**MARCH BOARD MEETING THURSDAY 18th of APRIL 2019**
**SWANSTON GOLF CLUB at 4pm**

**Attendees**

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| **Graeme Millar** | **Captain (GM)** |
| **Mike Robson** | **Club Manager/Secretary (MR)** |
| **David Elliot** | **Greens Convener (DE)** |
| **Liz Anderson** | **Ladies Captain (LA)** |
| **Des Fields** | **Gents Seniors Vice Captain (DF)** |
| **Apologies** | **David Morrans** |
| | **Michelle Edwards** |
| | **Bob Mackay** |

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**WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

The Captain welcomed the attendees and thanked them for coming to the "delayed" March Board Meeting

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING**

There were no matters arising at this point and the minutes were Approved by Liz Anderson and Seconded by David Elliot

**GREENS REPORT (DE)**

The course is coming along well and hopefully it will be as good as a season as last year.
Greens have been spiked twice and the fairways and tees once.
Bunkers have been edged and some may need more sand soon
The heather that was planted around the back of the sixth green sadly has not taken however the new trees around the 7th tee are fine.
Paths have been tidied up
New blue markers for the juniors have been made and ready use MR advised the blue junior tees will not be going out before June 1st.
The front of the range has been prepared and seeded as well as a waste water pipe from the ball washer installed.
The 50, 150 and 250 markers have also been re-sited.
A couple of bunkers along the left side of the fence have been filled in.
Ideally the others should be filled in.
Most of the Water Board pipe has been laid through the range but the grass teeing area is still unavailable for use.
As mentioned before it would be ideal if the Water Board were to leave some of the fences they have erected which would leave the Club with a small length to fence off the range in order to delineate it and keep the public off it for safety purposes.
It would be ideal to cover up the burn in front of the range to reduce loss of balls and facilitate in maintenance.

**Staffing**

There have been no responses for the greenkeepers vacancy.
MR advised that he is aware of two other neighbouring clubs looking for greens staff and they are having problems filling the vacancies too.
MR advised there are two youth members starting soon to look after the range releasing the greens staff from range "duties"
There needs to be a proper plan/rota put in place to manage the range.
Older equipment will be serviced in February along with the sharpening of the cutting units and replacement of the rotary blades.

**FINANCE**

MR advised that, the Club despite the disruption of the Scottish Water project and the Footgolf income loss was managing to keep expenditure below income each month and until the pipeline work is finished and any compensation is received it is almost impossible to forecast future financial trends.

Membership – since January the 1st 30 members have resigned and 20 have joined

There is still over £6000 in outstanding fees to be collected and Michelle and MR are actively trying to get this money paid.

On a positive note MR advised there are about 12 new potential members of which MR expects 10 of them will join before the next Board meeting.

DE then stood up and declared that like many clubs similar to Swanston we will soon run into financial difficulties as a result of falling membership numbers each year

DE presented figures to the meeting and his findings suggested we would need to find the equivalent of around 70 new members going into 2020.

DE suggested what we should consider to try and achieve this and the re introduction of Footgolf was one of them.

A brief heated discussion followed and the decision was made to bring back Footgolf on a temporary basis until the end of September this year.

**COMPETITIONS**

No competitions apart from the non counting Saturday Stableford Sweeps

**MATCHES**

The Janice Sutherland Trophy played for between the Gents Seniors and the Ladies Section was played on Thursday April 9th and the Gents Seniors were victorious by the small margin overall of 4 shots.

The delayed season opening Captain v Vice Captains match was held on Saturday April 13th

The format was a Texas Scramble and the Captain won by 9 shots, 679 – 688 and retained the Luke's Cup.

**Winter Scratch League**

10 February beat Bruntsfield at Swanston 3-1

24 February lost to Baberton at Baberton 3-1

Team failed to qualify for the semi finals on count back as unexpectantly Bruntsfield Links lost to Royal Burgess at home 2.5 - 1.5

| **Group B** | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Club** | **P** | **W** | **D** | **L** | **F** | **A** | **Pts** |
| **Bruntsfield Links** | **6** | **4** | **0** | **2** | **16** | **8** | **8** |
| **Royal Burgess** | **6** | **3** | **0** | **3** | **12.5** | **11.5** | **6** |
| **Swanston** | **6** | **3** | **0** | **3** | **9.5** | **14.5** | **6** |
| **Baberton** | **6** | **2** | **0** | **4** | **10** | **14** | **4** |

**AOB**

There was no Other Business and the Meeting finished at 4.40pm

The next Board Meeting will be on Tuesday the 4th of June 2019 at 4pm.

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