



Committee Meeting

Tuesday 24th June 2025

Present: Alan Motion (Captain), Ian Rubython (Treasurer), Susan McKenzie (memberships,), , Scott Hardie, Dave McCann (Secretary), Craig Jones

Apologies, Jimmy McGregor (Greens), Fiona Holmes (Juniors), Robert Rankin, Graham Riley, , David Pettigrew (Vice-captain),

Matters Arising:

The following matters were arising from previous committee meeting.

1. Clubhouse Update

a. Building Warrant

The Club have a building warrant and Stirling Council building control will inspect work to date on Wednesday 25th June. The builders have commenced work and we expect a completion / opening date in early September.

b. Fit Out

The subgroup has agreed on furniture and will place an order at beginning July for delivery in August.

c. Changing room benches and Lockers

Benches for the locker rooms to be costed for built-in units, however these cannot be specified to enable quotes until we have final as-built dimensions of the locker rooms.

******* ACTION Alan Motion to prepare drawing and spec once dimensions are confirmed.**

d. Ranger Hours to be extended to 65 per month

Agreed action closed.

- e. Membership Secretary to draw up list of fees – action closed
- f. Secretary to write to Roving Pro seeking clarification on recent issues. Matter now closed
- g. Secretary to adjust tee times for future Texas Scrambles leaving 30 minutes free Tee times before competitions. Action complete.

Adoption of previous minutes

Minutes from the previous committee meeting

Minute of Tuesday 24th May 2025 **Proposed** Susan McKenzie **Second** Ian Rubython

Captains Report

Following the successful Seniors Open I passed on a message of thanks to Kevin and the team for the exceptional condition of the course, which received high praise from many of our guests. They continue to present the course to a very high standard.

Scottish Golf are running a sustainability symposium during the Scottish Open at the Renaissance Club on Wed 9th July. This will feature a range of speakers and presentations:

Session 1: Managing Golf Courses in a Changing Climate

- Presentations and panel discussions with experts and golf clubs

Session 2: Golf Clubs Contributing to Healthy, Resilient, and Sustainable Communities

- Presentations and panel discussions with experts and golf clubs

Session 3: Celebrating Leadership in Sustainable Golf

Much of this is focussed on how to manage the golf course to minimise resource use and maximise benefit for the environment. We have a good story to sell at Balfron with the development of the clubhouse using the latest in sustainable building and energy technologies. I have secured two places at the symposium, and have asked Kevin to attend with me.

I have had an update with Jim Valente on course ranger issues. He has been exceptionally busy this month with visitors – there were 108 visitors over last weekend – so his hours will be over 65 this month, but the value of having the ranger on site pays for itself. There continue to be issues with members not complying with the BRS booking system. A couple of people have been out on the course before 7.30, which interferes with the greenkeepers and greens preparation for the day. We need a sign on the 1st tee prohibiting play before 07.30.

JV has also noted members (senior and junior) exceeding the guest limit, with guests being signed on multiple times. We do not currently have any facility to record member-guest names, we need to have a solution to that. Some members are cutting up through the woodland directly onto the 1st tee. These are all issues I have highlighted in the Newsletter.

Unfortunately, we had an incident of malicious damage on one green with multiple holes punched around the cup using the flagstick. We also had one other serious incident involving a junior member, to be discussed.

Captain's Newsletter will go out 25th June.

Secretary's report

ITISON update The club are using ITISON to sell Tee times we would normally not have sold to people we would not sell to. The most recent ITISON offer (April 25 to June 25) we sold 88 Tee times, 80 of which were used. (the club still sees the income for the 8 unclaimed). There were 226 players who visited the club with very positive feedback. The income from this offer to the club was £3,100. The club have also launched a June to October Offer for 100 tee times, if, as expected, we sell all 100, this will bring the Club £4,000 income. Overall, the ITISON deals we started last year, will have delivered an additional £11,000 to the club.

Social media Campaign Sean Paul Goss (Black Real productions) has filmed a number of items for the club, including on course golf, Seniors, Ladies and clubhouse update. He will continue to post on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.

4-Balls – The club have been swapping 4 Ball vouchers with a number of clubs. We have 6 vouchers available for prizes at the gents open and Texas Scramble. These are Cowall, Cadder, Wishaw, Port Glasgow, Douglas Park and Falkirk Tryst.

Open Reach wayleave request

OpenReach have requested permission to dig a trench and lay a fiber cable, from bottom car park to the mast, following the road. We have told them that this cannot happen until the building of the new clubhouse is completed. We will also require an in-perpetuity wayleave agreement with them.

Treasurers Report

The treasurer had submitted a set of monthly accounts to the committee. Visitor income continues to outpace budget. All other items on track. The club are currently testing electric Strimmer and blower products with a view to buying a number of items.

*****ACTION Treasurer to confirm the clause in the APWireless contract around access and laying of cables.**

A discussion took place on the need to start listing and ordering the numerous products, signs and also choices (colour materials etc) in preparation for the opening of the clubhouse. It was agreed that the sub-committee should meet on 30th June to consider these items.

It was agreed that we would ask Jim Valente if he would be willing to extend his Ranger duties until end of August.

******ACTION Captain to ask Jim Valente to extend his duties until end August.**

Membership Secretary report

Not quite as busy this month, but still 15 new/rejoining members. You will see we have exceeded 2024 figures, largely due to having more juniors. A couple of enquiries ongoing.

22-Jun	summary		overall		Total membership	441
	new	76	76	+14	(3 x O; 11 x J)	
	resigned	40				
	deferred	10		-1		
	no contact	22	72			
	overall		4			

Balfron Golf Society

Membership Summary

Printed: 22 June 2025

Membership Category Summary

Category	Number of Members
Complimentary	2
Country	7
Honorary Member	3
Junior	86
Ladies ordinary	31
ordinary	284
Restricted	2
Staff member	3
Student	23
Total number of Members (excluding Past Members)	441

Match and Handicap report.

The gents' knockout competitions are progressing, all first round ties now completed with 2nd round ties due to be played by 7th July.

The Gents club championship knockout draws have now been issued. Quarter finals to be played by 17th July, semis by 10th August, and Championship Finals scheduled for Sunday 17th August.

Graham Riley and Jack Gerrard's run in the Daily Mail 4somes came to an end with defeat against Bridge of Allan, but congratulations to them for their previous victories.

All bunkers are now fully back in play, and issues with exposed liner now much reduced due to recent rainfall, and the work of the greens staff in regular raking.

We have been invited to submit a junior team to compete in the Andy Kellock Trophy as part of the Donald Cameron League, to be held at Douglas Park GC on Friday 1st August. We need to decide whether we can enter a team, 6 players with the best 4 stableford scores counting. Entry fee is £20. We only have 12 Junior members with a handicap.

The next main event on the fixture list is the Gents Kiltrochan Cup, member + guest. Currently only around 30 entries but I will issue a note to all members to encourage entry. I have spoken with Bakers and More about filled rolls for the day, and we need to decide what other refreshments are to be provided.

The results from the Seniors Open raise a question about the Course Rating. It is very unusual to have so few players scoring 36 points or more. Whilst the greens had been rolled, and there was a bit of wind, it

was not exceptional. Members frequently comment on the course and slope rating compared to other courses which seem less of a challenge. Should we be asking Scottish Golf to review?

****** ACTION, Captain to reach out to Scottish Golf re a review**

The ladies TriAm was discussed, the ladies convenor is concerned that the clubhouse delay may be an issue in running this competition. It was agreed to await the outcome of the Building Standards inspection before making a delay / cancel decision.

Juniors Report

I've spent the last couple of weeks doing quite a lot of admin type stuff. I've had a lot of enquiries about lessons from new members and also from potential new members and also quite a few conversations about rules for juniors, when they can play and who with, that type of thing. I've updated my contact list with details sent on to my from committee members too.

I knew it was becoming law to be a member of the PVG scheme from 1st July, so I've also been ensuring absolutely everything is up to date and all our forms, policies etc meet requirements.

With regard to our recent block of lessons, all the feedback from just about every parent was extremely positive, understanding and supportive, which was lovely. I'll get a list over to the treasurer with refunds, although some parents very kindly refused the refund and asked that it be put towards the juniors.

The juniors open on 4th July will require someone to run the vent, The Captain has agreed to do this.

****** ACTION secretary to contact junior's convenor and discuss the appointment of a replacement roving pro for the August lessons.**

Greens Report

Greens

The greens have had a feed lately and are looking well. A little bit slow but will speed up a little soon.

Tees / surrounds

These are improving now we have had some rain.
We have been soil and seeding them too.

Fairways

We are cutting them twice a week and are soil and seeding them too.

General works

We are doing usual greenkeeping duties
Which at the moment is cutting.

Tree came down on 17th which we cut but still to remove fully from the area.

We have opened the putting green at the moment with a couple of holes in it.

Other items

We have had a bit of vandalism on greens

Nothing major but annoying.

Someone has been using the flagstick to punch holes on them now and again.

Few divots at edges of greens etc.

Just annoying nothing extreme yet.

Staff

All working well.

Senior's report

The seniors open was again very successful, making almost £1525 profit. We had 121 entries (113 played). The winning scores were 37 points (handicap <20) and 41 points (HI >20). Only 6 players scored 36 points or better on the day, resulting in a PCC adjustment of +2. We received very many compliments on the overall condition of the course, and lots of interest in the progress on the clubhouse. Thanks to Bill Smith, Ted Jefferies, Les Watson, Colin Dick, and Craig Jones for their assistance on the day, controlling car parking and guiding players.

We have a new friendly match arranged with Braehead GC, away tie on Thurs 10th July, and the return leg at Balfron on Thurs 25th Sept.

Otherwise, team matches in the KFL and regular Monday sweeps running along well.

Some of the Seniors group assisted Sean Gosse with filming and interviews for the social media campaign during yesterday's sweep.

Ladies

Bounce games & comps suffering a bit with the poorer weather; times cut back to half an hour on Tuesdays. Harper Kennedy & Friendly League matches ongoing, although we are struggling to field full teams for HK. We have also had to use the cafe at the baker's for our lunches for the home matches. Ladies' outing to Dunning in early June was a success and enjoyed by all and Balfron teams won 2nd & 3rd prizes in the open competition.

AOCB

The secretary reported that he had met with a reporter from the Golfshake organisation. The reporter will be writing a review of Balfron which should appear later in the year.

The secretary reported that the Rotary AmAm organisers had been in touch. We had to tell them the clubhouse will not be ready for their event. They have asked that we email members asking them to support the competition.

****** ACTION Treasurer to enquire if we can get the school marquees for the 2 Texas Scramble events.**

A discussion took place regarding an allegation of theft, the committee agreed that the member concerned, when positively identified, should be expelled from the club.

Date of Next Meeting

- Tuesday 22nd July – Garden Room – Secretary to make arrangements for use of Killearn Hall.