

# **Weymouth Golf Club**

## **Annual General Meeting**

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Due to Covid-19 and restrictions the AGM was not held at Weymouth Golf Club and all voting took place by manual voting slips.

#### **Captain's Annual Report - Frank Martin**

Mr President, ladies and gentlemen it has been an honour and a privilege to serve as your Captain and I apologise I am not here to deliver my report in person.

I would like to start by thanking the following for their hard work and support during my tenure:

The Board and Golf Committee

To John and Nikki in the Office

Rob Bayliss and his team who have really been up against it this year. I would like to wish Rob well when he retires at the end of May. I would also like to mention our Chair of Greens, Graham Vile, who had the unenviable task of communicating the course condition (mostly leather jackets, weather warnings and flooding) and responding to the negative responses. His responses were polite, informative and professional. Thank you Graham.

The restaurant and bar go from strength to strength so thanks to Leigh, Gareth and their respective teams.

Last year before the rains came we did manage to get a few things done:

- The practice range re-opened
- Club refurb was completed
- The halfway house was installed and proved successful when first used on my Captains Day on a sunny day in June with a field of 160 members.  
During charity week it was great refreshment and fundraising point and thanks to all the Charity Committee for another successful week. The 2 Captains Charity also collected in excess of £3.5k for the DCH Intensive Care Unit relative's room.
- IT and wifi infrastructure was upgraded
- The PSI system was upgraded and linked to the TV screen to display live scores.
- PA system was upgraded
- Boiler system replaced
- Des's decision to move on gave us a few months' work which hadn't been factored in. We consulted you the members and your feedback was in favour of recruiting another Professional. A sub committee was formed and a comprehensive recruitment process commenced. We had applications from around the country and some from overseas. After a series of telephone, face to face and Skype interviews we were very pleased to appoint Dan Carter who joined us on the 1<sup>st</sup> November. The refurbished and restocked Pro Shop opened one month later. I would like to thank Steve Dewey for his hard work during the recruitment process which was well above and beyond his Chair of Finance role.
- We had a successful Night Golf event on a mild evening in January organised by Matt Lam and Luke Bartlett. Thank you Matt and Luke.
- From the start of this month all open events (including Charity Week) are now available to book and pay on-line using the BRS platform.

For County and Club golfing honours I commend the following:

Hardy A - Knockout finalist

County Seniors - Gerry Hayes (winner in his age group)

Knockouts:

### **Captain for 2020/21 – Dave Picton**

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen.

Well who thought that I would be wearing this badge of office again? There wasn't any one more surprised than myself when asked to become Franks Vice-Captain, I didn't have to deliberate for too long?

Back in 2012 the first time around I said to you "To become Captain of this Club is a great honour and privilege and something that would be cherished for life"

Now here I am again. So, did I do such a good job last time? That the Board thought let's give him the Captaincy once more. Alas no that wasn't the case, I was asked because they ran out of people to ask.

Don't get me wrong as I've said before back in 2012 it was a great honour and privilege to be Captain of this great Club. Now it's an even greater honour and privilege to become your Captain, for a second time.

Well that's enough of my self-indulgence.

We will now have new Members on both the Golf Committee and the Management Board.

The two new people on the Board will both have the right expertise in their respective fields.

The new Competitions Chairperson has a lot of work ahead of him; this year is the roll out of the New World Handicapping System. We will of course give him all the support required with this system.

After last year battle with the leather jacket lava on the greens, we then follow it up with one of the wettest winters on record, soaking our course to over the limitations of our course drainage system. Perhaps it's time that we should be looking to upgrade the drainage system on the course? Like all things drainage systems have a life span, plus technology improves and modern systems are more effective. This is something that we need and should consider especially with global warming giving us wetter times.

But it didn't end with the rain!!! those pesky leather jackets decided to eat our fairways.

NOW we have the Coronavirus threatening even more misery on to us?

We will do everything possible to overcome these problems, but we will need your help and understanding along with a lot of patience. It's not going to be easy but knowing our memberships loyalty and resilience we will come through these times.

I'm a firm believer in transparency and there should be no information withheld back from the Membership.

This is your Club and therefore you should be fully informed at all times.

Therefore, with the Rob (Greens), Dan (the Pro) and myself will be combining a monthly newsletter to give you all the up-to date information.

By doing this it will hopefully help eliminate the Chinese Whispers that seem to go around the club.

So, with the wet winter nearly gone (we hope) and the Coronavirus now taking over, The Management Board have agreed to bring a little sunshine into the Club, by hosting a Member's golfing competition (when the Coronavirus has subsided). We will arrange a

suitable date and post it for your information. We will fund the day by supplying a healthy prize table, supplying refreshments at the halfway house and a happy hour in the Clubhouse leading up to the presentation. Its our way of saying thanks for your support in these dark days.

Before I close could I just like to congratulate the new Captains of the Ladies, Seniors and the Juniors sections of Weymouth Golf Club.

Thank you and please keep safe.

David Picton

Captain 2020

## **Presidents Report – Colin Huckle**

Dear Members

Further to my communication yesterday, I am writing to advise you of the outcome from the votes submitted to the office in paper format or email. A total of 66 members voted and I thank you very much for taking the time to do this. The new Board will now be able to continue to operate and manage the Club as best we can during these very difficult times. Full details of the votes cast are detailed below:

Proposition	For	Against	Abstain
1 – Full Membership Subscription increased to £760	52	13	1
2 – Social Membership increased to £30	59	6	1
3 – Development Fund increased to £20	52	12	2
4 – Remove Immediate Past Captain role	64	1	1
5 – Split of Projects & Business Analyst	65	0	1
6 – Amendment of Articles & Rules re 4 & 5 above	64	0	2
7 – Update Club Rules & Bye-Laws as outlined	55	1	10
8 – Designation of Seniors & Ladies Captains as Officers	55	10	1

Dilys Grant, Jim Sinclair and Paul Dashwood were elected unopposed.

I am attaching copies of reports from the Captain Frank Martin, Incoming Captain Dave Picton & Finance Chairperson Steve Dewey for your information.

The current situation with the Coronavirus will obviously put a significant strain on our finances with restricted services, facilities and footfall within the Clubhouse. If you have any concerns or questions regarding our financial position, please let me know and I will arrange for Steve Dewey to contact you. Going forward as the situation develops, I will keep you informed.

The Board will continue to implement changes within the Clubhouse if it becomes necessary or we are advised to do so. We are reviewing the position daily and taking advice from Government and Golf Industry publications. However at the present time advice from Sir Patrick Vallance, the UK's Chief Scientific Advisor is that "Golf is ok if you keep your distance" and "Exercise is going to be key (especially for older people). If someone wants to play golf, they can still do that if they're not close together" Our priority will therefore be to keep the course open and maintained. Your Professional Dan Carter will be available to help and support you.

To clarify the AGM last night was not postponed but cancelled and voting took place as outlined above. I appreciate this has meant that members were unable to meet and put any questions to the Board. I can assure you all that as soon as possible and we are allowed an

Open Forum will be held. In the meantime I will continue to update you by email and notices around the Clubhouse.

The Club has achieved a great deal over the past 10 years and whilst we have experienced a difficult few months with bad weather and now the Coronavirus outbreak. We are able to continue to play golf and with your support I believe we can all get through these trying times.

Stay safe and healthy.

Colin Huckle  
President