

CHLCGA

Cambs & Hunts Ladies County Golf Association

Minutes of the CHLCGA Committee Meeting held on **Monday 19 September 2016** at Girton GC

- Present** Jacquie Richardson (President), Val Musson (Hon Secretary), Sue Hill (Captain), Cindy McIntyre (2nd Team Captain), Hazel Suswain (Vets Captain), Wendy Cox (Handicap Advisor), Trina Miller (Competition Secretary/East Regional Delegate), and Club Delegates from Abbotsley, Bourn. Brampton Park, Cambridge Meridian, Ely City, Girton, Gog Magog, Heydon Grange, Lakeside Lodge, Links Newmarket, March, Old Nene, Ramsey, Royston, Saffron Walden, St Neots, and The Cambridgeshire
- Apologies** Di Nicolson (Treasurer), Maureen Mansfield (Junior Organiser), Rosemary Rennie (Asst. Competition Secretary), Greta Barclay (Press Officer), Tina Broadley (SS Assessor), Ina Hartley (Webmaster), Christine Baxter (Abbotsley), Shirley Osborne (Brampton) - alternate rep, Sue Akers (Barkway Park), Jan Osborne (Cromwell), Elaine Knobel-Forbes (Heydon Grange), Delia Roberts (saffron Walden), Veronica McGrath (Girton) – alternative rep, Shirley Longbottom (Cambridge Meridian), Paula Ewing (St Ives)

1 Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 July 2016 were agreed, subject to the above amendments, as a correct record. Proposed by Shelagh Byrne and approved by all.

2. Matters arising

a. Workshop for Club delegates

VM confirmed the dates of the workshops as follows:

- 1900 hrs Monday 5 December at Girton GC
- 1400 hrs Wednesday 7 December – venue to be confirmed
- she will be inviting at least two club delegates to help with the preliminary planning
- delegates will be able to nominate their workshop of choice. Key issues for discussion will include exploring the role of club delegates, including the running of county events, ways in which the county can raise its profile and increase participation in county competitions.

Following discussion it was agreed that participation in the workshops should be extended to include deputy delegates.

3. Correspondence received

Nothing to report

4. President's report

Since the last meeting JR reported she had attended several events and thanked all those whose efforts enable these events to be held. She has also attended the Junior County Match Days, which Maureen and her team organised at The Cambridgeshire. It has to be said that the event was a huge success and thanks go to all those who helped including the hotel staff. A big thank you goes to Ina Hartley for putting all our information on the web site and to Greta Barclay for all her photos and reports on the events.

On Presidents Day we had 100 players and a thank you to everyone for donating tombola prizes etc. JR thanked the ladies of Old Nene GC and her family and friends for helping to run the event. She believes, subject to receipt of the final invoices, that a total of around £2500 was raised (this included a £100 anonymous donation).

5. Treasurer's report

VM presented the following report on behalf of DN. As at 13 September 2016 we have cash assets of:

- Current Account: £19113.45
- Deposit Account: £15022.41
- Daphne Haddock: £23667.68
- Junior Account: £1040.72

There are still monies to come in from the last few county competitions and from the Junior Match Days. Final invoices for these competitions and Presidents Day are awaited.

DN will be preparing the year end accounts at the end of September and asked that all outstanding invoices and claims for reimbursement be sent to her asap, using the correct claim form.

DN has also been considering online payment of entry fees. PayPal is not an option as it is costly and she is therefore considering the logistics of payment by BACS. Issues include the tracking of payments and linking them to the relevant competition. BACS payment was agreed in principle subject to further consideration of the detail.

6. Secretary's report

Affiliation fees: VM reported that she and DN had met with Alan Duggins, CAGU Secretary, to discuss the new process for the collection of affiliation fees and agree a way forward. Agreed that:

- All affiliations fees under the new system would be collected by CAGU, with the county fees for CHLCGA being transferred back to CHLCGA once collected – this will avoid confusion and duplication of effort at club level

- a joint letter explaining the new system and asking for confirmation of membership renewal dates to be sent out by CAGU to all club secretaries (sent out early August). A copy of this letter will be sent to all committee members for information (attached)

DN will put in place transitional arrangements to deal with the retrospective collection of 2016 affiliation fees.

Preparation for the AGM

All AGM papers will be sent out electronically in the week commencing 17 October, with the exception of the paper voting slips, which will be issued at the next meeting.

The current constitution has been reviewed and the following AGM resolutions for change were discussed and agreed:

- All references to Team Manager and Training Officer be removed and replaced with Captain
- Item 5b: the word 'elected' to be replaced by 'nominated'
- Item 7b: the County Squad Committee to be added; membership of the Selection Committee be amended as follows – Captain, Assistant Captain, 2nd Team Captain
- Item 8e: remove reference to a copy of the report of the Executive Committee
- Item 10c: the statement regarding the per capita levy (affiliation fees) be amended to read as follows: The annual mandatory per capita levy becomes due on affiliation and thereafter annually two months after commencement of the club membership year. The Honorary Treasurer will make appropriate arrangements for the collection of these fees.

Officers to be proposed by the Executive Committee:

- Captain: requires constitutional change before election is possible.
- East Region Delegate: Sheila Withams (Lakeside Lodge)

It was confirmed that all other executive officers will continue in post for a further year.

Blue Book 2017: the process of updating the blue book will commence in late October and VM will be contacting Club delegates for information.

7. Team Manager's report

At the last meeting in July it was reported that we would set up a county squad sub-committee meeting to have a debrief on County Match Week and make plans to move forward for next year. This meeting took place on 3 August 2016 at Girton GC and was attended by Jacquie Richardson (President), Sue Hill (Team Manager), Cindy McIntyre (2nd Team Captain), Maureen Mansfield (Junior Organiser), Marcella Tuttle and Sarah Greenall.

The salient points in our discussion were:

- debrief on Match Week 2016 - we noted the enthusiasm to play that was sparked by the thought that we may withdraw. Marcella was thanked for her part in organizing the team and ensuring players were in place for each match.
- processes for attracting and selecting a match squad – we should consider all players of handicaps 10.4 or under and invite prospective candidates to meet and air their views on how to promote County golf and prepare for matches. A letter to be sent by email has been prepared inviting potential players to Bar Hill at 7.30pm on Wed 19 October (copy attached)
- agreement that the roles of team manager and training officer were no longer appropriate and that instead a Captain should be appointed. This change will require a constitutional change, which will be considered at the AGM (see above).
- Marcella Tuttle confirmed her previous offer to take the position of Captain was still valid but she would need an Assistant Captain. The other members of the committee agreed to this on the understanding that the position of Assistant Captain does not carry the implication she will take over the Captaincy when the tenure finishes.
- the County Squad Sub-Committee will consist of President, Captain, Assistant Captain, 2nd Team Captain and Junior Organiser who will meet regularly to oversee the progress of the match squad and final selection of players for County Week. The County Week squad will be selected by the Captain, Assistant Captain and 2nd team Captain and announced at the County Championship meeting.

We will report on progress the outcome of arrangements for the county squad in future meetings.

8. Training Officer report

This post is currently vacant – no report

9. 2nd Team Captain report

CM reported the following results:

- vs Bedfordshire - lost 5:4
- vs Norfolk-: lost 6:3
- vs Essex - lost 9:0

The majority of 2nd team players are playing off handicaps of 7-10, having lost a number of lower handicap players to the 1st team or to university. However there are a number of up and coming players who will add more depth to the squad.

Overall CM felt the squad had performed better than in previous years.

10. Veteran's Captain report

HS reported the following match results:

- vs Bedfordshire at Pavenham GC (3 played off scratch; 5 off handicap) -match halved
- vs Suffolk at Bury St Edmunds (scratch) - match halved
- vs Norfolk Seniors at Links – match cancelled as Norfolk could not raise a team on the due date and no alternative date could be found.

The full year results are as follows: 1 win; 1 loss and 3 halved matches

HS indicated that she had struggled on occasions to find players for the scratch matches, but in all instances veteran novitiates performed well.

11. Junior Organiser's report

VM presented the following report on behalf of Maureen Mansfield.

Since the last meeting, the junior section has been very busy. Several training sessions for the development squads have been held, although it has been necessary to combine activities for the 1st and 2nd squads due to other commitments. The development squad has also had three tour events at Cambridge Lakes, Kingsway and Saffron Walden – these are very popular as they provide the opportunity to have some training and play different courses.

The 2nd team played a match against Bedfordshire at Gog MaGog – match halved.

The County Junior Championship had to be rescheduled due to bad weather, but did take place at Girton on 1 August. Some excellent golf was played, with Jade Guest being crowned the 2016 Junior Champion. Anna Guest won the 36 hole nett competition, with Jessica Hollingworth winning the 18 hole trophy. Jade Guest is to be congratulated on winning both the Junior and Ladies County Championships (probably a first) and for recently achieving a scratch handicap.

The biggest event of the year was the hosting of the East Region County Junior Match Days at The Cambridgeshire. All the planning and organisation was excellent; the whole event ran smoothly and was much appreciated by the other counties. The fact the course and the hotel were on the same site was a real advantage as it meant that no transportation was required. Jacquie Richardson, Greta Barclay, Rosemary Hay, the other members of the Junior Sub-Committee and the ladies from The Cambridgeshire were all thanked for their support and help over the three days. Many of the matches were very close and were played in a friendly atmosphere. The winners were Norfolk, with Cambs and Hunts coming third, as we did last year.

Finally, the Juniors played in the East Region Trophy at Bawburgh Club in Norfolk. This competition is similar to the Jean Wilkinson, with players in different handicap categories. The girls all played well and did their best, however Hertfordshire won the trophy.

12. Competition Secretary report

TM reported that in the main all events had run smoothly and that the delegates of the host clubs had been excellent in helping manage each event. The Delegates Cup is the only remaining event. She had received a lot of positive feedback, but was disappointed by a small number of negative comments.

The main concerns still relate to

- entry levels:- these are variable and the County cannot keep running these events at a loss, as is the case this year. A more detailed report will be presented at the AGM

In discussion with players and clubs over the year it has become obvious there are two main reasons for low entry levels.

- the time it takes to play: we have tried to reduce the time spent by having running buffets and making changing optional, both of which have been popular. In the case of the County Championship we have dispensed with the meal on the Friday night. We spoke to players this year at St Neots and this decision was welcomed
- Perceptions competitions: many clubs felt that their mid to high handicap players perceive the county competitions are not for them as they are only for low handicappers. Obviously some competitions do have handicap bandings, but we do need to look at ways to encourage these ladies to take part. Division 3 had almost the highest number of participants

Looking to the future, TM confirmed she will continue in the role of competitions secretary next year, with the proviso that the way in which the role operates changes – she believes it should be more of an oversight/coordinating role with the club delegate from the host club taking on a more active role as has happened on a number of occasions this year. Rosemary Rennie, who has provided me with excellent support this year, has produced a comprehensive event checklist.

The plan is to address all of these issues at the planned workshops for delegates in December.

TM confirmed she is in the process of recalling all trophies for engraving and presentation at the AGM.

13. Assistant Competition Secretary report

RR reported that the:

- Grace Norman semi-finals/final had been played at Links GC and was won by Saffron Walden; runners-up Brampton Park
- Jean Wilkinson semi-finals/final had been played at Ramsey GC and that Ely City were the overall winners; runners-up Saffron Walden
- Scratch foursomes final was played at The Cambridgeshire and won by Marcella Tuttle and Sarah Greenall; runners-up Morag Hutcheon and Justine Voss from Saffron Walden
- Scratch League – final results still awaited

RR thanked all the clubs, captains and delegates who helped with the above events all of which ran very successfully.

14. Handicap Advisor Report

Nothing to report.

15. Regional Delegate report

Australian Spoons Regional Final:

TM reported that on behalf of the County Brampton Park Golf Club hosted the Regional Final of this event. 104 Ladies took part coming from all corners of the Eastern region. It was an excellent day, well organised by the club and with many very positive comments coming from the competitors. Those competitors who travelled long distances to take part were delighted with the refreshments provided both at the beginning of the day and the buffet following the completion of their rounds. One consistent comment was that it was the best they had attended. A very good advertisement for CHLCGA and Brampton Park.

Cambridgeshire Golf Development Group

Sheila Withams (SW) reported that there had been no recent meetings, but did distribute a paper prepared by Marc Smith, County Development Officer which summarises current England Golf initiatives and provides relevant weblinks (paper distributed electronically by SW following the meeting).

SW also reported that she had been invited to participate in an England Golf focus group meeting looking at how to recruit and support volunteers to officer roles at both club and county level (ladies).

16. SS Assessor report

No report

17. New/any other business

None

18. Club Delegates report

- Jill Gamlin, (Ely City), Sheila Withams (lakeside Lodge) and Jane McGlashen (Brampton Park) thanked Ramey for hosting the semi finals/finals of the Jean Wilkinson and to Girton for hosting the Mary Cole Rose Bowl.
- Margaret Butt (March) sought clarification about the number of official medal competitions that should be run by a club. Wendy Cox confirmed that the minimum and range is 4 – 24 and that these can be run on any day of the week.
- Margaret Beckley (Newmarket Links) asked if it was possible to enter a second 'B' team in the County Scratch League. This prompted comments from other clubs (Royston and Brampton) who indicated they had difficulties in maintaining a viable team. Agreed these issues would be discussed at the Competitions sub-committee on 17 October.
- Shelagh Byrne (The Cambridgeshire) reported that the Club had been delighted to host the East Region Junior Match Days.

19. Date and time of next meeting

1400 hrs Monday 17 October at Girton GC

Dates of future meetings

1400 Thursday 24 November at Gog Magog (AGM)

Signed

Date