

DYFED GOLFING UNION

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at Derllys Golf Club Thursday 28th November 2024

Present: Chris Jones – Carmarthen (Chairman). , Lyndsay Morgan MBE– Cardigan (Vice-chairman), Elaine Rees (Secretary/ Match/ Competition Sec), Olivia Martin (Press officer / Safeguarding) , Chris Lawrence – Haverfordwest (Junior Manager), Jamie Thomas (Treasurer)

Geraint Hammond – Machynys , Martin Thomas – Ashburnham,Dai Lindquist – Newport Links, Peter Bassett – Borth & Ynyslas, John Rees – Haverfordwest, Simon Arthur – Trefloyne, Eifion Price – Trefloyne, John Floyd – Newport Links, Luke Lorch – Rosemarket, Paddy Bellgrby – Rosemarket, Alan Jones – South Pembs, Dean Wilcox- South Pembs, Peter Moroney – Carmarthen, Huw Smith – Carmarthen, Simon Gumbley- Tenby, Lyndon Brown – Milford Haven, Jamie Lonergan – Milford Haven, Jeff Harries – Carmarthen, Mark Creamer – Cilgwyn, Nick Stephens – Garnant, James Murrey – Garnant , Richard Ormond – Tenby, Gelly James – Haverfordwest, Rhys Davies – Tenby, Dai Harri – Glynhir, Rhodri Treharne – Glynhir,Neil Evans – Derllys Court, Lee Lewis – Derllys Court and Daniel Brice Carmarthen.

Apologies : Huw Dixon – County Seniors Captain, Jason Putt – County Captain, Steve Brown – President , Ben Hinchey – Machynys, Dean Rawlings- Rosemarket. Richard Brice – Ashburnham.

Minutes of 2023 AGM: Held at Carmarthen Golf Club on 30th November 2023 . Proposed as correct by Mark Creamer and seconded by Lyndsay Morgan MBE of Cardigan as correct. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's report: Chris Jones

In completing my first year as Chairman of Dyfed Golfing Union, I would like to thank the committee for their work and support throughout the year. So that's a thank you to Steve from Milford, Lyndsay from Cardigan, Nick from Machynys, Chris from Haverfordwest, Jason from Machynys, Huw from Ashburnham and of course our main administration team, Olivia and Jamie from Ashburnham and Elaine.

The aims of the DGU are four-fold:

1. To foster and encourage golf within the County.
2. To improve standards of play at all levels.
3. To organise and hold matches and competitions for members.
4. To promote and encourage social contact between Members and others.

Membership is open to all properly constituted golf clubs situated within the County and is secured upon payment of the annual subscription. The Officers of DGU are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Union. They are the President, who is the principal representative of the Union who would normally attend the County Championship, Junior Championship and matches, the Vice President, the Chairman, who exercises general supervision over the affairs of the Union to ensure efficient administration, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, responsible for all general administration, the Treasurer, the County Captain, Seniors' Captain, Junior Organiser and Press Secretary.

During my first year as Chairman, I was pleased to be a part of the formulation of a number of new and/or revised policies –

1. Equality
2. Disciplinary
3. Privacy
4. Social Media

These are all available to view and download on our DGU web sit

Dyfed County Champion 2024 is Alan Jones of South Pembs. It was one of my first duties as new Chairman to write to Alan in December of last year in regard to his having been honoured with Life Membership at South Pembs Golf Club after his years of service to golf representing both Club and County at the highest level. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly apologise to Alan for the administrative errors made on the day of the County Championships, not least the absence of the trophy on the day. On behalf of Dyfed Golf, my apologies Alan. You deserved better. Turning now to the men's County Team, this was captained by Jason Putt (Machynys) and I will not steal his thunder, as there is a separate report from him as a part of this year's AGM agenda. All I would like to say is that I am personally grateful to Jason for his work on the committee of DGU. He brings valuable managerial experience and is a diligent contributor to all administrative, financial and strategic discussion. The men's County Seniors Team was again ably captained by Huw Dixon. I know that this was Huw's final year as Seniors Captain and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Huw for the years of service he has given to the Union in this role. He will be a hard act to follow but I know we have an excellent

successor to step in to his shoes who will, I am sure, be just as popular and effective in leading the County Seniors Team. I am delighted that Dyfed topped the seniors' league in Huw's swansong year. I am also delighted that I was able to play in Dyfed's final game against Brecon & Radnor in Llandrindod Wells and be a part of the team that secured top spot that day. I was a last minute call up following an unexpected withdrawal so I thank Huw for taking one for the team in pairing us together! As above, no doubt more to be said by Huw in his report. I have to express particular thanks to Chris Lawrence (Haverfordwest) for the excellent work he has done this year with our junior golfers. Along with Olivia Martin who has done a sterling job on safeguarding and working with Chris to develop the Junior Guidance Procedure 2024 (available to view on our web-site) and working with Alun Lynch (Machynys) as our County Junior Coach, Chris has rejuvenated our junior golf programme in producing a culture in which Dyfed junior golf can thrive to produce the county players and champions of the future. As above, I will not steal his thunder as he has a report to give but suffice to say I think Chris has transformed our junior golf this year and I know that under his guidance and leadership there is so much more to come from our young players. I have been so impressed.

That concludes my Chairman's Report for the year 2024. I now look forward to 2025.

Treasurer's report: Jamie Thomas

Jamie presented the provisional treasurers account 1st November 2023 to 31st October 2024. There were no questions regarding the finances. Report Attached.

Junior report: Chris Lawrence

Before I commence my report for the Dyfed Junior boys 2024 season, and with it being my first year in post I would like to initially say a few thank yous for the support people have given me in my first year with in this role .

I would like to thank all of the various officers for their support including , Elaine for her guidance whenever I have had what sometimes may seem a silly question at all hours of the day and night. Mr Chris Jones our chairman for being there and giving advice to shore up some of my decisions.

Nick Daniels for his guidance, direction, and enthusiasm regarding my initial setup of the boys coaching and development days at Machynys Golf Club. Nick and his team, along with our new coaches have made the transition smooth and professional so a big thanks to them. Lastly but by no means least Olivia Martin who's been there whenever I have needed anything in 2024, who support friendship and guidance, has been solid throughout the season, so I would like to personally thank her for that.

Our teamwork and shared ideas have I feel been beneficial for the squad which at the end of the day is why we are here.

Olivia you have been so helpful.

In April The first competitive event of the year within our county was the South Wales boys championships which was arranged and organised to be held at Carmarthen GC

.Unfortunately due to a storm and waterlogged course this event was cancelled the night before. Moving on from this inter County championships I am hoping due to the repetitive wet winters we are now enduring to alter the dates and move the competition to a more appropriate date .

Also in April of this year with the support of the County officers a great **NEW** opportunity was offered to the squad members to come to Machynys GC with our new coaching team and myself to enjoy, learn, develop and take part in a new format. **A coaching and development day** which was strategic and had aims and objectives was set up for the Junior boys.

The day was planned and was structured and ran from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM with a fully constructive day, with an itinerary and time scales for coaching. This included various coaching groups, and drills for all abilities in the morning designed and delivered by our two PGA professionals Alan and Rhys. Within this Mindset and Psychological training was also provided

Following the mornings theoretical and practical activities all players of different abilities then sat together on one table and enjoyed cooked lunch. This was followed by 12 hole stableford competition in the afternoon. This was again supported on the course by the professionals, to give our Juniors course management advice, and decision making guidance, linked from the morning sessions.

A prize was awarded to the winning junior on the day.

The day proved a huge success and all players and staff alike enjoyed the whole experience the boys were already getting to know each other more closely and team bonding was already taking place. More coaching and development days were held this year in May, July, Oct and most recently this month again at Machynys.

Alun Lynch head coach and Rhys Mooney, The Wales Golf Psychologist and myself have been part of this process offering all our youngsters support in developing mental strength, and well-being whilst on the course. Last Sunday another development day was held on **February 2nd of 2025.**

Following a meeting recently between myself and Natalie Powell The Wales golf pathway and high performance officer, and also Gareth Jenkins the head director of high performance and pathway for Wales Golf, moving forward to 2025 we will now be able to offer more support to our County boys team with the intervention of our National Teams support network, so it's all looking good going forward.

Competitive Golf is next so I would like to report the results for 2024.

Following the first coaching and development day,

In June the first Match for newly formed Dyfed team was the under sixteens match against Glamorgan held at Haverfordwest GC. Glamorgan Arrived at Haverfordwest with a definite air of confidence about them.

What was most pleasing for me was that prior to the match and following a team talk in the changing room, all 10 players were seen walking together down the 17th tee to view the 1st tee as a group. Whilst Checking out the course and talking to each other Glamorgan watched closely as this happened.

All ten players performed to an excellent standard that day, and Dyfed were able to beat Glamorgan for the first time in 8 years with a 7 points to five home win. I was and still am delighted with everyone who gave everything on that day and sent Glamorgan back up the M4 corridor with their tails between their legs.

In July the under 18 s category were thin on the ground for selection due to holidays and other commitments.

However our under eighteens boys fielded a team with some younger players playing up and we went to the Gower Golf Club and competed against the first class Glamorgan team which included four international players!

The day was tough and Glamorgan took the scalp with 12 points to 0 win.

Also in **July Team Dyfed** travelled to Newport Gwent to Park Golf Club to compete in the South Wales boys under 15 and under 16 championships.

This was a team event on what was one of the hottest days of the summer.

An Individual medal format was played with 4 under 16 players and 4 under 15 players against the other counties. Our team competed against the counties of Glamorganshire and, Gwent. Glamorganshire were again victorious alongside Monmouthshire who took the championship this year.

August saw our young under fourteens players compete in their home fixture against Glamorgan at Glyn Abbey Golf Club. The young boys gave a good account of ourselves with three players making their debut for the county. Unfortunately Glamorgan won on the day by 8 ½ points to 4 ½ points. A great learning curve for our debutantes.

Also in August the mixture of ages and abilities attended Tenby Golf Club to take on our senior team a great day was had by all on the seniors just pipped us by three games to two. The culmination of the counties competitive golf took place in Cardigan Golf Club on the **28th of August the Dyfed Junior boys' championships.**

Cardigans 36 hole competition gave us what I can only say was all weathers.

We had rain, hail, fog, and sunshine throughout the day which made it all very interesting!!!!

The runner up this year with a gross 166 was Lucas Aldred from Milford Haven Golf club

The winner and the Dyfed boys Champion for 2024 was Osian Young from Cilgwyn GC with a winning score of Gross 154.

This year OOM Champions were Haverfordwest who beat Glyn Abbey by just 1 point with a score of 46 points. Haverfordwest then went on to compete in the Welsh junior inter club championship in Builth Wells on October the 30th representing the County and came a respectful 3rd place overall

Safeguarding Report: Olivia Martin

Whenever the word Safeguarding is mentioned people's responses vary considerably, but modern sports organisations, including golf and their national governing bodies view the issue of safeguarding and protecting children, as a legal requirement and a responsibility rather than a burden. Where children and adults are involved in the sport of golf, it is the duty of each organisation to ensure their welfare and safety against the risk of harm or abuse.

The DGU Adult & Junior Safeguarding policy has been recently updated and can be found on the website under the Junior section. Both policies are very lengthy documents but the Junior Policy is set out to reassure parents that we will fulfil our commitment to good practice for protecting the children in our care.

Dyfed Golfing Union is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all individuals involved in golf. Each year before a junior (under 18 years on the 1st January) takes part in any County activity (competitions, matches, and training sessions) Parental Consent Documents must be completed. These forms only need to be completed once annually. From the DGU Safeguarding Policy appendices 5, 6 10 & 11 need to be completed. As safeguarding officer, this year, I have attended all Junior Open Days within the County and ensured all juniors and their parents have completed the Safeguarding forms. Could League Captains kindly contact me, to check the forms have been completed prior to the first match of the season. A reminder, if juniors are travelling in a car with other players, a minimum of 2 adults must be in a car with the junior.

County Team Report : Jason Putt

Thank you, Mr Chairman, and good evening, everyone. First of all please accept my apologies for non-attendance this evening.

The season started in a positive way with a trip down to Gwent and a match played at Peterstone lakes GC in May. Where we were able to field a strong team, consisting of players from 4 golf clubs.

The foursomes in the morning finished 2 each. And the singles in the afternoon finished 5 to 3 with Dyfed winning the match 7-5

Unfortunately, that's where the season ended, as we had to cancel matches against B&R, Glamorgan, Gloucestershire

We had to cancel our involvement in the Wessex Salver, and our participation in the Inter counties in September. We just did not have enough players make themselves available for selection in 2024.

We have a squad of 33 golfers at present but could not field a side for these matches. Very disappointing I'm sure you will agree.

This culminated in me resigning my position for 2025 as County Captain, but after meeting with the county officers I have decided to go again and improve this situation.

I am currently in the process of discussing with my players how we can improve this situation in 2025. And will feedback at later date.

I am working with Chris to bring the juniors into the squad to give exposure to their talents, Dion is already a pivotal part of the squad, and I look forward to being in a position where I can pick other Juniors coming through, and hopefully have a fulfilling season ahead.

Senior County team Report : Huw Dixon

The season began with a trial at Ashburnham, fifteen golfers attended. The best score of the day was recorded by Alan Jones from South Pembrokeshire with an excellent 70 gross.

The first match of the South Wales Senior League was against Glamorgan at Cardigan. On a very windy day Glamorgan won the foursomes 3 matches to 2 and singles 5.5 to 4.5, winning the match 8.5 matches to 6.5.

On 1st July we had our annual fixture against Denbighshire at Ashburnham.

The morning foursomes were halved 2.5 - 2.5. The afternoon fourballs were a tight affair with Denbighshire winning the first three of the afternoon fourballs games on the 18th hole. Denbighshire won the fixture 10.5 to 4.5.

We look forward to gaining revenge in the away fixture next summer.

The home match at Carmarthen Golf Club against Brecon and Radnor in the league was won by Dyfed. The score 11.5-3.5.

The next league match was away to Glamorgan at Clyne Golf Club. Dyfed needed to win to have any chance of winning the league.

The morning foursomes began well with Dyfed winning two matches by Richard Brice / Rob Stone and Alan Price / Huw Dixon. Two of the remaining matches were matches halved and one loss.

Dyfed needed five points in the afternoon singles to secure the victory.

The first match was lost, but wins by Leigh Ivory, Richard Brice ,Jonathan Blewett, Warren Williams, Dylan Rees and Alan Price, together with halves by John Roberts and Rob Stone gave Dyfed a resounding victory 10 matches to five.

The title was to be decided in the final match of the season against Brecon and Radnor at Llandrindod Wells Golf Club. Dyfed needed to win the match eleven matches to four to win the league for the third time.

The morning foursomes were won 4-1, therefore Dyfed needed seven points in the afternoon singles to win the league. Dyfed won the singles eight points to two . Match Score 12-3.

Dyfed won the league by winning more individual matches than Glamorgan.

Well done Dyfed Seniors on winning the title for the third time.

The Welsh Senior Counties Team Championships were held at Swansea Bay Golf Club in atrocious conditions. Dyfed came a creditable fourth.

Congratulations must be given to Alan Jones and Leigh Ivory who were selected to play for Wales in the Senior Home Internationals in Ireland.

May I thank all the players (21) that have supported me this year and also to the clubs that have hosted our fixtures.

The fixtures for the 2025 season will be on the website shortly and anyone over 55 who is interested in playing for Dyfed please contact me.

Election of officers: Chris Jones (Carmarthen) was unanimously elected as Chairman for his second year.

Lynsay Morgan (Cardigan) was unanimously elected as vice chairman for his second year.

Nick Daniels (Machynys)was elected as President for his first year.

John Rees (Haverfordwest) was elected as vice president for his first year.

Chris Lawrence (Haverfordwest) was unanimously elected as Junior Organiser.

Simon Gumbley (Tenby) was unanimously elected as Treasurer.

Dylan Rees (Ashburnham was elected as County Seniors captain.

Elaine Rees (Secretery , Competition Secretary), Jason Putt (County Captain) , Olivia Martin (Press and Safeguarding officer) were all unanimously re elected .

Decisions on Proposals:

1. To consider the motion proposed by the Dyfed Golf Union Committee :- Increase mileage allowance from 25p a mile to 45p a mile for officials and team players. This was unanoumasilly passed.
2. To consider the motion proposed by Glynhir Golf Club :- For clubs with A and B teams, the A team must list a core squad of 25 players before the season starts. These players can under no circumstances represent the B team. Any other club members can represent the B team and be available for selection by the A team. – This motion

was withdrawn by Glynhir after a discussion with clubs present to stop the rule that players are team tied.

3. To consider the motion proposed by Glynhir Golf Club :- All leagues move to a standard 6 pairs. – This motion was also withdrawn by Glynhir after the rule change of players being team tied.
4. To consider the motion proposed by Glynhir Golf Club :- All leagues drop down by 1 pair. i.e. Division 1 and Division 2 would form teams of 7 pairs and Division 3 would be 6 pairs. – Voted Against - motion not carried.
5. To consider the motion proposed by Penrhos Golf Club :- No player with a Handicap Index of 10 or less as of 1st April in any one year can play for more than one team in the same club that year. - This motion was withdrawn by Penrhos after a discussion with clubs present to stop the rule that players are team tied.
6. To consider the motion proposed by Machynys Golf Club:- Reduce the number of players per team from 16 and 14 down to 10. - Voted Against - motion not carried.
7. To consider the motion proposed by Machynys Golf Club:- Reduce the number of clubs per division – increasing the number of divisions from 3 to 5 , this would allow 4 teams per division. - Voted Against - motion not carried.
8. To consider the motion proposed by Machynys Golf Club:- Change of Super 6 back to previous format or Regionalise into 3 sub counties and then into a finals day. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to arrange a meeting in January / February with the Dyfed League captains to discuss and decide on a new structure for the Super 6 / Scratch competition.

The Chairman and Jeff Harries were invited to make the draw for the first round of the Jeff Harries Knock Out Bowl Competition 2025. First team drawn plays at home.

Presentation of trophies for the 2024 winners .

Elaine Rees (Secretary DGU)