



OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS

Minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Wednesday 6th December 2023 at Witney Lakes Golf Club.

In attendance were 29 members in total (see Attendance List).

The meeting was chaired initially by President, Tim Nunneley and latterly by President, Ian Allison.

Call to order

Before the start of the meeting, those present were asked to stand in silence as a mark of respect for past Club captains who had died since the 2022 AGM. Those being;

Terry Denby (Badgemore Park)

John Menzies (Henley)

Harry White (Henley)

John Besley (North Oxford)

Apologies

The total number of apologies for absence received was 76 Members (see separate list).

1. Minutes of 2022 AGM

Having received no written or verbal comments on the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 7th December 2022, acceptance thereof as a true record was proposed by Roger Davies and seconded by Chris Spearing. These minutes were signed after the meeting by the new President, Ian Allison.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes.

3. Rules of Association revision 2023

The Secretary advised that, as is the duty of the Committee, the Rules of Association have been revised for the following purposes;

- (i) to clarify the terms to be used to generally refer to the Golf Clubs to which Members belong.
- (ii) to formalise the previously announced split of Match Secretary's role into Fixtures Secretary and Match Secretary (ref. Secretary's email of 08 August 2023).
- (iii) to increase the number of members of the Committee, and correspondingly, the quorum size.
- (iv) to add a clause for definition of Committee Meeting frequency and revise Committee Member voting rights where an imbalance of Golf Club membership exists within the Committee.
- (v) several minor administrative adjustments.

There being no objections, approval of the revised rules was proposed for acceptance by Danny Fois and seconded by Rob Stroud.

4. Captain's Report

In presentation of his report (circulated to each member in advance), Keith Henley remarked upon the reasonably fine weather that he had experienced in his captaincy year and his pleasure at the match performance in his Captaincy year. Additional noteworthy wins were referred to including the continued retention of the Four Counties Trophy and the Queens Jubilee Trophy.

Keith thanked the Members for their support and the Officers and Committee for all their assistance and hard work to make his period of office so enjoyable. He especially thanked Roger Sillence for his continued considerable effort as Match Secretary over the past many years in arranging the timing of fixtures as well as managing inter-County matches, tours, etc. and wished him a less intense future as Fixtures Secretary. Keith then extended a warm welcome to Ray Davies who joins the Committee as Match Secretary.

The Captain then expressed his pleasure that Terry Killick had accepted nomination for Captaincy in 2023 and wished him a successful term of office.



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5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Chris Spearing, presented his Report and the Accounts (issued to Members in advance), for the year ended 31 October 2023 (a copy is included in the Minute Book).

The Treasurer explained the basis for the loss suffered in the year (as was predicted in the 2023 Budget) due to the expected increase in catering costs and shared contribution to a trophy for Gloucester Matches.

The future charges for Events and Matches were presented as follows, and some small increases over 2023 were noted in response to anticipated costs in 2024.

Joining fee	£20 (excluding £15 for an OGC tie)
Annual registration fee	£20*
Match fee (Home or Away)	£40*
Cornwall away match fee	£15* per golfer
Meetings/Events	£40*
Mixed event (per pair)	£75*

*increased

Once again, the Treasurer thanked Peter Walton for auditing the accounts in time to be sent out in advance of the Meeting.

As there were no questions from the floor, the report and its recommendations were adopted following proposal by Roger Sillence and seconded by Roger Davies.

6. Match Secretary's Report

Match Secretary, Roger Sillence presented his report (issued to Members in advance), beginning with reference to the split of the previous duties of the Match Secretary with his new role of Fixtures secretary. Roger then welcomed Ray Davies to the role of Match Secretary going forward and wished him good luck.

Roger once again thanked all those who represented the OGC in our tours and matches and especially those who made it so much easier for him by agreeing to fill in, often at the very last minute, when others unavoidably drop out. He also pointed out that although there were no spaces left on the Cornwall Tour, there were still plenty of spaces available on the Captain's Tour.

As there were no comments or questions from the floor, the Match Secretary's Report was duly accepted (a copy of The Match Secretary's Report is included in the minute book).

7. Election of Officers

Having been duly proposed and seconded, the meeting unanimously agreed to elect Ian Alison to be President for 2024. The outgoing President, Tim Nunneley then presented Ian with the Presidential jewel. Ian expressed how much he appreciated the office and he would do his best to serve well during his term of office.

Ian Allison then thanked Peter Walton for accepting nomination as Vice-President for 2024. The new President then continued to chair the remainder of the meeting.

Outgoing Captain Keith Henley presented 2024 Captain Terry Killick with the Captain's jewel. Terry commended Keith for doing a good job in 2023 and hoped to serve the OGC with similar performance in 2024. Members were invited to continue to support the OGC at matches and referred once more to the places still available for the 2024 Captain's Tour at The Forest of Arden on 30 Aug – 01 Sep 2024.

Terry then announced with pleasure that Roger Davies had accepted his invitation to be the new vice-Captain. Terry expressed a few humorous words of welcome to Roger Davies.

Having been duly proposed and seconded, the following other Officers were elected to office for 2024.

Secretary	Bill White
Treasurer	Chris Spearing
Fixtures Secretary	Roger Sillence
Match Secretary	Ray Davies
Events Secretary	Stuart Dobbs

In addition, the following Members were elected to the Committee for 2023.



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Tim Nunneley

Glyn Hall

Andrew Gardiner

In accordance with the Rules of Association (clause 6 item a), the Immediate Past Captain, Keith Henley will also serve as an Officer of the Committee during 2024.

It is noted that in accordance with the Rules of Association (clause 6 item k), The Life Vice President, Derek Honey is entitled to attend Committee Meetings, but without voting rights.

10. Election of Auditor

Peter Walton was once again elected as Auditor having been duly proposed and seconded.

11. Any Other Business

- a. Events Secretary, Stuart Dobbs, presented the new Handicapping system to be applied at future Events as determined by the committee. This is based upon the previous system of awarding handicap reductions to winners of events to facilitate a more distributed winners' slate over the year. It also includes a nominal split of prizes across two divisions for the same purpose.

Rob Stroud suggested that the introduction of these changes was primarily to address the apparent incorrect allocation of Slope Rating to Drayton Park G.C. as this has served to show that members of that Club appear more frequently on prize winners lists than members of other Clubs. He suggested that this concern should be approached by having the subject Club course being re-rated by the WHS organisation.

Chris Spearing (Member at Drayton Park G.C.), responded by pointing out that the WHS organisation had carried out a second review of the course and that no change had been recommended by them, hence, the reason for introduction of the above OGC handicapping system.

- b. Richard Green enquired if the Committee had considered any age related adjustment within the handicapping System. The President responded, no.
- c. Glyn Hall made note of Ray Shaw's agreement to step down from the Committee this year (in accordance with clause 6 e) of the Rules of Association), and that thanks should be communicated to Ray for his service on the Committee.
- d. The date and venue of the Winter Lunch was announced as Tuesday 20th February 2024 at Kirtlington GC.

12. Date of 2024 AGM

The 2024 AGM will be held at Witney Lakes GC on Wednesday 4th December at 6.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 7.10 and was followed by Dinner.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Notes on Changes to Rules of the Association

Amendment A: General

Aim: To normalise the use of a capitalization of the letter **M** in Member to mean Member of the OGC.

Amendment B: Clause 3 paragraph e)

Aim: To clarify the designation of the golf clubs of which OGC Members are currently members or have been members.

- i) A Member's golf club at time of Joining the OGC will be known as his "Original Club" (previously referred to as his Home Club).
- ii) In the event that a Member belongs to 2 or more golf clubs, that Member's "Current Club" is that which administers his handicap.

Amendment C: Clause 6 paragraph a)

Aim: To formalise the new Officer position of Fixtures Secretary (i.e. splitting the functions/duties of the Match Secretary), as was previously announced on 08 August 2023.

Amendment D: Clause 6 paragraph c)

Aim: To increase the size of the Committee to better represent the Membership and their golf clubs.

Amendment E: new Clause 7 paragraphs a) and b)

Aim: To formalise the frequency of Committee Meetings and who shall be the Chairman of Committee Meetings.

Amendment F: Clause 7 paragraph d)

Aim: To prevent bias towards any such golf club that is disproportionately represented within the Committee. This has been achieved by limiting the voting rights of a number of Committee Members who are members of the same golf club where this number exceeds two (2).

Amendment G: Clause 10

Aim: To ensure that an adequate proportion Committee Members are present at Committee Meetings and General Meetings. (Ref. Amendment D above)



CAPTAIN'S REPORT
2023 AGM

2023 was a very successful and enjoyable year for a number of reasons. In our 20 inter county matches we managed to win 9, half 5 and lose 6 and remained unbeaten in our home matches.

Roger's report has more details of our matches, but I would like to thank all of our captains who have played this season and hope they enjoyed the games as much as I did.

It gave me particular pleasure to retain the Four Counties Trophy which we also won last year and then to go on and secure the prestigious Queen's Jubilee trophy against 6 other counties at Tadmarton Heath.

Our 2 away tours were also very enjoyable, in Cornwall we were blessed with good weather for a change, with the return to St.Enodoc a particular highlight. My Captains tour to Le Touquet was very well supported and we were again blessed with glorious sunshine on 3 lovely courses.

Our Membership has stayed constant and, our finances are in good shape thanks to the hard work of our diligent Treasurer Chris.

Our internal events were again very well supported, and I was delighted that so many players were able to join me at Oxford Golf Club for my Captain's Day in July. Congratulations to everyone that won any of our events.

These events, tours and fixtures require a great deal of effort and organisation, and I would like to pass on my thanks to our Officers and the rest of the Committee who make these happen so efficiently, particularly: -

- Bill for his secretarial work and who, with Stuart^{WHO} organises our internal events
- Chris for looking after our finances
- Glyn for keeping us clothed

And especially

- Roger for all that he does in arranging and rearranging fixtures and teams. I am pleased that he will be getting some more assistance next year with Ray Davies joining the committee.

Thank you all for the honour of allowing me to be your 2023 Captain. Your support has been fantastic, and I have made many new friends for life.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to an excellent 2023 under Terry's leadership.

Oxfordshire Golf Captains

Treasurer's Report for the year-ended 31st October 2023

I would like to thank Peter Walton for carrying out the audit so quickly and thoroughly and Glyn Hall for looking after clothing sales. The detailed accounts will be found at the end of this report.

Income and Expenditure

Your committee budgeted for a loss of £811 (as advised at the last AGM), against which we produced an actual loss of £996.87 (last year a surplus of £1,459). The prime reasons for being over budget came under "Sundry Items". I omitted to budget for website costs (£137) and Gloucestershire wanted to buy a match trophy, our share being £60.

Summary	Last Year	Budget	Actual
Surplus (loss) in year:	£1,459	-£811	-£997

A key feature during the year was the increase in catering costs, averaging 10.3%. This of course impacted all our events and home matches. Our budget had foreseen this.

In the past we have paid gratuities of around £1 per head, but increased this to £2 for this year, affecting all home events.

The year included the Jubilee event which produced a surplus of £766, but then a donation to the host club of £855, accounting for the increase in donation costs reported. Note that 2024 will include the Four Counties, after which we will have three years without such extra hosting.

We receive interest on our account with the Charity Bank, whose statements arrive somewhat sporadically. I only include interest evidenced by such statements. Last year did not include the June and September interest from 2022 (totalling £11), which are included in the 2023 figures. Fortunately, the 2023 entries are complete. We have benefited from a rise in interest rates this year.

The AGM last December was hit by a £100 room hire charge, which has not happened before.

Cornwall home matches showed an adverse swing compared with last year of £564 due to large increases in catering costs – affected by the choice of venue as well as inflation. The same can be said for our home county matches where the cost per head increased by an average of 15%.

For our internal events the major adverse swings were:

- Presidents Day (down £427), where catering costs were up significantly on last year.
- Spring Meeting (down £312) – affected by horrendous weather resulting in a low number of members actually playing.
- Captain's Day (down £339). A more modest increase in catering costs. However, last year we did not pay any staff gratuities, nor did we hold a committee meeting. Also last year the home club captain did not play – we invite club captains as our guest.

We aim to break even in the Knockout Competition but actually produced a surplus of £178. We expect to pay the green fees of the four finalists, but this year Oxford Golf Club gave the players courtesy.

Printing costs relate to our fixture lists. Sending these out incurred the £26 postage costs.

Sundry items of £237 comprised:

- £60 share of the cost of a trophy for Gloucestershire matches
- £137 for 2 years' web costs
- £27 for coffee and biscuits for our annual budget meeting
- £13 fee for copy documents required by one of our banks.

Balance Sheet

Total cash balances of £3,152 are around £1,500 down on last year, mainly due to the loss in the year. You will also note that clothing stocks have tied up a further £560 of cash – we had to replenish the stock of ties and caps, for which there is a minimum order quantity. Adding this to the loss of £997 explains the reduction in cash balances.

Our clothing supplier has been very slow to invoice us for deliveries this year. We still await some invoices, hence the accrual of £180.

The key figure is net assets of £4,568, which includes £1,918 stock, so net liquid assets now total £2,650. This is a comfortable position. My policy is that we should not allow this to drop any lower than say £2,000 to allow for any major surprise, such as a pandemic.

Thus, we have funds surplus to requirements in the region of £650, though this will increase as stock levels reduce to a more normal level.

Proposals for 2024

Your committee is budgeting for a loss of £369 in 2024. However, with further inflationary pressure expected, this can only be achieved by an increase in charges to members. These are set out in the table below. Without such increases we could be looking at a loss of between £2,000 and £3,000. We are also planning to replace sandwiches on arrival with bacon rolls and hope to make a small saving there.

I would therefore ask the members to approve the accounts for 2023 and the proposed fees planned for 2024.

Chris Spearing
6th November 2023

	Last Year	New	
Joining fees	£20.00	£20.00	excluding £15 for tie
Annual Registration fees	£15.00	£20.00	~
Match fees (home)	£37.00	£40.00	~
Match fees (away)	£37.00	£40.00	
Cornwall away match fees	£10.00	£15.00	per golfer
Meetings	£37.00	£40.00	
Mixed (per pair)	£70.00	£75.00	~

Oxfordshire Golf Captains

Income & Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31st October 2023

	2022	2023
<u>Income</u>		
Annual Registration Fees	1,845.00	1,770.00
Joining Fees	240.00	200.00
Bank Interest	14.11	67.75
Sundry Items	51.21	14.00
General Receipts	2,150.32	2,051.75
<u>Activities</u>		
AGM	(1.00)	(101.00)
Winter Lunches	(9.50)	(1.00)
Committee Dinner	68.45	(2.00)
Lunches and Dinners	57.95	(104.00)
Home	95.55	(467.50)
Away	289.00	289.00
Cornwall Matches	384.55	(178.50)
Home	(2,673.60)	(3,573.50)
Away	4,202.00	4,313.50
County Matches	1,528.40	740.00
Autumn	(15.00)	(60.00)
Mixed Greensomes	(207.50)	(205.00)
Presidents Cup	169.00	(258.00)
Spring Meeting	315.00	3.30
Captain's Day	(305.00)	34.00
OGC Internal Events	(43.50)	(485.70)
Jubilee Trophy		765.85
Knockout comp	181.96	177.81
Founders' Cup	(368.85)	(443.75)
Other Matches & Events	(186.89)	499.91
Donations to Clubs re Events	(2,375.00)	(3,180.00)
<u>Clothing sales</u>		
Caps	24.56	3.07
Shirts	186.53	167.90
Slipovers	52.93	7.94
Sweaters	34.89	11.23
Ties	76.84	47.43
Other	2.50	67.00
Profit on Clothing Sales	378.25	304.57
<u>Overheads</u>		
Phone & postage	0.00	(25.63)
Print, copying & stationery	(132.86)	(132.00)
Engraving	(229.29)	(250.18)
Sundry Items	(72.67)	(237.09)
	(434.82)	(644.90)
Surplus (Deficit)	1,459.26	(996.87)

THE OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS



MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE 2023 A.G.M.

The Match Secretary's Role

You may already be aware that your Committee has decided that, from this time onwards, the Match Secretary's current role will be split into two parts.

My own job title will change to Fixture Secretary and, in general terms, my responsibilities will focus on organising your golfing calendar with other Counties and liaison with our home golf clubs, together with setting up the two Cornwall tours and the Captain's Tour.

At the same time, I am delighted to welcome Ray Davies, Oxford City, to the role of Match Secretary, (elect) in which role he will be responsible for all matters relating to the organisation and administration of the other 14 County matches. Welcome aboard and good luck with that Ray!!!

The County Matches, 2023

It is usual for me to include in this report an account of all our golfing activities during the preceding 8 months. However, as all of this was detailed in my recent Newsletter 16 of 10/23, I will attach a copy of that circulation to the AGM papers in the event that you might want any reminders.

As ever, my life this year has been made considerably easier by those of you who unfailingly supported the Oxfordshire Golf Captains by turning out for matches, quite often at very short notice, thus frequently risking marital disharmony; thank you all most sincerely.

All 20 of our County matches were played in the usual competitive and enjoyable manner. The final overall results were:-

	PLAYED	WON	HALVED	LOST	GAMES WON	GAMES LOST
HOME	10	6	4	0	57	36
AWAY	10	3	1	6	41½	54½
ALL	20	9	5	6	98½	90½

You can see how all the individual games in each match panned out by visiting our OGC website at <https://www.oxfordshiregolfcaptains.co.uk/> and then clicking on "Members area," password "drive4show."

The Cornwall trip in May was apparently the usual success and my thanks go to Chris Spearing for taking over the admin reins on tour. If my sums are correct, excluding the Covid year, this would have been our 53rd tour to Cornwall. An account, both of this trip and also the return visit of the Cornish Captains to Oxfordshire in September, are both fully covered in the Newsletter.

The 2024 Cornwall list of travellers is already almost full, but we might just squeeze another couple in should you be interested.

Although also covered in the Newsletter, I should just briefly mention that the OGC teams enjoyed wonderful days at Cotswolds Hills Golf Club on the 12th July in the Four Counties, and also at Tadmarton Heath on the 8th August when we hosted the Queen's Jubilee trophy, coming away as victors on both occasions. These are arguably the two most prestigious trophies to win and which provide particular pleasure to all those who take part.

Congratulations once more to all the winners of our various trophies, who were;

Date	Event	Host Golf Club	Winner	Points
12-04-2023	Spring Meeting	Cotswolds Club	Bill Major	36
13-06-2023	President's Day	Tadmarton Heath	Graham Fullagar	39 (C/B)
10-07-2023	Mixed Greensomes	North Oxford	Paula Sibley & Olly Bowden	46
27-07-2023	Captain's Day	Oxford City	Ray Davies	41
23-08-2023	Founders' Cup	Hadden Hill	Tim Nunneley	37
31-08-2023	Autumn Meeting	The Springs	Bill Major	42
31-08-2023	Powell Cup *	The Springs	Drayton Park	110
Season long	Hookham Trophy **		Chris Spearing	78 (C/B)

* The best three aggregate scores from players from the same club.

** The best two scores from Captain's and President's Days and the spring and autumn meetings.

The remaining internal event, the Golden Anniversary Knock-out trophy, attracted an entry of 26 pairs. The final, was played at the Oxford City golf club on the 4th October, when David Lakin and Robert Jones prevailed over Bill Major and Phil Soden.

The Captain's Autumn Tour 2023

28 Captains joined Keith Henley on his successful tour to Le Touquet, where Andy Mills overcame allcomers to win the Chunky Townley trophy, which had been offer for the very first time, having been presented to OGC by Chunky's family earlier in the year. As you'll see from the Newsletter, the result was very close.

The Captain's Autumn Tour 2024

Terry Killick, your Captain Elect for 2024, has chosen the Forest of Arden for his Captain's Autumn Tour, which will take place from Friday, 30th August to Sunday, 2nd September, with two nights stay and three games of golf over both on-site courses.

A number of you have already booked your places, but there is still room to join the trip, provided hotel rooms still remain available. Should you wish to attend, please do get in touch with me at roger.sillence@live.co.uk or 01993 776303 as soon as possible.

The 2024 Golfing Season

The 2024 golfing calendar, together with the usual return form for you to claim march places, will soon be circulated to all members, so please keep a wary eye on your inbox.

Please make sure that you speedily complete and return that document, because the teams for all the matches are selected within a few weeks of that circulation; if you delay too long, you may well miss the deadline, and I am anxious to avoid that at all costs.

As most of you will know, all the match selections are circulated to everyone involved in the early spring, so please make sure that you're all on board in good time.

Just finally, 2023 seems to have passed us by in a fairly amicable manner, and was successful in a number of events, already highlighted here. Camaraderie and bonhomie go hand-in-glove with the OGC and this will no doubt continue next year and beyond.

Roger

Roger Sillence

Match Secretary

Oxfordshire Golf Captains

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6th November, 2023

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"Membership of the OGC is the best thing that ever came from being the Captain of a golf club."

OGC Suggested new handicap system for OGC Open Events

It has been noted that since the new WHS handicapping system, the difference between number of lower and higher handicappers has grown – to that end Alistair Brown came up with a suggestion that instead of having prizes for 5 places + F9 and B9 we have:

- Overall winner (irrespective of being Division 1 or 2)
- Division 1 1st & 2nd
- Division 2 1st & 2nd
- B9, F9 (irrespective of being Division 1 or 2)

The Divisional split would be made by splitting the field into equal halves on the day.

On putting this into practice for the 2023 season there was no difference in the people winning the prizes, just a difference of position – it was therefore suggested that we should also revert back to the system of cutting the Overall and section winners + any score over 40 pts.

Your committee discussed this at some length and have proposed that we adopt it for 2024 and see how it works out.

For clarification: when an event is a qualifier, the player will enter his score in the usual way on the WHS system which will have his normal HCI.

The adjustments set out below will be applied manually for the purposes of the OGC event scoring. The new system will start in the 2024 season but will be backdated to take account of 2023 results.

Mixed Greensomes and Founders Cup – to be ignored under this system

Cuts

Overall winner any event– cut 2

Section winner any event– cut 1

For 2024 only: 2nd or 3rd in the last 2 meetings (excluding Founders' Cup) of 2023 – cut 1

Any score 40-41 points – cut 1 even if no prizes won. This is an additional cut for an Overall or Divisional winner

Any score 42-43 points – cut 2, same rules

Any score 44+ - cut 3, same rules

Example - a player wins the overall with 44 points. He would be cut 2 + 3 = 5.

If, when playing off a restricted handicap, the member incurs further cuts by winning and/or scoring highly, these cuts are added to the initial cuts.

Shots returned

One shot to be returned after each subsequent event, unless the player has once again been successful.

Should the player score less than 30 points at any of the affected meetings, he will get one further shot back. The meetings do not have to be in the same playing season. To be clear, his handicap will never exceed his WHS HCI.

Application of the cuts

The player's HCI on the day of an event will be manually reduced by the number of cuts as calculated above.