

SOCIETY OF HERTFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

President:	Malcolm Bye	South Herts
Captain:	Neil Hewitt	Old Fold Manor
Vice-Captain:	Simon Tansley	Essendon
I.P. Captain:	Richard Blanchflower	Brookmans Park
Hon. Treasurer:	Robert Howell	Arkley
Hon. Secretary:	Eric Diment	Aldwickbury Park
Committee Members:	Brian MacDonald	Harpenden Common
	Gary Rees	West Herts
	Peter Barnes	Hadley Wood
	Nick Brookes	Letchworth
Hon. Auditor:	Melvyn Rose	Aldenham

Another difficult year for the society, your committee, and the membership as we all strived to return to golfing during the pandemic. Whilst we were able to hold most of the planned matches and internal fixtures there were several late changes, and the total number of attendees was down on earlier years. Sadly, the black-tie annual dinner and the Moor Park inter-club liaison officer meeting were 2 of the more prominent casualties of the government restrictions and coronavirus. During these challenging times the thoughts and best wishes of the society are with the whole membership who have experienced the loss of a family member.

Membership: Current membership at the year-end following work regarding this year's subscriptions stands at 460 with 86 members being honorary and we now have a database that supports GDPR and accurately reflects our membership and playing capabilities. Throughout the pandemic we have continued to recruit new members and despite several clubs rolling over their Club Captains for a second year we had 13 new members join us, but your Hon Sec does rely heavily on the Liaison Officers and clubs in the recruitment process. In 2016 the Committee agreed to raise the age of Honorary membership from 75 to 80 with effect from 2021 due to the age profile within the Society Honorary membership is available to members who are aged 80 and have been members for at least 10 years and becomes effective on the 1st January following their 80th birthday as of January 2021. It is incumbent on you to inform the Hon Sec and this change to the constitution will be ratified at the AGM in April 2022.

Crameri Cup: Played at Aldwickbury Park which saw Graham Thorogood, a beaten finalist in 2018, and Gary Camp from The Hertfordshire win 3 & 2 over Gary Plein and Daniel Dias from Dyrham Park. Many thanks go to Bob Howell for running this exacting competition very professionally and for him agreeing to run it again in 2022.

Herts Salver: Hosted by Old Fold Manor under government restrictions that saw Anthony Biggerstaff from Redbourn winning from Simon Irwin representing Verulam.

Annual Dinner: Sadly, a casualty of the pandemic as the original planned date was during the lockdown in early 2021 and the option of trying to hold an event of this scale during the uncertainty of the year and restrictions made it unfeasible. The committee are determined to hold an event as soon as realistically possible.

Clothing: My sincere thanks go to Ray Johnson for running our clothing section again this year. He has continued to offer an excellent service, meeting the needs and expectations of the members and continues to manage the stock well and this year we extended the range with a new shirt, water/wind proof jacket and a Gilet all of which have proved popular.

Treasurer's Report 2021

Please see the separate PDF document.

From the Office: The website www.sohgc.co.uk under the stewardship of Eric Wyllie continues to expand and develop so please use it for information, the changes to rules for 2019 proved beneficial to some along with the new world handicapping system. Regular updates are provided throughout the year so please check the site. A recent addition is a gentle reminder to all members about our strict dress code both during and after matches or events, please uphold the high standards of our Society. Internet banking has proved popular, but any payments should be accompanied by an email to the Hon Sec and Hon Treasurer to assist them.

Captain's Report 2021

In a season which once again was heavily affected by the Covid Pandemic we did manage to have some enjoyable and successful events even if numbers were understandably reduced at several of them. Matches against the Captains of London, Suffolk, Bedfordshire and the mixed against Norfolk all resulted in victory and our only blemish was a narrow defeat to Northamptonshire.

The triangular match with Essex and Cambridgeshire was at Romford on a very tight course where we arrived as the previous winners but unfortunately, we left with the wooden spoon! The Four Counties event at Thetford between ourselves Norfolk, Buckinghamshire and Worcestershire were at the very tight affair with the top three Counties all within a few points unfortunately we finished third and Buckinghamshire carried the day.

The fixtures with both London and Herts Lady Captains proved very successful and enjoyable as did the mixed invitation at Arkley. The Society's match against the captain's club who fielded an extremely strong team ended in the inevitable defeat but once gain an enjoyable day was had by all.

Our internal events, Vice Captains Day at Essendon and Presidents Day at South Herts and Captains Day at Old Fold all went down well and were enjoyed by all even though as expected numbers were much down on previous years.

The Christmas fayre held at Old Fold manor was an extremely jovial occasion and under the current conditions was extremely well supported for which I thank our members.

The Society attended both Northampton Presidents Day as well as that of Bedfordshire which saw the Vice Captain getting a hole in one at Whittlebury Park which the Hon Sec and Captain failed to achieve at The Bedfordshire. Sadly, due to fixture congestion invites to Bucks and Norfolk were declined.

It is unfortunate that we will not be able to hold our annual black-tie dinner this year because of the pandemic which is a disappointment. I am however hopeful that 2022 sees normality returning for our fixture list with the numbers attending our events returning to pre pandemic levels.

It has been a real Honour to Captain the society and I thank the committee and the members for their support and friendship over the past year.

The highest praise must go to our Honorary Secretary Eric Diment whose tireless work and doggedness have kept the society running over the past two years and without him many of our events would not have been as successful as they were. Many thanks Eric.

Finally, may I wish my successor Simon Tansley every success and enjoyment on taking on the role as society captain for the forth coming year.

Captain Neil Hewitt, January 2022

Secretary's Report 2021

Meetings: This remains the biggest challenge for your Hon Sec with the enthusiasm of the core membership being the bedrock of the Society. I thank the Liaison Officers who do their best and in future years there will be far more targeted emailing to try and halt the reduction in applications. We have seen new members attend meetings but unfortunately there has been a decrease in attendance; down for the second year albeit under the regime of the pandemic. Some events as in the past are extremely popular but others such as the Summer Meeting, now renamed Spring Meeting have seen levels steadily decline. In 2022 this event will include the AGM and I hope this will encourage the participation of the membership. Moor Park has very kindly again offered to host the Inter-Club Salver in 2022 which should lead to a full house. I ask all Liaison Officers to double their efforts in asking our members to support all the events and if your club is willing to host an event in 2023 at a sensible price, please let me know. The match lists have already been added to our website and are also attached again to these papers for your assistance. The Spring meeting and AGM to be held at Knebworth on the 28th of April 2022 is also attached for your attention. The remainder of the internal fixtures will be published shortly.

2022 Match Fees and Selection: The Committee have looked hard at how we can keep the costs down as we are all noticing the increase in our own food and fuel bills. We are looking to retain a £45 match fee for another year despite increased costs whenever possible but with the pressure clubs are now under to increase their revenue streams, I expect this will be the last year which we can maintain that level unless we decided to alter the format. The Committee would be reluctant to do that, as it's important we entertain our guests appropriately. With regards to Match selection this year I would ask you to apply by mid-March and all matches are open to everyone, young or old. The selection for the whole season will then be made and you will be notified in early April as to the provisional list via the match matrix which will also be available via the website. The more choice you provide the greater your probability of being selected and I look forward to welcoming new members.

Meeting costs: As mentioned previously the cost of food is still rising along with the green fee element of our matches. Careful negotiations by the Hon Sec and Committee have limited rises wherever possible but unfortunately for the first time in recent years you will notice a slight rise across the board this year. It is still my view that this is excellent value for two meals on most events, a round of golf and prizes. However, your continued support is critical to retain this figure.

The Website and Clothing: Thanks to much assistance and support from Eric Wyllie, we have seen the continued development of the website with even more information available. You are now able to see what's on offer and news reports which follow our various events; just google www.sohgc.co.uk. Ray Johnson our Clothing Manager has served us well both at meetings and matches. He has been kept extremely busy by you all and especially the new members and please check out the new items.

Payments: I am pleased to announce to members that the online banking capability has proved popular again and I believe a benefit for the membership. It does, however, increase the workload for the Hon Sec and Hon Treasurer, and I would like to remind everyone that any online payment should be accompanied by an email to assist in the auditing process to both parties. More importantly would you please ensure when making payment that in the reference box you indicate to what the payment relates. Your name automatically appears on our bank statement without you adding it in the reference box. If you wish to pay by cheque that is fine but please write the events you are paying for on the back of your cheque. As in previous years the only cheques that should be sent undated are for the Xmas Fayre. All other events will be banked immediately so please no post-dated cheques as these may be returned to the originator.

Finally, it would be remiss of me not to thank you the membership, for your continued support.

I wish everyone a great golfing year in 2022

Eric W Diment

Hon. Secretary



**MINUTES OF THE 54th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD OVER A ZOOM CALL
WITH THE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY 31st MARCH 2021.**

The meeting commenced at 5.30pm

PRESENT: - Captain and Chairman, Richard Blanchflower, IPC Jan Cembala, Hon. Treasurer Bob Howell, Vice-Captain Neil Hewitt & Messrs, MacDonald, Rees, Tansley and Eric Diment Hon. Secretary. Plus, President elect Malcolm Bye and Nick Brookes.

The notice and previous minutes, along with full details of the Zoom call were circulated to the membership via liaison officers and on the website to deal with the situation of the pandemic. No comments or apologies were received and the notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

Minutes of the AGM held on 26th April 2019 were confirmed and will be signed subsequently at the next committee meeting.

Accounts the accounts for year ended 31st October 2019 and which had been seen by all members were proposed by Eric Wylie and seconded by Ray Johnson. Accounts for the year ended 31st October 2020 were by John Saunders and seconded by Andy Nemes and both sets were adopted.

Honorary Auditor Melvyn Rose (Radlett Park) was thanked for his services and reappointed

Reports: The Captain's, Treasurer's, Committee's, and Secretaries reports were sent out in January, and these were accepted by the meeting,

Election of Committee Members there was one nomination being Nick Brookes, Letchworth Golf Club. There being no other nominations he was duly elected.

Election of Officers for one year from April 2021

THE PRESIDENT, there was one nomination, Malcolm Bye, South Herts Golf Club. The meeting voted unanimously to elect Malcolm and he was welcomed to the role.

THE CAPTAIN, the only nomination was the Vice-Captain, Newitt and the vote was unanimous. He thanked Richard Blanchflower Captain for his term of office and said he was honoured to be the captain and would take his responsibilities seriously during his year.

VICE CAPTAIN, there being one nomination Simon Tansley, Essendon Golf Club all were in favour, and he was duly elected.

HON. TREASURER, there was only one nomination Bob Howell who was thanked for his hard work during the year and duly elected.

HON. SECRETARY, there was only one nomination Eric Diment who was thanked for his work during the year and duly elected.

Any other Business There was one other item in relation to the World Handicapping System. The decision was that the Society should adopt the system following a discussion on handicap limits. The decision was that the Society will adopt a handicap index of 28 for men and 36 for ladies.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.00 pm.

EVENTS & FIXTURES 2022

Tuesday	5 th April	County Boys (Under 14's)	Essendon	AL9 6HN
Thursday	28 th April	Spring Meeting & AGM (M)	Knebworth	SG3 6NL
Saturday	30 th April	Herts Salver	Essendon	AL9 6HN
Tuesday	3 rd May	Inter – Club L/Officers (M)	Moor Park	WD3 1QN
Thursday	12 th May	London Captain	Aldenham	WD25 8NN
Thursday	26 th May	Buckinghamshire	Welwyn Garden City	AL8 7BP
Tuesday	31 st May	Triangular	St. Neots	PE19 7GE
Wednesday	8 th June	Suffolk Captains	Ufford Park	IP12 1QW
Thursday	16 th June	Vice Captains Day (M)	Harpenden Common	AL5 1BL
Thursday	23 rd June	Match v Hadley Wood	Hadley Wood	EN4 0JJ
Monday	11 th July	Presidents Day (M)	Mid Herts	AL4 8RS
Tuesday	19 th July	Vs Captains Club	Essendon	AL9 6HN
Tuesday	9 th Aug	Four Counties	Brickendon Grange	SG13 8PD
Thursday	1 st Sept	Mixed Invitation Mtg (M)	Old Fold Manor	EN5 4QN
Thursday	15 th Sept	Vs Bedfordshire	Bedfordshire Golf Club	MK43 8SR
Monday	19 th Sept	Vs Northamptonshire	Kettering GC	NN15 6XA
Monday	26 th Sept	With Herts Lady Captains	Letchworth	SG6 3NQ
Tuesday	4 th Oct	Mixed v Norfolk (M)	Letchworth	SG6 3NQ
Friday	7 th Oct	Autumn Meeting + Cramer Cup Final	Hadley Wood	EN4 0JJ
Wednesday	12 th Oct	Presidents Reception	Mid Herts	AL4 6HN
Tuesday	25 th Oct	County Boys (Under 16's)	Chesfield Downs	SG4 7EQ
Thursday	1 st Dec	Xmas Fayre	Essendon	AL9 6HN

All Fixtures and Meetings are catagorised for entry under the constitution.

(M) = MIXED the remainder GENTLEMEN

FROM:

Name.....
Phone No
Club.....
WHS Index.....

HERTS CAPTAINS MATCH FIXTURES 2022

PLEASE PLACE A TICK AGAINST ANY MATCH FOR WHICH YOU WISH TO BE CONSIDERED

Tuesday 5 th April	Under 14's County Boys	Essendon Golf & CC	AL9 6HN
Thursday 12 th May	London Captains	Aldenham GC 1QN	WD25
Thursday 26 th May	Buckinghamshire Captains	Welwyn Garden City GC	AL8 7BP
Tuesday 31 st May	Triangular Match	St Neots GC	PE19 7GE
Wednesday 8 th June	Suffolk Captains	Ufford Park GC	IP12 1QW
Thursday 23 rd June	Hadley Wood Centenary	Hadley Wood GC	EN4 0JJ
Tuesday 19 th July	Captains Club	Essendon Golf & CC	AL9 6HN
Tuesday 9 th Aug	Four Counties	Brickendon Grange GC	SG13 8PD
Thursday 15 th Sept	Bedfordshire Captains	Bedfordshire GC	MK43 8SR
Monday 19 th Sept	Northamptonshire Captains	Kettering GC	NN15 6XA
Monday 26 th Sept	With the Lady Captains	Letchworth GC	SG6 3NQ
Tuesday 4 th Oct	Mixed with Norfolk Captains	Letchworth GC	SG6 3NQ
Tuesday 25 th Oct	Under 16's County Boys	Chesfield Downs	SG4 7EQ

I wish to be considered for the matches indicated.

Signed.....

Date

Email address

Tel. No

TO: Eric Diment Hon. Secretary.
21a, Woodside Road, Digswell
Welwyn, Herts AL6 ODS
Email: sohgc@yahoo.com
Telephone: 01438 716418

SOCIETY OF HERTFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS 2022

SPRING MEETING and AGM (M) KNEB WORTH GC THURS 28th APRIL 2022

Last date for entries Monday 18th April 2022

I wish to attend and play

I enclose payment of **£60**

Please print this entry slip & post with cheque or email

Name Club WHS Date

**TO: - Hon. Secretary Eric Diment 21a Woodside Road Digswell, Herts AL6 0DS
sohgc@yahoo.com Telephone: 01438 716418**

Or

**Email Sohgc@yahoo.com with your details and event and pay by BACS to
Account 80854050, sort code 20-74-09**

Payment is required before the event please
