



Mid Kent Golf Club – Veterans Section

Minutes of the “Forum 2004” held in the Clubhouse
At 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 21st September 2004

Those Present:

D. Wallis	R. Foskett	S. Cleverly	W. Couves
D. Milledge	F. Kimber	K. Thompson	D.K.G. Jackson
C. Buttle	B. Porter	D. Pascoe	H. Caulfield
I. Taylor	L. Clarke	R. Davies	J. Wells
B. Doughty	R. Endean	G. Jewiss	P. Lake
D. McCarthy	J. Bryan	M. Turner	P. Quadling
E. Croft	P. Franks		

The Veterans Captain Dennis McCarthy opened the Forum by welcoming all attendees.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from S.Pascoe, B.Glew, L. Sharpe and D. Newnham.

2. The minutes of “Forum 2003”

These were circulated before the start of the meeting.

Proposal: That the minutes of the last Forum be passed as read.

Proposed by: Don Pascoe

Seconded by: Roy Davies

Carried.

There were no matters arising.

3. Captains Report.

Dennis McCarthy thanked everyone for the support he had received throughout the year and said that he had experienced some difficulties brought about by not having served the apprenticeship of being vice captain. Reg Rider had kindly acted as Dennis’s vice captain whenever he was able to.

David Newnham stepped in to run the league team when David Milledge had found it necessary to resign very early in the year. The league team had not had a successful year, coming bottom of the league. The friendly team’s results were not really important but it had won five, lost eight and halved the rest. Dennis commented that his personal record for the year had been marred by the fact that opposing captains tended to pair themselves with low handicap league players, a practice that he did not follow. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Our two matches against the ladies were enjoyable events with the ladies winning the spring match but only managing to halve the autumn match against us. The cup, which had been mislaid, was now at the engravers. Dennis wished to record his thanks to the Ladies for the help they have given, particularly in the running of the Vets Open.

Dennis reminded everyone that the October Vets Medal was also the Owen Jones Memorial event and there would be two subscriptions, one for the normal medal entry fee and one for the Owen Jones Air Ambulance collection.

4. Treasurer's report.

Ian Taylor's presented his report and confirmed that over the year our outgoings had just about been balanced by our income. The Vets Open had made a profit of £388 and the cash in bank remained about the same as last year. Ian's report is attached to these minutes.

Ian recommended that our donations to the charities remain the same as last year at the following levels.

Incoming Club Captain	£100
Kent Ambulance	£200 + income from Owen Jones Competition.
Lions Hospice	£100
Junior Championships	£50

Proposal: That the treasurer's report is accepted.

Proposed by: Derek Jackson
Seconded by: Pat Quadling
Carried.

Proposal: That the treasurer's recommendations regarding the charitable donations be accepted.

Proposed by: Ken Thompson
Seconded by: Derek Jackson
Carried.

Ian then said that this report would be his valedictory one as he was resigning and would be handing over to a new treasurer. He thanked all veterans for their support over the years and wished his successor well for the future. Ian was then thanked by all present for all the hard work he had given to the vet's section over the years.

5. Election of Officers for 2003-2004.

Election of Captain and Vice Captain.

Proposal: That Brian Doughty be elected Vets Captain and that Barry Porter be elected Vets Vice Captain for the coming year

Proposed by: Dennis McCarthy
Seconded by: David Milledge
Carried.

Barry Porter confirmed that unless there were unforeseen circumstances in the coming year he would offer himself for election to Vets Captain in 2006. This would then return us to our traditional succession.

Election of the Vets Treasurer.

Proposal: That David Wallis is elected Vet Section Treasurer.

Proposed by: Ian Taylor
Seconded by: Dennis McCarthy
Carried.

Election of the Vets Secretary.

Proposal: That Claude Buttle is elected Vet Section Secretary.

Proposed by: Dennis McCarthy

Seconded by: Ian Taylor

Carried.

6. Subscriptions.

Ian Taylor saw no reason to change the current level of £1.50 for the annual subscription.

7.The Vets Open

The Vets open had again been a very successful event making a profit of £388 primarily due to the raffle. The decision to limit the competition to 32 teams avoiding congestion on the course had been successful. Derek Jackson said that in his view it would be difficult to improve on our current format. This was generally agreed but the suggestion by Don Pascoe that we replace the “longest drive” - which is inappropriate for a veteran’s competition – for a third “nearest the pin” prize was the one improvement we could make.

Proposal: That the ‘longest drive competition’ in the Vets Open be replaced by a third ‘Nearest the Pin’ competition.

Proposed by: Don Pascoe

Seconded by: Derek Jackson

Carried.

8.Any Other Business.

There followed some considerable discussion regarding the league team’s lack of success. George Jewiss wanted there to be greater visibility of selection and of match results. Brian Doughty suggested that there be greater flexibility in the rules regarding playing in league and friendly games. There followed two formal proposals.

Proposal: That there be two lists on which members may enter their names, one for friendly matches and one for league matches. A veteran may enter his name on either or both of these lists for consideration for selection to play.

Proposed by: Brian Doughty.

Seconded by: Derek Jackson

Carried.

Proposal: That the league team be selected by a selection committee comprising the Vets Captain, the League Team Captain and one other co-opted veteran.

Proposed by: George Jewiss

Seconded by: Dennis McCarthy

Carried.

Bill Couves then raised the issue as to who should represent the club in the Society of Kent Golf Veterans Singles Championship. Bill had been our representative on numerous occasions and felt that others should be given the chance to do so. It was agreed without a formal vote that the winner of the “Best Six Vets Medals” should be given first refusal and then the invitation extended to the second placed vet et seq.

Bill Couves then raised the issue about buggies for our less mobile players. Derek Jackson said that the issue had been addressed before and confirmed that provision of buggies did not require

there to be new buggy paths and that there seemed to be no valid reason on either health and safety grounds or on damage to the course why buggies could not be used. Bill was advised to submit a written request to the club.

Brian Doughty suggested that limiting the vet's monthly medal to mornings only could well be limiting the number of entrants to these competitions.

Proposal: That the vet's monthly medals be extended to all day events and that the prize giving is held at the lunchtime of the following month.

Proposed: Brian Doughty

Seconded: Claude Buttle

Carried.

Don Pascoe then opened a discussion regarding the proposed cessation of the vets' concessionary membership fees. With the finances of the club in a healthy state there seemed to be no financial reason why this issue was being raised yet again at the AGM. The impression gained was that the Board would continue to put it on the agenda year after year until the motion was carried. Derek urged vets to make their views known at the AGM and to ensure that their votes were not wasted.

There being no further business to discuss the chairman closed the meeting at 11:20 with a vote of thanks to Dennis McCarthy the outgoing captain.

T.C.Buttle
21 September 2004