MINUTES OF THE BALLARAT GOLF CLUB INC

120th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CLUBHOUSE

ON MONDAY 30th March 2015

Present:

President Ross Jones (Chairman) and 70 members as per register of attendance. The meeting opened at 7:30PM. He read the notice of the meeting and asked for apologies.

Apologies:

Greg Anders, Jason Sims, June Harty, Bernadette Clark, Ron Clark, Jill Heinz, Isabel Szapiel, Bernie Szapiel, Peter Cook, Jill Dunne, Jenny Forbes, Morgan Murphy, Frances Fraser, Sue Sidebottom, Neil Twaits, Bill Davis, Brian Blease, Marie Blease, Denis Faulkner, Barbara Delmenico,

Moved: M Dunne **Seconded:** V Wilson that apologies be accepted. **Carried.**

The President welcomed all members to the 120th AGM of the Club noting in particular the Life Members present, Peter Hoskin, Phil Trevenen and Heather Brauman.

The President noted that the minutes of the meetings referred to in the notice would not be read as per 2014 and that these minutes had been on the web site for some time, asking then for confirmation on the minutes the Annual General Meeting held on 24th March 2014

Moved: B Sheahan that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th of March 2014 be accepted as a true and accurate record. **Seconded:** W Cameron. **Carried.**

Adoption of Annual Report:

The President presented the Annual Report reading the highlights of his report as contained in it. He noted in particular that Roger Masom was not seeking re-election to the board having served on it for 19 years Including roles as President, Captain and a very long term role as handicapper and thanked him for his outstanding commitment. He noted that he would not be standing for the Presidents position and thanked the Club for the opportunity to serve in the position – one which he had thoroughly enjoyed.

The President then asked Paul Foley – Finance Director to speak.

The Finance Director referred to his full report contained in the Annual Report noting in particular the profit of $94,665 including non cash items of $225,552, that the core purpose of the Club being to provide a golf course and hospitality services for the members and guests and that $22,972 would be transferred into the Capital Reserve Fund.

He noted that with declining gaming revenues being experienced in line with state trends 2015 would see an even sharper focus on cost areas and that the agreement with TGS would be an area of major review.

He noted also that the introduction of the $50 bar levy had been well received.

He then asked for any question in relation to his report.

- P Hoskin. Asked why under the Social Club section Advertising costs at $23,454 were up over $14,000 from the previous year. M Phillips (General Manager) advised that this was due to a reallocation change from the previous year but the advertising category as a whole was down from 2013.
- P Hoskin. Asked why there was an amount of $13,186 in wastage under course but none shown against food areas. P Foley advised he would need to examine this and would report back to him
- P Hoskin. Noted that the question he was going to ask in relation to the TGS fee had been addressed.
- P Hoskin. Asked why the tournament entry fees of $6888 were approximately half of 2013. M Phillips noted that the actual tournament entries were up from the previous year but that a re-allocation of income had been done this year with only a portion going to the entry fees and other parts of that income being apportioned to catering where applicable

There being no further questions the President asked the members Receive and Adopt the Annual Report, Revenue Statement and Balance Sheet for 2014. Moved R Taylor Seconded W Cameron. Carried.

The President then asked the Captain, Michael Erbacher, to present his report.

The Captain referred to his report noting the following:
It had been a good year for the Club with new events, the Futures event which had been magnificent for the Club, increased Tournament numbers, a new Club Champion – Brad Dreher, some very good juniors coming through and great teams success in Holden Scramble qualifying.

He thanked Jeff Powell and his team for a job well done and Dad's Army for their work and noted that he had in error left off the match committee from his report and acknowledged the great work they had done expressing his thanks.

He expressed his thanks to David Wallis and his staff who had made his job so much easier and acknowledge also the outstanding work and commitment of Roger Masom during his time on the Board.

He then asked for any question in relation to his report.

- R Widdison. Asked why can't the result be in the Courier and all result on the web site. M Erbacher noted that 4 balls were still a problem with automatic web reporting but is being addressed and that the Courier issue will again be addressed through the match sub-committee.
- P Murphy asked why course ratings had been changed. M Erbacher responded that the match sub-committee had decided that given the course changes and some history of play on the course it was an appropriate time to review the hole rating. The slope rating was undertaken by Golf Victoria and is done every 5 years by them.
- C Sertori noted that the rating for other local clubs did not seem in keeping with that of Ballarat. M Erbacher agreed but noted it was based on a formula and that it would be discussed with Golf Victoria again.

The President opened general business and noted that pursuant to the Rules, the Board has recommended that Alan Burns be elected as an honorary life member of the club following Phil Roberts representation to the Board to consider the awarding of a Life Membership, and that at the November meeting of the Board had passed the motion to present this recommendation to the AGM

He then called for speakers for the motion and Phil Roberts spoke noting Alan's more than 24 years membership, his 15 years as a Board member, Club Captaincy and Presidency at a time of great challenge and change for the Club and with 5 years in the Presidents role equalling the longest serving term with Peter Hoskin. He noted the relationships formed and maintained with many other clubs. He noted in particular the his crucial role in the redevelopment process, his availability to all members and the high respect in which he is held not only by members but by others in the golfing community.

There were no other speakers in support

The President then asked for speakers against. There were none.

Phil Roberts then moved "That in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Ballarat Golf Club for a period of well over 20 years an Honorary Life Membership of the Ballarat Golf Club be awarded to Alan Burns" This was seconded by Keith Wagner and carried. A very warm round of applause followed.

The President then called for questions from the floor.

- B Widdison. Asked why recyclable rubbish bins were not available on course. The President noted that recycling was undertaken in the Clubhouse and that recycling bins for the course would be examined.
- B Widdison. Asked about external no smoking zones. R Taylor noted that there may be some OH&S guidelines. M Phillips responded that the new laws that were coming into effect may have an impact on this issue and would investigate further.
- K. Walsh. Asked why there were so few reciprocal rights club with others in the district having far more. Other members also noted that some as were listed as reciprocal clubs were not honouring this agreement. M Phillips noted that there was a process in place to arrange reciprocal rights with other Clubs and that all those that had been approved through this process were listed but this would need to be reviewed. He also noted that any that were not acknowledging rights in place would be followed up noting that some Clubs make changes but do not inform us of those changes.

- V Wilson. Asked if a gunfire breakfast would be held this year given the dawn service to be held at the Arch. M Phillips noted that under our licence we were not allowed to open before 12:00 noon on Anzac Day.

- J Carr asked why the Tuesday golf fee was $6 and suggested that some of the pricing for meals should be lifted noting the $13 buffet. M Phillips noted that there was approval to move the Tuesday fee to $7 and the Board had referred the fee issue to the match sub-committee with a view to making all match fees consistent. He noted that meals pricing was set based on standard profit ratios that form part of the budgeting process and that the pricing was consistent with returning these ratios.

- P Trevenen asked what was going to happen with the sand type in the bunkers as it was currently inconsistent. M Erbacher responded noting that there was a bunker audit in place and that the “old” sand type would be returned to the bunkers that had trialled the new sand.

- N Titheridge stated that he believed the Tuesday $6 charge was an insult to the Club, that the deal was too good and not available on any other course in the state and was insufficient to cover the wear and tear caused to the course. He noted that as a member of another Club he could if he wished drop his Ballarat membership and still play at the course for next to no cost – noting that he would never do so. The President acknowledged his concern and that the matter would be considered by the new Board.

- J Carr asked if the Futures Tournament would run to a profit in future as stated by the President given the loss stated. The President noted that he had not said that it would run at a profit but that the PGA had put forward a model that the Board believed they could work with into the future, noting that the marketing costs incurred had resulted in great marketing outcomes for the Club and these positive outcome had no cost reflection.

- B Attwood asked what was to happen with the face of the bunkers as they held balls rather than letting them back into the floor of the bunkers stating that the course is otherwise perfect. M Erbacher noted that matting had been trialled but this was an issue still being examined.

- M Dunne noted that the issue spoken of by N Titheridge was not the match charge but rather the lack of a green fee. The President again noted that this was to be considered by the new Board.

- P Trevenen asked if it were possible to provide more details on the Board and sub committee structures and contact details on the website so that members with concerns or ideas could approach the appropriate person. The President noted that the relevant information could be improved and would be addressed.

There being no further questions the President then spoke on the election of directors. He noted that there had been 6 nominations for the 3 vacant positions and therefore a ballot had been conducted in accordance with the Club Rules. He announced that the newly elected directors were Paul Foley, James Coghlan and Caroline Sertori with Caroline being the first female on the Board since the 1990’s congratulating all of them all. This was met with a loud round of applause. The President then thanked Phillip Chamberlain for his contribution to the Board over the last 2 years who was not re-elected along with Mr Roger Masom who retired from the Board.

The President then noted that the Board would meet immediately after the AGM to elect the executive positions.

Being no further business the President thanked all present for their attendance invited them to join him for a drink after the meeting and declared the meeting closed at 8:25 PM