

Golf Club of the European Union Club de Golf de l'Union européenne The President Le Président

**Christian EHLERS** 

Brussels, 12 September 2021

# Draft minutes for the EUGC committee meeting on 2 September 2021, 12h30, Il Ramo Verdee, Rue de Toulouse 46, 1040 Bruxelles

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In attendance: Peter BAADER, Christian EHLERS, Chantal JACQUES, , Filip VERCRUYSSE,

Excused Victoria PAGADIGORRIA, Emilio RODRIGUEZ

### 1. Next committee meeting

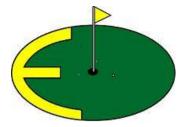
The next committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, 19 October 2021, in the restaurant II Ramo Verdee, Rue de Toulouse 46, 1040 Bruxelles

### 2. Golfing programme 2021 (state-of-play)

The committee reviewed the last golf events. It decided to add, if possible, Bondue, Bossenstein, Kempense and Palingbeek to the <u>2022 programme</u>. A last effort should be made to obtain a tee-time in Cleydael in 2022.

The committee noticed that play was very slow during the <u>club championship</u>. Early starters of the first category caused a delay of 45 minutes. Therefore, the committee will look into other playing options for the players of the first category during the club championship tournament:

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- playing from front tees,
- scoring based on gross Stabelford results, and/or
- introducing "maximum scores"1.

The annual <u>Luxemburg/EUGC challenge</u> had to be cancelled, as Luxembourg could not muster a sufficient number of players.

The <u>autumn golf trip</u> to the Netherlands (Bilderberg Kasteel, Vaalsbroek) had to be cancelled. Their financial conditions, which the hotel proposed, were not acceptable. Unfortunately, it was not possible to find a different destination on short notice.

The EUGC has booked a weekend in <u>Le Touquet</u> again for next year (11-13 March 2022).

3. Slow play

Peter BAADER will re-examine the set of internal rules on slow play.

### 4. Astérisque competitions, definition of "players", Adrian Cunningham

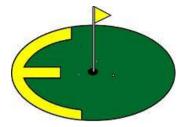
By mail of 24 June, Adrian CUNNINGHAM requested2 that the committee should examine several issues which had arisen in the context of the astérisque competitions.

The committee confirmed that at least 15 players should participate in an astérisque competition for those events to qualify for the annual contest. The threshold was chosen, based on a statistical analysis of participation rates during earlier years, to make the event meaningful. Members, who received the official invitation to an astérisque event via the I-golf system, would be considered as "players".

 <sup>&</sup>quot;Maximum Score" is a new form of stroke play: A player's score for each hole is <u>capped at a maximum</u> set by the Committee, which may be fixed (such as 6, 8, 10, etc.), related to par (such as two times par or triple bogey), or related to the player's handicap (such as net double bogey). A player who does not complete a hole (often referred to informally as "picking up") is <u>not disqualified</u>, but simply <u>gets the</u> <u>maximum score</u> for the hole.

<sup>2</sup> See annex 1

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The President offered his apologies if information given around the Palingbeek fixture had been ambiguous or erroneous. The question "Who is a player?" has since been discussed at committee level on two occasions and decided as mentioned in the paragraph above.

Regarding the scores of the Tri-Angular match between the EUGC, IGC and MUGs, played in La Bawette, the committee decided that only the scores of players who defended the EUGC colours (and those EUGC players, who participated but did not play in the match) would be considered for the astérisque contest.

#### 5. Choice of tees

The committee decided that players may choose their tee-box freely in EUGC astérisque competitions or in competitions for which the EUGC is responsible, for as long as the free choice of tees does not contradict R&A rules or attempt to supersede playing rules of our host clubs.

### 6. AFGOLF competitions

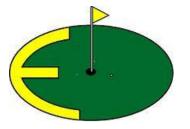
On 16 June the Royal Belgian Golf Federation (FRBG) and the Association of French speaking clubs (AFGOLF) held their <u>general assemblies</u>. Jean-Luc GAVROYE zas elected AFGOLF President, and Philippe DELHAYE became FRBG President.

EUGC players took part in the Trophy Van Lanschot.

On 25 August AFGOLF officially launched the challenge that as of 2025 every second player should be a lady golfer. The EUGC supports this initiative.

7. AFGOLF TV

The aim of this initiative is to present the different clubs with the view to attracting new members. The EUGC would be interested in joining forces with Pierpont on this issue. The President will explore this option further.



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#### 8. "Diamond prize"

Steve KNOWLES has informed the EUGC captain that an Antwerp diamond company might be willing to offer our club a diamond worth up to EUR 4.000 for the first player to score a hole-in-one during an official EUGC competition.

The committee welcomed the idea but expects to receive a written proposal setting out the rules and conditions.

#### 9. Promotional material

The committee decided to buy VICE Pro golf balls with the EUGC club logo, instead of the Titleist Tour balls, which were all handed out. According to reviews the quality of the VICE Pro balls resembles the Titleist Pro V1.

### 10. Miscellaneous

Nothing to report.

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#### <u>Annex 1</u>

By mail of 24 June Adrian CUNNINGHAM requested that his opinion be considered by the committee:

Dear Christian,

Further to your email below if I correctly understand the new definition of a player in the EUGC Asterisk competitions it is not members who actually "played" but now includes members who said they "might play but did not".

This interpretation of a "player" is not something I have seen in any other golf club or indeed any other sport.

I have also noticed that you did not address the issue (see my email below) that on arrival at Palingbeek, I and others were informed (by committee members) that as we were less than 15 players (13 in fact) that the event would not count as an Asterisk competition. The fact that it subsequently became an Asterisk competition means I, and others, were misinformed and played under false pretenses.

Looking at the 13 scores from the actual "players" at Palingbeek I do hope and trust that the Committee's retroactive decision to include **members**, who did not play, as players, had nothing to do with any good scores at Palingbeek by Committee members?

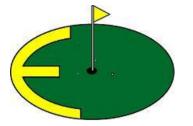
As you know I also played at La Bawette in the Tri-Angular match between the EUGC, IGC and MUGs. I did not register to play with the EUGC and in fact played against the EUGC for MUGs. I was therefore surprised to see that my score at La Bawette (whilst playing against the EUGC for MUGs) has also been included in the EUGC Asterisk competition!

Given what happened to me and others at Palingbeek and La Bawette my view is that the credibility and integrity of the EUGC 2021 Asterisk competitions is now sadly diminished.

I have therefore unsubscribed from the Asterisk competitions at Chateau d'Ardenne and Latem (although given the Committee's recent decision on what defines a player this may mean that I might be counted as having played at these competitions!).

Finally, in your email below, you suggest that bringing this matter back to the Committee will not change matters.

That may, or may not be, the case but I think it would be correct procedure that my objections above and below are reported to the next Committee meeting and recorded in the minutes of that meeting so that other members of the club can see that this issue has been raised. To assist you with this can I suggest something like the following minute:



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"It was reported that Adrian Cunningham (or if you like "a member") had written to the Committee objecting to the new minimum requirement of 15 players introduced in the 2021 Asterix competitions as this both discouraged, and could even penalize, members from supporting the EUGC's Asterisk competitions and events.

He (or the Member) noted that the new 15 minimum players requirement had already led to one event (with only 13 players) where the 13 players were informed, or had assumed, that the event was a no longer an Asterisk competition. The subsequent and retroactive decision by the Committee to include registered, but not playing members, as "players" at this event (to reach the required minimum of 15 players) had bizarrely led to this event being retroactively re-instated as an Asterisk competition."

Regards and best wishes.

Adrian Cunningham