



FOREST PINES

Minutes of Forest Pines Golf Club Annual General Meeting – 30th October 2025, Pines Bar

Present

Steve Topham (Secretary), Colin McRobbie, Denise Leighton (Lady Captain), John Killeen (Men's Captain), Wyn Davis (Lady Vice Captain), Roger Buss (Men's Vice Captain), Mark Clayton (Treasurer), Alan Hobson, Jayne Hobson, Sue Over, Jeff Greenwood, John Carolan, Mick Hill, David Elliot, Owen Musgrave, Roger Danby, Stan Carter, Lynne Carter, Gillian Killeen, Helen Scuton, Karl Dixon, Pete Reeves, Kate Reeves, John Clark, Kay Clark, Adi Hewes

In Attendance

Matt Peacock, Jamie McDonald, Samantha Foreest, Charlie Buss, Poppy Buss

Apologies

Sarah Thomas, Andy Canwell, Pep Delduca, Ann Day, Keith Briggs, Gary Middleton, Danny Carter

Agenda

1. Welcome – Club Secretary

The Club Secretary welcomed the Captains, Past Captains, Members and Guests to the 2025 Annual General Meeting and thanked all for their attendance.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

ST reviewed the minutes of the 2024 AGM page by page and invited comments or corrections.

Proposed: Phil Leighton

Seconded: John Killeen

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record (unanimously).

3. Actions Arising from the Previous Minutes

The Secretary advised that there was one outstanding action relating to the England Golf (EG) rule regarding the use of Betterball scores for handicap purposes.

Betterball Scores – (Sue Over)

On behalf of the Committee, SO outlined the England Golf rule that where a team scores more than 42 points and a player scores on more than 9 holes, that player's handicap may be adjusted accordingly.

Members were reminded that individual players are responsible for notifying their Home Club of qualifying scores, and that neither hosting clubs nor organisers can be relied upon to submit cards or advise England Golf.

Following discussion, SO confirmed that this rule does not apply to 9-hole competitions. The Committee confirmed that the matter is now resolved.

4. Report / Matters Arising – Club Secretary

The Secretary reported that the 2025 season had been less challenging than previous years, allowing for a full competition programme to be completed.

Thanks were expressed to:

- The Club Committee
- Club Staff
- Denise Leighton and Phil Leighton

The Committee continued to meet monthly and focused work on:

- Course improvements
- Member complaints and feedback
- Creating an inclusive environment
- Improving member benefits
- Strengthening communications, including social media
- Website improvements (Keith Briggs)
- More inclusive competition formats

Key constitutional objectives reviewed included:

- Maintenance of handicaps – Business as usual
- Full competition calendar – fully delivered
- Social activities – successful Divot Night and Quiz Night
- Membership growth – work ongoing via the Inclusion Plan
- Safeguarding – annual adoption of England Golf policy and appointment of a Safeguarding Officer (Colin McRobbie)

Members were encouraged to become actively involved and to raise any issues with ST or Matt Peacock.

5. Report – Director of Golf (Matt Peacock)

Matt Peacock thanked members for their support and praised the work of the Committee.

A report from Head Greenkeeper Steve Hird was presented, noting:

- Challenging dry summer conditions
- Hollow tining and micro tining of greens
- Planned winter works including verti-draining, bunker reshaping and fairway aeration
- Tree works and bunker improvements

Membership stood at 655 members.

Retail and professional services were reported as strong, with the Pro Shop continuing to perform well. New brands to be introduced included Reflow, Malbon and Ping products.

Thanks were given to outgoing Captains John Killeen and Denise Leighton, with congratulations extended to Roger Buss and Wyn Davis as incoming Captains.

6. Report – Men's Captain (John Killeen)

The Men's Captain thanked members, staff, the Committee and volunteers for their support throughout his year.

Key highlights included:

- Growth in social golf
- 9-hole fun competitions
- Quiz Nights
- Away weekends at record attendance
- Strong competition entry numbers
- Successful Captain's Weekend

Financial improvements were noted, including:

- Achievement of a £3,000 contingency target
- Improved financial procedures

The Captain's Charity, Children with Cancer UK, was reported to have raised approximately £2,500.

Best wishes were extended to the incoming Captains for 2026.

7. Report – Lady Captain

The Lady Captain thanked members and staff and reflected on a successful year of partnership working.

Key points:

- Thanks to John Killeen for joint events and initiatives
 - Thanks to Sue Over for work as Handicap and Competitions Secretary
 - Ladies competed in LWGA Division 2, finishing 2nd
 - Best wishes passed to Wyn Davis as incoming Lady Captain
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8. Appointment of Vice Captains

Men's Section

Roger Buss (RB) addressed the meeting as incoming Captain.

RB proposed Roger Danby as Men's Vice Captain for 2026.

Proposed: Roger Buss

Seconded: Alan Hobson

Vote (Men only):

For: 27 | Against: 0 | Abstentions: 0

Unanimously approved

Ladies' Section

Wyn Davis (WD) addressed the meeting as incoming Lady Captain.

WD advised that the Ladies' Section were unable to nominate a Vice Captain for 2027 but confirmed support arrangements would be put in place.

9. Report / Accounts – Treasurer (Mark Clayton)

The Treasurer reported:

- Finances in good order following increased competition entry fees
- Surplus generated: £516.79
- Funds as at 30 September 2025: £3,385.24
- Reserve account balance: £1,643.30
- Target reserve of £3,000 expected to be achieved within the next year

A query was raised regarding Junior funding. The Committee confirmed that external funding sources would be explored.

Approval of Accounts

Proposed: Mark Clayton

Seconded: John Killeen

Vote: For 27 | Against 0 | Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

10. Appointment of Auditor

It was proposed that Jeff Wright Accountants be reappointed as Auditor.

Proposed: Mark Clayton

Seconded: Alan Hobson

Vote: For 27 | Against 0 | Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

11. Review of Fees, Reserves and Overheads

The proposed structure was approved.

Proposed: Mark Clayton

Seconded: Sue Over

Vote: For 27 | Against 0 | Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

12. Constitutional Changes

ST advised that minor constitutional updates were required, including:

- Voting procedures
- Club V1 access (GDPR)
- Mixed Organiser role
- Liaison/Communications role
- Updated Club logo

No objections were raised.

Proposed: Steve Topham

Seconded: John Killeen

Vote: For 27 | Against 0 | Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

13. Review of Competition Winners – Men's Section

Presented by Jeff Greenwood:

Handicap Range Winners

0–5.9	7
6–11.9	15
12–17.9	5
18–24	2

It was confirmed that higher handicappers were not disproportionately winning competitions.

No vote required.

14. Prize for Lowest Gross – Board Competitions (Men Only)

A proposal to introduce a prize for the lowest gross score was approved.

Proposed: John Killeen

Seconded: Owen Musgrave

Vote (Men only): For 18 | Against 0 | Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

15. Engraving of Ladies' Trophies

The meeting agreed that the Committee and Ladies' Section would further review the position.

Proposed: Kay Clark

Seconded: Alan Hobson

Vote: For 27 | Against 0 | Abstentions 0

Unanimously approved

16. Appointment of Committee Members

Secretary (Steve Topham)

Proposed: Jeff Greenwood

Seconded: Kay Clark

Approved unanimously

Junior Organiser (John Killeen)

Proposed: Steve Topham

Seconded: Alan Hobson

Approved unanimously

Mixed Organiser (Denise Leighton)

Proposed: Steve Topham

Seconded: Lynn Carter
Approved unanimously

17. Consolidation of Committee Roles

The Committee confirmed that certain optional roles were not currently required but would remain in the Constitution for future use.

18. Committee Roles – Disclosure

Members were advised that the Hotel General Manager has discretion to subsidise part of Committee members' subscriptions in recognition of voluntary work. This may vary and may be withdrawn in the future.

19. Any Other Business

Members were advised that:

- Draft minutes will be published on the website
 - The revised Constitution will be posted
 - Members were thanked for their attendance
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20. Close of Meeting

Meeting closed: 8:35 PM