

MINUTES FROM NATO GOLF CLUB MEETING 10 Jan 2020

Black text shows the agenda and inputs to the meeting, while the blue text was the decisions and outcome of the 10 Jan meeting.

Topics:

- 1. 2020 Program (Lead Mike)**
 - a. First event is the 26th January “Celtic Quaich”
 - i. See below for overview of the events
 - b. Any issues we need to discuss?
 - i. No, all events should proceed as planned and most are booked and confirmed
- 2. Membership status (Lead Rick)**
 - a. 2019, 48 paying members.
- 3. Economy status (Lead Rick)**
 - a. Sound and healthy financial status.
- 4. Club Kit Status/inputs (Lead the Wiens)**
 - a. Stock ok, will continue to sell what we have and then buy when needed
 - b. Our blue waterproof jacket will be sold for ½ price due to a weak part in the closing mechanism at the wrist
 - c. Some need to update/change the kit presentation on the web, and will coordinate with Mike on this.
- 5. Collaboration with Brabantse GC (Lead Arvid)**
 - a. The President had a constructive meeting with the leadership of Brabantse GC. We agreed to use Brabantse GC as one of our affiliated clubs, and they were happy with this. More info will follow on prices and other offers (pro instruction etc). The base price for membership will be around 1200 euro per year. NGC have quite a few of its members at Brabantse GC already.
- 6. Article in the Staff Centre magazine (Lead Arvid)**
 - a. The article, that all have seen via mail, will be published in the next edition of the magazine. Hopefully this will create more PR and more members for us.
- 7. New President, selected before 31 Jan, or can it be done later? (Lead Arvid)**
 - a. Will continue to “work” on getting the DNK Milrep to take this position. It would be ideal to have him agree before the AGM, but a handover later in the year would also work.
- 8. Captains suggestions, please see next page for details (Lead Mike)**
 - a. We will discuss each point as they are listed in the text:
 - i. Season long points race
 - ii. Upgrade of trophies /engravings
 - iii. Update the webpage with stories on each trophy
 - iv. Variation of playing format
 - v. Handicap system, and raise the annual fee with 10 euro?
 - b. Please see below for the decisions taken at the meeting regarding these points.
- 9. AGM 31 Jan (Lead Arvid)**
 - o Participants/No#
 - Need to monitor participation as we get closer
 - President will follow up regarding access to Staff Centre for those without a NATO pass

- Entry is from the Staff Centre side (via Haachtsesteenweg), not the main entrance.
 - The agenda, with the 4 reports, will be e-mailed to all the members of NGC a week prior to the AGM
- *Paid annual fee/No#*
 - Need to monitor as we get closer
- *Menu*
 - Menu no 1 agreed (28 Euro, where NGC covers the 3 euro that each menu cost above the 25 euro each is paying, plus 7 euro per person for drinks), and when people sign-up they must pick their choice of dishes. President will communicate these choices to the Staff Centre 20 Jan, to give them sufficient time.
- **Agenda for the AGM:** The following shows the layout of the AGM
 - *Approval of agenda*
 - *Approval of the AGM/Quorum achieved?*
 - *Reports*
 - *President*
 - *Captain*
 - *Treasurer*
 - *Kit managers*
 - *Presentation of 2020 Program*
 - *Elections*
 - All that have stated they are willing to continue to be part of the Executive Committee (EC) will be presented, and the AGM will be offered the possibility to suggest other candidates for any position
 - Currently this is the EC:
 - President Arvid Halvorsen
 - Captain Michael Center
 - Treasurer Rick Froh
 - Secretary Ann-Clair Bremard
 - Property Managers Wolfgang and Karin Wien
 - All of these, apart from the President will continue, unless there is other candidates.
 - *Any fun activities...suggestions?*
 - President will make a golf related Quiz, plus some prizes
 - *AOB?*
 - Open the floor for any suggestion or comments

10. AOB

- a. No AOB during the 10 Jan meeting.

*Arvid Halvorsen
President NGC*

Captains suggestions and inputs for discussion:

1. Firstly, and Foremost, I would like to establish a **season long points race**. In this, I would like to convert the Closing Cup to the NATO Cup. My idea is to purchase a plate style trophy, with the NATO Emblem on it, where names can be engraved. You will see next to each event, a rough idea of points. I have designed the points around both participation and winning. Trophy events are worth more points, casual events less. The idea is to promote participation in events. Calculation of point throughout the year would begin with the Christmas Cracker each year, except this year where we would start with the Celtic Quaich.
 - a. Those events lined out, I have gotten reservations at the courses. Those in red are non-NGC events that we help promote. I do not yet have information on the Zodenham Open and not sure if we need to keep that one. Note each of those we promote, blocks us from a club event in that period.
 - b. I have not yet figured out how to break the blockage related to a Shape versus NGC event, as Shape seems to insist on playing on a Friday.
 - c. You will also see that I have predicted a certain events to be followed by dinner. I will look at tee times around this, though dinner may be a bit early.....
 - d. We now have the year scheduled out well in advance and up on the website, other than the couple of gaps I am working to fill.
 - i. This was suggestion was supported and we agreed to start the season long points race, and a trophy will be bought for this event.
2. As we are going to have a trophy case in the staff centre, eventually, I would really like to **upgrade the look and quality of each of our trophies**, with specific emphasis on the engraving of names. I think we can really show off our history, with our trophy display in the centre. Won't be seen by that many, but at least it is out there.
 - a. We agreed to take upgrade 2-3 trophies every year, this so we do not "break the bank"
3. I would like to put a little more of a write up on each event and its history. This would include a bit of a write up of the history of the Horton Cup and why we call it that. Within this, I'll work to establish a page on the **website that lists each trophy event** and the past winners and club officers.
 - a. Good idea that was supported. In the NGC 25th anniversary book, most of the data related to Club Officers can be found. We now have to make this info more available on the web page.
4. Based on feedback in discussions with a number of members I am providing a **variety of formats** in the events during the year. Non trophy events being a bit more social. We will have a mix of stroke play, scramble, match play and possibly others. May even introduce some skins. I believe we need to shake it up a bit. You will see my plan on formats in the attached.
 - a. We agreed to this suggestion, and this will be practised throughout the season.
5. Finally, like others, we need to make **handicapping** better. We need a transparent way to monitor handicaps that allows for continual update and ease of use for each member. The rigidity of the process for Belgium Clubs is not that helpful.

6. As I see it, we can do this in one of three ways.

- a. 1. We install our **own handicapping software**. This will come with an investment. I have looked at a number of packages and they all cost about the same. This could range from \$200-\$400 USD per year. Its higher than I would prefer, but it is what it is. In all honesty, I do not see raising annual dues by 10 euro per year as unreasonable to make up for this. Note, this would include overseas members, as they can easily enter scores for any course they play in the world and receive an official USGA handicap card, through us.
- b. There are a number of applications we could use. The best I am seeing so far it TheGrint. TheGrint would allow the same thing to occur, to include scheduling events. TheGint would allow us to form our own official club, everyone sign on to that club and see each other's scores. Members can still enter all rounds they play and maintain their handicap. The difference here is that each member would purchase their own copy of the application. Cost is roughly 20USD per year. The downfall is that it would be very difficult for us to require people to use it, as it would be an outside the club cost.
- c. The final approach, as some has suggested is an internal club handicap. This one worries me, as it will be labour intensive and require an individual to track the results of each member who plays in each event. Coming up with a predictable and transparent formula I think would be difficult and lean to possible conflict. Tracking it will be laborious, and I fear very likely fall to the Captain to keep up with. I see this as the least viable option.
 - i. We agreed to do a 1 year trail with a handicap system that will cost around US \$275. After this trail we will have to re-evaluate if this filled the intention and provided sufficient benefits so that we would continue. Since this is trail period, we will not change the annual fee this year, this will be something that need to be decided for 2021.

2020 EVENTS:

Celtic Quaich

Sunday, January 26, 2020

11:50-12:30

Golf Brabanste

St. Valentine's Massacre

Sat, Feb 15 or Sun, Feb 16, 2020

Golf hotel Falnuue

Away Trip – Turkey – 2020

Wed, Mar 11 - Sat, Mar 21, 2020

Robinson Club Nobilis

Opening Cup

Sunday, March 29, 2020
10:00-10:00
Possibly at Sept Fontaines

Nations Cup

Sunday, April 19, 2020
10:00-10:00
Golf Louvain la Neuve

President's Cup

Sunday, May 10, 2020
13:40-10:00
Brabantse - Dinner to Follow

Zottegham Open (An affiliated event)

Saturday, 6 June, 2020
11:00 Shotgun start
Oudenaarde Golf Club

NGC/IGC match play

13 or 14 June possibly at Pierpoint

IT Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 20, 2020
Golf Club Kampenhout

ADIF Golf Tournament (An affiliated event)

Friday, 03 Jul, 12:30 – 21:30
Golf Club 7 Fontaines

Event name and format to be determined

Sunday, 26 Jul, 09:30
Mont Garni Golf Club

France Away Trip

Thu, Aug 20 - Mon, Aug 24, 2020
Hardelot (Pines & Dunes) Wimereaux, Le Touquet (Le Mer)

2020 NATO Golf Club Championship and Dinner

Saturday, 19 Sep
13:12 – 13:58
Golf & Hôtel de Falnuée-Mazy

Captains Cup

Saturday, 03 Oct
09:30
Golf L'Empereur

Closing Cup

8 Nov, location TBD

Christmas Cracker

5 Dec, location TBD