



Argyll and Bute
Golf Union

Scottish Golf Union

Patron Her Majesty the Queen
Argyll & Bute Golf Union

Minutes of AGM

Sunday 19th November 2017 at 11:00
In the Inveraray Inn - Inveraray

The meeting convened at 11:00 at the Inveraray Inn, Inveraray, with President Ian Shaw in the chair.

Present:- President I. Shaw, T. Mundie, G. Chalmers, G. Morrison, M. Sim, S Ellis, G. Bolton, C. McKirdy, W.McAdam, J MacMillan, I Ferguson & D Whyte

Apologies: -

Minutes:- The minutes of the last AGM were read and approved:
Proposed by G. Morrison, and Seconded by I. Shaw.

Matters arising:- None.

President's report:-



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Presidents report 2017

April saw the start of the new season with the Matchplay Championship held at Machrihannish golf club, it also set the tone for the rest of the season weather wise.

Although the weather and entries were very poor for the A&B Boys championships, Bute golf club proved a good venue and was presented in excellent condition.

Glencruitten hosted the handicap championship, Rothesay the Summer meeting and Millport the A&B stroke play championship. It was great to get them all played considering the weather throughout the year. I would like to thank all the golf clubs who hosted an event this year in very trying conditions and to all the members of the executive who helped out at our events this year.

Special thanks must go to Graham Bolton for making himself available whenever possible and for keeping everyone in the loop with all his communications.

I attended the Scottish Golf Boys area team championships at Stranraer in June and the golf course and hospitality was first class. Although A&B don't have strength in depth we had 2 young boys who competed and it was a brilliant experience for them, this will really help them in the future as I'm sure they will be representing A&B for the next few years and hopefully beyond.

A real plus for golf within A&B and well worth a mention is Robert McIntyre being selected to represent GB & Ire in the Walker in September, finishing unbeaten in the singles, shortly after returning from America he turned Professional and won on the MENA tour in only his 2nd outing. He performed really well last week and narrowly missed out qualifying for the full European tour at his first attempt. An outstanding achievement and great for the profile of golf in A&B especially Glencruitten.

There is so much negative press about Scottish Golf, how they want to proceed and changes they want to make which I'm sure we will discuss later. Change is required but A&B golf have different reasons for the decline of golf than most of the other Areas.

Finally I would like to thank the executive for the opportunity of being President for this year and wish Terry all the best for the coming year.

Secretary's Report:-

Gentlemen

The season began way back in January when Glencruitten's Robert MacIntyre saw his hopes of securing back-to-back Australian Men's Amateur titles for Scotland end at the semi-final stage in Melbourne.



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Having recovered from illness that forced his withdrawal from the Australian Master of the Amateurs earlier this month, the left-hander rediscovered his matchplay form to go on a superb run at Yarra Yarra Golf Club.

MacIntyre, 20, was seeking to emulate his Scotland team-mate Connor Syme after the Drumoig player lifted the Australian Amateur title 12 months ago, becoming the third Scot in 13 years to be crowned champion.

However, after seeing off home player Travis Smyth – who Syme defeated in last year's final – by a 3&2 margin in the quarter-finals, MacIntyre found another Aussie, talented teenager Min Woo Lee just too hot to handle.

With Robert MacIntyre playing in the Euro Nations Cup in Spain he was unable to defend his Scottish Champion of Champions title at Leven. Our two other representatives were again Craig Pirie and Graham Bolton. Craig performed well again with Graham disappointedly withdrawing after 9 holes of his second round due to a niggling back injury.

Our Area events opened with the Matchplay Championship at Machrihanish. The event took place in the norm for the time of year with cold and windy conditions dominating the weekend.

The semi – finalists was like a senior's event with four players the wrong side of 50 playing. In one semi George Reynolds defeated Gordon Tyre and David Lamont putting Graham Bolton to the sword in the other semi. The final was a close fought affair with David overcoming George at the 18th to secure a narrow victory.

Bute Golf Club hosted for the first time the Boys Championship in June. Breezy conditions greeted the 11 players with Alastair Shaw from Port Bannatyne retaining his title. Josh Cowan from Rothesay won the Under 16s. Congratulations to all who bothered to play as the field was only 11 players. An alarming statistic, with the bulk of the players from Rothesay and Millport



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Competition Result - Gross Scores

Argyll & Bute Boys Championship 2017

Played on Saturday, 10 June 2017 at Bute

Competition Scratch Score:
68 (RO) (Men - White Tees)

Show: **Nett Scores Result**

Overall Position	Player	Home Club	Gross Score	Comments	Revised Handicap
1	Shaw, Alastair	Port Bannatyne	77		Visitor
2	Cowan, Josh	Rothesay	82		Visitor
3	Jack, J	Millport	83		Visitor
4	Reynolds, Jack	Rothesay	85		Visitor
5	Morrison, Thomas	Rothesay	87		Visitor
6	Murray, John A	Rothesay	88		Visitor
7	Gallacher, Niall	Millport	89		Visitor
8	Jack, Lyall	Gourock	90		Visitor
9	FORGRIEVE, JAMIE	Glencruitten	96		Visitor
10	templeton, Jonah	Rothesay	113		Visitor
-	Harris, A	Ralston	No Return		Visitor

Early June saw Stranraer GC the venue for the Boys' Area Team Championship. The Argyll and Bute team of Alastair Shaw, Lewis Brown, John Jack & Jack Reynolds finished in 13th place. Many thanks to Ian Shaw and Graham Brown for accompanying them.



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★	1	Lanarkshire	+16	143	223	366
★	2	Dumbartonshire	+17	145	222	367
★	3	Fife	+18	146	222	368
★	4	Renfrewshire	+18	151	217	368
★	5	North	+20	158	212	370
★	6	Lothians	+21	153	218	371
★	7	Ayrshire	+22	152	220	372
★	8	North East	+23	146	227	373
★	9	Perth & Kinross	+28	152	226	378
★	10	Borders	+44	164	230	394
★	11	Glasgow	+48	168	230	398
★	12	Angus	+48	157	241	398
★	13	Argyll & Bute	+53	162	241	403

Day	Round	Players	Score	Round Score	Day Score	Total Score
SUN 18/06	R1	Lewis Brown/John Jack	75	162		
		Alasdair Shaw/Jack Reynolds	87			
	R2	Lewis Brown	74	241		
		Alasdair Shaw	81			
		John Jack	88			
		Jack Reynolds	NR			
				403	403	

Share scorecard   

★	14	Stirlingshire	+57	167	240	407
★	15	Clackmannanshire	+76	173	253	426
★	DQ	South	+5	215		215

June 24th saw the Handicap Championship taking place at Glencruitten. 47 players competed in ever changing weather conditions. Local players dominated the prize winners with John Tannahill winning with a net 65.



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Competition Result

Argyll & Bute Handicap Championship

Played on Saturday, 24 June 2017 at Glencruitten

Competition Scratch Score:
66 (RO) (Men - White Tees)

Show: **Gross Scores Result**

Overall Position	Player	Home Club	Score	Comments
1	Tannahill, John	Glencruitten	82 - 17 = 65	Overall Winner
2	O'Rourke, Steven	Glencruitten	75 - 09 = 66	Overall Runner-Up
3	McCuish, Steven	Glencruitten	76 - 09 = 67	Overall 3rd
4	Tait, Martin	Glencruitten	74 - 07 = 67	Overall 4th
5	Fox, Stephen	Glencruitten	76 - 09 = 67	Overall 5th
6	MacLean, Donald	Glencruitten	76 - 08 = 68	Overall 6th
7	Murphy, Philip	Glencruitten	70 - 01 = 69	Overall 7th & Lowest Gross Score
8	Rae, Martin	Glencruitten	74 - 05 = 69	Overall 8th
9	Plunkett, John	Glencruitten	78 - 09 = 69	Overall 9th

The next event took place at Rothesay on Saturday 29th July. Guising as the Summer meeting, the Spring Trophy was presented to the winner Craig Charker whose net 65 was enough for a two shot victory.



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Competition Result

Argyll & Bute Spring Meeting 2017

Played on Saturday, 29 July 2017 at Rothesay

Competition Scratch Score:
68 (Men - White Tees)

Show: **Gross Scores Result**

Overall Position	Player	Home Club	Score	Comments
1	Charker, Craig	Rothesay	70 - 05 = 65	Overall Winner & Lowest Gross Score
2	Shaw, R	Rothesay	78 - 11 = 67	Overall Runner-Up
3	Dunn, Graham	Port Bannatyne	72 - 05 = 67	Overall 3rd
4	McFarlane, Billy	Rothesay	83 - 15 = 68	Overall 4th
5	Murty, Michael	Rothesay	75 - 07 = 68	Overall 5th
6	Ewing, Jimmy	Rothesay	77 - 09 = 68	Overall 6th
7	Mcarthur, Graham	Bute	75 - 07 = 68	Overall 7th
8	Reynolds, Stephen	Rothesay	76 - 08 = 68	Overall 8th
9	Duncan-Snr, T	Rothesay	77 - 08 = 69	
10	Reynolds, Jack	Rothesay	75 - 06 = 69	
11	Murray, Angus	Rothesay	74 - 05 = 69	
12	Shaw, Alastair	Port Bannatyne	74 - 05 = 69	
13	Reynolds, George	Rothesay	70 - 01 = 69	

August saw a return to Millport after a seven year hiatus for the Area Strokeplay Championship. A field of 36 had assembled after some last minute call offs with unfortunate matchplay champion David Lamont being unable to make his tee time due to a punctured tyre. Scoring was mixed with winds gusting to 30mph accompanied by driving rain.

Greg Watson of Dunaverty emerged as a first time winner with a hard fought one shot victory over local favourite and 2015 winner Craig Pirie. His total of 140 gave him the narrowest of victories after both players had birdied the final hole. His win was long overdue after a 2nd place at Millport way back in 2006. In Third place a further two shots was 2009 winner Cowal's Chris Carson. In joint 4th place was runaway first round leader Calum McKirdy who

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shot a best of the day 67 in the morning, however he faltered to a 79 in the afternoon. Tying him in 4th place was defending champion Graham Bolton.

In the Youths event Lewis Brown of Tobermory emerged victorious from Dunbartonshire Boys Champion Lachlan Reynolds of Rothesay by 3 shots and Millport recaptured the Team Trophy by two shots from Rothesay and win the right to represent the Area at the National final at Eastwood Golf club on Sunday 24th September. (Weather put paid to the event at Eastwood as only 9 holes were possible due to persistent rain).

The 2018 championship will be held at Rothesay Golf Club on the 18th August .

Results

Competition Result - Gross Scores

Argyll & Bute Strokeplay 2017

Played on:

Saturday, 19 August 2017 at Millport
Saturday, 19 August 2017 at Millport

Show: **Nett Scores Result**

Show: **Round 1 Result** | **Round 2 Result**

Overall Position	Player	Scores	Total	Comments
Overall				
1	Watson, Greg Dunaverty	71 69	140	
2	Pirie, Craig Millport	70 71	141	
3	Carson, Chris Cowal	73 70	143	
4	Bolton, Graham H Bute	73 73	146	
5	McKirdy, Callum Ballochmyle	67 79	146	
6	Pirie, Les Millport	76 71	147	
7	Standaloft, Donald Port Bannatyne	75 72	147	
8	Brown, Lewis Tobermory	75 74	149	
9	jack, j Gourock	74 76	150	
10	Reynolds, George Rothesay	77 74	151	



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The highlight of the golfing year was undoubtedly Robert MacIntyre's selection in the Walker Cup held at the prestigious Los Angeles Country Club . Robert had various highlights during his season but the selection for GB & I topped the lot. Although GB & I were soundly beaten by a strong US team , Robert emerged with great credit securing 1.5 points out of a possible 3.

Recently Robert has turned professional, won his first event in Kuwait and qualified for the final stage of European Tour Qualifying(securing a Challenge tour Card). He goes with our best wishes.

September saw Newmachar host the Scottish Area Team Championships over the Hawkshill and Swailand courses on the outskirts of Aberdeen.

The Argyll & Bute team consisted of David Lamont, Craig Pirie, George Reynolds , David Hunter, Calum McKirdy & Greg Watson trailed home in a disappointing 14th place well out of the automatic qualifiers.

Craig Pirie lead the way with a 2 over total, followed by debutant Calum McKirdy who acquitted himself well in such exhalted company. However inconsistency from the others saw our hopes of qualifying quickly evaporate.

On September 10th saw the Glasgow Youths' Championship at Ralston with the area represented by Alastair Shaw, William MacCrone & Jack Reynolds. Young Jack was best A&B player with a 79. The second round was cancelled due to atrocious weather.

The Argyll & Bute seniors team finished last in the Scottish Seniors ATC at Forfar with George Reynolds our best performer with 72.

Scores were as follows;

ARGYLL		
George Reynolds	Rothesay	72
Les Pirie	Millport	77
Steve Ellis	Inverary	82
Kenny Mapes	Millport	82
Dave Lamont	Machrihanish Dunes	81
Jim McFarlane	Millport	87 n/c
TEAM SCORE		394

The area had no representative in the Boys Champion of Champions at at the end of September as our Boys Champion had commenced University.

Away from the playing side cuts to our Area grants will likely have a serious effect on our ability to continue with our various programs etc. There is no longer any Area team grants for



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both the Boys and Mens teams and the continuation of the coaching grant will be decided after the strategy review.

My secretary's report has changed in the past couple of weeks after developments apace at Scottish Golf.

A period of consultation to finalise a new strategy was in place during the past few months and was to be discussed at a Special General Meeting (SGM) on 2nd December.

The SGM was scheduled to allow members to vote on key recommendations that would enable the governing body to implement a four-year strategy, by delivering much-needed investment into the game and making golf clubs – and the game as a whole – more sustainable

But in light of the departure of Chief Executive, Blane Dodds, and having consulted with a wide range of stakeholders in recent weeks, the Board believe the immediate priority should be securing a new leader for the organisation.

Therefore Scottish Golf is to extend its period of consultation to finalise a new strategy until March next year, cancelling a scheduled planned for 2 December. However they will hold a meeting with all stake holders at the EICC instead on the same date

Finally I would like to thank our member clubs, without their help we would have no venues for our area events, and a special thanks to you the area executive for officiating in the events we held ensuring our events ran like clockwork.

Graham Bolton (Area Secretary)

TEAM MANAGERS REPORT :-

The 2017 A.T.C. took place at Newmacher Golf Club on the outskirts of Dyce on the 8th,9th & 10th of the September.

The team selected for Argyll & Bute were

Chris Carson - Cowal	
Craig Pirie - Millport	74+72-146
Greg Watson - Dunaverty	80+72-152
Davie Lamont - Mac Dunes	74+79-153
George Reynolds - Rothesay	78+74-152
David Hunter - Cowal	90+77-167
Calum McKirdy - Rothesay	77+73-150



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Unfortunately Chris had to withdraw due to work commitments and was replaced by Calum McKirdy.

The team played a practice round on the Thursday afternoon on the tougher Hawkshill course on which the matchplay stages would take place.

The scoring was as expected higher on the Hawkshill course than the Swailend course.

Calum Fyfe of Glasgow had two phenomenal rounds of 64+62 - 126 and was leader of the strokeplay stage.

Argyll and Bute finished a disappointing 14th on 751 21 shots of the last qualifying 8th place for the matchplay.

The home favourite's The North East went on to win beating the Lothians in the final 3.5- 1.5.

I'd like to thank the players who gave up their time and used holiday's in order to play in what was bit of a camel trek for players and officials from our county.

I'd also like to thank Graham for organising everything and running back and fourth on the Swailend course which we hadn't played helping the boys out.

COACHING REPORT :-

Coaching report 2017

Since last years AGM 2016/17 winter coaching has concluded with the on course coaching taking place at Millport Golf Club. This proved a great success with the use of the practise range and the course. Thanks should be recorded for Millport allowing us to their facilities and to John Jack for arranging with the club. Most of the boys who have been involved in last years coaching have reduced their handicaps considerably during the season.

2017/18

This years winter coaching has started already at World of golf under Colin Fisher, Colin has reported back this week that all 6 boys are working hard and have set goals to be worked on during the coming months. The 6 boys on the coaching set up this year are, Jack Reynolds, Josh Cowan, John Jack, Lyle Jack and 2 new boys added from last year, Thomas Morrison and Mark Donaldson. All 6 boys are young and will probably be the nucleus of any A&B teams for a few years to come.

Treasurers Report:-

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The accounts from the union showed a deficit of £266, our anticipated forecast for the season was for a small profit of £390.00 . There are reasons to explain in the body of this report to explain a difference.

Expenses

- 1) We have reduced our junior coaching costs due to the lack of boys meeting our selection criteria. We have some potential good players but we are bereft of any quantity (only 11 boys played in our boys championship)
- 2) Team costs have increased significantly this year. Primarily due to the Mens ATC taking place at Newmachar. Our travelling expenses for this event were punitive despite car sharing where possible. The other main reason was participation in the Glasgow Youths at Ralston. We were represented by two players from Tobermory who travelled apart and incurred two lots of expenses, much to our disappointment. Our participation in this event has to be reconsidered. This event is played in September and has been disrupted by poor weather on several occasions. We also now support the Mens Seniors Championship to a degree. We now no longer receive any grants for either the Boys ATC or indeed the senior ATC where a grant of £500 was available..
- 3) Player support costs higher than last year with Bob MacIntyre being the beneficiary of a £500 grant from Philip Johnson. The area also received £250 from the Mr Johnston for our boys/youths . The level of support to our players going forward will likely be less as we currently have no boys eligible for national events at present. Hopefully this will change.
- 4) Championship costs are back up with all our events taking place this year. Securing venues for 2017 events are proving problematical..

In come

- 1) Subscriptions have fallen again with over £339 reduction. This equates to 113 male members across A&B.
- 2) We continue to receive grants from the SGU for coaching, this will likely continue until the at least the finalisation of the strategy review.
- 3) Entry fees slightly up with all events being played this year , but numbers for our events hopefully have bottomed out. I am hopeful that numbers next year will remain at least at 2017 levels.

Balance Sheet

The balance sheet is still very healthy with £13384 in the bank accounts and creditors consisting of outstanding vouchers still to be honoured of £930 and other expenses totalling £494.00 including audit fee. We are still in a pretty financially secure state, and can continue at current levels for some time, however falling member numbers and

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reduction in events and grants receivable will impact on our ability to provide events etc. I still propose that a per capita charge of £3.00 be levied to male members within the Area next year, as I believe the way things stand we have no mandate to push through any increase.

I am confident that all income & expenses have been accounted for and that these accounts reflect a true and fair view of the County's affairs at 30th September 2017 with our reserves sitting at £12229.

Graham Bolton
Area Treasurer
10th November 2017



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ARGYLL & BUTE AREA - SCOTTISH GOLF UNION

Statement of Income and Expenditure For the year ended 30th September 2017

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
Income:				
Subscriptions		8,277		8,616
Championship entry fees		1,800		1,192
SGU grants:				
Coaching grant		1,250		1,250
Sponsorship		750		-
Bank interest (net)		2		7
Clothing sales		20		60
		<u>12,099</u>		<u>11,125</u>
Expenditure:				
Championship costs	3,452		3,008	
Team championships	2,847		1,965	
Area Player Support	1,100		733	
Teams clothing and ties	523		449	
Meeting expenses	698		812	
Accountancy fee	342		355	
Secretarial expenses:				
Postage & stationery	112		50	
Honorarium	1,320		1,320	
Coaching	1,550		2,273	
Software	192		261	
Insurance	231		220	
Bank charges	-		6	
		<u>12,365</u>		<u>11,452</u>
Deficit for the year		<u>(266)</u>		<u>(327)</u>



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ARGYLL & BUTE AREA - SCOTTISH GOLF UNION

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2017

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Investment		1		1
		1		1
Current Assets:				
Stocks	238		450	
Bank	13,384		13,312	
Debtors	-		-	
	13,622		13,762	
Current Liabilities:				
Accruals	(1,394)		(1,268)	
		12,228		12,494
		12,229		12,495
Represented by:				
Funds held as at 1 October 2016		12,495		12,822
Deficit for the year		(266)		(327)
		12,229		12,495

In accordance with the engagement letter, we approve the accounts set out on pages 1 to 2. We acknowledge our responsibility for the accounts and for providing Wylie & Bisset LLP with all the information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

Signature:

Name: Graham Bolton (Treasurer)

Date:

SGU Rep's Report:-

SGL Representative report to AGM 2017

Last year I reported on how little progress had been made on bringing Areas and Counties together. If we are a little further forward it is nothing to do with SGL as we now know it. Neil McDonald, who had been keeping me up to date with developments is now no longer involved due to health reasons, and Scottish Golf is in my opinion the poorer for it.

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I reported back last month from a meeting of Areas and Counties which had been called for 15th October at Dunblane New GC, which was chaired by Jack Keeney and had at the top table Chic Nash, Jim Ewing, and David Roy. Discussion centred around the proposals from SGL which included an increase of the per capita from £11.25 to £24, to allow

- Personal insurance for all members
- Integrated booking system for all clubs
- Customer Relationship Management (CRM) online system supposedly to enhance golfing experience and create sponsorship and marketing opportunities
- Development fund for clubs and coaching facilities
- National Greenkeeping Fund and Club Buying Group for all clubs to benefit from SGL buying power

In my report-back I outlined some of the concerns around this. Suffice to say, there was NO evident support and a wealth of opposition to this as a plan for the future. The proposals were to be discussed and voted upon at a SGM of SGL on 2nd December, and as things stood at the end of this meeting, the "top table" were mandated to express disapproval ahead of this SGM and suggest further consultation going forward before ratifying anything at the AGM of SGL in the new year.

Subsequent events have overtaken all of this. Blane Dodds has left to go back to his Tennis roots. Eleanor Cannon is acting CEO and has put in train a recruitment process to find a successor, and interviews start next week. I have asked our ad-hoc reps (Jack Keeney et al) to ask whether the successful candidate will be expected to take on the proposals as outlined or will be asked to produce a new vision. (Minus the CRM element, which we are told has been ditched)

This may now be something we can raise ourselves, as SGL has invited the Presidents and Secretaries of all the Areas and Counties to meet Eleanor Cannon and board members ahead of the December meeting, to determine what should be placed on the agenda in place of what was previously proposed (above). It may well be in our interest to have someone attend, depending on what emerges from these meetings.

I had intimated to the Secretary that I no longer wish to carry on as a member of the Exec. However the last few weeks suggest that in the immediate future it would be helpful if I continue in post and report back, rather than expect others to try and catch-up. I hope thus to help the Union as the process unfolds.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:-

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
President(1 year)	Terry Mundie	Iain Shaw	Murray Sim
Vice President	Steve Ellis	Iain Shaw	Calum McKirdy
Secretary	Graham Bolton	Terry Mundie	Calum McKirdy
Treasurer	Graham Bolton	Terry Mundie	Calum McKirdy

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Exec Members	Calum McKirdy	Iain Shaw	Murray Sim
	Iain Shaw	Gordon Chalmers	Murray Sim
	Murray Sim	Iain Shaw	George Morrison
	Gordon Chalmers	Iain Shaw	Murray Sim
	George Morrison	Iain Shaw	Murray Sim
	Willie McAdam	Iain Shaw	Murray Sim
	Jonathan McMillan	Iain Shaw	Murray Sim

A.O.C.B.

The following points were raised at the meeting . Ian Ferguson Craignure representative felt that the initial proposal to raise the SGL per capita fee from £11 to £24 was nonsense. He remarked that he felt the raising of funding in this manner for an organisation such as SGL was outdated and unfair. He stated that some clubs may elect to opt out of the affiliation to the Area and SGL as the proposed increased to the per capita could be crippling to clubs such as Craignure.

Douglas Whyte of Lochgilphead asked about his clubs voting status within SGL. Secretary Bolton would seek clarification.

The AGM was closed at 12.55,

Graham Bolton (Area Secretary)