

Junior Committee Minutes

Meeting-Monday 19th February 2024 at 6.15pm in Blencathra Room

Item 1-Attendees-John Sheffield (JS) Chris Malpas (CM) Andrew Sowerby (AS) Ingrid Mutch (IM) June Doyle (JD) Paul Butler (PB) Mike Dixon (MD) Barry Rogers (BR) Phil Park (PP) Magnus Villadsen (MV)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and he hoped that 2024 was another successful year for junior golf. He gave a special welcome to Magnus Villadsen the junior captain for 2024 and wished him well in his captaincy year.

Item 2 -Apologies-Bernard Riley (BR) sent his sincere apologies. He notified the junior committee that he will be standing down for a period but hopes to return at some point in the future.

Item 3-Minutes of last meeting-the last minutes were from the AGM held On 27th October 2023 which were agreed. There were no matters arising.

Item 4-Safeguarding-It was reported that the Club had regained the Safe Golf accreditation for a further 12 months from England Golf. This is very important from a safeguarding perspective.

There is also a meeting arranged for Wednesday 28th February 2024 at 2pm with the regional officer from England Golf to discuss the new Respect accreditation. AS and JS attending.

There was some discussion regarding the safety of juniors playing on the course and advice had been sought from England Golf on this matter from the national Safeguarding lead. England Golf advised against applying a blanket rule for juniors playing on the course as 16 / 17 year old's who have many responsibilities and freedoms in everyday life should not be expected to face the same safety restrictions as an 8 year old. The junior committee felt it was sensible to follow the club categories for juniors which is 11 and under for Cadets and 12 and above for full junior membership. It was important that the junior committee make sensible and practical judgements on ages and ability when considering course usage and parental permission/responsibility is also important. The junior committee will emphasise this to all parents before the new coaching programme commences.

Item 5-Coaching programme 2024

The decision was taken to commence the junior coaching programme on Monday 8 April 2024. Juniors to arrive at 5.30pm for registration and coaching to conclude at 7pm. It will be important to make full use of social media and the local media to advertise the date and what is on offer at the club for both existing and potential junior golfers.

Junior coaching will follow the same format as last year with time spent on the practice areas and course. Full use will be made of the green markers which comprise the junior academy course.

An application has been made by the junior committee to host the Golf Rookies programme. This is a new initiative by England Golf and the Rookies programme includes both boys and girls aged from 5-18. It is based on the Golf Girls Rocks golf activities which the club has previously been involved in. It is hoped that the results of the application will be made known at the end of February 2024. If successful it will hopefully complement the junior coaching programme and attract more juniors to take up golf.

Item 6-Junior competitions 2024

There will be a varied format for competitions over 4, 9 and 18 holes so that all juniors have the opportunity to participate.

A date for the junior captain's day will need to be agreed and MV will identify which is the most suitable date for him and his family. It also needs to recognise the school exam timetable when setting dates for junior team matches in particular.

It is hoped that there will be additional clubs competing this year in the junior league and Penrith will have an established team which is very encouraging.

Item 7-Super Sixes

JS and AS reported a recent meeting with the Golf Foundation regarding the introduction of the Super Sixes format which is mainly aimed at younger junior golfers. It is played in Texas scramble format over 6 holes and parents have a vital part to play when supporting the juniors on the course with assistance with marking scores. Clubs in both West and South Cumbria have been participating in golf sixes and the feedback has been very positive. It is hoped that Penrith will be able to join both Brampton and Carlisle at competition level. The super sixes is a very flexible format and the green tees can be adjusted for distance. A further meeting is planned with the Golf Foundation to make further progress before the coaching season commences.

Item 8-Finance-The Junior Committee would like to pass on their sincere thanks to Javid Latif, now Past Captain for his very kind donation to the junior section. It will be of significant help and assist the club in promoting and developing junior golf. PP to write to Javid with letter of thanks.

It was also noted that the juniors themselves had made a small donation to the finances of the junior section as a gesture of thanks to all those club volunteers who give up their own time to run junior golf at the club.

The Lady Captain had also made a contribution to the juniors from her drive -in which was very much appreciated.

AS and CM to progress purchase of jackets for coaches which have been sponsored and also shirts/tops for the junior team.

Item 9-Any other business-BR raised the issue of a meeting for county junior organisers which had not been held yet. This needs to be kept under review.

Item 10- Date of next meeting-Monday 25th March 2024 at 6.15pm.