



Inventory

Dep.375

Papers of the Royal Burgess Golfing Society of Edinburgh

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These papers form the surviving archive of what claims to be the oldest golfing society in Scotland, and give a detailed picture of its history from its reorganization in 1773 up to the 1960s. Besides the minute books, which provide a continuous narrative for the entire period, there is correspondence, accounts and memoranda of all sorts, but principally relating to the Society's financial affairs, and to the construction and repair of its clubhouse. Most of the correspondence and memoranda date from between 1896 and 1938, but there are some documents relating to earlier times in folder 36, and the printed rules in 40 start from 1838.

For additional papers see Acc.11095.

Deposited, 1984, 2001-2 and 2004.

- 1 Typescript of 'The Chronicle of the Royal Burgess Golfing Society of Edinburgh', 1937, by J Cameron Robbie, with manuscript alterations, and photographs

2-13A Minute books

- 2 1773-1801, with accounts and membership lists, 1773, 1787, 1792-1801
- 3 1802-20, with rules, 1802, and a copy of the seal of cause granted by the City, 1800
- 4 1820-43
- 5 1843-64
- 6 1864-85
- 7 1885-99
- 8 1899-1904
- 9 1904-11
- 10 1911-24
- 11 1924-38
- 12 1938-51
- 13 1951-63

13A 1963-82

14-16 Scroll minutes

14 1820-2

15 1930-8

16 1953-7

17-21 Registers of applications for membership

The forms have been bound alphabetically within each volume

17 1840-83

18 1894-5

19 1896-8

20 1898-1909

21 1910-15

22-5 Formal documents

22 Records of deeds, mainly relating to property at Barton and to loans of money, 1895-1911

23 Deeds and some related correspondence mainly concerning property at Barnton, 1893-1915.

24 Memoranda relating to the course and the game, including the specification for the course at Barnton, 1894, the signed petition against the decision to ban Sunday golf, 1895, and conditions for various competitions, 1899-1912.

25 Memoranda, agreements etc., relating to the Society's staff, particularly the professional, 1893-1921, 1951

26 Printed annual reports

1898, 1900-2, 1904-14, 1916-22, 1924-5, 1927-9, 1965. Notices of half-yearly meetings, 1899-1917, 1921, 1934, including notice and map concerning the proposed realignment of the course in 1905, and special minutes and papers of the meeting of 24 November 1934 to discuss the captaincy of the then Prince of Wales

27-33 Financial records

- 27 Memoranda and estimates concerning the new clubhouse, 1895-6, 1910-13, 1922, 1929, 1933
- 28 Accounts for construction work and general upkeep of the clubhouse, 1910, 1914, 1919-21, 1933-4
- 29 Lawyers' bills, 1895-6, and financial memoranda, 1889-1934
- 30 Tax returns and property valuations, 1910-23
- 31 Club registration certificates, 1904-29
Treasurer's accounts and accounts for the erection of the clubhouse at Musselburgh, 1876
Printed balances, 1899-1908
Draft accounts, 1918-30
- 32 Cash book for receipts for temporary members and visitors, 1956-64
- 33 Bank of Scotland cash book, 1964-6

34-35 General correspondence

- Mostly relating to the clubhouse and the finance of the Society, but also including material on the application of 1896 to have 'Royal' added to the Society's name, the visit by the Prince of Wales, the history of Golfers' Land, Edinburgh, and salaries
- 34 1879-80, 1894-5, 1897, 1900, 1902, 1905-12, 1915-16, 1918-19
 - 35 1920-3, 1928, 1933-8, 1951, 1960-1

36 Miscellaneous

- 36 File containing miscellaneous items:
 - (a) Copy, 1801, of the charter by Mary Queen of Scots in favour of the craftsmen of burghs, 1564
 - (b) Petition and pleadings by the Society against the use of Bruntsfield Links for breaking horses, 1812
 - (c) Draft admission certificate (including a drawing of golfers), 1812
 - (d) Printed rules of the first 'Grand National Golf Club Tournament', 1857
 - (e) Correspondence and papers in the case of assault brought against Daniel Smith, Captain of the Society for hitting a girl with a golf ball when playing at Bruntsfield, 1863
 - (f) Correspondence with John Rhind, sculptor, concerning payment for the 'panel of golfers' and 'panel with Edinburgh Arms', 1875-7

- (g) Copperplate of admission certificate of Rev W Whyte Smith, Captain of Mortonhall, and Minister of Newington U F church, 1901
- (h) Miscellaneous cards, fixture lists etc., of other clubs, 1936-66

37-41 Printed items

37 *The Golfers' Garland*, song for voice and piano, n.d.

38-9 Fixture cards and membership lists

38 1893-6, 1899-1900, 1902-10, 1913, 1919-22, 1924-8

39 1930-9, 1966

40 Printed rules, 1838, 1864, 1880, 1893, 1897, 1903, 1911, 1928, 1951, 1975, 1981

41 *The Golfers' Yearbook for 1866 and History of the Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society*, 1906

Additional material deposited, March 2002

42 Inventory of images and descriptions of artefacts belonging to the Royal Burgess Golfing Society, March 2002 (on CDROM)

Additional material deposited, 23rd March 2004

43 'Rules to be observed in the Play of Golf by the Company of Golfers which meet at Thomas Combs Bruntsfield Links', 20 July 1776

Revised March 2004