



Argyll and Bute
Golf Union

Scottish Golf Union

Patron Her Majesty the Queen
Argyll & Bute Golf Union

Minutes of AGM

Sunday 22nd November 2015 at 11:00
In the Inveraray Inn - Inveraray

The meeting convened at 11:00 at the Argyll Hotel Inveraray, with President Gordon Chalmers in the chair.

Present:- President G. Chalmers, G. Morrison, M. Sim, J. Weir, G. Bolton, C. McKirdy, S. Ellis, I. Shaw, J McKinlay & T. Mundie

Apologies:- C. McKechnie,

Minutes:- The minutes of the last AGM were read and approved:
Proposed by G. Morrison, and Seconded by M. Sim.

Matters arising:- None.

President's report:-

As always my thanks go to my fellow executive members who have seen us continue to support golf in throughout our area. I have completed another year without actually attending any of the tournaments ABGU has organised, which I assume sets some sort of record but also reflects very positively on you, my colleagues and your commitment to sustain the game. In January Graham, Ian and I attended the SGU agm, where we witnessed a very well organised program of seminars and workshops. The upshot was that the inevitable amalgamation of SGU and SLGA was brought closer to fruition, albeit with a number of question marks still hanging in the air. I'll enlarge on the outcomes in my report as ABGU delegate later.

It should go without saying that the challenges facing our game remain the same as before, with competing priorities and demands for the time of past, present and future players. In Argyll and Bute we face special problems as we all know, and we will have to examine the strengths and weaknesses of, and opportunities and threats to our game related to our population and geography. In my report as your rep to SGU I'll expand on this, but for the moment I extend my grateful thanks to all of you on this executive for your help during the period of my presidency.



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Secretary's Report :-

The beginning of the year was dominated by the SGU AGM and the prolonged discussion regarding amalgamation with the SLGA. Thank fully all now agreed and the legal process is in full swing to form the one body to drive forward Scottish Golf.

The season started in April or did not start with the Scottish Champion of Champions event at Leven. With Robert MacIntyre of Glencruitten still over the pond, our sole entrant David Graham withdrew at the 11th hour. Disappointed that the Area again was not represented.

Our Area events opened with the Matchplay Championship at Machrihanish. The event took place in the norm for the time of year with cold, damp and windy conditions on the Saturday dominating the weekend.

The semi – finalists were in one half the two favourites Craig Pirie & Gred Watson. The other semi featured veterans George Reynolds and Graham Bolton. With both matches played in ever changing conditions from wind and rain to glorious sunshine. Messrs Bolton & Watson emerged by 3&2 victors in both semis. In conditions which were blustery and cold. Bolton defeated Watson by 3&2 in a scrappy final, with Bolton playing a bit steadier than Watson, to achieve a surprising victory, some five years after his last triumph in the event.

May saw Perth & Kinross host the Scottish Area Team Championships at the Lansdowne and Rosemount championship courses in the town of Blairgowrie. The Argyll & Bute team of George Reynolds, Bobby Willan, David Graham, Steven Gilmour, Graham Bolton & Craig Pirie disappointed and brought the rear with a dismal performance. Our leading scorer was Craig Pirie with 69 + 77 = 146. Of the others only Bolton & Reynolds achieved a modicum of respectability.

On the 30th May the A&B Spring Meeting took place at Glencruitten Golf Club. A field of 68 assembled with the winners as follows:

- 1st: Fraser MacKinnon (Tobermory GC).
- 2nd: Aidan McCuish (Glencruitten GC).
- 3rd: Willie MacAdam (Glencruitten GC).
- 4th: Steven McCuish (Glencruitten GC).
- 5th: D M MacLean (Glencruitten GC).
- 6th: Martin Rae (Glencruitten GC).

Winners Scratch Category:

- 1st: Robert MacIntyre.
- 2nd: Alastair MacVicar.
- 3rd: Kevin MacKie (All Glencruitten GC)



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Early June saw Tulliallan the venue for the Boys' Area Team Championship. The Argyll and Bute team of Chris Richmond, Bobby Willan, Scott McAlister and Andrew Wallace again finished in 13th place as per 2014. Many thanks to Ian Shaw and David Wallace for accompanying them.

Late in June the Handicap Championship was held at Cowal with 73 entrants. Despite a dry day overhead the course was pretty wet. The winners were as follows

- 1 Jackson, Gary
 - 2 Collins, Paul
 - 3 Weir, David
 - 4 Cooper, David
 - 5 McEwan, Ross
 - 6 Collins, Charlie
 - 7 Doherty, Denis
 - 8 Goffin, Ian
- Lowest Gross Score

Taynuilt hosted the Boys Championship in July with a first time winner in Steven Murphy, Alistair Shaw from Port Bannatyne won the under 16's. Congratulations to all who bothered to play as the field was only 14 players. An alarming statistic.

The winners were as follows:

Argyll & Bute Boys Champion 2015: Steven Murphy (Glencruitten GC)

Runner Up: Aiden MacCuish (Glencruitten GC)

3rd: Lewis Poole (Rothesay GC)

4th: Rhuaridh Brown (Lochgilphead GC)

Handicap Winner: John A Murray.



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Runner Up: Josh Cowan (Both Rothesay GC)

Under 16 Winner: Alastair Shaw (Port Bannatyne GC)

The highlight of the golfing year was undoubtedly Robert McIntyre's win in the Scottish Amateur championship at the end of July. His win in the final against Daniel Young was an astonishing comeback after being well down after 18. However Bob is made of stern stuff and closed the game out on the 36th hole. It was good to see a large contingent from Oban supporting Bob , with Calum McKirdy representing the Area at the final day. Bob has had another tremendous season winning over in USA during the autumn. He represented Scotland in the Home Internationals performing well. However I hear he has given up his scholarship and heading home.

August saw a return to Machrihanish Dunes for the Area Strokeplay Championship. The weather conditions were cool and breezy with scoring again fairly poor especially in the morning. However with the wind in the afternoon easing Craig Pirie from Millport shot the round of the day 69 to win comfortably from Gordon Tyre. In doing so Craig emulated his father Les who won at Rothesay several years ago. Andrew Wallace won the youths title , with Millport securing the Area berth at the Scottish club championship to be held at Fortrose and Rosemarkie. A big thank you from myself and from the players to Murray and Terry for stepping up to the plate and putting a long shift in.

Prizewinners

Overall

1	Pirie, Craig Millport	75	69	144
2	Tyre, Gordon Blairmore and Strone	75	72	147
3	Bolton, Graham H Bute	73	78	151
4	Fagervold, A Glencruitten	81	73	154
5	MacMillan, George Machrihanish	81	74	155
6	Pirie, Les Millport	78	77	155

September saw the Glasgow Youths' Championship at Ralston with the area represented by Sean Dunstaffnage, Steven Murphy and Scott McAlister giving a reasonable account of themselves. Many thanks to Ian Shaw for officiating on the day.

Secretary: Graham Bolton, 17 Mount Pleasant Road, Rothesay, Bute, PA20 9HQ T 0772 062 7397
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The Argyll & Bute seniors team finished 3rd in the Scottish Seniors ATC at Montrose. Blairmore's Gordon Tyre and Rothesay's George Reynolds our top performers with solid rounds of 72.

The last two months have seen little or nothing happen on the area front. Ian Shaw has got the area coaching programme for the winter up and running. I have been sounding out venues for the coming season and pleased to announce that both Machrihanish clubs will continue to support our main events in the next few years.

The SGU AGM for 2016 will likely be held in March , we wait official confirmation.

Finally I would like to thank our member clubs, without their help we would have no venues for our area events, and a special thanks to you the area executive for officiating throughout the season ensuring our events run like clockwork.

Graham Bolton (Area Secretary)

TEAM MANAGERS REPORT :-

May saw Perth & Kinross host the Scottish Area Team Championships at the Lansdowne and Rosemount championship courses in the town of Blairgowrie. The Argyll & Bute team of George Reynolds , Bobby Willan, David Graham, Steven Gilmour, Graham Bolton & Craig Pirie disappointed and brought the rear with a dismal performance. Our leading scorer was Craig Pirie with 69 + 77 = 146. Of the others only Bolton & Reynolds achieved a modicum of respectability

COACHING REPORT :-

The coaching program for this winter has been launched along similar lines to previous years. A talent ID day took place a fortnight ago with the following boys offered area coaching.

A.Wyatt (KOB)
A.Shaw (Port Bannatyne)
H.Palmer (Machrihanish)
S.Mcalister (Rothesay)
J.Reynolds (Rothesay)
N.Gallagher(Millport)
J.Barrett (Millport)

Henry Palmer will continue his coaching under Ken Campbell at Machrihanish during the coming winter.

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Treasurers Report:-

The accounts from the union showed a small deficit of £128 , this was slightly less than £600 budgeted for. There are a one or two of reasons to explain the reduction in loss. There were no real changes in income/costs in 2015 compared to 2014 , but the following are worth discussion.

Expenses

- 1) We have continued to invest heavily in our junior coaching and will do so again in the coming year
- 2) Team costs have increased slightly with the area now supporting the SSGS area team championship. The area team championships costs despite an annual £ 500 grant are high for likely a one day event.
- 3) Team clothing was at a similar level, with all officials now issued with the new branding.
- 4) The major decrease in expense this year is player support costs, which can be mainly attributed to Robert MacIntyre now in the ranks of the seniors. It was highlighted in last year's report that costs in this area would be much smaller.

In come

- 1) Subscriptions have fallen slightly with a small reduction in subscriptions received.
- 2) We continue to receive grants from the SGU for coaching and the Area Team Championships.
- 3) We have been very lucky to receive sponsorship income; £500 from Philip Johnston (£250 set aside for Bob MacIntyre) and £150 from Martin Taylor of East Kilbride Electrical Services.

Balance Sheet

The balance sheet is still very healthy with £13902.55 in the bank accounts and creditors consisting of outstanding vouchers still to be honoured of £1160 and other expenses totalling £375.00 including audit fee. We are still in a pretty financially secure state, and I'm convinced that next year's expenses will be pretty similar to this year. Bearing that in mind , I propose that a per capita charge of £3.00 be levied to male members within the Area next year.

I am confident that all income & expenses have been accounted for and that these accounts reflect a true and fair view of the County's affairs at 30th September 2015 with our reserves sitting at £12822

Graham Bolton
Area Treasurer

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ARGYLL & BUTE AREA - SCOTTISH GOLF UNION

UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2015



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ARGYLL & BUTE AREA - SCOTTISH GOLF UNION

Chartered Accountants' Report to the Members on the Unaudited Accounts of the Argyll & Bute Area - Scottish Golf Union

In accordance with our engagement letter, we have prepared for your approval the accounts of Argyll & Bute Area - Scottish Golf Union for the year, set out on pages 1 to 2 from the entity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given to us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://www.icas.org.uk/accountspreparationguidance>.

This report is made solely to you, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of Argyll & Bute Area - Scottish Golf Union and state those matters that we have agreed to state to you in this report in accordance with the requirements of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland as detailed at <http://www.icas.org.uk/accountspreparationguidance>. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than you, for our work or for this report.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the accounts.

Wylie & Bisset LLP
Accountants

Date:

168 Bath Street
Glasgow
G2 4TP



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ARGYLL & BUTE AREA - SCOTTISH GOLF UNION

Statement of Income and Expenditure For the year ended 30th September 2015

	2015		2014	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Income:</u>				
Subscriptions		9,132		9,183
ATC expenses refund		241		-
Championship entry fees		2,284		2,332
SGU grants:				
Team championships		500		500
Coaching grant		1,250		1,250
Sponsorship		650		625
Bank interest (net)		6		6
Fund Raising Ball raffle		20		-
		<u>14,083</u>		<u>13,896</u>
<u>Expenditure:</u>				
Championship costs	4,475		4,872	
Team championships	2,190		1,941	
Area Player Support	750		1,790	
Teams clothing and ties	791		898	
Meeting expenses	960		823	
Accountancy fee	343		306	
Secretarial expenses:				
Postage & stationery	50		121	
Honorarium	1,320		1,320	
Coaching	2,570		2,465	
SGU- AGM attendance	200		-	
Software	259		212	
Insurance	205		190	
Sundries	-		-	
Bank charges	98		93	
		<u>14,211</u>		<u>15,031</u>
Deficit for the year		<u>(128)</u>		<u>(1,135)</u>



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ARGYLL & BUTE AREA - SCOTTISH GOLF UNION

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2015

	2015		2014	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Fixed Assets</u>				
Investment		<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>
		1		1
<u>Current Assets:</u>				
Stocks	310		369	
Bank	13,902		14,720	
Debtors	<u>144</u>		<u>-</u>	
	14,356		15,089	
<u>Current Liabilities:</u>				
Accruals	<u>(1,535)</u>		<u>(2,140)</u>	
	12,821		12,949	
	<u>12,822</u>		<u>12,950</u>	
<u>Represented by:</u>				
Funds held as at 1 October 2014		12,950		14,085
Deficit for the year		(128)		(1,135)
		<u>12,822</u>		<u>12,950</u>

In accordance with the engagement letter, we approve the accounts set out on pages 1 to 2. We acknowledge our responsibility for the accounts and for providing Wylie & Bisset LLP with all the information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

Signature:

Name: Graham Bolton (Treasurer)

Date:



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SGU Rep's Report :-

As you all now know, wef 1/10/15, SGU ceased to exist and the amalgamation of SGU/SLGA gave rise to Scottish Golf Limited. Graham and I oversaw the transfer of our share in SGU to the new body.

To summarise the position the new Scottish Golf Limited will manage the amateur game in Scotland. We are no longer Ladies and Gents, we are all Players. It is hoped that over time for the management of the amateur game the 16 Gents areas and the 15 Ladies counties will grow closer to develop an understanding of how to develop and improve participation in each geographical area. Quite how that will arise is less clear, it is not easy to see how it will happen organically as each pre-existing body will continue as before to organise competitions which are demarcated by gender. Handicapping will continue to be differentiated by gender as well, and it wouldn't be unreasonable to assume that little will change in the short term except major sponsors will be more comfortable sponsoring our events, in turn helping the new National body in its efforts to develop the game.

I recently attended the very last meeting of SGU Council, and saw amongst other things a presentation on a proposed worldwide handicapping system, which is being kept under wraps at the moment, but which it is hoped will be rolled out over the next 7 years. I can't go into greater detail here, but suffice to say, I don't see the Americans coming on board with this. Anyhow I wish the architects the very best of British with that one. CONGU is already ahead of the curve in making the game accessible to people who can't commit the time to maintain an 18 hole handicap, and working to make it moreso.

In terms of the internal workings of the new SGL, the Areas will have 10 votes apiece, the Counties likewise, totalling 310 votes, and the 600+ clubs and eligible societies 1 vote each. As always the organisation will be run by consensus where possible, but I would imagine a proactive Area would enlist proxy votes to ensure the clubs didn't act as a "dead hand" through lack of interest or involvement in governance matters.

More importantly for our own union, I have had to make strong representation to the steering group who are working on the detail, that the regional forums which will feed into the governance of our game do not marginalise us any further than our geography already does. The initial proposal was that all the areas would be grouped into 5 regional forums, with roughly equivalent numbers of member clubs. We got lumped in with Ayrshire and South. I have successfully negotiated that we should be able to choose who our rep sits with. This could change to suit the travel requirements of our rep, whoever that is.

Nothing however is finalised, and it will be up to our representative to make sure that we maintain a voice wherever we can raise it.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to broaden my understanding of the game's governance by choosing me as your rep. I would be happy to accept the opportunity to continue in the new organisation.

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ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:-

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
President(1 year)	Gordon Chalmers	I Shaw	J Weir
Vice President	Iain Shaw	G Bolton	C McKirdy
Secretary	Graham Bolton	G Chalmers	J.McKinlay
Treasurer	Graham Bolton	G Chalmers	J.McKinlay
Exec Members	Calum McKirdy	M Sim	G Bolton
	Steve Ellis	G Chalmers	M Sim
	Murray Sim	G Morrison	G Chalmers
	John McKinlay	G Bolton	C McKirdy
	George Morrison	G Chalmers	M Sim
	John Weir	G Bolton	M Sim
	Terry Mundie	J.McKinlay	M Sim

A.O.C.B. None

The AGM was closed at 11.45

Graham Bolton (Area Secretary)