



## President's Annual Report for 2022

### Intro.

Compared to previous years, 2022 gave us new opportunities to pursue the objective of the NGC:

***".. to promote the technical, health and social aspects of the game of golf, by providing the opportunity ... to play golf regularly in Belgium or periodically abroad"***.

It is my firm belief that what makes NGC special and different from a local golf club, is the possibility to get to know other people from the NATO community, see one another outside the confinements of our organizations, and meet and greet spouses, dependents etc.

Once again, moving into 2023, I made it my top priority to provide all members of the NGC with a chance to get out, play golf, have fun, compete, and socialize. I am convinced that with COVID long gone and out of sight, the coming season also looks promising in that respect.

### The Executive Committee.

At the 08 May 2022 AGM, which was conducted following the Presidents Cup 2022, we had the great fortune to welcome yet another two members to our Executive Committee, Lars Koreman and Nero Sena. The President, Treasurer and Captain were willing to extend their tenure. They were all duly confirmed at the AGM.

Now, because of rotations amongst the current Executive Committee members, for the upcoming AGM on Tuesday 25 April 2023, the Executive Committee proposes the following appointments, re-appointments, and adjustments to the composition of the Executive Committee:

Club President: Darryl Rupp.  
Club Captain: Jeff Smith. Assisted by John Ellwein, until next AGM.  
Club Treasurer: Rick Froh.  
Property Manager: Ahmed Zinbi (until next AGM), assisted by Barbora Rychtarikova.  
Club Secretary: Lars Koremann, assisted by Barbora Rychtarikova.

Nero Sena as our trusted "floating assistant across functions".

According to our constitution, all positions must be elected or re-elected each year. On April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, I will ask the Annual General Meeting to support and confirm the suggestion by the Executive Committee.



## Highlights from 2022.

On the golfing, and finally with less and less COVID restrictions, the NGC tried to re-energize both our events and competitions, and the social events. It is a fact, however, that the turn out for both our events and socials remained modest. At the AGM this April, I'll ask for any ideas to improve the social side of club activities.

Also, I need to thank our esteemed Member of the NATO Golf Club, Dirk Wilhelm, who co-organized the third iteration of the NATO Golf Family Days at the end of July. The purpose of the NATO Golf Family Days is to bring together NATO golfers with their friends and families in a beautiful location. And since this event was being organized by the NSPA Golf Club in Luxembourg, and being held in Franconia, Germany, the NATO Golf Club decided to add the event to our Event Schedule and offer the opportunity to socialize with other NATO members who love this great game as we do. We will continue to encourage members of other golf clubs to offer events and opportunities to the NATO Golf Club through our Captain or the any member of the Executive Committee.

Besides the above, ingenuity from our Captain managed to create a robust schedule of events, including all the normal, recurring NGC Club events, and adding some interesting formats on top, too. Both the competitions and the so-called "friendlies" were supported by quite a few golfers. Thank you all for your support in this endeavor.

At the AGM, let me limit myself to a few highlights:

Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, at a sunny day at Winge Golf Club, 12 brave NATO golfers took on the IGC in our annual IGC match play competition. After a fantastic day with a lot of challenging golf, the day ended with a 1-point victory to the IGC. This in turn meant that the NGC had to see the cup being handed to the IGC after a 5-year streak of continuous NATO Golf Club victories. This must be a top priority for the NGC to reclaim the trophy in 2023.

Also, as a specific highlight of 2022, we all need to congratulate our 2022 Club Champion, Darryl Rupp, who had the lowest gross score, and re-claimed the Club Championship from 2021. The Category 1 title, as well as the fewest putts and Club Putting Champion, went to Michael Andersen. [Cat 2 (16-24): Dirk Wilhelm]. ([Club Championship Results \(natogolfclub.org\)](https://www.natogolfclub.org/files/ugd/524c09_f8d5e819a80f4f1887d8332eb297b8f7.pdf))

In a similar fashion, Club Captain, Darryl Rubb, was once again crowned as NATO Cup Champion, making back-to-back NATO Cup wins. The Closing Cup itself was won by Josh Elwein.

## Proposal to establish Video Golf/Golf Simulator.

As you can see on the NATO Golf Club web-page ([https://www.natogolfclub.org/files/ugd/524c09\\_f8d5e819a80f4f1887d8332eb297b8f7.pdf](https://www.natogolfclub.org/files/ugd/524c09_f8d5e819a80f4f1887d8332eb297b8f7.pdf)) and as addressed at last year's AGM on 08 May 2022, the NATO Golf Club forwarded



a proposal for a NATO Golf Simulator at the NATO Staff Center. We were happy to learn that proposal was indeed discussed at the NATO Culture and Sports Club Coordinating Committee meeting over the summer period, but eventually, the necessary funds were not available to accommodate the idea. For the coming year, the NATO Golf Club is investigating the options for some training facilities, green, bunker, chips etc., to be added to the facilities at the staff center.

Internally, the EC has finalized the work of making the NGC website a One Stop Shop for all, covering our interactions with members. By now, it has provided the Club and Members with numerous advantages: You always know where to look for anything that has to do with NGC activities: Right at your fingertips for most members with a smart phone, tablet, or PC. This has over the year been expanded to include payments for tickets for our golf event, annual subscriptions and memberships, and purchases from our shop.

### **Ambitions for 2023.**

My ambitions for 2023 have been to include more social functions on the top of the usual schedule of events, evenly spread throughout the golfing season.

The events are all to be found on the website providing all members the possibility to plan for the future, and enjoy their membership, the game of golf, and the social side of the NATO community.

As discussed during previous years AGMs, the season schedule, running from Summer to Summer, having provided us with better weather and conditions for our NGC Championships and season finale. Also, the new schedule was meant to take into account that many members arrive or leave us during the summer period. We believe that the Summer-to-Summer schedule has indeed allowed more members to compete throughout and thusly complete the entire season. Finally, we believe that the schedule has played a role in having new members join us as soon as they arrive, instead of waiting for the start of the next season by December or the New Year.

Additionally, the EC is looking into the opportunity to offer training sessions and pro-clinics for members to join like any other NGC event. This would provide members without a personal club or trainer an opportunity to work on their game, or simply a chance for anyone to enjoy multiple aspects of the fascinating game of golf.

Finally, the NGC will look ahead towards the 2024 season, where the NGC will celebrate its 35-year anniversary. We'd like to welcome pictures, anecdotes or any other inputs from members over the years. It is the intention to build a Facebook page for the collection of pictures, stories, and celebrations of our 35 years of happy golfing within the NATO Golf Club community.



2023-04

## **Economy**

The initiative of re-scheduling the NGC competition season was followed by the introduction of 12 month rolling subscriptions. Irrespective of the current very low membership fee, we do not want anybody potentially considering not to join, simply because the season soon may be coming to an end.

The economic status of the NGC will be covered by the Treasurer following the Captains report. All in all, the economy is doing well, and at this time the EC does not see a need to suggest and adjustment of the membership fee.

## **Kit status**

The supplies of merchandise/club kits have been refreshed during the year, and our stocks are fine, but we are indeed looking into new inventory. If you have any ideas on what to carry in our shop inventory, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## **Engage with the Executive Committee.**

In as much, as the Executive Committee and President hold the responsibility to keep NGC interesting and relevant to members, we welcome ideas and inputs from all members on how to improve the NATO Golf Club. On the webpage you can easily find us all (<https://www.natogolfclub.org/about>) and please don't hesitate to write us a note, if you would like to share thoughts or simply bring something to our attention. We'll keep pursuing the NGC objective, and do our utmost to provide ample opportunities to play golf and/or compete, and enjoy the great company inside the NATO community.

If you happen to know anybody, who possibly would like to join us, please refer them to the NATO Golf Club homepage or any member of the Executive Committee.

**Finally**, many, many thanks to my fellow Executive Committee members for their stewardship and support during 2022 season.

***Stay safe and healthy. Happy golfing!***

Sign.

Max A.L.T. Nielsen  
President  
NATO Golf Club