

## SUFFOLK LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION

### Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at Fynn Valley Golf Club at 3.00pm

#### **PRESENT:**

Miss Hermione Scrope	President/Treasurer
Sarah Saggars	Captain
Mrs Diane Cunningham	Secretary
Mrs Rebecca Evans	England Golf Representative
Ms Chris Lynch-Bates	Championship Organiser
Mrs Debbie Anthistle	Haskell & Stearn Organiser
Mrs Penny Platten	Attending on behalf of Rosemary Woodhouse

#### 1. **Apologies**

Mrs Eunice Gray	Handicap Advisor
Vanessa Bell	Vice Captain
Sarah Howe	Junior Organiser
Mrs June Kenworthy	Weston & Senior Shield Organiser
Mrs Rosemary Woodhouse	Cranworth Organiser
Mrs Dianne Clarke	Foursomes Organiser
Mrs Tessa Summers	Senior Organiser
Miss Lynne Wright	Haskell & Stearn Organiser
Mrs J Cardwell	Divisional Organiser
Mrs D Spring	Divisional Organiser

#### 2. **Minutes of GB Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

The minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.

#### 3. **Matters Arising**

RE has added some information regarding the Nigel Birrell trophy on website and has contacted Julie Latimer-Jones to see if she has any other information.

**ACTION: RE**

Rooms for County Week 2018 – VB has block booked 50 rooms from Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018. Rates not yet confirmed. VB to confirm the cost of the rooms.

**ACTION: VB**

County Mixed competition – VB awaiting response from Aldeburgh. It is hoped that this will be in the diary for 2017.

**ACTION: VB**

Volunteer form – Insurers have ok'd the form. RE will add it to the website in under the forms section with the caveat that if used by anyone for non SLCGA competitions the county cannot be held responsible for its use.

**ACTION: DC/RE**

DBS certificates for HS and SS have now been received. VB's is in the process of being issued. Currently SH and Jeanette Longman are the signatories for this. Agreed that DC and Elouise Aldous will replace SH and JL as signatories. SH to arrange this.

**ACTION: SH**

DA informed the meeting that she previously worked in Safeguarding and that she was happy to give advice if needed.

Thirty Paperweight mementos' have been ordered, awaiting delivery.

County Cards – The plastic county cards have now been received. RE asked delegates to check how many county cards were required by each club. They will bring these figures to the October meeting. HS will keep these and distribute with the blue books at the AGM.

Process for complaints was raised at delegates meeting. A small subcommittee will meet to draft a complaints/grievance procedure which will be presented to the GB at a later meeting for agreement. Hopefully this will be in place by March and RE will take this to the delegates meeting. RE to lead on this.

**ACTION: RE**

#### **4. Correspondence**

England Golf Trust Diaries are available at £5 each. DC has email address of who to contact if interested.

Request from Bury St Edmunds Golf Club who are interested in hosting a Child Protection course. SH will respond with contact details. SH to ask if the course will be open to ladies from other clubs.

**ACTION: SH**

An email was received regarding the length of service on GB for competition organisers. This was discussed and it was agreed that the three year term would remain as it was felt that it takes time to settle into the role and continuity would be lost if the term were shorter.

- 5. England Golf Representative's Report** – Rebecca Evans – Reports Attached Appendix A
- a) Seniors Championship at Haverhill went well. This championship is now on the rota for the East Region. SS to confirm where it will be held next year at County Captains meeting in October.

**ACTION : SS**

- b) The minutes from the Delegates Meeting held on 19 August 2016 have been distributed. RE clarified that Bungay raised a query about the Weston competition.
- c) England Golf Annual Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016 – RE has written a report which is attached.
- d) Girl Golf Rocks –an email was received from England Golf regarding this initiative. The GB discussed this and thought it an excellent idea and hope that it goes well within the county. The SLCGA already organise training for juniors which is open to all abilities. DC to respond to the email on behalf of the GB.

**ACTION: DC**

**6. Handicap Adviser's Report** – Eunice Gray

Eunice had received a report from a lady member that some clubs are not adhering to the 90% rule for 4BBB. It was agreed that there was nothing that could be done about this without definite information.

**7. Competition Organisers' Reports**

The specific competition and general knockout competition rules have been updated following the last meeting, these were agreed by the GB and will be issued with the draw for each competition in October. It was agreed that there was no need to send the result sheets to the competition organisers via post if this had been sent via email. DC to make change to results sheet to reflect this.

**ACTION DC**

Penny suggested amending the Cranworth rules for next year to include some clarification on the use of squad members. She suggested using the specific rule used by the SGU for the Tolly competition. This was agreed by the GB. DC to update the Cranworth rules.

**ACTION DC**

Sarah had received an email asking if in the finals of the Senior Jubilee Shield it would be possible to have someone to walk around with each of the groups to rake bunkers to speed up play. It was decided that as players in this competition can have caddies if they so wish, there would be no need to have an additional person to rake bunkers. DC to respond to the email.

Venue organiser – this position is still vacant. This is an essential role and it is imperative that someone is found to take up this position. GB members were asked to speak to any ladies they think would be suitable for this role to see if they are interested.

**a) County Championship – Chris Lynch-Bates**

Nothing to report as the championship was covered in previous minutes. England Golf have arranged the East Region Medal final on the same Saturday as the County Championship is being held. It was thought that this would not be a problem.

It was agreed to change the closing date for entries for next year's championship to 3 weeks before the championship is played as it was thought to be too early this year.

The entry for the senior championship was disappointing this year. If the numbers entering remain the same or less in 2017 the GB may need to review this and see if changes need to be made to encourage more entries.

**b) Divisions – Di Spring/Jenny Cardwell.**

The Division 1 start sheet has been issued. Report regarding Division 2 is on the website.

**c) Weston – June Kenworthy – Report received**

The Weston results have been emailed out to clubs and are on the website. SS had received an email regarding the Weston format. The Delegates meeting had also discussed the Weston competition. It has been agreed that the Weston will remain the same format for 2017. A suggestion was put forward about running a singles competition between February and May for elite players which would enable them to have more match play practice. HS suggested that to enable the GB to consider this properly a proposal would need to be submitted in writing.

**d) Haskell & Stearn – Lynne Wright/Debbie Anthistle – Report received**

The Final of Haskell was held at Bury St Edmunds between Newton Green and Ipswich. It was agreed that a referee should be available for all finals. RE will contact Nicky McMahon regarding this. SS said that Mike Rees was considering putting together a training scheme for referees. SS, DA and CLB would be interested in attending.

The final of the Stearn between Felixstowe and Haverhill is being held at Halesworth on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. DA to contact Ann Graves to see if she would be available to referee the final.

DA and LW had submitted a results form to be considered for use. This was discussed and a few changes suggested. DC will update and send out to GB for consideration.

**ACTION DC**

As the Hasekll and Steran finals will be held on the same day in 2017 it was agreed that the Stearn final would tee off at 9am to enable the Haskell to tee off at 10am. The afternoon start times would be 1.15pm and 2.15pm respectively.

**e) Cranworth – Rosemary Woodhouse – Report received**

The final between Stowmarket and Halesworth is on 22 September at Waldringfield. HS will present the trophy.

DC sent the two response letters regarding the Cranworth – no further correspondence has been received.

**f) Coronation and Centenary Foursomes – Dianne Clarke**

Next year's Coronation Foursomes competition is due to be held at Waldringfield Golf Club. As the course will possibly be closed by then it was agreed that we need to seek another venue. It was agreed to approach the next club on the rota to see if they would be able to accommodate this competition. DC to action.

**ACTION: DC**

**g) Senior Jubilee Shield – June Kenworthy – Report received**

The final was held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016 between Bungay and Felixstowe at Rushmere As JK is leaving GB at the end of the year a discussion was held about who would organise this competition next year. Originally this competition was organised by the senior organiser. SS will approach TS and Dianne Clarke.

**ACTION: SS**

## **8. Team Reports**

**a) 1<sup>st</sup> Team – Sarah Siggers**

There is no first team report. SS has handed over organising the 1<sup>st</sup> team squad training next year to VB. As SS is now on the countdown to finishing her term as County Captain she will be handing over bits and pieces to VB, but for any matters SS should still be approached in the first instance.

**ACTION: All GB**

VB has sent an email detailing 1<sup>st</sup> team training for next year. Kevin Lovelock will be lead coach for Suffolk training for the next two years. Ian Scott will oversee the junior programme. Invitations have been issued to the first scheduled date in October, although so far the response has been disappointing.

Judy Hamshere and Sheila Jarvis were approached to help out at County Match week 2018 and have both accepted.

GB congratulated Alice Barlow who represented Suffolk in County Champions of Champions tournament on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016 where she won the junior title and came 5<sup>th</sup> in the ladies competition.

**b) Seniors Report – Tessa Summers – Report received**

A report was received from TS and is attached to the minutes.

**c) Junior Organisers Report - Sarah Howe - Report attached Appendix B**

As with the 1<sup>st</sup> team SH has handed over organising next year's training to Elouise Aldous. She will meet with Ian Scott at the weekend to discuss dates for junior training.

The date has changed for next year's Junior Championship which will now be held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

Suffolk will host an East Region Junior trophy competition in 2017. RE will contact SH to ask for more details.

**ACTION: RE**

**9. Treasurer's Report – Hermione Scrope**

HS guided everyone through the accounts. There has been an increased entry for the Haskell and Weston competitions for 2017. It was agreed that entry fees for the foursomes and divisional meetings would remain the same for 2017. Food provided for the foursome's competitions will be discussed at the next meeting.

**10. Nominations for GB 2017**

Everyone with the exception of those due to retire agreed to continue serving on the GB for 2017.

The following nominations were approved and will be put forward for election at the AGM. For the Weston – Amanda Norman from Felixstowe and for the County Championship – Carole Cook from Thorpeness.

Chris Lynch-Bates has agreed to continue to organise the Suffolk Golf Day.

**11. Suffolk Golf Day – Chris Lynch-Bates**

The Suffolk Golf day was again a success this year. Everything went well, although there was a delay with the way the food was served. CLB will speak to Hintlesham regarding the catering.

**ACTION CLB**

**12. Blue Book Update**

The first draft of the 2017 Fixtures List were sent out to GB members before the meeting. If anyone has any update information or spots any errors please email DC.

A quote from Southwold Press was accepted for the printing of the blue books

**13. Any Other Business**

SS informed everyone that she has applied to be considered to be part of a pool of ladies who could be selected to serve on the R&A committee.

Buggy Policy Review – deferred to the next meeting.

It was agreed to organise lunch following the next meeting, DC has requested a menu from Waldringfield. Food will need to be ordered in advance.

DA offered to help out at next year’s County Match week at Hunstanton. SS thanked DA. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.

**Date of Next meeting:**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 – 10am – Waldringfield,

Chairman .....

Date .....

## Appendix A

### **Voting Members Report from the England Golf General Meeting Held at Woodhall Spa 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

I was happy to attend the general meeting at Woodhall last month and to meet once again with our new CEO Nick Pink. Nick has spent some considerable time traveling around England since taking up his post earlier this year. What is very evident is that his management style differs from David Joy. So far I have found Nick to be very consultative in his approach listening to the voting member's complaints and feedback without any reaction or defence, which is refreshing. After the AGM I left feeling very sad about the position of the voting member due mainly to the actions of a few VM's who decided to call a closed meeting to try and rally support to revisit the Governance & Affiliation review in particular the way the board is made up. What is clear is that England Golf want the VM's to meet and discuss topics such as this and as such without the counties making a request for this they have started the VM's forums. These forums enable all VM's to discuss issues around the table in small groups with their peers along with a member of the board who does not voice an opinion or comment but simply listens to the counties concerns. I personally think this open style of dialog serves us better in forming a mutually honest and open relationship with our Governing Body.

Forum Meeting; We discussed Championships, Governance, Digital & CDO's and the County Network. The forums gave us an opportunity to discuss these important facets of England Golf's responsibilities. From these meetings I can advise that EG are currently pressing ahead with the Digital Plan and they have started the data cleanse which is the first part of the project. They have advised that they are looking to share the data with external suppliers, this data being your email address we did stress that some people would not be happy to share this so an opt out facility is being built in to comply with the Data Protection act. Users to the EG handicapping system will be able to set up personal preference and only see information which is relevant to them. Participation was an interesting meeting in as much that with the exception of the East Region all counties are very happy with the service of the EG regional team i.e. CDO and Regional Manager. Tony Rubin's was due to give a talk about why the SGU decided to leave the SGP however time did not allow this. Speaking with our colleagues in Bedfordshire and Cambs (Union) they have lost faith in the service of the Regional Network.

Items from the Agenda;

Finance as per Craig's report the collection of affiliation fees is below the level expected, evening taking in to account late payers we seem to have a deficit. The finance department are reviewing this. Craig has given the counties in particular the Association that any support they need will be forthcoming from EG. To confirm that the LGU levy will cease after 2017. Craig also felt that the 60-day payment terms could be an issue and welcomed any feedback as to what the counties could do to enforce this, one idea is to stop CDH? This was well supported by the VM's.

CEO Report; Nothing to add to Nick report but the Worldwide Handicapping has been delayed until 2020.

VM's Closed Meeting; The VM's voted on the 2 nominations from the Union for representatives to the Nominations Committee. The vote was unanimous for Mr D Smith of Yorkshire.



A discussion was held regarding the proposed job and person description for the Voting Members. The feedback was very positive and most VM's are in favour of a more formal process to induct and to recruit VM's. Jane will work on some very minor wording and then this should be our blue print going forward!

## Appendix B

### Junior Organiser Report 19.9.2016

- The last Junior training for the Summer was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> July at Thorpeness, afterwards we thanked and gave Christine a gift for all her help and hard work.
- Hermione and Sarah's DBS' had got stuck in the unpaid section so have now been paid for and gone through so should be done soon.
- I have emailed Jordan Dymond to see when the next nearest Safeguarding and Protecting children workshop is available.
- Vanessa's DBS has now been started. Would it be an idea to get another two people that can do the DBS' as it is currently down as myself and Jeanette.
- JCMW was played in good spirits, the girls played really well and had some well fort matches, unfortunately the results didn't reflect how well the girls played, they halved against Essex but unfortunately lost to Norfolk, Hertfordshire, Cambs & Hunts and Bedfordshire. The girls had a really enjoyable week and all represented Suffolk in a cheerful and polite manner. The full results were on the Suffolk page.
- Alice Barlow went on to win the Champion of Champions at Woodhall Spa, well done Alice.