

Holt Shield  
2023 Annual General Meeting

Minutes

Present

Robert Brown Chairman, Tony Campbell Hon. Secretary, Darryl Flannagan Hon. Treasurer, Colin Crozier Committee, Ian McNaught Committee, Mervyn Perry Knock, Stefan Pawlak Bangor, Ken Haslem Lisburn, Ken McMaster Blackwood/Mahee, Samuel Gibson Lisburn, Stephen McComiskey Hollywood, Chris McNicholl Ormeau, James Law Malone, Philip Smith Galgorm, Geoffrey Simpson Edenmore, Stuart Gilmore Ballyclare, John Henry Cliftonville, Richard Patterson Templepatrick, Brett Borkowski Donaghadee, Sam Braiden Carrickfergus, Ernie Culley Shandon.

Apologies

Gerry Rafferty Ballymena, Paddy Kearney Ballymena, Pete Smith Donaghadee, Johnny Greer Greenisland, Johnny McDowell City of Belfast, Scott Malcolm Dunmurry, Gary McKinstry Cairndhu, William Baird Larne.

Adoption of 2022 AGM Minutes

The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Ian McNaught and seconded by Chris McNicholl. 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 2022

The Hon. Secretary read aloud his annual report. Robert Brown was praised for his successful year as Chairman. Dunmurry beat Belvoir to win the Holt Shield for the second time. Stuart Berry, Dunmurry won the Bobby Conroy Award. Mervyn Perry, Knock won the George Stuart Memorial at Shandon Park with 41 points. Paddy Kearney and Brett Borkowski got a special mention. Both resigned from the committee and their invaluable contribution to the Holt Shield was highlighted. Both were wished well for the future and Paddy becoming Ballymena's Captain for 2023 was acknowledged.

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

## Statement of Accounts for 2022

The 2022 Statement of Accounts was proposed by Sam Braiden and seconded by Ken Haslem. The Hon. Treasurer presented his report. There is a healthy closing balance of £3,818.55. Highlighted were some expenditures. Official Holt Shield jackets were provided for the committee members. The cost of the medals was increased by £5 per medal. Extra engraving was done to the George Stuart shield due to its poor condition. The Chairman's chosen charity for 2022 is Autism NI receiving £458.00.

Darryl reported that to date 18 of the 32 clubs have paid the 2023 entry fee. This is encouraging as the invoices were only recently issued.

## 2023 Holt Shield Draw

Darryl read out the provisional draw. It will only go live on the website when all 32 entry fees have been received.

## Update on the Holt Shield Reserve List

It was confirmed that the reserve list of clubs waiting to be included in the Holt Shield is three. 1<sup>st</sup> Fortwilliam, 2<sup>nd</sup> Colin Valley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Portadown. The number of participating clubs will remain at 32.

## 2023 George Stuart Memorial

It was confirmed that the George Stuart will be played at Ballyclare Golf Club on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August tee-off from 1.30 pm. As it is Ballyclare's centenary year Whitehead who was scheduled to host the competition this year will be contacted and invited to be hosts in 2024.

## The relaxation of temporary rules introduced in 2021 to cope with Covid-19

With close consultation with the outcome of the Manager's Survey Questionnaire, the Committee proposed the following motions.

### Motion 1.

#### Handicap Eligibility

For 2023, 5.5 from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023. For 2024, 5.5 from July 2023 – Dec 2023.

Proposer: Brett Borkowski. Seconder: Darryl Flannagan

After debate, the motion was unanimously carried.

## Motion 2.

### Match Format

3x3 matches in group stages and 5x5 home/away for knock-out stages.

Proposer: Ian McNaught. Seconder: Robert Brown.

After debate, the motion was unanimously carried.

## Motion 3.

### Handicap Limit

No lower limit.

Proposer: Tony Campbell. Seconder: Darryl Flannagan.

After debate, the motion was unanimously carried.

It was confirmed that caddies will be reinstated for 2023.

Note. With the three motions being carried, all Rules will be reviewed and accordingly amended. Rules 2 and 4 will be amended and the second part of Rule 3 will be removed for 2024.

## Any Other Business

The Chairman made a personal thanks to Paddy and Brett for their loyal service over the years to the Holt Shield. He welcomed Mervyn Perry, Knock, and Johnny Greer, Greenisland onto the committee. He thanked members of the committee for their hard work and support during the past year.

Ian McNaught explained the importance of continuing to nominate committee members as points of contact for matches. It helps spread the load of responsibility for committee members. When the draw goes live Committee members will be allocated clubs and this information will be posted on the website. Darryl encouraged new team managers to consult the website for guidance. He also requested that managers consult the Rules section before contacting their designated points of contact for advice. The website has comprehensive information and should be referred to as the first point of reference.

Ken Haslem enquired about clubs providing meals. Meals are not obligatory and are at the discretion of individual clubs.

Mervyn Perry expressed his sympathy and concern for what Brett had to deal with last year. He personally was unaware of the situation but praised the support Brett received from the committee. The room concurred.

Using the official team sheet was raised. Using it is obligatory and it can be easily downloaded from the website. There are two versions available, document and PDF. Making it compulsory to use will be considered for 2024.

Tony Campbell

Hon. Secretary