



# Avon Valley Golf & Country Club

## Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, March 20, 2016

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### Call to Order

In the absence of President Ross Maclean, Vice President Rob Caissie as Chair called the meeting to order. Rob confirmed with **Registration Committee** members Kirk Stephen and Mike Hartlen that there were 36 eligible voters in attendance and therefore a quorum existed: the Committee also noted that no proxies were tendered for registration.

### Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting held March 29th 2015

After asking for questions or business arising from the Minutes; it was noted by Blaine Rooney that there was an error on page two “in the absence of the respective Directors...” as Wayne Northup and Chris McCarthy were indeed in attendance. The minutes will be amended to reflect the change.

Dave Scott moved that the minutes be accepted with the change. Tom Calkin seconded. All were in favor.

### Nominating Committee Report and Election of Directors

Rob thanked Kirk Stephen, Mike Hartlen and Bob Purcell for their work in securing candidates for election. The returning members of the Board: Rob Caissie, Chris McCarthy, Wayne Northup, Kevin Burgess. The new members presented: Andrew White, Kevin Harvey, Ken Peacock, and Cathy McGinnis. Rob noted that unfortunately, nominee David MacDonald had to decline, regretting the short notice. The Board and Nominating Committee will undertake the necessary steps to rectify the situation in the new term.

Shareholder Paul Reynolds moved that the Directors be elected, with Jim White seconding: carried.

### President's and Directors' Reports

Rob led off by reviewing Ross MacLean's final *President's Report* which outlined the challenges faced in the 2015 playing season. Poor weather resulted in the latest opening ever, which in turn contributed to a season with possibly the fewest rounds ever played on the course. This resulted in a significant revenue loss. However it was noted that what was learned through those challenges, together with the procedures that were put in place, should assist in turning around the financial performance of the club. Ross ended with sincere thanks to Brad, Dean and the members for what was a most enjoyable tenure as President.

Blaine Rooney then reviewed the *Treasurer's Report*, also touching upon the late start to the season and the reduction in membership, both of which contributed to lower than expected revenue. The trend of diminishing membership is expected to continue, meaning that emphasis will need to be placed on green fee and outside tournaments to maintain revenue levels, while also continuing to maintain tight control on expenditures.

Chris McCarthy then gave a report on *Junior Development*. Chris reported that he was very pleased with the impact of the Bishop brothers on the program, also noting that they will be returning as instructors for the 2016 season. He then mentioned the NSGA Bantam & Junior Championships in Chester (under a new sponsorship arrangement this year) and hoped that a good number of Avon Valley juniors would participate. As well Chris has added our own Junior Invitational to the Provincial tournament slate which has a point system towards the "Player of The Year" and anticipates that this might improve participation.

Wayne Northup then reviewed the *Match Report* with no questions from those in attendance

### General Manager's Report.

Brad did a quick overview of his report then touched upon some positives moving into 2016. A number of items have been paid off in 2015 freeing up cash in 2016. Twenty five new members took advantage of the late season membership push last year, and many have already joined for 2016 (year-to-date). He also noted a few unexpected cost items especially the exterior cladding that needed immediate repair.

**Questions** for Brad came from

- shareholder Lorraine Purcell, who asked if was possible to give additional "perks" to 10-pack purchasers, such as an invitation to Men’s Night or Ladies Night as an incentive to increase sales. Brad said he would look into this, with Blaine adding a cautionary observation that Men's and Ladies' nights have traditionally been considered 'perks' of full membership.
- shareholder Kevin Harvey, who asked if it was possible to repair the cladding through warranty. Brad said he had investigated this and was so far unable to determine this as the supply company is no longer in operation.
- shareholder Purcell again, who noted that the golf cart fleet required maintenance, especially windshields and upholstery: Brad undertook to pursue this

Shareholder Reynolds *moved* that the Director’s Reports be accepted as presented, with shareholder Andrew White seconding: the motion *passed*.

**Capital Budget**

Blaine Rooney presented the Capital Budget highlighting the equipment and repairs that were necessary for the year. He also stressed that the Club would only proceed if the financial situation permitted as the season progressed..

Shareholder Tom Calkin moved that the capital budget be approved. Andrew White seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Call for New Business**

Shareholder Calkin asked that the Board consider adding an 18 hole Yellow Tee Tournament to the season. Brad thought that was a good idea and Rob Caissie suggested the Board would definitely address this.

Shareholder André Ducharme asked about the erosion of the ditch on #2 & #8. Brad explained that this had been looked at including the environmental implications, but the costs associated with removing the existing wall were far too significant. Shareholder Purcell asked if more warning signs could be placed around the area. Brad undertook to pursue, offering the view that some sort of low fence or barrier might be more effective.

**Reappointment of Auditors**

Blaine Rooney then moved the reappointment of the firm Morse Brewster Lake of Berwick, NS as the club’s auditors for the 2016-2017 fiscal period. Kirk Stephen seconded the and the motion *carried*.

**Acknowledgements**

Shareholder Calkin expressed his gratitude for the staff and volunteers of AVG&CC, upon which a round of ovation followed.

**Adjournment**

With no further business the Chair called for a motion to adjourn: this was *moved* by shareholder Thomas Covey. The motion *carried* and the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 PM.

**Approved:**

<p><i>Original signed by</i></p> <hr/> <p><b>Robert Caissie, Chair</b></p>	<p><i>Original signed by</i></p> <hr/> <p><b>Blaine Rooney, Treasurer</b></p>
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