



Kilsyth Lennox Golf Club Minutes of 59th AGM

Held on Thursday 1st December 2022

51 members attended

Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2021 were circulated on the night. The various reports for 2022 including the accounts and the accountants report were also made available.

The meeting was chaired by Dave Stewart Club President

Apologies

Michael Waters Jnr Mark eastwood Alan Stevenson David Coyle

As Alan Stevenson the secretary was an apology David Arnott (DA) took the minutes

The chair asked that questions relevant to the reports be asked following the delivery of that particular report. In fact, most questions were asked under AOCB

Report on the Clubs Accounts

The chair introduced David Holt of Consillium. This would be the 11th time that he had delivered the report on the Annual Financial statement. His full report can be found <https://www.kilsythlennox.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Financial-Summary-by-Accountants.pdf> (password if prompted Tamtain)

He highlighted

Revenue down by over 24k
Government Covid grants down by over 34k
Green fees down by approx. 9k
Catering a loss of almost 6k

Costs overall up by approx. 25k

The clubs cash position has gone from approx. plus 30k to minus approx. 10.5k over the course of the year

Mr Holt reported that this position was not sustainable and he said that the club needed to implement as many of the following as possible viz: - an increase in members, a rise in subscriptions, an increase in visitor's green fees, an increased utilisation of the clubhouse facilities

Re-Election of Auditors

R Fleming (RF) proposed that Consillium be re-elected for the 2023 year. This was seconded by Ian Currie(IC)

Minutes of the 58th Annual General meeting held on ** December 2021**

Acceptance Proposed by Alan Brown (AB) Seconded by Stevie Freil. There were no objections

Matters arising from these Minutes – None

Election of Office Bearers and General Committee

DA read out the names of those that had been seconded and proposed as Office Bearers and Members of the General Committee as follows

Election of Office Bearers

The following have been proposed and seconded

President David Napier (DN) Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

Captain Michael Fitzsimmons (MF) Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

Vice-Captain Colin McKay (CMcK) Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

Treasurer Robert Fleming (RF) Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

Secretary Alan Stevenson (AS) Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

These individuals having been nominated and seconded as per the due date and there being no objections are elected to serve for the 2023 season

DN, RF, MF, CMCK, & AS – above are due to be re-elected as members of the General Committee (GC) and DA proposed that their election as Office Bearers would simultaneously serve to elect them to the GC – this was agreed and passed by the meeting

Not requiring re-election. R Blackwood (till 2024) A Brown (till 2024)) T Winters (till 2024) S Freil (till 2023) D Arnott(till 2023) D Coyle (till 2023) 6 in number.

Election of Members of the General Committee - 4 vacancies (excluding the 5 Office Bearers as above and those not requiring re-election at this time) (existing committee member John McCann is not standing for re-election)

The following have been nominated proposed and seconded for the General Committee

D Stewart Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

M Eastwood Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

M Waters jnr Proposed D Stewart Seconded D Arnott

There were no other nominations submitted by the due date and there were no objections so they are duly elected

This leaves 1 vacancy – still to be filled – there were no nominations from the floor.

Reports

President's Remarks

Presidents Report 2022

After my 2 years as Captain, I started my Presidents Year with renewed optimism.

Our membership increased and hopefully this will remain the same in 2023.

I would like to thank all our members, executive and committee for their support this year.

My thanks go to all our club staff, Andy Green, Billy Mathieson, Carol Haddow and Victoria Omand for their continued hard work making sure the club runs as smoothly as possible.

Our Match and Handicap team have had a busy year well done to David Coyle, Steven Friel David Arnott and Andy Green.

I wish to congratulate our Club Champion Matt Eastwood also our Trophy and Medal Winners.

Our Juniors are going from Strength to Strength under Robert Blackwood who does an excellent job coaching and mentoring the Juniors.

Captain Lorna Longmuir leads our Ladies Section and I would thank them for their commitment to our club. Congratulations to April Carstairs on becoming Ladies Champion. I wish them all a successful 2023.

Our green staff have once again worked wonders, considering the trying weather conditions that have prevailed in 2022.

Brian, John, and Drew with assistance from Stuart and Danny Burns have done an excellent job keeping the course in immaculate condition. Our Divot Fairies have continued playing their part, making the course look its best and David Wilson providing a touch of colour around the Clubhouse.

We all wish Rab Stewart a speedy recovery because we all know he will be frustrated sitting on the side lines

The discussions with the Prison Service are ongoing and hopefully will provide an additional person to assist Brian Hill.

I would like to thank John McCann for his support during 2022 and all the years he has served on the Committee.

I would like to wish New Captain Michael Fitzsimmons a successful and enjoyable 2023.

I would like to personally thank Captain David Napier for his support during the year and wish him every success in 2023 as President.

I would ask you to remember members and friends who have sadly passed away since our last AGM in a minute's silence.

Please have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Dave Stewart President 2022

Captains Report 2022

Hi all

It has been a pleasure being your captain for a 2nd time and I would like thank my fellow members and the committee for their support throughout the year.

With special thanks to Stuart Mathieson and Fitzzy for their help setting up Captains Day events.

My year started with the charity football match at the home of Kilsyth Rangers.

Thanks to Derek Finnie for all his help on making it happen. It was well attended and thanks to all that took part young and old. It was a close game with the Davie Cooper team winning on penalties. We raised £500 on the day - not bad for a kickabout.

Captains' day started on the Friday with a big boomer's competition and nearest the pin. It was good to see all the big hitters giving it their all with Eoin Brown winning both long drive and nearest the pin competitions The over 50 was won by Stuart Mathieson with a lucky strike out the heel.

Captains' day was a World Cup heroes theme proposed by the young team due to it being a World Cup year. It was a great turnout with everyone getting involved and some of the outfits were outstanding with attention to detail being out of this world.

The weather was great and thanks to Brian and the greens staff for setting up the course as I requested. The golf challenges were well received and enjoyed by all who took part.

Thanks to all who sponsored a hole - your donations were very appreciated.

On the day we had a bar at the halfway house with a barbecue. Thanks to my wife Angie, Anne Mathieson and my daughter Cary for their help keeping everyone fed and watered

We had a disco/ raffle draw and prize giving on the night and plenty of merry golfers/footballers stayed on to enjoy the night.

I would like to thank all who donated raffle prizes and bought raffle books. The overall winners of the Captains challenges were the Connor Smith 4-man team.

We raised £2500 for Strathcarron Hospice on the day with a grand total of £3000 in all. A very worthwhile charity. They were overwhelmed with the generosity of members of KLGCC.

I refereed the 2nd 18 holes of the Club Championship which Matt Eastwood won narrowly beating Paul McKeown in a well contested game with some excellent golf played by both finalists. Well, done to at the finalists on the day.

The presentation was held on the night. Nothing was arranged but the young team stayed and made it a very memorable night.

Thanks to David Coyle MH convener for his help on the night with the presentation of prizes and his team for their assistance and hard work throughout the year.

I would like to wish Fitzy all the best for his year as Captain and thank David Stewart for all his work as president this year and Andy green for all his assistance behind the scenes.

Bar Working group report

David Napier explained the thinking behind setting up the bar working group. The purpose was to reflect and provide more accurately for the members bar and catering wishes.

Regular meetings were held throughout the season and progress was minuted in a running report the latest of which is copied in below

More detail was given under AOCB

Bar and house working group sub- committee

**MEMBERS D. Napier M.
Fitzsimmons
T. Winters C. McKay M. Waters M.
Eastwood D. Stewart S .Friel.**

Action Points for year 2022

Ref	Action	Owner	Due by
1	Additional licensee's for the bar	DN	PLH test completed by DN/MF/TW
2	New licensee		TW
3	Shift organizer	MF/AN	Angela Napier has taken over the shift rota and I running well

4	Price comparisons to other pubs and clubs	MF	Prices have been checked and kept a low as possible for members using there card with a mark up for non-members.
5	Stock options that will provide a wider variety for all	DN/SF	We have listened to members and guest and have updated our stock giving a greater variety of brands of drinks.
6	Upgrade of beer lines and beers	DN/TW	We got new beer lines and cellar fit out at the beginning of the year and introduced a premier lager and mixed fruit cider.
7	Upgrade or servicing of fridges glass washer	DN/MF	We have agreed to upgrade the fridges and glass washer before the end of the year this is a rental deal with full cover for servicing and

			repair. With it being paid off in 3 years.
8	Provide better glasses for specific types of drinks	DN	Tennent's supplied new glasses for the lagers and cider and this has added to a better quality pint.
9	Staff training both bar/cellar and front of house	MF	This is still ongoing but an overall improvement has been noticed by both members and guests
10	Uniforms and dress code	AG	The staff have been provided with uniforms and are required to were them when on behind the bar.
11	Confirm staff numbers	MF	Staff confirmed but we are actively looking to advertise for further staff to cover shifts.

2	Bar opening hours winter/summer	All	The bar over the summer were 12pm to 10pm weekdays 11am until 12 Saturday 12pm until 11pm Sunday. These hours will be changed for next year but is up for further discussion. Winter hours are 12 to 12 on a Saturday and 12 10pm on a Sunday. If the clubhouse isn't getting used these hours can be altered to close earlier.
13	Lounge face lift and update	All	Some early discussion and some good ideas with 3 budgets set for different levels of improvements. Finance options to be discussed if we are to go ahead.
14	Floor covering options/cost and finance	all	Measured up with as above 3 options of what we are suggesting to be done. Further discussion required.
15	Re-cover of seating to match the bar	MF	Looking at prices nothing decided as above 2 options re cover old

			seats or buy new to match the bar.
16	Refitting works behind the bar		Some small improvements and maintenance required.
17	Setting out options for functions	TW	We have set the hall out for different functions and has worked well.
18	Bar finance agreement	DN	We are well on our way to paying this off due to the increased sales of Tennent's products. Final amount TBC AG.

19	Catering options for 2023 season	all	Up for discussion at AGM. The BWG worked hard to provide a high quality reasonably priced menu kitchen service for members and guest. We had a few challenges throughout the season but tried to work these issues out and for the most part we felt we were getting most things right. Staff issues were our biggest problem which came to head, and we had to terminate Pauls contact due to his attendance and reliability.
20	Requirements for functions visiting parties and team matches		Any functions book has been contacted and will provide their own food if required.
21	Functions and social events		TW has a social report prepared for the AGM.

Social Report

This was given verbally by T Winters. There were a number of private functions and several members functions. The first members function was a disco which although relatively well attended, there were only 16 members there. Captains' Day and the Presentation Night were successful – the Hogmanay Hoot is still to come

Match & handicap

The year started, as any other, with producing a viable Fixture List, not as easy as it seems,

Once the season was up and running everything ran as smoothly as it could, thanks to the input of Andy Green and David Arnott (sorting systems issues whenever they were called upon)

Congratulations to all our winners, especially to Matt Eastwood, who became our Club Champion beating Paul McKeown on Finals Day.

The standard of the course we were playing on was good, and huge thanks must go to the greens staff and volunteers. They done well all year, reports were favourable, especially those received from our Open Visitors.

Thanks also are due to Billy and Carol in the shop for keeping all our members right with their playing handicap for each competition, and coping with the many changes to the systems that we threw at them during the year. They deserve much praise for their efforts on busy competition days.

In the early New Year, the club will be moving away from Club VI for both the membership system and the booking system to a New Zealand system called DotGolf. This is being promoted by Scottish Golf. It looks good and the big advantage is that it is free (the cost is included in the Scottish Golf levy). This will result in a saving of approx. 4k for the Club. Further details will be provided as they become available

House Report 2022

Container with buggies/Ride on Buggies cleared and tidied up,
New keys issued to members using container, push trollies removed from Gents locker room. Halfway house clock repaired and working Main clock on Clubhouse requires to be reset. Require better weather to access roof.

Carpets cleaned in bar, top hall and Gents locker room.

External lighting around ground floor upgraded and a floodlight added to Tank House corner.

Boiler gas certificates renewed Manhole cover to Septic Tank re-set and Septic Tank emptied.

An initial approach has been made to Business Energy Scotland. The Committee are looking at Greener options to reduce our Energy costs.

House convenor
John McCann 2022

Marketing report

- This year's marketing strategy has been mainly the targeting of mid-week memberships, with promotions running at the beginning of the season and throughout the summer. The reasoning behind this is that these tee times are the most readily available on the booking system, so therefore the most desirable to fill and hopefully attract full membership. Winter golf for non-members will again be marketed on various social media sites through-out Scotland to promote our use of normal greens to attract custom in the lean months for visitors. We are fully aware that due to the on-going cost of living crisis we will have to be creative and nimble in the promotion of the club to attract and hopefully retain a healthy membership.
- Post Covid the availability of the clubhouse for function hire has been marketed on social media to good effect.
- The Catering function at the club was fully supported by the marketing committee with advertising, signage and menus.
- The advert for the vacant Greenkeeping position earlier in the year was drawn up and circulated on various Scottish social media accounts.
- Various social events including 70s/80s Disco, Captain's Day, Charity Football Match, Long Drive Competition, Captain's Dance, Presentation Night and the

upcoming Hogmanay New Year Party have all been advertised successfully on our social media outlets.

- Following on from last year's successful midweek Europa League nights, these were again run and advertised in 2022.
- Promotion of 50/50 draw has been renewed but with limited success.

2022 Treasurers Report

After the previous 2 years of financial chaos inflicted by COVID it was hoped that last year would bring a period of stability. As everyone is no doubt aware that hope imploded in late February with the invasion of Ukraine. The subsequent impact of this war on operating costs, particularly energy, fuel and chemical products has been astronomical. This effect in tandem with constant political upheaval at a UK level, underperformance of the Bar and issues with the Catering service have meant that despite membership levels and revenue remaining positive throughout the year the Clubs financial position has been severely impacted in the second half of the year resulting in a year-end operating loss.

The result of the above summary will mean the financial focus for 2022-23 will yet again be to stabilise the Clubs position and consolidate membership levels whilst controlling all expenditure as much as possible in the current climate.

Some significant points to note;

- Total membership up by 4 over the year.
- A number of course enhancements funded via 50/50 draw and member donations. Replacement putting green pins, new tee signage & permanent markers, new ball washers and divot boxes. Many thanks to all that contribute.
- Electricity and gas prices up 119%
- Biomass (wood) pellets up 80%
- Machinery repairs up 50%
- Fuel and LPG up over 30%
- Wages, cleaning and rates also significantly up.
- Visitor & Guest income £2k under forecast.

I would like to thank the membership for the continued financial support shown throughout another turbulent year which will hopefully continue into the new season.

As stated above the financial focus for next year will remain to make sure we spend within tight control while investing where possible in our biggest asset the course.

2022 Subscription Proposal

In 2020 fees were reduced by 1% and in 2021 the 2.25% increase was half the inflation rate representing a net reduction unfortunately for 2022-23 there will need to be a marked increase to keep pace with escalating expenses.

The proposed fee rates below will reflect an overall 10% increase in total membership revenue. With inflation currently being over 10% and widely predicted at being around 10-12% next year this represents a prudent level of increase in the current climate.

The proposed fee structure for next year will be;

Category	Monthly	Monthly DD	Single	Change	%
Gents/Ladies Ordinary	£750	£62.50	£730	£65	9.5%
Gents Weekday	£535	£44.58	£520	£50	10.3%
Gents Senior	£505	£42.08	£490	£50	11.0%
Ladies Senior	£405	£33.75	£390	£35	9.5%
Ladies Country	£455	£37.92	£440	£40	9.6%
Armed Forces	£535	£44.58	£520	£50	10.3%
Boys/Girls Junior (up to 16 years)	n/a	£0.00	£20	£0	0%
Boys/Girls Youth (16-18 years)	£195	£14.59	£185	£20	11.4%
Boys/Girls Youth (18-21 years)	£265	£19.59	£255	£20	8.5%
Boys/Girls Youth (21-25 years)	£385	£29.18	£375	£35	10.0%
Pay as You Play (Individual)	n/a	n/a	£140	£15	12.0%
Pay as You Play (Corporate)	n/a	n/a	£165	£15	10.0%
Country Members	n/a	n/a	£75	£10	15.4%
Sabbatical	n/a	n/a	£220	£21	10.6%
Honorary Members	n/a	n/a	£0	£0	0%

As introduced in 2019 there will again be a discounted rate for members who pay by a single payment before the end of February 2023.

The above represents funding to maintain all course and club operations together with a baseline level of bar provision as below but no catering at present;

Winter (01/10-31/03)

Saturday & Sunday (only) 12:00-22:00

Summer (01/04-30/09)

Monday to Friday 18:00-22:00

Saturday & Sunday 12:00-22:00

Above excludes any function bookings.

No additional levy is being proposed by Finance and all members will receive a flat 10% discount on all liquid sales at the bar from 01/01/23.

All outstanding bar levy credits (from 2021) will be reclaimed from 01/01/23 if not used beforehand.

There will be no additional Operational surcharge for 2022.

Approval is sought for the above proposal.

The 2022 Subscription proposal was proposed by Alan Brown and seconded by David Wren. There were no objections and the motion was carried.

RF indicated that he would take any Greens specific questions as well as those relating to Finance as noted below

AOCB

NOTE: AOCB Included questions on Finance and Greens (as mentioned above) – and catering at the end. These minutes are in draft form until approved at a General meeting. This version has been amended following some points raised by a member.

AOCB immediately followed on the Treasurers report where the increase in subs of approx. 10% had been voted through. The 10% included a very basic bar opening schedule and no scope for any catering service at that level

In the treasurer (Robert Fleming – RF) said that he would take questions on Greens as well as Finance as part of his remit

David Wren (DW) asked for confirmation that the 2023 subs covered any salary increases. RF confirmed that it did

John Cooper (JC) followed with a number of matters

JC queried if the increase of 10% was enough. JC stated that maybe the Club could do with an additional Greenkeeper in view of for example 'the state of the greens' and their 'speed'

Hugh Nelson (HN) supported this. He said that for example with no watering system for the Greens one green keeper was tied up with the bowser in watering duties leaving only 2 for 'business as usual'

JC asked how much a watering system would cost – answer from the meeting upwards of 200k

JC asked how much would an additional greenkeeper cost – RF replied that with oncosts such as pensions and NI it would be around 30k per annum which was not affordable

Craig Wilson (CW) asked for an update re help from HMP. Dave Stewart (DS) advised that the process had stalled. Apparently, there was one only prisoner at Hayston in the kitchens.

JC and HN both then asked about leasing and machinery repairs costs – indicating that they were very high. A general discussion then took place and they suggested that leasing (contract hire) might be a better option than the current situation. Alan Brown (AB) stated that the leasing/ contract hire options meant a commitment for 3, 5 or even 7 years and he advised against it at the present time. AB posed the question 'what would happen if we lost

30 members'. Craig Wilson (CW) supported a review of the machinery situation not only with regard to costings but also with regard to the downtime involved and the disruption to the maintenance schedules

RF stated that he would supply HN with the relevant information for machine leasing and repair costings

D Arnott (DA) said that there had been a full discussion re machinery at various committee meeting and he suggested that starting in January with the General Committee's permission he would put the GC minutes on the website.

HN the raised the question of bar hours and whether if bar staff were being employed simply to lock up a door entry system or a contract with a security company to check and lock up on weekdays might be a better option.

David Napier (DN) said that he wanted a physical staff presence

HN suggested that the first direct debit be double to help with cash flow – RF said that this was not necessary.

Graham Bell (GB) said that the surrounding clubs had higher subs. Peter Griffin (PG) confirmed. He also added that via the APP (presumably Club VI) he got regular daily updates re the state of the course and specifically the Greens

Craig Wilson (CW) raised a number of matters (see also above) What was the optimum number for ordinary members and what was the current level. Answer from RF 230 and 225. This was to allow for availability of tee times on a Saturday RF said that the target membership was more weekday members. Colin McKay advised that Marketing had been running ads for weekday members without much success. Dereck Nutley said that he was not surprised as Palcerigg had a weekday membership for £250 as opposed to KLG's £400

There was a general feeling that maybe there were too many competitions

HN suggested that the club go back to playing Championship qualifiers on set days and between set times instead of 'arranged games' as at present. Carig Wilson expanded on this as follows He raised the query of playing competitions over both weekend days. A greenkeeper then mentioned that the greens would need to be cut for Sundays play too. Craig suggested there would be no need to cut the greens for Sunday and instead the club could communicate this to members who would then be aware that the greens may run faster on Saturday, but would still have the option of playing on Sunday. CW also suggested that weather should not be a factor here, considering conditions can be completely different from Sat AM to Sat PM each week.

Craig also suggested that the Club Championship days be reviewed to consider the option of a Sat/Sun (as above) and the inclusion of a midweek fixture. He felt the current structure sees dates falling on typical Communion dates in May and doesn't offer enough flexibility around school holidays in July when most parents are away with their kids.

Michael Rooney (MR) felt that the current arrangements were fine

David Scott (DS) pointed out that there were now no medal bookings after 1:30. DA Stated that this was probably due to General Play rounds and that the new Scottish Golf software allowed members to choose whether to play in the competition or not and that might be

appropriate for Saturday afternoons, Deryck Nutley (DN) said that over 40% of scores submitted to the WHS were now General Play scores

Michael Waters senior (MW) queried reduced fees for under 25's. Robert Blackwood suggested charging juniors a modest fee. It was also suggested that the age for youths be reduced to under 23 – to tie in with minimum age brackets and the normal conclusion of full-time education. No formal motion was submitted to the meeting re either of these proposals.

John McCann suggested some kind of online forum and this was supported by Chris Cant (CC) and his group. DA said that organising a forum type arrangement was a challenge as for example only 6 members turned up at the members meeting convened to discuss the members survey sent out earlier in the year. Craig Wilson suggested that ordinary members be invited to attend some of the General committee meetings – as opposed to actually joining the committee

Alan May (AM) suggested that many of these matters would be covered if the minutes went on the website

There was a lively discussion among those present re the above and in particular the level of fees, the course and course machinery to which many of those present contributed including Barry Gordon

Deryck Nutley intervened and said that this discussion could go on all night so he proposed that an EGM should be held at the end of March at which point the Club would be able to ascertain if subs were at the correct level as against the 2023 confirmed membership numbers and the EGM could in addition deal with any of the above matters This was seconded by John McCann This motion was carried.

Catering

David Napier (DN) went through the history of the catering service for the 2022 season. It ran for approx. 6 months. Paul Thomson was an employee of the club but proved to be very unreliable and eventually his contract was terminated. As per the accounts there was a loss of almost 6k. It was not well supported. DN said that Finance had provided figures for the 2023 season and that staff and oncosts such as gas would come to almost 42k – that is before food purchases and sales -to provide the same level of service as Paul did.

MW said that he was in favour of a catering service and asked as to how busy Paul had been. DN advised that on a good day he would maybe provide 70 rolls and 40 covers.

Craig Wilson (CW) suggested a mandatory stop at the 9th of 10 minutes to allow food purchases

DN concluded by saying that the BWG was still investigating a way of providing catering against a background where the current proposed/agreed level of a 10% increase in subs would not allow for any subsidy

The meeting closed at 9:10