

CROSS-PARTY GROUP ANNUAL RETURN

NAME OF CROSS-PARTY GROUP

Cross-Party Group on Golf

DATE GROUP ESTABLISHED (the date of establishment is the date in this parliamentary session that the Group held its initial meeting, where the office bearers were elected and not the date that the Group was accorded recognition. All Groups should hold their AGMs on, or before, the anniversary of this date.)

Group re-established on 15th September 2011

DATE ANNUAL RETURN SUBMITTED

6 May 2014

GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Please provide details of each meeting of the Group including the date of the meeting, a brief description of the main subjects discussed and the MSP and non-MSP attendance figures.

Details of any other activities, such as visits undertaken by the Group or papers/report published by the Group should also be provided.

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT CROSS PARTY GOLF GROUP MEETING HELD ON 25 MARCH, 2014.

Attended by: 4 x MSP's & 7 others.

AGM – Election of Office Bearers - The Office Bearers were nominated and agreed as follows: Tavish Scott MSP – Convenor, with Chic Brodie MSP and John Pentland MSP as Deputy Convenors. The SGU was again nominated and seconded in the role of secretariat.

Presentation from Hamish Grey - Hamish Grey (HG) gave a presentation on the current trends and changes in consumer behaviour impacting upon Scottish golf clubs and their viability and highlighting the need for clubs to change their culture and financial model in many cases. The slides are appended to these notes. There followed a wide ranging discussion, which recognised that in order to grow golf (including golf tourism), healthy vibrant golf clubs are necessary so that there is a product to sell. This is why the golf bodies are focussing on governance, business planning and clubs adopting a customer focus – to build a sustainable future.

Dr Allan Taylor from the University of Abertay outlined plans at the University to consider how higher education can respond to the needs of golf and wishes to explore the opportunities further. It was agreed that in the first instance HG would meet with Allan to discuss this further.

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT CROSS PARTY GOLF GROUP MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 10th DECEMBER 2013.

Attended by: 5 x MSP's & 9 others.

Scottish Disability Golf Partnership - At the invitation of the Chair, representatives from the Scottish Disability Golf Partnership outlined the nature and scope of the work of their organisation.

Presentation from Hamish Grey - Hamish Grey (HG) gave a presentation on the state of Scottish Golf, including an outline of the economic impact of golf in Scotland, and golf club sustainability. The latter included an outline of the work of the Scottish Golf Union and Scottish Ladies' Golfing Association to support clubs. The presentation slides are appended to these minutes.

Questions and Discussion: There followed a wide ranging discussion. The national facilities strategy for golf was outlined as being the focal point for the strategic consideration of any public investment (via sportscotland) in new or upgraded golf facilities. It was noted that in general Scottish golf was well provided for in terms of golf facilities. Within the £1.171 billion pa total economic value of golf to Scotland, golf tourism represents circa £220m. It is considered that there is the opportunity to grow to this to £300m and a specific Scottish Golf Tourism Strategy has been developed to focus on achieving that. This includes marketing efforts on the back of Scotland hosting the 2014 Ryder Cup.

The need for golf to get the right balance in pricing membership and visitor golf and evidence of benefits to clubs from major golf events e.g. the Open and North Berwick in 2013, were discussed.

MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

Please provide names of all MSP members of the Group. Note that only names need to be provided, no party designation or other information is required.

Adam Ingram
John Pentland
Tavish Scott
Chic Brodie
Jamie McGrigor
Murdo Fraser
Neil Findlay
Richard Simpson
Stewart Maxwell

NON-MSP MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

For organisational members please provide only the name of the organisation, it is not necessary to provide the name(s) of individuals who may represent the organisation at meetings of the Group.

Individuals

Ewen Cairns

	Dr Alan Taylor (University of Abertay)
Organisations	<p>Scottish Golf Union</p> <p>Scottish Golf</p> <p>Club Golf</p> <p>Scottish Ladies Golf Association</p> <p>Professional Golf Association</p> <p>Golf Club Managers Association</p> <p>Event Scotland</p> <p>Golf Tourism Scotland</p> <p>Scottish Enterprise</p> <p>SportScotland</p> <p>Scottish Disability Golf Partnership</p> <p>Scottish Sports Association</p>
<p>GROUP OFFICE BEARERS</p> <p>Please provide names for all office bearers. The minimum requirement is that two of the office bearers are MSPs and one of these is Convener – beyond this it is a matter for the Group to decide upon the office bearers it wishes to have. It is permissible to have more than one individual elected to each office, for example, co-conveners or multiple deputy conveners.</p>	
Convener	Tavish Scott
Deputy Convener	Chic Brodie MSP & John Pentland MSP
Secretary	Hamish Grey (Scottish Golf Union)
Treasurer	
<p>FINANCIAL BENEFITS OR OTHER BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE GROUP</p> <p>Please provide details of any financial or material benefit(s) received from a single source in a calendar year which has a value, either singly or cumulatively, of more</p>	

than £500. This includes donations, gifts, hospitality or visits and material assistance such as secretariat support.

Details of material support should include the name of the individual providing support, the value of this support over the year, an estimate of the time spent providing this support and the name of the organisation that this individual is employed by / affiliated to in providing this support.

Groups should provide details of the date on which the benefit was received, the value of the benefit and a brief description of the benefit.

In respect of catering the SGU have paid out £86.25 and in respect of Hamish's time he estimates this to be £365.

SUBSCRIPTION CHARGED BY THE GROUP

Please provide details of the amount charged and the purpose for which the subscription is intended to be used.

N/A

CONVENER CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Tavish Scott MSP
Parliamentary address	M2.17 Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP
Telephone number	01313 486 296