

SUFFOLK LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held on 18th April 2010 at Waldringfield Golf Club at 10.30am

Present

Mrs Judy Hamshere	President
Mrs Mary Wilderspin	Captain
Mrs Sheila Jarvis	Vice Captain & 2 nd Team Captain
Mrs Ann Graves	Chair & Handicap Adviser
Mrs Anne Archer	EWGA Representative
Mrs Sue Cook	Acting Hon Secretary
Mrs Kay Anderson	Junior Organiser
Mrs Maureen Lloyd	Senior Organiser
Mrs Sandra Ball	Regional Competition Organiser
Mrs Alison Nielsen	Cranworth Organiser
Mrs Cynthia Stewart	Centenary/Coronation Foursomes Organiser
Mrs Cynthia Robinson	Haskell/Stearn Organiser
Mrs Tina Daubney	Division Meetings Organiser
Mrs Maggie Rudd	Minutes secretary

1. **Apologies:** Miss Hermione Scrope, Mrs Jane Izod
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the AGM held on 23rd January 2010 and the GB meeting held on 25th January were both taken as a true record. The GB minutes were signed.
3. **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.
4. **Correspondence:**
 - **From:** R & A re Vanessa Bell, she has applied to have her amateur status reinstated but this will not be allowable until 17th November 2011.
 - **To:** None
5. **EWGA representative's report - Anne Archer**
The Suffolk Delegates meeting had been held on 15th March 2010.
 - **Apologies:** Received from Brett Vale, Cretingham, Gorleston, Hintlesham, Newton Green, St. Audreys, Waldringfield & Woodbridge.
 - **Minutes of the last meeting:** Agreed.
 - **Matters arising:**
 - Divisional Meetings: Bury St Edmunds GC sought clarification that those playing off a lower handicap than that allowed by the Competition Entry Criteria should not be eligible for the scratch Prize. This issue will be raised with GB in April 2010. (*after discussion, it was agreed that this should be so*) **DECISION**
 - EWGA AGM took place in January 2010 with no Suffolk Representative present due to the poor weather. All Resolutions were passed.
 - **County Secretary:** This post remains vacant. The major criteria are that the holder should be computer literate.
 - **Weston Trophy:** Agreed the format requires further review. Proposals to be made in writing or by email to the County Secretary by 10th September 2010.
 - **Merger of EWGA & LGU:** Judy Hamshere, County President, attended a meeting in Birmingham on 16th February 2010 and on 17th February 2010 all EWGA Members were emailed with the outcome. There was also a report in the February 2010 issue of the Ladies Links Magazine. An EGM will probably take place later in the year when a 75% majority to merge will be required. EWGA may organize Workshops to keep Members advised of progress.
 - **LGU Subs:** This issue has been overtaken by the merger discussions.

- **County “100-Club”:** This issue was not raised at the AGM but it has been decided to trial a “100-Club” in the second-half of 2010. (*It was agreed that this would be started after the June meeting of the delegates, as a trial, DECISION*)
- **9-hole Medal Competitions:** EWGA are still encouraging Counties and their Clubs to run these competitions.
- **Neutral Courses for County Competitions:** This will be discussed at the GB meeting in April 2010 and is likely to come into effect in 2011. (*Discussed later under Item 6.*)
- **County Handbooks:** The numbers handed out were considered correct.
- **18 to 40-year old Lady Players:** Clubs to contact the County Secretary advising of their initiatives to encourage new Lady Members in this age range. Patricia Dixon from Halesworth has agreed to meet with Sarah Wilson from the Bramford Golf Centre with a view to putting forward a proposal to move this issue forward. It is important that Clubs contact the County Secretary as soon as possible as this will facilitate the payment of the grant.
- **Suffolk Golf Day:** All Clubs have been advised of the date – Monday 9th August 2010 – and Players should be reminded to bring their handicap certificates with them on the day.
- **AOB:**
 - EWGA are seeking a Regional Administrator for the Eastern Region at the end of 2010. The JD was distributed to Delegates.
 - Rookery Park GC highlighted the cost of Delegates’ attending EWGA Meetings. The County does not assist financially but some clubs make a contribution towards costs.
 - Felixstowe asked whether 9-hole competitions could be Medals as well as Stablefords. AA to investigate and respond. (*Ann Graves, CHA, advised that was not possible*)
 - Aldeburgh asked about the rules regarding Measuring Devices. This is a Club rather than County issue. EWGA & the County have their own rules but Clubs can amend these by using a Local Rule.
 - Date and Venue of Next Meeting – Monday, 21st June 2010 at Bury St. Edmunds Golf Club – 10.30 am.

There had been two meetings of EWGA Eastern Region since the last GB meeting. The minutes of these meetings can be accessed on the EWGA website at www.englishwomensgolf.org under Regions. Points of note are summarised below: -

- County EWGA reps to attend Captain’s Meeting on November 3rd
- Silver and Bronze medal competitions are to stay as one final, as in 2010.
- Inactive handicaps were discussed – it was incorrect to state that more than 6 ‘blobs’ on a Stableford card rendered it a N/R. It was also incorrect to state that 13 holes had to be played on a medal card in order for it to be counted. (*It was pointed out by Ann Graves, County handicap advisor, that if there is doubt as to the authenticity of a card, it should be a committee decision, at Club level, to make decisions over whether cards should be regarded as N/R or not.*)
- Counties were advised to check their insurance for cover regarding players under 12 or over 65. It was advisable to pay a facility fee rather than a gratuity to ensure any accidents in County competitions are covered.
- Winners of the Ping competition at Club level will receive an umbrella and the runners-up, a towel.
- EWGA hopes to run a nationwide competition for those with handicaps from 8 – 15 in 2011/12, still under discussion at present.
- Over 900 clubs have signed up to the Central Handicapping Database (CDH)
- Merger talks (EGU and EWGA) continue, hopefully delegates will be given the opportunity to vote on any proposed changes in September. This will become the

County vote in October. (*Members noted how this highlighted the importance of delegates and how decision-making was being devolved to the Clubs*)

- The question of Distance Measuring Devices (DMD's) is to be referred to the R & A.
- The question of a competition for County Seniors was discussed, the feeling being that the East Anglian Competition could become the Seniors Championship – *there was no objection from the GB, although it was pointed out that the salver which is played for, the Joy Wynn Salver, belongs to Suffolk.*

6. County Competitions

- **County Championship** The Championship Committee was confirmed as being Mary Wilderspin, Kay Hazell and Sandra Ball. Referees were in place. 33 entries had been received and it would be a single tee start. If all clubs are up and running on the CDH by the Championship then handicap information will be forwarded in this manner otherwise sheets would be sent to clubs with their member's results as usual. The County computer would act as back-up to ensure that all handicaps are known for Day 2.
- **Divisional Meetings** It was reported that the Division 4 meeting at Haverhill had attracted 37 entries.
- **Cranworth**
 - It was reported that St Audry's had unfortunately had to withdraw from the competition as they were unable to raise a team. Haverhill had been informed and would receive a bye.
 - It was also noted that with regard to the use of buggies for any County competition, the EWGA transportation policy needs to be adhered to, anybody requiring the use of such a facility must apply in writing to the County and will need a medical certificate.
 - After much discussion it was agreed that a 2 year trial of neutral courses for all rounds should commence in 2011, for the Cranworth only, venue to follow the draw. **DECISION**
- **Haskell & Stearn** A letter has been prepared for Lady Captains.
- **Weston** It was confirmed that a review will be held in September, proposals to be made in writing or by email to the Secretary by 10th September 2010.

7. Team Reports

- **1st Team report – Mary Wilderspin**

The training in January had to be cancelled because of snow but we did manage to have the February training, although it was bitterly cold with a few snow flurries. The ladies were given short game and putting routines to practice.

On 7th February we played Aldeburgh gentlemen. The ladies played off the yellow tees along with the gentlemen and everyone off scratch. Although we had a strong side we lost 3 ½ to ½.

The match against Woodbridge gentlemen on February 21st we knew was going to be tough because Woodbridge always put out their Hambro side. We played foursomes with hambro scoring. Woodbridge won by 10 holes.

Sarah Howe did extremely well after her partner Lil James twisted her ankle on the first hole and left Sarah on her own. Sarah went on to finish only 1 down.

On 21st March we played in beautiful sunshine at Royal Worlington against a very strong Suffolk County Mens team.

We were very pleased to welcome Hermione Fitzgerald, a scratch golfer, to our team. Hermione used to play for Cambs & Hunts but has been a member of Royal Worlington for some years and has now decided to play for Suffolk. Liz Laflin was paired with Hermione and their opposition played off +4 & +1. so they did remarkably well to only lose 1 down. Unfortunately the team was weakened as I had to play in place of Lil, who

had a sickness bug the night before. The ladies received 3 courtesy shots but still lost by 14 holes.

The match against the S.G.U. Presidents team this year was played at Felixstowe Ferry on 27th March. As usual we played foursomes, Hambro scoring and received 3 courtesy shots. As 3 of our more experienced players were unable to play we did quite well to only lose by 8 holes.

To make up for the cancelled training day, 2 hours were added to the 28th March Training and the same will be added to the 23rd May.

Mary reported that she had been in correspondence with Norfolk who wanted to change the date of County Week for 2011, despite this being a EWGA directive. Despite Suffolk not being in agreement with this, the other counties involved had all agreed and the date had been put forward 1 week to w/c 27th June 2011. It was queried whether this was permissible and Anne was asked to check with EWGA.

Action Anne A.

- **2nd Team report – Sheila Jarvis**

Since our last meeting, the second team have had their final two training sessions with Keith Preston. They were both well attended and packed with information giving those that came along a lot to go away with to practice.

We followed that with our first practice match which was held at Fynn Valley against the Junior Girls on Sunday 11th April. It was a really sunny day but unfortunately there was a very strong and cold wind blowing which meant that those who had come along to watch were absolutely perished. This always proves to be a hard match and this year we had altered the format and played 6 singles instead of the usual foursomes. However it made no difference to the outcome as we have some very talented juniors in Suffolk and they clocked up yet another win.

The final result being 2nd Team 2 ½ Junior Girls 3 ½

Our second practice match is due to take place at Hintlesham Golf Club against the first team on Sunday 25th April at 13.30

- **Senior organiser's report – Maureen Lloyd**

Our first match of the season took place on Monday 12th April at Newton Green versus the Suffolk County Senior Men.

We were very lucky with the weather and a good time was had by all. It was rather nice to be met at Newton Green by their Lady Captain.

Sadly, we lost all four matches – a tall order to beat the men I fear, especially when playing off scratch.

It was the men's home match this year, so they set the tune of the day. I feel next year we will have to work out a system of receiving shots, just to make it more interesting for the ladies.

We were gallant losers on the day, and the men were just charming.

It was noted that Herts wished to continue playing matches with those counties in their former region, however they had been instructed to give priority to East Region and Suffolk must organise a match with them.

The question of lowering the age of the Seniors from 55 to 50 was discussed, along with a change of format from 4BBB to singles matchplay. Maureen had spoken with many Senior ladies from Suffolk and from other counties within East Region and the general feeling was that although a league may be a good idea, the format should stay the same, in order to retain a friendly relaxed way of getting together with former County players. It was also felt that ladies who currently play for either the First or Second team should not play for the Seniors as well. It was decided that the Seniors should be represented at the Captains meeting at Gog Magog on 3rd November and that this should be an agenda item.

Action Maureen

- **Junior organiser's report – Kay Anderson**

1st. Team: practice matches have been held against Ipswich GC Boys and SLCGA 2nd team; the girls were successful on both occasions. The first county match will be against Norfolk at Weston Park on May 2nd, when the 2nd teams will also play.

Junior Training sessions began in March for Improvers and Beginners at Bramford, and for the Northern group at Bungay. The Elite squad will have their first session in May. The Improvers group has grown in size as more girls gain handicaps, so the Beginners group is correspondingly smaller at present, although others tend to join during the summer. The Bungay group is also smaller as several girls are preparing for public exams. Almost 60 girls are involved overall.

AASE: Sarah Howe and Blaize Esmond have been accepted on this scheme which will lead to an NVQ qualification in addition to the A/AS levels they take at school. The first 3 day session has been held at Woodhall Spa.

Events: the Texas Scramble will take place on April 18th at Orwell Park School.

Individual successes: Heidi Baek represented England in the French U21 competition at St. Cloud and reached the matchplay stage. Blaize Esmond has reduced her handicap to 5 so is now in category 1.

The Suffolk Golf Academy is underway with centres at Bungay, Bramford and Newton Green, coaching 104 children, including 25 girls. (The Birdie programme which the Academy replaces only catered for 6 girls annually.) There is a coach at every centre who has experience of coaching the county girls. 5 girls attended the Talent Days who had not come to Girls' events; all have been contacted and 2 are already attending Girls' training.

Junior Committee: we are very pleased that Sue Cook has accepted the invitation to become a co-opted member, with oversight of the Improvers training group.

Child Protection: several Junior Committee members attended a seminar on the Vetting and Barring procedures due to be introduced later this year. It seems likely that they will apply to 'regular' contact with children on at least a weekly basis. 3 Committee members will update their Safeguarding Children training next month. We have been asked for our written Policy Statement which I feel the Governing Body should discuss. (*See under AOB*)

Finance: a productive meeting was held in February with the SLCGA Treasurer and the Junior Treasurer.

The EWGA Trust Training grant application will be considered at their meeting very shortly; the main EWGA grant application awaits a decision on the 'Women 18-40' item. SVLGA very kindly made a donation of £500 to the Juniors at their Spring lunch.

East Region CJO's met recently and decided to continue the present pattern for county matches in 2011, and probably also in 2012 in view of the Olympics. However we are asked to canvass parents to see if they would be willing to contribute to the cost of their daughters taking part in a Junior match week. The counties are still evenly split on the question, with cost a major factor, but also the availability of venues, supervision and the fate of 2nd team matches.

It was agreed that the Inter-counties Shield should now go to the County with the best record in the 1st team matches each year.

Norfolk had discovered age limits on their county Public Liability Insurance and advised others to check.

There was general unhappiness about the 'Women 18-40' requirement being tacked onto the EWGA Junior grant, and we agreed to ask our East Division reps. to raise the matter, which has duly been done.

Kay also reported that she had received a list of qualifiers for the Abrahams Trophy, but unfortunately nobody from Suffolk had qualified.

A County Training Questionnaire had been sent out, seeking details of training currently taking place.

8. Treasurer's report – Hermione Scrope

The report is attached as Appendix 1. *It was felt that the £1500 included as receipts for the Suffolk Golf Day may be a little optimistic this year as there is going to be a facility fee chargeable. Members were urged to promote the Day within their own clubs.*

A request for 6 holdalls for the County teams was agreed at a cost of approximately £100. Hermione was asked to look into raising the amount paid for gratuities; this has not been increased since 2006. It was decided to call the amount Gratuity/Facility fee to cover the point raised at East Region Meeting (see item 5) concerning insurance. The words Facility Fee must be mentioned when booking a venue.

DECISION ACTION Hermione

9. Golf Development/ Partnership

The minutes of meetings held by the SGP can be accessed online at www.suffolkgolfpartnership.co.uk

Suffolk Golf Academies are now up and running at Newton Green, Bungay and Bramford golf clubs. The issue of the EWGA target group being 18 – 40 year old women was raised, several events are already in the pipeline at club level, and can these be harnessed to the junior's funding bid, with clubs applying to County for financing? This could go some way towards meeting the criteria. To be investigated.

ACTION Sue

10. Suffolk Golf Day

Currently not many entries have been received. It was acknowledged that a balance has to be struck between maximising entries and ensuring that the catering arrangements could meet the needs of the numbers involved. It was agreed to promote at club level and also to circulate likely clubs from Norfolk, Cambs and Essex.

The SGP have promised some financial help with prizes (to be arranged in conjunction with Hintlesham G C) and that Detmar Hackman of Sabona International Bracelets will also provide some prizes as well as giving £500 towards the Championship.

11. East Region Foursomes

This had been held on the 8th April at Hintlesham G C. 84 people had entered with 32 different clubs being represented. 37 competitors were from Suffolk. A profit of £266.05 had been made for EWGA and the raffle had raised over £100 for SLCGA. Petrol expenses had been claimed, these will be paid by EWGA, that amount will be passed on by the claimants as a gratuity for the staff.

12. Distance Measuring Devices

After discussion it was decided that, in accordance with EWGA directives, DMDs should not be allowed in County Competitions or in any competition organised by EWGA above Club level. It was recognised that this was a rapidly changing situation and that the decision should be reviewed annually.

DECISION

13. Website

A very thorough report had been received from Hermione and George Hazell concerning the updating of the SLCGA website. Four firms had been approached and had submitted detailed plans and of those four, two had been shortlisted and interviewed. It was decided to accept the bid of ebwebdesign.co.uk upon the recommendation of the sub-committee. It was agreed that George, Hermione and Julie Latimer-Jones would be the team to liaise with Ebe Design. It was also acknowledged that at present the County is very dependent upon George for his input to the website and that it would be desirable for Julie Latimer-Jones and Hermione to become fully competent in its operation. Sue was requested to write to Julie, and to contact George & Hermione to let them know the decision.

ACTION Sue

14. Appointment of County Welfare Officer

Stuart McCullum, Detective Inspector in Child Protection for Suffolk Police and currently the CWO for the SGU and the SGP had been recommended for this post. He was willing to take it on and it was decided to appoint him. He is to be asked if he would attend the next meeting of the GB in June.

DECISION ACTION Sue

15. Dates & venues for GB meetings 2011

- Monday 24th January 2011
- Monday 18th April 2011
- Monday 27th June 2011
- Monday 26th September 2011
- Monday 21st November 2011

Venue Waldringfield Golf Club.

16. Any Other Business

- Only 1 entry has so far been received for the Coronation and Centenary Foursomes. To be promoted.
- Certificates are available for competition organisers to give to trophy winners. This should help to retain knowledge of where trophies are being held.
- Bookings for 2011 competitions are all in hand, bar one.
- The EWGA medal final competition will be held in Suffolk in 2011, at Fynn Valley Golf Club on 14th April.
- The Junior Organiser's handbook is available to all clubs from the EGU. It is currently being reviewed by EWGA and EGU jointly.
- A request had been received from EWGA for a copy of SLCGAs documentation on safeguarding children. It was felt that this should be in line with that of the SGP and must be countywide, with the Child Protection Policy in place as a minimum. To be referred on to the SGP. **ACTION Judy**
- Trophy engraving is the responsibility of trophy winners, and should be restricted to machine engraving as hand engraving is too expensive.
- The question of refreshments for organisers at Divisional meetings was raised. Currently County pay for meals for 2 organisers and the prize-giver (usually Captain or President). Clubs generally provide coffee for ball spotters and other helpers. To be reviewed. **ACTION Tina**
- Paperweight mementoes had been given to retiring GB members and letters of thanks had been received.
- EWGA had requested a write-up of the Suffolk Championship and pictures if possible for inclusion in their newsletter. JLJ to be asked. **ACTION Sue**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 1.20pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 28th June 2010 at Waldringfield Golf Club.

Chair**Date.....**

**SUFFOLK LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION
BUDGET
YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2010**

	2,010 £		2,009 £
INCOME			
Members Subscriptions	13,438		10,900
County Cards	2,500		2,760
Golf Day	1,500		1,583
Surplus on InterClub Knock Out matches	100		129
Surplus from Competitions	1,200		1,425
Sponsorship and Donations	500		1,010
Bank Interest	70		97
Sundry	150		235
	<u>19,458</u>		<u>18,139</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Administration	6,407		4,907
Teams and Matches	11,619		10,152
Donations	300		311
Juniors	1,000	(19,326)	1,000
		<u>132</u>	<u>(16,370)</u>
Income Tax	(30)		1,769
	<u>102</u>		<u>(29)</u>
			<u>1,740</u>
ADMINISTRATION			
		Actual	
Committee Allowances	875		875
Travel	400	31	318
Stationary, postage and telephone	500	29	480
Meeting expenses	350	264	554
Insurance	1,370	1,370	1,240
Accountancy	150		96
Handbooks	912	911	834
Sundry	350	221	510
Computer	1,500	57	
	<u>6,407</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>4,907</u>

**SUFFOLK LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION
BUDGET
YEAR TO 31 OCTOBER 2010**

Team Expenses

		Total	1st	Actual	2nd	Actual	Seniors	Actual
		£	Team	£	Team	£	£	£
Travel		1,060	300		660	13	100	
Food	Away Matches	800			700	87	100	
	Practice matches	480	200	67	280	15		
	Training							
Accommodation		400			400			
Coaching		2,000	2,000	1,550				
Gratuities		515	240	120	185	30	90	
Balls		64	64					
Tees								
County Week		6,000	6,000					
Postage						19		
Uniforms		300	300					
		<u>11,619</u>	<u>9,104</u>	<u>1,737</u>	<u>2,225</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>290</u>	