

CHLCGA

Cambs & Hunts Ladies County Golf Association

Minutes of the CHLCGA Committee Meeting held on **Monday 10 July 2017** at Girton GC

Present Jacquie Richardson (President), Val Musson (Hon Secretary), Di Nicholson (Treasurer), Maureen Mansfield (Junior Organiser), Hazel Suswain (Vets Captain), Wendy Cox (Handicap Advisor), Rosemary Rennie (Asst. Competition Secretary),
Paula Offer (Bourn), Shirley Osborne (Brampton Park), Ann Russell (Ely City), Barbara Laman (Girton) Sheila Hayward (Gog Magog), Elaine Knobel-Forbes (Heydon Grange), Sheila Withams (Lakeside Lodge), Margaret Butt (March), Lesley Clark (Old Nene), Judy Freeman (Ramsey), Pam Bonnett (Royston), Vivienne Dondi (Saffron Walden), Steff Allen (St Ives), and Shelagh Byrne (The Cambridgeshire)

Apologies Marcella Tuttle (County Captain), Cindy McIntyre (2nd Team Captain), Trina Miller (Competitions Secretary), Tina Broadley (SS Assessor), Sarah Greenall (Assistant Captain), Sue Akers (Barkway), Christina Baxter (Abbotsley), Dubi Brain (Gog Magog), Shirley Longbottom (Cambridge Meridian), Jill Gamlin (Ely City), Veronica McGrath (Girton), Shona Kent (March), Margaret Beckley (Newmarket Links), Paula Ewing (St Ives), Fiona Whitney (St Neots)

1 Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 April 2017 were agreed as a correct record and approved by all.

2. Role of the Cambridgeshire Club Support Officer - presentation by March Smith

Marc Smith was welcomed to the meeting. He gave a short presentation that provided an overview his role, the national picture & the 2017/21 EG Strategic Plan, the current situation in Cambridgeshire and opportunities for joint working. In particular he stressed that he was a free resource available to golf clubs and county and the importance of sharing best practice. Additionally he is planning to start a monthly newsletter. A copy of his presentation and the Elton Furze pace of play case study will be sent out with the minutes of the meeting.

Marc stayed for the remainder of the meeting and afterwards was invited to be in attendance at future meetings.

3. Matters arising not addressed elsewhere

a. Outcomes of the competition review consultation

VM thanked the delegates for their responses, which had been collated and circulated with the agenda. Following discussion it was agreed that:

- The **season starter Am-Am** would continue, but would be run with a 2 tee start as opposed to a shot-gun start in order to maximise participation and minimise catering challenges

- **Marjory Newport Trophy (Division 1)**– the afternoon foursomes would remain an integral part of the day, but as an optional element – to be made explicit on the poster
- **Audrey Nicole Cup (Division 2)** – noted that the Cup is awarded for the best gross, so on balance it was decided to leave the competition as medal strokeplay, and not change to a stableford format
- **Autumn Foursomes (36 holes)** – to remain in the fixture list, but to be changed to a greensomes format for the 2018 season and then reviewed again.
- **End of season Am-Am** – general support for such an event. Consideration to be given to introducing it this autumn if a venue can be found, if not to be built into the 2018 fixtures
- **Weekend competition** – general agreement that this is worth exploring, but acknowledged that clubs may be reluctant to release their courses. Clubs to be contacted and asked if they would be willing to consider this as an option.
- **Jean Wilkinson/Grace Norman semi-finals and finals** – to continue with the current arrangement of playing on the same day. However agreed that the Grace Norman semi-final final would be moved to August (not July)
- **Jean Wilkinson** – to remain in its current format, however the handicap bandings will be reviewed at the Competitions sub-committee meeting in October

4. **Correspondence received**

Nothing other than EG communications which are reported elsewhere

5. **Officer reports**

5a. **President's report: Jacquie Richardson**

Juniors

- Attended Junior Committee Meetings, all Committee working hard to develop our Juniors for the future
- Looking forward to Junior County Match Days in August

Events

- Attended Margery Newport Trophy, County Championships, Audrey Nicole Cup but was unable to attend Long Handicap Cup (clashed with County Match Week) and Foursomes Championship (working)
- All events have been well organised and Club Delegates are to be praised for their organisation and running of events.

County Match Week

- Marcella and Sarah are to be congratulated on organising the team for the week. There was an excellent team spirit amongst the ladies and I believe that the future of our County 1st Team is in good hands. A special mention to Ella Mason who put in excellent performances during her first County Week

Presidents Day (24 August 2017)

- 21 entries so far, only 3 spaces left so get your entries in soon
- Need tombola prizes (bottles etc.) – please donate generously
- JR concluded her report by announcing that she had invited Maureen Mansfield to be the next County President and that Maureen had accepted.

5.b Treasurer's report: Di Nicolson

- Current Account: £18908.21
- Deposit Account: £15028.05
- Daphne Haddock: £22785.55
- The above represents the state of the accounts to 6 July 2017. A full reconciliation for County Week is under way but the figure will be less than £5K.
- County Competition entry numbers appear to have been higher which is encouraging going forward and hopefully will not see the same level of losses that were incurred last year
- The current account figure also includes £1474.00 from CAGU for County Card sales.
- We await affiliation payments from CAGU for those clubs renewing in April, and they should be with us in the next couple of weeks as they were due at the end of June.
- The delegates who have run competitions have been extremely efficient and we seem to have a process going forward for checking and chasing, where appropriate, payment or entry forms before the start sheet is published. Being able to send the vouchers directly to the delegate seems to work well and is a simple process for me.

ISSUES FOR ACTION

- There are still a few clubs who have yet to pay their affiliation fees for 2016-2017. Accepted that this may be a result of confusion over the change in the collection system. The Executive Officers had agreed a way forward at their morning meeting.

5.c Secretary's report: Val Musson

- **Transport for supporters at County Match Week in June:** 13 ladies took advantage of the free coach on Thursday 22 June. Whilst this was somewhat disappointing, those who did go along were very positive about the opportunity and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They recommended it be repeated next year when county match week is being held at Woodbridge Golf Club, Suffolk. This will be considered at the Finance sub-committee meeting in October when the budget for 2018 will be set.
- **County handbook:** remains work in progress

- **Safeguarding policy and protocols** have been reviewed and approved subject to minor edits.
- **County Facebook page: Cambs & Hunts Ladies County Golf.** This is a closed group set up by Marcella Tuttle, but we now need to make better use of it as an alternative communication media. The first step is to make members aware of it and get them to join and the second step is to improve the number of relevant posts
- **2018 fixture list** – VM confirmed she is collating all dates as they become known, but we are dependent upon other counties for a number of them (matches and regional competitions). A provisional fixture list will be sent out as soon as possible to facilitate club planning.

ISSUES FOR ACTION

- share the county facebook page with members – they will have to request membership of the group

5.d County Captain's report: Marcella Tuttle (apologies received)

- Extra shirts and new jumpers were purchased and worn during County Match Week (CMW), after which they were collected back in ready for next year. Some of the newly purchased items have been handed over to Cindy McIntyre and Hazel Suswain for the 2nd and Vets teams.
- The foursomes practice match v Newmarket Men scheduled for 5 May was cancelled due to the men being unable to field a team. The foursomes practice match v St Ives was played on 3rd June and the team thought it was a very worthwhile exercise.
- CMW at Hunstanton was a very long week. We felt we played five different golf courses during the week with the changes in the weather we had each day from 30 degree heat with barely a breeze to cloud, rain and being battered with gales - conditions were very tough. As a team we're certainly going in the right direction and we're making progress, even if it maybe in baby steps! We asked an awful lot from the team knowing they had to play matches against very low handicap players. In an ideal world if all our top players were available then there is no doubt we could do very well. Some of the matches were very close. We can take a lot of positives from the week. Rookie Ella Mason was spectacular and took it all in her stride. As our top players weren't available she really did have to 'step-up'. All the County Captains thought she was amazing and certainly one to watch for the future. We won more games than 2016 CMW. Congratulations to Laura Todd and Jade Guest who received their County colours during the week (awarded for having 4 wins for the 1st team).
- Many thanks to ALL the supporters and caddies who spurred us on and came to cheer us on. It made a huge difference to see lots of familiar faces. Many thanks to my team for being so positive and motivated - it was a pleasure spending the week with them. The team spirit was great. Thanks also to Jacquie who kept us all fed and watered throughout the week and to Val for organising the coach trip - Suffolk who we were playing that day didn't know what hit them!

- The caddies were a huge help and drove long distances and left very early in the mornings to get to us in time for tee off. An idea next year would be to have the caddies stay overnight. If caddies were willing to stay all week this would give the added advantage of each player having their own caddie and therefore getting to know their game and player, which in turn could improve performance. To be considered as part of the 2018 budget setting exercise in October
- The CHLCGA Facebook site was very popular during the CMW. Many comments from members saying how much they enjoyed hearing about the news, results and seeing pictures so quickly.
- It was very ambitious for me to do the social media, photo taking, restaurant booking, caddie booking/rota, lunch orders, responsibility for team selection and also playing in the team. It has therefore been agreed by the Executive Officers that we recruit somebody into this position to take away a lot of the jobs and get them on board very early on and ask them to attend CMW all week.
- In terms of budget we came in £862 under budget at £4,558 from a budget figure of £5,420.
- A 5-day format is too long with many players unwilling to commit to the whole week either for other golf, school/exam, work, young family commitments. We seriously need to look into reducing the number of days and changing the format. This was discussed and minuted at the East Region Captain's Meeting last October but needs revisiting.
- CMW clashed with some major events this year: English Seniors Strokeplay and the Sir Henry Cooper Junior Masters (many of the low handicap girls entered and left CMW on Wednesday). The Midlands South, Midlands North, and South Regions had their CMW's the following week. Looking at the England Golf website calendar we've got the same problem in 2018 and 2019. We need to be in sync with the England Golf diary, which is published years in advance. Apparently all fixtures start with The Open and depending on what weekend that falls all the other fixtures get put in place. The other fixtures are always the same time before or after The Open each year. To be discussed at the 2017 captains meeting

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

- Need a push from delegates to try and promote CHLCGA Facebook site to increase the number of members, which is currently 88.
- East Region Captain's Meeting on Wed 11 October is at the same time as Midlands Vets Team Championships which is at Sheringham between 9 – 11 Oct, so will be unable to attend. Will contact organiser to request a change of date.
- 5-day format of CMW to be reviewed following feedback from another region that is undertaking a trial using a different format this year. Have been told that CMW in 2019 is at Ashley Guise.
- Need to stop clashing with major England Golf events that take place during CMW.

5.e 2nd Team Captain report: Cindy McIntyre (apologies received)

- First match played on Friday 7 July at Ely against Essex. Match lost 6-3, but some very close individual matches
- Need to identify a new 2nd Team Captain for November AGM (work in progress)

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

- Encourage ladies to come to Brampton Park on 25 August to support the 2nd team in the inter-county Finals Day

5.f Veteran's Captain report: Hazel Suswain

- The handicap match v Northants was played on a challenging course with many blind holes and fast greens. Only one lady had played the course before and half the team was playing for the Vets for the first time. Although the result was a win for Northants by 5 ½ to 2 ½, 2 of the matches were lost on the last hole so the result could have been very different.
- Norfolk fielded a strong team for the scratch match played at Swaffham GC. Despite some great play we were again losers by 3 to 1. Just one change of fortune at the end could have seen a drawn fixture. It was good to see another new player to the team.
- The date for the last fixture v Norfolk Seniors has been changed from Monday 11 Sept to Friday 8 Sept to be played at Thetford. The match is 7 singles off scratch. Although I have e mailed a number of ladies, would delegates please contact any ladies who may be interested in playing and ask them to contact me directly.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

- Encourage ladies with appropriate handicaps to put their names forward for the scratch match on 8 September – to contact Hazel Suswain directly
- Many ladies in the handicap match told me how much they had enjoyed the day and the friendliness of their matches. Please help to spread the word, in readiness for next year, that county matches are not as daunting as people expect and a good opportunity for all abilities to be involved

5.g. Junior Organiser's report: Maureen Mansfield

- Most of the Junior events since our last meeting in April have involved training both for the both the Development Squad and County 1st & 2nd teams.
- Marcella will be reporting on the County Championship at Ramsey and County Match Week. I would, however, like to congratulate our three girls who took part in the County Championship, i.e. Anna Guest, Ella Mason and Morgan Tritton but in particular to Ella Mason who got through to the semi-finals at the Championship. Jade could only play one day at the East Region week owing to an England event but on most days you would find Ella marching down the fairways at Hunstanton and winning several of her matches – well done to Ella.

2nd Team Matches

- **vs Norfolk at The Cambridgeshire on 21 May** - for our 2nd team matches we play Greensomes. It was a very successful afternoon as we won 3-1. In one of our matches we had to give 10 shots but our girls still managed to win. The weather was great and the girls all enjoyed it. My thanks goes to all the staff at the Cambridgeshire for being so helpful
- **vs Suffolk at Ely City Golf Club on Sunday 9 July.** Unfortunately, Suffolk were only able to field a team of five girls. Match won. A special thank-you to Ely City for the use of their course

County Junior Championship – Tuesday 30h May at Links, Newmarket

Only 14 girls participated in this event this year. Seven girls played 36 holes, 4 girls playing 18 holes and 3 playing 9 holes.

- Congratulations go to Ella Mason from Ely City GC for being crowned Junior Champion 2017 with a gross 159. Ella also took 2nd nett with 145, as well as winning the Bidy Wade Trophy with a score of -20.
- Jessica Hollingworth from Girton GC was the 36 hole nett winner with 144.
- Jessica and Olivia Dyson also came runners up in the Bidy Wade Trophy with a score of -19.
- Lila Belle Nacca won the 18-hole trophy with 32 points.
- Imogen Longstaff-Biggs the 9-hole trophy with 12 points.
- As usual my thanks go to all the staff at Newmarket for making the day run so smoothly and, in particular, for keeping us well fed and watered. Margaret Beckley, County representative, and their Vice Captain Lesley Ellis offered to help. Lesley presented the prizes for us, as both our President and Newmarket Captain Marcella Tuttle were unable to be present on this occasion.
- My usual team of helpers were on hand all day looking after the girls both on and off the course and a special thank-you to Rosemary Rennie for entering the scores and producing the results.

County Training Events

- Since our last meeting the girls have participated in five training sessions, all reasonably well attended.
- The Development Squad have had two tour events which they thoroughly enjoy playing 9 holes on different courses. They have also had two training events at Girton.
- The County 1 & 2 girls have had two, on course, events at Cambridge Lakes and The Cambridgeshire. Different challenges but enjoyed by all who attended.

Forthcoming Events

- **County Junior Match Days – 14-16 August at Colne Valley Golf Club, Essex.** The girls play one match on Monday afternoon and then two matches on Tuesday and

Wednesday. It will be good to see as many of you coming to support the girls as possible.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

- Please encourage some of your members to go along and support the girls at the County Junior Match Days and please wear your County Blue
- Need to appoint a **new junior organiser** – delegates to identify possible volunteers and ask them to contact Maureen Mansfield

5.h Competition Secretary report: Trina Miller (apologies received)

- Divisions 1, 2, 3, County Championships and County Foursomes all completed successfully.
- Working with the County Delegates is really developing well making the Competition Secretary's job much less stressful.
- Numbers in all four competitions very similar to last year. The change of name has caused some confusion but this should settle for next year.
- All venues and dates confirmed for County Competitions next year (dates to be circulated separately)
- County Championships to go to Newmarket Links in 2019.
- Rosemary Rennie has agreed to be nominated for the role of Competition Secretary at the AGM. Rosemary had been a great support to me over the last two years and if elected will do an excellent job.

Results

- **Margery Newport Trophy:** Tabitha Brain (Gog Magog)
- **County Championship**
 - Overall winner/Scratch Bowl: Miranda Brain (Gog Magog)
 - County Plate: Sharren Kjenstad (Ramsey)
 - Allen Newport Trophy: Miranda Brain (Gog Magog)
- **Audrey Nicole Cup:** Marilyn Williams (Brampton Park)
- **Long Handicap Cup:** Pauline Bond (Newmarket Links)
- **High Handicap Shield:** Sue Harrison (Newmarket Links)
- **Holland Cups Foursomes:** Miranda & Tabitha Brain (Gog Magog)

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

The issue of raffles at competitions has been raised by some participants. *To be discussed separately under agenda item 7a*

5.i Assistant Competition Secretary report: Rosemary Rennie

The Grace Norman Trophy

- The four teams through to the semi-finals are Gog Mgog, who will play Brampton Park and Cromwell who will play Links (Newmarket).
- Thanks go to Ramsey Golf Club who even though hosting the County Championships in May, has agreed to give courtesy of their course on Wednesday, 19 July for the semi-finals and final. Thanks also to Lady Captain Sheena Bentham, County Delegate Judy Freeman and Ramsey Golf Club staff who have been very helpful in organising this event.

The Jean Wilkinson Trophy

- So far, the winner of Group 1 is Brampton Park, who will most likely play Lakeside Lodge the current leaders of Group 3. As yet, it isn't clear who will be the winners of Groups 2 and 4 as they still have matches left to play.
- The semi-finals and final will be played at The Cambridgeshire Golf club on Monday, 11 September.

Scratch Foursomes

- Matches are still ongoing.

Scratch League

- This is now underway and the results have been published on the website.

Notification of Results for all Competitions

- This has improved greatly this year and result sheets are usually submitted within 5 working days.
- Please ensure results sheets are completed as per example given to Lady Captains at the meeting in January. It is important to complete the winning margins because these are taken into account should there be a draw. Queries result in delays posting the results promptly on to the website. Also it would be helpful if results sheets could be submitted as a scanned document. If sent from a mobile phone or iPad the document often appears black and unreadable.

Practice Rounds for County Competitions

- CHLCGA does not have a special arrangement with clubs to allow courtesy of a course prior to county competitions. There are different arrangements across the county. Some clubs have a reciprocal arrangement and others charge members' guest rate. Usually clubs allow 1 practice round per player. County Cards can also be used if the club is listed as being part of the scheme.

Jean Wilkinson/Grace Norman 2018

- The draw for 2018 has been competed and will be circulated electronically to delegates, lady captains and vice captains shortly

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION: nothing specific identified

5.j **Handicap Advisor Report: Wendy Cox**

- As we are all playing matches and knockouts at present your club members may find the document with some match play rules useful (document sent out with agenda)
- A document entitled Test Rules from the R&A/USGA Rules Modernisation initiative has been sent to all clubs via your handicap secretaries (document sent out with the agenda). Your club may well have already taken the appropriate action on this
- an invitation to participate in a survey has been widely distributed electronically.
– members are encouraged to complete it

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

- Share document about match play rules
- Consider the content of the Test Rules document

5.k **SS Assessor report: Tina Broadley** (apologies received)

- Nothing to specific to report

5.l **Regional Delegate report: Sheila Withams**

There have been no general or voting members' meetings since my report in April.

Championship Working Group

England Golf have established a Championship Working Group to:

"... develop a situation whereby players of all ages and abilities have a clear understanding of the competition pathway on offer and for England Golf to provide additional resource in the running of events at Regional level. ..."

- Our Region is represented by Kim Burnage from Bedfordshire. The Group met in May and will meet again in October.
- One of the key issues raised at the meeting was a proposal to reconfigure the Regions for the Ladies' Golf Associations to bring them in line with the men's configuration. This would mean a reduction of the existing 6 Regions into 4 – see the attached maps.
- You will see from the proposal that, whilst 5 of the existing East Region County Associations move into the South East Region, Cambs & Hunts would become part of the Midlands Region. The issue of the future of County Week in this new configuration has been raised. EG response was:

" If larger groups are formed the CMWs will not be able to continue in their current format. Whilst this might not help with discussions there are a number of alternative solutions in order to determine who qualifies from the respective areas. Whatever happens the format of the final will continue, ie foursomes/singles"

- Our views are sought – comments to SW by end August.

East Region Ladies' Championship

- We are hosting this Championship on the Wandlebury Course at the Gog Magog Golf Club on Thursday 14 September. To date, we only have 8 participants so I'd be very grateful if you would actively encourage your members (with handicaps up to 16.4) to enter.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

- Need to consider the implications of the EG proposal to reconfigure the regional structure and make a formal response. Comments to be sent to Sheila Withams by the end of August
- Encourage players with handicaps up to 16.4 to enter the east Region Ladies' Championship. **Closing date 17 August**

5.m Cambridgeshire Golf Development Group: Sheila Withams

This group is being re-established and will meet on 3 August.

Marc Smith has been appointed by England Golf as the Club Support Officer for Cambridgeshire.

Cambridgeshire Golf Awards

Marc is coordinating the Cambridgeshire Golf Awards. Nominations are requested for the following categories:

- Golf Volunteer of the Year
- PGA Professional of the Year
- Services to Golf / Lifetime Achievement
- Golfing Ambassador of the Year
- Club Services Team of Year

More information can be accessed via the following website:

www.cambridgeshiregolfawards.com

The awards evening will take place at St Ives (Hunts) Golf Club on Thursday 16^h November 2017.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

- Disseminate information about the Cambridgeshire Golf Awards and encourage nominations

6 Club Delegates reports

6a Bourn

Confirmed the new lady vice captain is Ann Burbidge. Email address: ladyvicecaptain@bourngolfandleisure.co.uk

6b Brampton Park

Only 29 entries for the vets – reminder sent to delegates

6c Ely City

Noted the course was re-measured recently, but the activity did disrupt a planned competitions

6d. March

Entries for the Autumn Foursomes are coming in – numbers to be confirmed. A meeting with the Competitions Secretary was requested to complete the detailed planning. Also confirmed March is re-entering the Jean Wilkinson, Grace Norman and Scratch League

6e Ramsey

Very much enjoyed hosting the County Championship. Noted that the green staff worked really hard to maintain the course given the less than perfect weather - they have been duly thanked.

6f Royston

Foursomes Championship went very well and was enjoyed by all

6g St Ives

Confirmed St Ives will be going back into the Scratch League in 2018

6h St Neots

The Audrey Nicole Cup (Div 2) was well supported with 42 entrants and good feedback was received and everyone appeared to have had a good day- thank you to Trina for all her hard work and time. Also, St Neots GC is looking forward to hosting the Marjorie Newport (Div1) in April 2018

6i Nothing specific reported from the remaining clubs

7 New/any other business

7a. Raffles at competitions

Currently money raised is returned to CHLCGA. Given that CHLCGA is perceived as being “cash rich”, the suggestion has been made that if we continue with the raffles, that the monies raised should go to a nominated charity, possibly chosen by the President. This might make the raffles more meaningful and would help raise the county profile.

This issue was discussed and it was agreed that there were a number of options:

1. stop the raffle
2. continue with the raffle as it currently is, with the proceeds being returned to the county
3. continue with the raffle, but:
 - a. donate all proceeds to a nominated Cambridgeshire charity to be chosen by the President each year – this could be a local branch of a national charity
 - b. use the proceeds to fund some sort of golf related activity for

disadvantaged individuals

ACTION POINT

- Club delegates to discuss with their ladies section and provide feedback at the next meeting

8 Dates of future meetings

1400 hrs Monday 18 September at Girton

1400 hrs Monday 16 October at Girton

AGM: **1300 hrs** Thursday 23 November at Gog Magog

Signed

Date