

THE DARENTH SENIORS

Minutes of Committee Meeting(DarCom 25) (Rev00), held in the Club House on Thursday 14th November 2024

The meeting opened at 13.48

Present were: Brian Dobbs, Jim Connor, Niall Maxwell, John Rampling, John Green, Brian Howat, David Long, and Barry Bright in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence: All present and correct.

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 20th June 2024 (DarCom 24), having been pre-distributed, were adopted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING: JG queried comment in Social Secretary's Report regarding agreeing menu with Kerry for a dinner, but doesn't actually say what the menu was for. Advised that the meal referred to the, at the time, upcoming Summer Dinner.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT: It was announced that it had been quite a successful season so far. Declared that with charity monies that he collected that day, the running total was likely to be over £2,000.

There were no matters arising.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Report as appended. JG commented it was worth being in mind that if we can't get teams out for the Over 60s, then we could try for the Over 70s at a later date.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Report and Accounts as appended. Discussion raised regarding HandicapMaster costs. It was felt, maybe, this needed some clarification from Jason.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mention of the Monday Swindle Christmas meal next week, grateful to JR for organising that. With regard to upcoming Extravaganza, he had met with Kerry, and the menu that she gave him quoted a price of £34. However when he received the actual bill the function was quoted at £37. On querying this, it was pointed out that the higher cost included arrival drinks. In which case it was decided not to have those. He had made an effort to have a Burns night, come January, but apathy rules and not enough interest to make it viable. Another suggestion with Kerry to try a quiz and curry night, which he would try for.

ALMONER'S REPORT: Report as appended.

COMPETITION & HANDICAP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Report as appended. NM suggested trying to do pre-draws. The problem with that idea being that if people didn't turn up on the day it turned everything into disarray.

MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT: Report as appended.

TOPICS

- a) OVER 65s CUP, DL proposed to stop playing for the over-65s Cup, as currently there is just one member who doesn't qualify, which makes it a bit of a nonsense if virtually everyone is age compliant. Also this would save some expenditure in trophies. Committee opted to keep the competition in abeyance until such time that we have members of an age to make the competition relevant.
- b) SCRATCH COMPETITION, DL proposed that the Scratch competition that we trialled this year be abandoned, as there was no simple way to apply scores. HandicapMaster is unable to cope with such format. It was agreed to let that competition drop.
- c) GUIDANCE NOTES JC/DL: At the previous meeting JC and DL were asked to reconvene and have a rethink of the wording of a revised Guidance Notes, taking cognisance of alternate suggestions. It was felt by

them that, in the main, we should leave things as proposed last time. JC explained the background, suggesting perhaps setting up a new sub-committee to look into the whole issue of the Constitution. DL fielded comments submitted by JG. Each paragraph was discussed in some depth, along with some issues raised by JR, and agreement reached on each. The outcome being that the Guidance Notes will be updated, as discussed, and presented to the Committee for formal approval at the next meeting.

AOB

JR: asked whether we should have course-wide pick and place. Following discussion, where suggestion of players abusing the system arose, it was decided not to adopt this policy.

JR: Felt that the Monday Swindle should come under the umbrella of this committee. Discussion ensued. It was felt that it would be more efficient if the Swindle was managed by Committee. Needed some clarification from certain individuals. JR agreed to leave the subject on the table to be discussed at the next meeting.

JR: Felt that we needed someone else to learn to use HandicapMaster in regard to running competitions. He felt obligated to turn up each week, regardless of his state of health on any given day. Just had DL as a back-up, and maybe TB. JG and BB and BH offered to have a go.

BD: Ball lost in leaves. Following discussion, agreed leaves are not Ground Under Repair, or any area of relief. If a ball is lost, then it is lost.

NM: Commented on speed of play. Discussion arose without any outcome.

The Date of next meeting will be on 13th February 2025, prior to AGM, at the Club House.

The meeting closed at 16.03

XX Chairman signs here XX

SECRETARY'S REPORT: DarCom25

With the sad loss of Eric Bunton and David Tidd, and the inclusion of newcomers: Vic Williams, Graham Edmonds, John McCarthy, our membership currently totals 46. Unfortunately Eric's funeral coincided with the KGVJ Jamboree, for which we were desperately short of players, so I am unable report accurately on that funeral. But David was seen off in grand style, with standing room only in the chapel. Last month, I received an invitation for us to join Super 70s League. With the degree of difficulty in fielding teams for the Over 60s League, and lack of space in our calendar, I politely declined the offer on your behalf.

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Treasurers Report – Darcom 25. 14/11/2024

	£2,234.48	Bank balance as at 9/11/2024
£ 0.00		Captains Charity
£ 23.50		Golf Union Fees
£ 145.50		Functions surplus
£ 150.00		Tie fund
£1,915.48		Current net surplus
£2,234.48	£2,234.48	Total

Income to date

£1,467.50	Subscriptions, (budget £1,443.71 = £23.79 Current surplus in subscription income)
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Expenditure to date

£ 65.00	KGVL (budget £65)
£ 10.50	KGVL website (budget £13.13)
£ 42.49	Competition secretary expenses (budget £43.46)
£ 131.54	Trophy costs (budget £1,204.55)
£ 0.00	Secretary expenses (budget £15)
£ 0.00	Website expenses (budget £102.57)
£ 205.20	Handicap Master (budget £nil)
£ 454.73	Total

£1,443.71	Budget
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£ 988.98	Unused budget
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Budgeted costs were £1,443.71 which is now increased to £1,648.91 in light of the unexpected charge for Handicap Master. Projected income is currently £1,467.50 which leaves a projected loss of £181.41 (£1,648.91 - £1,467.50).

The Darenth Seniors

Income & Expenditure Statement for Year Ended 31/12/2024 as at 9/11/2024)

	Income		Expenditure	
	31/12/2024	31/12/2023	31/12/2024	31/12/2023
b/f	£3,765.95	£1,154.98	£0.00	
Captains Charity	£829.00	£2,528.74	£3,357.74	
Comp Secs Expenses	£0.00		£42.49	£41.39
Trophies & Engraving	£0.00		£131.54	£1,147.19
KGVL Subscription	£0.00		£65.00	£60.00
KGVL Website	£0.00		£10.50	£12.50
KGVL Jamboree	£375.00	£1,600.00	£375.00	£1,600.00
KGVL Donation			£10.00	
Subscriptions	£1,467.50	£1,411.00		
GU Fees	£1,023.50	£974.50	£1,000.00	£974.50
Summer Dinner	£1,440.00	£1,470.00	£1,474.00	£1,490.00
Summer Dinner Raffle	£0.00	£290.00	£0.00	£290.00
Summer Dinner Auction	£0.00	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00
Xmas Extravaganza		£1,960.00		£1,985.00
Xmas Extravaganza Raffle		£300.00		£300.00
Xmas Extravaganza Auction		£140.00		£140.00
TDS Ties	£40.00	£40.00	£0.00	
Birchwood Lunch		£156.00		£156.00
Poult Wood Lunch		£130.00		£130.00
Shirts	£0.00	£35.00	£35.00	
Website				£97.69
Handicap Master			£205.20	
Bank			£2,234.48	£3,765.95
Total	£8,940.95	£12,390.22	£8,940.95	£12,390.22

Notes:

Bank £2,234.48

Earmarked funds :

GU fees £23.50

Events £145.50

Tie Fund £150.00

Captains Charity £0.00

Sub Total £319.00

Net TDS Funds £1,915.48

Niall Maxwell - Treasurer

Almoner's Report to Seniors Committee - Thursday 14th November 2024

Start by noting the passing of David Tidd on 10th September and subsequent funeral on 3rd October at Bluebell Crematorium. The wake was held at West Kent Golf Club. The funeral and wake were well attended by Members of the Seniors past and present. He is sorely missed.

Eric Bunton funeral was held on 10th October. Unfortunately this clashed with the rearranged Kent Vets Jamboree so some Members were unable to attend the funeral. Nonetheless I understand that a large number of people did attend and the Wake was held here at the Darenth.

Pleased to see the return of Brian Howat after his surgery, not so good to seeing him winning money already!

Dave Richards visited the Club recently. He is still receiving medical treatment for problems with his hands etc.

Captain Barry Bright will be attending meeting and can give his own update!

Dave Watts' appears to be doing well. He has been playing bowls. He hopes to attend the Extravaganza with Margaret.

Alan Mitchell is well. Once again he intends to be at the Extravaganza with Rhona.

I understand that Roy Winters remains at home. Unfortunately he continues to loss weight, his voice is still strong.

Jim Connor
14th November 2024

Competition Secretary's Report

Playing numbers are a bit up and down at the moment.

We seem to get more on a Monday than Thursday, I wonder if this is because of the fun games which some players do not like.

We only have 7 tee times off the First during the winter months. This is Kerry's choice, not mine. I can only apologise to those that go off last. I know it's a long wait, I do try to even it out where I can. This can be affected by buggy sharing and players that ask to go off early if they have an appointment elsewhere.

I must say that it is frustrating, for me also, when I am mostly one of the first to arrive and one of the last to leave, only to see that several have already departed before the results are announced.

Match Secretary Report for Committee 14th November 2024

As in previous years we maintained our friendly match against Eltham Warren, Cherry Lodge, Birchwood and Park Wood

We retained the Broke Wood Trophy as previously reported against Park Wood. In our other matches we beat Cherry Lodge home and away, Birchwood we drew away and won at home. Eltham Warren, we lost away 4 matches to 2 and won at home 5 matches to 1

All of our matches were played in really good spirit and I believe everyone involved enjoyed themselves

Dave has agreed the dates for next year with the same clubs as this year and are in the diary.

Food prices have gone up so next year we are looking at either,

Coffee and biscuits on arrival followed by 2 course lunch £26 per person

Coffee and biscuits on arrival followed by sandwiches and chips £15 per person

If no biscuits price come down by 75p per person

Not sure what the committee feel about the cost and whether we should give our opponents the option of either
I would like to thank all the players that played this year for their support and those members, mainly Dave who stepped up whilst I was away

KVGL report 14th November 2024

Much tougher year for us in the Kent Vets league. We won 3 matches but lost 7 meaning that we finished second to last. We did at least beat the league winners 9-1 at home

We should not be disheartened but must remember that all of the clubs we play against have a much greater pool of players to draw from, also a much younger pool of players as well, generally all with lower handicaps that we can produce.

Shortlands won the league and have been promoted, Nizels coming last in their league have been demoted joining our league this year. We also have another Club joining our league this year, Pedham.

I accompanied Dave to the League AGM at Dartford G C on the 29th October. It was Terry Newmans last meeting as Secretary and his position has been taken over by Paul Weaser who is a playing member at Nizels. At the AGM reviews of the season took place with the only real discussion being saved for handicaps. Group 3 continued their maximum handicap of 18 although some wanted to make it lower. When it came to our league much discussion took place prompted by us. We proposed that whilst the maximum handicap remains at 22 we should have up to 4 players not 2 who could have a handicap of 24. Whilst we did get some verbal support from Shortlands who have experienced a small number to select from, when it came to the vote, we were the only Club that voted for. Therefore, our proposal was rejected.

Another topic discussed as last year, was being sure that the players selected were playing off correct handicaps. Some Clubs were concerned that not everyone was putting in enough cards. There was a thought that teams captains should make sure that all players selected had put in 10 cards within the last 12 months. It was stated that this would not work for players coming back from long term illness or injuries

Whilst this did not become a law, it was left that team captains would make sure that players selected would all have put "enough" cards in to have a correct handicap

The Jamboree eventually took place at Poult Wood after the first attempt was cancelled because of rain. Whilst we did not win the scoring was very close with only a few points between the teams

All fixtures have been agreed for next year by Dave with us continuing to have our home games on a Wednesday with the 1st tee time of 12.00

Food costs next year have increased and so for coffee and biscuits on arrival followed by sandwiches and chips thereafter will cost £15 per person

Other dates for the diary next year, League Singles will take place on the 22nd September at West Kent, The Pairs on the 29th September at Cherry Lodge and the Group winners' competition on the 16th September venue TBA

Lastly, I would like to thank all of the players that have represented the Club last year and also those that helped me with the fixtures when I was away