

Minutes from Delegates meeting held at Southwold GC 13th August 2016

- **Matter arising;** No matters arising.

Interclub, County & Regional Competitions; The season has started well with some fantastic results so far however, the weather caused a number of issues for the first round of the Cranworth. These were dealt with by the GB as the situation arose in the morning following the rules of competition and the Suffolk County guidelines. An issue occurred in one of the matches which resulted in the resignation of competition organiser. The GB have identified that we have a gap in our processes and procedures in as such that we have an opportunity to produce a Complaints and Grievances Procedure. The objective of this is to ensure that players, captains, clubs and officials are fully aware of the counties responsibilities and what is expected of those concerned in playing in, captaining and organising. Clubs have been informed that this work will be carried out during the winter season in time for next year but in the short term if they have a complaint or grievance then they should direct this to the Hon Secretary and she will then identify who should deal with this. General queries regarding competitions should as always be directed to the competition organiser.

Sarah Sagers announced that after the competitions subcommittee had held their meeting it was agreed to resume holding the Haskell final directly after the Stearn. This will take effect in 2017.

Hintlesham have raised the query as to whether they are able to enter an A&B team to the Weston. A discussion about the merits of this took place with some clubs supporting this and Bungay suggesting that we could mirror the rules that Hertford follow. Sarah Sagers also communicated the Sub Committee group discussion regarding the Weston having Home & Away fixtures, again this was supported by some clubs but others felt that it could be difficult to fit some of the fixtures into the diary. It was agreed that the Weston would be discussed by the GB at the September meeting and communicated back the delegates in our October meeting.

Seckford raised a query regarding the possibility of neutral courses for the Stearn, a short discussion about the merits was had. The delegates were reminded that this topic was discussed in great detail last year and whilst in spirit it was supported the organisation involved with this is something which the GB feels would require a lot of support by the clubs and club managers. A number of clubs commented that having matches on a neutral course caused other issues in terms of playing a practise round with your partner etc. It was agreed that currently we have no capacity to host neutral venues however, it was agreed that in future a greater effort will be made to monitor the draw so that we TRY and provided clubs with a home fixture if their last was an away.

Chris Lynch Bates thanked the delegates for their support of the Suffolk Golf Day which Chris has been organising in recent years. The chair expressed her thanks to Chris for all her hard work.

England Golf; Affiliation Fee Collection Process Update; The Chair advised that this is intended to be a fairer system for clubs who will only be expected to pay for members they have collected affiliation fees from as part of their subscription process and this in turn will hopefully assist clubs to adhere to the 60-day payment terms. This is a mandatory process and takes effect in 2017. England Golf have pledged their support. The Association is happy to announce that the Suffolk Golf Union have offered to collect the Affiliation fees from clubs on our behalf, this has resulted in both a cost saving but also in time to our volunteers. The Union have purchased software which was developed by Lancashire Union and will be handling the collection and credit control function of the process. Full details of the new process and the change to the EG articles are available if you wish to review them.

The chair advised that she had been to a recent meeting hosted by England Golf at Fynn Valley and was pleased to announce that the new CEO Nick Pink management style appears to be very consultative and progressive, the new guard are very interested in listening to the issues we have at the grass roots. It's hoped that this will result in a greater understanding and support between County and Governing Body.

100 Club Sue Cook joined the meeting and we discussed whether we wish for the club to continue in 2017. As was the status quo in 2015 a vote by the delegates was conducted and it was passed with 100% of votes. Sue asked if the clubs know what they would like the money to be spent on, sadly we had no suggestions so the GB will discuss this and make a proposal to the delegates.

Winners are on the Website

AOB

Royal Worlington sought clarification of Grievance Procedure, agreed this will be a formal process.

Aldeburgh raised concern that we had not heard anything about the Suffolk Lady Captains speed dating. Advised this was not organised by the county but Rebecca would try and find out about this.

Bungay requested that when the county is playing fixtures at courses would it be possible to notify the Ladies section Hon Sec. This will be reviewed and communicated if that's possible.

Felixstowe asked if when we play inter club matches its necessary to print all the handicap certs and it's not possible to take a copy of the most recent CDH print out. This will be discussed at the next GB meeting and a decision made.