

SUFFOLK DELEGATES MEETING

held on Friday 13 October 2023 @ Bury St Edmunds

Lizzie Johnson welcomed the ladies to the Delegates meeting.

1. Present: Aldeburgh (Annabel Chamberlain); Bungay (Christine Ashe); Bury St Edmunds (Melanie Lesser); Diss (Liz Cole); Felixstowe (Carol Deslandes); Flempton (Claudia Robins); Fynn Valley (Sally Crosbie); Newton Green (Sarah Woodhead); Halesworth (Rita Fossey); Haverhill (Elaine Ward/Lynne Hart); Ipswich (Vanessa Adams/Vicki Hunt); Rookery Park (Jenny Ladusans); Royal Worlington (Anne Shneerson); Seckford (Yvonne Southey); Southwold (Ruth Kemp); Thorpeness (Carol Cooke)

& from SLCGA: Tanya McGregor, Captain; Emily Evans, Vice Captain; Di Hegarty, Secretary & Vicki Hunt, President elect

Apologies: Bramford, Gorleston, Hintlesham, Rushmere, St Audrys & Woodbridge

2. The 100 Club:

The draw results are as follows:

Prize	Name	Club
£100	Sally Baxter	Halesworth
£75	Sheila Spencer	Ipswich
£50	Ladies' Section	Brett Vale
£40	Julia Sparling	Felixstowe
£30	Lizzie Johnson	Newton Green
£25	Frieda Waldron	Rookery Park
£20	S Wilson	Royal Worlington
£20	Ladies' Section	Rushmere

Could the Delegates ask their "winners" to e-mail Carol Deslandes (treasurer@suffolkladiesgolf.org.uk) with their account details so that she may send payment via BAC's, or alternatively the name of their account and address so that she may send them a cheque.

Delegates confirmed that their clubs had agreed to the continuation of the 100 Club draw.

The question was asked as to whether it was acceptable for men to participate in the Draw – those present had absolutely no objection.

NB: Following incorporation, Suffolk Ladies County Golf Association now has a new bank account. Please make all payments for participation in The 100 Club to the following account quoting "Ref 100 and your Club name" (eg 100 Diss)

Account Name: Suffolk Ladies County Golf Association Ltd

Sort Code: 30-90-50

Account No: 83270868

and e-mail Sue Cook (suecooksnape@gmail.com) with details of participants and number of tickets required and copy Carol Deslandes.

3. Notes of meeting held on 18 August 2023: Agreed
4. Matters Arising: None
5. Tanya McGregor spoke to those present about her desire to raise the profile of the Suffolk Ladies County Golf Association, which has something to offer every lady in the county and is not just for the elite players. Tanya has recently done two “CCC roadshows” (coffee, cake and a chat), the first at Southwold and the second at Bury St Edmunds. Tanya extended an invitation to all clubs to visit and chat with members about what is available for them in the county. Tanya can be contacted on captain@suffolkladiesgolf.org.uk
6. Communication: Tanya’s mention of communication leads directly on to distribution of communications from the Secretary. We know that messages are not being forwarded by the nominated contact at each Club, for whatever reason, and would urge you as Delegates to ensure that this happens. DH advised that there is a link on the SLCGA website under contacts to update as necessary.

County use Facebook, Instagram and Twitter as mediums for information and now all ladies are also able to sign up for a Suffolk Ladies Golf newsletter.

“You can subscribe at the following page www.suffolkladiesgolf.org.uk/newsletter or at the bottom of the Home page on the website. You will only receive e-mails that are relevant to Ladies golf in Suffolk and can unsubscribe at any time. We will keep you up to date with competitions that you may want to enter, how Suffolk Ladies teams are performing and any relevant golf related news.”

7. Number of qualifying competitions for County Competitions. LJ had done some research with the East Region counties: Essex do 12 cards in a rolling year of which 5 have to be qualifying competition cards; Norfolk do 5. Discussion followed about what other clubs do: Haverhill advised that they do 5 cards every 6 months; Diss do 12 cards with no delineation (although most of them are qualifying); Stowmarket have 10 cards 5 of which have to be qualifying; Aldeburgh suggested 5 cards in a 9 month period.

After extensive discussion those present agreed that as the number has to be fair across all County competitions and all handicaps, for now it should remain at 5 competition cards in a rolling year but further research is to be undertaken by each individual club and the GB about increasing to 8 qualifying competition cards in a rolling year. A further meeting to be held via Zoom in 4-6 weeks.

8. Trophy Competitions - at the last GB meeting the following was agreed:

Weston:

- All divisions to go out in handicap index order
- All competitors to have 5 qualifying competition cards in a rolling year
- Matches can be halved (in the result of a draw there would have to be a play off for the final)
- Winners of Division I to be given the opportunity to enter the England Golf Champion Club competition, where EG insist on players having an up-to-date handicap index and a minimum of 20 scores.

Cranworth:

Continue with the same format of 6 x 18 hole (2 x foursomes and 4 x singles) for two more years and then ask Clubs for feedback at the end of 2025.

Stearn:

- The request for a longer lunch break was declined by the GB as a foursomes game should get round in 3.5 hours
- Following the 2 year trial period Bud Pratton, competition organiser, has written to all Clubs who participated for feedback on the new v old format. The GB will review at their next meeting on 8 December 2023.

Jubilee Shield:

- Neutral courses to remain
- The format to change to 4BBB matchplay ie drop the Hambro scoring
- All matches to be asked to record the start and end time of their competition
- a "help" file to hopefully speed up play of 4BBB will be sent to all entrants.
- A decision has been made by the GB to not utilise a 9 hole course under 5000 yards for the semi-finals and final.

9. Any other business:

- (i) The GB are looking for a competition organiser for the Jubilee Shield. Any interested parties should contact Di.
- (ii) Tanya advised that as some clubs are unable to find volunteers to fulfil county roles the decision has been taken to create a position on the GB of "Competition Organiser" whose role will be to liaise with all individual competition organisers ie Haskell, Weston, Stearn, Cranworth & Jubilee Shield via Zoom so that they do not necessarily have to take time out to attend GB meetings. Tanya was delighted to announce that Joan Hogarth, of Bury St Edmunds, has agreed to take on this role.
- (iii) A suggestion has been received that in the finals it would be helpful if someone walked around with each match and had a "paddle" indicating the score. All thought this would be an excellent idea. Melanie may know of a sponsor who will cover the cost of the paddles?!
- (iv) Tri-friendly matches. Melanie talked about the format of Tri-Friendly matches, which have proved to be a very successful formula. NB: Post meeting the details have been forwarded and are attached for your information.

10. Date & Venue of next meeting: March 2024 (TBA)
(to be followed by optional 9 holes golf)