

**The 77<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Ladies County Golf Association was held at Kesgrave Community Hall on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2010 at 10.30 am**

**Present**

<b>Mrs Sue Cook</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Mrs Mary Wilderspin</b>	<b>County Captain</b>
<b>Mrs Sheila Jarvis</b>	<b>Vice Captain &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> team captain</b>
<b>Mrs Maureen Pearson</b>	<b>Hon Secretary</b>
<b>Miss Hermione Scrope</b>	<b>Hon Treasurer</b>
<b>Mrs Kay Anderson</b>	<b>Junior Organiser</b>
<b>Mrs Judi Walker</b>	<b>EWGA Representative</b>
<b>Mrs Ann Graves</b>	<b>Handicap Adviser</b>
<b>Mrs Dorothy Rattray Allan</b>	<b>Haskell/Stearn Organiser</b>
<b>Mrs Jane Izod</b>	<b>Weston Organiser</b>
<b>Mrs Cynthia Stewart</b>	<b>Coronation/Centenary Foursomes Organiser</b>
<b>Mrs Tina Daubney</b>	<b>Divisional Competition Organiser</b>
<b>Mrs Maggie Rudd</b>	<b>Minute Secretary</b>

**Together with 75 Members**

The President extended a warm welcome to all at the reconvened AGM, previously scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup> January. She apologised for the decision to postpone the meeting on account of the atrocious weather conditions but felt that the decision had been vindicated. She asked that all present stood to remember golfing friends who had died during the past year, including Liz Gamble (Ipswich G C), a past 2<sup>nd</sup> team player.

She remarked that this had been Stoke-by-Nayland's last year as a Suffolk club and from January 1<sup>st</sup> they would be an Essex club. They had been part of Suffolk from their beginning and their ladies had played a full and active part in Suffolk's golf. She was sure that they would continue to play friendly matches against the clubs that they had always played and wished them a happy time with their neighbouring county. She was sure we would see them about the County at Open Days etc.

She continued to say that it had been an exacting year with a number of changes, which had affected us all. EWGA had completed its second year as a company and some of its associated changes were starting to function more fluently, like the Delegates meetings, but some challenges were a steeper learning curve. County Match Week presented its own challenge, with the dilemma, does the team play to win the week or solely to compete with the three teams, who previously made up the Sub-division? Whichever way the Captain chose to go, there was a risk. In going for broke, to try to win the whole week, there is the possibility of losing all, and if the lesser challenge were chosen, then there was still no guarantee of coming third. However, if those with experience, encouraged and helped those with less experience, and everyone pulled together, then they stood a chance of playing to and hopefully above their full potential, thereby having fun and gaining their objective sooner rather than later.

The President also noted how many Suffolk ladies had enjoyed some outstanding achievements this year including Amanda Norman who had enjoyed one of her most successful golfing seasons, winning the East Region Championship, at Aldeburgh and had achieved her lowest handicap. Heidi Baek continued to play well, and had featured in England teams, as well as having produced a very good performance at County Week and achieved a plus handicap. Suffolk ladies had played in the Midlands Veterans Team Championship over

the Hotchkin Course at Woodhall Spa GC. This was essentially a scratch competition over 36 holes, with nett prizes, and she was pleased to report that the team of Liz Robinson (Bury St Edmunds), Mary Seymour-Taylor (Aldeburgh), Rachel Trotman (Aldeburgh) and Judi Walker (Stowmarket) won the nett team prize. Also the individual nett prize had been won by Mary Seymour-Taylor, who played 5 under her 10 handicap in the first of the two rounds. Judi Walker had attended the R & A rules course and sat the examination, achieving over 70%, a great effort, as the exam has a fierce reputation. This made her Suffolk's first County lady referee. She offered her congratulations to them all. The Weston Plate was played for for the first time this year, grateful thanks go to Sue Birrell for donating it.

The President spoke about the Association finances and how she was encouraged by the fact that we had now a small excess of income over expenditure., due in some part to the very successful Golf Day held at Hintlesham Hall. She recorded her thanks to two of the sponsors, Detmar Hackman of Sabona International and Greg Spray of Ransome Jacobsen.

She also thanked Julie Latimer-Jones for her contributions on the SLCGA's behalf to the Norfolk & Suffolk Golfer, George Hazell for his help with the website and Tony Garnett for his coverage of ladies golf in the EADT.

The President reported how there is to be change in the arrangements for practice rounds for County inter-club competitions, with clubs being able to charge £15 per player for a practice round, for up to 10 players, bringing the ladies in line with the men. There were also exciting changes afoot, with regard to Distance Measuring Devices and the introduction of the Central Handicapping Base, and the Suffolk Coaching Academy was ready to run, aimed at developing the potential of junior golfers for those between the ages of 9 – 15.

She felt that it had been a great privilege to be associated with the County for many years and to be County President for the last two and had always striven to do her best in whatever capacity she had been able to serve.

The Secretary read the notice to convene the meeting.

### **1 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Mrs J Taylor (Senior Organiser), Mrs C Hines (Cranworth Organiser), Mrs Cynthia Robinson (Competition organiser elect), Mrs S Cooper, Mrs B Smith, Mrs M Bryant, Miss J Oliver and Mrs L Lafflin together with **263** apologies from members and Clubs.

### **2 Minutes of the AGM 2009**

There being no amendments, the minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2009, which had been circulated to clubs and approved, were duly signed by the President as a true copy.

### **3 Matters arising AGM 2009**

The President asked members to note that the Weston trophy, which had been reviewed in September 2008 was due for another review in September 2010 and asked that any member who had worries or concerns regarding the Trophy should contact Mrs Jane Izod, the Weston organiser before then.

### **4 Reports and Accounts for 2008/09**

It was agreed these be taken together and adopted en bloc.

**(a) County Captain's Report (including Competition Organisers Report) – Mrs Mary Wilderspin**

**FIRST TEAM MEETINGS**

The First Team played 7 practice matches last year, 5 in the Spring and 2 in the Autumn. They had won 5 and lost 2. She would like to thank all the clubs for hosting the matches, and the gentlemen who played against the team. Thanks must also go to Keith Preston for the excellent coaching he gives to both the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Teams.

She would like to thank Aldeburgh for hosting both the County Championships and the East Region Championship in 2009.

In the Suffolk County Championship, the Stroke Play was won by Heidi Baek with a gross score of 152 and the runner up was Lil James with 162.

The Net Trophy was won by Charlotte Double with a net score of 145 and the runner up was Blaize Esmond with a net 146.

In the semi finals of the Matchplay Vicki Inglis met Heidi Baek and Helen Bray played Lil James. Heidi and Lil got through to the final with Heidi winning the Championship.

Although there weren't as many players in the East Region Championship as would have been hoped for, the standard of golf was excellent. Amanda Norman from Felixstowe Ferry won the strokeplay with an amazing score of 141, which is 7 under par for the 2 rounds. She then went on to beat Daisy Dyer of Essex in the Matchplay final to become the new Champion.

**COUNTY WEEK**

This year County Match Week was played at Stock Brook Manor in Essex. It was a long, hot and exhausting week for everyone involved.

The first day was against Bedfordshire and although down in the morning they managed to win 4 of the singles to finish 5 – 4 up on the day.

On day two, Suffolk halved with Cambs and Hunts but unfortunately lost the last 3 days when playing against Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Essex.

Thanks are due to both Sue & Sheila for all the support given during the week, and to the caddies and supporters for coming all the way to Essex.

Finally thank you to all the team, it wasn't our year.

Hertfordshire were the winners and went through to the County Finals at Long Ashton.

Special thanks go to Sharon Luckman, who has decided to take a break from the County First Team. Sharon has been a stalwart of the Team for the past 15 years and will be greatly missed.

**DIVISION MEETINGS**

Division 4 was held in May at Gorleston with 29 entries. The winner was Diana Mounce of Ipswich, and the Shield was also won by Ipswich.

Division 3 was held at Diss in September with 45 entries. 1<sup>st</sup> Scratch was won by Susan Sandry of Bury St Edmunds and the shield was won by Bury St Edmunds.

Division 2 was held at Ipswich. The winner was Pam Madams of Bury St. Edmunds and the shield was won by Aldeburgh. 87 Ladies played

Division 1 was held at Woodbridge, 42 Ladies played. Vicki Inglis of Woodbridge was the winner and the shield was won by Felixstowe.

The handicap boundaries for the Division meetings have been changed.

**Division 1 is now 0 - 17**

**Division 2 18 - 22**

**Division 3**            **23 - 30**

**Division 4**            **31 - 36**

Hopefully this will give a more even number of players in each division.

44 Ladies played in the Centenary Foursomes which was held at Hintlesham Golf Club. The winners were Lynda Sweeney and Hilary Bray from Ipswich.

The Coronation Foursomes was held at Rookery Park and 62 Ladies played. The winners were Ann Lockhart and Jayne George from Rookery Park

Thanks go to all the Lady Captains and the Ladies who assisted in running these competitions

Please continue to support these competitions, they are run by the County for all of you to enjoy.

### **THE CRANWORTH**

In the semi finals Felixstowe beat Waldringfield and Brett Vale beat The Suffolk

In the final, Felixstowe had a splendid win over Brett Vale. This was played at Fynn Valley.

### **THE STEARN**

In the semi finals of the Stearn, Fynn Valley beat Stowmarket at Haverhill Golf Club and Rushmere beat Woodbridge at Diss Golf Club.

In the final, played at Ipswich Golf Club, Fynn Valley beat Rushmere in a very close match.

### **HASKELL**

In the semi final of the Haskell, Aldeburgh beat Gorleston at Diss and Felixstowe beat Stowmarket at Haverhill

The final was played at Ipswich Golf Club and was won by Felixstowe.

### **WESTON**

In the final of the Weston Felixstowe met Stowmarket. The result Stowmarket 3 Felixstowe 2

The winners of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division played for the Sue Birrell Plate. Flempton beat Thorpeness 3 & 2  
Thanks are due to the clubs who hosted the Semi Finals & the Finals of all of the knock out competitions. It is getting more and more difficult to find clubs and their assistance and willingness to stage these events is greatly appreciated.

Grateful thanks also to Julie Latimer Jones for reporting on all of these events, knowing all the time and effort taken.

### **THE SUFFOLK GOLF DAY**

The Suffolk Golf Day was a huge success last year. It was played at Hintlesham Golf Club and everyone who played said how enjoyable it was. The day raised £1,583. Thanks to all 120 ladies who participated. Thanks also go to Hintlesham for granting courtesy of the course and to Mo Pearson for organising such a great event.

Thanks also to all the Ladies on the Governing Body., who have all worked very hard. The competition organisers have coped with their new roles extremely well and personal thanks to **Sheila Jarvis**, vice captain, for her support and help during the year.

Mary gave special thanks to all of those ladies who are leaving the Governing Body this year, namely: -

**Sue Cook** President

**Judi Walker** Chairman & EWGA rep

**Mo Pearson** Secretary

**Judy Taylor** Seniors organiser

**Dorothy Rattray Allen** Haskell/Stearn organiser

**Carol Hines** Cranworth organiser

**Pat Hawkins** Division meetings co-optee.

## **(b) Second Team Captain's Report – Mrs Sheila Jarvis**

The second team began the year in March by playing their first practice match against the junior girls at Woodbridge Golf Club. This, as always, was a strongly contested match, being very fortunate to have some extremely good junior players in Suffolk, and given that at least half of the junior team were actually 2<sup>nd</sup> team players, it was not too disappointing to lose the match by 2 games to 1.

The second practice match against the Aldeburgh Artisans was held at Rushmere Golf Club in April. The format on this day was Sunningdale Foursomes being played over 36 holes. There were eight players on each team and after the morning round the 2<sup>nd</sup> team held a very good lead of 3 games to 1. In the afternoon the girls faired even better and came in with 3½ points to a ½ giving a final result of 6½ to 1½.

Onto the county matches; as with the first team there are now 5 other counties to play, the format being 36 holes on one day, 3 foursomes in the morning and 6 singles in the afternoon.

The first match was played at Braintree Golf Club against Essex on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May. It was a pleasant sunny day to see some good golf being played and it was not too disappointing to be 2 – 1 down after the morning round. Watching the games in the afternoon, it was fairly obvious that Essex had been able to field quite a few players with very low handicaps. The team battled well but were only able to bring in a further 1½ points after the singles, giving a loss for the day of 6½ to Essex and 2 ½ for Suffolk.

The second match involved a long journey to Sheringham Golf Club to play against the Norfolk 2<sup>nd</sup> team on the 5<sup>th</sup> June. The course was very full and play was extremely slow for the teams. For the second time running there was a lunchtime result of 2 – 1 down. In the afternoon the weather closed in. With wind proofs and woolly hats being the order of the day, it felt more like March than June. The team battled their way round the course in a very strong and cold wind but despite this some very good golf was played with 3 games finishing at the 17<sup>th</sup> and one going onto the eighteenth. It was all very close and a real fight in the afternoon gave a win in 5 out of the 6 singles. This was an absolutely superb effort, giving the first win of the year, with Suffolk gaining 6 points to Norfolk's 3.

The third match was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> July, and this time in Suffolk at Haverhill Golf Club playing against Bedfordshire. This was a good day with the two teams very evenly matched, which was reflected in the lunchtime score of 1½ points each. So it was everything to play for in the afternoon and hopes were very high. The first two games came in with very convincing wins so it was getting very exciting. The next three games all went to the final hole, it was so unfortunate that we only managed to secure ½ a point from all of them. Everything then hung on the very last game which was very close with Suffolk eventually losing out on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole. The final result was Suffolk 4 Bedfordshire 5. It could so easily have been the other way round.

The next match was held on July 27<sup>th</sup> at Royston Golf Club against Cambs and Hunts. Royston is a tough course, even in good conditions but on this occasion, heavy downpours in the afternoon meant the teams battling their way round. Being unable to field a full side also, meant having to concede a match in both the morning and the afternoon, so a final result of Suffolk 3, Cambs & Hunts 6 was not altogether surprising.

August 17<sup>th</sup> was Finals Day. This is where we all the counties come together to play the final match of the year at the same course. Suffolk was the host for 2009 and we were so very lucky that Aldeburgh Golf Club agreed to let us hold this event there. On this day Essex played Beds, Norfolk played Cambs & Hunts and Suffolk played Herts. It was a glorious day and the course as always was playing well. Yet again the morning foursomes saw a halfway score of 2 points to 1 down, so it was with great determination that everyone went out in the afternoon and it couldn't have been more exciting. At the ninth hole everything was very even with some games up and some down. A huge effort was put in over the closing holes which resulted in more than one game being clawed from the brink. Amazingly, the last four games of the singles went to the final hole. In fact the whole match rested on the last putt of the last game at the last hole. Incredibly, with some excellent play, the team had managed to secure 3½ points in the afternoon. The final result being the match was halved - Suffolk 4½ Herts 4½.

On behalf of Suffolk Ladies, thanks must go to Aldeburgh for allowing us to virtually take over their course for this event. It was a very long day and a great many people had put in a lot of work to make it the success that it was. Thank you to them all.

The result for all the matches over 2009 was: -

1 <sup>st</sup>	Essex	5 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Herts	3 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Norfolkk	2½ points
4 <sup>th</sup>	Cambs & Hunts	2 points
5 <sup>th</sup>	Suffolk	1½ points
6 <sup>th</sup>	Beds	1 point

To finish this report thanks must also go to Woodbridge, Rushmere, Haverhill and Aldeburgh for allowing the use of their courses for our matches during the year.

Thanks also go to Sue Cook, President and to Mary Wilderspin, First Team Captain for attending every 2<sup>nd</sup> team match and for giving their support throughout the year.

Thanks go to Keith Preston for all the training sessions during the winter months. All the girls have benefited from them and this is reflected by the fact that a lot of them have managed to reduce their handicaps.

Finally thanks all the 2<sup>nd</sup> team players for the determination and enthusiasm that they have displayed in all the matches. They have been a great team. They have represented Suffolk Ladies well and have worked hard to achieve a good result. With the same dedication and effort this can only be improved on in the coming year.

### **(c) Junior Organiser's Report – Mrs Kay Anderson**

2009 has seen a full programme of girls' events, and a steady increase in the numbers attending training, and joining golf clubs.

The Junior Championship at Ipswich GC attracted 37 entries; Heidi Baek (Felixstowe Ferry) successfully defended the Moss Blundell Trophy, and also won the Daily Telegraph Qualifier, scoring a gross 70 and reducing her handicap to +2. Sarah Howe (Ipswich) won the Handicap Plate with a net 66, reducing her handicap to 5.

32 girls played in the Autumn Meeting, also held at Ipswich GC, when Blaize Esmond (Thorpeness) won the scratch prize, on countback from Sarah Howe, and Emily Stebbings (Thorpeness) won the Handicap.

At both events there were competitions for girls of all abilities.

The Junior Matchplay was also won by Blaize Esmond, with Eloise Aldous (Newton Green) as runner-up.

The Lady/Junior Foursomes were played at Flempton GC, when the SVLGA Trophies were won by Emily Rothwell and Sarah Beeton (Woodbridge).

Texas Scrambles for younger girls were again held at Orwell Park School and St. Clements GC, and the inter-club Little League competition was won by Newton Green GC. 10 girls attended a Starter session at Stowmarket.

In the English Girls U18 Championships, all 6 Suffolk entrants reached the matchplay stage, and Heidi Baek reached the semi-final. She was also 4<sup>th</sup> best qualifier in the British Girls Championship.

7 Suffolk girls played in the East Girls' Championship at Newmarket, but Essex dominated the leader boards; in the Midlands Challenge Handicap competition at Stamford, Eleanor Tindall (Stowmarket), our only representative, came 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Jo-Jo Hamer-Philip (Aldeburgh) won the Suffolk Schools title at Diss, reducing her handicap to 6.

Alice Iron (Haverhill) and Macy Hessey (Bramford) qualified for the Wee Wonders final.

County match preparation again began with successful friendlies for the Girls' 1<sup>st</sup> team against Aldeburgh Ladies, and the SLCGA 2<sup>nd</sup> team.

In the inter-county matches, the 1<sup>st</sup> team beat Bedfordshire, drew with Hertfordshire, and lost to Cambs.& Hunts., Essex and Norfolk.

Hertfordshire won the Region, and Suffolk were 5<sup>th</sup>, but there was no matchplay final this year. In the Inter-Counties Shield at Swaffham Suffolk came 2<sup>nd</sup> to Essex, and Sarah Howe was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Eva Harris Salver. Heidi was unavailable for this summer's matches, which placed greater demands on the team, but enabled other girls to gain 1<sup>st</sup> team experience.

Despite earlier concerns about whether fixtures could continue the Girls' 2<sup>nd</sup> team had a very successful season, winning matches v. Haverhill Juniors, Cambs.& Hunts., and Norfolk, and losing to Hertfordshire.

At a meeting of County Captains, Vice Captains and CJO's, it was agreed that there would be no Junior Finals' Day for 2010 as it had proved too cumbersome with 6 counties now involved.

The increasing overlap between Ladies and Junior squads continues, as Heidi, Sarah and Blaize all played in County Week, while Cheryl Chisholm (Stowmarket), Charlotte Double (Seckford), Charlotte Fawdry (Ipswich) and Jo-Jo have all attended Ladies' training.

In the SLCGA Championships, Heidi won both the Strokeplay and Matchplay titles, and Charlotte Double won the Handicap prize; in the East Region Ladies Championship, Heidi was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Strokeplay, and Jo-Jo was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Handicap.

Suffolk/EWGA Birdie training ran at Bramford GC with an extended programme for 6 girls from February to June, and again proved very beneficial for the participants.

In 2010 new ground will be broken with the Suffolk Academy (Club and Coach) replacing the EWGA Birdie training and looking to involve more girls - please encourage your juniors aged 9-15 to attend the Talent Days when they are advertised shortly.

Heidi Baek trained with the EWGA Elite U18 Squad and has now moved to the U18 Performance squad, and Sarah Howe trained with the EWGA Midlands Super Birdies group.

Suffolk girls' training ran from March to October, with 4 groups - Elite squad, Improvers and this year 2 Beginners' groups - at Bramford GC, and one group at Bungay GC. We finished the

year with a Christmas Jamboree at Bramford attended by girls from all the groups. More than 70 girls now come to the training sessions; of these 8 achieved Junior or Full handicaps this year, and a further 26 reduced their handicaps, some by a large amount!

Thanks go to our Junior coaches, Sarah Wilson and Andrew Collison, who work very hard to make the sessions enjoyable as well as instructive, and a special mention to Sue Strutt-Holmes who assists Andrew very ably with the Bungay group. Congratulations also to Sarah Wilson on achieving the PGA Advanced Professional Award.

A Girls' Order of Merit was trialled this year, crediting girls with points for participation and for results in competitions and matches. Heidi Baek, Holly Davies (Stowmarket), Olivia Locke (Bramford) and Sarah-Jane Barker (Rookery Park) were the winners of their respective sections. Thanks go to Sheila Laws who has kept the tallies up to date, and liaised with George Hazell to show the table on the County website.

Once again we acknowledge with grateful thanks the support we have received from the various clubs who have welcomed us to their golf courses, and also to the groups and individuals who have provided sponsorship and donated prizes, especially to Top That Publishing of Woodbridge, SVLGA, SCGP (Women & Girls funding), and Aldeburgh GC Ladies Section. Thanks also to Mrs. Margaret Bryant (Ipswich) for the Little League Trophy, and to Mrs. Jean Thompson (Rookery Park) who very kindly made a bag to hold our rather fragile county flag. As ever, we will be pleased to receive further donations of golf-related items which can be used as prizes.

The Junior Committee has had another busy year supporting the training, matches and competitions on our fixture list, and helping the girls to get the most out of their golf. 2 committee members attended a Child Protection update session, and we welcomed Amanda Davies (Stowmarket GC) as the Parents' Representative to replace John Fawdry (Ipswich GC). Everyone plays an integral part, Sheila and Pam who manage the teams, Kay H and Judy who organise the Beginners, Christine who looks after our accounts, Jane who is Minute Secretary and liaises with the clubs, and Eva who sorts out entries for regional and national competitions. Without them, and the helpers and lady club members who turn out for various events, Suffolk Girls' Golf could not function and I am extremely grateful to them all.

We have been very fortunate in having active support from County President Sue and County Captain Mary, who have got cold and wet at many of our competitions, matches and training sessions, and also attended committee meetings and aided liaison with the Governing Body. We thank them for their interest and willingness to work with the girls, and I would like to add a special thanks to Sue for her guidance when I was learning the ropes as CJO. It is good that we will be able to call on her help in future too.

I must congratulate our Junior Captain, Jo-Jo Hamer-Philip, on her leadership during 2009. She has set an excellent example, maintaining a good balance between the demands of her golfing aims and her A-level work, and contributing effectively to both Girls' and Ladies' squads.

Her successor, Sarah Howe, received her Junior Colours in 2006; she works very hard at her game, and currently plays off 4. I am sure she will prove an able successor to Jo-Jo, and I wish her and all the girls a very successful year in 2010.

In summary, 2009 has seen continued expansion in terms of numbers, and some significant individual successes which have helped maintain Suffolk on the national 'map', while the addition of Essex and Herts. to our county match rota has presented a challenge which should be beneficial in the longer term. 2010 will no doubt bring further challenges, but I feel that the Girls' section is in good heart and ready to tackle what may come our way.

#### **(d) Senior Report – Mrs Judy Taylor**

The Suffolk Seniors first match against the Suffolk Senior Men took place at Rookery Park in April, and as always it is a challenge to find a format that gives the ladies a chance to give the men a good game.

This year the format played was foursomes matchplay -Hambro scoring, which resulted in the Men beating the ladies by 1 hole. As all the members of the men's team play off 6 this is always a great contest.

In May Suffolk played Norfolk at Thetford and although everyone enjoyed the course and their matches, the final result meant Suffolk were well beaten 334- 34.

Ufford Park hosted the match against Essex in June on a very busy course and the score did not reflect the close games, with the result 3— 1 to Essex. Thanks go to Pippa Beak for standing in as organizer on this occasion and always being ready to give her support.

Thanks to Sheila Laws in July for taking this match against Bedfordshire at Haverhill, Sheila ended up injured and had to find players, as only 3 remained of the original selected team.

Thanks also go to the Haverhill Lady Captain who greeted players on arrival and at the end of the match.

Everyone enjoyed the course and hospitality of the club. And finally a win for the Seniors, 3 - 1.

In August the match was against Cambs & Hunts at Cambridge Menzies and this being the first match where a few holes were played in the rain. The course was very lush and a fair result was a draw, 2 - 2.

The last match is always played at Aldeburgh against the Suffolk Vets in September, and as always the Course was in great condition and it was a super sunny day. This again was a very close match resulting in the Seniors winning 234 - 134. Thanks to the President for stepping in and playing the deciding match

The Seniors have gone from strength to strength and I encourage you all to join us. Anyone with a handicap of 15 and below and aged 55years + are eligible to play. Please see your Lady Captain or the Senior Organiser.

Judy said how this was the end of her 2 years as Senior Organiser which she had thoroughly enjoyed and she had great pleasure in introducing Maureen Lloyd from Stowmarket Golf Club who would be taking over. She was sure she will serve the Committee well.

The President responded by thanking Judy for her work over the previous two years, in particular for playing as many members as possible. She made the point that a large pool of seniors to call upon is extremely valuable.

#### **(e) E.W.G.A. Report – Mrs Judi Walker**

With the advances in technology the information that would, in the past, have made up this report is now available, on an ongoing basis, on either the EWGA or the SLCGA website, and

also in hardcopy on club notice boards. Club committees are now kept up to date and involved on EWGA and County issues and progress through their Club Delegate. Over the year 4 Club Delegates meetings have been held, which were well attended, and covered such items as:

- The use of buggies
- Distance measuring devices
- The Australian Spoon
- The merger
- A Scratch competition for Medal winners
- Rules Course
- Lapsed handicaps
- And latterly the amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association

And on a County level

- Prestigious events
- The formation of a 100 club
- Dress code
- The format of the Weston, the Stearn, and the Division 1 Shield, also the use of neutral courses for County knockout competitions

There have also been presentations by one of the Non Executive Directors of the EWGA and the County Handicap Advisor.

Clubs are now very actively involved in matters concerning both the Association and the County and have the opportunity to put forward suggestions, concerns, and proposals through their delegate, and are then kept fully informed on what is happening by their delegate.

Great progress has been made in the passing of information up and down the line and this was a very important challenge for the new EWGA. Please do take advantage of the facility on the Web to read the minutes of the East Region, Operations Board and Management Board Meetings.

Judi wished to congratulate Anne Archer on her selection as Suffolk's representative on the East Region Committee and looked forward to working with her.

The President responded by thanking Judi for her tireless work over the past years, working with the EWGA, acting as Chairman of the Governing Body and also successfully implementing the Delegates meetings, which are now an integral part of County Golf. She congratulated her on her new job as Chairman of East Region, which also involves being a part of the EWGA Operations Board and was a great honour.

**(f) Treasurer's Report – Miss Hermione Scrope**

The Treasurer was pleased to be able to report that 2009 had been a financially successful year. There were 2 main reasons for this, firstly income had increased, chiefly due to the Suffolk golf Day but other Competitions had managed to negotiate better deals with regard to catering in particular, thus making them more viable. Expenditure had shown a decrease, there had not been the necessity to spend so much on uniforms and travelling expenses were down.

**(g) Suffolk Golf Partnership – Mrs Wendy Wootton**

The Suffolk Golf Partnership represents a new beginning for the management and organisation of golf in Suffolk. For the first time, the Suffolk Golf Union, the Suffolk Ladies County Golf Association and the Suffolk Professional Golf Association have joined together to work as one body for the good of the game at county level.

The Suffolk Golf Partnership is supported by Suffolk Sport, the Golf Foundation and England Golf and since the partnership was formed in 2008 has received funding from England Golf totalling £107,000 to support the Partnership's Development Plan until March 2013. This funding has allowed the Partnership to appoint a part-time County Development Officer, Alastair Spink, who has been working with the Partnership since February 2009.

Alastair, supported by a Steering committee has established links with all Suffolk Golf Clubs, Golf Centres and has developed relationships with the County organisations and the County Sports Partnership which generously supported the first year plan and provided funding for the successful first year of the "Active Wellbeing Programme" which encouraged non-golfers to take up the offer of 8 golf lessons at a reduced price and was organised by 10 Clubs in the county.

2010 will see the setting up of Coach Education and Development programmes and a County Academy Programme, the latter starting in the spring with Level 1 to 4 coaches being involved with "Talent Days", leading to a series of coaching sessions being held for up to 90 youngsters at centres around the county. In the long term the most successful young golfers identified from this training will graduate to County Coaching.

With funding and help from the Suffolk Golf Partnership this year, four Suffolk Clubs have attained the GolfMark "High Achiever" Award – Felixstowe Ferry is the latest club to be awarded "High Achiever" status with its GolfMark accreditation and follows Rookery Park, Diss and Haverhill who have already achieved this prestigious award. Bramford, Fynn Valley and Halesworth are also GolfMark accredited clubs and a further 12 Suffolk clubs are participating in the initiative.

The Disability Golf Project in Suffolk has been given £1,000 by EGU/EWGA to deliver 6 sessions to the LINK students at Suffolk New College. Disabilities range from physical to learning difficulties with Tri-Golf being a huge success with students. The sessions were delivered by Alastair Spink (PGA professional) and Kelvin Vince from Rushmere Golf Club. These sessions allowed the students to experience the new golf club environment without involving a major change to their surroundings or personnel.

The Partnership's Development Plan for 2009/2013 has now been put in place with £85,000 being awarded by Sport England over the 4 years. Within the plan, principle aims include:-

- an increase in regular participation in golf including 1,754 new 16+ participants by 2013
- an increase in the number of GolfMark accredited clubs to 20 by 2013.
- an increase in the number of clubs accessing club coaching grants
- an increase in the number of clubs participating in the National Skills Challenge
- to deliver a Coach Education & Development plan and to increase the number of level 1 to 4 coaches in the county
- to increase golf awareness and participation by attendance at local events

The highly acclaimed annual "**Junior Golf Awards**" sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen was launched in 2009 with Eleanor Tindall and Owen Clouting being the first winners.

The work of the Suffolk Golf Partnership is expanding all the time and although the small committee of volunteers work very hard, they cannot cope with all that is needed to be done over the next 4 years. They require help - in particular with the website, marketing and communications, educational links, fundraising and sponsorship and outside events.

To that end if there are golfers out there who may be willing to help, anyone who would like to be involved should please contact the Partnership's Secretary, Wendy Wootton. All details are on the website – [www.suffolkgolfpartnership.co.uk](http://www.suffolkgolfpartnership.co.uk)

The reports were proposed for acceptance by **Mrs Brenda Jarrett** of St Audreys and seconded by **Mrs Christine Youngs** of St Clements G C. They were carried unanimously.

## **5 Resolutions**

There were no resolutions.

## **6 Election and Re-election of Officers and Members of the Governing Body**

The Secretary read out the names of those members who were retiring.

Sue Cook	County President
Maureen Pearson	Hon. Secretary
Dorothy Rattray-Allan	Competition Organiser (Haskell & Stearn)
Carol Hines	Competition Organiser (Cranworth)
Judy Taylor	Senior's Organiser
Judi Walker	EWGA Representative

The President said how it had been a busy spell for the Governing Body and that it was now time for 4 officers and two competition organisers to retire. The County's thanks were due to their hardworking and tireless secretary, Mo Pearson, who would be very much missed. She had spoken of both the Senior's Organiser and EWGA rep after their reports. Thanks also for their hard work and dedication, to the two Competition Organisers Dorothy and Carol, who had been part of the working party involved in the re-organisation of the role of Competition Secretary.

The Secretary read the names of those who would remain in office for the coming year.

Mary Wilderspin	Captain
Sheila Jarvis	Vice Captain/2 <sup>nd</sup> Team Captain
Ann Graves	Handicap Adviser
Hermione Scrope	Hon. Treasurer
Kay Anderson	Junior Organiser
Maggie Rudd	Minutes Secretary

### **Competition organisers**

Cynthia Stewart	Waldringfield	- a further 1 year
Jane Izod	Diss	- a further 1 year
Sandra Ball	Aldeburgh	- a further 2 years
Tina Daubney	Cretingham	- a further 2 years

The Secretary read the names of those ladies nominated Officers of the Association and asked them to stand when their name was called.

Judy Hamshere	County President
<b>No nominations</b>	Hon. Secretary
Maureen Lloyd	Senior's Organiser
Anne Archer	EWGA Representative

The Secretary read the names of those ladies nominated as Competition Organisers to stand for 3 years.

Alison Neilson	Bungay & Waveney (Cranworth Organiser)
Cynthia Robinson	Ipswich (Haskell & Stearn Organiser)

The President made a plea for somebody from the Association to come forward to fill the vacancy of Secretary. She said how disappointing it was that from a membership of over 1500 there was nobody willing or able to take the job on. All that was required were computer skills and some time to spare. She also said how if anybody were willing to give it a go, then it was possible to co-opt during the year.

The nominations were proposed en bloc by Mrs Kay Hazell of Stowmarket Golf Club and seconded by Mrs Elizabeth Robinson of Bury St Edmunds Golf Club.

The President presented Judy Hamshere with her badge of Office as County President, she was sure that with the wealth of experience that Judy was bringing to the job, she was very well qualified to be President and wished her a very happy two years.

Judy responded by saying how this was a great honour and acknowledged Sue's excellent 2 years in the job as President. She hoped that she would be able to follow in her footsteps. She said how she had known Mary, County Captain for some years and thought that working together would not be a problem. The one thing that she would like to see happen in ladies golf in Suffolk over her two years in office was more CONSIDERATION, both on and off the course. She would do her bit and implored others to do the same.

The outgoing President then welcomed the newly elected members of the Governing Body and hoped they would enjoy their time in office, the Association is very grateful to them.

## **7 Any Other Business**

**Mrs Patsy Barnes** of Bury St Edmunds GC noted that the new handbook had an error in relation to the new divisional boundaries. It was clarified that the boundaries should read

**Div 1 0 – 17**

**Div 2 18 – 22**

The President gave her thanks to Dorothy & Tina for running the raffle and to Jane and Ann for making the refreshments. The raffle had raised £144 and the refreshments £22.60.

## **8 Presentations**

## **CORONATION BRONZE & SILVER MEDALS**

The Silver medal was awarded to **Mrs Pat Caudwell** of Bury St Edmunds G C with a net differential of -8.

The Bronze medal was awarded to **Mrs Sheila Payne** of Waldringfield G C with a net differential of -6.

## **NIGEL BIRRELL TROPHY**

The Nigel Birrell trophy, awarded personally by the Captain, Mrs Mary Wilderspin, this year went to **Heidi Baek** of Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club. During 2009, Heidi had been outstanding, winning both the County Strokeplay & Matchplay Championships and also winning all 5 of her singles matches in County Match Week. She played for England in the Girls Home Internationals and the European Girls Team Championships in Finland.

She reached the Quarter final of the English Girls, the last 8 of the English Ladies, and played in Team England in the Scottish Under 16 Championship.

She was 3<sup>rd</sup> equal in the Telegraph Final in Abu Dhabi and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Under 16 section of the Faldo Series Final in Brazil.

She had also won a golf scholarship to Wellington College last year and because of the postponement of the AGM was unable to be present to receive her award.

### **Presentation of County Colours**

County colours were presented to Charlotte Double (Seckford G C) and Blaize Esmonds (Thorpeness & Aldeburgh G Cs) for the Junior Section. The Junior Captain's jumper was presented to Sarah Howe (Ipswich G C)

Outgoing members of the GB were then presented with a small memento of their time on the Governing Body. .

A vote of thanks to the Committee was given by Mrs Lucie Reeve of Thorpeness Golf Club.

The meeting closed at 12.00.

President..... Date .....