



Encourage Shield
Junior Golfers



Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting

6.30pm July 25th 2016 at North Ryde Golf Club

1. Meeting Opened

The meeting commenced at 6.37pm with JNJG representative and tournament director Greg Watkinson chairing the meeting. Peter Van Wegen (JNJG CEO) in attendance.

2. Welcome all Delegates.

GW thanked North Ryde GC for once again hosting the meeting and asked John McKie (Captain of North Ryde Golf Club) to welcome all attendees. There were 13 delegates representing 10 clubs present. John invited all to stay for refreshments after the meeting adjourned.

3. Apologies Terry Bews – Dunheved GC, Graeme Phillipson – GolfNSW, Trevor Jay – The Coast GC and Len Clancy – Muirfield GC.

4. Minutes of the 2015 AGM and business arising

Motion – “Minutes from 2015 AGM accepted as correct”

Moved – Gordon Borger (Muirfield)

Seconded – Arnold Gould (Monash)

Passed

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Financial Report

Peter Van Wegen (JNJG) tabled the financial report. Income and expenditure items were presented to the meeting and in summary a surplus of \$710.09 was achieved. \$200 will be placed in the Encourage Shield Fund and the balance of \$510.09 will be used to subsidize the metropolitan winners to attend the State final series in Newcastle. The ES Fund will now have a balance of \$5,600. Based on the decision at the 2012 AGM to increase the fees each year by \$5, the fees for the 2016 Encourage Shield will be increased to \$80.

Motion – “That the Financial Report be accepted”

Moved – Robin Curl (Liverpool)

Seconded – Danny Hagerty (Stonecutters Ridge)

Passed

6. 2015 Competition Report

Greg Watkinson reported that there were 30 teams competing in 5 divisions in the 2015 Metropolitan Encourage Shield event. Division winners were Monash, Camden, Oatlands, Long Reef and Concord. Monash won the event and then went on to participate in the 2015 State Encourage Shield finals in Newcastle won by Bega Golf Club. Overall the ES State series attracted 103 clubs and over 600 juniors.

Issues arising

- Handicap difference using the scratch rating is too high – should be the difference in the par?? Does the slope rating actually take account of this anyway???
- Robin Curl suggested that the par rating is better and Danny Hagerty suggested that the scratch rating is a better formula. Following discussion it was agreed to stay with the Golf Australia recommendation in use and provide an explanation for parents and players.
- Reminder that there is no such thing as par in match play
- It was agreed to ensure that players and parents are aware that it is the score and not the par of the hole that determines the result of the hole.
- What if there are two greens on the one hole? – eg. The Lakes 14th , Campbelltown 18th
- It was agreed to make a local rule for the day and to play to the shorter hole. There would be a subtle difference in the slope rating.
- Order of handicap needs to be reinforced
- GW will email managers on the correct procedure and calculations. Michael Pollack suggested that managers email slope details to other teams prior to the event day. GW to advise all managers that this should be done.
- All names on team sheet to claim a forfeit (W/O)
- It is a requirement to include all the names on the sheet if a forfeit is to be claimed.
- ES players may not switch to JP when played at the same time.
- Discussion centered on the possibility of stronger JP players replacing ES players in the event the club ES team made the knockout series and the JP did not qualify.
- It was agreed that the current conditions stipulating that two divisional matches must be played by a competitor was sufficient.
- Pace of Play – conceding a hole, conceding a stroke (gimmees), one match putts out and moves to next tee, ready golf on the tee, “walker” with each
- Education of the players in match play rules and speed of play by the managers was stressed. It was agreed that a walker (similar to the Girls ES) be incorporated where possible. The first group to hit off has the highest handicaps and need the most assistance. It was agreed to access the old Women’s Golf walker instructions to be revised and distributed by GW to all managers.
- Team of 4 or 5 rather than 6.
- Robin Curl suggested that the team size remain at 6 players, Gordon Berger suggested that 4 players was more appropriate. Composite teams were suggested and have worked well in the past. It was agreed that the team size of 6 be retained and that any club needing extra players contact GW at JNJC to find extras players.
- Other suggestions included Danny Hagerty indicating that handicaps were too high and Michael Pollack queried distances between teams in some divisions.
- GW indicated that entry level handicaps must be respected and that it was not in the spirit of the competition to keep handicaps unusually high.
- GW indicated that divisions were decided on a geographical proximity were possible but could not guarantee that in every division.

7. Impact of the Junior Pennants on the Encourage Shield

The impact of the same format JP competition was discussed. All delegates expressed concern about the GolfNSW decision to persist with the all handicap JP. PVW indicated that Peter Mitchell the GolfNSW Match

Committee Chairman was also on the JNKG Board and discussions are taking place to change the format. It was reinforced that the JP should be a pathway event and reverts back to the scratch/handicap format. Robin Curl presented a paper to be sent to GolfNSW as soon as possible indicating the dissatisfaction with the current format. A number of minor changes need to be made.

Motion – “That the paper be presented to GolfNSW for consideration”

Moved – Robin Curl (Liverpool)

Seconded – Glen Woodley (North Ryde)

Passed

(See Appendix for wording of the letter)

10. General Business

Dean Pitman (Lakeside Camden) was concerned that some of his players would be excluded from the ES competition because they were ineligible for the club's Junior Championships. GW stressed the exemption category was for such cases.

PVW indicated that JNKG were keen to add some more benefits to the young players involved in the ES. In discussions with Srixon a proposal was made to provide teams (at a small increase in cost) with balls for the event, logoed bag tags and caps. Three possibilities were discussed and GW to circulate the details to all managers. It was agreed that this was a good initiative but each team could decide to participate based on their individual circumstances.

GW presented a paper on the Tyro Shield. Those clubs that have participated agreed that the event was a great initiative and were keen to expand the event.

Next Meeting:-

A date was not set for the 2016 AGM. It will be in July 2017.

Meeting closed at 8.34pm

Attendees:-

Danny Hagerty (Stonecutters Ridge), Gordon Borger and Rick Frankcombe (Muirfield), David Page (Concord), Michael Pollack (Northbridge), John McKie, Glenn Woodley and Joan Flaherty (North Ryde), Phil Reece (Oatlands), Robin Curl (Liverpool), Arnold Gould (Monash), Joel Berrell (Camden), Dean Pittman (Lakeside Camden).

APPENDIX – Letter to Golf NSW

To - Mr Peter Mitchell - Chairman of the GolfNSW Match Committee

Junior pennant (JP) matches were traditionally played in the same format as major pennants, all players off scratch. Several years ago this format was changed to 2 scratch /4 handicap (2/4) in an effort to attract more players and clubs to support this event. Many clubs supported the move as it provided a logical progression from Encourage Shield (ES) to JP and then to Eric Apperly Shield (EA). In 2015 the format for JP was changed to all handicap, the same format as the ES. Many clubs have reported to the ES committee that their players are less interested in JP as it does not provide them a challenge in moving upwards from ES. Many team managers also say that they would prefer to have a significant point of difference between the two events. ES is for relative beginners who need to learn match play and then step up to JP, then again to EA. A logical progression.

Among the many members of golf clubs who support junior golf there is a lot of displeasure with the current formats and have indicated that they prefer the 2/4 format for JP.

We formally request that Golf NSW consider the issues raised above and change the format of the Metropolitan Junior Pennant to 2 scratch and 4 handicap match play.

For and on behalf of the Encourage Shield AGM

Greg Watkinson

Chairman – Encourage Shield Committee