

SUFFOLK LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held on Monday 17 November 2014 at Waldringfield Golf Club at 10 am

PRESENT:

Ms Ann Graves	President/Handicap Adviser
Mrs Laura Lowe	Captain
Mrs Sarah Saggars	Vice Captain
Miss Hermione Scrope	Treasurer
Mrs Jeanette Longman	Secretary
Miss Sarah Howe	Junior Representative
Mrs Anne Archer	England Golf Representative
Mrs Jo Moore	Seniors Organiser
Mrs Cynthia Stewart	Match & Comp. Venue Organiser
Mrs Jan Pattinson	Division Organiser
Ms Chris Lynch-Bates	Championship Organiser
Mrs Angela Middleton	Cranworth Organiser
Mrs June Kenworthy	Weston/Suffolk Senior Shield Organiser
Mrs Mary Wilderspin	Haskell/Stearn Organiser

1. **SGP Report - Alastair Spink – Appendix 1**

Laura welcomed Alastair to the meeting. Alastair explained his role as County Development Officer and how the primary focus of the SGP was now centred around golf participation (leading to golf club membership) for juniors and adults. Alastair emphasised that he will be working more closely with Golf Clubs and his approach would concentrate on structure and would not be prescriptive. Alastair's experience is that Golf Clubs are open to this approach.

Matters arising from the SGP Meeting on 2 November

Concerns regarding the Minutes of the last SGP meeting and the confidential nature of its content were raised. In the past, these Minutes have been included as an Appendix of the GB Minutes – in view of the concerns raised, it was agreed that the SGP Minutes will no longer be included in the GB Minutes.

There was some discussion surrounding the funding from the Talent Pathway and Sarah S will discuss this funding with Gareth Jenkins to determine what effect the application process (in regards to the SGU/SLCGA) will have on the availability of this funding. Alastair confirmed that the Golf Mark criteria was changing and that he would be discussing the relationship between Junior, Adults and Businesses with Clubs, which he believed they would find helpful.

In the past, Sarah S and Sarah H have attended the SGP Meetings as the SLCGA Representatives. However, as the remit of the SGP will change from 2015, it was felt that a presence by the Junior Organiser was no longer necessary.

Chris Lynch-Bates agreed to be one of the SLCGA Representatives on the SGP Committee, for which she was sincerely thanked. A second SLCGA Representative will be formally appointed at the GB meeting in January.

2. **Apologies**

Mrs Deb Howlett

3. **Minutes of GB Meeting on 29 September 2014**

The Minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.

4. **Matters Arising from GB Meeting**

Cynthia had been asked to book dates/venues for the Delegates Meetings in 2015.

However, since the last meeting, a number of candidates have expressed an interest in the role of England Golf Representative and it was, therefore, deemed to be appropriate for the incoming Representative to choose the dates for these meetings.

5. **Correspondence**

A letter has been sent to Detmar Hackman, Sabona thanking him for his support in 2014

6. **England Golf Representative's Report – Anne Archer**

Rebecca Evans (Newton Green) was endorsed as the GB's chosen candidate for the role of England Golf Representative and, following endorsement from the Delegates, will be nominated at the AGM.

Chris Lynch-Bates had offered to step up to this role in the event of there being no candidate – on behalf of the GB, Ann expressed our grateful thanks to Chris for this selfless offer.

Laura, Ann and Jeanette attended a Regional meeting to discuss the England Golf Strategy Plan at Ufford Park on Wednesday 8 October. England Golf have produced Notes from their series of Regional Meetings.

The England Golf AGM and Conference is due to be held at Hinckley on 16/17 April 2015. It was agreed that the registered attendees would be the Captain, England Golf Representative and Secretary. **ACTION: JEANETTE**

There will be a Performance Conference in Lincolnshire on 15/16 December. Sarah will check with the SGU whether there is still an available place and, if so, Christine Langford will be invited to attend on behalf of the SLCGA and will be asked to report at the January GB Meeting. **ACTION: SARAH S**

It was agreed that Sue Cook would be asked to update the GB on the progress of the Course Rating programme in Suffolk.

Anne (in this, her last GB meeting before standing down as EG Representative) said that it had been a lot of fun, she had learnt a lot and made many friends. She also wished to express special thanks to her husband, Peter, for all his support over the years. Laura thanked Anne for everything she had done during her time on the GB.

7. **Handicap Adviser's Report – Ann Graves**

There are 8 Handicap Regional Advisers – East Region is Janice Hazeldene (Essex). Anne has arranged to meet with her successor, Eunice, for a handover session and arrangements will need to be made for Eunice to be granted access to the CDH System. Although there will not be an AGM Report sent with the Agenda, Ann will be presenting a Report at the AGM.

8. **Competition Organisers' Reports – Appendix 2.**

a) County Championship – Chris Lynch-Bates

b) Divisions – Jan Pattinson

This is Jan's last meeting as Division Organisers and she thanked the GB for three enjoyable years and for being so kind to her. Laura thanked Jan for doing a wonderful job.

c) Coronation and Centenary Foursomes – Deb Howlett

d) Weston – June Kenworthy

June clarified that the handicap order for the Weston is “playing” handicap order – not “exact” handicap order. June will collect the Trophy, the Plate and the Bowl in order that they can be presented at the AGM.

e) Haskell & Stearn – Mary Wilderspin – Report Attached

It has been agreed that the Haskell Semi-Final will be played on neutral course(s). However, at this late stage, it was felt too complicated to set a date for the Semi-Final. So, it was agreed that Mary would contact the semi-finalists after the Quarter Finals have been completed (end June 2015) to agree the Semi Final date and venue(s).

f) Cranworth – Angela

Unfortunately, after the Draw was sent out, Angela received two emails highlighting potential difficulties with the hosting of one of the Quarter Finals and one of the Semi Finals. Angela suggested an ingenious solution, which met with unanimous approval from the GB, and will contact the Clubs affected. **ACTION: ANGELA**

At this, her last meeting, Angela thanked everyone for making her time on the GB so enjoyable, especially as she felt that she had inadvertently signed up for the role two years ago. Laura thanked Angela for her dedication to the Cranworth.

g) Suffolk Seniors' Jubilee Shield – June Kenworthy

It was noted that, as Judi Walker, will be moving to Norfolk at the end of the year, it will not be possible for her to be contacted in case of queries regarding the Rules of Golf. Ann's number will remain and we will contact one further Rules Official to ask for permission to include her telephone number on the Rules Sheet **ACTION: HERMIONE**

9. Team Reports – Appendix 3

a) 1st Team – Laura Lowe

Laura reported that Sarah Sagers has sent out invitations to our first training session with Christine Langford on Sunday 7th December at Ipswich Golf Club. The response has been very positive and about 22 ladies and juniors are expected to turn up.

b) Seniors Report – Jo Moore – Report attached

Jo is looking forward to next year, with more players being available due to the reduction in age. There will be 8 matches next year.

c) Juniors Report – Sarah H - Report attached

Kay Anderson, Kay Hazell, Pam Ratford, Sue Cook and Judy Hamshere will be standing down from the Junior sub-Committee at the end of this year. Sarah Howe expressed her thanks and appreciation for everything they have done for the Junior Girls in Suffolk.

Junior Section – Sarah Sagers

Following the endorsement that was received at the last GB meeting and the support of the Junior sub-Committee and Junior Girls, a Plan for the future of the Junior Section is now in the process of being implemented into two Squads, with the assistance of coaches Christine Langford, Tony Dobson and Andrew Collison.

The coaching sessions and Junior Calendar will be produced early next year and all the events will be available to view on the SLCGA website.

ACTION: SARAH H/JEANETTE

10. Treasurers Report – Hermione Scrope

To date, 83 County Cards have been sold in 2014.

However, with effect from 2015, these will be provided free-of-charge. The SGU have very kindly provided some County Cards for distribution to Ladies by the Club Secretaries and these will be handed out to the Clubs at our AGM in January.

Hermione guided the GB through the Draft Accounts for 2014 – the Accounts have yet to be audited before distribution with the AGM Agenda.

11. County Captain's Meeting – Laura Lowe

Laura and Sarah S attended this meeting. A review of the County Match Week and the Junior County Match Week was undertaken.

The East Region Delegates altered their meeting dates so that the Delegates would be able to return to their Committees and seek decisions on votes in advance – Delegates have the authority to act on behalf of the Counties (but at their Counties' behest).

The Prize Structure for the East Region competitions will be determined by the number of entrants

The County Captains Meeting in 2015 will be held at Gog Magog on 14 October and it was agreed that there will be three delegates for each County attending.

12. Blue Handbook 2015

There was a final consolidation of the information contained in the Handbook prior to it being sent for printing at the end of November.

13. AGM Agenda and Arrangements

The AGM Agenda/Attachments will be sent to the Clubs in early December. Mini Reports will be presented by the Officers at the AGM.

Tasks were allocated – at this time, a Minutes Secretary is still required on the day of the AGM

ACTION: JEANETTE

It was agreed that coffee/tea at the AGM would be complimentary.

The 100 Club Draw will be conducted at the AGM (postponed from the November Delegates Meeting).

14. Requests and Resolutions - AGM

Emails were sent to the Ladies' Captains asking for any Requests and Resolutions for the AGM to be lodged with the County Secretary by 11 November 2014. None have been received.

15. Any Other Business

a) Laura thanked the GB for their friendship and support during her two years of Captaincy. She looked forward to her time of 'retirement' being spent on practicing her grandma duties, getting back to full fitness after her operation earlier in the summer and playing some more golf. On behalf of the GB, Ann thanked Laura for being a great Captain and expressed how much we would all miss her, especially her sense of humour.

b) Anne Archer, on behalf of the GB, wished to express her thanks to Alan Horne for the wonderful job he did in repairing the Division 1 Trophy.

c) It was agreed that Sarah S/Anne A would approach some retailers in order to purchase enough golf balls for the 1st Team for the 2015 season.

d) After some discussion, it was agreed that the GB request that the funds from the 100 Club be used to purchase computing equipment.

16. Date of AGM and next GB Meeting

Saturday 10 January 2015 – Kesgrave Memorial Hall – 10.30am

Monday 19 January 2015 - Waldringfield – 10am (followed by Competition Organisers meeting)

Chairman

Date

Appendix 1

SGP Report

What are we doing to increase participation and membership?

Golf Foundation Summary

- 9 Golf Roots Centres – Bramford, Rookery Park, Stonham Barns, Ipswich, Rushmere, Fynn Valley, West Suffolk, Bury St Edmunds and Newton Green.
- 3 Satellite Clubs – Bramford, Rookery Park & Newton Green.

Get into Golf Summary

- Introduced continuity across GiG centres leading to centrally driven digital, social media and traditional marketing campaigns.
- Working closely with the County Sports Partnership to signpost individuals to the Get into Golf website and their local Get into Golf centre.
- Challenged all of our centres to work towards a minimum retention rate of 60% but ideally aim towards 80%.
- We have seen a significant improvement in comparison to last year but are still below our targets.
- Creating adequate projects is still a major challenge as many PGA Professionals do not have the time or manpower to host the required number to meet our increased targets.

College/University Summary

- We have very positive links with all of our Colleges and Universities and we are confident that we will reach our targets as activity commences from October 2014 onwards.

Disability

- Working with Elatus Sports (26+) and the Discovery Club (14-25) we have been able to deliver several extremely successful projects and are very pleased to have already exceeded our 12 month targets within the first 6 months.

Appendix 2

COMPETITION ORGANISERS' REPORTS

(e) **Stearn Report**

The final of the Stearn Competition between Aldeburgh and Ipswich was played on a cold, wet day at Newton Green.

Although the weather was miserable both teams were cheerful and all the matches were played in good spirit. Aldeburgh beat Ipswich 21/2 - 1/2

Our thanks go to both Newton Green and their Lady Captain for all their help in making the day a great success.

Appendix 3

TEAM REPORTS

b) **Senior Organiser's Report**

2014 has been a very successful year for the Suffolk Senior Ladies: a big thank you to all the Ladies that have played and the Golf Clubs which have hosted the matches - their hospitality and welcoming has been excellent.

Highlights for the year are:

- Played 8 matches, resulting in 3 wins, 2 losses and 2 halves
- All matches have been keenly fought, but in a very sporting manner
- A new fixture versus Norfolk Senior Ladies was held and this is now a permanent event
- Age eligibility for 2015 has been changed (from 55 to 50) and now aligns with the other Counties; this will increase our selection of players and give us more strength and depth (the majority of matches are played off scratch).

In conclusion, I look forward to another successful year in 2015 with the Suffolk Seniors.

c) **Junior Organiser's Report**

We haven't been able to arrange a meeting with Gareth Jenkins yet.

There is a possibility that Alice Barlow will be moving her Home Club to Stoke By Nayland (Essex Club) but has expressed that she wishes to continue playing for Suffolk, so we are currently investigating this. Laura has emailed other counties as to this possibility and has spoken to Alice's parents on this matter.

All junior Coaching finished in September for the year. The SGP Academy 14 – 18 started again in October and will run through until March (consisting of mainly the 2nd team girls).

Unfortunately we had to cancel the autumn meeting this year due to lack of interest. Our last gathering is 6th December for the Jamboree at Fynn Valley.