

HOLT SHIELD

Annual General Meeting 2020

Minutes

Present

Ian McNaught (Chairman) Bangor, D. Flannagan Dunmurry, T. Campbell Fortwilliam, C. Crozier Carnalea, B.Borkowski Donaghadee, P. Kearney Ballymena, G. Rafferty Ballymena, S. King Holywood, C. Henderson Massereene, C.McNally Royal Belfast, T. Rossi Ormeau, C. Nicholl Ormeau, C. Haslam Lisburn, S. Shaw Lisburn, A. McAlevey Greenacres, S. Baine Edenmore, A. Clegg Donaghadee, J. Reid Malone, R. Brown Scrabo, G. Loughran Balmoral, M. Smyth Blackwood, J. Ferris Mahee, K. Parker Hilton Templepatrick, A. Shaw Clandeboye, P. Dean Malone, S. Martin Belvoir. (Attendance: 26)

Apologies

M. Perry Knock, N. Reid Galgorm, G. Stewart Cliftonville, G. McKinstry Cairndhu.

Minutes of the 2019 AGM held in Dunmurry on 12th January

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Gerry Rafferty and seconded by Brett Borkowski. There were no points of accuracy and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

Matters arising from the minutes

Under AOB proposed changes to Rules 3 and 6 were cited by Aaron Hynds, Greenacres. This business is included on the 2020 AGM agenda.

Hon. Secretary's Report for 2019

The Hon. Secretary read aloud his annual report. Mentioned in the report is confirmation that the 2020 George Stewart Memorial will be played at Scrabo on Friday 7th August tee-off from 1.00pm. Ian McNaught won the 2019 George Stewart Memorial played at RBGC. Ballymena beat Donaghadee to win the Holt Shield for the fourth time. Gerry Rafferty won the 2019 Bobby Conroy Award for his outstanding performance in the final.

The full report can be accessed on the Holt Shield website.

Statement of Accounts for 2019

The 2019 Statement of Accounts were proposed by Chris Nicholl and seconded by Ken Haslam and they were unanimously adopted. The Hon. Tres presented the accounts confirming that the 2019 closing balance is £4,360.87. There were no exceptional expenditure occurred and the healthy balance will ensure financial security going forward. It

was pointed out that the next large expenditure is likely to be replacing the existing computer and printer. The accounts can be accessed on the Holt Shield website.

2020 George Stuart Memorial

It was confirmed that this competition will be played at Scrabo Golf Club on 7th August tee-off from 1.00pm. Team managers were reminded that they are automatically invited to attend this event and don't require an invitation. However they are required to officially enter by informing a committee member who will register their name on the website.

2020 Holt Shield Draw

Darryl explained in detail how the draw is conducted. He confirmed that entries were limited to 32 clubs with two clubs qualifying for the knock out stages from each of the eight groups. Currently Fortwilliam are first reserves to be reinstated should a club withdraw.

The 2020 entry closing date is 31st January and the final draw will be completed in early February. The full draw will be posted on the Holt Shield website.

Questionnaire

A questionnaire seeking opinions on Holt Shield matters was sent out to all clubs with the 2020 entry notices. To date twelve forms have been returned with nothing controversial raised. Generally feedback was positive with the usual points raised about arranging matches and contacting managers early. It was also raised that notice of motions for AGMs should be submitted in good time.

Team Managers WhatsApp Group.

Ian explained the purpose of creating this App. It is strictly to be used by Holt Shield committee members to give information to team managers. It should not be used by team managers to communicate with each other. The App will be closely monitored and evaluated over the following year and if it becomes counterproductive it will be discontinued. It was generally agreed that a team managers WhatsApp group is a good idea if used properly. It was confirmed that most managers have access to WhatsApp.

Proposed changes to existing Rules

This was raised under AOB by Aaron Hynds during the 2019 AGM.

Motion 1

Proposed amendment to Rule 3 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.’

The general feeling was that this would lead to difficulties fielding a team. However it was decided to defer any decision until the full affect of the new handicap slope system may have which is due to be introduced next year. It was unanimously agreed to make no change to Rule 3.

Motion 2

Proposed amendment to Rule 6 to omit,

‘Extensions may be allowed during April and May.’

Generally this proposal did not carry any support. The flexibility of allowing extensions during April and May is sensible considering the unpredictable weather and short evenings in April and the congestion during May caused by the various GUI qualifying events. It was suggested that if extensions are granted they should come with a deadline to play the match. It was also suggested that both managers should take responsibility to arrange matches.

The closing date for all group matches to be completed is 29th June and there will be no extensions granted beyond this date.

With no support and with no proposer or seconder it was unanimously agreed to maintain the status quo and make no change to Rule 6.

Any Other Business

On behalf of Ballymena Golf Club, Gerry Rafferty congratulated the Holt Shield committee for organising a well run and professional competition. He was proud that Ballymena won the 2019 Holt Shield which he considers one of the premier team competitions on the Ulster golfing calendar.

Ian McNaught closed the meeting by wishing everyone success in the 2020 Holt Shield.

Tony Campbell

Hon. Secretary