

Minutes of the Lincolnshire Ladies County Golf Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the National Golf Centre, Woodhall Spa on November 1st 2021 at 10.30 am.

The Chairman asked for a few moments silence in respect of the following members of the County Association who had passed away during the year: Annette Ridley (Lincoln), Esther Kelly (Waltham Windmill), Madge Tomlinson, Anne Ellis, Rona Laud, Margaret Brindley, Joyce Brooks, Beryl Skinner (Spalding), Joan Payling, Jean Andrews, Rachael Butcher, Elizabeth Erskine (Blankney), Val Sambridge (Tydd St. Giles), Celia Colinge, Margaret Whiston (Sleaford), Eileen Wynne, Ann Farquahar-Smith (Toft), Christine Burgess (Thonock Park), Gill Leverton (Louth), Margaret Sharpe (Kenwick Park), Elexis Brown (Woodhall Spa), Monica Vergette (Market Rasen), Joan Spencer, Caroline Hawkins (Millfield), Roz Jackson, Christine Ashton, Janet Westray, Helen Moir (Elsham)

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

Present: Sheilah Mitchell (Chairman), Cindy Ireland (President/Treasurer), Gillian Grant (Captain), Kathryn Johnson (Secretary), Polly Brettle (League Secretary), Dawn Cunnington (Competitions Secretary), Terry Macarthy (Handicap Adviser), Margaret Jacobs (Standard Scratch Advisor), Margaret Yelland (Central Representative) Helen Long (South Representative), Helen Grinham (North Representative)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from : Honorary Members: Emma Tipping, Julia Sales, Helen Hewlett, Alison Johns, Sophie Beardsall (Vice Captain) Stacey Mitchell (Junior Co-Ordinator), Birdie Dawson (Past Captain), Angela Scurr (MN Representative), Elaine Lilley (Marketing Co-Ordinator), Sue Annibal (South Kyme) Mandy Burnett (Millfields) Keri Clarke, Jules Palmer (Blankney) Pat Jones, Bev Dolman, Helen Woolley, Sue Brand, Anne McCulloch (Greetham Valley), Josie Allen (Carholme), Kay Clark (Forest Pines, Kellie Hadland (Kirton Holme), Julia Perry (Tydd St. Giles), Yvonne Cook (Ashby Decoy), Lesley Collins (Lincoln), Sue Fisher (Kenwick Park), Hilary Morley (Waltham Windmill), Sarah Dawson (Pottergate), Dorne Werner (Stoke Rochford), Sue Borthwick (Market Rasen), Barbara Haycox (Lincoln), Pam Shepherd (Louth), Rachel Denton (Elsham)

2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 4th November 2019/2020

Due to COVID, we were unable to hold an AGM in 2020, the Minutes from the November 2019 meeting were circulated to all members last year and were signed as a true record, and no matters were arising from those Minutes. In 2020 all Officers submitted reports, and these were sent out to all members for comments, and any matters arising, again, there were none.

3 Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

4 Secretary's Report

2021 has been another challenging year for us all, we held our Committee meetings over zoom all year until our last meeting, in October, when we were finally able to hold our meeting face to face.

Even though it started quite slowly, we have had a busy but successful year. One of the many highlights came in June when we were awarded the England Golf County of the Year. Tracy Stobart kindly invited a few of us to her house on the night of the awards, and she represented the county to receive the award from Naga Munchetty from the BBC who hosted the event. It was a great night and a terrific achievement for the all the work that has been done to promote golf in Lincolnshire. The awarding panel were particularly impressed with our approach to promoting women in golf, and for our progress in our junior golf programme.

Special thanks must go to Stacey Mitchell (now Stacey McNicholas) and her support team, she has truly put Junior Golf on the map for Lincolnshire, and worked exceptionally hard whilst maintaining her very busy day job and preparing for her wedding. Tilly Garfoot our Lincolnshire Junior Captain, was nominated for a Hero's Handshake, which is a joint initiative between England Golf and the Golf Foundation, she was awarded the prize for August, a truly great achievement. I was so pleased to help out at a Golf Sixes Event at Louth Golf Club, and was so impressed with the organisation and the great atmosphere amongst the girls and their parents. They all thoroughly enjoyed the event, and show great promise to take their golf further.

Over the year I have worked with Jim Lammin, the LUGC Secretary and thank him for his help and support to not only myself but the Executive Committee.

England Golf has held regular County zoom updates throughout the year and I have attended each of them, and I believe that they will continue throughout next year as more counties are able to attend and it reduces the carbon footprint.

In September we were reaccredited with the Safe Golf Award. I am pleased to report that apart from 9 clubs in Lincolnshire all have been accredited with the Safe Golf Award, and of those that haven't yet made it, 5 clubs are 90% complete, 1 club is 80% complete and 3 clubs are 70% complete. So this is a great achievement for our county.

However, one date that will stay with me was attending the memorial service for one of our aspiring junior girls, Elexis Brown, who passed away in August. She is sorely missed by the LWGA and all the Lincolnshire Junior Girls and everyone who had the pleasure of meeting and playing with her, our thoughts are with her parents and family. As a result, the family have formed the Elexis Brown Golf Foundation and we are pleased to say this is going from strength to strength.

We are looking for someone to take on the role of updating information on the LWGA Website, so if anyone is interested, please let me know.

We publish all Club Open days on our website, and for a fee of £15 we will add all your entry forms, please email your details.

Can I please ask that each club updates me on any changes to the delegates and secretaries at their clubs, so that any information that is sent out goes to the correct person?

I would like to thank Woodhall Spa Management for their arrangements today and for their continued support throughout the year.

Finally I would like to thank everyone on the Executive Committee for their help and support this year, and I would like to congratulate Cindy for all she has achieved as our President, her support and dedication to Lincolnshire Women's Golf has been tremendous, and I wish the incoming President every success for the forthcoming 2 years.

5 Treasurer's Report

I can report that the association is in a healthy financial position and we actually have a surplus for the year! As a result Lincolnshire affiliations fee will remain at £6.50. The England Golf Levy has remained at £9.50.

We currently have 2475 members, which is up 129 or equates to 5%.

The county competitions show a small loss. Sadly we had to cancel several events due to lack of numbers and uncertainty over covid - hopefully things will be back to normal next year.

Thank you to the following clubs that have kindly made donations to the juniors:

Woodhall Spa, Belton Park, Spalding, the Lincs Vets and the Lincs Past Club Captains Society – your support is greatly appreciated.

We are due to receive £550 from the Taskers trophy. We had 10 teams enter from Lincolnshire and if your club hasn't entered before it is well worth having a look at the Tasker's website. The entry fee is £55.00/team and the majority of it comes back to the county for the juniors.

A reminder that your club competition entry forms can be put on the County website for a small fee of £15.00.

Team expenses are up due to the fact that the County 1st team reached the National Finals at Denham although some of these costs have been offset by a grant from England Golf of £4000.00.

We invested in software called Golf Genius which has made life a lot easier for the Competition secretary, the Lincs Vets have also come on board and contributed towards the annual cost.

And lastly a big thank you to all of you who have dared venture out and support the county - lets hope we get back to normality next year.

6 Competition Secretary's Report

This was another difficult year with COVID and lockdowns still causing havoc to the golfing calendar.

With regard to the County competitions, we have had to cancel some and continue with others with a significantly reduced field of players. We quite understood players reluctance at this time not to travel and play on away courses in competitions but I would like to thank those of you who have felt able to play and have supported the County throughout this year.

As a summary this is how the year went

County Championships – original competition cancelled and after several rearrangements played over 1 day at Boston in August. 36 hole gross competition to decide the County champion. The Butlin and Mary Roberts trophies were run alongside.

2021 - Championship – 20 entries (2019 - 44). Butlin trophy - 12 entries (2019 – 28). Julia Sales Salver – not played (2019 – 48)

It was lovely to see so many juniors able to play.

The Senior championship also went ahead at Elsham Golf Club

2021 – 32 entries (2019 – 54)

Spring Bronze meeting was cancelled due to lack of entries.

Betterballs – North (52 entries) and South betterballs (32 entries) went ahead but Central had to be cancelled.

Autumn meeting at Lincoln

2021 – Silver division: 41 entries (2019 – 69) Bronze division: 8 entries (2019 - 44 entries)

Am – Am at Greetham Valley in October

2021: 100 players

Obviously, a reduced entry has had an impact on the financial viability of the competitions. We donate £300 per day to Clubs to use their course. Food costs (although not as relevant these past 2 years) were rising and entry fees have remained static for a while now. In 2019 the cost of a 2 course meal was around £14 - £15 per person. This year the cost of 2 courses was £18! Of course on top of that we have prize funds with totals of from £800 for the Championship down to £240 for the smaller competitions with fewer categories.

This year most competitions have been running at a loss but we felt it was important to continue if we could. Looking to the future more players would have a positive financial impact but we need to encourage those players to come and play.

This year also saw the introduction of the new software – Golf Genius. This is a major piece of software used by England Golf, USGA, PGA and Golf Canada amongst others. It has taken quite a time to understand the workings and I know some of you have struggled to get registered. You are not alone! However, I think I have cracked the basics and we haven't had any major catastrophes this year so hopefully things will become easier over time. Now lots of you are up and running and have registered, entering the competitions will become second nature and I look forward to seeing you press that button next year.

The software is certainly making running the competition easier and as time goes on I believe it will be better and simpler for all of us. Some of you have used the Golf Genius APP and that seems to have worked well for entering the scores and at the Autumn meeting and Am Am I was able to set up a separate screen scrolling through all the different leaderboards for you to see the scores as they came in.

The dates for next year are finalised and a slip showing the details is available – please note I have made my usual deliberate mistake for you to spot - The Senior Championship HI limit is 36.4 not 20.4.

Finally, I would like to thank Sheilah Mitchell, Chairman, Kathryn Johnson, Secretary, Gilly Grant, County Captain, and the executive committee for their support during this year particularly Cindy for dealing with Stripe and all things monetary and Terry for her excellent help in those competitions that did take place. I find out all sorts of handicapping information during those times! Thanks also to the Regional Representatives, Margaret, Helen and Helen for being keen, ready and willing to host their competitions. A very big thank you to all the host clubs this year, their Managers, Professionals, Greens staff, Lady Captains and members for agreeing to hold our County competitions even though not all took place. And finally a huge thank you to all of you who have supported the County this year.

Presentations were not done at some the competitions so we will now present the trophies:

7 2nd Team /Vice Captain's Report

It was a fabulous season for the Lincolnshire 2nd team. Winning all four matches home and away vs Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire. All played with the usual great Lincolnshire spirit and grit! The team was ready and prepared to play the finals at Market Rasen, but were let down by Staffordshire who were apparently unable to get enough players for the day and conceded the match. A disappointing end to a great year, but our name is on the trophy and congrats to all the players involved in 2021.

Courtney Martland
Freya Woodiwiss
Liz Haughton
Izzy Haughton
Ann Lyon
Alison Fletcher
Harriet Wilson
Grace Ward
Isabella Condie
Karen Charlesworth
Gilly Grant

It was particularly pleasing for Courtney and Izzy to move from the second team to the first team and represent Lincolnshire at the national finals in September.

8 Junior Co-Ordinator's Report

The Chairman explained that Stacey Mitchell was currently on honeymoon and summarised the Annual Report that had been prepared by Stacey. The full report will be found on the website under the Junior Section.

She does have an excellent reason for not being here however as she is on her honeymoon!

She took over the vacant role of Junior Girls Organiser in February 2021 after Pat Jones had been taking care of the juniors for over 8 years. Stacey has asked that we thank Pat for all her efforts in promoting girls golf in the county and the time she spent organising and supporting the girls and we endorse her thanks.

When I first attended a County AGM I was amazed at the length of the Junior Section Annual report and how many competitions, matches, training sessions, leagues, coaching, etc was carried out. This year's report is just as detailed and I don't intend to read it all out now, or to read out the winners from the many junior competitions, but I would encourage you to read it and it will be on our website shortly. It will of course form part of the AGM minutes.

Stacey's role has been revamped and her title is now Lincolnshire Junior Girls Coordinator. She has had a team of 15 volunteers this year made up of parents, helpers and our Junior Captain, Tilly Garfoot and Vice-Captain Freya Woodiwiss. The team help to support and deliver the events and the training we are able to offer girl golfers in Lincolnshire. All this activity has been re-branded under the 'Lincolnshire Girl Golf Squad' title. Their aims and objectives are far reaching and laid out in Stacey's full report.

In early 2021, after questioning PGA Pros, Club Junior Organisers, Managers, Parents/Guardians, their answers showed there were over 300 girl golfers participating in golf in Lincolnshire and the Squad are keen to reach as many of these girls as possible to show them what opportunities they can offer.

Since February 2021, they have almost tripled the number of girls registered from 27 to **72**. However they still have a long way to go in reaching more Lincolnshire girl golfers and are always keen to engage with new girls. Please do get in touch with Stacey should you know of any girls who would be interested in either taking up golf or developing their golf skills to the next level. The LGGs have run a lot of events this year, such as:

SHORT GAME ORDER OF MERIT EVENTS

Alison Johns, PGA Pro at Woodhall Spa Golf and Performance Centre runs these on our behalf, ably assisted by Junior Captain Tilly and a number of volunteers. It's an opportunity for girls without a handicap, up to those as low as scratch, to practice and develop their short game skills.

They have a 5-person Junior Scratch Team and 5-person Handicap Team, run by Team Manager & ex County Captain Helen McDougall (Nel).

COMPETITIONS

There have been over 11 junior competitions during the year including 6 Junior Order of Merit events run in collaboration with the LUGC. Tilly also introduced the Junior Captain's Day for juniors of all abilities which was very successful and we hope will become an annual event.

I do remember Pat talking about the MIDLANDS GIRLS FESTIVAL OF GOLF and wondered what all the fuss was all about. Along with other members of the committee and a huge number of volunteers, I found out this year. It was Lincolnshire's turn to organise and run the event. It was held at Trent Lock Golf Club and there were over 100 girls taking part from the 6 midland north counties, with ages from as young as 5 to 18. The day saw girls take part in the 18 hole Scratch and Handicap Matchplay final, a 9 hole handicap and non-handicap event, Skills Challenges, Pirate Golf, there was Trick Show, Raffle and a closing Meal and Presentation. It was exhausting and a bit like herding cats! Hats off to Stacey for her excellent organisation skills. Most importantly, the girls had lots of fun.

I've picked out from Stacey's report a couple of congratulations to a couple of our juniors: To Ellise Rymer who has seen success within the county, region and nationally this year. Ellise won the regional Queen of Clubs Final at Mickleover Golf Club, representing Lincoln Golf Club.

To Tilly Garfoot who was crowned Heroes Handshake winner by The Golf Foundation and England Golf. Tilly won this award not only her for playing achievements in golf, but also for her involvement as a Volunteer and Golf Ambassador, and her contributions as County Girls Captain. To both of the girls for representing the Lincolnshire ladies team, in the England Women's County Finals this year at Denham Golf Club.

Finally, on behalf of Stacey, you will have seen the flyer asking for volunteers.

We are always looking for new volunteers to help out with our girls golf programme; whether this be on an ad hoc basis or more regularly. If anyone would be interested to get involved with assisting Junior Girls Golf in Lincolnshire, please contact Stacey Mitchell.

9 Midland North Representative's Report

Unfortunately Angela was unable to be at the meeting due to health problems so Sheilah Mitchell read out her report.

As The Midland North Region committee, which is comprised of DerbyshireLGA, Leics & RutlandLGA, NottinghamshireLGA, ShropshireLGA, StaffordshireLGA and ourselves Angela feeds in our views to the region and reports back from the MNR group.

I'll summarise her report.

Firstly, she give grateful thanks to Ashby Decoy golf club, to their lady captain, her Vice-Captain and committee, the board of directors and management for their patience and understanding at the MRN having to first postpone in April and then sadly cancel, the October rearranged new fourball betterball event. This was frustrating for all concerned, and was obviously partly due to the pandemic restrictions and then the eventual, very slow, sign up to participate.

Because of this, the MNR have 'again' had to have a rethink of what to do. Some of their own ideas were to consider in a similar vein as the Queen of Clubs and Australian Spoons qualification events that they run. They will report back in due course. But, if anyone has any ideas, please do send Angela an email.

2022 MNR EVENTS –

1. 4 Ball Betterball Event – Venue Tba - Date – April.
2. Medals Final – Run By England Golf – Venue - Stanton On The Wolds Gc. Date 9th June.
3. Australian Spoons – Shropshire – Shrewsbury Gc – Date 19th July.
4. County Match Week – Staffordshire - Venue – Trentham Gc – Date 19th June Through 22nd June.
5. Queen Of Clubs – Nottinghamshire – Venue - Coxmoor Gc – Date – 22nd August.
6. Girls Championship – Lincolnshire – Venue – Holm Hall Gc – Date – 7th August.
7. County 2nd Team Finals – Derbyshire – Venue - Horsley Lodge Gc. - Date 1st September.

Finally, she would like to thank the Executive and especially Dawn our Competitions Secretary for all her help and patience over the past few years in running the MNR competitions, registration and scores desk. She would also like to wish Dawn every success in her new Captaincy at Woodhall Spa golf club.

10 Handicap Advisor/Liaison Officer's Report

As you all know January 2020 saw the launch of the World Handicap System. It was my intention that during that year I would visit clubs around Lincolnshire to advise members how the new system would work and try to alleviate any fears or worries that they had. Then the pandemic came along and after having 3 lock-downs, hardly any golf was played in 2020. This year has been much better, clubs have been able to re-open and lots more golf has been played. Recently Kathryn very kindly emailed all of our clubs to ask if there were any questions for me to answer at this meeting but no-one replied, so I can only assume I am now superfluous to requirements.

To justify my being here I will just go over a few points that have been raised with me whilst I have been helping Dawn with competitions this year.

One of the biggest complaints is that we now have to enter what appear to be three handicaps on our cards, Handicap Index, Course Handicap and Playing Handicap. According to the R&A Rule 3.3b(4)/1 it is the player's responsibility to ensure that his or her handicap is shown on the scorecard. As far as I am aware, the Course Handicap is the only one that must be on the card. "Handicap" means the handicap for the course and tees being played. If playing a Stableford or Par competition the Course Handicap is your reference point as that is the score that counts for your handicap.

Many members have asked why there is a Playing Handicap. Under the old CONGU system there was an algorithm of 92% built in, whereas now we have different percentages for different formats of competition. It has been proven that if these percentages are not used, then competitors with higher handicaps will invariably win the competitions. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you all that when preparing your entry forms etc for Open competitions that the percentages listed in Appendix C of the Rules of Handicapping are mandatory.

Most of us are now using Apps to keep track of our Handicap and as you know, the Handicap Index is based on the best 8 Score Differentials from the last 20. Many ladies have asked how the Score Differential is worked out. I have put an example on the board.

The Club Qualifying Terms for the England Golf Women's Medal have been changed this year and the complete document was forwarded to all Handicap Secretaries. All 18 hole, fully completed, individual, handicap qualifying competitions are England Golf Medal Qualifying Rounds. The report for this competition will be available on the WHS Platform at the end of December/beginning of January 2022. Section 2 of the document deals with Eligibility and states: -

2.1. All players must be of Amateur Status as defined by The Rules of Amateur Status.

2.2. Open to female amateur golfers of all ages, who are members of clubs affiliated to England Golf and in possession of an individual up-to-date Handicap Index not exceeding 54.0 under the WHS Rules of Handicapping. A Handicap Index must be issued from a "golf club" (as defined in the WHS Rules of Handicapping) that is authorised to use the WHS Rules of Handicapping.

2.3. A club which does not permit a female golfer who meets the above eligibility criteria to compete in and win England Golf Women's Medal competitions will not be sent the England Golf Club Winner's Memento and the club cannot be represented at the England Golf Women's Medal Regional Final.

I have heard of clubs where there is a reluctance to let junior girls enter the ladies' competitions. I ask that you all bear this ruling in mind and take it back to your club.

The Annual Review of handicaps should be done between 1st October and 31st December and reports are made available to Handicap Secretaries on the WHS platform. We are advised that this is not an opportunity to “tinker” with handicaps and only look at players who have been flagged up within the report. I have looked at the reports for several of the clubs in Lincolnshire and there are very few ladies that are being “flagged” up. However, if a member is returning from injury or illness, it is acceptable for the handicap committee to consider an increase, rather than let that player struggle and become disheartened.

Terry was asked if there was a conversion chart for 9 holes, and she said that she would look into this and report back.

11 Scratch Score Assessor’s Report

It has been a quiet year for us following the previous hectic 3 to 4 years getting every course visited so they would have a Slope Rating in good time for introduction of the new World Handicapping System.

Tetney GC has changed three Holes as a result of selling a corner plot of land. We re-measured and rated these holes.

Lincoln (Torksey) GC and Kenwick Park have discussed winter courses involving shorter holes. We need to visit to check that any new tees and greens qualify with current regulations. Both courses will need measuring and rating. We have had a request from Market Rasen GC about gender neutral tees. A visit is being arranged to discuss the implications and possible expense to the Club. If your Club need a 9 hole handicap qualifying course, generally all that’s needed is a phone call to England Golf. As every hole is registered with it’s own rating all that’s needed is a mathematical exercise.

However, if your Club want rating for GENDER NEUTRAL courses another FULL Rating visit is necessary. The cost for this will NOT be met by England Golf! England Golf will only finance the cost of visits within the 10 year cycle plan. The expense would fall upon the Mens’ Golf Union and our LWGA.

ALSO, Unless your Club intend to run regular qualifying competitions from gender neutral tees this expense is not viable.

AND, if you have small Ladies Red tees, which will not accommodate regular use by Men, rebuilding and extending them to withstand the additional wear and tear can be very expensive.

On a personal note.

I have now been doing this job in the North for 20 years. If I were to undertake another 10 year cycle I would be in my 80’s!

At the recent Reps meeting I said, I was desperately looking for a replacement, and have had some positive interest from some Ladies at Elsham Golf Club. A full team of Three Ladies will be required as my two assistants have also decided to step down.

There are 27 Courses on the North Lincs area, so it's necessary to rate ¾ courses a year. It is also necessary to visit courses where significant alterations have been made.

SEE ME AFTERWARDS IF YOU MAY BE INTERESTED.

In the South of the County Di Rafferty and her team have already started on the next 10 year cycle and have completed re-rating visits to Sutton Bridge, Kirton Holme and Sudbrook Moor.

Also at the recent Reps meeting, Margaret Johns from Kirton Holme raised the matter of the expense to clubs when re rating involves a difference in slope and course rating. New Slope Ratings notice boards and score card reprinting may well be necessary at the Club's own expense.

Di Rafferty, the Lady Course Ratings Leader for South Lincolnshire is here today too. I'm sure she will be happy to reply to any enquiries from representatives of courses in her area.

At this point, Clare Welfare (Seacroft) spoke of her concern that Seacroft G.C. slope rating had been underrated. Di Rafferty explained that the rating assessors worked to a prescribed set of data and any anomalies should be directed to England Golf. She did point out that the slope rating is obtained by looking at the difference between a scratch golfer and a handicapped golfer and explained that the main criteria used in determining the slope rating was the length of the course, she went on to explain what other criteria were also taken into consideration. She encouraged any club to contact England Golf directly if they had concerns regarding their slope rating, but pointed out that if the club was rerated before it was due this could incur costs to the club.

12 League Secretary's Report

This is my fifth year as League secretary and I would like to thank all the County Executive members that have supported me this year. Through ZOOM Meetings and emails we have managed to keep up with each other very well. It has been a troubling time and my sympathies go to all those affected by the repercussions of the pandemic. Thankfully we were all OK and managed to get up and running this year after having to cancel due to COVID in 2020. Thank you also for your kind words when I was recovering from both my foot and knee operations. I am pleased to say that I am back to playing 18 holes of golf.

The Handicap League Final was played at Louth Golf Club on 20th September between Toft and Elsham Golf Club 'A' team. The weather was very mild and the course was in excellent condition. Our thanks go to our hosts at Louth for their excellent hospitality. It was hotly contested match with both teams playing some very good golf. The final result was a win to Toft Golf Club.

Our thanks go to all the supporters that cheered the teams on and to our referees for the day Sheila and Cindy and the support of County Captain Gilly who awarded the trophy and also amply supplied us with coffee to keep us warm when observing the matches from the buggy's. A great day was had by everyone, congratulations to the winners Toft and commiserations to Elsham.

There are only 3 teams in Division 5 and 6 North this year. The Handicap League results for 2021 have been sent to all participating clubs together with the list of the new divisions for 2021 to enable clubs to arrange their matches for next year. Please can team captains ensure the results are sent to me on the correct result form and please do not send photos! I do need the full result sheet in the event of a count back. Any amended rules for 2021 and updated result sheets for submission will be able to be downloaded from the website in PDF. 'Word' versions are available from me if needed. lincsleaguesec@yahoo.com

The results pages have been amended ready for 2021 and include the new leagues in divisions

Clubs are reminded that the county cannot interfere with individual clubs policies on league matches, only set out the conditions and rules of play. Please make sure you confirm your matches in writing and verbally nearer the date to avoid any confusion.

The handicap league and scratch league rules are in the process of being amended this year after a consultation process. After full confirmation the new rules for 2022 will be on the website

The Scratch league was re-introduced in 2017 and has been very successful with some hard fought matches. If anyone wishes to join the Scratch league for 2022 please let me know as soon as possible so that we can include the new teams. There are 4 teams in the North for 2022, Cleethorpes, Lincoln, Woodhall Spa and Elsham. There are 3 teams in the South, Greetham Valley, Sleaford and Belton Park.

The final of the Scratch League was played on Thursday 2nd September at Spalding Golf Club. The Club made us very welcome and the course was in marvellous condition.

The winners of scratch north, Lincoln GC played the winners of scratch south Greetham Valley. It was a very close match and on the 16th Green the final pairing teed off knowing that the score was 1 match all and they were all square. All to play for, the pressure was on both players. A brilliant pitch into the 18th green by Greetham player was met by applause from the clubhouse and sealed the result.

Some great golf was played and the overall result was a win for Greetham Valley 2 games to 1 congratulations. Commiserations to Lincoln Golf Club who fought hard to the last hole.

My thanks to Tracey Stobart who refereed the game, recently qualified and tasked with only a few decisions. Thanks to the staff in the professional shop who navigated me through the use of their coffee machine after I managed to dispense water only!! We all had a great day out and Spalding Golf Club were excellent hosts and many thanks to the club.

Thank you to all the teams who participated in the leagues this season and good luck to everybody for next year. As a last word also thank you to those of you kept me on track with the results on the website.

Kay Hircock (Burghley Park) asked if there would be promotions in Division 6 as there are only 3 teams entered. She felt that if not then there would be little point in entering a team. Polly Brettle said that she would look into this and report back to Burghley Park

It was explained that the pictures that had been handed out to league division winners were now looking very worn and damaged, and the decision had been taken to replace them with a framed certificate that the winning club would keep. The County President congratulated Polly for all her hard work in presenting the new certificates before she presented the prizes to the Winners of the County Leagues.

13 Captain's Report

The 2021 season got off to a slow start with Covid restrictions still around until Easter. Not all County Competitions were well subscribed, and a few had to be cancelled due to limited numbers. There was plenty activity north of the county with good turnouts at Senior events and also County Betterballs, however central and south of the county did not do so well.

A 100 ladies played in the last event of the season at Greetham Valley Golf Club in the County Am-Am & this was the best turn-out of the season.

I was lucky enough to attend the Scratch League Final & also the Handicap League Final & witnessed some good golf. Well done to Polly Brettle for managing to keep on top of the scoring throughout the year, it must be a headache at times.

I along with a lot of the committee went to Trent Lock to help run the Junior Event. What a day that was! Children everywhere & also parents it was quite a spectacle. The standard of golf that the young girls from all counties are playing is quite unbelievable and the future of ladies golf is looking bright.

The County first Team competed in County Week (well 3 days) at Hinkley Golf Club, Leicestershire in May. There was some fantastic golf played and one of the players Ellie Haughton won all of her 5 matches which was amazing. The team never lost a match & went on to the National Finals at Denham Golf Club in Buckinghamshire in September. Unfortunately, we met some stiff opposition and lost to some formidable teams. Surrey went on to win the week having won all their matches. Our players gained a great deal of experience from both weeks and we look forward to doing well again next year. The team are an absolute delight to manage and full of fun which is our secret ingredient for doing so well.

The team:

Sophie Beardsall (GVGC), Tilly Garfoot (Woodhall Spa), Ellie Haughton (GVGC), Issy Haughton (GVGC), Tilly Kedzlie (Spalding), Meg Illingworth (Abbeydale), Courtney Martland (Lincoln), Helen McDougall (Lincoln), Ellise Rymer (Woodhall Spa) & Billie-Jo Smith (Woodhall Spa). Sally Bowker and Carole 'Bugsy' Davies look after their needs on the course & are the entertainment in the evening.

I would like to thank all the team for their on-going support of the county, it is very much appreciated. It is not easy when you are working or studying to keep your practice up & they always seem to produce when it matters. Over the winter months we look forward to meeting up for a training session & catch up.

The 2nds have been captained by Sophie Beardsall and I would like to thank Sophie for all her help with the team & also the first team where she is the senior figurehead of the team.

The County Championships at Boston Golf Club were a little different this year. We had to postpone the first date & could only manage a 2-day event. This went very well and Ellise Rymer was a worthy winner.

Shortly after the Championships we heard the sad news of the death of Elexis who had competed only a few days before in our championships. She was a lovely girl with a lot of potential. I know that she is already greatly missed in the Junior Section. My sincere condolences to the family.

My year could not have been a success without Cindy our President, who is a staunch supported of the county & I would like to thank her for all the work she puts in as President & Treasurer, but I do wish her some free time from her presidency in the coming year! I personal would like to take this opportunity to thank her for supporting & guiding me throughout the year. Thank you.

The LWGA would not survive without the hard work of the committee who work tirelessly enabling the Lincolnshire Ladies to receive all the information that they need along with some fabulous golf days out with generous prizes. Thank you to all.

Nobody told me how hard this position would be on my poor car! I have clocked just over 2.300 miles in a year where not all the competitions went ahead so I dread to think how many miles I will cover next year. I am enjoying being your captain & look forward to being part of the team for another year.

Adoption of Reports

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

Proposed by: Liz Moses – Belton Woods

and seconded by: Marilyn Tompkins – Market Rasen

It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Reports

14 Appointment of Officers:

It had been agreed by the Executive Committee that the Captain and Vice Captain would continue for an extra year due to Pandemic which had all but wiped out all golfing fixtures for 2020.

Clare Welfare, Fixtures Secretary had retired from her position and the Chairman was pleased to report that Sally Bowker had been appointed to the position by the Executive Committee.

At this point Gilly Grant presented Clare Welfare with a gift and flowers for her hard work and commitment as Fixtures Secretary. Clare thanked the Committee and all the members and clubs who had supported her through the years of organising the fixtures for the County.

All other officers will be remaining in place on the Executive Committee

17 President's Report & Installation of Chairman

I have enjoyed my time as Lady President and attending many of the County competitions and some of the many junior events around the county. We have a very good and strong junior section at present and thanks to all the ladies who help run the teams, help at events and support the juniors.

Congratulations to Gilly and the first team in qualifying for the National finals at Deneham in September - the team put up a valiant effort and played some excellent golf.

Congratulations also to everyone who spent a huge amount of time putting in our bid for County of the Year which we duly won! No mean feat - you all did an excellent job.

The last event of the year was my Lady Presidents day held here at Woodhall Spa Golf Club two weeks ago. Thanks to Stacey Mitchell drumming up trade we were oversubscribed with 20 teams applying! Unfortunately we could only accommodate 14 teams and apologies to those who we had to disappoint but it was lovely to see so many juniors - the youngest being 9!!

Despite the weather I think everyone had a good day and the winners were Susan Raynor, Becky Foster, Izzy Lindsley and Abigail Scott all from Belton Woods. Runners up were Steph Teanby, Pam Hayden, Izzy Thorndyke all from Louth and Chloe Vickers from Lincoln.

The raffle was in aid of The Elexis Brown Golf Foundation and thanks to everyone's generosity with prizes and buying tickets we raised £421.00. My thanks go to Rosey Reed & Kay Beeton for manning the table.

A big thank you to Woodhall for hosting the event, to all of those that played, to Ping for kindly supplying some of the prizes to Jayne Crooks for being the starter, Barbara for manning the desk and a very big thank you to Stacey Mitchell for all her hard work she put in before the event and on the day.. arriving at Woodhall at 7am!

That concludes my report and I wish you all good health and good golf in the coming year.

At this point Gilly Grant presented Cindy with flowers and a gift to reflect all her hard work as our President.

The Chairman then read out a short report from the new President, Barbara Haycox, who was on holiday and couldn't be present at the meeting.

Sorry I cannot be with you today.

As some of you may know, I have been privileged to serve as both Treasurer and Secretary on the County Committee in previous years, but it was a genuine and real surprise when approached to become President a few short weeks ago. Naturally it was a tremendous honour to be asked and I was delighted to accept the nomination.

The acceptance however was with some trepidation knowing that I would be following in Cindy's footsteps. Not only has she somehow managed to undertake the roles of President and Treasurer at the same time but she clearly has an extraordinary ability to carry out the roles with true professionalism whilst sharing fun and enjoyment with all those around her.

I am conscious that the LWGA have had a long line of excellent Presidents, who have all been wonderful ambassadors for the County. I will do my very best to continue that tradition by supporting both the Ladies and Junior Girls golf in the county

18 Any Other Business

At this point the Chairman was pleased to introduce Shona Dixon, who is the England Golf Club Support Officer for Lincolnshire Golf Clubs, who explained her role within England Golf. It is her remit to visit and make contact with all golf clubs and offer any support, with specific emphasis on membership, recruitment and retention of members. She was particularly involved in helping clubs reach the Safe Golf accreditation and also the Women in Golf Charter. Shona can be reached through the England Golf Website.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 12.15 and informed everyone that the date for next year's AGM was Monday 7th November 2022.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance

Signed..... Date

