

**MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Held at**  
**DORSET GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**  
**THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2011**

Present:

Douglas Pratt	-	President
Giles Legg	-	Captain
David Cook	-	Vice Captain
Bill Kennedy	-	Juniors Secretary
Derek Grimes	-	Executive Member
Charlie McIntyre	-	Executive Member
Ian Hulse	-	Secretary

Apologies:

John Calver	-	Vice President
Anthony Eden	-	Seniors Captain
Iain Donnelly	-	Colts Manager

**ACTION**

**Meeting opened at 17:30 hours:**

**Item 1 - Welcome:** The President welcomed everyone especially new member Charlie McIntyre. He presented Charlie with his tie and badge and explained we were all working together and his input to meetings and events was most welcome. All should feel comfortable asking questions and seeking answers. Apologies had been received from John Calver, Anthony Eden and Iain Donnelly.

**Item 2 – Minutes of the Meeting 07<sup>th</sup> April 2011:**

***The minutes were signed by the President as a true record of events.***

**Item 3 – Matters arising:** No matters arising.

**Item 4 – Captains Report:** A week that started with so much promise with a good half against Cornwall and a convincing win over Devon ended with Dorset unfortunately retaining the Wooden Spoon from Cornwall on point's difference.

Very testing conditions in the Strokeplay rounds seemed to affect the swings and confidence of some players and that, allied with a few experienced players having to return to work, meant it was always going to be tough going for the last three matches of the week. The player's commitment and heart could not be faulted and the team spirit, despite the losses, remained excellent. Also with some of the team leaving it gave the opportunity for a couple of young players to get their first experience of South West Week. We will hopefully reap the benefits of this in the future.

The highlight of the week for Dorset was obviously Dan Bishop's 4<sup>th</sup> place in the South West Championship which, along with his good results in the Matchplay, gained him selection for the South West Match against the Midlands in October at Wrag Barn Golf Club. Other notable performances were David Cook's 4 out of 4 points in the Matchplay, Ben Harvey winning a singles from 5 down with 6 to play and Robbie Mabb developing nicely as a senior player.

Overall I got a lot of enjoyment from Captaining the team, they really do give the County their all and they are great fun to be with. I look forward to next year at Cumberwell when I shall definitely be handing the Spoon to another Captain!

**Item 5 – Colt Managers Report:** The priority with our Colts matches is to give the players as much opportunity to develop as possible. Against Hampshire at Sherborne we showed we have plenty of scope for a lot of developing! Through the day I took the opportunity to point out to our players where/how Hampshire organise themselves, hopefully some of it rubs off and makes our guys focus better.

New payers such as Tom Robson and Tom Parsons came away with credit vindicating the decision to continue with a Colts squad.

Against Kent and Sussex over the next few weeks I am sure a few more fresh faces will show good potential, I look forward to reporting on this at the next meeting.

**Item 6 – Senior Captain’s Report:** Our season started with a friendly match on 12<sup>th</sup> May against Wiltshire for the Jock Lawrence Trophy. Our problem is that although I like to take a team that is predominately people who might no longer play for the first team or who have given good service to our county, Wiltshire and Devon does not have such a large pool to call on so use mainly their first team players. Thus a loss by 2½ - 3½ was not too bad. The only problem was that Mike Saunders fixed a tee time of 1.30 and a three course meal to follow so we did not leave until after 9.00pm. I’ll definitely have to speak to their new captain to make sure it does not happen again.

Next we had a league match against Sussex at Ham Manor on 19<sup>th</sup> May. Despite the fact that everybody had had a practise round our performance was very disappointing and we lost 3 – 7. The course was quite tricky and the greens were much faster than any in the Bournemouth area but if we can play Brian Medlam at no. 9 we should have been looking to win. Our only winners were the Broadstone trio of John Nash, Campbell Boal and Graham Butson. For some of the others their course management left a lot to be desired. With Kent still to come this leaves us with an uphill struggle to do well in the league.

Coming up on 28<sup>th</sup> June we have a league match against Surrey and everybody will have had a practise round at Camberley Heath so I hope our form returns.

Early in July we have the South West Championships and National Qualifier and everybody will have had two or in some cases three practise rounds at Clevedon. We are determined to make the National Finals for the third year in a row so fingers crossed.

**Item 7 – Juniors Secretary’s Report:** Our next major event is the Six Counties on 27 July at Ferndown. I have asked Martyn to fix up three practice sessions with the squad and selected others so that we can select a team of eight for the event.

In County events the Juniors seem to acquit themselves well. A good number took part in the County Championship with Harry Mitchell and Robbie Mabb making the knock-out stage. Robbie emerged a worthy runner-up in the final.

The President of Juniors feels that the current expenditure on Junior coaching does not represent good value for money. I was tasked to draft a paper for the Junior Committee’s consideration with the aim of exploring his assertion and proposing possible changes. In conjunction with the Golf Partnership we shall assess all Under 14s for both Academy and County coaching – this will save time and effort. Other possibilities for consideration include scrapping the position of the Juniors Secretary and appointing separate Team Managers for the Under 14s and Under 18s with the necessary administration passing to the County Secretary, and all Under 14 coaching devolving upon the Partnership coaching programme. The paper is under consideration as we speak.

**Item 8 – Dorset Golf Partnership:** The coaching season is now complete with only the finals day yet to come. Most of the children with handicaps at the start of the season have reduced them drastically. It has been another great success for which thanks must go to Dee Wood, Marcus Urbye, Duncan Driver and his team of professionals. Assessments for the candidates for 2011/2012 will start early this year and will include assessment for the County Under 14s. Another initiative is to explore the possibility of giving coaching to the Under15s who emerge from the County Under14s but do not qualify for the Under 18 squad. The coaching for new and existing adult men and women players has worked well this year and will be further expanded for 2011/2012. Additional training for the PGA professionals has also been excellent and the programme for 2011/2012 is under development.

**Item 9 – Secretary’s Report:**

**Correspondence:** Secretary briefed the meeting on correspondence received.

**Finances:** The secretary handed round a copy of the Income and Expenditure as at the date of the meeting along with an up date on affiliation numbers.

**Review of County Coach:** Secretary reminded the meeting it had a duty to review the current contract as it had now been nearly 3 years, the President agreed the team

managers and he would meet to discuss and come back to the Executive with recommendations.

President

**EGU Matters:** The secretary briefed the meeting that the merger was now back on track with a vote planned for the 16 Nov 11, the secretary would arrange for the executive to have a brief from the EGU in September.

EGU County Players email was not seen to be of benefit so no nomination would be put forward by the County.

Proposed Amendment to the EGU Affiliation Fee Proposal put forward by BB&O was discussed and rejected by the Executive; Voting Member was instructed to vote accordingly.

**Item 10 – Any Other Business (AOB):**

- a. **Executive v Ladies Association:** With the cancellation of the first attempt it was agreed to try and play again on the 2 Oct 11 Secretary to arrange venue.
- b. **Start Sheet:** David Cook raised the issue feeling it was just and proper that County Championship start sheets should be in strict handicap order. There followed much discussion on the matter with the pros and cons being discussed on both sides, it was felt that by having a mixed start sheet interest was maintained through out. Questions were raised regarding not allowing two players from the same club to play together and perhaps doing a start sheet in reverse order. After much discussion it was felt the current method of random will continue with some tweaks.
- c. **Pre-season Friendly Leicestershire & Rutland:** David Cook raised the matter of an additional friendly match in March against Leicestershire & Rutland, the match would if agreed take place over the next two years on a home and away basis and be over both Saturday and Sunday. The Executive agreed to the match in principle dependent on budget and of course finding a club that will take such a fixture on a Saturday. David Cook will inform Leicestershire and once agreed by them will come back to the secretary who will then try to find venue and suitable dates.
- d. **Colts v First Team:** Raised by Iain Donnelly that some sort of fixture be put in place at the end of the season, Captain and Colts manager to look at this.
- e. **EGU Champion Club Event:** Parkstone GC qualified via the County Championship but have informed the County it is unlikely they will be able to field a team for the event, sadly this is not the first time Parkstone have not fielded a team. Discussion took place on future qualification for the event but it was agreed the team event of the County Championship was the correct channel and in future teams that can not fulfil the commitment to the EGU Championship should be excluded from that part of the team event.
- f. **Executive Brief:** The Secretary to brief the Committee of Came Down 11 Jul 11. After note brief postponed by the club until August.

Secretary

DC

GL / ID

**Item 10 –Next Meeting:** The next meeting is to be held at DG&CC Thursday 08 September 2011 at 1700 for a 1730 hour start.

All

There being no further business the meeting closed at 18:59 hours.

**Signed as a True record:**

**Douglas Pratt President 08 September 2011**