



Royal Montrose Mercantile

AGM 2025: Summary of Key Points

Dear Members

Please find below and attached a summary of key points from our AGM, held on Wednesday 5th February 2025.

1. Apologies were read out on behalf of 29 members.
2. Approval was sought for the 2024 AGM minute. There were no matters outstanding.
3. Outgoing Captain, Jamie Pert, acknowledged the many challenges faced by the current and previous Boards, following the merger, but was pleased to report that our aims have been largely achieved. A significant indicator of the success of the Enhancement Project has been the increase in member numbers and footfall. We were delighted to welcome Paul Lawrie to officially open our enhanced facility in May 2024.

Jamie personally thanked members of the Board, staff, sub-committees, working groups and other volunteers for their hard work and efforts during his tenure as Captain. He highlighted the positive impact that Operations Manager, Debbie Leslie, supported by Gemma Phillips, has had on the day-to-day running of the business and stressed the importance of their role.

Despite increased running costs, resulting from rises in minimum wage and national insurance contributions along with inflation-based expenditure, Jamie was pleased to report that the Club has maintained a strong, commercially viable position.

Jamie welcomed incoming Captain, Pete Wood, and provided members with an entertaining resume of Pete's background. He finished by saying it had been an honour and a privilege to be Captain for the past two years, commenting that the RMMGC is a "great institution" with a bright future.

4. Finances were approved showing a Net Profit for the year of £42,562 which is an increase on last year of £5235.
5. Board fee proposals for 2025/2026 were also approved (see list of approved fees), as was a reduction in the levy to £10 per member. Fee invoices will be issued early March with payment due by 31st March 2025.
6. The Secretary provided a summary on changes to the Board structure as follows: -

Paragraph 19.4. of the Club Articles of Association (2019) states, "Election to any position on the Board cannot be limited by, or discriminated against, on the grounds of gender, gender reassignment, age, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, or disability."

A Governance Guide for Golf Clubs (written by the R&A, Scottish Golf, the PGA and other golf professional bodies) describes a Vision for a Modern Board, which they define as "the primary strategic decision-making committee."

In considering what a modern, non-discriminatory RMMGC Board might look like, we have been guided by the above named document and advice provided by Golf Insights.

The document advocates a streamlined Board, supported by sub-committees and working groups. Going forwards, the RMMGC Board will comprise of six Director posts as follows: -

- Club Captain
- Club Vice-captain
- Club Finance Director (formerly known as Treasurer)
- Club Match and Handicap Director (formerly known as Match and Handicap Secretary)
- Club Director of House Affairs (formerly known as House)
- Club Director of Membership and Marketing (formerly known as Secretary)

The Operations Manager will attend all Board meetings in a non-voting capacity.

The outgoing Club Captain may, if they wish, continue to attend Board meetings in an advisory, non-voting capacity for up to one year. The Board feel this is important for continuity, particularly in instances where there is no nominee for the post of Club Vice-captain.

The Board will continue to be supported by the following sub-committees and working groups:

- Finance sub-committee
- Match and Handicap sub-committee
- Membership and Marketing group
- Social group
- House group

The Club Articles of Association have been updated to reflect the above. Changes will be forwarded to Companies House in the form of a Special Resolution during the next few weeks.

Next step will be to define the roles and responsibilities of Directors, sub-committees and working groups. In doing so, we hope to encourage more members to come forward and get involved.

7. The Club continues to maintain communication with MGLL. Latest information from the Council indicates that rock groyne construction is planned for the Spring. Full details can be accessed on the Engage Angus platform. Recent work includes the reprofiling of rock armour to reinforce the 2nd tee and the placement of sandbags at low-lying points near the pipe location. Additional areas requiring reinforcement have been identified. The Council is expected to address these with sandbags, though no formal notification of specific locations has been provided yet.
8. Club Directors were elected (see attached).
9. Incoming Captain. Pete Wood, thanked members for giving him the opportunity to lead the Club in what he described as “an exciting and challenging time”. He thanked Jamie for his hard work in establishing “a great team” and leading the Club to a secure financial position. Pete highlighted the importance of consolidating and building on what we have achieved and highlighted the crucial role members have to play in this, i.e. by using the facilities. To this end, we should all see ourselves as positive ambassadors of the Club.

The meeting closed at 8pm.