

Las Ramblas Golf Society Annual General Meeting
1st March 2022
At Las Ramblas Restaurant

Committee: Dave Pulling, Joyce McClusky, Olga Douglas

Apologies For Absences:

Petina Murray, Graham Murray, Yvonne Phipps, Ron Phipps, Andy Martin, Trevor Pulleyblank, Elizabeth Robertson, Benedicte Kruse, Patrick Cassidy, Nora Betts, and Mick Brentnall.

Present – 26

Proxy Votes – 8

Matters Arising from 2019 Minutes

Bryan Neal has 4 matters arising:

- 1) Bryan has pointed out that Dee headed her report as “Secretary Report” and went on to say that “in all the years there has never been a social secretary”. He has then looked through AGM reports 2016,2017 and 2018 that clearly states Social Secretary Report.
- 2) Bryan has said that his 4page HCP secretary report was not in the minutes.
- 3) Bryan has pointed out that Membership, Page 5, 1st sentence reads, “This year the time limit was reduced to 3 months” When it should have read “3 months or 6 handicap cards”.
- 4) Press, Publicity & Membership Secretary says that this was no longer a committee position and yet was on the agenda for this AGM.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The AGM is to cover the years 2020 – 2021. This was due to the pandemic which included the lockdowns and restrictions to meetings.

In 2 week's time it will be 2 years since the first lockdown in 2020 and this lasted until the early summer. When the restrictions lifted and we were able to return to golf, my thanks go to Lindsay Forbes, Joyce McClusky and John Dobson for getting us up and running at Villa Martin. My thanks also go to VMGC who treated us very well and made us very welcome.

We eventually returned to LRGC where we managed to fit in most of the Trophy Competitions before the end of the year. This meant a Trophy competition nearly every week.

The committee was rolled over to 2021 as we were not allowed indoor meetings. 2021 had its ups and downs. The restaurant was taken over by its owners of LRGC who made a complete hash of it with exorbitant prices even for their own staff.

One of the highlights for me was raising 500 euros for The British Legion. Well done to those who helped to raise such a wonderful amount of money on the day and via lunches.

Just to remind everyone of the rules for joining LRGS you must be a fully paid up member or have one of the new packages of not less than 26 green fees of LRGC. The only exception to this is if you are a marshal at LRGC as their fees are paid through their employment with LRGC.

The 10 euros fee paid to the treasurer is 5 euros for the competitions and 5 euros for the social. This is part of your membership.

The committee have always made decisions in the interest of its members. One of those decisions being holiday members. We cannot have people arriving just for few days and winning Trophies.

Finally, a huge thank you to our very special "dinner ladies" Linda Price and Julia Dobson who always do us proud. Going that extra mile and wrapping each item separately due to covid restrictions. Also, a big thank you to Alan Douglas for the 2 years who has done the office of HCP secretary and to Mick Brentnall for standing in.

Last but by no means least our 2 lady committee members Olga and Joyce who have given a great deal of time to the society not only doing 1 job but doing 2 jobs and have done them fantastically well.

From me to you all please go out there and try to enjoy your golf and the company you are with, every day. It's not a time to moan. It's a time to enjoy our retirement in beautiful surroundings with good company and making the most of a fantastic way of living. We are so privileged.

TREASURERS REPORT

Bank Account	2000 Euros
Petty Cash	390.86 Euros

Bank account

In February 2020 we had 964.78 in the account after I had paid in or withdrawn cash. Then we had covid and lockdowns and nothing was paid in or withdrawn. In November 2020 Dee closed the bank account at La Caixa Bank and the closing balance was 820.80, a difference of 144.58 euros which staggered me. Dee was given no paperwork, just the closing bank balance. So, in

those few months the bank the bank had charged us 144.58 bank charges just for having our money in there.

Since January 2021 our money has been in a savings account in Banco Sabadell. It's linked to my account, so we do not pay charges, neither do we get interest. Over the months I have topped up this account from Petty Cash to its present value. Moving to Sabadell was approved by the committee and I send screen shots of the accounts and its contents to the committee members.

The reason we have such a lot in the bank is that I have been able to fund anything we have needed to pay for, competitions, food days, Presidents Day etc from Petty Cash. We have not been able to have bi-annual dinner dances so there have been no large expenses, no raffle prizes to buy, no entertainment to pay for and no subsidies to members who attend.

INCOME

2020 – We took exactly 1000 euros in the few events we could organise. These events included a quiz night raffle, lunches and a golf fun day.

2021 – The few lunches we held raised 744 euros and the most recent in February raised 145 euros.

The money raised at these lunches goes into Petty Cash and keeps us going. So, for the people sitting here today who do not attend lunches I would urge you to please attend just a few to support this golf society of ours. We are after all a golf and social society. During the last two years I have not enforced the “attend 4 lunches rule” to get a subsidy at other events. I knew that because of the Covid many members were reluctant to eat out and risk the virus and should not be penalised for that. However, that ends now. I will be recording who does and does not attend lunches and when we have our dinner dances later this year and

our Christmas Lunch, only regular attendees will receive a reduction on the price.

Fully paid-up members of LRGC this year will need to pay me 10 euros, 5 euros for some of our competitions and 5 euros for social. Golf is expensive enough especially now we are all paying more to play. The committee have agreed to waive the 5 euros social membership fee this year as for the past 2 years they have paid this money and have had zero benefits. Finally for those of you who do not attend lunches and can think of other ways to raise money for this society then please come and speak to me or any committee member. We will listen. People have said to me that the lunches are boring and that's why they do not attend. Well, if that's the case come up with something different and ask not what our society can do for you but what you can do for your society. Thank you. This is my 10th year as treasurer and I am happy to continue.

Secretary Report

Seems a long time since I was invited by the President to take up the office of Secretary and a lot has happened since then. Covid hit us in 2020 and stopped our golfing as we know it. We moved to VM and encountered some hiccups, but they were all soon rectified. Alan and I were, in the U.K but still carrying out our duties remotely. Thank God for technology. Our lives as we had known had to be changed drastically but again another challenge to be taken. A new way of collecting money, collecting cards etc but the committee met the challenge and did extremely well and always with the best interest of the members at heart. Regarding the collection of fees on a Wednesday this was done for my benefit as I was not getting to do any practice before going out to play myself. Also, I was standing there being the target for anyone if they had any gripes. This was not doing my golf any good at all.

Also, part of the secretary's job is to help with organising the monthly lunches. We have been asked by members to look at new venues. Overall, these have gone down very well. However, I must point out that prices are going up in general and we are not being offered a ½ bottle of wine with lunches anymore and this now comes at an extra cost. Please bear this in mind. We are open to suggestions or if members would like to make their own enquiries, please let us know where you would like to go and at what cost and the menu offered. That would be great.

I have held this office now for 2 years and at times it has been a thankless unpaid task that I spend hours on at home. When I took on this task, I said I would make errors and I have. No one feels more badly than I when I do. I did not receive any training for the position and I am not paid mega bucks for doing the job. So please do not feel free to dress me down when I do make errors simply take me to one side and speak to me about them politely or take them to the committee. At the end of the day the position was sold to me as a friendly society of retired old people wanting a couple of games of golf per week and to socialise afterwards on the terrace. I am not organising St Andrews. If an error is made it can always be rectified in a pleasant manner. I do not need to receive unpleasant emails. If you have a grievance with me do not send any more emails post them on FB for all the members to see or I will be posting them on FB myself.

At the AGM I explained that my integrity had been questioned. It had been suggested that depending on who could be in the prizes determined how many prizes I would give out on any set day. It has also been said that members do not know what monies are collected daily and how they are dispensed. The daily sheet is there for all to see how many players there are, and they can count what monies would be collected on that day. I assured the members I am neither a thief nor a liar. All monies can be accounted and there definitely are no favouritism regarding prize winners. All that remains for me to say is I wish you all a wonderful 2022 golfing season.

Election of Committee

President – Dave Pulling	re- elected
Secretary - Olga Douglas	re-elected
Social Secretary – Joyce and Olga	re-elected
Treasurer – Joyce McClusky	re-elected
HCP Secretary – Andy Martin	Elected
Comps Secretary – Nick Campbell	Elected

Proposals

Tom Hardie to be given life membership. Tom who is a respected member of the society and a long-standing member of LRGS. He has held several offices on the committee over the years and still is a source of information to the committee.

Proposed Olga Douglas Seconded Joyce McClusky
Majority agreed

Every member to repair 2 pitch marks on every green and to remind others in their team to do the same.

Proposed Andy Martin Seconded Andrea Martin
Majority agreed

When possible, to call players through on holes 4 and 9 when someone is waiting to play to the green. The group in front to invite the group behind to play to the green.

Proposed Andy Martin Seconded Andrea Martin
Majority agreed

All men to play off the blue tees. (To eliminate disadvantage when yellow tees are moved back on holes 7, 13 and 16) A general discussion followed and the proposal was changed to men can change which tee they would prefer to play from yellow or blue. Once you have chosen to do so you cannot change back within the same season. The vote was agreed by majority, however the committee's stance was that they should actually play from the blue stakes.

Proposed Mike Chapman
Majority agreed

Seconded - Ellen Drakesmith

Re- instate men and Ladies categories for medal Championship Cup. – (It was agreed to leave as one category as not enough ladies enter the medal competitions)

Proposed Mike Chapman
Motion Denied

Seconded Ian Moir

2 Divisions 50% lowest hcp's 50% highest hcp's. Prize money to be split 50/50

Proposed Mark Western
Motion Denied

Seconded Reg Akehurst

That the LRGS adopt the WHS to manage its members hcp's. This means buying a programme to run the hcp's at a cost roughly £100. The committee noted that they were advised by the office that a WH certificate can always be obtained from them and that the society is a non-certified body that would not be recognised by the WHS.

Proposed Mark Western
Majority agreed

Seconded Ian Moir

The local rule where a ball on the right of the path on the 18th fairway could be dropped, under no penalty, onto the semi. This rule to be deleted.

Proposed Pete Dunn
Majority agreed

Seconded Mark Western

The LRGS handbook (first published in 2019 & adopted by the standing committee at that time) be published again in the society website so that all members can consult on the society's modus operandi. Such rule/handbook to be updated on a regular basis by the committee as rules/procedures are added/amended/deleted at society meetings. This was agreed and a volunteer was requested. - Bryan Neal offered to do this. The committee also asked for the more "Friendly version" of the handbook to be updated.

Proposed Bryan Neal
Agreed

Seconded Pete Dunn

The holiday membership to be abolished –

A general discussion on membership status followed and the committee explained it's reasoning for introducing the holiday membership. See below:

Anyone visiting for a few weeks only and NOT making a commitment to LRGC by either paying a full membership or paying for one of their packages of 26 green fees, or more, would be classed as a holiday member and not eligible to enter the Trophy competitions. They can play on the day and win but not the Trophy. However, anyone making a commitment to the club by paying a full membership or a package of 26 green fees or

more will be eligible to play for the Trophies. The holiday membership remains.

**Proposed Richard Connock
Motion Denied**

Seconded Mark Western

Further proposals on holiday membership from Richard Connock were not discussed as they were rendered irrelevant after the decision on proposal 1.

AOB

- 1) We were reminded that we are not always offered wine now with the package when booking the monthly lunches.
- 2) It was said that guests who arrive and play on a Wednesday should NOT pay to play but they can enter the 2's pot. This was agreed. However, if they have a ratified hcp they are eligible to play. When it's a Trophy day the criteria must apply as has been described regarding the holiday members.
- 3) We were asked when the honours board was being updated. This cannot be done until we have had the prize presentation. However, we have now discovered the shop has actually closed for business.
- 4) The 3 daily sheets to be put back on the easel at the beginning of the week. This is not feasible as when people simply scrub their names off Olga is not always informed. Also, members then place their own names in empty spots on the tee times sheet and no one really knows what is happening. Best left on the internet. However, Olga has told Reg she will call him with the times he is playing once she has completed the draws.

5) After the meeting Bryan Neal sent an email to Olga stating that he did not receive, from her, a **detailed** agenda (itemising proposals to be considered) for today's meeting within the requisite 7 days (rule book, page 5 paragraph 4) He pointed out that some members did get this information because Olga had received and presented them in the meeting mandated proxies from Ron & Yvonne Phipps and others. Discretionary proxies are not permitted, and any received in this manner should be removed and Bryan Neal has asked for them to be removed.

The meeting closed at 13:50