

SUFFOLK LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held on Monday 18th January 2016 10.00am at Waldringfield Golf Club

PRESENT:

Miss Hermione Scrope	President/Treasurer
Sarah Siggers	Captain
Mrs Diane Cunningham	Secretary
Mrs Rebecca Evans	England Golf Representative
Mrs Eunice Gray	Handicap Advisor
Ms Chris Lynch-Bates	Championship Organiser
Mrs Cynthia Stewart	Match & Venue Organiser
Mrs June Kenworthy	Weston & Senior Jubilee Shield Organiser
Mrs Christine Knappett	Cranworth Organiser
Mrs Dianne Clarke	Foursomes Organiser
Mrs Tessa Summers	Senior Organiser
Mrs Debbie Anthistle	Haskell & Stearn Organiser

1. **Apologies**

Sarah Howe and Vanessa Bell.

2. **Welcome new members**

The President welcomed and introduced new members to the Governing Body.

3. **Election of Chairman**

It was agreed that Sarah, Captain would be chairman. Sarah reminded everyone that unminuted discussions should remain confidential,

4. **Minutes of GB Meeting 16 November 2015**

The minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.

5. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

6. **Minutes of AGM 16 January 2016 – Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

7. **Correspondence**

- a) Permission to use a buggy was granted to Ann Amos, Gorleston for one year.
- b) PUMA release notes for 2016 have been received and installed.
- c) Letter received from the R&A re Blaize Esmond's reinstatement to amateur status after November 2016. Sarah to clarify whether Blaize will be able to play for the County Team before November 2016.

ACTION: SARAH S

- d) Email received from Ann Graves to thank everyone for her gift.

- e) Sarah S has responded to the email she received concerning Clubs keeping tee's open after County Competitions. Chris Lynch-Bates said that she was looking at trialling of a flag system for Division 3 in order to keep the field moving.

8. **England Golf Representatives Report – Rebecca Evans – Appendix 1**

The England Golf Directory 2016 has been updated.

Rebecca reported she has some additional information to add to her report.

- a) Ladies Golf Union merger with R&A. Further meeting to be held.
- b) County Development Officer Contracts. If Sport England do not keep their commitment to CDO's, England Golf will underwrite this for 6 months.
- c) Communication from England Golf. Vacancy for three Lady Directors, inviting lady members to apply for these jobs. Rebecca has the paperwork should anyone be interested.
- d) England Women's Golf Trust have organised a pairs stableford competition, finals to be played at Kings Norton Golf Club. Details will be added to the SLCGA website and sent out to Club Captain's. Rebecca will also send to the delegates.

ACTION: REBECCA/DI

9. **Course Rating Report**

Report received from Sue Cook. Training has been taking place. It is hoped to rate 5 or 6, 9 hole courses during 2016. Courses identified to be rated initially are Bury St Edmunds, Felixstowe –Kingsfleet, Southwold and Halesworth Valley.

10. **Handicap Adviser's Report – Eunice Gray- Appendix 2**

The regional workshop for handicap secretaries being held on 9th February 2016 at Gog Magog, which is over subscribed. Eunice is planning to write to ladies handicap secretaries within the county to arrange a workshop, the invitation is also extended to their male counterparts, if they would like to attend. CONGU handicap manuals will be issued within in the next 2-3 weeks.

ACTION: EUNICE

11. **Competition Organisers' Reports**

A meeting chaired by Cynthia will follow this GB Meeting to discuss the Organisation of all the Competitions for the coming year.

- a) Championships (Main and Senior) – Chris Lynch-Bates
Championships closing date is the last day of March. Closing dates have been updated for divisional meetings, the championship dates will be looked at again for 2017 before the

blue book is published. Sarah, Chris and Rebecca to meet to finalise the new format details for the championship. Sarah will discuss with Julie Latimer-Jones. Once agreed these will be published on website and Chris will send it out to Lady Captains.

ACTION: SARAH S/CHRIS L-B/REBECCA

b) **Haskell & Stearn** – Lynne Wright/Debbie Anthistle
Nothing to report

c) **Weston & Senior Jubilee Shield** – June Kenworthy
It was agreed that Rebecca will input all the fixture dates and results onto the calendar/website. Any reports/results from competitions to be sent to Julie Latimer-Jones.

June is happy to continue to organise the Senior Jubilee Shield for this year. A note has been made regarding the start time for the final to ensure it starts earlier.

d) **Cranworth** – Christine Knappett
There has been some confusion about the new rules for 8 players in a squad. It was reiterated that this does not come into effect until the 2017 competition. Rebecca will remind the delegates regarding this.

ACTION: REBECCA

Chris Knappett has arranged for a plinth and band to be made for the Cranworth trophy. It will be collected when it is finished.

Chris also requested that some thought should be given to how the draw will be completed in 2017.

e) **Divisions** – Di Spring/Jen Cardwell
Nothing to report.

f) **Coronation and Centenary Foursomes** – Dianne Clarke
Nothing to report.

12. **Team Reports**

a) **1st Team – Sarah Sagers 1st Team Squad– APPENDIX 3**

Players agreements have been received, and vouchers have been issued to the 1st team.

Proposed new 1st team kit shown to GB. Competition organisers/GB members can purchase a shirt to wear at events where they are officiating if they would like to. The Senior Team

buy their own shirts. Discussion regarding possibility of placing an order for the Senior Team along with the 1st team order.

b) Seniors Report – Tessa Summers

Nothing to report. Tessa has started to contact clubs to see who is eligible to play.

c) **Junior Organisers Report – Sarah Howe**

Discussion held about whether to purchase a Captain's pin for the Junior 1st and 2nd Team Captains (instead of a jumper), which would move on each year as happens with the President's and County Captains. It was agreed that the County would continue to purchase a jumper each year for the Junior 1st and 2nd team Captains. Sarah Sagers, Sarah Howe and Vanessa Bell to action this.

ACTION: SARAH S/ SARAH H / VANESSA

Squad B is to be renamed Suffolk Girl's Squad.

Chris Lynch-Bates asked if the Jamboree was being rescheduled. Sarah H not in attendance today. Sarah to clarify if the Jamboree is being rescheduled.

ACTION: SARAH H

13. **Treasurers Report – Hermione Scrope**

Budget for 2016

All GB have received copy of latest budget. Hermione said that according to reports received from various clubs overall membership has increased. Seven clubs have sent in their fees so far which is 46% of what is expected. Following the report to the AGM by Sue Cook it looks like the income from the 100 club will be up slightly more than £1,000.

Hermione followed up the insurance brokers recommended by England Golf, which has resulted in a considerable saving. Hermione asked Sarah to confirm estimated budget amounts for 1st team training and also the amount needed for uniforms.

ACTION SARAH S /VANESSA

Hermione asked Tessa to remind the Senior Team that if they wish to they can claim for mileage.

ACTION: TESSA

Juniors – training vouchers paid out £150 so far.

14. **Suffolk Golf Partnership Report – Rebecca Evans**

A meeting with Steven Peet, Regional Manager for England Golf is being held on 9th February, time and venue to be confirmed Rebecca and Chris will report the outcome to the next GB meeting.

ACTION REBECCA/CHRIS L-B

15. **Safeguarding & Child Protection Responsibilities Annual Review – Sarah Howe**

Sarah is not at the meeting today. DBS checks in hand. Sarah Sagers reminded everyone of the need to recruit a welfare officer for the ladies, as recommended by England Golf. Chris L-B to email Rebecca a brief overview of the role. Rebecca will raise this at the next Delegates meeting.

ACTION: REBECCA/CHRIS L-B

Hermione needs to attend a safeguarding course before county week. Sarah H to look into arranging this.

ACTION: SARAH H

16. **Website**

All updates have now been completed by EBE. Jeanette has handed over responsibility for the website to Rebecca. Rebecca, Julie Latimer-Jones and Sarah S to meet to discuss suggestions/ideas to update website. Rebecca reminded everyone that if they have any ideas/news items to let her know and she will upload it onto the website. After the county championship all of the results will be added to website immediately. Rebecca also asked if anyone see's out of date/incorrect information on the website to email her and she will look into it.

ACTION: SARAH S/REBECCA

17. **First Aid Training**

Booked for Monday 21st March 2016 at Waldringfield. The training is open to all on the GB particularly the competition organisers. Cynthia needs to confirm numbers at the beginning of February. Cynthia will contact all attendees to confirm the time once she has been notified.

ACTION: CYNTHIA

18. Any Other Business

a) Vanessa setting up a mixed competition. Details to be confirmed.

ACTION: VANESSA

b) It was suggested by the professionals at the meeting they had with Sarah S, Sarah H and Vanessa that Passports for Golf are handed out to the players who attend Suffolk training so that they have somewhere to make notes. It was agreed that Di would contact Southwold Press to ask for a quote for a booklet with the same cover as the handbook, with the wording 'Coaching Passport', lined sheets of paper inside. Di will check what minimum order is required.

ACTION: DI

c) Chris Lynch-Bates asked if a new trophy for the handicap plate competition had been sourced. Sarah S has a box of trophies, she will check to see if there is anything suitable. If not Chris L-B has offered to fund a trophy for this competition.

ACTION SARAH S/CHRIS L-B

d) Cynthia said that some of the competition organisers have asked if it necessary to attend GB meetings. Sarah S said that consideration was being given to reducing the numbers on the GB. It was agreed that Competition Organisers should attend the first meeting in January and the November meeting but are welcome to attend at other times if they wish to. Hermione suggested that competition organisers should attend after their competitions have finished to report back to GB how these competitions went eg Dianne Clark to attend the July GB meeting after completion of the two foursomes competitions. It was agreed that Di will send an email to all GB to confirm the dates of the 2016 meetings.

e) Di has received an email regarding an incorrect email address on the Club Officials List. Di will forward the email to the GB for info.

ACTION: DI

f) Cynthia informed everyone she is starting to place bookings for 2017 this week. Cynthia will try to reschedule 1st team match for May.

ACTION: CYNTHIA

Date of Next meeting:

Monday 18 April, 3pm at Fynn Valley

Chairman

Date

APPENDIX 1-
England Golf Representatives Report for GB Meeting January 2016

Firstly I would like to thank you all for your support during 2015 my first year, I'd also like to welcome Di to the GB and wish her every success in her position. And to wish Hermione every success in her new position!

December saw me travel to Woodhall Spa to cast our final vote on the England Golf Governance & Affiliation review. The review was conducted by England Golf over an 18-month period and during that time we saw a number of various proposals, happily some were not progressed but I am pleased to advise that the more sensible proposals were voted in by the voting members. To recap I have listed below the proposals and if they were passed or not;

1. *Include short courses with amended club membership category and introduce new categories of facility membership for Pitch & Putt courses and Driving Ranges; **Passed 96.5%***
2. *Affiliation fees to be collected from clubs in real time 60days after the start of their subscription year or on another mutually agreed date; **Passed 85.5%***
3. *To change to composition of the board of EG to include 6 elected directors (3 male & 3 female), 3 appointed directors (at least 1 male and 1 female), an appointed chair and 2 executive directors – the CEO & FD. **Voted Yes, this was not passed.***
4. *The chair of EG to be appointed following open recruitment. **Passed 84.8%***
5. *A nominations committee of the board to be established; **Passed 87%***
6. *Current committee's to be replaced with advisory groups, where necessary; **Passed 76.2%***
7. *The board of EG to be given the full power to set EG affiliation fee's; **Failed.***
Unsurprisingly this was not very supported.
8. *General meetings reduced from 3 to 2 per year with a Regional consultation meeting held in a minimum of 8 geographically spread locations at least once a year; **Failed***
9. *Other minor changes to the rules or articles; **As not all proposals were passed this was not required.***

England Golf have spent a huge amount of time ensuring that they get the balance right for both the Counties and the Governing Body, and whilst It has been educational and enjoyable to be part of this process, it would be fair to say that most will be pleased to have this review completed.

It was announced on the 8th January that Nick Pink will take over as CEO of England Golf on the 14th March 2016 taking over from David Joy who left the organisation on the 31st December 2015. At the last general meeting David was thanked for all of his contributions by the board, David was a popular CEO and will be missed by many. Nick joins from the International Cricket Council and is a single figure handicapper with a young family.

The delegates meeting for 2016 have been arranged for the following dates and venues;

4th March at Bury St Edmunds

27th May at Bury St Edmunds

19th August at Southwold followed by 9 holes of golf & cream tea

28th October at Bury St Edmunds

APPENDIX 2

The changes to the CONGU Handicapping System have been the main topic to manage this year. These come into effect in January 2016 and I attended a workshop for County Handicap Advisors on Thursday this week which updated us on the final details. The main changes will effect the following areas:

*The golfing calendar year, which will now run from 1st January through to 31st December.
Practical Implications: timing of the annual review, longer period to return qualifying scores

*4BBB allowance changes from 3/4 h/c to 90%

*CSS calculation will now include Cat 4 men as well as ladies which will be more reflective of the field

*Three letter identifiers: these have been restructured and a definitive list is in the new manual and in the new software package these will be recorded-ie QSH-qualifying stableford at home, NMH-non qualifying medal at home

*Initial handicap allotment will have a new algorithm introduced in line with the Annual Review Algorithm. This will allow clubs to allocate a H/c of up to 54 but h/c's over the existing max (28 men and 36 ladies) will be CONGU Club h/c and not eligible for "c" status

*The reactivation of handicaps for returning golfers-if a player leaves golf but returns to playing within a year they retain their "c" status for the full following year. Reinstatement of a "c" status requires 3 qualifying scores which can be 9 and/or 18 holes and supplementary cards. For initial allocation it remains 54 holes

*Handicaps for golfers with disabilities- continue to be eligible for "c" status and will be allowed to have a H/C above CONGU max limits

*Qualifying 9 hole score recording-a score returned better than or within the buffer zone will have 18 points added, a player outside the BZ will have the score doubled, 9 hole scores will be included in ESR process

*Exceptional scoring reductions-no longer compounded and to lessen severity of the reduction for those returning -5.5 or -6 the reduction table has been modified. ESR's are mandatory but committees have the option to review the reduction after it's application

*Supplementary scores-acceptable to present 9 hole cards for Cat 2 and above, unlimited in number of scores per year for those with h/c between 28 and 36 (54), 10 cards only for below 18 h/c.

*Annual review reports will now include Cat 1 players for information purpose only

*Continuous handicap review will start 1st March for 2016 only. There is now a computer-generated report which will highlight those players returning 7 consecutive 0.1 h/c increases. The

H/C Committee will be recommended to review such players and give consideration to a h/c increase.

*CONGU club handicaps-to be allocated and maintained by the players home club to a max of 54. Clubs can restrict which, if any, competitions the players can enter. Cannot hold a “c” status and a CONGU Club h/c

England Golf and CONGU have arranged workshops to present the changes in detail to handicap secretaries, the meeting for Suffolk is to be held at Gog Magog on February 8th. However the meetings are over subscribed and it is my intention to arrange a local meeting for the handicap secretaries. I will receive the full notes and presentation in the next few days and I will get in touch with the club handicap secretaries with a date in the next week or so. The new CONGU manual will be sent to clubs in the next 2-3 weeks with all the updated rulings.

APPENDIX 3

January 2016

1st Team Report, Sarah Sagers

1. Players Agreements have been received, I presume from those who can fill the criteria and wish to be considered for selection.
2. Vouchers have gone out to the 1st Team Squad
3. Selecting Team to play at Aldeburgh, 7th Feb all very keen.
4. Selection criteria for 1st Team Selection which will go on to the website.
5. Christine Langford went to EG Coaching Conference, she found it interesting but felt EG could make it more informative. Next year I would recommend Vanessa or another coach attends to avoid repetition.
6. Meeting with 2016 Suffolk Pros, Christine, Tony Dobson, Andrew Collinson and Sarah Howe.
 - a. They were all in agreement with an annual Professional coaching contracts.
 - b. Once vouchers used they will be in contact with girls personal coaches.
 - c. All 3 are already in communication with each other, they found our meeting very useful and have suggested a number of ideas to encourage more ladies & juniors.
 - d. Also combining both squads for a fun competition, maybe a Texas scramble at St Aurdrys.
 - e. A passport for players to fill in. I believe this won't cost much and will help make the girls responsible for their own coaching. Southwold Press?
 - f. A bonding outing, such as Footgolf with both squads.
7. Vanessa Bell is getting together sizing's for new Kit, GB need to be asked confirmation and their requirements.
8. It was a pleasure to see the 2015 County First Team at the AGM on Saturday.