

Border Golfers' Association

Minute of Annual General Meeting held at Galashiels Golf Club on Thursday 2nd December, 2021.

Present – John Walker (Eyemouth), Graham Forsyth (Galashiels), Alan Wilson (Langholm), Bob Hogarth (Kelso), Phil Stewart (Kelso), Bruce Bett (Selkirk), J.A. Hume (Selkirk), Jack Keeney (Lauder), Ian Scott (Lauder) and Stan Irvine (Torwoodlee)

BGA Council members in attendance: Dennis Little (President), Roy Thomson (Hon. Secretary), Bruce Currie (Hon. Treasurer), Robin Brydon, Keith McIntosh, and Ian Ford.

Apologies – Alastair Christie and David Gillie.

Minutes of AGM held by Video Conference Call on 26th November, 2020 - were approved.

President's address – The president Dennis Little welcomed everyone to BGA Annual General Meeting. He reflected on the last two years and the impact the Covid Pandemic that had turned our lives upside down, and the probability of more disruption in the future.

He noted that lots of competitions had been cancelled but that the BGA had managed to hold the 2021 Border Championships at Peebles, and the Team Tournament at Kelso.

He commented that like many others, his home club managed to increase its membership due to an influx of youngsters who were deprived of a game of rugby and decided to come and smash golf balls, though not always accurately, and that he hoped that the golfing bug would bite and that they would be hooked for life.

The highlight of Dennis' season came at Inverness where the Borders team of Darren Howie, Jamie Morris, Alan Turnbull, Stephen Rodgers, Simon Fairburn and Jack McDonald just failed to win the Scottish Golf Area Team Championships, noting that a ridiculous long putt on the 18th green in the final swung the game in the Lothians team's favour. He congratulated team captain David Gillie and his team on a great effort.

The president thanked the committees of all the Border golf clubs and the BGA committee for their efforts in keeping the game running in the Borders during challenging times.

Accounts – The Treasurer, reported on the audited accounts for year ended 30th September 2021. It was agreed that BGA affiliation fees for the coming season would be unchanged at £2.50 per member as had been agreed at the 2018 AGM, and that unless the financial situation arising from the pandemic worsened, no increase would be considered until Scottish Golf affiliation fees were increased. The accounts were unanimously approved.

Competitions – R Brydon reported that the BGA Committee would be looking at the format and timing of competitions with a view to encouraging more players to enter. One such initiative already agreed was to hold competitions at different courses each

year and he advised that the 2022 BGA Championships would be held at Eyemoth Golf Club on 28th August 2021. It was noted that the BGA Committee would be reviewing competitions in the New Year.

Junior Golf – It was noted that once again a coaching grant of £1,500 had been received from Scottish Golf, and that 14 juniors had attended coaching sessions with Frank Scott at Ashkirk. Junior Convener Alastair Christie was intending to contact Clubs' Junior Conveners to discuss coaching for 2022, and also to discuss options for junior competitions going forward – e.g. the possibly of holding them during school holidays.

Election of Office Bearers – Office Bearers for 2020/21 were unanimously elected as follows: -

President -	Dennis Little
Hon. Secretary -	Robin Brydon
Hon. Treasurer -	Bruce Currie
Competition Secretary –	
Team Captain -	David Gillie
Junior Convener -	Alastair Christie
Council Members -	Ian Ford & Alan Wilson (Note: Keith McIntosh intimated his resignation after the meeting).

The President again asked that clubs actively encourage any member with an interest in serving on the BGA Committee to contact the Secretary (especially members from clubs in the Eastern Borders which was not represented on the BGA Council).

The President closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.