



SKERRIES GOLF CLUB - MENS CLUB

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Members will be held in the Clubhouse at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21st November 2018 to transact the following business:

1. To hear and confirm the minutes of the previous General Meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2017.
2. To receive Annual Report for year ending 30th September 2018.
3. To elect Officers for 2019.
4. To elect Officers and Committee for 2019.
5. To discuss and decide upon any resolutions duly submitted to the meeting.
6. Any other business.

Notice of motions must reach the Administration Officer in writing on or before 7.30 pm on Tuesday 13th November 2018.

Nominations for Officers and membership of the Committee must reach the Administration Officer, in writing on or before 7.30pm on Monday 12th November 2018.

Declan Bowers

Administration Officer

5th November 2018

Skerries Golf Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Men's Club **Wednesday 15th of November 2017**

Present:

President: Charlie O'Reilly,
Captain: Peter Donnelly,
Administration Officer: Austin Gill

Apologies: Apologies were received from Declan Bowers, Paul O'Neill, Jim McDonnell, and Derek Finnigan

Attendance: 46 members were in attendance (see appendix attached)

Meeting Minutes:

Charlie O'Reilly took the Chair.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all those in attendance.

The meeting was called to order and in doing so, the Chairman asked everyone to stand and observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect for those members who had passed away during the year. Those present remembered Alan Geary, Edmund Sheeran, Michael McGeown, and PJ Ryan

The Chairman then asked the Administration Office, Mr. Austin Gill, to read out the Notice for convening the meeting.

Minutes of the 2016 AGM.

The Chairman confirmed to those present that the minutes of the 2016 Men's General Meeting were distributed to everybody via the website, post, email and on the notice board. He noted that unless anyone had any points arising from those minutes, that they would be taken as read.

As no amendments were forthcoming the minutes were taken as read and were proposed by Dominic Henry and seconded by Anthony Hand.

Report of the Administration Officer

The Administration Officer Report for 2017, having been previously circulated, was deemed read and approval and in the absence of any issues or objections was proposed by Peter Counihan and seconded by Noel Finnigan.

Election of Officers

Election of President

The Chair announced the nomination for President as Mr Celsus Toye, proposed by Charlie O'Reilly & seconded by Peter Donnelly.

As there were no other nominations for this position Mr Celsus Toye was declared elected as President for 2018 and invited forward to receive his Presidents Blazer.

The President elect, Celly said a few words.

"Gentlemen, time moves very, very quickly. I mean its eleven years ago and I am amazed how fast its gone since Charlie kindly first asked me to be his Vice-Captain and now I am here as President. I am absolutely privileged and totally honoured to be President of Skerries Golf Club, I love the place and I will do my utmost to propagate Skerries, to represent Skerries, to represent you for 2018 and to support Dominic our incoming Captain. I hope that everyone has a super 2018 and that we have as a Club have a good year. Thank you for the honour and for everyone here applauding me in and having the confidence to have me here. Thank you very much."

Election of Captain 2017

The Chairman announced that it was his pleasure to announce the nomination of Captain as Mr. Dominic Henry as proposed by Peter Donnelly and seconded by Austin Gill. As there were no other nominees, he announced Dominic Henry elected as Captain for the year 2018.

The Captain, Peter Donnelly presented the Incoming Captain with his Captains Blazer and tie pin for 2018.

The Captain elect, Mr Dominic Henry, said a few words to those present.

"President and Chairman Charlie, Captain Peter, President elect Celly, Admin Officer Austin, Gentlemen. I am humbled but also absolutely thrilled to be standing here tonight as Captain elect of Skerries Golf Club. I am in awe of the great honour and the responsibility that you have bestowed upon me this evening and I thank you so much. Tonight, I would like to take the opportunity to recognise and thank some fellow members who have been with me along the way, firstly Captain Peter thank you so much for nominating me as your Vice-Captain last year and for proposing me as your Captain tonight. To our President Charlie, a huge "Thank You" as it was you who started me on this journey when in 2005 as Vice Captain you asked me to join your committee for the following year. I did accept and here we are. May I also congratulate you on your year as President now that it ends. You have represented our Club and carried out your duties with your customary charm and panache. On behalf of everyone, thank you."

A special word of thanks to two gentlemen known to you all, Dick Lanigan and Mick Hanrahan, who way back in 2006 took me, the then newbie on Committee under their wings on the Competitions Committee, taught me all the ins and outs of the workings of the Club and when they thought I was properly schooled, despatched me upstairs to COM. Gentlemen, thank you both very much.

In 2018 we will welcome some new members unto the Men's Committee and I thank Pat Horan, Gerry Finn and Liam Cotter for accepting the nominations. I look forward to working with them next year on Committee along with Paul O'Neill, Mike Weldon, Billy Concannon, and Tom Phelan, our incoming Vice-Captain. I must single out and say a special word of thanks to Declan Bowers for answering the call and agreeing to take on the onerous role of Administration Officer. I know Declan is absent and so that is the first time I have mentioned the word onerous; up to now I have told him it would be a breeze.

We are therefore saying goodbye to several our Committee members and I know that the Captain will acknowledge these later, but I can't let this opportunity go by without saying thank you to Noel Finnigan, Gerry Cullen and Tom McDonnell for your time effort and support during last year. To Austin Gill, we all owe you a huge debt of appreciation for your efforts over the last few years, but I especially want to thank you for your support this year and your assistance and guidance in the run up to this AGM.

Gentlemen, I to take the opportunity to remind you that the members of the Men's Club Committee as with all other members of each Committee in the club are fellow members who are freely volunteering and giving of their own time to ensure that you and our visitors enjoy their golfing experience to the utmost. Please continue to treat and deal with them with your usual courtesy and respect.

We are very lucky to have a vibrant Boys section and throughout 2018, I shall remain committed to ensuring that these young members our Club, will get the recognition and the funding that they deserve both on and off the course. One of our Junior members, Donal Cotter, won our Centenary Cup this year. What an achievement for the young man. Another junior, Ethan McGarry won the Junior Challenge Cup and finished 6th in the Leinster Boy's Championship. I would also like to acknowledge the work of the Junior Captain Rory O'Brien. I don't want to stand on the Captains toes, but I also want to offer sincere thanks to the Junior Convenor Gerry Cullen for his efforts in bringing our Junior Section to where it is today. Thank You Gerry.

With regards to the Club's teams I recently had a meeting with this year's Team Managers have taken on their views and we hope to go forward next year with some new ideas to get members motivated and hopefully they will take part in more team competitions. We hope to start in early January with a six-week coaching course and we trust all who partake in it will come out better golfers.

Skerries Golf Club has a wonderful reputation for hospitality and it is important in these difficult times for our sport we remain a welcoming and inclusive club.

We all embarked on a brave new path last year when adopting a new management structure, it is however fair to say that we are still adapting to the new arrangements and we must therefore offer best wishes to the 2018 Committee of Management as its continues the work.

Captain Peter, I hope you did not think you were going to get away lightly. On behalf of all the members of the Men's Club, I offer our sincere thanks and appreciation for the wonderful job you have done in the past year. You have represented us at all events and functions you have attended with great dignity and your loquacious contributions at such events will be well remembered. Most significantly you have fought our corner and represented us with great passion on the Committee of Management. You have chaired the meetings of the Men's Committee in a professional manner. Everybody felt they could speak freely and when all views had been expressed, guided us towards a consensus, even if that final view disagreed with your own initial thoughts. It has truly been a great privilege to be your Vice-Captain and I will do my utmost to serve the Club in a manner that will repay you and the members' confidence. I have thoroughly enjoyed our daily telephone conversations as we have kept abreast of club affairs. I have some bad news for you though as you prepare to step away and enjoy a well-deserved rest, I am afraid that the phone calls will not stop. I am hopeful that you will allow me draw on your knowledge and experience of the workings of the club throughout the next year.

We all hope that you enjoyed your year and would ask that would you pass on our gratitude to your wife Vivienne for her active participation and wonderful support t throughout the year. I hope you can now enjoy a deserved break from Committees and meetings, except for my phone calls. So, on behalf of us all I say a big thank you.

Gentlemen, thank you again for electing me, I am very, very proud to be the next Captain of our Club and please be assured that I shall endeavour to always represent you to the highest levels that you should expect. I will need and hope that I will receive your support throughout 2018.

Thank You.

Election of Vice-Captain 2018

The Chairman announced the nomination of Tom Phelan as Vice-Captain, proposed by Dominic Henry and seconded by Austin Gill. He declared Tom elected as Vice-Captain for 2018 and wished him the best for the year ahead.

Election of Administration Officer 2018

The Chairman announced the nomination of Declan Bowers as Administration Officer, proposed by Dominic Henry and seconded by Austin Gill and as there was no other nominations declared him elected.

Election of Committee Members 2018

The Chairman asked the permission of the floor to take the election of all six nominations for the Men's Committee in block as there were no other nominations beyond the six required and he would take them all together: As there was no objections from the floor, he declared, Michael Weldon, Billy Concannon, , Paul O'Neill , Liam Cotter , Gerry Finn and Pat Horan as duly elected to the Men's Committee 2018 as proposed by Dominic Henry and seconded by Austin Gill.

Resolutions

As there were no resolutions received the Chairman moved to the next phase of the AGM.

Any Other Business

The Chairman announced that under AOB it would be items for discussion only. He asked those present that if they wish to raise any point or item for discussion to please raise their hand, announce their name and go to the mike.

Paul Sloan offered his congratulations to Celsus and Dominic on their appointments and wished them well in their year in office. He asked were the GUI trying to revamp the Handicaps for 2018. The Handicap Secretary advised that the Club had not been advised nor was he currently aware of any plans re Handicaps.

Brian Sherwin, just wanted to remind the incoming President that it would now be his turn to put down the line for 12 noon every Sunday. On another matter it was his impression of the men's side of the house that we do not communicate how we are doing in the Teams / Golfer of the Year, etc., and maybe we should be doing a newsletter that keeps the members informed and maybe would highlight some Know the Rules now and then.

Incoming Captain Dominic replied that he had at a recent meeting agreed with the Chairperson to take the idea of a Men's Newsletter that would keep members informed to the 2018 Men's Committee with the view that we would see something issue from February / March onwards.

The Chairman called on the Captain, Peter Donnelly to address the meeting and say a few words.

"President Charlie, incoming President Celly, Captain Dominic, fellow members. As I took office last year you may recall I thanked all present for their support and indeed for placing their trust in me.

I had to thank Peter Counihan for the confidence he had shown in me by nominating me as his Vice-Captain and then seeing the whole thing through in nominating me as Captain for 2017.

As you can all appreciate Peter was a tremendous role model and I had learned quite a lot from him during his year. I owe him some very special thanks also for the support that he provided to me throughout the last year. It's always nice and I am sure Domo will find this out although I am not sure that I am the right person to do so, it's always nice to have someone to bounce things off and I think it was very useful that I was able to consult with Peter from time to time and that he was always willing to make himself available. I really appreciated that Peter, thank you very much.

I also especially like to thank all you the members of Skerries Golf Club for affording me the opportunity to represent you as Captain in 2017 and indeed for the courtesy that was extended to me. I know you probably had all great expectations for me and hopefully I did

not let you down throughout the year. I certainly did my best, as best I could. It's been a wonderful experience the last year and indeed an honour and privilege.

President Charlie, thank you for all your assistance during the year also. We drove that buggy round watching matches as you remember, and it was wonderful to be able share my term of office with you. There is no doubt that you were never short for something to laugh about when you drove round with our esteemed President. I very much appreciated that Charlie and I think we enjoyed some good bits of craic here and there. I also want to take the opportunity to welcome your successor and wish Celly every success in the year that lies ahead of him. I know you are all set for very hard work Celly, I can see it already.

I think I will have said at some stage during the last year, that since I joined the club back in 1990 I have enjoyed an awful lot of friendships, an awful lot of good wishes, I have enjoyed an awful lot of golf, I have also not enjoyed a good amount of awful golf at different stages but I am not unique in that regard. But however, I have always felt that Skerries Golf Club is something special to me, it's a wonderful golf club as far as I am concerned. I am always very proud to be able tell my friends that I am a member of Skerries Golf Club. But most importantly I am always very proud to be able to say that I have served on the Committee, I passed through as an Honorary Secretary but most importantly to have been Captain in 2017.

As you look back there's no question, but it is a humbling experience, and I mean that most sincerely.

2017 has been a very busy year for me. I played more golf than ever, haven't got any better mind you and I have enjoyed an awful lot of company and hospitality both here in the golf club and indeed in the places I have had to visit with matches and indeed as Charlie and I attended to other ambassadorial duties, However I nearly got through the year without attracting the attention of the Handicap Committee but as you are aware nothing goes unnoticed and they got me, the B"%"&£ds last week.*

So, it looks like that I will have to buy my own hamper.

As my Captaincy comes to an end I look back at a most enjoyable year with lots of good memories I have to say. It has been a short year, it is hard to believe that it has gone so quickly. As a member of the Management Committee in the club I have certainly found that it was a changing time, a year of change. We were sharing in the opportunities and the challenges that the new structure that enables this club and also that the strategic plan presents, but I am very confident that the future look bright and as I said at my Captain's Dinner we need to give time and understanding, have patience, be honest, be trusting and provide a generosity of spirit as we continue to become the envy of most of our peer clubs and certainly we will have the opportunity to realise the ambitions of our members.

However, the achievement of our ambitions is very much in the hands of the people we elect as our representatives on any committee and most importantly on Committee of Management. It's a responsibility we all share and should not take lightly. We owe it to ourselves. I always have believed that structures are one thing but its people that make the difference.

In that regard as I talk of people I have been very fortunate in the last year to be supported by a large constituency of excellent individuals and volunteers without whose support and whole-hearted dedication I could certainly not have enjoyed my captaincy to the extent that I did.

So, if you forgive me I need to recognise some of these people.

Firstly, I would like to thank my Vice-Captain Dominic Henry for accepting my nomination and for his willing support and, his counsel; he has been around longer than I have you know in this club and I have relied on his advice during the year. I wish him every success in the year ahead, I certainly will be available if you think those phone calls need to continue, I have no doubt that you will represent this club with distinction and will serve the best interests of this golf club in your role as Captain 2018. I am happy to say that as far as I am concerned I am confident that the captaincy of Skerries Golf Club 2018 is in very safe custody, I know all of us here wish Dominic the very best and I know we will all support him.

To our Men's Committee and Paul O'Neill, the Chairman of our Competitions Committee and our Overall Teams Manager who has been ably supported by Michael Weldon and Tom McDonnell. They did an absolute super job. The best way to get them to do a super job is just to let them at it and trust them. I did, and I would like to say they did not let me down and thanks for that support lads.

While I am talking of Teams and Competitions I also want to take the opportunity to thank all members of this club who played on teams and represented the Club, for their time, their commitment and their dedication.

To Noel Finnigan, our Handicap Secretary, thanks very much for that cut. I know I had to work \and am happy to say that they administered all matters to do with handicaps with the greatest of diligence and integrity always.

Dominic has already mentioned our Junior Convenor Gerry Cullen, Gerry as done a superb job over the last two years, certainly in the last year while I was Captain of this club; the amount of energy that man can make available to the Juniors is incredible. It's clear to be seen by the vibrancy that you detect around the club when the Juniors are present, especially on those days when he is dishing out prizes, it's absolutely fantastic and he deserves a lot of recognition for the manner in which he has probably single handily taken the Juniors from where they were a few years ago to where they are now. And let's not forget Mary and Peter Kenny who do a great job with the cadets.

All of you involved in Junior Golf can look back on a job well done throughout the year. Our Juniors as you know are a very important constituency of this club and we need to be seen to support the efforts in the development of Junior Golf in all ways that we possibly can.

Thanks to Billy Concannon for representing us on the Course Committee. In that regard thanks also to Stan Pyke our Course Chairman who adapted well to his new role, he is beginning to learn more and more about growing grass and stuff like that. To Martin Browne our Course Superintendent and his team, I know they have put a lot of effort and time into the presentation of our course always. I personally have received many compliments about the condition of the course and the presentation of the course and that included during Open Week, from the Ladies during the Senior ILGU Finals and indeed I

was very pleased about the turnout of the course during my Captain's prize, over the qualifiers and the final day itself. So, thank you Stan and please pass on my thanks to the course staff.

But these are all the official people one could say, but behind that is a large and prominent and hard-working group of volunteers who provide a dedicated support to this golf club and make it work. I refer to Dick Lanigan, Chris Alcock, Michael Hanrahan, Noel Russell, John Carroll supported by Paul Kenny and Tommy D'Alton throughout the year who ensured that our competition results were produced in a timely manner, every Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, Bank Holidays and Mondays throughout the entire year. Gents, we owe you a big thank you for a job very well done and always done with efficiency, quietly in the background or should I say nearly underground. Thanks very much gentlemen.

To David Simpson and his Strategy Committee: Dave dedicated many hours in bringing together our 5-year strategic plan and helping identify and document the strategic focus of this golf club for the future. The Committee of Management now has a very clear road map which it must follow so thanks to David and his team for a job very well done.

To all that are currently serving on other club committees, taskforces and workgroups your efforts and dedication are very much appreciated, so thank you all.

To Peter Lamont and his Lotto team; as we all know the lotto income is very much an important part of our income stream and we are all very grateful for your continued dedication and support, so thank you Peter and please convey our thanks to your team of volunteers. It is much appreciated.

A big thank you also to Gerry Thornton and his team who managed our Senior Open Competitions. Again, our Senior Opens are another important source of income and we are very grateful for the support in keeping this income stream open and thank you Gerry.

Our Wednesdays and our Goats are very much an integral part of our Men's Club's activities and play an important role fostering and indeed adding to the social engagement in our club. To all who played their part in upholding these great traditions I extend a very big thank you. I see Brendan Bird here and I ask you Brendan to convey our thanks to those involved in the Wednesdays.

I also extend my thanks to all other volunteers who play their part assisting our course staff, maintaining the environs of the club, Jimmy Chalke and our Ivy League Volunteers, Hilda Cussen and her ladies team and not forgetting our every present Brian Donnelly, no relation I might add, and I don't know much about flowers or gardening.

I would like to also say a special word of thanks in her absence to our Lady Captain Nuala. Nuala and I, believe it or not got on got on extremely well and we had an excellent working relationship during the year. In fact, we found we had very much in common. It was a pleasure to work with Nuala and I think we both enjoyed our year as Captains. Thank you, Nuala, for your support.

Karl our Caterer is gone but I certainly enjoyed his long service here and I extend a great welcome to our new caterer Tommy Fitzgerald and I thank him for his efforts so far and I wish him all the best in the years ahead. To our waiting staff Mary, Anita and Viva, it's great to see that they are still around and that our new caterer has adopted them, I think a

good move on his part. I particularly want to thank them for the courtesy they extended to me all the time during my Captaincy and even before and I am sure it will continue. To our bar staff, Brendan, Izzy and Gavin a special thank you to them and their attention and courtesy they extended to me.

Before saying goodbye, there are two people that I want to mention in a special way. The first is our club professional Bobby Kinsella. Bobby has been a great support to me on the golfing front, providing some great insights, advice and guidance throughout the year and I have to say he was never found wanting answers to any of the questions that I had for him of a golfing nature. I very much appreciate the patience and indeed the advice that he gave me throughout the entire year.

Most importantly I would like to thank him for his support he gave to our Junior Golf programme and for taking some of our promising juniors aside and giving them individual tuition. So, I think we have been very fortunate to have had Bobby in that regard and in the ways, he has adapted to the challenges of developing our Junior Golf.

However, there is also one man and I know Domo mentioned him earlier and that is us Administration Officer, the ever-dependable Austin Gill. I do say to myself on regular occasions, what a man!

Austin, you have been a tremendous ally and a very loyal comrade throughout my entire year. It was absolutely a pleasure to have you on board and it was a great sense of comfort I have to say, because I always knew that the things I would forget you would not. It was great to have access to your organisational skills, your attention to detail, the experience that you have had in the role and the advice that you could offer. You ensured that no stone was ever left unturned, and that I was always in the right place, supposedly doing the right thing and I do really appreciate the way you could manage getting me to doing the right things. I owe a lot for the success and enjoyment I gained throughout the year to you and all I can say really is a very big thank you. You are an important and invaluable difference as far as I am concerned, and you certainly made the importance difference. As your term of office as Administration Officer comes to an end, I am delighted to hear that you have indicated your willingness to continue serving the interests of the club and that you are willing to go forward for election to the Committee of Management. I am sure you will receive the support you deserve in that pursuit and I have personally no hesitation in recommending your election.

Please forgive me Gentlemen if I have omitted anybody, any function or otherwise at this point. I am sure you appreciate that there are an exhaustive number of volunteers whose contribution is vital to the day to day running and the maintenance of any golf club and Skerries is no different.

*So, Gentlemen, thanks again for the wonderful honour bestowed on me, I have enjoyed every single minute of it. I will be forever in your debt for the opportunity you gave me.
Thank You"*

The president thanked Captain Peter and passed the microphone to Domo who has something he would like to say.

"Gentlemen, as soon the meeting is over I would be delighted if you all would join me at the bar for a drink."

The Chairman thanked all in attendance, he expressed his thanks for the great year he himself had as President where he enjoyed a lot of friendships, a lot of camaraderie but not a lot of golf as the old legs were not working too well and he again wished Celly a great year ahead.

With that he confirmed that all the business of the Men's Club Annual General Meeting had been concluded and he brought the meeting to an official end at 8:15 pm.

Attendance:

The Following members attended totaling 46 members:

Chris Alcock, Mark Bradshaw, John Carroll, Billy Concannon, Peter Counihan, Gerry F. Cullen, Cyril Delaney, Peter Donnelly, Noel Finnigan, Austin Gill, Anthony Hand, Michael Hanrahan, Dominic Henry, Gerry Hill, Brian Humphreys, Cecil Keaveney, Paul Kenny, Peter Kenny, Peter Lamont, Tony Lane, Dick Lanigan, Kingsley Lewis, Gerry Lloyd, John P. McDonnell, Liam McGinley, Ian McGloughlin, Kevin Mooney, Dave Murphy, Michael Neary, Dermot Nolan, Pat Noone, Barra O'Kane, Gerard O'Neill, Terry O'Neill, Charlie O'Reilly, Stephen O'Sullivan, Paul Phelan, Tom Phelan, Willie Prendergast, Stan Pyke, Noel Russell, Brian Sherwin , Paul Sloan, Celly Toye, Michael Weldon, Des Whyte.

Administrations Officer Report 2018

January 1st 2018 a bright breezy New Year's Day. Gathered by the first tee box were many members, family and guests of our Captain Dominic Henry and Lady Captain Ciara Boylan. The pressure was on as Junior Girls Captain; Sadhbh Culleton (Granddaughter of former Lady Captain, Teddy Hand) split the fairway with her drive. Junior Boys Captain, Ethan McGarry stood tall on the tee box and ripped a super drive down the first fairway. Lady Captain Ciara was up next, and she too hit a superb drive.

Captains turn and with a turn and a swish it was away. Dominic's drive following the three others elegantly up the fairway, much to his delight.

We all returned to the Club Bar where a party continued into the early hours.

In Memoriam

At this time, we remember any member who has lost a loved one during the year and we extend our sympathies to them.

Committee

Things don't just happen, planning and executing and tireless dedication from our committee is what makes things happen. Again, this year we have had a committee that have been very driven to making all golfing matters run smoothly, from Club Teams, Mixed, Handicaps, course, Juveniles and competitions.

Since January we have had 10 meetings, attendances are as follows;

Captain Dominic Henry	10
Vice-Captain Tom Phelan	9
Admin Officer Declan Bowers	10
Paul O'Neill	10
Mike Weldon	9
Liam Cotter	8
Billy Concannon	10
Gerry Finn	8
Derek McGarry	4 (Co-opted into committee in June 2018)

Teams

On entering his Captaincy, Dominic Henry's goal was to revitalize interclub golf at Skerries.

A huge effort went into selecting team managers, coaching sessions with Bobby Kinsella, practice rounds in away clubs. This is the start of a process and hopefully we can keep the momentum going as it will soon bear fruit.

A Club Team fundraiser was held to raise necessary additional funding for teams. We thank all who supported the event which was generously sponsored by the Captain, Vice-Captain and Brian Sherwin (Alliance). The funds now available will allow for additional practice rounds and coaching. It is hoped to run another such fundraiser next year.

Thanks to overall team manager Paul O'Neill and all the team managers for the commitment shown in arranging matches and selecting their panels for competition. Paul O'Neill is stepping down from committee now having served 3 years looking after teams and assisting with competitions, Thanks Paul for a job well done.

A big thanks to all the players that gave their time to represent our club; it is a big commitment and a great challenge, well done to all that got involved.

Congratulations to Kingsley Lewis, David Garrigan, Mick Ahern and Sam Devey on winning the prestigious Leinster Alliance Irish Times Shield.

Thanks also to Captain Dominic Henry, Vice-Captain Tom Phelan and President Celly Toye for their support at matches, both home and away.

Handicaps

Billy Concannon assisted by Gerry Finn, have done a great job in maintaining and monitoring our handicaps this year. Several times the Captain complimented them on their approach to their work. Billy is now at the end of his term, having served on handicaps for 3 years and being the course committee representative from the men's committee. I am sure you will find something to do with all the extra time Billy, thank you.

Mixed

The Mixed competitions on Saturday evenings have become an integral part of our golfing calendar. So many couples enjoying these very social competitions, followed by a jar and sometimes a meal, they are important to the club. For the last two years our mixed competitions have been extremely well run by Joe and Martina Hilliard, we sincerely thank them for all their work.

For the coming year, we aim to put a panel of members in place to run the mixed on a rota basis, it is important that we continue to grow the interest in the mixed to keep our Saturday competitions going.

Thanks also to all the sponsors of the mixed competitions this year.

Open Week

Another great success for our club. Thank you to all the members that were involved with the registration desk, competitions, results, displaying prizes, taking photos. Open week would not run without your help, thank you.

We had huge support from the Office, Mark, Mary, Lydia and our Pro Bobby Kinsella, thank you for your great help.

Once again, this year our sponsors really made Open week what it is, Primline Logistics, EPS Global (Mick McCarthy), Almac Toyota (Derek Joyce), Leinster Hygiene (Ailish Hughes), Largo Foods (Gerry Lloyd), ERP Ireland Limited, Moriarty's Supervalu: we thank you for your continued support.

Juveniles

In June Derek McGarry was co-opted in to the Men's Committee as Junior representative, he brought fantastic organising skills which really helped the junior section and his reporting to the men's committee really kept the focus on our younger members. The Juvenile section had a successful year, finishing a very creditable 6th place in the Fingal League. There are big plans in place for the junior section next year, a recruitment drive will take place with the aim of growing the junior section. A budget for the year is in place, this covers, coaching, inter-club competitions. Plans are in hand for a group to travel to "The Open", this will be a great experience for the Junior section. Thanks to all involved this year and the best of luck for next year, as the plans sound very exciting.

We extend a special word of thanks to Derek for his work this year.

Peter and Mary Kenny once again carried on their wonderful work with the Cadet section, this is clearly growing and is becoming an important introduction of golf to potential members of the future.

Club Championships

We again have had a great year and huge interest in all the club championship competitions, Majors and Medals.

Congratulations to all who triumphed during the year, notably our Captain Dominic on winning both Senior Fourball Championship and the Foursomes Club Championship this year.

Thanks to John McDonell (Sugar Club) for the ongoing sponsorship of our Senior and Junior Scratch cups, unfortunately this year's competition had to be cancelled owing to poor weather conditions.

Captain's Prize, I don't remember seeing such a reaction in the club as to when John Carroll was announced as Captain's Prize winner 2018, a very popular winner, congratulations John.

Competitions

We owe a debt of gratitude to Mike Weldon and Liam Cotter for the work carried out this year on competitions. Planning schedules, arranging results teams, responding to queries, arranging prizes and presentations, this all takes so much time and was always done so efficiently. Thanks also to Paul O'Neill for your assistance and the full team of men that help us with results week in and week out.

Pat Durkan has been invaluable this year in issuing all the prize vouchers, it is really appreciated Pat.

Winter League

Is still proving to be a great competition for the winter months, this 9-hole weekly team competition is about encouraging members to get out and play to support their team during January and February. Even though it fell foul to the weather this year, the competition was very strong and enjoyable. Well done to Mike Weldon and Liam Cotter for their work on this.

Seniors

Gerry Thornton, Joe Monks and Noel Russell once again have put on a very impressive Seniors season. Huge work went into promoting these competitions, getting sponsors and closing out results. The Men's committee commend your work and thank you for your commitment.

To all the sponsors of the Seniors competitions this year, thank you. You too play such a big part in the success of the Seniors competitions in our club.

Course

Having endured one of the wettest winters in memory followed by one of the driest summers, the course held up remarkably well. The dry conditions caused a lot of scorching on the course, which has taken a long to recover. The greens were as good as they have been for many years, but again the weather we experienced has told us how important irrigation of our course is.

Congratulations to our Course Convenor, Terry O'Neill, Head green keeper Martin Browne and the full team for the work throughout the year and on how the course has been presented.

Following a "Special General Meeting" in August, planned works for 2nd green area, 3rd tee box, 3rd green and 5th green, were postponed pending a financial review and review of course priorities.

The Committee of Management are to return to the members with the outcome of an independent course review.

Our Captain

In January, Captain Dominic set out the roles for the members of the men's committee, he told us that we had a job to do, and we would get it done together. I thank Dominic for the respect and faith he showed in the committee to allow us to get on with our responsibilities. Captain kept our meetings very engaging and calm, resulting in a great team that accomplished so much in 2018.

Dominic's Captain's dinner was a special night with both Dave Murphy and Peter Donnelly giving us some different insights into the man we all know as "Domo".

Dominic was visible at every event in the club throughout the year. From fundraisers, Charity Days, showing great support for the club and the fun socials through the year.

Gentlemen on your behalf I wish to thank him for the way in which he has represented our club this year and I hope he can look back on this time with fond memories.

Personal Note

I would like to thank everyone that assisted me this year, I was taking over the role which was so well filled by Austin Gill for the previous three years. I really appreciate his time and assistance with many matters during the year.

To the men's committee, that made my role very easy as they went about their business in their usual diligent and professional manner.

To Mark, Lydia and Mary and our Pro Bobby Kinsella for all the back up in the office. You do so much in the background to make committee life easier, thank you.

To our caterer Tommy, Mary and Anita for looking after us all so well in the restaurant and in the bar, Brendan, Izzy and Gavin for their patients on the long late nights, thank you.

Declan Bowers

Administration Officer

31st October 2018