



## NENE PARK GOLF CLUB

### MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD

WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT THE HOLIDAY INN, THORPE WOOD

Present: Chris Naylor (Chairman), Neil Crees (Treasurer), Gary Geddis (Captain) Colin Bagley (Secretary), plus 23 members

ITEM 1: Apologies: Action

Vivien Clarke, Iain Caville, Barbara Caville, Steve Watson, Mary Palmer, Graham Priest

ITEM 2: Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising:

Minutes were accepted: Proposed by Do Bagley: Seconded by Doreen Asher

ITEM 3: Treasurer's Report:

The full Treasurer's report is at the end of these minutes. The Treasurer confirmed that the funding position is still healthy and, notwithstanding some small variations in income/expenditure between the last two accounting periods, the Club is spending the surplus in ways that benefit members. He also commented on the success of the Opens and competition programme, all of which have broken even or made a small surplus.

ITEM 4: Chairman's Report:

A new directive was recently introduced by England Golf for Clubs that do not own their own course. The company that runs the course, in NPGC's case NGL, is the primary affiliated authority to England Golf. As a consequence, and in order to carry out this responsibility effectively NGL is purchasing a new upgraded software and hardware package which will include Club membership and associated fees. The package will also have an integrated booking system into Club competitions and thus replace the present BRS system.

With these changes come many benefits to the Club and members. They include:

- a brand new integrated website
- an integrated contactless membership card which will be used for range balls, signing into the course, and paying competition entry fees. This card can be topped up at the Range or on line
- real time emails and text if there are issues, (eg course closures)
- on line renewal membership form and payment
- direct debit payment of membership fees for 5 and 7 day season ticket holders
- a dedicated team to deal with membership issues at the Thorpe Wood Driving Range
- a permanent office for the Golf Club located in the men's changing room
- senior green fees age restrictions reduced from 65 to 55

The current membership fees of £30 Associate and £50 Full will be replaced with a single membership fee of £35. This increase has been introduced to cover increased Union and England Golf fees over the last few years.

The 5 and 7 Day Season tickets (now called Pass 5 and Pass 7) will remain the same price at £555 and £825 respectively.

Over the last few years additional funds have been used by the Club to improve the Thorpe Wood course with the Halfway House and ball washers. This year the same has been done at Orton by purchasing 18 new ball washers which are currently being installed and a 2-bay warm up net for which the ground work is currently underway ready for the installation.

Members requests have also been addressed and £50 has been awarded to each member of the ground staff at Thorpe and Orton in appreciation of their hard work.

Looking back at the 2014 accounts, which was the year after the merger, reveals the following information:

- membership – increased from 408 to 731, (a 79% increase)
- competitions – increased from 85 to 148 (a 74% increase)
- prizes – increased from £4274 to £16,473 (a 4 times increase)

The Chairman commented that these increases were due to the hard work by all members of both Committees, by Simon Fitton and his team at both courses and the support of Club members.

He concluded with one final request which was to propose two new honorary life members, Colin and Do Bagley. for the hard work they have put in over the years. This proposal was carried unanimously.

ITEM 5: Captain's Report

The Captain said it had been a privilege to be Club Captain this year and he had enjoyed the experience enormously. He also thanked members and both Committees for their support to himself and the Senior and Lady Captains during the year.

The Ladies Section has been thriving this year with increased participation in competitions and ladies joining from the Academy. However, their match enjoyment factor was much higher than their match results and the same comment applies to the seniors. The Men's Section was more successful losing only two of their matches. In the two Knockout competitions, the Orton team was beaten in the first round of both the Derek Burridge and the Jock Stewart whilst the Thorpe team was beaten in the semi-finals of both competitions. The Scratch team was successful winning all matches and being promoted to Division 1 of the Scratch League.

The captains are looking forward to another year of enjoyable, friendly matches but would appreciate more competition for places in their respective teams.

ITEM 6: Election of Officers:

There was only one nomination for the position of Chairman, that of Chris Naylor. He was, therefore, elected without the need for a vote.

There was one nomination for the position of Welfare Officer, David Smith. He was therefore elected to the post.

ITEM 7: Any Other Business:

- a. Handicapping: Roger Harris illustrated an occasion during the year when a senior member playing off a handicap of 32 and at one point leading the competition, discovered the handicap limit was 30. He queried why this limit was applied. The Chairman explained that England Golf have given Clubs the authority to set their own limits and the Club decided that in order to not disadvantage other competitors to the advantage of the higher handicapper, this limit was considered fair. After much discussion it was agreed to have the Golf Committee reassess the handicap limit in light of the above comment.
- b. Constitution: The Secretary advised the meeting that, as a consequence of the changes to the administration of the Club from the revised role of NGL, referred to in the Chairman's report, it was necessary to amend the Club Constitution. The changes had been circulated at the meeting in a draft amendment, the most significant being to para 2 as follows:

Club  
Captain

"Nene Golf Ltd (NGL) is the principal affiliation organisation controlling golfing activities on the Thorpe Wood and Orton Meadows courses. The Club is a non-executive partner of NGL".

Changes of paras 5, 7, 8, 10, 31 and 34 were a consequence of the change to para 2.

Proposed by David Asher, Seconded by Stephen Parker. The proposed changes to the Constitution were agreed. Carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBA

Colin Bagley  
Secretary  
January 2020

## **NENE PARK GOLF CLUB AGM TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **Accounts for the year to 31 December 2019**

The accounts show net contributions from the three sections (Men, Seniors and Ladies) plus other income (interest) which after general expenditure leaves a small members' deficit of £843 in the year.

With 731 members (almost identical to last year) the Club continues on a very sound financial footing. Such a strong membership enables it to invest funds to improve facilities for the benefit of all its members.

#### ***Income***

The accounts subscription categories have changed this year in that 'Associate' now means members paying discounted subscriptions (£30) plus NGL season ticket holders and 'Full' means those members paying the slightly higher subscription rate of £50. In last year's accounts 'Full' included NGL season ticket holders and those paying the higher rate. The relevant 2018 values in these accounts have been amended to provide accurate comparative figures. With the proposal to introduce a flat subscription rate of £35 from 1 April '20 the accounts categories are likely to change again next year.

#### **Subscriptions**

The number of 'joiners' was slightly lower than in 2018 but renewals were up meaning there was no overall change in the size of membership. Membership income was down slightly because more members paid the lower subscription rate. Subscription income received relating to the period after 31 December '19 has been treated as deferred income in the balance sheet (see note 13).

#### **Competition income**

There were 148 internal competitions in the year, up from 137 in the accounts last year. Entry fees totalled £15,633 which was 3.4% more than received in 2018. The Club has continued to find sponsors for the larger competitions and this initiative, as well as the hard work of captains and the competition secretaries, has seen the support and the popularity of Club competitions go from strength to strength. Last year's three Open competitions were well organised, attracted large fields and they were all self-funding.

#### **Matches**

The matches were run on a break-even basis. Only home matches have been included in these accounts in order to administer the discounted green fee charges made by Nene Golf.

#### **Expenditure**

##### **County/ England Golf affiliation fees**

County affiliation fees are one-off charges levied by CAGU NGU and England Golf on the basis of membership numbers. In 2019 the Club paid £13,164 in charges against £12,307 in 2018.

##### **Members' section expenditure**

Member section expenditure is shown in note 6 to the accounts. The expenditure pattern is similar to 2018.

##### **Other Club expenditure**

Other club expenditure is detailed in notes 7,8 and 9. General member expenditure was up £2,063 on 2018 because of the purchase of a warm-up net at Orton Meadows and an additional 20 ball cleaners for the course.

## Captains' Charities

£4,213 was raised on behalf of the members' charities during the year. A reconciliation of movement on the Charity Fund is as follows

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Seniors</b>	<b>Ladies</b>	<b>Men</b>
B/fwd 1 Jan '19	3,090	423	1,179	1,488
Raised in '19	4,213	1,084	2,327	802
Donations	-4,623	-1,205	-1,179	-2,239
C/fwd 31 Dec'19	<b>2,680</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>2,327</b>	<b>52</b>

The following donations were made on behalf of the Club

£1,630 Teenage Cancer Trust (Men)

£609 Salvation Army (Men)

£1,205 Sue Ryder Care (Seniors)

£1,179 MacMillan Cancer (Ladies)

## ***Balance Sheet***

At 31 December 2019 the Members' Fund stood at £22,304 compared with £23,147 last year. The Captains' Fund (money collected on behalf of charities) totalled £2,680.

Neil Crees

**3 January 2020**