



**Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting
Monday 25th April 2022 at
Fynn Valley Golf Club at 10.30am**

Amanda Norman (AN)	Captain
Carol Deslandes (CD)	Treasurer
Di Hegarty (DH)	Secretary
Annette Llewellyn (AL)	Handicap Advisor
Sue Haywood (SH)	Junior Organiser
Joan Hogarth (JH)	Venue Organiser
Philippa Bridges (PB)	Championship Organiser
Maureen Minter (MM)	Weston Organiser
Geraldine Rose (GR)	Cranworth Organiser
Vicki Hunt (VH)	Senior Organiser & Senior Shield Organiser
Caroline Emeny (CE)	Foursomes Organiser
Charlie Garrord via Zoom. (CG)	2 nd Team (Co-opted)

- 1. Apologies**, Lils James, Belinda Rowe, Lizzie Johnson, Tessa Summers, Bud Pratten,
- 2. Minutes of GB Meeting 7th December 2021**
Agreed and signed as a true copy
- 3. Matters Arising**

An email was sent to club captains and secretaries on 17th Dec for county rules for 5 competitive handicaps for entry into county competitions and slow play. The 5 rounds will be from the competition date looking back one year.

A meeting was held with the Men's Union on 23rd Feb. It was agreed to have a joint junior's championship at Hintlesham and a mixed county competition at Gorleston on September 10th. (Poster required - Action DH)

A discussion was voiced for merging the men's and lady's county golf and would be discussed at the next men's union meeting.

An email was sent 13th April to R&A to see if we could have more notice for R&A competitions. The response was *"The legalities to be agreed between The R&A and host clubs for Amateur Championships can be complex and this can delay publishing online. Once ratified information will be updated at randa.org"*

A budget meeting to be held after GB meeting. CD will let the teams know in the next few weeks.

CD has transferred all the Suffolk ladies accounts to a Finance software VT Cashbook which is working very well.

A vote was held to see who was in favour of incorporation which was unanimous for incorporation.

CD has produced an Incorporation document and will work on a timeline ensuring that any requirements from the bank are incorporated in the timeline. The prime concern is that the bank accounts will be operational during any transition period. (Action CD)

CD emphasised, for those on the GB there is no need to worry about any potential risk, it is just the next stage in the development.

Expense forms to be reviewed, and travel expense's to be in line with current HMRC guidelines i.e. 45p per mile (for first 10,000 miles) with an additional payment of 5p per passenger per business mile for carrying fellow committee members/ players on the same journey. (Action CD)

4. Correspondence

Email from club with problem of booking the Haskell competition as one club cannot do Saturdays and the other only have Saturdays available. The rules state that 3 dates must be offered of which one must be a weekend. County match week must be avoided.

An email was received from England Golf who would like to discuss the regions that the ladies currently belong to at the next EG meeting and for the Seniors Ladies County Competition. Copy of email and any relevant supporting information to be sent to GB members. (Action DH)

Email received asking how to decide the order of play for Division one. This is entirely up to each team captain to produce a list on the day of their order of play.

A club was not aware that it is not the individual, but the club's responsibility to organise the county competitions for their 3 years tenure on the GB. The GB will assist for this year.

5. England Golf Representative's Report

The delegates have asked for if the rule of 5 qualification competitions cards stands for the county championships where there are Nett prizes. It was agreed that this was the case and should be adhered to.

51 teams have entered the ER Foursomes at Ipswich.

6. Handicap Adviser's Report

[Appendix 1](#)

Clarification will be sought from England Golf on the rules for 4BBB for next year's Silver Jubilee as there is still discrepancy on how it is calculated (Action

AL)

7. **Competition Organisers' Reports**

a) County Championship

18 entries received, therefore match play will be decided between 8 players for championship and 4 players for the net match play off for the plate.

Seniors Championship has 13 players for Diss.

Reminder email to be sent. (Action DH)

b) Divisions

[Appendix 2](#)

The GB decided not to include tea / coffee on arrival for Division 3.

A last-minute request for a buggy was received from a Division 4 player for a recent injury. They were informed they could use a buggy but for future County Competitions (like the Cranworth, Centenary Foursomes etc) we abide by England Golf Rules which stipulate a medical exemption/doctor's letter to use a buggy in County Competitions

c) Weston – nothing to report

d) Haskell & Stearn

[Appendix 3](#)

Clubs are struggling to select a team within the range for Stearn and Cranworth. Players have reduced their handicap which has taken them out of the selection range. A reminder to clubs that higher handicap players can play off the maximum limit. (Action DH)

The GB will have a meeting to discuss the county competitions and handicap limits on 22nd August at 10am.

e) Cranworth

Ufford have withdrawn from the competition. All clubs have been contacted and contact details sent out.

f) Coronation and Centenary Foursomes

Centenary 6 pairs and for Coronation 29 pairs. Email to be sent (DH)

A discussion to be had for the facility fees paid to clubs at the finance meeting.

g) Senior Jubilee Shield

All 1st rounds have been completed with 3 home wins and 2 away wins.

Bungay has also played the 2nd round to go through to the quarter finals.

h) Suffolk Golf Day

Gorleston has 14 teams playing and Hintlesham has 29 teams booked. Both are a shotgun start.

8. **Team Reports**

a) 1st Team.

The 1st team played the juniors and were well and truly beaten, losing all the matches. It was good to see how well the juniors are coming along. Thanks to Bungay for hosting the game. Training going well with good attendance. The

GB were asked if they could recommend anyone for vice-captain next year.

b) Seniors Report

[Appendix 4](#)

AN in contact with Sandlings for logo on seniors' jumpers. Sizes to be sourced for orders. (Action AN & VH)

c) Junior Organisers Report

[Appendix 5](#)

Junior email account is sometimes going into members junk mail. To be merged with Sues personal email. (Action DH)

A poster to be produced to invite Juniors without a handicap to join in the development days. (Action SH)

Money raised from the draws at Suffolk Golf Days to go towards development days for juniors.

d) 2nd team

[Appendix 6](#)

9. Treasurer's Report

[Appendix 7](#)

Retained cheques are causing a problem and it would be easier if they were sent to CD so they can be cashed and logged. Members can always be reimbursed via BACs if they withdraw before the cut off date.

10. Safeguarding & Child Protection Responsibilities Annual Review

Policy and members need to be checked to ensure we are still compliant with training. (Action DH)

11. Website

We need to get a quote to build the online forms onto the SLCGA website now that we can see how well it has been working. VH asked if the website could list who has already entered competitions. This will be taken into consideration when we talk to Ryan as presently not all entries are on Jotforms. (Action DH)

12. Any Other Business

Junior match against Aldeburgh and clashes with the Juniors training day. Training to be cancelled if date cannot be changed (Action AN & SH)

Nigel Birrell

Competition organisers for 2023 has been excepted from Bramford, still waiting on Bungay

Stearn – for this year you cannot swap a complete pair. This will be reviewed at the competition meeting.

13. Date of next GB meeting:

Monday 22nd August 10:00

Tuesday 6 September 2022

Monday 5 December 2022

Amanda Norman

Suffolk County Ladies Captain

Appendix 1

HANDICAP ADVISORS REPORT

In January, I had an enquiry from Abbie Symonds saying that she had been struggling with injury and had only managed to put in 4 qualifying rounds last year. Somebody had told her that her handicap would be inactive.

I replied that her handicap was live and that she did need to have 5 rounds

In a similar vein, I recently had an enquiry from a lady who has entered a team into the Suffolk Golf Day at Hintlesham back in February. She had only recently found that when she entered, one of her team had only completed 4 competitions, which has since been rectified. What she was worried about was – did the 5 rounds have to be completed before entry, before closing date or before the actual competition? Could this be made clearer on the website?

I have to admit that sometimes I feel an imposter in this job, because I had an enquiry that I didn't actually understand what was being asked!

Halesworth GC were running a Mixed Tee event and were having trouble sorting out how to result it.

It turns out that it was due to the way the competition was set up on their software. Janice Hazeldine, the area handicap advisor was most helpful and took over to sort this out with Halesworth for me. They in turn wrote to tell me how helpful I had been in pointing them in the right direction. I feel unworthy.

Finally, Vicki Hunt had been getting lots of queries about the Jubilee Shield Calculation. I felt that there was nothing wrong with how it was, however R&A calculate 4BBB slightly differently and in a few incidences the results may be affected. Therefore, so that we are all in agreement, we changed the rules to reflect this

Appendix 2

Division Meetings

DIVISION 4 (hcps 32.0 +) at Royal Worlington 5th May 2022

We have 18 entries which is a little disappointing as we had 30 last year at St Audreys!

All under control. RW being very generous and offering coffee on arrival and afterwards plus 2 course meal for £18.

DIVISION 3 (hcps 25-31.9) at Rushmere 9th May 2022

We have 24 entries. Last year at Seckford we had 30.

1 lady using buggy as has a bad back. In future she knows she needs doctor's letter for another year and in other County competitions.

For £18 Rushmere can only offer a 2 course meal. Extra £1.50 if coffee provided afterwards so I have said not to include. Not everyone wants coffee and late starters want to leave. Am I being too mean or should it be say £19.50 per head and include coffee whether they have it or not? The budget of £18 varies from Club to Club and I don't like to haggle because the Clubs are providing their course at minimal facility fee. I have time to tell Rushmere to include coffee if you agree?

HANDICAP PARAMETER RULE CHANGE

The problem/likelihood of players reducing their handicap just before the Division Meeting is particularly relevant under the new WHS.

I would like to see the rules on the SLCGA website changed to allow players to compete (they previously couldn't compete but could play!) in individual gross, net and Shield competitions under their current reduced handicap. We allow higher handicappers to compete off the max handicap allowance which should remain. Ladies should not be penalised for reducing their handicap.

If agreed, we need to change the rule and wording to say they can compete off a lower handicap so long as their handicap ON ENTRY was within the parameters for that Division. The rule that players can only compete in one Division Meeting a year should remain.

Appendix 3

I have made contact with all the participants in the Haskell and Stearn, and had responses from most!

The first round of the Haskell, between Stowmarket and Flempton, has been scheduled for Monday May 2nd.

Some second round fixtures have also been arranged.

I have fielded a few queries regarding the Stearn. Successfully, I hope.

I think I'm doing what I'm supposed to, so far,-- we shall see!

AOB

Royal Worlington is looking forward to hosting the Division 4 meeting on May 5th. Tessa Summers and I have been liaising, and hopefully it will be a happy day.

Question --- Is the Cranworth format likely to change in the foreseeable future, or is it to continue as a 36 hole marathon, with singles PM?

Seniors Report

Having been put off from March 2020 to March 2021, it was third time lucky when the seniors had their 'get-together' at Ipswich GC on 17 March. 40 ladies were due to attend but in the end there were 36 of us. There was a chance to catch up and to impart information about the season ahead and then we headed out on the course for 18 holes 4BBB fun competition. The results, photos and a write-up of the day are on the website. It is great to see so many Suffolk Senior ladies keen to take part in the section; I hope this translates into more entries for county competitions. Many thanks to Ipswich GC for hosting us, the course was playing well in spite of it being 'Course Renovation Week' and the sandwiches and cake were delicious!

East Region Senior Women's League

Our matches have not started yet but all are organised apart from a friendly match with the Suffolk Senior Men which we hope will take place in October. The East Region Senior Women's League is going ahead with Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. Unfortunately Bedfordshire and Cambs & Hunts did not feel able to participate this year; we hope they will in the future. The format will be 6 singles matches off scratch and we are trialling straight match play as well as Hambro scoring. I have now identified a squad of 12, all of whom have a handicap of less than 9 and can play in at least 2 out of the 3 league matches. It is brilliant that there are so many excellent senior players in the county. These players will form the teams and reserves for our league matches. (A player can still play in the senior league even though they might also play for the 1st or 2nd team).

Other matches

I have, in total, about 40 ladies who are available for and keen to play in our matches. I am, at the moment, wrestling with the team selection with the thought of giving as many ladies as possible a chance to represent the county this year in at least one of our friendly matches but that will not necessarily be possible. Next year it may be that we drop the handicap limit to 12.0 but on the other hand there are not that many of the ladies who would not be eligible on my list of those interested (9) but I do think it is important not to rule out players too early.

Appendix 5

Junior Organiser.

There have been a number of friendly matches beginning in March with the last being on the 6th June. The girls have responded well and a team of eight has played on each occasion. I have attended all. This has provided time to get to know the girls and watch their play. I have also been given feedback from the clubs which have all been positive. I have found the number and dates for these friendly matches too close together leading to six Sundays in a row including the Spring Meeting so I would like to review this before dates are agreed next year. I am thinking two friendly matches between the girls and four with clubs might be more useful to encourage a more team approach.

The Spring Meeting was won by Sophie with a gross of 74 net 70. Talia won the net score with 72. This was a Justin Rose Qualifier and I have sent off the girl's cards. Sophie's score should place her well in the leaderboard. Over the last few weeks there have been some scores leading to girls handicaps dropping.

I have been encouraging attendance at training and there was a larger turnout on the last occasion with a new girl also attending. Feedback from her mother was that she enjoyed the experience.

I have struggled with communication through the SLCGA mail and have chosen to give an email address direct to me. It appears on feedback that emails through the SLCGA have been going into junk mail.

I have set up four dates for the development group at Woodbridge with a new young professional who is enthusiastic about teaching Juniors. I have written to every Junior Organiser but have only received two replies which is disappointing. I think we need to discuss this further and how to communicate and encourage attendance. I am wondering if a poster sent to the club secretaries to put up which encourages parents and girls to apply direct.

We have received two donations 500 pounds from the Ladies Vets. I have spoken with them about how the money will be used and they are happy to support training.

We have also received 1500 pounds from David Woolnough's company. This is being used to buy new t shirts and base layers to ensure all the girls have team colours.

I have enjoyed getting to know the girls and the parents and I think possibly or hopefully I am getting to grips with the role.

Sue Hayward

Junior Organiser.

Appendix 6

County 2nd Team Captain's Report

I am pleased to share that we have had a successful relaunch of the County 2nd Team so far.

There has been a positive response to canvassing for players, resulting in over 25 people coming forward expressing an interest in participating.

There is a good spread of players coming from many clubs, only a couple of clubs having more than one person participating.

Feedback from the players is that they are really enthusiastic about the prospect of being given the opportunity to be a part of the new 2nd team and are proud at having the chance to represent Suffolk.

Training sessions with the Felixstowe Professionals Andrew Robinson and Sam Forgan are running following the Ladies 1st Team sessions in the mornings.

12 players attended the first session in March where we covered pitching and chipping which was very well received and enjoyed.

19 for the April session which covered bunkers and putting, also well enjoyed and beneficial.

21 planned for the May one and unfortunately less for the June final session, back down to 12 (mainly down to clashes with club matches).

Sponsorship of GBP 3,500 provided by Willis Towers Watson is being processed towards the 2nd Team expenses for 2022.

Friendly and practice matches are in the process of being arranged.

Team kit is being arranged to be purchased with many of the players expressing an interest in purchasing their own rather than using shared kit. This is being explored with them as which would help with reducing expenses for the county.

County match days are at the end of August where 10 of the squad will be playing foursomes and singles against 4 other counties, at Colne Valley in Essex.

Next year Suffolk are hosting County Match days and discussions are being held with Bungay and The Suffolk in respect of hosting.

The facility fee/gratuity paid to the host club is a contentious point across the counties as I feel that the current level is well below what is fair to give a club for 3days of 36 holes of golf and all the work that goes into hosting. An extraordinary regional meeting is being held on the 29th April to discuss further.

Overall, I'm really pleased with the start to the year and am positive for the 2nd team future. We have a lot of good players available to represent us, with still more coming forward as well.

Thank you for your support with the relaunch.

Kind regards

Charlie Garrod – Suffolk Ladies 2nd Team Captain

Appendix 7

Finance Report

Introduction

Huge thanks to Hermione Scrope for her financial stewardship over many years. Only now am I realising the volume of work she must have undertaken and I take my hat off to her.

Given the expansion of activities this is set to increase so to assist in the day-to-day financial management of the Association I now record all transactions using a software package "VT Cash book".

Bank Balances

As at 23rd April 2022, the balances held are:

Treasurer's account	£4,866.92
Business Bank Instant	£67,467.58

The working balance in the Treasurer's account is currently circa £5k but as the season progresses and more events are completed, I intend for this to reduce to circa £2500. Monies can be transferred from one account to other instantly so this shouldn't present an issue

Income and expenditure:

Affiliation fees

To date affiliation fees of £5,940 have been received from SGU and of this £1980 relates to Q4 2021 and £3960 to Q1 2022

Sponsorship

- MSC - £1500 has been received (14th April 22)
- Willis – nothing received as yet
- Suffolk Vets – looking to donate but no further info as yet. Is this £2000 referred to in Seniors Team budget info sent to CD?

100 Club

Total income received - £2790. 2 draws so far this year with prizes of £760 awarded. There are currently 2 prizes (total £100) for the March draw to be paid out (Jo Woodward/ Felixstowe £25) and Gilly Myram/ Flempton £75).

Competitions:

The following table lists income received and expenditure incurred to date but does not include any cheques currently being held and not paid in.

	Income received	Expenditure	Comments
Championship	£615.00	£0.00	Includes 4 Juniors so far
Senior Championship	£360.00	£0.00	
Division 1	£175.00	£0.00	
Division 2	£70.00	£0.00	

	Income received	Expenditure	Comments
Division 3	£490,00	£0.00	Entries now closed
Division 4	£455.00	£0.00	Entries now closed
Eastern Region 4s	£4680	£0.00	Entries now closed 2 cancellations – refunds made
Eastern Region Singles	£315	£0.00	
Coronation 4s	£1240	£0.00	
Centenary 4s	£400.00	£0.00	Currently, 5 pairs have paid via BACS
East Suffolk Golf Day	£1920.00	£0.00	
Suffolk Golf Day	£4000.00	£0.00	

Juniors

	Income received	Expenditure	Comments
Jamboree	£60.00	£36.00	Agreed that monies be refunded – 2 refunds still o/s
Spring Cup	£245.00	£160.00	Relates to prizes only

Budgets

As yet the framework for budgets is to be finalised and I am keen that this be done asap.

Credit Card

Arranging the transfer of signatories proved to be a logistical nightmare and took far longer than anticipated.

Repeated efforts have been made to open a Credit Card with Lloyds Bank, but this has proved to be difficult if not impossible to do. The issue is not our eligibility but more one of ability to contact someone at the bank who knows what they are doing and has authority to make decisions. We did get pushed into the “long grass” and I confess to losing the will to live on this

Given that we are considering a possible change in structure, I propose to contact the bank to gain a view of requirements and their timeline so that any schedule will be aligned with them **and get everything in writing!**