

## **Minutes of Club Committee Meeting**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 @ 18.00**

**Present:** Nick Rimmer (NR) President, Trish Harrogate (TH), Luke Van Zijl (LVZ), Simon Goldsmith (SG) Chris Jones (CJ), Geoff Fidler (GF) Natasha Adams (NA) Mandie Rose (MR) Vice President, David Balch (DB), Margaret Elston (ME) Denise Clifford (DC)

**Representing the Board:** Juliet Chenery (JC)

### **1. Welcome**

### **2. Apologies**

Vicki Rogers, Jon Sharpe

**Minutes of meeting dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Agreed

### **3. Matters Arising**

None

### **4. Management Report - Report attached.**

June saw an increase in revenue of £16k from food & beverage and events. Proms will bring in £30k revenue.

Still waiting for the clay topping for tennis courts 1 & 2 – James has been chasing

**ACTION CJ** to call the company for an update.

The Spa will be closed 2<sup>nd</sup> week in October for refurbishment including redecoration of the waiting room.

There is current an advert out for a full time cleaner for the ladies swim changing rooms. A small refurbishment will take place in the ladies swim changing rooms which will alleviate some of the issues. They will then be closed for half an hour at 13.30 and 18.30 for a deep clean.

Guest fees have been discussed and a suggestion of a 'dip & dine' model put forward, the fee will remain the same but a voucher will be given for half of the cost that can only be used on the same day for F&B. This will be trialled for a 3 month period.

### **5. Presidents Report**

Fairly busy 2 months with sports sections in full flow with matches and events.

I have helped set up rules review sub committee with Cliff Nightingale FD and Jenna Hamilton Pursglove, Director, to include Luke and Natasha from Club committee, both of them are keen to help shape the rules into a simpler more modern set of guidelines to make disciplinary matters easier and quicker to deal with. I am happy to oversee process and will attend meetings but feel the individuals on the sub Committee are better placed to activate the changes needed.

I raised the issue around non member guest fees at the Board Meeting and Chris also had it on the agenda to discuss, the feeling from our last meeting was that £20 is too high if guest is playing one sport(other than golf) ,  
I will let Chris outline the proposal discussed at the BM at our meeting Monday.  
CC felt its very much a member benefit to be able to bring a guest to play a sport and good marketing of facilities.

### **Events attended**

Mens golf committee meeting 18<sup>th</sup> May

Womens Squash & RB tournament 21<sup>st</sup> May

Presidents golf day to ladies 30<sup>th</sup> May, big thank you to Mandi Rose VP and Geoff Fidler mens golf Captain for their excellent help on the day with Prosecco and danish pastries. We raised £380 for Elf with 65 ladies participating.

Board meeting 31<sup>st</sup> May

Mens Golf Palaret first round at Teignmouth against Woodbury attended and we won ! On 19<sup>th</sup> hole.Supported golf Captain during the afternoon.Next round V Teignmouth at East Devon on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

Board Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> June

### **Disciplinary**

No meetings this month for the President but shocked by the GM`s report of minors trying to buy cider and Vodka being brought into the club and drinks taken into Jacuzzi , my understanding is the mother has been spoken to and the matter dealt with, but not something I feel we should tolerate if it happens again !.

### **Presidents charity club supper 15<sup>th</sup> July**

Tickets going well, 99 sold so far(need 100 !!) thank you to those that have purchased tickets and are coming, I just need to make sure its a good night in thanks for the excellent support. We may close off on 7<sup>th</sup> July and show event as sold out, which is fantastic .Thanks to Jenni for all the publicity and marketing.

### **Padel and Pickleball**

President still keen to investigate this facility being provided at EGCC, We are now arranging for some costs analysis and revenue as per our presentation. James is arranging for some quotations as per Peter Lacys designs I am chasing him up for these. There may be alternative ways of funding the cost and Im happy to explore these with the Board , management and James.

## **Bridge**

The move from Bridge room to Topsham room was discussed , Chris has had a meeting with the Bridge committee and shown them the plan , this is work in progress as it involves other staff re locations and office re furbs (See Chris report)

## **Up coming events**

Sponsoring with drinks, the Toledo USA Touring team squash match V EGCC 20<sup>th</sup> July and attending meal after.

Tennis section Wimbledon tournament on 16<sup>th</sup> July. Providing Prosecco, Scones cream and jam.

Presidents golf day for men on 19<sup>th</sup> August providing drinks and pasties..

## **Board Report**

**JC** reported that planning permission has been granted for the new site for the golf academy. The price on the land in Topsham now needs to be negotiated and then a decision will be taken on the priorities for the funding to be spent on. **CJ** reported that there is no capital expenditure this year, this money would usually be used on items on the wish list.

The tennis section had requested that the Board consider section only membership, this was discussed at the Board meeting and it was decided that it was not financially viable, however following more detail at the club committee meeting **CJ** has agreed to take it back to the Board with further clarification. **ACTION**

**DC** asked if a 'University students membership' could be considered **ACTION CJ** to take to the Board

## **Membership report / Election of new members**

Circulated.

**Health & Safety** - Report attached

## **Safeguarding**

Nothing to report

## **Ideas form revenue generation and cost cutting**

## **Any other business**

**JC** requested a shelf in the ladies toilets to put phones on. **CJ** to consider

**SG** asked whether any old exercise bikes could be put in the tennis pavilion to use for warm up **CJ** agreed.

**SG** asked when the marquee would be taken down **CJ** advised that once the interior bar and café are complete it will be taken down and the patio area will be refurbished.

**DC** asked if it was permissible for Tennis to hold a charity day (Colemans Cup) and invite non-member league players as a one off, the fee will be donated to charity. **CJ** advised that this is fine.

**GF** asked on behalf of Vicki Rogers whether it would be possible to change the interclub and friendly team matches to have a different menu so that they can order on the day rather than a week in advance as this is what other clubs do. **CJ** advised that we are not the same as other clubs, but he will speak to Lisa and see what he could arrange for the next season. **ACTION CJ** to advise.

**NR** reported that all members who do not hold shares will be written to and asked to purchase 20 shares for £10. In future it will be written into new membership rules that shares will come back to the Club immediately when the membership terminates and not 5 years later.

## **Section reports**

### **Mens & Ladies golf**

Since the last meeting the golf season is well and truly underway, and we would like to take this opportunity in thanking John Parr and his team in battling the elements to ensure we have such a good course in superb condition, the envy of many, and the feedback is nothing but positive from all concerned.

The men's Golf Palaret (Current Holders) 2<sup>nd</sup> round took place at Teignmouth against a strong and familiar Woodbury team. I'm delighted to report that Exeter was victorious, and now face Teignmouth at East Devon on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. I sincerely hope I will be able to report victory for Exeter on Monday.

Exeter also entered the Parker Trophy Scratch Foursomes competition and played Torquay at the Warren on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June a nail-biting experience for me, but I'm again delighted to report Exeter won and will meet either Stover or Cridton in the next round.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Ladies Annual Pro- am event took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> May

There were lots of compliments on the condition of the course and organisation of the event; John Parr, Lisa Newbury, Darren's team, the 2023 Ladies' Pro-Am Committee and all those involved would be justified in feeling proud of how the day went.

Our home-grown Professional Ryan Pope shared thunderous applause with Joe Ferguson, from Tour Tech Golf, by finishing at the top of the PGA Leaderboard; both scored a gross 65. Joe Ferguson headed the leader board again, in taking three ladies from East Devon GC to 1st place in the team event. A special mention to Ben Martin, Lyne Beevers, Jo Connolly and Debbie More who came in 6th and kept the Club name in the prizes.

My sincere thanks to all of you who worked so hard to make this event so special and raise the fantastic sum of £ 2,752.25 for the RD&E Charity.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June saw Exeter Golf and Country Club hosting the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Pro-am event. The day was a great success with superb positive feedback from all.

Our thanks go to Chris Jones and his teams for a well organised day, and of course Darren Everett and his team, plus the pro-am committee in ensuring this prestigious event was enjoyed by all. I am pleased to report that the day raised approximately £3500 for our chosen charity.

### **Tennis report**

Firstly, many congratulations to all those involved in the granting of the planning application for the new driving range. This is great news for the Club and all its members will benefit. Since the last meeting the highlight for the Tennis Section has been the brilliant success of our two pairs, Emily Staddon/Nicola Maddox and Phil Marsh/Tom Slack in the adult Play Your Way to Wimbledon event. Our pairs won the Club event in May and went on to win the Area Finals on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June. They will now progress to the National Finals at Wimbledon in August, and we wish them every further success. EGCC was proud to host this inaugural event, supported by the LTA. Our Club regularly hosts regional events, and whilst we showcase the best of tennis it would be fabulous if we could invite spectators to view play from a Pavilion that reflects the status of the Club, and who can enjoy the facilities of our bars and restaurants, and perhaps even join. (Yes, this is our pitch for the Club to include us in upcoming development plans!). In respect of works in hand, ETC Sports should be in touch this week to finalise the plans for the installation of the new courts. This will either include the finished product or a temporary infill which will be replaced later in the summer. It is hoped that this work will take place in July but no date has yet been set. Padel/Pickleball: Initial discussions have taken place regarding potential sites for the introduction of padel and pickleball. Adding pickleball to the existing Kids Zone is the easiest option. Padel requires more space so alternative ideas are being considered. James Temple (JT) is in the process of receiving quotations for both. These will then be discussed and passed on to the Board for its consideration. Junior Tennis Report. JT advises that there has been some success with the Prime Video LTA Youth Girls courses aimed at getting more girls into tennis. One course (for those aged 7-9) is full. However, another course was cancelled due to a lack of numbers. There was also a low uptake on an LTA Youth Start course, and the holiday camps are far quieter than they have been over the last 5+ years. The committee and coaching team are aware of these issues with participation on the coaching programme and will be looking at ways to counter them. One of the ideas discussed by the Committee was whether, in the light of the changed financial environment, the Club could look again at the idea of a Junior only racquets' membership. It was felt that it would address the need for the Club to increase its revenue, and it would not impinge on any of the other facilities used by other members, save for use of the bars and restaurants which would be another positive. It would also benefit the existing Junior membership. The Committee then went on to discuss at length the possibility of introducing an adult racquets' only membership as a way of raising revenue and attracting new members. It was recognised that those existing

racquets' members who do not make use of the Club's other facilities would be likely to convert to a racquets' only membership, which would result in an initial hit to the Club's finances. However, it was the overwhelming consensus, based on personal surveys, that a racquets' only membership would swell the number of new members and more than make up for any initial loss. As with the juniors, these new racquets' only members would not impinge on other facilities, and would increase revenue in the bars and restaurants. Guest Pass The Tennis Committee was delighted that a racquets' only guest pass was being considered and is hopeful of a positive outcome. Triples Tennis Due to popular demand, Tuesday Club Night will become Triples night during July and August. This fun and inclusive game will be open to racquets members of all abilities; will be free and led by JT. It offers an alternative to the very successful Monday team practice events, and the regular Thursday evening club doubles sessions. Captains' Reports. We are only part way through the summer season and Simon Goldsmith (SG) reports that the Men's teams are performing well and have settled mid-league to date. The Ladies' teams are also performing well, with our lower division team (Ladies' C) currently lying second in their league. Our Ladies' A and B teams find themselves in the same division, so a healthy competition reigns. The Mixed teams are having mixed fortunes; but it is too early to predict how the season will end at this stage with all to play for. One of the highlights of our teams' performance has been the participation of many new players, particularly in the Ladies' C and Mixed D teams. This is a credit to their Captain, Tracy Fitzpatrick. One issue which has come to the fore is the occasional lack of availability of male players. We will look to address this in time for next summer, perhaps reducing the number of mixed teams and increasing the number of ladies' teams, where numbers are high. This will be discussed with team captains before any decision is made. Tournaments and Charity Events Our next event is the Wimbledon Tournament played on Men's Finals Day on Sunday 16th July. A big thank you to Nick Rimmer for sponsoring this event for us; it is much appreciated. The annual Club tournaments are now open and finals dates have been set. There are several other tournaments being organised, including the Squash vs Tennis Challenge in September, Breakfast tournaments in autumn, the Tinsel Tournament and a fun Triples event in December. In addition, there are dates for two charity tournaments in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The first, on 13 August will be a Lottery Doubles Event...where doubles partners will be drawn out of a hat on the day. The second, on 3 September will be a Ladies' challenge event, the Battle of the Sexes. It will be great fun, especially as the ladies will triumph!

### **Rackets report**

No update since the last report

**Meeting closed:** - 19:45

**Next meeting date – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 @ 18.00**

## ACTION LOG 2022/2023

Date first discussed	Action	Who?	Completion date	Details
April 2018	Men's golf lockers to be repaired	CJ	To be added to next year's Capex list 22/23, which will then need to be signed off by the board	Ongoing, discussed in 2018 and was added to 2019 Capex list, it didn't happen as other expenditure was more important/urgent, then Covid in 2020 and no Capex budget in 2021
Jan 2019	Sports Captains and managers to provide information for a rolling Junior's screen that will be on a TV in the Hub	All Captains, Managers and sports section HODs	No new TVs with linked PC will be added to the Hub now as this area will become the sports changing rooms next year. Either this doesn't happen or a new place for this to be decided upon when the development in this area is complete	Ongoing
March 2019	Sports Managers to be spoken to by Sports Captains and assist in organising a Junior Awards ceremony	All Captains, Managers and sports section HODs	Sports Captains to liaise with the Sports Managers about this.	Ongoing
Feb 2020	Golf Honours Boards	CJ	To happen when the corridors and development has been completed in the Hub, and sports corridor areas. Golf Captain and Director of Golf to liaise with GM and Board about this when we know what space we will have to use. Honours boards and anything similar that is golf related is a sensitive subject so it is important that the design team are aware of what is wanted by the golf committee.	Prices/styles will be sought for new boards