

Minutes of the Lincolnshire Ladies County Golf Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the National Golf Centre, Woodhall Spa on November 2nd 2015 at 10.30 am.

The Chairman began by asking for a few moments silence in respect of the following members of the County Association who had passed away during the year: Ann Chambers, LLCGA president 2002/04, LLCGA Captain 1994/96, Pat Barrett, Mary Robinson (Cleethorpes), Margaret Cooper, Shirley Standley, Sylvia Davis (Canwick Park), Barbara Drake (Gainsborough), Margaret Brett, Norma Parker, Mollie Pond, Doreen Wolsey (Spalding), Val Hopkins (Sudbrook Moor), Rev Jean Simkin, Dorothy Graham (Elsham) & Beryl Crosland.

Mrs Stobart, the County Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing those members of the County Executive sitting on the top table.

Present: Mrs Tracey Stobart (Chairman), Miss Julia Sales (President), Mrs Helen Hewlett (Captain) Mrs Helen McDougall (Vice-Captain), Mrs Barbara Haycox (Hon. Secretary), Mrs. Cindy Ireland (Treasurer), Mrs. Judith Ainsworth (League Secretary), Mrs. Wendy Ramsden (Competitions Secretary), Mrs. Pat Jones (Junior Organiser), Mrs. Margaret Jacobs (SS Advisor), Mrs. Terry Macarthy (Handicap Advisor), Mrs. Sue Borthwick (Midlands North Rep) and 81 other members

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Forest pines Golf Club, Millfield Golf Club, Di Smith, Alison Johns, Emma Tipping, Gail Hunt, Ann Kent, Anne Thompson, Linda Davey, Pat West, Dianne Platt, Judy Garton, Julia Morley, Jan Haywood, Annette Maddison, Helen Hemsall, Sheena Jamieson, Jane Burt, Jane Crooks, Gill Lamming and Tricia Bradwell.

2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting November 3rd 2014

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were taken as read and adopted as a true record. Proposed by Joan Payling and seconded by Margaret Johns. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3 Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

4 Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that there had been three Executive meetings, a Finance meeting a Representatives meeting and four Lincolnshire Partnership meetings and the annual two day County Secretaries meeting. National County cards are sent to clubs on payment of their affiliation fees, the scheme being administered by the Lincolnshire Golf Union, each member being entitled to a card. Club open days had been put onto the diary page of the County website free of charge but flyers, entry form and results can be put onto the Club competitions section at a cost of £15.00. Clubs were reminded to advise the Secretary any changes to their Lady Secretary, Club Delegate and Handicap Secretary .

5 Treasurer's Report

Mrs Ireland began by congratulating Helen on a successful two years as Captain
The balance sheet shows a healthy financial position and as a result the affiliation fee will remain the same.

Affiliation fees are the biggest source of income, showing 2598 members. Numbers were down by 23, since 2011 the numbers are down by 455.

County competitions show a small surplus of £1726, raffles raised £1697. The proceeds from the Championships and Bronze Meetings were in aid of Alison Johns and along with personal donations the sum of £1100 was raised.

The support of the following clubs for the Juniors is greatly appreciated: Belton Park, Woodhall spa, Louth, Elsham, Blankney and LVLGA.

The Patrons had made a donation of £1000 for the second year running.

Insurance premiums were down from £1400 paid in 2011 to below £400.

The Treasurer also reminded clubs about putting open days on the website for a fee of £15.

As mentioned in last year's report, new kit has been purchased thanks to a donation from a member and her husband.

Thanks were given to Phil Smith for auditing the accounts and to the ladies for their support of the County competitions and raffles.

A full copy of the accounts is attached to these Minutes.

6 Competition Secretary's Report

Mrs. Ramsden thanked the Executive, particularly Mrs. McCarthy for their continued support and Helen, who had attended every competition as County Captain. Thanks were also given to the host clubs, their managers, Lady Captains and members for all their help and to everyone who had donated raffle prizes and all who enter the competitions.

A full set of results can be found at the end of this report.

The County Championship, held at Lincoln, was won by Helen Hewlett (Seacroft). Helen first won the title in 1985. Emma Tipping (Greetham Valley) was the runner – up. Helen won the Barbara Watson Trophy (best 36 holes gross), Emma won the Mary Roberts Trophy (best 36 holes gross under 30), The Presidents Bowl (best 36holes nett) was won by Rita Broughton (Lincoln), runner up Helen

The Butlin Trophy was won by Andree Burt (Woodhall Spa) with a net 75. The Julia Sales Salver (best gross foursomes) was won by Gillian Grant and Liz Haughton (Greetham Valley) with a gross 88.

There was a good turnout for the Spring Bronze Meeting at Spalding. The Bronze champion and winner of the Gwen Bamber Trophy (best Stableford points) was Cynthia Treharne (Woodhall Spa) with 35 points. On Day 2, the Mary Mundy Salver (Betterball stableford) was won by Lynda Double and Debra ward (Spalding) with 35 points. Lincoln won the Dorothy Marshall Shield with 94 points on a countback from Spalding.

The Midlands North Girls Championship was played at Ashby Decoy. A competition for girls with a handicap under 18 together with the 18 hole challenge for girls with handicaps 19- 36. Sophie Johnson (Telford) is the Midland North Region Girls Champion. Staffordshire won the scratch and handicap team events. Katie Symonds (Aston Wood) won the challenge and Ann Kent scratch trophy and Amy Fletcher (Gainsborough) won the Ann Kent handicap trophy. Thanks go to Pat

Jones, Julia Sales Tracey Stobart and Helen Hewlett for their help on the day together with Ashby Decoy, Lady Captain Joan and President Margaret.

The Senior Ladies Championship was held at Elsham. Pam Watson (Stoke Rochford) won the Kathie Craigs Salver with a gross 79, and Pauline Smith (Grimsby) won the Joan Payling Salver with a net 74.

Three County Betterball days were held and thanks go to the representatives, Pauline Smith, Stella Goldstein and Ann Lyon, for organising these days. The North was played at Holme Hall, Central at Market Rasen and South at Blankney. There were no presentations at these events.

The Autumn meeting was played at Belton Park, with special thanks to Joy Stepney for her assistance. The Brocklesby Cup was won by Kim Davies (Belton Woods), nett 74 and the Elsham Centenary Salver – best gross – was won by Helen Hewlett gross 72. Belton woods won the Lincolnshire Shield with a nett 226.

The Coronation Cup was won by Margaret Barkway (Spalding) with 36 points.

For the Silver and Bronze Shields, Lady Captains can nominate teams of four players from the entries received, the winner being the best 3 out of 4 scores added together. The Bronze Shield, played for at the Spring Bronze meeting, will be at Boston West in 2016 with the Silver Shield being played at Cleethorpes.

The County Am-Am was held at Sleaford Golf Club. The winners were Tracey Stobart (Kenwick Park), Helen Hewlett, Helen McDougall (Lincoln) and Meg Illingworth with 88 points. Next year's competition is at Elsham and will again be a two tee start.

Clubs were asked to encourage their members to enter County Competitions. Entries had been down in all competitions this year particularly in the Bronze Division. The package that had been left for clubs at the desk contained details and entry forms for 2016 Competitions plus a notice detailing all competitions. Entry forms could also be downloaded from the County website, where start sheets and results will be published.

Clubs were reminded that the handicap allowance for betterball competitions will change from 3/4 to 90% - this is not a recommendation it is mandatory. Clubs should have a clear and precise guidance for competitions, which should include – eligibility, method of entry, format time of starting, bad weather policy, decisions of ties and the awarding of prizes. The R & A publish a book – Guidance on running a Competition.

Mrs Ramsden invited County Captain, Helen Hewlett to present the trophies to the winners of the three County Betterball competitions.

North – winners of the Isabel Halmshaw and Betty Gresham Salvors were Judith Gorman and Christina Reed (Cleethorpes) with 44 points

Central – winners of the Edna Whitehouse and Chris Means Salvors were Helen Hewlett and Helen McDougall with 43 points.

South - winners of the Isabel Halmshaw and Betty Gresham Salvors were Gill Lamming and Sheila Dewsnap (Sleaford) with 42 points.

7 2nd Team /Vice Captain's Report

The first match was played at Kibworth against Leicestershire on 27th July. Gilly Grant made a welcome return partnering Liz Haughton, winning their match. However the match result was a loss 6-3. Two days later the team travelled to Radcliffe but again lost the match 5 ½ - 3 ½. The return match against Leicestershire played at Blankney resulted in a win 5 ½ -3 ½. Two of the matches going down the 18th. Matilda Kedzlie, playing in her first senior match narrowly lost her

game. The final game was played against Nottingham at Stoke Rochford. Despite being short of regular player, the match result was a win 8-1. The result was not enough to qualify for the finals. Mrs McDougall had enjoyed being part of the team both as player and Captain and thanked everyone who had played - Alex Smith, Lily Farr, Hannah Vaughan, Harriet Wilson, Liz Haughton, Gilly Grant, Tilly Kedzlie, Ellie Haughton, June Miller and Lois Williamson. County colours awarded to Harriet Wilson, Liz Haughton and Lois Williamson.

8 Junior Organiser's Report

Mrs Jones started her report by detailing the competitions the girls had played in during 2015: Scottish U16's at Strathmore, St Andrews Junior Open, English Girls Open Championships at Sherringham (Lois Williamson), U13 & U15 at Royal Cromer (Erin Brown, Tilly Kedzlie & Billie-Jo Smith), and the Champion of Champions at Melton Mowbray (U16 Lois Williamson and U14 Isabel Haughton)

The year started with the annual fundraiser at Greetham Valley. The proceeds of £433 were donated to Alison Johns to help her travel to Argentina for the World Transplant games.

The match against the Boys resulted in a loss 2 ½ - 1 ½, however three matches went to the 18th hole.

Ellie Haughton won the Four Counties held at Rushcliffe; Lily Farr was 3rd (nett) and the team of Lois Williamson, Tilly Kedzlie and Lily Farr were runners up in the gross competition.

The league match against Nottingham resulted in a loss 4-1.

Fifty-three girls aged between 7-18 took part in coaching sessions, some reducing their handicaps and others attaining a first handicap.

The Chicks and Imps are still popular and thanks go to Alison Johns and Steve Cooper for their help.

Twenty-four girls took part in the Order of Merit held at Woodhall Spa. They were split into two groups, winner of group one – Amy Fletcher and group two – Ellise Rymer.

Alison Johns and Steve Cooper ran a coaching day at Woodhall Spa for squad members focusing on the long and short game in the morning before playing nine holes in the afternoon.

Lois Williamson has been selected for the England Golf U18 Regional squad and Erin Brown, Tilly Kedzlie and Ellie Haughton in the U16 squad.

Club Champions: Lily Farr – Gainsborough and Lois Williamson - Boston

Results of County competitions: Spring Stableford Ellie Haughton 43 points, Flag 50 Ellise Rymer Closed Championship at Woodhall Spa – Junior Champion Lily Farr (gross 85), U18 Champion Lily Farr (Gainsborough), U16 Champion, Lois Williamson (Boston gross 86), U14 Champion Isobel Haughton (Greetham Valley), Jenny Wren (Best nett) Georgia Mann (Cleethorpes) 93-31-62 and most improved Ellie Haughton (Greetham Valley). Open Championship at Stoke Rochford – Gross winner Billie-Jo Smith (Woodhall Spa) 73, Best Nett Ellie Haughton (Greetham Valley) 82-13-69 and U13's Imogen Rafferty (Derbyshire) 91-21-70.

Competitions run by LUGC: Peggotty and Jennings Cup at Lincoln – Lois Williamson (Gross 29, 2nd Erin Brown, Woodroffe Walter 39 holes at Belton Park – Winner Tilly Kedzlie, runner-up Lois Williamson, Les Johnson Trophies at Louth – Charlotte McCracken (Canwick Park) 103-28-75.

Patrons Cup at Blankney – winner Charlotte McCracken, runner-up Lois Williamson.

Lois Williamson won the match play final against Tilly Kedzlie.

Junior Captain for 2016 is Lois Williamson and the Vice-Captain Tilly Kedzlie.

An end of season 'get together' was held at Blankney for the girls plus parents and family. Thanks to Jess Wilcox for the organisation of the event.

Thanks went to the ladies sections who have donated money to the Juniors, the Original Cake Company, who sponsor the Junior kit and have donated cakes at various events, to the parents, County Captain Helen, Vice-Captain Helen, Di Platt, Clare Welfare, Alison Johns and Steve Cooper.

The Chairman announced the intention of Mrs Jones to retire at the end of the 2016 season.

9 Midland Representative's Report

Mrs Borthwick began her report by outlining the seven Midlands Region North events. They are:

- 36 Hole Foursomes – Radcliffe on Trent Nottingham 25th April
- Medals Final – Penn Stafford 29th May
- Australian Spoon – Whetstone Leicester 9 August
- County Match week – Holme Hall Lincoln week beginning 5th June
- Queen of Clubs – Worfield Shropshire 21st July
- The Girl's Championship – Kedleston Derby 3rd June
- County 2nd Team Finals – Stanton on the Wolds 15 August

In 2015, Lincolnshire hosted the Girl's Championship organised by Wendy Ramsden and we are responsible for County Match Week in 2016 at Holme Hall. In addition, the County has taken on the accounting responsibilities for MNR, as 5 out of the 7 events are self-funding.

Mrs Borthwick has attended the England Golf AGM and General Meetings, most of the work focused on the review of the Governance and Affiliation procedures. The final vote will be in December.

England Golf affiliation fees will be raised by a £1 with effect from January 2016 to £8.25. The last increase was in 2013.

The LGU are in talks with the R & A with regard to a merger. If it is a success it will see the phasing out of the £2.50 levy. If it doesn't happen the plan remains for the LGU to become self-funding by 2020.

10 Handicap Advisor/Liaison Officer's Report

Mrs Macarthy reported that she had assisted clubs in order to assist Handicap Secretaries but most queries are dealt with on the telephone or by e mail. The CDH system is working much better. The CONGU manual is due to be released in January 2016 but there is a delay, so although changes are due in January they will not be effective until 1ST March.

Some of the changes outlined in a seminar in April will not now happen. England Golf are intending to hold a series of seminars in 2016 to confirm the final changes.

Please note the following:

Handicap boundaries will remain the same as now. However, a new "Club Handicap" will be introduced for clubs who wish to allocate a handicap higher than 28/36, for use in club run events. This handicap will only be valid at the player's home club and cannot be used in opens etc.

The 4BBB handicap allowance will be increased from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 90%. This will also apply to better ball match play and will remain a "must". If your club has already started a winter league in this format using $\frac{3}{4}$, then it is acceptable to continue as long as the competition is completed by April 2016 or you can use 90% from the start.

Supplementary scores may be returned at all GB&I clubs of which a player is a member. They will also be acceptable over 9 holes, provided the club has applied for and been allocated a 9 hole SS. This will apply to Categories 2 and above. They will be unlimited for handicaps 28/36 to 54.

11 Scratch Score Assessor's Report

Mrs Jacobs started by saying that they have had several practice sessions rating winter courses last October. They had learned a lot from Joy Hunter, who had helped with many aspects of course distances, carries, observations at Pottergate golf club. Margaret went on to say that Elaine Johnson from Ashby Decoy has joined as a third member of the North team together with Jenny Ricketts of Kenwick Park. Milly Thorold has joined Di Platt and Pat West to complete the South team. She went on to say that practice sessions had to be cancelled on two occasions due to the fact that the County Men no longer have a working team, as Paul Guthrie has dropped out. Until the men have a working team we are unable to start rating courses. Margaret finished by reminding delegates that any alteration to courses, whether it is bunkers, hazards, plantations, carries or yardage changes must be reported to the Standard Scratch Assessor. Contact details for both Margaret and Di can be found on the website.

12 League Secretary's Report

The County Handicap League was won by Elsham (North) who beat Lincoln (South) at Holme Hall. The match finished 2-2 and went to sudden death with Elsham winning on the second hole. Congratulations to both teams.

Results of the Handicap League are attached. There were no clubs relegated from Division 5 North as Holme Hall B have withdrawn but Elsham have entered a C team and will join Division 6 North. All results have been sent to clubs together with details of next year's Handicap Leagues. Result sheets and rules can be downloaded from the County website.

Clubs were reminded to confirm all matches. Distance measuring devices are allowed in County Competitions. Clubs with two teams in the league were reminded to send a handicap list on the day for every home match and ensure that sheets are annotated with A or B team. Results, on the correct result sheet should be sent by post or e-mail to the League Secretary as soon as possible after the match.

An amendment to the league rules for 2016 has been made as follows: Clubs to include a weekend date, if possible, when arranging matches.

When the proposed changes to the CONGU handicap allowance for 4 Ball Better Ball matches is confirmed, clubs will be advised and the league rules amended.

A number of proposals discussed at the Representatives Meeting for the reintroduction of the Scratch League will be discussed at the next Executive meeting with the hope that it can be resumed but in a different format.

Mrs Ainsworth thanked County Captain Helen for her help and support during 2015 and Terry Macarthy for refereeing the final.

The County Captain presented the Handicap League Trophy.

Mrs Betty Gresham then presented the pictures to the division winners.

13 Captain's Report

Mrs. Hewlett reported that the year had started with a coaching session with Jonathan Yarwood focusing on the short game and this had proved beneficial.

Friendly matches against Seacroft Board and Lincoln men were played in April resulting in a win 3 ½ - 1½ and a loss 3 ½ - ½ respectively.

County week was held at Enville Golf Club in Staffordshire. The team was Billie-Jo Smith, Emma Tipping, Kirsty Condon, Meg Illingworth, Beth Shippin, Helen McDougall and Helen Hewlett. A few of the regular players were missing due to other commitments. The results (Derbyshire 5-4, Staffordshire 5-4, Shropshire 7-2, Nottinghamshire 1 ½ - 7 ½ and Leicestershire 7-2) resulted in a three way tie between Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire and Lincoln. Nottinghamshire winning on countback. They went on to win the National final.

The match against LVLGA was held at Boston Golf Club, the Executive recording a win 4-2.

Congratulations were given to all County winners. Players were thanked for their support of County events and clubs that hosted County competitions and matches.

Among the notable achievements by lady County members were Alison Johns who won gold and bronze medals at the World Transplant Games in Argentina, Yvonne and Rachel Woodcock (Blankney) winners of the Peugeot Foursomes held at St Andrew and to Rita Broughton (Lincoln) who won the Club Championship for the 28th time. India Clyburn has started college in North Carolina.

The Vice-Captain and Executive Committee were thanked for all their support. Particular mention was made of the work done by Wendy Ramsden in her role as Competition Secretary.

Helen concluded by saying it had been a pleasure and honour to be County Captain and it was thanks to members such as Ann Basely, Betty & Norman Gresham, Isabel Halmshaw and many other County officials for their help, encouragement support during her time as a County player that helped her achieve her goals. (County Juniors at aged 10, 2nd Team aged 12, 1st team at 13, Professional at 19 and finally back to County golf 6 years ago.)

Adoption of Reports

Mrs Stobart thanked the officers for their reports. It was proposed that the reports be adopted en-bloc.

Proposed by: Joan Smith and seconded by Joan Payling
It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Reports

14 Election of Officers:

The following were nominated by the Executive:

Captain - Mrs Helen McDougall

Vice-Captain – Mrs Helen Dawson (Birdie)

In the absence of any other nominees, the appointments were carried.

15 Installation of Captain and Vice-Captain

The Captain, Mrs Helen Hewlett, presented the incoming Captain, Mrs Helen McDougall with the Captain's badge. Mrs McDougall thanked Helen for her support and said she was looking forward to hosting County Match Week at Holme Hall and in turn presented the retiring Captain with a gift from the County. The Captain introduced the new Vice-Captain, Mrs Helen Dawson (Birdie) and presented her with her badge. Mrs Dawson made a short speech of acceptance.

16 Any Other Business

Elizabeth Holbrook gave a brief resume of the MVLGA detailing who was eligible to join and details of competitions played. Cindy Ireland (Woodhall Spa) is the 2016 Captain. Details can be found on the website: www.MVLGA.org.uk.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and Woodhall Spa for allowing us to use their facilities.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.10.

Signed..... Date