



Argyll and Bute  
Golf Union

## Scottish Golf Union

Patron Her Majesty the Queen  
Argyll & Bute Golf Union

# MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 1230pm  
In the Inveraray Inn Inveraray

The meeting convened at 12.30 at the Inveraray Inn, Inveraray, President Ian Shaw in the chair.

**Present:-** President I. Shaw, G. Morrison, M. Sim, G. Bolton, C. McKirdy, W. McAdam, J MacMillan, G. Chalmers, & T. Mundie

**Apologies: -** S Ellis

**Minutes: -**

The minutes of the last executive meeting were read and approved:  
Proposed by C. McKirdy and Seconded by M. Sim

**Matters arising:-**

A momento to commemorate Bob Macintyre's Scottish Amateur win was presented at the ATC in September

GB to discuss with SE the proposed A&B Seniors (open) which was discussed at the last executive meeting.

**Correspondence: -**

There had been much email chatter regarding the direction of Scottish Golf Limited. The transcripts from various emails are enclosed below. It is evident that there remains much mistrust from area/county level towards the new board.

"From:  
"Sheila Hartley" <sheila.blairlogie@btinternet.com>  
To:

*Dear All*

*This is just to give you a heads up that I will be copying you into an email I will be sending to the Chair of Scottish Golf, Eleanor Cannon, in the next day or so. Since the meeting at Gleneagles at the end of January I have been having an intermittent email correspondence with her, initially about the ladies game, but more recently about the branding of Scottish Golf and its truly awful website (SGU to all intents and purposes) which I think are pertinent to all. I am fobbed off with platitudes and she seems incapable of answering the questions I am asking. On 28 September I sent an email asking some basic questions, only a*

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*third of which were specific to the ladies' game. You will be able to see all the correspondence from 1 July when I copy you in.*

*I believe that some of you are as unhappy as I am about SGL and the way it is treating Scottish golfers.*

*Yours in golf,  
Sheila*

*Dr Sheila Hartley  
Past President, Stirling & Clackmannan County Ladies' Golf Association*

*31<sup>st</sup> October 2017*

**From:** Sheila Hartley

**Sent:** Monday, October 31, 2016 5:06 PM

**To:** Anna Hunter ; Winifred MacCallum ; Sarah Walker ; Lesley Blair ; Janice Stewart ; Doreen Skelton ; Christine Sikora ; Alyson Hendry ; Angela Campbell ; Ann Wallace ; Anne Lloyd ; Barbara Biggart ; Carol McNally ; Denise Richards ; Eileen Scott ; Elaine Dick ; Eleanor Black ; Frances McPherson ; Gillian Kyle ; Irene Morrison ; Jacky Burnett ; Julie Birdsall ; Karen Stalker ; Lisa Kilpatrick ; Lisa Maxwell ; Liz Keohone ; Mary Richardson ; Mary Smith ; Pat Hutton ; Patricia Hebner ; Roxana Brown ; Sally Huntley ; Zandra Mathieson

**Subject:** Scottish Golf

*Hi*

*Just to let you know that I had a meeting with Blane Dodds the new CEO of SGL on Friday during which we explored some of the issues I have been raising in my emails to Eleanor Cannon. He said he recognised that there had been deficiencies in many areas – events, communication, the website etc – which he said are being addressed. His experience is in “change management” – his words. Watch this space. He did not really want to discuss many of the questions I had raised and I had to push him for answers to the questions about prize vouchers and entry fees for Championships and the trophies for the Scottish Ladies' Championship – clearly he had had something prepared for him. Some decisions had been made by SLGA Board prior to amalgamation but others made by SGL Events Department (in other words the staff). Entry fees now used to fund the running of events as they run at a loss (something I thought we paid our subscriptions for), no prize vouchers but mementos to bring male and female events into line, doesn't know what has happened to the trophies that were not presented at the Scottish Ladies' Championship.*

*He wanted to concentrate on the role of Scottish Golf going forward. His vision is to make golf more community focused and appealing to a wider audience and to help those clubs that want to to grow their membership – all the usual stuff you hear parroted all the time. I'm sure we all want clubs to grow their membership if that's what they want to do. He saw this as a way to increase County and Area membership. I did point out that although it would grow Area memberships as all male members have to join an Area when they join a club, it would not necessarily grow County membership.*

*When I asked about the County Finals beyond 2017 he couldn't give a guarantee that they would continue in their present format and wasn't keen to consult the stakeholders (ie the Counties) if there is to be a major change to the format. Again watch this space to see what the Events Department come up with!*



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*One thing we did agree about is that there is no mileage in forcing Counties and Areas to amalgamate but those that wish to do so should be helped and supported by Scottish Golf to achieve that aim. Will have to wait and see if they come up with anything about Regions as this work was put on hold during his recruitment – again his words.*

*He did seem genuinely shocked when I said there was a lack of confidence in SGL and having had the weekend to think about the meeting I don't feel any more positive about SGL than when I went into it and genuinely don't know what the next steps, if any, should be.*

*With Andy Salmon's departure last week I just wonder who is next for the chop.*

*Happy to discuss with any of you if you wish to get in touch.*

*Regards*

*Sheila*

Sheila Hartley

**Area Subs:** - **Despite** another small loss it was decided **that subscriptions levels** to remain as per last year at £3.00 per capita. GB would send notices to clubs. In the current climate the Area had no mandate for an increase.

**Finance:** - A set of management accounts were tabled. With no income received as yet a small loss of £497.10 was declared. GB also presented a budget for the coming year forecasting a small surplus. It assumed that coaching costs would match any SGL grant received.



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Budgeted Profit & Loss Account 2016/17		30/09/2016			
		BUDGET			
Income		2016/17		15/16	
		£	£	£	£
Subscriptions			8,500.00		8,616.00
boys atc refund			-		-
Championship Entry Fees			1,200.00		1,192.00
SGU Grants	Area Team Championships				-
	Coaching Grants		1,250.00		1,250.00
Sponsorship					-
Other fund raising ball raffle)			-		-
Clothing Sales					60.00
Bank Interest ( net)					6.92
			<b>10,950.00</b>		11,124.92
Expenditure					
Championship costs		3,000.00		3,007.85	
Team Championships		2,200.00		1,964.64	
Area Player Support		700.00		732.69	
Team Clothing		300.00		448.71	
Meeting Expenses		850.00		811.60	
Audit fee		375.00		355.00	
Secretarial Expenses	Post, Stationery, Telephone	75.00		50.00	
	Honorarium	1,320.00		1,320.00	
Coaching		1,250.00		2,272.80	
Depreciation		-		-	
Software purchase/ web space rental		250.00		261.41	
Insurance		220.00		220.32	
Sundries					
Bank Charges		20.00		6.30	
			<b>10,560.00</b>		11,451.32
Surplus/Loss for Period			<b>390.00</b>		- 326.40

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### Coaching: -

A discussion took place regarding the Area's coaching plans for 2016/17. It was only recently that the Area grant was confirmed as being in place. In line with the SGL development scheme, any coaching delivered by the Area would have to meet the development criteria. Our current coach Colin Fisher does meet the criteria and it was felt prudent that we should continue with him as Area coach. The real problem at present is the lack of boys playing golf within A&B with most clubs having little or none junior sections.

It was decided that the coaching that took place at Machrihanish will cease as the boy concerned has no supported any Area events.

It was agreed that President Shaw would discuss with Colin Fisher what could be delivered by the Area for around a maximum of £1600.

It was also discussed what would happen if the coaching grant stopped. It was felt that the Area would have to try and seek out sponsorship for any future coaching program after 2016/17.



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Events Rota: - Events in bold have been confirmed as below.

Date	Competition	Venue	Notes
<b>April 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> Sat / Sun</b>	<b>Match play Championship</b>	<b>Machrihanish GC</b>	
TBC	Spring Meeting		<b>GB to approach RGC</b>
<b>June 24th Saturday</b>	<b>Handicap Championship</b>	<b>Glencruitten</b>	
<b>June 17th Saturday</b>	<b>Boys Champs (U16's)</b>	<b>Bute</b>	
<b>August 19th Saturday</b>	Area Stroke play Championship / Youths Championship( A&B Team Trophy)	Millport GC	
TBC	Area Team Championships		

### A.O.C.B.:-

The President wished it noted the events that took place at the Area Championship when 3 players stated that they were not going to play the second round, and then ultimately changed their mind and participated in the second round. It was agreed that they should have been precluded from playing. In future it was agreed that any one withdrawing, should be asked directly "Are you withdrawing YES or NO" .At that point their answer is final and they will be excluded from the competition.

The next meeting was to be the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017, but this has been changed to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February as Hotel not available on original date

The meeting was closed at 13.20.

G Bolton (Area Secretary/ Treasurer)