



## b) Honorary Treasurer

Mr. Robert Ware reported on the County finances for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### Income and Expenditure Account

#### Income

- 1) Affiliation Fees for 2023 was £37,210 which is an increase of £1611 over that for 2022. Adult fees were retained at £5/head and Junior Fees were retained at £3/head. These fees will be retained at this level for 2024.
- 2) The competition entry fees of £420 were the entry fees from the 2023 mens Strokeplay Championship.
- 3) Bank interest of £299 was for the deposit account for 2023. HSBC have adjusted their interest payment procedures thus the increase in the interest accrued.
- 4) Total Income for the year was £37,929

#### Expenditure

- 1) **Catering and Match Expenses** – £9,784 this relates to team meals, travel expenses, and hotel accommodation for away matches. This sum is a lower than in 2022 as team matches were mainly home games and will increase in 2024 where matches will be away and require accommodation and travel expenses.
- 2) **Prizes, Trophies & Engraving** – this has shown an increase from £2,244 in 2022 to £3,220 in 2023. The company that were supplying our League Winners Plates Rumney Potteries were no longer able to supply the county with this product so we had to source a different supplier. The plates were no longer a viable option and a GGU Wall Plaque was sourced as a viable alternative. An option to purchase 2 years supply of these plaques worked out cheaper than purchasing annually thus the increase in the cost of the Prizes, Trophies, and Engraving.
- 3) **Team Clothing** – this is the cost of purchasing clothing for the teams and shows an increase from £1,246 in 2022 to £2,254 in 2023. This was due to the 1<sup>st</sup> Team being kitted out with Footjoy trousers and Gilet tops in addition to the normal clothing stock replacement.
- 4) **Junior Section** – Expenditure in the junior section showed an increase from £1,037 in 2022 to £4,659 in 2023. This was due mainly to the unavailability of players in 2022 and having to cancel junior county matches and the reduction in subsequent catering costs. 2023 saw Gwent Juniors return to a full schedule of county matches and the Severnside Tournament which was held at Ross-on-Wye and incurred accommodation costs at the Premier Inn on top of the catering costs at Ross-on-Wye.
- 5) **AGM Costs** – £0 - The union did not provide a buffet for the Trophy Presentation in 2023.
- 6) **Telephone, Printing, Stationery and Sundries** – £466 The main items of expenditure were software licences and Stamps and Envelopes. No County Cards were purchased in 2023 – approx. £800.
- 7) **Officials Honoraria** – all the Officers and Team Captains of the Union receive an honorarium to cover the cost and time they spend organising county events and has remained at £3,000.

- 8) **Officials Expenses** – This covers expenses incurred by County Officials attending away County matches and includes accommodation and travel expenses and attending Channel League meetings and has shown a slight increase from £545 to £578.
- 9) **Professional Fees** – this is the accountant fees for preparing the Annual Accounts and has remained the same at £420.
- 10) **Web Site costs** – £380 This is the annual maintenance charge for the maintenance for the GGU website.
- 11) **Bank Charges** - £62 these are charges against the current account transactions.
- 12) **Equipment** – The cost of purchasing golf balls for all the teams. £1,381
- 13) **Depreciation** – £143 - this is the depreciation of the assets which the county own. Radios and laptops

Income of £37,929 and Expenditure of £26,345 has resulted in a surplus of £11,584 for the year.

The Treasurer asked the meeting if there were any questions relating to the Income and Expenditure Account and turned to the Balance Sheet.

### **Balance Sheet**

**Fixed Assets** – £2,275 Current Assets consist of 2 laptops and 6 Walkie Talkie radios.

**Current Assets** – Stocks are currently at £1,108 and reflects the amount of clothing, shirts, sweaters, and ties held in stock.

Cash at Bank – this has increased from £35,724 to £47,204. The Counties Bank balance is in a very healthy position.

**Current Liabilities** – The amount of £420 which is owed to the accountants for the accounts. This is shown as a liability as the account is still outstanding for payment.

The net of the above for 2023 is reflected in the increase in the Balance Sheet from £36,566 to £48,150 and is the Accumulated Fund for the year.

There was a discussion as to why the GGU were not considering increasing the affiliation fees. The current bank balance was very healthy and while things are looking to stabilize financially the committee would be looking to increase its expenditure for all the teams over the coming year.

The Chairman requested a proposer and seconder to approve the accounts.

Proposed: Mike Hanner

Seconded: Dean Webb

### c) **League Secretary**

The League Secretary Mr. Nigel Collins presented his report on the Inter Club Leagues for the 2023 season.

Last year was a pretty good season. We had the usual few problems with weather delays but on the whole any problems we had were sorted out easily enough because of everyone's willingness to enjoy the season.

We did have the problem of a couple of teams having to withdraw at the last minute but we got over that with everyone's cooperation.

Celtic Manor Golf Club First Team were Champions which was well deserved and Division winners were as follows.

Celtic Manor first Team	County Champions 2023
Woodlake Parc First Team	Div. 2 Champions
Parc Second Team	Div. 3 Champions
West Monmouthshire Second Team	Div. 4 Champions
Rolls of Monmouth	Div. 5 Champions
Monmouth	Div. 6 Champions
West Monmouthshire Fourth Team	Div. 7 Champions

Promotions for the coming season have made a significant difference to the look of the lower Divisions. That has been caused as a result of having to make up a full complement of 8 teams in each division following the withdrawal of several teams, therefore some teams have received an unexpected promotion.

The Annual fixture between our Champions and Glamorgan Champions, Pyle and Kenfig, was due to be played away at Pyle but the match was not scheduled and so has not been played. It remains to be seen if it can be arranged early in or prior to the coming season.

Finally Gentlemen I would like to take the opportunity to bring to your attention to the coming season.

All match fixture sheets have been finalised checked and issued. There was a considerable amount of back and forth to get things sorted but it is far better to get it done now than during the season. In order to ensure that we are all singing from the same hymn sheet I shall send out the complete issue again just prior to the start of the season.

The rules have been revised and they take into account the various changes in the way we now operate the Tournament. The changes are primarily concerned with compiling the fixtures initially ie. we no longer have the fixtures meeting and also the way that results are reported to the League Secretary.

Prior to the start of the season I shall send out a reminder asking for your contact details and team nominations and I advise you all to ensure you do the nominations. As I remind you every year we get the same problem of players being excluded from teams because of a failure to nominate. They stand in to a higher than normal team, in the first match to make numbers up, and so disqualify themselves from playing in their normal lower team. Team nomination sheet blanks are on line for you to print off.

Results, as last year will be published on line on a weekly basis once I start getting enough results in.

With that I conclude my statement, thank you for your attention and I wish you all the best for the coming season.

Nigel W. Collins Gwent Golf Union League Secretary

**d) Match Secretary**

The Match Secretary Mr. Roger Floyd stated that he would report on the county matches played since the last AGM in 2023.

**CHANNEL LEAGUE**

The 1<sup>st</sup> match was against old rivals Glamorgan away with Gwent losing against a strong Glamorgan side by 9½ points to 5½.

In their 2<sup>nd</sup> match they played against Cornwall at home, in which they achieved a half in a very close match.

The team responded well with a good home win against Somerset by 9 points to 6.  
Their next match was away against Dorset where unfortunately they suffered a heavy defeat by 11½ points to 3½ points.  
The next match was away against Wiltshire where the team suffered a 9 points to 6 defeat.  
The next match was home to Devon where Gwent gained a much needed win by 9½ points to 5½.  
The last match of the season was away against Gloucestershire where Gwent lost heavily by 11½ points to 3½.

On reflection a disappointing conclusion to an inconsistent season where we finished joint bottom with 3 other teams. It was nice to see some young new players given a chance and getting some decent results which hopefully we can show some improvement next year.

## WESSEX LEAGUE

The Wessex League team played their 1<sup>st</sup> match at home against Glamorgan where they gained a remarkable 11 points to 1 victory.  
Their 2<sup>nd</sup> match was away to Dyfed where Gwent won a 7 points to 5 victory.  
Their next match was away to Brecon & Radnor which resulted in another very good win for Gwent.  
This set the final match against Gloucestershire away to decide who wins the league. Unfortunately it was not to be with Gwent losing heavily by 10 points to 2.  
This was a great improvement on previous years and hopefully bodes well for next year.

## SENIORS CHANNEL LEAGUE

Gwent Seniors played their 1<sup>st</sup> match away against Glamorgan which resulted in a 9½ points to 5½ defeat.  
The next Gwent matches at home to Cornwall and Devon resulted in 9 points to 6 and 10 points to 5 defeats respectively for Gwent.  
Gwent gained their much needed first win at home against Somerset by 10 points to 5.  
The final match away to Wiltshire ended on a positive note with a very good 10½ points to 4½ win.  
Gwent Seniors finished last but one in the league so on reflection it was a disappointing season.

### e) Championship Secretary

The Championship Secretary Mr. Ray Hughes reported on the Gwent Championships for 2023.

**The Cock of the North Championship** was played at Bryn Meadows Golf Club and the winners were James Stock & Kurtis Gilling of St. Pierre Golf Club with a net medal score of 61.

**The Strokeplay Championship** took place at Pontypool Golf Club with the top sixteen players qualifying to go through to the Matchplay Championship.  
The Gwent Strokeplay Champion for 2023 resulted in a tie between Piers Murphy of St. Pierre and James Drury of Greenmeadow with both on totals of 145 gross. The 3 hole playoff saw Piers Murphy win the Strokeplay Championship.

**The Matchplay Championship** semi-final and final was played on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at Pontypool Golf Club. The final was contested between Ioan Jones of the Celtic Manor and Logan Westley of Newport. Logan Westley won the Matchplay Championship by 1 Hole and is the Gwent Matchplay Champion for 2023.

**The Team Championship** was held at Greenmeadow Golf Club on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August and was won by St. Pierre Golf Club with a gross team score of 299, winning on the discounted card countback from Woodlake Park Golf Club who also finished with a gross 299. The winning St. Pierre team were: Tom Greenall, Rhys Whitty, Rhys Briscoe, Oliver Mottram, and Piers Murphy.

The Arthur Sadler Cup for the best Net Team score was won by Woodlake Park GC who returned a nett team score of 293.

The W.P.R. Peters Cup for the best individual gross score was won by Oliver Mottram with gross 69.

The Ivor Williams Trophy for the best individual net score was won by Oliver Mottram with a net 65.

**The Handicap Team Championship** was held at The Parc Golf Club on Sunday 3rd September and was won by Pontypool Golf Club with a stableford team score of 143 points. The team were Martin Llewellyn, Alex Parry, Cairon Summers, and Matthew Williams.

In second place was Parc GC with 138 points, and in third place was Woodlake Park GC with 137 points. These top three clubs go forward to the Welsh Handicap Team Championship at the Celtic Manor in 2024.

I'd like to thank all those clubs who have hosted competitions throughout the year, not only for our championships but for Channel League, Wessex League, and Seniors Channel League matches.

The Chairman reminded the county representatives that all Gwent Championship results can be viewed on the counties website: [gwentgolfunion.co.uk](http://gwentgolfunion.co.uk)

f) **Boys Secretary**  
**Boys Strokeplay Championship 2023**

**The Gwent Boys Strokeplay Championship** was held at Greenmeadow Golf Club on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2023. There were 23 entries for the event

The Under 14 Champion was James Palfry of Greenmeadow Golf Club with a gross score of 75 over 18 holes.

The Under 16 Champion was Harry Ferns of St. Pierre Golf Club with scores of 76, 79 total 155.

The Gwent Boys Overall Strokeplay Champion for 2023 was James Drury of Greenmeadow Golf Club with scores of 71, 68 total 139.

The top 8 qualifying scores went forward to the Gwent Boys Matchplay Championship.

**The Gwent Boys Matchplay Championship** was won by James Drury of Greenmeadow Golf Club who defeated Morgan Young of St. Pierre in the final.

**SWBGA**

The SWBGA Championship which was held at St. Mellons Golf Club on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July had 5 Gwent Boys competing in the 36 hole Strokeplay Championship. Unfortunately only Ben Willis of The Rolls of Monmouth qualified for the top 16 into the matchplay stage.

**The Gwent Junior Inter Club Team Championship** was played at Pontypool Golf Club on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Three Gwent Junior Teams competed in the event. St. Pierre, Greenmeadow, and Newport.

St. Pierre were the winners with a team score of 396 with Greenmeadow in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with a score of 398 and Newport in 3<sup>rd</sup> place with a score of 400.

St. Pierre Junior Team qualified to represent Gwent in the Welsh Junior Club Finals at Builth Wells.

### **Junior Channel League.**

Gwent had another difficult season in the Junior Channel League.

In their first match of the season Gwent Boys played Wiltshire away at Chippenham where they lost by 11½ points to 3½ points.

Their second match was home to Somerset where the Gwent Boys lost by 10½ points to 4½ points.

Their third match was home to Glamorgan where the result was a 10 points to 5 loss.

In their final match Gwent Boys played Gloucestershire away at the Gloucestershire Golf Club where they suffered their heaviest defeat of the season by 12½ points to 2½ points

While the results were not very impressive Gwent Boys were able to field 10 players for all 4 of their matches this year.

### **Severnside Tournament**

The Severnside Tournament returned to Ross-on-Wye as the venue for the 2023 event. Gwent Boys were able to field a full team of 8 players for this seasons competition. Gwent Boys found it a struggle to compete against the other three counties and ended up loosing all three of their matches to finish in fourth place.

## **6) ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The Document notifying the meeting of the Officers of the Union had been distributed prior to the meeting.

The President, Mr. Graham Harris will be standing down as President at the AGM having served his three years in office.

Mr. Ray Hughes will be taking over as President in 2024.

I would like to propose that Mr. Rob Ware be re-elected as our auditor and the current officers were seeking re-election en-bloc and can I have a proposer and a seconder.

Proposed: Mr. Mike Hanner

Seconded: Mr. Dean Webb

Passed unanimously.

## **7) DATES & VENUES OF CHAMPIONSHIP MEETINGS 2024**

<b>COCK 'o' NORTH FINALS</b>	<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>St. Pierre</b>
<b>STROKEPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	<b>Sun 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Monmouthshire</b>
<b>MATCHPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	<b>August/Sept</b>	<b>Monmouthshire</b>
<b>TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	<b>Sun 18<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>Newport</b>
<b>H/CAP TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	<b>Sun 1st Sept</b>	<b>Woodlake Park</b>

## **8) DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 7.30 p.m.

Greenmeadow Golf Club