by allowing extensions during these months can cause a back lodge of matches placing pressure on clubs to complete too many matches in June. If successful, penalty regarding breach of rule will be discussed.
- Following a discussion about handicap limit, Aaron Hynds felt that if a player's handicap was cut to 5 that player should be ineligible to play in the Holt Shield the following year. Rule 3 should therefore be amended to include 'No player shall be eligible to compete in the Holt Shield whose playing handicap was less than 6 during the previous calendar year.'

Paddy Kearney closed the meeting by wishing everyone success in the 2019 Holt Shield.

Tony Campbell

Hon. Secretary