



## Niddry Castle Golf Club

Castle Road, Winchburgh, West Lothian EH52 6RQ  
Tel: 01506 891097 Email: [enquiry@niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk)  
[www.niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk](http://www.niddrycastlegolfclub.co.uk)

### Minutes 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023

**Present; J Pritchard, J Finnigan, A Leslie, D Baker, S Nicolson, S Robertson, M McAnulty, E Connolly.**

**Apologies: M McElroy, M Binnie**

**The minutes of the July Meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.  
Prop M Mc Second AL**

**There were no matters arising.**

#### **Finance Report – July 2023**

**June income was £11,513 which comprised of**

<b>£5,168</b>	<b>Annual subscriptions</b>
<b>£3,430</b>	<b>Green fees</b>
<b>£914</b>	<b>Competitions</b>
<b>£200</b>	<b>Sponsorship</b>
<b>£1,700</b>	<b>Grant Winchburgh Development and WLC</b>

**Expenditure was £14,166 which includes**

<b>£134</b>	<b>Bank and interest charges</b>
<b>£257</b>	<b>Bounce back loan</b>
<b>£592</b>	<b>Catering</b>
<b>£702</b>	<b>Loan repayment</b>
<b>£689</b>	<b>Upkeep of property (incl. heat/light, rent, telephone, water)</b>
<b>£8,309</b>	<b>Wages and pension costs</b>
<b>£2,658</b>	<b>Upkeep of equipment / oil</b>

**Net loss £2,652**

**Year to date loss £2,652**

**Very similar financials to the first month last year.**

**Wages and pension costs. This includes our quarterly remittance to HMRC.**

**It does highlight the cost of employment, above the salary of the staff.**

**We are paying less on Catering costs, the recruitment of A O Shanks, seems to be a success.**

**We need to ensure that this continues to be beneficial.**

**We have managed to reduce fixed costs, and savings will continue to be sought.**

**We will put together a Plan for next month with projected income against expenditure which will assist in our Fee proposition to members**

**Mike M queried loan repayments and was informed that the policy was to reduce debts and it would take a 3-year programme. DB asked about reinvesting loans on completion and possible leasing of equipment, and JF informed her that it was related to finance at the time.**

**JP expressed a desire to man the desk over summer months due to unauthorised use of the course.**

**The full accounts will be due on 31<sup>st</sup> August and a discussion on fees was needed.**

### **Membership Report – July 2023**

#### **Current Position**

**There are currently 266 members. The Breakdown only includes Members who have paid in Full or paid a Deposit. The figure on the right is the increase/decrease from last month.**

<b>- 65 Seniors</b>	<b>-1</b>
<b>- 97 Full</b>	<b>-3</b>
<b>- 23 Life</b>	<b>=</b>
<b>- 64 Junior</b>	<b>+1</b>
<b>- 1 Country</b>	<b>=</b>
<b>- 2 Weekday</b>	<b>=</b>
<b>- 12 Intermediate</b>	<b>+1</b>
<b>- 2 Student</b>	<b>=</b>
<b>- 0 honorary</b>	<b>=</b>
<b>- 4 social</b>	<b>=</b>

**The request for a refund from a member who wished to join another club was rejected by the committee.**

**Efforts would be made to tighten up the monthly payments and discussion of a finance company ensued and JF would report. The use of a Direct Debit was also discussed.**

**Suspensions 10 (6 Full + 4 Senior)**

## Greens

The club have appointed Jordan Rhind as the new Head Greenkeeper and he is due to sign his contract on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August and commence work on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

## Ladies

The ladies held their invitational on the 18th July which was very well attended. We had an excellent buffet provided by Ollie. This was won by Pat Gentleman and her guest.

Mhairi Chambers has played her semi-final in the Champion of Champions, but this resulted in a loss, but against a very low handicap player. Congratulations go to Mhairi for progressing this far.

We had a friendly against Linlithgow but this resulted in a loss, but was thoroughly enjoyed anyway.

Several ladies have been attending coaching and John has asked that some of us take them out for a few holes and also give us the chance to meet them and hopefully this will result in new members.

We have decided to cancel our tri-am. The entries have been disappointing to date and also, we felt that being without a Greenkeeper the course would not be at its best.

Monday will see the next Ladies coaching course with 5 ladies taking part.

## Clubhouse Report for July '23

We thank all the volunteers again for their work. AL has another member trained up just this week.

JF and myself not had a chance to sit down to sort vending and coffee machine out yet. To be arranged at the council meeting.

Both hall cupboards now being able to be used by Olly which helps him.

Disabled Toilet needs time spent on it. Much of the items in there require to be put in the skip. SN to liase with JP and AL in regards to an action plan.

Grease Trap – we intend to sort some quotes out for this and the Septic tank has been emptied.

Olly has holidays due and cover is required. Possible alternatives were suggested and SN will meet to determine exact dates and solutions.

## Seniors

1) The Seniors team ended the season with a loss at West Lothian. We finished bottom (joint!) with a record of 2 wins, 1 tie and 7 defeats.

2) We struggled sometimes to field a team despite having a decent pool of players, hopefully next season will improve.

3) Appreciation to the club for subsidizing the after-match meal.

4) I'm willing to carry on as seniors secretary next season but if anyone else would like to give it a go then I'm happy to stand down.

**A vote of thanks was offered to MB for his efforts and his offer to continue in post was gratefully accepted.**

### **Junior Report**

**The Golf Sixes League continues with fixtures having taking place at West Lothian on 16<sup>th</sup> July, Niddry Castle on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, and Bathgate on 30<sup>th</sup> July. Our Team finished 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> equal and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively. However, the margins to the top teams are getting smaller.**

**Get into summer started on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> July and we have had attendances of 19, 12 and 15 for the 3 sessions in August. The programme benefited from contributions from 3 of the local Count Councillors via their Disbursement Funds.**

**Weekly coaching sessions continue regardless of the weather. This has led to £6700 coming to the club.**

**It was also agreed the junior who were 14 years old could book direct to play the course.**

### **Adults**

**Ladies Get Confident in the Basics started on the evening of Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> July with 6 ladies taking part. This program is due to finish on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> August and some of our Lady section have agreed to play a few holes with the players on that evening.**

**The next program is set to begin on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> September and is fully booked.**

### **Social**

**The Race Night Has been postponed as it seemed to clash with holidays and will be rearranged at a future date.**

**Lorna Carrie was mentoring students seeking work experience and a placement could be offered and AL would investigate.**

**The race night would be October and a major effort would be made to develop income at £5 per horse and 50 % of the total returned in winnings.**

**SR informed the committee that her husband would be happy to supervise and work the odds and the maths.**

### **AOCB**

**1- The constitution has been re written and is a first step to any changes of status. The SGU and the Club Consultancy Advisors will fund the club to £1000 to assist them in producing a package and they will meet with the club regarding charitable status.**

**Andrew Jenkin will attend on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept to produce the pros and cons of the changes and which route enables funding in an easier manner. Information will be sent and the best fit for the club will be sought. This will change the model of working and currently we will hold any further work on the constitution. EC offered his apologies for the meeting.**

**There is a template available for changes to assist is in dealings with OSCAR.**

**EC and DB would circulate the work done on both the constitution and business plan to the council. DB had summarised the submitted responses by members to our recent survey.**

**2-Mike M asked about the state of the foyer and cleaning. A possible outside cleaner was suggested, but the bins were now clearly marked to assist recycling.**

**3- AL raised the concept of the gang mowers and they were seen as a cheap and effective back up, JR to be consulted.**

**4- SN intends to organise bins for the lounge to aid recycling.**

- 5- SR praised the junior programme but suggested a headline to show the course was open for play by members. JP to sort this out.**
- 6- AL discussed the volunteer work on the course and whilst Alaister and Chris worked as individuals they may wish to assist others. IW had ordered sand for bunkers.**
- 7- JP informed that a new electric meter had been fitted but no progress made on the outstanding bill.**
- 8- AMCO would be working on the course for Network rail, fitting new netting alongside the railway. It may take 6 weeks and a compensation package will be discussed by JP.**

**Due to other meetings and availability the next meeting will be MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 1930**

**E Connolly  
Hon Sec**