

The 82nd Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Ladies County Golf Association was held at Kesgrave Community Hall on Saturday 10th January 2015 at 10.30am

PRESENT:

Ms Ann Graves	President
Mrs Laura Lowe	Captain
Mrs Sarah Siggers	Vice Captain
Ms Ann Graves	Handicap Adviser
Mrs Jeanette Longman	Hon Secretary
Miss Hermione Scrope	Hon Treasurer
Miss Sarah Howe	Junior Organiser
Ms Chris Lynch-Bates	Championship Organiser
Mrs Anne Archer	England Golf Representative
Mrs Cynthia Stewart	Match & Competitions Venue Organiser
Mrs Jan Pattinson	Divisional Meetings Organiser
Mrs June Kenworthy	Weston and Senior Jubilee Shield Organiser
Mrs Angela Middleton	Cranworth Organiser
Mrs Mary Wilderspin	Haskell & Stearn Organiser
Mrs Deb Howlett	Foursomes Organiser

Together with 116 members

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Good Morning, Happy New Year and welcome to the 82nd AGM of the Suffolk Ladies County Golf Association.

Please would you stand whilst we remember our friends who have died during the last year
Thank you.

I have to start by saying that I have been in this position once before - I stood in for Judy when she was recovering from an operation. I never thought that I would be here in my own right.

We can't really complain about the weather this year, although I do recall a very wet County Championship at Rookery Park where I (and others) ended up helping to squeegee the greens so that the Finals could be finished. But more of that in other reports

My year started with a panic. Laura asked me to play with the First Team in the match against the Aldeburgh men (personally, I don't think she could find anyone else but, nevertheless, I was honoured to be asked and it gave me the opportunity to get to know some of the first team a bit better). We had a lovely day – the men were charming and my partner (our esteemed Vice Captain) put me at ease straight away by playing to my standard – rather than to her usual high standard! We were soundly beaten, but in recompense, the roast beef was delicious.

The next panic for me was when Laura received the date for her long-awaited hip replacement operation – just before Counties Week. More details on this later, but suffice it to say that Sarah Sagers stepped up to the plate and organised the week (and me) magnificently. She decided not to play herself – perhaps that is why we didn't win the overall competition! But the team played their hearts out and we had a super week with a really good atmosphere – but we missed Laura greatly. I truly believe that we are building up to a really good Counties Week this coming year at Chigwell.

Another big event in our calendar last year was our hosting of the Junior County Match days at Bury St Edmunds. Judy Hamshere's committee organised the event and thought of everything – down to the last tee peg. It was a great success – no mean feat with 48 juniors from 6 counties, staying for 2 nights, all of them with large golf bags, trolleys, batteries and more than 48 different dietary requirements! Judy, Jeanette and Lynne (the Bury St Edmunds Ladies' Captain) orchestrated every detail and I thank them and their committee enormously for making the event such a success. We didn't do too well, but the girls played their hearts out and were a credit to our County. Michelle Wilce (the Team Manager) and Sarah Howe (the County Junior Organiser) both did their utmost to encourage the girls, who were up against very strong opposition from the bigger Counties. I am sure we will do better this year at John O'Gaunt.

On behalf of the ladies, I would like to thank Mr Detmar Hackman of Sabona International for his continued sponsorship. He also gives generously to our Suffolk Golf Day. This was, again, a great success – so much so that we will ballot the entries for this coming year's event, if necessary. We thank Chris Lynch-Bates, and all who helped to make it such a success, and to Henry Roblin for his continued support in generously allowing us the use of Hintlesham Golf Course.

Judi Walker continues to give much of her time to England Golf – I attended their AGM last year when she was voted in for a further period as a non-executive Director. Unfortunately, for us, Judi is moving to Norfolk, so we will lose her as our resident rules guru. We wish her all the best and would like to sincerely thank her for her large contribution to the workings of this County over the years.

Although we will be losing Judi as our resident rules expert, we are gaining Nicki McMahon, from Flempton, who has passed the England Golf rules exam – with distinction. Congratulations to Nicki – we are hoping to twist her arm into helping us out when we need help with the rules.

I am delighted to announce that Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club have agreed to host the 2017 National County Finals. This is a great honour for Suffolk, and Felixstowe Ferry in particular.

Julie Latimer-Jones and Jeanette Longman continue to look after our website and keep it up-to-date with all the events and achievements. Thank you both very much. Jeanette has also continued looking after the GB in her own inimitable way. Doing all the hard work and leaving the members to get on with the nice bits! Thank you so much Jeanette.

Finally, thank you to all the GB members for their hard work, efficiency in running the competitions and their friendship.

The Secretary then read the Notice to convene the Meeting

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from:

Deb Howlett	Vonnie Thornton
Emily Penfold	Pam Ratford
Annie Tyler	
Jessica Buck	

together with 224 apologies from members and Clubs.

2 MINUTES OF THE AGM 2013

There being no amendments or alterations required to the Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 11th January 2014, copies of which had been circulated to all Clubs, the Minutes were approved and signed by Ann Graves as a true copy.

3 MATTERS ARISING AGM 2013

There were no matters arising.

4 REPORTS & ACCOUNTS FOR 2013/2014

PRESIDENT:

These Reports will be taken together and, with your agreement, adopted en bloc.

Report 4(a) County Captain's Report – Mrs Laura Lowe

After training sessions and practice matches the County Championship was held at Rookery Park in May. Sharon Luckman won the stroke play and Vanessa Bell won the matchplay.

The Senior's championship ran alongside the main championship. Lotti Edmunds won the strokeplay and Helen Bray won the matchplay.

County Week was hosted by Cambs&Hunts on the Wandleberry course at Gog Magog. We beat Bedfordshire and Cambs&Hunts but lost against Essex, Norfolk and the overall winners Hertfordshire. My grateful thanks to my Vice Captain, Sarah Saggars, and President, Ann Graves for managing County Week during my enforced absence.

The Division 3 and 4 meetings were well supported but Divisions 1 and 2 had to be amalgamated due to too few entries.

The Division 4 team event was won by Fynn Valley with Susan Jackson from Stowmarket winning the individual.

The Division 3 team event was won by Bury St Edmunds with Rosemary Stratton winning the individual.

The Division 2 team event was won by Cretingham with Linda Miller from Woodbridge winning the individual.

The Division 1 team event was won by Ipswich with Tanya McGregor from Bungay winning the individual scratch prize and Sharon Davey from Stowmarket the individual nett prize.

The Centenary Foursomes at Newton Green were won by Patricia Havers and Jennie Leech from Newton Green.

The Coronation Foursomes at Halesworth were won by Margaret Scales and June Kenworthy from Rushmere.

The Weston was won by Ipswich, the Weston plate by Felixstowe, and the Weston Bowl by Gorleston.

The Haskell was won by Felixstowe.

The Stearn was won by Aldeburgh.

The Cranworth was won by Felixstowe.

The Jubilee Shield was won by Gorleston.

We had another successful Golf Day at Hintlesham, sponsored by Sabona. The winners came from Diss.

My second, and last year as County Captain, has flown by. My operation back in May meant that others had to take on my duties and I am so grateful to them. In writing this report, using information provided by the Governing Body members responsible, makes me acutely aware of all the hard work done by the competition organisers and all the other members of the GB who help out so willingly.

I must not forget Julie Latimer-Jones for all the coverage and entertaining reports on our website. If you wish for any further information on our activities then do pay a visit to the website.

Special thanks to our secretary, Jeanette Longman, who keeps us all in order. She has effortlessly retained her 'Superwoman' title.

This year we have to say goodbye to Anne Archer (our England Golf Representative), Jan Pattinson (our Divisional Meetings Organiser) and Angela Middleton (our Cranworth Organiser).

Anne, Jan and Angela - please accept our grateful thanks for all you have done for the County. Your efforts have been much appreciated.

Thank you Suffolk for the honour of having me as your Captain. I have learned so much... even about computers. I have also learned how much we rely on volunteers, without whom we could not function.

I will pass the baton to Sarah Sagers...newer, younger and full of ideas to get us all enjoying our golf in the future. I will regress to only receiving emails from Amazon and Comparethemarket.com and deleting them with glee!

Thank you ladies...may your drives be long and putts short.

The President invited questions for Laura. None were raised.

President:

Thank you for your Report Laura and we will be coming back to you later.

Report 4(b) Junior Report – Miss Sarah Howe

Madam President, Lady Captain, Ladies and Juniors.

My first year as Junior Organiser has flown by - I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and support.

The Juniors have worked hard this year in reducing and gaining their CONGU handicaps. It has been a pleasure to watch them all in each event and the girls fought well at Junior County Match Days at Bury St. Edmunds this year - with a great team spirit.

Sadly we are losing 5 very hard working volunteers from the Junior Section, 3 of whom started in 2004....

Kay Hazell, who has taken all the beginners under her wing and fed them through to the 2nd and 1st teams - including me.

Pam Ratford took good care of all the girls that came through the second team giving her support at every match.

And Judy Hamshere, who joined after her Presidency, and whose sense of humour is always on top form and kept the girls smiling. She has been a great support to the girls and headed the organisation of Junior County Match Days last year.

Kay Anderson joined the Junior committee in 2008 and soon became Junior Organiser for 4 years - she was also a great support and help to all girls.

And last, but not least, Sue Cook, who also joined after her Presidency - another great support and help to all the girls throughout the years.

I would like to take this opportunity - on behalf of all the girls past and present - to thank you for all you have done for us.

Together, along with these ladies leaving and the new direction the SGP is taking, we have taken the opportunity to restructure the Junior Section and their training. The County will have 2 training Squads:

Squad B will be aimed towards beginners wanting to find others to play with - maybe wanting to play 9 hole competitions - and to those wishing to be scratch players, playing in teams including the County Junior 2nd team.

To those with aspirations to play County Junior and Ladies 1st Team - we have Squad A, where the girls will train and play alongside the Ladies 1st Team.

I would also like to thank those ladies who will continue their involvement with the Juniors next year and who have been a great support to both myself and the girls – Teresa Wardlaw, Michelle Wilce and Nicola Tindell - and to welcome a new member of the team, Claire Aldous, who I hope will enjoy her time with the Junior section.

I would like to wish all the girls a good golfing year!

There were no questions for Sarah.

President:

I would also like to add my thanks to the two Kays, Anderson and Hazell, Judy Hamshere, Sue Cook and Pam Ratford. They have all done wonderful work with our juniors for many years. I am sure that their work will pay off in the long term and our juniors will go from strength to strength.

Thank you, Sarah, very much for your report and all you have done to encourage and support the girls this year. Being nearer their age than most of us has been really helpful and we look forward to the new training structure working well under your leadership.

Report 4(c) Senior Report – Mrs Jo Moore

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, 3 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.

There were no questions for Jo.

President:

Thank you Jo for the time and effort you have put into arranging all these matches. I know they are enjoyed by all who play in them.

Report 4(d) England Golf Report – Mrs Anne Archer

In August 2014, the England Golf Strategy was implemented, details of which are on the EG Website and this process has been reported on and discussed at Delegate Meetings. Reports on the Meetings are available on the SLCGA Website and I hope you all take the opportunity to familiarise yourselves with current issues. The Regional Competitions have been well attended and from the feedback much enjoyed. Suffolk hosted the Australian Spoons Competition at Haverhill and once again our thanks go to all those involved in making this a very successful event. Entry Forms for the 2015 Regional and County Competitions will be available on the SLCGA Website and Entry Forms for National Competitions are available on the EG Website, which hopefully is more user friendly following recent upgrades.

This is my last report as your England Golf Representative and I would like to thank all those who have contributed to what for me has been a very enjoyable 5 years in the role. Rebecca Evans will succeed me and I wish her every success.

There were no questions for Anne.

President:

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Anne for the hours of work she has done in fulfilling her role as our representative at England Golf in such a professional manner during the past 5 years. She has seen us through the successful merger of EWGA and EGU and then the creation and formulation of England Golf. A job not many of us could have undertaken. She has then chaired the Delegates meetings, where she has had to translate what had happened at Woodhall Spa and tell us so we could all understand it and then feed it back to our clubs. No mean feat!

Thank you Anne for a job very well done.

Report 4(e) Treasurer's Report – Miss Hermione Scrope

I have covered all matters in my notes. The Association has had another satisfactory year returning an excess of income over expenditure.

2014 was the first year that we did not receive any income from the county-run County Card Scheme, but we chose to sell the Cards for £5 each to our members. With effect from 2015 we have decided to follow the SGU and make the County Cards available free of charge to our members.

There were no questions for Hermione.

President:

Thank you, Hermione, for all the work you put in to keep us in financial order. It might appear sometimes that we take this for granted, but we certainly do not. All you do for us is greatly appreciated.

Report 4(f) Suffolk Golf Partnership Report

President:

Alastair Spink is unable to be here this morning, so I would like to say a few words in his stead

The role of the Suffolk Golf Partnership has evolved since its inception and its primary focus is now on the introduction of new golfers and the retention of golf membership. The SGP is, therefore, concentrating on building closer relationships with Golf Clubs and this is being driven by the County Development Officer, Alastair Spink.

The Junior Training for Girls is once again the sole responsibility of the SLCGA.

The SGP comprises an equal partnership between the PGA, the SGU and the SLCGA and we are pleased to confirm that, moving forward, the two representatives from the SLCGA will be Chris Lynch-Bates and the incoming England Golf Representative, Rebecca Evans.

There were no questions..

Report 4(g) Handicap Adviser's Report – Ms Ann Graves

I am not aware yet of any changes due for this year. The results of the England Golf surveys on the handicapping system and slow play have not been announced yet.

I am standing down as Handicap Adviser. I have been doing this job here for 6 years, and 5 years in Sussex before that – so I think it is time for some fresh blood. If elected in the next few minutes, I am pleased to say that Eunice Gray will be taking over from me.

There were no questions for Ann.

The Reports were then proposed for adoption by Margaret Beckett of Southwold Golf Club and seconded by Diana Moore of St Clements Golf Club. They were carried unanimously.

5 ELECTION AND RE-ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY

The Secretary read out the names of those members who are retiring:

Laura Lowe	–	Captain
Anne Archer	–	England Golf Representative
Jan Pattinson	–	Competition Organiser (Divisions)
Angela Middleton	–	Competition Organiser (Cranworth)

Captain:

Jan Pattinson and Angela Middleton are leaving the Governing Body after serving their time! Neither knew what to expect when they were nominated by their clubs, but they soon found that we were not so bad and there was plenty of help around when required.

Jan managed the Divisional Meetings very efficiently and made these events enjoyable for all who played in them. We are so grateful to Jan for all her hard work, especially this year when health issues raised their unwelcome head. The GB will miss you. Have a happy and healthy 2015.

Angela was in charge of the Cranworth and she looked after everyone like an old hand and dealt with the queries that the Cranworth inevitably generates with wisdom and humour. Thank you Angela for all your hard work.

Anne Archer has been our England Golf Representative for as long as I can remember. She has seen in all the changes that came about with the amalgamation of the EWGA and the EGU to form England Golf. This merger has not been straightforward, as you can imagine, with modernists up against the old school. We thank Anne for all the time she has spent travelling up the road to Woodhall Spa and for organising and chairing the Delegates meetings, which are an extremely useful link between England Golf, the County and the Clubs. I believe that Anne will still run the popular Regional Seniors event at Haverhill. Enjoy your retirement and the experience of being a new Grandma.

Chris Lynch-Bates was due to relinquish her post as County Championship Organiser, but we had a problem finding a replacement. So Chris has kindly volunteered to continue - for which we are so grateful, as she has made a great job of organising the Main and Seniors Championships and the Suffolk Golf Day at Hintlesham in the past couple of years. It is great to know that these events will be in safe hands next year. Thank you Chris.

June Stack has been our Minute Secretary for several years and has womanfully put down all our discussions on paper. Due to ill health, she had to resign earlier in the year and we have struggled on without her. She has kindly agreed to take the Minutes of this meeting. Many thanks, June – we all wish you a happy and healthy 2015.

President:

Now is the time for me to express our thanks and appreciation to Laura for all she has done for the County. She has not had an easy time, breaking her ankle when she was Vice Captain and then, as I have already said, having hip surgery in the middle of her second year as Captain and sadly missing most of Counties week. Throughout all this she has made us laugh with her wonderful humour and de-stressed us with her calmness.

Her family's gain will definitely be our loss but, I warn you, Laura, that I will still test you with the odd email.

Please accept this gift, Laura, in appreciation of your contribution to Suffolk Ladies Golf over the past four years.

The Secretary read out the names of those Officers who will remain in office for the coming year.

Ann Graves	–	President
Hermione Scrope	–	Treasurer
Sarah Howe	–	Junior Organiser
Jo Moore	–	Senior Organiser
Cynthia Stewart	–	Match & Venue Organiser
Jeanette Longman	–	Secretary

Competition Organisers:-

Mary Wilderspin	–	Rookery Park	– a further 1 year	
Deb Howlett	–	Hintlesham	– a further 1 year	-
June Kenworthy	–	Rushmere	– a further 2 years	
Chris Lynch Bates	–	Fynn Valley	– a further 2 years	

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

Sarah Sagers	–	County Captain
Vanessa Bell	–	County Vice-Captain
Eunice Gray	–	Handicap Adviser
Rebecca Evans	–	England Golf Representative

The Secretary read out the names of the ladies nominated as Competition Organisers and asked them to stand when their name was called.

Di Spring and Jenny Cardwell	–	Southwold (Division)
Christine Knappett	–	Gorleston (Cranworth)

The nominations were proposed en bloc by Joan Cook of Seckford Park Golf Club and seconded by Ruth Goodship of St Audrys Golf Club. They were carried unanimously.

Captain:

I am delighted to hand over the reins of office to Sarah. Since coming to live in Suffolk from Hertfordshire she has immersed herself in club and County Golf, representing Suffolk in several County weeks and gaining her County colours 2 years ago. She brings experience, new ideas and enthusiasm and I wish her a happy and successful time as County Captain.

Laura then presented Sarah with her Badge of Office.

Sarah:

Thank you Laura. I feel very honoured to have been invited to be Suffolk's Ladies' County Captain. Laura, what a busy 12 months you have had; with your new grandchild, an operation, training your puppy and watching over the County! Now it's time for you to concentrate on your family, getting yourself super fit, cutting your handicap and winning your first field trial with Cumfy! I have really appreciated your positivity and support.

Vanessa, thank you in accepting the position of Vice Captain. For those who do not know Vanessa, here is a little resume as to why we are so fortunate that she is joining us on the Governing Body.

Vanessa was introduced to golf by her parents in Suffolk, at Purdis, and between 1993-1994 her amateur career took off when she won the Abraham Trophy, a national junior competition. She went on to win the club Junior Championship, Ladies Strokeplay and represented the Club as Junior Captain. In 1996 became the County Girls Champion, Norfolk Open Champion and Runner up in the Midlands Ladies' Championship.

Vanessa won a golf scholarship to the University of Montevallo (Alabama) where she qualified with her team to play in the NAIA All American National Finals, placing 7th individually. She also became the Talledega Collegiate Invitational Individual Champion. Transferring to the University of Alabama, she gained a Bachelor of Science degree in Sport and Fitness Management as well as becoming a regular member of the travelling team.

In 2001 Vanessa turned Professional and for the next 5 or so years played on the Futures Tour, Ladies European Tour, Telia Tour and Nedbank Women's Tour. Alongside competing, she ran small clinics and promotional events in the Algarve for her sponsor Oceanico Group.

In November 2011, Vanessa regained her amateur status, making an immediate impact in the County, reaching the County Championship Final, winning the Ladies' Club Championship and joining our County team, which in 2012, at Purdis, we were runners-up to Essex in the East Region. Vanessa has thrown herself back into amateur golf with such enthusiasm and fun, playing mixed golf with her father and other gentlemen, her daughter, Ella, and foursomes with her mother, the two of them taking the trophy this year!

Another string to her bow, and I believe a great asset to the SLCGA, is her career where, since becoming an amateur, Vanessa has worked successfully in Event Management and Marketing. As has already been said, Suffolk in 2017 will be hosting the National County Finals at

Felixstowe Ferry. We will draw on her expertise and skills to not only help organise a successful event but to utilise her golfing experience to take our County 1st Team all the way to the finals and win – no pressure!!

Sarah then presented Vanessa with her Badge of Office

President:

On behalf of us all in the Association I would like to welcome the newly elected members. I hope they will enjoy their time on the Governing Body - we are grateful to them for their willingness to serve on the Association.

For our purposes this morning the present officers will continue to conduct the business of the meeting.

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Laura Lowe (County Captain)

There are a number of Events being held outside Suffolk this year and I would like to make particular mention of the Eastern Region Foursomes at Thetford on 24 April and the Mothers & Daughters Foursomes at the Royal Mid Surrey Golf Club on 18 April – both of which come highly recommended. Further events are also being organised during 2015 by The Midland Vets Ladies Golf Association, who have expressed an interest in recruiting new members, especially from Suffolk. Further details of all of the above will be circulated at the first of this year's Delegates Meeting (Rebecca will be in contact to let your Delegates know the date and venue). Details will also be included on our website.

Jeanette Longman (County Secretary)

The Senior Jubilee Shield Knockout Competition – I can confirm that the age criteria for this Knockout Competition is for ladies over 60 years of age on 1 January 2015 (not 2014 as stated in the Rules sent out to the relevant Clubs last October).

President:

I would like to confirm that the Raffle this year has raised £405. Thank you to you all.

Finally before the Presentation, we would like to ask Sue to do the Draw for the 100 Club. Before she does that, I would like to thank her sincerely, on behalf of us all, for all the work she has done to run the 100 Club since its inception and to make it so successful. Thank you Sue.

And Anne – your very last duty as Chairman of the Delegates Meetings, please would you draw the numbers.

Sue Cook:

This is the 5th year that the 100 Club Draw has been run. In 2015, the number of participants has totalled 423 and raised £2,090 – 50% will go towards Prizes and 45% to the County. The

money raised by the 100 Club has been used for specifically defined purposes, such as the County Officials attending a First Aid Course to ensure first aid cover at our County events, County Training and, for this year, will be used to replace the SLCGA Computer.

Thank you to all the Delegates.

The 100 Club Draw was then run and the winners announced. The names of the winners are available to view on the SLCGA website.

PRESENTATIONS:

President:

Joy Winn Salver:

This is the first presentation of this Salver. There is a fascinating history of it on our website. Joy was County Captain in 1926. In 1985 she presented this Salver for something completely different – but I am sure she would be delighted that it is now awarded to the player with the lowest scratch scores over the year.

I am delighted to present it to Sharon Luckman from Ipswich Golf Club.

Weston Trophy, Plate and Bowl:

Can I invite the winning Clubs in each Division onto the stage to collect their trophies:

Weston Bowl (Division 3) – Gorleston Golf Club

Weston Plate (Division 2) – Felixstowe Golf Club

Weston Trophy (Division 1) – Ipswich Golf Club

Medal Winners

Silver Medal was won by Emily Penfold of Newton Green Golf Club with a nett differential of -7, who was not present to receive her Medal

Bronze Medal was won by Vonnie Thornton of Gorleston Golf Club with a nett differential of -10, who was not present to receive her Medal.

The President then invited the Captain to present the Nigel Birrell Trophy

Captain:

This trophy is awarded by the Captain to the person she feels has served the County well during the year. During 2014 there have been many excellent golfing feats by Sharon, Vanessa and Abbie - but I would like to award the Nigel Birrell trophy to someone who gave up their chance to play on the team at County Week to take up the task of managing the team while I was convalescing. Sarah Sagers - please accept this award for all your hard work, above and beyond, as my Vice Captain this year.

The Captain presented the Nigel Birrell Trophy to Sarah.

The President then invited the Captain to present the County Colours:

Captain:

Last year no colours were awarded but this year I have the privilege of awarding them to 2 players.

Firstly to Blaize Esmond who returned to the team this year and gained the win that entitled her to County Colours. Blaize is now working as a professional at Bramford Golf Centre.

Secondly to Vanessa Bell who, at Gog Magog, won all 5 of her matches in County Week. A wonderful record, your County is grateful .

President:

Eva Harris Shield

This Shield is awarded for achievements in junior golf. The recipient has cut her handicap from 22 to 15. She moved from second girls team to first girls team and won two of her matches at Junior County match days – one of which was against the overall winners, Hertfordshire. She also won the nett prize at the Junior County Championship. It gives me great pleasure to present the Eva Harris Shield to Molly Newson from Thorpeness Golf Club.

President presented the Eva Harris Shield to Molly.

Junior Improver of the Year

A trophy presented by Macy Hussy's grandmother for the higher handicappers. This has been won by Jessica Buck from Rookery Park and Southwold Golf Clubs. Jessica not only attained her handicap last year but has cut it to 26.

As Jessica was not present, the President presented the Junior Improver of the Year Trophy to the Ladies Captain of Southwold Golf Club, who collected it on her behalf.

President:

Before I present the jumper to the new Junior Captain, I thought you would be interested to know that last year's Captain, Melissa Schroeder, got a hole in one at the recent Jamboree with her very last shot as a Junior!

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the **Junior Captain for 2015** is Eloise Aldous from Newton Green Golf Club.

President presented the Junior Captain's Jumper to Eloise

And the **Second Team Captain** is Charlotte Gregory from Ipswich Golf Club.

President presented the Second Team Captain's Jumper to Charlotte.

The Junior Colours for the 1st Team are awarded to:

Alice Irons from Haverhill, Charlie Woodage from Bramford and Molly Newson from Thorpeness

President:

May I remind Club Captains or their representatives to collect their Handbooks and the County Cards (please could the County Cards be given to your Club Secretaries for distribution). With regards to the Handbook, there is some information missing on the Centenary Foursomes Entry Form (Page 27). Fortunately, this information is the same for both the Centenary and Coronation Foursomes and is not missing on the Coronation Foursomes Entry Form. The Entry Form itself will be available to download on the website at the end of April.

Finally, please can I remind you to check your tickets for the main Draw.

Thank you for attending the meeting today and please drive home safely.

I now declare the meeting closed at 11.27.

Julie Latimer-Jones requested that any photographs of winners taken today could be sent to her for inclusion on the SLCGA website.

Tricia Laws of Rushmere proposed a vote of thanks, on behalf of Suffolk Clubs, to all the officials and Committee members of the SLCGA and expressed appreciation for all their hard work during the past year. She also wished to reiterate Ann's words and wish a happy "retirement" to those GB members standing down this year. She hoped that 2015 would be a successful year and wished everyone a Happy Golfing Year.

President

Date

Report 4(a) – County Captain's Report (Mrs Laura Lowe)

County Captain's Report 2014

As in previous years, the first few months were taken up with practice matches and training sessions for the 1st Team and promising juniors.

Alastair Spink took on the 1st team coaching in 2014 and we thank him for his enthusiasm and support for the girls, coming to the practice matches, to Gog Magog for our practice round and to County Week itself. His sessions helped the girls with areas of their game that needed attention, course management and team spirit.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

In May, we held our County Championship at Rookery Park Golf Club. The strokeplay was won by Sharon Luckman of Ipswich Golf Club and the runner up was Lils James of Rookery Park Golf Club.

The matchplay over the following two days resulted in a win for Vanessa Bell of Ipswich Golf Club over Lils James.

The Seniors' Championship was held alongside the main event. The strokeplay was won by Lotti Edmonds of Aldeburgh Golf Club with Pippa Beak of Flempton the runner up. In the matchplay, Helen Bray of Ipswich Golf Club beat Lotti Edmonds in the final.

My congratulations to all the winners for battling through on one of the wettest weekends of the year.

Many thanks to the Championship Organiser Chris Lynch-Bates and to the members and staff of Rookery Park Golf Club.

COUNTY WEEK

This event was hosted this year by Cambs&Hunts at the Wendleberry course at Gog Magog Golf Club.

Unfortunately the NHS stepped in and I was unable to play my part following an operation. Sarah Sagers, my Vice captain, and Ann Graves, our President, were plunged in the deep end organising everything at the Gogs. My sincere thanks to them both.

The results were as follows:-

Day 1 we played Hertfordshire, one of the strongest teams. They won by 6 to 3 but we put up a good fight; we won the foursomes and many of the matches were very close.

Day 2 we played Bedfordshire and won by 5.5 to 3.5. We halved the foursomes and had several good wins in the singles.

Day 3 we played the hosts Cambs & Hunts and won by 6 to 3. Again we won the foursomes and had good wins in the singles.

Day 4 we played Norfolk and lost by 5 to 4. We won the foursomes and lost a couple of very close matches in the afternoon.

Day 5 we played the strong Essex team and lost by 1.5 to 7.5.

Hertfordshire won overall and went on to represent the region at the County Finals.

DIVISION MEETINGS

Division 4 was held at Gorleston Golf Club on a gorgeous sunny day. The course and hospitality were all superb. The Lady Captain, Marion Anderson, and her team of helpers, ran the event very smoothly.

Winner of the Olive Carruthers Cup, for the best Stableford score, was Susan Jackson from Stowmarket Golf Club with 40 points.

Winners of the Division Shield were Fynn Valley with 104 points.

Division 3 was held at Stowmarket Golf Club. The ladies, indefatigably led by their Vice-captain, Annie Tyler, were very welcoming and extremely efficient, especially when emergency arrangements had to be made on the day, when the plumbing failed completely! The competitors have to be congratulated on their tolerance and stoicism in the face of such adversity. The course was in excellent condition and the weather was cloudy, warm and still.

Winner of the Silver Quaiche for the best Stableford score was Rosemary Stratton from Bury St Edmunds Golf Club with 36 points.

Winners of the Belstead Shield were Bury St Edmunds Golf Club with 100 points.

Division 2 and Division 1

Diss was supposed to host Division 2, unfortunately the number of entries was very low so it was decided to run it with the Division 1 as their numbers were also low. Our thanks must go to Felixstowe who very kindly agreed to this change of plan and accommodated us all so readily.

Twelve players went off the 13th tee in Division 2 in warm and sunny conditions. It was windy but, no doubt, the locals considered it no more than a gentle breeze!

Winner of the Sybil Green Cup for the best Scratch score was Linda Miller from Woodbridge Golf Club with a gross 91.

1st nett was Carol Brown from Cretingham Golf Club with nett 72

Winners of the Division 2 shield were Cretingham

Thirty-one competitors went off the 1st tee in Division 1.

Winner of the Sybil Green Trophy for the best Scratch score was Tanya McGregor from Bungay Golf Club with a gross 77.

1st nett was Sharon Davey from Stowmarket Golf Club with nett 74

Winners of the Division 1 Challenge Shield were Ipswich Golf Club.

The Lady Captain, Ann Spencer, was most helpful and efficient in running the day

Many thanks to the organiser, Jan Pattinson, ably assisted by Jeanette Longman and Cynthia Stewart and to the Lady Captains, committee members and staff of the host clubs who all help to make these Divisional Meetings so successful.

CENTENARY FOURSOMES

This event took place at Newton Green Golf Club and 48 players took part. The scores were very close with 2 points covering the first five prizes.

The winners were Patricia Havers and Jennie Leech of Newton Green.

CORONATION FOURSOMES

This was held at Halesworth Golf Club in gale force winds. Margaret Scales and June Kenworthy of Rushmere Golf Club were the winners.

Thank you to both clubs for hosting these events, to Lady Captains, Sue Thurgate and Eileen Whiting and Debbie Howlett, the organiser for looking after us so well.

KNOCKOUT COMPETITIONS

HASKELL

The final of the Haskell was played at Ufford Park Golf Club between Aldeburgh and Felixstowe Ferry. The 36 hole match was closely fought with Felixstowe Ferry, represented by the sisters, Joanne Woodward and Amanda Norman beating the Aldeburgh team of Lotti Edmunds and Blaize Edmunds on the 34th hole.

STEARNS

The Final was held at Newton Green Golf Club on a wet, windy day between Ipswich Golf Club and Aldeburgh Golf Club.

Aldeburgh were the victors and were delighted as they were pipped at the post in the Haskell, Weston and Cranworth.

Thank you to all the host clubs in this competition and to Mary Wilderspin, the Haskell and Stearns organiser.

WESTON

The Weston has been highly competitive with some very close results. There has been much discussion this year regarding playing in handicap order. The information obtained from clubs was that we should revert to playing in handicap order in 2015.

Results

Division 1 Winners of the Weston Trophy were Ipswich Golf Club with Aldeburgh the runners up

Division 2 Winners of the Weston Plate were Felixstowe Golf Club with Woodbridge the runners up.

Division 3 Winners of the Weston Bowl were Gorleston Golf Club with runners up Rookery Park

SUFFOLK SENIORS JUBILEE SHIELD

This competition began in April with nineteen clubs taking part. Hambro scoring resulted in all matches being closely contested. The first match was the most exciting between Ipswich and Aldeburgh lasting 7 hours and 25 minutes with Ipswich winning on the 7th extra hole!

The Semi-Finals saw Bury St Edmunds away to Rookery Park and Gorleston away to Fynn Valley. Rookery Park won at home by 9 holes while Gorleston won by just one hole at Fynn Valley.

Next year the semi-finals will be played on neutral courses.

The Final between Rookery Park and Gorleston was played at Thorpeness Golf Club. Gorleston won a close match by 2 holes.

Thank you to June Kenworthy for organising the Weston and Seniors Jubilee Shield so efficiently.

CRANWORTH

Aldeburgh Golf Club and Felixstowe Golf Club contested the Cranworth Final at Fynn Valley Golf Club. It was a gloriously sunny day which matched the atmosphere which pervaded throughout, right until the end of the delicious evening celebratory meal.

The winners were Felixstowe 6-3.

Thanks to Chris and Karen for all their help both before and on the day. Also to all her friendly ladies with their warning flags and ball spotting, much appreciated by players and spectators alike.

Thank you to all the host clubs and to Angela Middleton for all her hard work as organiser of this competition.

SUFFOLK GOLF DAY

Once again we were able to hold this competition at Hintlesham Golf Club. It was so popular that we had to close the entry list early. A team from Diss Golf Club won the first prize with ladies from Newton Green the runners up. Grateful thanks to Detmar Hackman of Sabona for donating prizes and coming along to present them. Also special thanks to Chris Lynch-Bates for her organisation.

My second, and last year, as County Captain, has flown by. My operation back in May meant that others had to take on my duties and I am so grateful to them. In writing this report using information provided by the Governing Body members responsible makes me acutely aware of all the hard work done by the Competition Organisers and all the other members of the GB who help out so willingly. Our secretary, Jeanette, still wears her superwoman outfit and our President, Ann, has been a tower of strength. Sarah Sagers had to fill in for me at County Week which meant that not only did she have extra work to do, but she made herself unavailable to play.

We say goodbye to Anne Archer, our England Golf Representative, who has worn out the road to Woodhall Spa on our behalf and overseen the merger of EWGA and the EGU into England Golf.

Jan Pattinson has served her allotted time as Divisional Meetings Organiser. She has been a pleasure to work with and has run the divisional meetings so efficiently.

Angela Middleton has also finished her stint as Cranworth Organiser, again everything under her charge has run smoothly.

Anne, Jan and Angela - please accept our grateful thanks for all you have done for the County. Your efforts have been much appreciated.

I must not forget Julie Latimer-Jones for all the coverage and entertaining reports on our website. If you wish for any information about the SLCGA then pay the website a visit.

Thank you Suffolk for having me as your Captain, it was a great honour and I have learnt so much...even about computers. However I have learnt how much work goes into running the County and how we depend on volunteers, without whom we could not function.

I will pass the baton to Sarah Sagers ... newer, younger and full of ideas to get us all enjoying our golf in the future. I will regress to only receiving emails from Amazon and Comparethemarket.com and deleting them with glee!

Thank you ladies ... may your drives be long and putts short.

Laura Lowe
November 2014

Report 4(b) – Junior Organiser's Report (Miss Sarah Howe)

Junior Organiser's Report 2014

I began my first year as County Junior Organiser in March with a lot of excited young girls ready for training in the Beginners/Improvers groups - with Christine Langford, held at Ufford Park Golf Club and Andrew Collison at Bungay and Waveney Golf Club.

Alastair Spink took on the 1st team Girls which included on course sessions at Bury in preparation for Junior County Week. The 14-18 academy training went on through the winter. In total between 30-40 girls have been involved across all these programmes.

Suffolk gained the bid for the Junior Talent Pathway. Part went to getting boys and girls into golf at Stonham Barns, progressing them on to SLCGA & SGU county junior training. We gained a couple of girls from this. Some of the money was spent on preparing the 1st Team Girls for Junior County Week which was held, very successfully, by Bury St Edmunds Golf Club in Suffolk.

Abbie Symonds, Alice Barlow and Eloise Aldous attended SLCGA training this year and represented Suffolk in both the Junior 1st Team and the County 1st Team.

Competitions started in April with the High Handicap Texas Scramble at Orwell Park School.

The Girls Championship was held at the end of May at Woodbridge Golf Club. The Moss Blundell Trophy was won by Eloise Aldous and the Handicap Prize went to Molly Newson. Abbie Symonds won the Match Play Championship.

The high handicap girls had their Championship at St. Audry's, with Jessica Buck from Southworld as the winner.

The Lady/Junior competition took place in October at Rushmere golf club which was won by daughter & mother team Abbie Symonds and Michelle Wilce with 36 points.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the Autumn meeting this year due to lack of interest.

Abbie Symonds, Alice Barlow and Eloise Aldous played in the English Girls Championship.

The 1st Team girls played practice matches in preparation for Junior County Match Week (JCMW), against Weston teams and the senior ladies team. Bury St Edmunds very kindly let the girls have a practice round before JCMW.

This year at JCMW the Suffolk team gained 3 new members - Alice Irons, Charlie Woodage and Molly Newson, so this was a great experience for them. Suffolk had one half against Hertfordshire and unfortunately lost against the other Counties. It was noted that Suffolk had the best team spirit. Next year JCMW is in Bedfordshire at John O'gaunt.

The young second team played 4 matches, halving against the Haverhill boys and Norfolk, but unfortunately losing to Cambs and Hunts and Bedfordshire.

At the SLCGA Ladies Championship, Eloise Aldous, Abbie Symonds, Sarah Barker and Alice Barlow all played and got through to the matchplay. Abbie, Alice and Eloise all played at SLCGA county match week.

Ann Graves (President), Laura Lowe (Captain) and Sarah Saggars (Vice Captain) all attended committee meetings, events and their support has been greatly appreciated. Sadly we are losing five of our Junior Committee ladies - Kay Anderson, Kay Hazell, Pam Ratford, Judy Hamshire and Sue Cook, all who have served a number of years on the committee. They all brought a great amount of support and encouragement to all the girls throughout the years. We hope they have a well earned rest.

Claire Aldous will be joining the Junior Section along with the support of Vanessa Bell.

We send our best wishes to Abbie Symonds, Mel Schroeder and Sarah Barker, who will be leaving us at the end of the year. Eloise Aldous will be 2015's Junior Captain and Charlotte Gregory will be Second Team Captain - we wish them an enjoyable year.

We are very grateful for the support we received from the SLCGA, SVLGA, SGP, our donors and all the clubs that have allowed us to hold events on their courses. Also for the support from the three coaches this year.

It has been an enjoyable first year, which went quickly. I would like to thank everyone for helping and supporting me in my first year.

Sarah Howe
County Junior Organiser
November 2014

Report 4(c) - Senior Organiser's Report (Mrs Jo Moore)

Senior Organiser's Report 2014

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, 3 loses and 2 halves.
- All matches have been keenly fought, but in a very sporting manner
- A new fixture verse 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.

Jo Moore
County Senior Organiser
November 2014

Report 4(d) – England Golf Report (Mrs Anne Archer)

England Golf Report 2014

This year has seen much activity at England Golf, with the launch in August 2014 of a Strategic Plan to take us forward for the next 4 years. Following the launch, Senior EG Personnel visited the Regions to explain the rationale behind the plan and to receive feedback. There is a change of emphasis in the way the national body works with the County Golf partnerships, with the primary focus now on introducing players to golf, as opposed to coaching Juniors. The Board have at all times taken steps to ensure the County Representatives are well informed and are thus able to disseminate this information to all golfers. I hope you have all taken the opportunity to access both the county and national websites and are thus gaining some insight on the goals of England Golf and perhaps more importantly how your money is being spent.

Porteous Consulting have recently been employed to review EG's Governance and Working Practices. This will be a 15-month project and may well involve Regional and/or County Meetings. Porteous have already undertaken this type of work for the LTA and other sporting bodies.

At County level, there are discussions with the SGU, one of the results of which is that County Cards will now be available from your Club Secretary/Manager – the same as for the men. Despite these discussions, full integration at all levels still appears to be some way off.

Regionally, competitions have been well supported, with this year Suffolk hosting the Australian Spoons at Haverhill, where home available (is Diss “at home” at Haverhill ?!) paid dividends as the Diss pair went forward to the National Final. Hopefully, this success will inspire many to follow in their footsteps. All results are on the county website and 2015 sees the County host the Ladies Championship at Hintlesham, on Monday 7th September.

The Seniors Regional Championship has apparently found a natural home at Haverhill, to whom we are very grateful for all their help and support. The 2015 Championship will be held on Monday 13th July.

As this is my final report as the England Golf Representative, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those ladies who have given up their time to act as Club Delegates. Without them, Suffolk Ladies Golf would not be in the healthy state it is today. I wish my proposed successor, Rebecca Evans every success in the role, hope she enjoys the challenge and makes as many friends as I have.

Anne Archer
November 2014

Report 4(e) – Treasurer's Report (Miss Hermione Scrope)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Association has had another satisfactory year returning an excess of income over expenditure of £991.

Our main source of income is from subscriptions from our members and unfortunately for 2014 our membership decreased by 144 members to 1,869 which has meant a decrease in revenue from this source. 2014 was the first year that we did not receive any income from the county run County Card Scheme as the SGU decided to issue the cards free to all their members. We sold the cards to our members for £5 and this generated income of £380. For 2015 we have decided to follow the SGU and make the card available free to those members who would like one.

The Golf Day continues to be a valuable source of income for us as well as being a good day out and this year contributed £1,018. The money raised by the 100 Club has been used for specifically defined purposes and the 2013 money was used to pay for the County Officials to attend a First Aid Course run by the Red Cross, this will ensure that there will be first aid cover at our County events. The balance was used for training. The 2014 funds are being earmarked to be used to replace the Association's computer. The individual County competitions and the Inter-Club competitions continue to be self-funding and make a small contribution to our overall income.

The main expenditure with regard to the County's teams is the cost of County week which this year totalled £4,980. The Ladies also made a contribution of £2,500 to the Juniors.



Hermione Scrope

Hermione C. Scrope FCA, CTA

Treasurer

1st December 2014

Report 4(f) – Suffolk Golf Partnership (Mr Alastair Spink)

Suffolk Golf Partnership Report 2014

The Suffolk Golf Partnership continues to work with all clubs in the County to “grow the game” and support clubs in line with England Golf’s Strategic Plan (2014-2017).

Adult Participation

Our Get into Golf centres (Bramford Golf Centre, Stonham Barns Golf Centre, West Suffolk Golf Centre, Ufford Park GC, Woodbridge GC, Rookery Park GC, Fynn Valley GC, Newton Green GC, Southwold GC and Bury St Edmonds GC) offer an opportunity for new golfers to learn in a relaxed and enjoyable environment and provide follow-on opportunities that we hope will ultimately lead to membership. Although clearly a long term strategy we have been pleased with the retention levels during 2014 and will look forward to developing this initiative further in 2015. Each centre offers an initial 4 weeks of coaching and endeavours to retain at least 60% of students to continue for a further 6 weeks. After this time it is hoped that clubs will have an offer, such as a trial membership and/or reduced green fees to further retain these new golfers and hopefully lead them into full membership.

The Suffolk Golf Partnership supports the centres at all stages of this process. Currently participation numbers are below our intended targets but we are working closely with Suffolk Sport (our County Sports Partnership) to introduce an “indoor offer”.

Commencing in January 2015, this initiative links Get into Golf centres with their nearest Leisure Club allowing clubs and coaches to continue their work at an indoor facility through the Winter period.

Junior Participation

Our work in partnership with the Golf Foundation continues to strengthen the links between schools and their local golf clubs. Suffolk currently has 8 Golf Roots Centres (Bramford Golf Centre, Rookery Park GC, Stonham Barns Golf Centre, Ipswich GC, Rushmere GC, West Suffolk Golf Centre, Bury St Edmunds GC and Newton Green GC). Three of these centres (Bramford, Rookery Park & Newton Green) now operate as “Satellite clubs” within their local schools allowing for extra coaching/participation and a strong link back to their golf club.

Further Education

We have also linked most higher and/or further education institutions with clubs resulting in older students also having the opportunity to experience golf at their local golf club. University Campus Suffolk, Otley College, West Suffolk College, Suffolk New College are all currently running projects and have successfully linked with their nearest Get into Golf centre.

Disability Participation

We have seen some positive results working alongside students with disabilities. Many thanks to Rushmere Golf Club for hosting the Discovery Club Celebration Day allowing 40 young people to experience a day of golf activity designed and supported by 12 young volunteers. We have also worked in partnership with Elatus Sports to run several extremely successful adult projects resulting in us exceeding our 12 month target within the first 6 months.

Conclusion

As we are all aware, golf continues to face serious challenges; the number of golf club members has been declining since 2004 and overall participation (the nomad golfer) has also steadily declined since 2007. Hopefully however, this report together with the provided examples illustrates that there is a robust framework in Suffolk to help meet these challenges.

Looking forwards, the Suffolk Golf Partnership will continue to develop and expand this framework working even closer with clubs to support them through the process of retaining and ultimately increasing their membership.

Alastair Spink
County Development Officer – SGP
November 2014