WAGS Committee Meeting 26th June 2025

The Rose & Crown - Wimbledon

Attendees: Wells (MW), Fawcett (TF), Trinick (RT), McGuffie (GM), Field (NF), Berring (FB), Hill (RH), Latham (RL), Stembridge (JS), Middleton (PM)

No apologies.

The Chairman (MW) opened the Committee Meeting at 7.08pm.

Fixtures - RL

RL mentioned that the recent Kent Tour featuring The Tourist Trophy was a huge success as it was many years ago. Thanks goes to Mike Dearden for organising such a great tour.

The next tour in Sussex features The Warburton Slice on 10/07, The Peoples Trophy on 11/07 and The Shaw Shield on 12/07. Wags should note that they can book one, two or all three events. It is not necessary to play in every one.

This year fixtures have experienced slightly lower attendances so please show your support if you can.

RH mentioned prices have risen somewhat whilst MW said that we now have more events than ever and Wags may have become a little more picky.

The committee agreed that guests will now pay £10 extra to attend an event after the Wells Wineglass on 31/07.

The tour to Malaga has 18 Wags booked and features the inaugural Burn Butt and Latham Salver and a round at Lauro beforehand. Wags might want to have a look online as it will serve as a useful guide to the number of boxes of golf balls we might need to take!

Accounts - RH

We still need to find a different bank so the Treasurer can view our finances more effectively and more cheaply. Currently we are charged £5 per month for the account. RT agreed he would investigate alternative account providers for RH.

It is time for us to have real time bank information and this helps the Treasurer to more easily review who is in debit or credit. Assuming we get this sorted by the start of next season, any Wag in deficit will not be allowed to play until their account is brought up to date and paid up.

JS mentioned he may be able to put a warning sign on the website so when a Wag in deficit tries to book an event he will not be able to finalise the booking until he addresses his account deficit.

Handicaps & Comms – GM

GM mentioned that Handicaps now take much longer to assess due to the WHS system. The WHS works well for about half of Wags but if you play and achieve few points on one round and then achieve say 40+ the next it needs more careful analysis. Broadly it works well for Wags that go up and down on a smooth trajectory. Anything that resembles a highly volatile scoring pattern is harder to analyse!

FB mentioned that Wags handicaps shouldn't be two shots more than one's Club handicap.

For communications it was agreed that whilst email is best, Whatsapp is OK too.

Merchandise - RT

RT said he still had a load of merchandise at home but if any Wag wants to create their own Wags badged gear that's fine. Our esteemed Merchandise Secretary now creates new merchandise every two years and it has always been well received. Many thanks go to RT for this most important of jobs. The logo is never far from our hearts as we strive for perfection with every shot!

Website - JS

JS reiterated the earlier point regarding Wags in deficit.

One new idea mentioned by RL is for Wags to create a Family Tree to show Wags history, who introduced who etc… RL and JS will liaise on this initiative and the committee looks forward to an update sometime soon.

JS will contact Steve Shaw to make sure we have a complete history of fixture cards.

Membership – NF

NF reported we have had no new applications in recent months. We did have a prospective member but his paperwork went missing as it was posted directly to the previous Membership Secretary and entered the ether at that point!

NF mentioned we should consider reviewing the Wags Whatsapp groups and deleting ex-members.

The current Wags membership is 52. JS/FB mentioned it would be helpful if we could record for which clubs Wags are members. This would make it easier for FB to review the amount of Wags shots allowed versus the member's Club handicap to try and keep within two shots.

AOB

We agreed that the Chair should be up for re-election every two years and be able to continue in that role if re-elected rather than having to be replaced.

At the 2025 AGM on 25/09 are re-elections for the following esteemed positions:

Secretary – currently TF
Membership – currently NF
Website – currently JS
Treasurer – currently RH

And last but not least, our honourable Chairman MW.

Other items we raised under AOB were as follows:

We have discussed this before and the point was raised again that if there is not enough space on a trophy for winners names then a plinth will need to be arranged to enable greater space.

RL raised the point that the People's Trophy should be moved to London Scottish next year and be played in October each year. This would mean that Sussex tour would reduce to two events: The Warburton Slice and The Shaw Shield. This was supported by the committee.

RH said it may be worth us having a word with VIP regarding different courses. Vip plays a huge range of courses over the year so it might be beneficial to mix our fixtures up a little. RL suggested working on a 2 in and 2 out basis each season. RL said he will liaise with VIP on this.

JS also mentioned that last year Wags held a Wags vs Wags Matchplay event at London Scottish which was very well received and enjoyed. We will look at doing something similar this year.

There being no further business, MW closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

Tom Fawcett - Secretary