

## **Courtown Golf Club**

### **Men's Club AGM**

#### **Saturday 3rd December 2022**

Meeting was attended in person in the clubhouse. A listing of those present is attached hereto.

The Captain (Adrian Copeland, (AC)) opened the meeting and informed everyone that the meeting was being recorded in order to ensure accurate recording of minutes and that the recording would be destroyed immediately after the minutes had been captured in print.

#### **1. Minutes 2021**

The Captain informed the meeting that the minutes of last year's AGM had been made available on the Club website in accordance with the club constitution and asked the meeting for approval of said minutes as an accurate reflection of the meeting. This was proposed by Ciaran O'Donovan and seconded by Michael Carty.

There were one matter arising from the minutes. Tony Kinsella asked for an update to his request at last year's AGM, for some fourball competitions on Wednesdays. AC outlined that this was discussed by the committee, and it was decided to continue with singles competitions on Wednesdays. Over 250 competitors every Wednesday, in the summer months and the Gorey Guardian series is a very successful competition, therefore the committee decided to leave Wednesdays as singles competitions. More fourballs were introduced on the weekend competitions.

#### **2. Hon Secs Report**

This was already circulated on the club website.

There were no matters arising

The report was taken as read and acceptance of same was proposed by Paul Doran and seconded by Kieran Murphy.

#### **3. Men's Handicap Report**

This was already circulated on the club website.

There were no matters arising and no questions raised.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Conor Flynn and seconded by Alan Gray

#### **4. Junior Convenors Report**

This was already circulated on the club website.

There were no matters arising and no questions raised.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Pat Noonan and seconded by Colin Sunderland.

#### **5. Notice of Motions**

There were none received.

#### **6. Any other Business**

The captain brought two proposals to the meeting for discussion:

##### **Proposal 1:**

In order to protect the integrity of the competition the men's committee propose that;

***'A competitor is not eligible to win the Captain's or President's prize, if they do not have a fully developed Handicap. (i.e. 20 Scores)'***

The Current rule for those competing in the Captain's and President's Prize is that competitors must have played 3 qualifying rounds in the previous 12 months to be eligible to win a major.

This rule was introduced under the old Handicapping system. It was in place to ensure that a person's playing handicap was a fair reflection of their playing ability.

Under the new Handicapping system, the committee feel that this rule is insufficient to ensure a fair competition. In order to be a fair reflection of a person's true ability they must have a fully developed handicap. (i.e., 20 scores on their Golf Ireland record) When a player has less than 20 scores, their handicap can fluctuate quite a lot, both up and down based on one good or bad round.

They must also have 3 scores in the last 12 months as is currently the case.

##### **Proposal 2:**

***'If a competitor is not eligible to win the Captain's or President's prize, they are also not eligible to qualify for Day 2.'***

The current rule states that if you have not played 3 rounds in 12 months you are not eligible to win, but you are eligible to win second prize even though you may have had the best score on the day. The committee feel that if this situation were to arise that it would be a lose-lose situation for all concerned. For the de facto winner, it would be a hollow victory. For the person who had the best score on the day, they would feel aggrieved with second prize. Given that these rules are in place to protect the integrity of the competition, the committee feel that this situation is best avoided altogether (in that if you do not meet the criteria to win you are also not eligible to qualify). All players who are unable to meet the qualifying criteria can still play on Day 1. They can compete for the day 1 prize. They are also welcome to compete in the non-qualifying competition.

**Both proposals were accepted and passed by the Men's Club AGM.**

**Q:** Jim French asked if there was any intention to introduce a maximum handicap for open competitions as other clubs have introduced this?

**A:** AC informed the meeting that the committee analysed the results of all open competitions in 2022 and this hadn't arisen as an issue. If it does arise as an issue in 2023, the new men's committee can examine this.

**Q:** Vinny Kavanagh raised the issue of some competitors pulling out of competitions the night before/morning of the competition, without informing their playing partners, and why isn't the club implementing the relevant rule in relation to this?

**A:** Vincent Kearney (Chairman) informed the meeting that in instances where this was reported to the club, all persons who pulled out received a phone call informing them of the relevant rule. Some of the people who were phoned were new members who weren't aware of the rule. This rule was reiterated to all members in club communications in recent months.

**Q:** Vinny Kavanagh proposed that competition times are strictly for competitors only and that members playing casual golf should be allocated a specific time on the timesheet?

**A:** AC said that this is an issue that the incoming committee could examine for 2023.

**Q:** Ciaran O'Donovan proposed that in the interest of speeding up golf (in wet winter conditions) that a local/club rule be introduced whereby playing partners could agree in the placing of a replacement ball, when a perfectly good golf shot (that everyone saw land) cannot be found (on the fairway or semi-rough).

**A:** AC agreed that the pace of play has become an issue recently, considering how wet the course is in recent weeks. The incoming competitions committee would need to make the decision on this proposal. The general feeling of those in attendance was that this proposal has merit and should be examined by the incoming committee.

**Q:** Cliff Forsyth requested that men's stableford competitions (18-hole) should have a few lines for competitors who wish to play 9-holes.

**A:** AC said that he personally did not foresee a problem with the proposal but that it was a decision for consideration by the incoming competitions committee.

**Q:** Tony Kinsella asked about the removal of the glass partition

**A:** AC said that this wasn't part of the remit of the men's committee and suggested bringing this up at the club AGM.

Ciaran O'Donovan offered to paint new tee markers if someone provided the wood for these. AC noted the offer and thanked Ciaran for volunteering.

## **7. Election of Officers and Committee**

The Captain thanked all the outgoing committees for their service and dedication during the year. Their commitment makes Courtown Golf Course the great club it is today. A particular thanks was expressed to those who were standing down after the AGM.

The Men's Hon. Sec. Declan O'Toole read the nominations for the Men's Committee.

The first nomination was for the position of Captain. The nominee was Paul McDonald and was proposed by Adrian Copeland and seconded by Declan O'Toole.

The Captain expressed his delight that Paul had accepted his nomination for the position of captain. He has worked tirelessly for the club in recent years and will make a great captain.

Other nominations were as follows:-

	<b>Nominated by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
<b>Men's Vice Captain</b>	Gerry McGrath	Paul McDonald
		Adrian Copeland
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	Declan O'Toole	Paul McDonald
		Tim Collins

### **Committee members**

Kieran Murphy	Paul McDonald	Declan O'Toole
Paul Doran	Adrian Copeland	Kieran Murphy
John Langan Murphy	Tim Collins	Alan McDonald
Joe Breen	Paul McDonald	Declan O'Toole
Conor Flynn	Tim Collins	Paul McDonald

As there were no further nominations all the above were deemed elected.

Our new captain Paul was then invited to say a few words.

Paul thanked the outgoing captain and said he was delighted and honoured to take on the role of captain of Courtown Golf Club. He was looking forward to the role and was taking over with the club in a good position. The club had successfully recruited many new members and the finances were in a good state. The course was in excellent condition and there was a lot to be positive about. He said that one of his focuses in the coming year will be on teams and the attempts to bring success to the club.

The Captain then presented Paul McDonald with his captain's jacket for the year ahead.

There being no other business the meeting then concluded.