# Seniors AGM 2022 Minutes

Minutes of the 54th Annual General Meeting held at Durham City Golf Club on Wednesday 23 November 2022.

## 1. Present

Messrs W.G. Dunn BEM (Chairman), I. Watson (Hon Secretary/Treasurer).

Council members; G. Golightly, P. Dewar and 39 others.

## 2. Apologies and Report of death

There have been no reported members deaths in 2022.

Apologies for non- attendance were received from D. Proud (County President), M. Kelly (County Secretary), M. Thorpe (Team captain) A. Hayes and R. Wilson (Council members) and 31 others.

## 3. Previous AGM

The minutes of the 2021 AGM were formally accepted.

## 4. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman formally stood down after 7 years of conscientious service and thanked the Council and the Secretary/Treasurer for their efforts in running the 2022 competitions. There had been an increase of membership and competition entrants in 2022

## 5. Secretary Report

The Secretary expressed thanks to Geoff Dunn the outgoing Chairman and acknowledged all of the work he has done for the County Seniors over many years.

2022 was the first-year electronic communication has been used totally to provide members with updates and has worked very well.

2022 was the also the year the electronic bank transfer system was introduced, 87% of membership and competition transactions were processed electronically making an efficient processing system.

Four members events were played in 2022 and thanks were expressed to Blackwell Grange, Garesfield, Castle Eden and Heworth Golf Clubs for hosting successful days. Special thanks to Castle Eden who following the deluge at the original event allowed it to be replayed in August. The Secretary thanked everyone who took part in the competitions and congratulated all of the winners.

2023 will see the County migrate from Intelligent Golf software to Golf Genius software which it is understood will bring many improvements including entering competitions and receiving updates using an app from a smartphone. The Secretary confirmed that an option to process entries in the traditional way will be retained so no members are excluded.

Tyneside, Hobson, Brancepeth Castle and Bishop Auckland Golf Clubs have kindly agreed to host the 2023 competitions. In line with all County competitions the competition fees for 2023 will be increased to £10.

Treasurer Report

2022 saw membership increase by 29% to 209 and competition entries increasing accordingly. The average field for 2022 competitions was 114. The increase of membership competition fees and sponsorship enabled an annual profit of £1246.91.

## 6. Captains Report

Can I start off by saying it’s been a great honour representing Durham County Seniors as Captain all though watching can be emotional, stressful and enjoyable all at the same time. Team selection this year has improved with a massive recruitment campaign at the beginning of the year, 22 players represented the team out of a total of squad of 42.

All this doesn’t happen without a great back-room team, a special thank you to Ian for organising the venues and watching the finances, to Geoff for the amazing support home and away, Geoff has great respect amongst the team and he will be sorely missed. Gilbert and Keith for their support at the matches and a shoulder to lean on when needed.

I would like to thank this year’s sponsors St James Place and Tim Price, who without their support we would have struggled.

Let’s celebrate on what has been an amazing year for Durham Seniors.

* Finishing 3rd in the Northern Counties League (same match points as Lancashire so joint second on match points beaten on game points) we had three wins two of those in away matches.
* 1st time beating Lancashire.
* Ian Hendry, winning both the David Marsh Trophy at Southport & Ainsdale and Aberdovey Seniors both very prestigious events held over two days.
* George Wraith, winning the Scottish Super Seniors Masters at Southerness, again a very prestigious event held over three days.
* Team player Anth Black, becoming our Durham Seniors County Champion, also finishing a very credible 5th in the Seniors Men's Champions of Champions at Woodhall Spa.
* Ian McEntee, coming a very credible 2nd in the Northern Counties Seniors Championship at Ponteland.
* Club Champions, Stuart Brown, Guy Webster and John Kirkpatrick beating the young uns (sorry if I've missed anyone)
* The Big Six, what could have been we were looking at finishing second at one point until the weather took over.

So, all in all what an amazing year, the aim is still to win that League Trophy and go on to play in the National Finals.

Hope you all have had an enjoyable and successful golfing year, Durham County Seniors section is amazing and it doesn’t go unrecognised what you all contribute throughout the year.

Hard copies of the Reports were available to all attendees and will be published on the DCGU website.

## 7. Election of Council Members

The Chairman stood down and Gilbert Golightly was elected as the new Chairman unopposed. Members had been notified of the nominees to the Council roles and were appointed unopposed.

## 8. Proposals

1. To amend Rule 2 Membership to reflect Durham County Golf Union R28(b) and eligibility for membership of the Durham County Seniors Ladies Golf Association:
2. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to any person over the age of 55 years, at the time of joining such person must be a playing member of a golf club affiliated to the Durham County Golf Union or be a member of a recognised Golf club in the former geographical area of County Durham, or have been born in the County, and not be a member of any other County Seniors Association.

Membership qualification may be extended at the discretion of the Council to former members who move to a club outside of County Durham that is affiliated to another County Golf Union and such persons as the association, on the recommendation of an annual general meeting, may elect to be honorary members. The total membership of the Association shall be restricted to a maximum of 300.

1. Competition Rules – to preface the name of each members competition with the word “Mens” e.g. “Mens Spring Meeting”

The proposals were unanimously accepted

## 9 Lunch

## 10 Presentation

The presentation of the main competition trophies and runners up was made by the Chairman Geoff Dunn. The Chairman also presented the prizes to the winners and runners up of the over 70’s categories. It was noted that it for the first time in many years the vast majority of prize winners turned up to receive their prizes.

## 11. Any other business

The new Chairmans Gilbert Golightly’s speech paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman Geoff Dunn who was presented with a signed framed Limited Edition print “St. Andrews - Old Tom Morris” by Bill Waugh.

The outgoing Chairman on presenting the Chain of Office to the newly elected chairman Gilbert Golightly, addressed the meeting and thanked the Council members for their support during the past seven plus years of him being chairman, thanked the members of the teams for their efforts and dedication and all of the members of the Durham Seniors for their support, he wished all success in the future

And thanked everyone for the fit of the picture which he much appreciated.

The new Chairman suggested a new competition Texas Scramble competition for March 2023 which was unanimously agreed to be introduced.

The meeting closed at 14.00 p.m.