

Foxhills

Golf Club Committee

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Tuesday 17th September 2024, 19.30 in the Clubhouse

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

Marc Hayton - President
Sue Eggleton - VP
Ian Howick - Captain
Phil Burnham - Vice
Captain
Don Mcintosh - Treasurer
Tej Walia - MD
Sean Graham - Director
of Golf
Derrick Johnstone - Golf
Course and Estates Mgr
Mark Jacob

Sam De Beaux
Sanjay Khuller
Chris Jaycock
Martin Kayes
Keith Rankin
Terry Baker
Stanley Atkins
Paul Vernham
Paul Ford
Ryan Harpur
Diane Gilmour
Terence Turvey

Mike Cockram
Richard Pelly
Jason Green
Peter Gamble
Mike Wraight
Rita Vienhues
Chris Stopps
Paul Searle
Judy Searle
Jim Hamilton
Julian Potter
Vince Healy

1. Welcome and introductions– Sue Eggleton, Chair

The Chair confirmed the meeting was quorate and welcomed those attending. Members of the Golf Club and Golf Committee were introduced as follows:
Marc Hayton, Golf Club President and CEO of Foxhills & Farleigh
Ian Howick – Club Captain 2023/24
Don McIntosh – Club Treasurer 2023/24
Sean Graham, Director of Golf
Derrick Johnstone – Golf course and Estates Manager

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from:
Sheila Fleming
James Rouse

Ram Chandro

3. Adoption of the minutes from the 2023 AGM

Minutes were proposed by Ian Howick, Seconded by Julian Potter and adopted as a true record. Minutes will be added to Foxhills website with Committee minutes.

4. Matters arising from the minutes (not otherwise on the agenda)
The Chair confirmed that matters arising would be covered within individual agenda items. ~~during the meeting~~

5. Foxhills Management report - Sean Graham, Director of Golf
{Add Sseans bullets from slides}

6. Course and Estate report - Derrick Johnstone, Golf Course & Estate Manager

Review of the the year covered:

- Investment and developments to Longcross CourseX
- The introduction of riveted bunkers and turf
- Increased focus on presentation and attention to detail
- Longer rough on par 3s to develop the visual aspect
- Scrub removal in treelines
- Strength in the new course and estates team
- Initial investment in ageing irrigation system
- Challenge and pride in the delivery of the Asian Tour International Series event
- Increase in weekend rolling and cutting of green

Future outlook covered:

- Addressing drainage on holes 6 & 7 of Longcross course to start October 2024~~14~~
- Work on bridges and tee box steps/sleepers
- Return of divot bags during October 2024
- Top dressing and aeration course maintenance in November 2024
- Introduction of small green/white posts between green and bunkers to protect fringe
- Settling in of new bunkers
- Review of new tee constructions and leveling of others

7. Captain's report – Ian Howick

The outgoing Captain expressed his thanks to ~~the~~ Mark Hayton and the whole Hayton family and the Foxhills ~~management~~ team and all members for their support and making his year so special. A specific thanks was given to the outgoing VP Sue Eggleton and the Vice Captain Phil Burnham for their service.

Highlights of the year included the International Series, the 100 holes challenge, the members trip to the London Club, winning the Signature League and seeing the continued revitalisation of the junior section.

The Captains Charity ~~has~~ had a very successful year, with final figures coming in, ~~as~~ ~~but~~ ~~approximately~~ £13,000 raised, for the Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex.

The Captain was pleased with the success of transferring competitions ~~management~~ to Foxhills, but explained the Committee remains important and relevant, with essential roles to play in ensuring fairplay, interpreting WHS changes, acting as club ambassadors, bringing constructive ideas and solutions, maintaining traditions, supporting new ideas, managing competitive and friendly team matches and acting as the voice of the membership.

Finally, the Captain wished his successor a fantastic year and noted the renewed interest in members supporting the Committee with 3 new nominees this year and several others expressing ~~an~~ interest. This is a positive change from previous years.

The VP expressed her thanks to the Captain for his efforts in a successful year for the club.

8. Receive the 2023/24 report and receive the 2023/24 accounts for adoption - Don McIntosh

The Treasurer thanked the auditor Dee Shah for his work and shared the accounts for approval.

He reminded the meeting that the Committee had generated profits during COVID due the massive increase in competitive participation, and the plan ~~had been~~ ~~post COVID~~ ~~vid~~ ~~has been~~ to reduce that balance slowly over the following years. That had continued in 2023/24.

Approx £900 had been spent on subsidising events such as KO finals and All Winners Day, and with Foxhills supporting catering costs, it had been possible to increase the prize fund for all competitions to 80%, a benefit for members. It may be possible to increase that further in 2024/25.

The treasurer noted the accounts this year had increased detail with the revenue shown on a gross basis with costs rather than a net basis.

All revenue from competitions goes through Golf Genius and this year that included revenue for the International Series Qualifying event.

Credit card transaction costs continue to increase growing to and are now at £3645 from approx £2800 last year. Members were reminded refunds are a significant component of the cost.

At year end the accounts showed a loss of £554 in line with the plan. The Treasurer suggested this continue for at least 3 or 4 more years subject to the strategy of the new Committee.

The accounts were proposed by Phil Burnham and seconded by Roy Walker and unanimously approved, without further questions.

9. Appointment of Auditor for 2024/25 Accounts

The Chair thanked Dee Shah for his support auditing accounts in recent years, but noted Dee would stand down as he was nominated to join the Committee and so this could be a conflict of interest.

The Captain briefed the meeting on his call for audit support and was grateful that five members had offered help. It was not a selection process, but Dee and the Captain had met with James Rouse, a qualified accountant, and explained the role. James had agreed to stand for the role.

James Rouse was proposed by Ian Howick and seconded by Dee Shah and unanimously elected as auditor for 2024/25.

10. Election of Captain 2024/2025 and Address by the New Captain.

The Committee had nominated vice Captain Phil Burnham for Captain, this was seconded by Diane Gilmour, and unanimously approved.

~~The new Captain was invited to speak~~ Having undergone the ceremonial tie cutting and replacement by the outgoing Captain, ~~t~~he new Captain was invited to speak

[The notes of the Captains speech are provided in full for those not in attendance and to explain, in detail, the important work of the Captain's Charity]

Thank you very much for attending this evening and thank you very much for your vote. Both appreciated by me.

I am delighted to take up the position as Captain of Foxhills Golf Club for the next year.

2025 is Foxhills 50th anniversary and I am very much looking forward to being Captain and to enjoying the year of celebration.

I'm targeting a year of smiling and enjoyment.

Before we explore what the 50th anniversary might involve. I want to thank Ian for his year as Captain, all the hard work he put in and to congratulate him on the way he behaved. His attitude and actions have been fabulous. Always putting Foxhills members first, considering the consequences and revisiting the actions to make sure they were the right way forward. He has discharged his responsibilities in an exemplary manner and I for one I've been very proud to be a member of his team. He will be there supporting us as Vice President during the next year.

I'd like us to stand and applaud Ian and his marvellous efforts in the traditional way. It's also important to thank Sue for her time on the Committee as she has now completed being ~~V~~ice ~~P~~resident.

Great to have back on the Committee as members Sam, Don, Mark ~~Sean and Elliott~~ and, subject to election later, welcoming Dee, Paul and Sheila.

~~My thanks to Sanjay for his time in 2024 — his work commitments keeping him from the Committee for 2025.~~ This is repeated later

The Committee team will be putting together a list of fixtures which will include some 150 plus events. Should have the schedule by late autumn. This will include all the normal competitions matches and special days. Retaining all the blue ribbon, board events and introducing events to specially celebrate Foxhillsour 50th anniversary.

My involvement with Foxhills started by playing the Longcross course, it was cup final Saturday 1976. Between then and the early 90s I played both courses sporadically. I joined in 1994 and have relished my Membership since then.

Each and every occasion entering the estate has made me smile, elevated my mood, relaxing me.

I've been involved with the Committee for three separate periods of time working with a dozen past captains. This is my second time as captain the first being in 2018 when Foxhills held the PGA cup for the first and winning time.

Each year the new captain chooses a charity for the year forward. This year I've chosen Smile Train UK. This is an organisation that deals globally with cleft.

What is Cleft?

A cleft occurs when certain body parts and structures do not fuse during foetal development. This can involve the lip and/or roof of the mouth, which is made up of both a hard and soft palate. Globally, 1 in 700 babies are born with a cleft lip and/or palate which can cause difficulties eating, breathing, hearing, and speaking. Around the world, many children with clefts will never receive the cleft treatment they need. A baby with a cleft is born every three minutes, resulting in hundreds of thousands of children in resource-poor communities around the world not having access to the lifesaving cleft treatment they desperately need. Without cleft treatment, these babies can face various difficulties and experience multiple problems with eating: which can lead them to become malnourished and result in starvation or even death, problems with hearing due to chronic ear infections which could result in permanent hearing loss, and problems with speaking or expressing themselves which could result in anxiety or depression. Children with cleft can also face isolation and prejudice from their communities.

Smile Train's solution to this problem is to advance a sustainable solution and scalable global health model for cleft treatment, drastically improving people's lives, including their ability to eat, breathe, speak, and ultimately thrive. Their model was founded on the 'teach a man to fish' principle and is focused on empowering local medical professionals with training, funding, and resources to provide free treatment. This model allows Smile Train patients to receive cleft care 365 days a year – allowing every person to get the help they need, making Smile Train more efficient and effective than mission-based organisations.

Smile Train is committed to treating the whole patient and in addition to life-changing surgery, their local medical partners provide essential care, such as speech therapy, emotional support, nutrition services, and orthodontic care, to ensure that people can have the opportunity to lead full and productive lives.

This comprehensive approach is only made possible because of their model that focuses on empowering local medical professionals and health systems with the resources to provide care to families affected by cleft every day, all year round.

Why choose Smile Train?

I want us to seize the opportunity to raise funds to further enable the work Smile train does. To give others the ability to smile, whilst enjoying ourselves here at Foxhills. There will be plenty of chances to learn more about Smile Train, during our next club year and to make a magnificent contribution to the lives of people born with cleft. Together we can make them smile more.

The VP commended the incoming Captains selection of Smile Train

11. Election of Vice-Captain 2024/2025

Committee nominate Dee Shah, seconded by Paul Ford and unanimously approved.

12. Election of Vice-President 2024/2025

Committee nominate Ian Howick, seconded by Mike Wraight and unanimously approved.

13. Election of New Committee members 2024/2025

The outgoing VP summarised those continuing their service on the Committee, and thanked Mark Jacob and Sam De Beaux for their work during the previous year and for remaining as committee members this coming year.

The Committee nominated Sheila Fleming and Paul Ford as new Committee members; no other nominees had been received.

Sheila and Paul were unanimously approved and duly elected.

The incoming Captain paid special recognition to Sanjay Khuller who is stepping down due work commitments, for his excellent contribution especially

to the men's competitive teams; and hoped he would return to the Committee at a future date.

14. Any Other business and questions through the Chairman

RH asked about feedback from Top 100 assessment - no news yet

Ashwin Kapoor had pre submitted a question on the extensive use of BH for midweek comps. ~~The VP Elliot Lavelle had responded to~~ advised that the intention in the annual fixture list is to make it a 50/50 split. L, last year had been 9BH/6LX, but some of this was due to the 9 hole Longcross closure during the year.

JH asked about ditches - DJ confirmed work continues and improvements made but also needed to fix tree lined areas to clear debris.

JH asked when bespoke booking could be used on website to avoid single players blocking 4 slots at peak times - SG advised this is ongoing work over the winter and that the club had increased more opportunities in peak times this last year by, as example, moving matches to later in the day.

RW asked about adding signage on holes with bells - DJ advised these would be ordered.

RW asked why no divot boxes on tees - DJ outlined these create issues in themselves and the preference is for greenkeeping staff to do this work instead of members.

RW asked if member and guest competitions may return. The incoming Captain said this was something he hoped to add into the schedule.

RH asked if 20 ball buckets could be added to range - SG agreed to look into that for members, but the system did not allow it currently.

RH noted his anecdotal experience of high numbers of no shows after the starter leaves – SG reaffirmed that members were still required to sign in at pro-shop and the no show policy was still in place.

DG asked if the Foxhills tee markers would remain due to mixed views. SG confirmed no change planned.

RP noted disappointment in the amount of litter and whether better bin designs would help debris from birds and animals. DS suggested if new bins were

being considered, these should be built for recycling options. TW explained this would be considered as part of wider recycling work across the estate.

VH asked if the Asian Tour would return. SG explained Foxhills remain first and foremost a members club and each event is considered on its own merit into what it brings to the club. No agreed plans to repeat, but the club and Tour remain in touch with one another. DS congratulated the club on the event and in the reciprocals provided to members. SG went on to explain the pride of the team in the success of the event but as always there were lessons for the future and the club always looked to do better.

RW asked if the introduced car park security had been a deterrent - TW explained Foxhills in comparison to other clubs has a low level of incidents but that the security and number plate recognition camera had had a positive effect and will continue.

RW echoed DS comments on recycling and congratulated the outgoing Captain, Director of Golf and the Courses and Estates Manager on an excellent year.

There were no further questions.

15. Date of next AGM - 15th September 2025 (post event it was noted this date is a Monday and is therefore subject to change, and announcement will follow.)

Close