

LITTLE SAI WAN GOLFING SOCIETY



Founded 1964

Minutes of Annual General Meeting – 24 May 2021

The following minutes are a record of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Little Sai Wan Golfing Society held on Monday 24th of May 2021 at the Hong Kong Golf Club.

Society Members Attending- 18

Committee Members – Attending- 8

- Captain: Jean Paul Cuvelier (JPC)
- Match Secretary: Lorenz Zimmermann (LZ)*
- Honorary Treasurer: Dave Collins (DC)
- Honorary Secretary: Nick Gikas (NG)
- Handicap Secretary: Carel Rossouw (CR)
- Officer: Todd Hooper (TH)
- Officer: Nigel Farmer (NF)*
- Officer: John Harris (JH)

Committee Apologies for Absence- 5

- President: Antony Michell (AM)
- Membership Secretary: Richard Castka (RC)
- Communications Officer: Dallas Reid (DR)
- Officer: Andre Kriesel (AK)*
- Officer: Dale Willetts (DW)

*Resigned from the Committee before the AGM

18 Proxies were received and submitted to the Honorable Secretary for this AGM

JPC opened the AGM at 2:36 pm.

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes from the 2020 AGM:

JPC took the chair on behalf of President AM, who was confined to New Zealand due to Covid19 related travel restrictions.

JPC stated the minutes have been on the website for review for the past year and called for comments. None were received. A motion to approve the minutes was proposed by JPC and seconded by Vance Lee, and the motion was passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Proposed Changes to the Society Rules

JPC asked the members to approve the updated Society Rules which had been circulated to the members by email two weeks before the AGM.

Member Martin Rinderknecht questioned why today's event did not allow for lift, clean and place according to Society Rule 10h and why buggies were allowed today which was not in accordance of Society Rule 10i. JPC responded that match decisions were made by the Match Secretary based on the local conditions of play today.

CR stated that the rules do not reflect the allowance of up to 24 handicaps for Society events previously approved by the members. However, rule 9d does reflect this provision.

LZ pointed out that the Committee had not voted on the rules changes by email as required by the rules 7h

CR proposed and Nigel Farmer seconded a motion that the approval of the updated Society Rules be postponed to a later time to allow further review and comment by the members. The motion was passed unanimously.

3. Presentation of the Committee Reports

As required by the Society by-laws, the following five reports were presented by the relevant committee members in the following order as well as a special message from the President.

- Treasurer's Report - presented by DC
- President Message: presented by JPC
- Captain's Report: presented by JPC
- Handicap Secretary's Report- presented by CR
- Membership Secretary's Report – presented by NG on behalf of RC
- Match Secretary's Report- presented by LZ

Jonny Brock questioned if the Golf Genius app would continue to be used and whether it is worth the expense to the Society and members. CR responded it was worth its weight in gold and LZ stated it saves approximately 50% of the time required by the Match Secretary if done manually. JPC stated the future use of Golf Genius would be reviewed by the new Committee.

TH updated the membership on the condition of Rob Henderson and advised that Rob will be in Hong Kong in July and would appreciate to hear from Society members and perhaps a dinner could be arranged while he is in Hong Kong.

JPC updated the members on the leg injury condition of RC and wished him a speedy recovery.

The minutes of the AGM and Committee reports will be uploaded to the Society website www.lwsgs.com for the benefit of Members who wish to read them.

4. Election of the Committee

JPC announced the resignation of Committee Members Andre Kriesel, Nigel Farmer and Lorenz Zimmermann. We thank them for their support and contributions to the Committee. To fill the vacancies of AK and NF, JPC advised that Will Glover and Nick Allen had been proposed and seconded for the Committee and asked for approval by the Members.

JPC announced the positions for the Committee will be decided during the Committee meeting following the AGM. As to the replacement of LZ, JPC stated this was a recent development and the Committee would meet to decide how to proceed during the Committee meeting.

Member Stephen Ahmoye stated he was nominated for the Committee and asked why he was not considered. JPC stated that originally there were only two Committee positions which needed to be replaced and that nominations for Will Glover and Nick Allen were received before his nomination. JPC stated the resignation of LZ was just recently received and the Committee would meet to discuss how to handle his replacement if any. Stephen Ahmoye raised his objection to this and was supported by CR to be considered for the Committee.

LZ then asked to speak to the members. He read to the Committee his vision of what he would like LSWGS to become as well some of his perceived shortcomings including in LZ's opinion:

- a. Insufficient number of members
- b. Insufficient number of players for monthly events
- c. Insufficient number of monthly events currently one per month
- d. Insufficient number of events versus other societies
- e. Lack of strict adherence to Society rules
- f. Lack of proper decision-making processes by the Committee
- g. Perhaps too many Committee members
- h. Committee members who have not played in a sufficient number of Society events some of whom have not been in Hong Kong for an extended period of time

LZ asked the members for a vote on his proposal as outlined as follows:

- a. The current Committee be dissolved
- b. The new Committee to be voted on after the completion of the work of the working group and after the requirements for the positions are clear.
- c. LZ to lead a 5 person working group headed by LZ plus 2 Committee members and 2 LSWGS members selected by LZ to review all aspects of the Society
- d. In 3 months time this group would present to the members for a vote their proposals for change to the rules and operations of the Society including for the formation of a new Committee
- e. During the 3 months NG, DC and LZ to perform their current roles in the Society in order to ensure ongoing functioning operations of the Society

LZ concluded his proposal that in his opinion there was an immediate need for change in the Society.

JPC then asked for the members for a vote to approve the new Committee. The proposal was not seconded.

Member Craig Chapman then proposed a review be undertaken of all aspects of the Society.

There was much discussion amongst the members. Craig Chapman's proposal did not define who or how the review was to be performed. His proposal was simply to vote on whether the members desired a review of all Society workings and rules.

The AGM was suspended for a 15 minute intermission.

After the AGM restarted, Craig Chapman again proposed to vote on his proposal for a comprehensive review of Society workings and rules. The proposal was seconded by Jonny Brock. The vote was unanimous in favour.

It was then agreed by the membership that 1 to 2 proposals on how to perform a comprehensive review of the Society would be undertaken by the non-resigned members of the Committee and be presented to the members within 7 days together with the proposal by LZ. The non-resigned members of the Committee are AM, JPC, NG, DC, DW, TH, JH, DR, CR and RC. This group of Committee members will submit its proposal or proposals to the members by May 31, 2021.

The Captain closed the AGM at 5:01 pm.

Nick Gikas
LSWGS Honorary Secretary