

Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 6th March 2024 – 19:00

Apologies

Darren Lafon-Anthony	Chairperson	P	Derek Gillings	Captain	P
Nat Matchett	Secretary	P	Dale Marsh	Vice-Captain	P
Paul Burford	Treasurer	P	Nigel Hart	Seniors Captain	P
Dan Binch	H/Cap Secretary	P			
Alan Bite	Gen Comm	A	Henry Binch	Gen Comm	P
Dave Hill	Gen Comm	P	Roy Cantrill	Gen Comm	P
Dan Nelson	Gen Comm	A	Robert Bullock	Gen Comm	P
Danny Armes	Gen Comm	A			
Grant Matchett	Management	P	Paul Bough	Management	P

P = Present

A = Apologies

N = Not Present

Previous Minutes

Were read & accepted as a true record.

Proposed: PB

Seconded: DB

Agenda

- **Darren LA - Midweek Summer League** as per the Winter League, had a request from a member – proposed a midweek competition in the summer over 10 holes like Winter League. Committee discussed and agreed not to add a further competition currently due to summer months being busy with other competitions including the already established and well attended Midweek Comp on Wed (which is on the agenda to take over two days). There is also the members Thursday Fiddle which can be played at any time on a Thursday. Both of these mid-week comps it felt was sufficient at the moment.
- **Darren LA – Flexible membership**, asked to explain what this option was about/how it worked with points. See management response below.
- **Nat M – past Captains photos** in process of digging out past captains' photos to do a new display on the wall with new name plaques and frame to replace some of the broken ones. Asked best place to put them given the wall space. Agreed above the bar and then any spill over onto the wall near the TV. To gain photos of Captains missed in last few years to complete the display.
- **Dale Marsh – asked if we still did family membership** what the costings was with the different combinations and if we could advertise this. Please see management response below.
- **Dale Marsh – asked if possible to play the midweek comp over two days Tuesday & Wednesday** instead of just Wednesday this summer I think this might encourage more players to enter I'm sure the leaderboard could be hidden until Wednesday afternoon/evening. The committee agreed this would be a good idea and to be implemented.

Management responses to family membership – we still have it and it is still advertised in the 'specialist section' both on social media and the website, you can see it on the last line under

Second Club, Long-Distance, Family and Winter memberships available etc, see screenshot below. For pricing ,it will depending on the family pairing as you have pointed out and that's why we have put on the website to contact management to discuss further for this option as easier. But it will be:

£1000 as last year for Male/Male

£550 for Female/Female

£775 Male/Female

Screenshot of our webpage advertising Family memberships:



Management response to new flexible membership - is good for new to golf beginners looking to join a Club for the first time, getting back into the game or for those golfers with limited opportunities to play and unable to justify a full membership.

Our new flexible membership offers 60 points for £225 on a rolling annual membership (monthly payments available from £20.09/month). The number of points you use each round is governed by peak and off-peak times of the day.

For instance, in summer peak times are approx. 6 points per round versus 3 points for off peak tee times (NB these adjust accordingly for winter and for top 10 only). Further details of the points each time you play can be viewed on our matrix when you click the link below.

You can also top up your points if you run out during your membership, 20 home points is 375 and various top ups for flexi starting at £24 for 5 flexi points.

You can obtain a handicap and play in certain Club competitions as a flexible member. However, you will not be able to play in Club matches or use our reciprocal club's arrangement.

LEARN MORE:

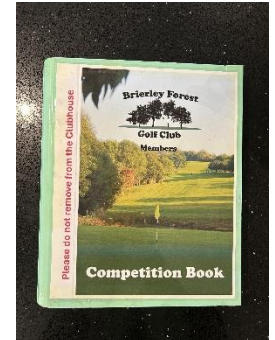
- Use your membership for up to 3 guests per round
- Use your membership to play all other PlayMoreGolf networked courses with your flexi points – over 200 courses throughout the UK
- Online booking through PlayMoreGolf App
- Advanced 7-day booking window
- Hold an official handicap
- Selected club competitions (Excluding Trophy Events & Club Matches)
- Members Digital Communications App

<https://www.playmore.golf/explore/Club/Brierley-Forest-Golf-Club/538>

Matters Arising (Not on Agenda)

Correspondence

- **New Fixtures books** - completed, proofread and printed. Arrived and available from today.
- **New Competition book** – printed, main copy for clubhouse as a large document it is also available online via the website.
- **From England Golf** – Funds for new board as old one obsolete, but due for a course review in 2028 in 4 years' time, WHS 5 important changes (see Dan Binch report and attachment) and updated mixed tee calculations.
- **Jeremey Sheppard A)** – could you please clarify that artificial mats are allowed to be used on the fairway/closely mowed grassed area whilst pick and place is in operation.
 - Could you please confirm that where the trees have been felled on the right side of the 13th fairway, that this ground will be deemed to be GUR.
 - Over the years we have had to fell many trees, with this in mind I would like to suggest planting some new trees between the 7th & 8th fairway. This would give the fairway a better definition, help with drainage and more important help with our carbon footprint.
- **Jeremey Sheppard B)** Concerns with Female membership £275 per year, also with 25% off if they work for NHS, police, firefighters, army forces etc this could be reduced to £206.25 which is less than £4 / week. This would be less than a third of what existing male members have to pay who do not work for any of the above. I understand female golfers are a massive market to be tapped into and I do think you have been very courageous and proactive in trying to encourage females and juniors to join the club at a very high discounted rate. However, it does not seem fair to the existing male members having to pay £625 we are the ones who have supported the club for many years. Politically correct brigade might even call it discrimination against the male members. Yes, it's great and much appreciated that the management has not increased the male membership fees for this year. However, I do not see any discount for most existing male members. The club in the past did have a discount membership fee for seniors and for families (2 members) which seems to have been forgotten/abandoned. I know the management would have done their research and confirmed this is the correct way forward. However, the proof will be in the pudding to see how many more women players you attract but the downside maybe you will antagonize or even worse lose some of your existing male members.



Management response to Jeremey Sheppard A) Thank you for your correspondence. Yes, this was discussed in past committee meetings but to surmise here again - yes mats are allowed where pick and place is in play. Up to the tree line for pick and place and then through the green when preferred lines. To add launch mats are illegal.

The green staff are aware of all the felled trees due to diseased trees from ash dieback and have many other priorities at the moment with the weather and also having to remove more diseased trees to ensure diseased trees are removed first without risk to new or other trees etc,

Then we will replant when the above priorities and removal of diseased trees allows,

What is lovely is we have just had a load of plants donated from a member which we will use soon around the 1st etc to make that more aesthetically pleasing,

If stacks of logs free relief otherwise play it as it lies, any areas of GUR will be marked or roped off accordingly as normal.

Management response to Jeremey Sheppard B) Thank you for your correspondence, see below Management report bullet point 6

Management Report

Ongoing weather with 10 major storms and the 5th wettest Feb on record have again had a significant impact on what the ground staff have been able to do on the course. More drainage work to be carried out throughout the year, hollow coring of the greens ASAP and stump grinding of the tree stumps. However despite the weather, they have completed since the last report:

Work on back of 13th



Back of 13th 18th



Back of 5th



Trees back of 4th green



Path public pathway along 1st hole



New path from 5th – 14th



Management Report Cont..

- **New Kitchen menu** – revised for new season, Brierley breakfast back on and going down well, we thank you for your support. The Thurs evening Fiddle Meal deal will also return.
- **Room Hire** – x 2 fully re-decorated new rooms for hire upstairs.
- **Hole sponsors** - still available along with a package of advertising
- **Host of events** - to be advertised in the new season. Upcoming includes Mother's Day, races with beer deals and St Paddy's Day.
- **Charging points** – LIVE, awaiting company instructions and marketing
- **New Membership Subscriptions 2024** - have been reviewed and released to members and advertised to the public. The different membership options will be discussed further at the AGM. But to surmise here; firstly, the women's membership after extensive research conducted in collaboration with Notts Trent Uni and Sheffield Hallam University on women's inclusion in golf, revealed several challenges and barriers to why women do not partake in golf. The study also surveyed any gaps in provision of services at Brierley and what services would encourage them to join as a member. One of the barriers as cost. At Brierley we do not have a thriving lady's section with only 7 lady members. Same for the Juniors section with just 3 Junior members. Therefore, it was a business decision, not political or discriminatory, but on the back of the research conducted to pro-actively reach a significant gap in the market with ladies and juniors to reduce our prices. 198 east mids courses were also surveyed of prices and there were many differences in price depending on male/female/senior/age – therefore discrimination wasn't a factor considered just business decisions based on research on provisions in gaps at BFGC. If we reach 25 Lady and Junior members, we will review our new offers and increase accordingly again – we hope we get to this point.
- **Services (Armed Forces etc)** – we currently only have a handful (less than 3) of members that fall under this umbrella after research. Again, we have identified another marketing gap and section to tap into and bring not the membership at Brierley. Again, our offer will be reviewed if we reach 25 service men/women. To note the 25% discount does not apply to the women's membership which is already highly discounted.

- **Other e.g. Flexi/Family/Winter/Long-Distance** memberships are added to provide variation of membership levels/costs to suit the different needs and lifestyles of golfers.
- **Men's Full** - We hope the decision to keep the full 5 and 7 Day Men's membership the same, having conducted more research into 198 east midlands golf clubs to find we were the 5th most affordable golf club. To uphold our ongoing best value ranking and considering your loyalty with the adverse previous weather, we kept this the same.
- **Beer prices** - at this moment in time, we haven't had any price increase from the brewery at this and beer pricing will remain the same.

Treasurer Report

Treasurers Financial Report to 4th March 2024

Money from previous report		£1,907.72
Paid in	Cash received from Competitions	£1,338.00
Total		£3,245.72
Paid out	Competition prize vouchers	£848.50
	Taskers Nigel Hart and Derek Gillings	£120.00
	Scratch Team Entry Fees	£30.00
	Fixture booklets	£129.67
Total paid out		£1,128.17

Funds		£3,245.72
Paid out		£1,128.17
Total funds available		£2,117.55

£2,083.72 £33.83 for latest comps
Bank Balance

Kind regards
Mr & Mrs Treasurer

Handicap/Competition Secretary Report

We have seen a slight increase in competition numbers over recent weeks (62 entered the Valentines Trophy over the weekend)

- Members are advised that where possible, weekend comps will still take place over as many holes as the green staff can safely present.
- Match play competitions need to be completed ASAP, as the 2024 versions will soon become available to book.
- The MEDAL AND STABLEFORD FINALS are now available to book through the BRS booking System. The list of people who have qualified is available on Handicap master. If you have not yet qualified, you can still enter the competitions as they will run alongside a normal Medal and Stableford (but you still need to book into the zoned draw to enter).
- This year's fixtures have been agreed and are now being added to our various platforms and fixture booklets are on order and should be available in the next few days.
- Before we reach the first of April and the start of our golfing season, a general play review of handicaps will be performed by the handicap committee, there have been very few comps over the winter, so I don't expect to see any sweeping changes to handicaps.
- In relation to the upcoming changes to WHS due to be implemented on April 1st 2024,
- Please see the attached notice supplied by England Golf. I will continue to supply as much information as I can through email, the clubhouse and across our socials as we get closer to the start date.

Captains Report and Alliance Team Report

NAPGA (Alliance) napga.co.uk

After 5 rounds, BFGC lies 6th in the league table out of 22 teams. There are 13 rounds in total, all of which count for towards the team table scores. Best amateur from BFGC, Grant Matchett, lies in 22nd place having played in all 5 rounds to date. (Note, the best 9 scores to count from 13 rounds towards individual table). Next round at Oakmere on 6th March 2024. Team Captain, Dave Foulstone.

Taskers Trophy. (Inter-Club Knockout Golf Competition for the Over Fifties' competition is sponsored by Taskers UK Ltd.)

BFGC A Team has now been drawn against Ashbourne B in the first round. Venue Ashbourne Golf Club. Date Sunday 24th March 2024 at 11.30 p.m. Anyone who wishes to be considered for selection should add their name to the list on the Captain's notice boards.
Team Captain, Derek Gillings

Seniors/Taskers Teams Captains Reports

Forst round of taskers against the Oakmere Commanders but no date yet,
Nigel Hart

Juniors Captain Report

No Report

Ladies Captain Report

No Report

Scratch Team Captains Report

No report this month

AOB

- 1) **Derek Gillings – Notts Alliance Presidency**, Derek informed us of this great news of his nomination for 2025/26 – a huge well done and much deserved from everyone at Brierley on such a prestigious nomination!
- 2) **Paul Bough – AGM positions**, asked if these had been filled and any nominations for vice-captain. GM checked the list on the wall and all positions been nominated, which will be confirmed at the AGM
- 3) **Derek Gillings – Men's max handicap**, asked if the same for pairs. Dan Binch confirmed yes this was the same for pairs for the men's max handicap at 28 and it's in the new Competition Booklet.
- 4) **Dereck Gillings - Captain charity slot on bar covered up**. Management will look into relocating this to make it accessible once again having needed more room on the bar for the coffee machine.
- 5) **Dave Hill –fixture for majestic/draw** asked if this has been done yet. Dan Binch confirmed this will be done ASAP and will set up the signing in sheet behind the bar and it will be drawn in 3 weeks on the 30th March.

Meeting Closed – 20:21
Next Committee Meeting Tues 2nd April, 19:00