



## **Results of the Golfing Union of Ireland (Ulster Branch) Annual Delegates Meeting 2019**

The final Annual Delegates Meeting took place on **Thursday 28 November 2019 in Shandon Park Golf Club** with 60 clubs represented.

### **Presentations took place as follows:-**

#### **Sport NI ClubMark Certificate**

Cushendall GC became the first club in NI to be awarded the Sport NI ClubMark. The programme aims to identify, develop, accredit and recognise high-quality sports clubs and the contribution that they make to the development of sport in Northern Ireland.

To gain Clubmark NI accreditation, clubs are required to evidence compliance with the core Clubmark NI criteria and sport-specific criteria. An accredited club is recognised as a safe, regarding and quality environment for participants of all ages to enjoy sport and stay involved throughout their lives.

Some of the benefits of accreditation include:

Adopting more organised structures to help run the club more efficiently and effectively

Formalising and implementing procedures and policies

Recruiting and developing volunteers

Parental appreciation, satisfaction, comfort and confidence

A safe environment for children and young people

Access to funding and discounted rates for accredited clubs

Other clubs can work with CGI to achieve this accreditation – contact Rory Leonard for further information.

Photo: Joe O'Neill Captain Cushendall Golf Club receives the certificate from John White Chairman GUI (Ulster Branch) courtesy Phil Posnett

#### **Peter O'Hara Order of Merit Winners for 2019**

U18 Boys: Aaron Marshall (Lisburn)

U16 Boys: Joshua Hill (Galgorm Castle)

U14 Boys: Darcy Hogg (Belvoir Park)

Photo: Andrew Morris Golf 2019 Order of Merit Winners Aaron Marshall (Lisburn), Joshua Hill (Galgorm Castle) & Darcy Hogg (Belvoir Park), with Nicola Gorman Ulster Branch Administrator, courtesy of Phil Posnett

#### **Golf Ireland Presentation**

A briefing was provided jointly by Golf Ireland Transitions Board Members Pauline Bailie (Belvoir Park) & Ian Kerr (Royal Portrush).

They advised the meeting that Golf Ireland will be established on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 and that the GUI, ILGU & CGI will continue to operate as usual while structures for the new organisation are being built.

It was outlined how vital volunteers are to the development of Golf Ireland both in the developmental stage and into the future.

The Golf Ireland Transitions Board has established nine Sub Committees in the following areas:- Appointment of the CEO; Finance and Governance, Branding, Logo and Website, Property and Office Accommodation, Handicapping, Competitions and Tournament, Models of Club Governance, Organisation Structures and Volunteering.

Photographs; Iognáid Ó Muirheartaigh GUI Chairman, Pauline Bailie Golf Ireland Transitions Board & Ian Kerr Golf Ireland Transitions Board + John White Chairman with the GUI Chairman and Transitions Board Members

Copy of presentation attached for information.

### **World Handicap System (WHS)**

An update on the WHS was presented by Nick Agate Hon Match Secretary GUI (Ulster Branch). He outlined the principal elements and terminology relating to Course Rating & Slope Rating and the formats of play that will count for handicap purposes under the new system.

Nick Agate outlined the “Education Schedule” for WHS as follows:- Branch Officials, as well as Club Delegates (2 men and 2 women from each club), will be invited to seminars in the first quarter of 2020 followed by Club Members education by the end of quarter two 2020.

Clubs were encouraged to get their members to have as many entries on their Handicap Record by 31 October 2020, as this would ensure that their handicap index under the new system would reflect their actual playing ability, at their home club. The WHS implementation date set for 2 November 2020. It was hoped that club members would be able to see their expected handicap index during October 2020.

Copy of presentation attached for information.

## **ELECTIONS**

The successful candidates for 2019/20 were;

### **Officers**

Chairman: Brian Hutchinson (Donaghadee)  
Hon. Secretary: Norman Bennett (Holywood)  
Hon. Treasurer: Alasdair Gibson (Knock)  
Hon Match Secretary: Nick Agate (Malone)

### **Provincial Council**

Elected at ADM on 28 November  
Roy Archibald (Shandon Park)  
Jeff Forde (Tandragee)  
Diarmuid Logue (Portsalon)  
Billy McCaul (Ballyliffin)  
Colin McNeill (Rockmount)

Other Members:

Tony Cassidy (Dunmurry)  
Derek Ervine (Greenisland)  
Jackie Graham (Castlerock)  
David Heaney (Scrabo)  
Tom Jones (Belvoir Park)  
Terry Magee (Clandeboye)  
Sam McBurney (Massereene)

## **Match & Handicapping Committee**

Elected at ADM on 28 November

Keith Hanna (Greenacres)

Gary Limmer (Shandon Park)

Damian Montague (Fintona)

Derek Powell (Roe Park)

Other Members

John Doran (Letterkenny)

Michael Leonard (Portsalon)

Trevor Lewers (Faughan Valley)

Mervyn Marshall (Mahee Island)

Patsy McCaffrey (Enniskillen)

Nigel Pollock (Royal Portrush)

## **Auditors**

Miscampbell & Co.

## **Legal Advisor**

Nichola Kirk, Joseph Lockhart & Son

## **Notices of Motion**

### **1. Proposed by the Ulster Provincial Council:**

It is Hereby Proposed as follows:-

1. The existing business of the Ulster Branch of the Golfing Union of Ireland (including all of the undertaking, assets and liabilities of the Branch) shall be transferred to Golf Ireland National Governing Body CLG in accordance with the Notice of Motion passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Golfing Union of Ireland held on the 19th January, 2019.
2. The Trustees and Officers of the Ulster Branch are hereby authorised to execute such documentation and to adopt such transition provisions as are required for the orderly transfer of the business (including the transfer of any real property):
3. On the completion of the transfer of the business, the Provincial Council in consultation with Golf Ireland National Governing Body CLG shall declare a date on which this has been formally completed and, on that date, the Ulster Branch shall cease to exist.

Result: Carried Unanimously

### **2. Proposed by the Ulster Provincial Council:**

That the following process be adopted to approve the final set of accounts of the Ulster Branch:-

1. An extended set of accounts shall be prepared to cover the period from 1/10/2019 to 31st December 2020 and shall be reviewed by the Branch's Auditors.
2. These accounts shall be furnished to the Board of Golf Ireland for approval, following, if considered necessary, final review by Golf Ireland's Auditors.
3. The approved accounts shall be circulated, in a timely fashion, to all clubs situated in the Province.

Result: Carried Unanimously

### **3. Proposed by the Ulster Provincial Council:**

It is Hereby Proposed:-

to amend the first line of Ulster Branch Bye-Law 24.1 as follows; Delete "shall vest in four Trustees" and replace with "shall vest in a minimum of two Trustees."

Result: Carried Unanimously

Issued on 29 November 2019

Kevin C. Stevens

Executive Officer

Golfing Union of Ireland (Ulster Branch)