

AGM - Vice Captain Report - by Sue Stilwell

What an exciting year it's been for both of the Somerset Ladies teams. In July the 2nd team played Gloucestershire at Weston-super-Mare GC where Somerset had an emphatic 7 – 2 win. In September we then played Wiltshire at Cumberwell Park GC and won 6 -3. These fantastic results meant that, for the first time since 2015, Somerset qualified for the 2nd team South-West Finals against Devon at East Devon GC, held in October. Last minute changes to the team due to injury and torrential rain disrupting the practice round, put the Somerset team at a slight disadvantage. However, we got off to a good start – convincing wins in two of the Foursomes matches and only a narrow loss on the 18th green in the third match. In the afternoon's singles matches, both Devon and Somerset won 3 matches each. So the overall result was a narrow 5 – 4 victory for Somerset.

I would like to thank the following ladies who played for our 2nd team – Abby Gray (Wells), Amelia Matthews (Orchardleigh), Carys Parker (Saltford), Ellen Reakes (Mendip), Frankie Dezis (Farrington Park), Jess Haines (Burnham & Berrow), Kim Parker (Saltford), Libbie Dezis (Farrington Park) and Megan Wilde (Isle of Wedmore). I was delighted to award 2nd Team Colours to Ellen and Frankie for 8 performances for Somerset ladies 2nd Team. I would also like to thank our coach, Terry Williams, for the time and effort he puts into the Ladies County teams and the support he has given me – his enthusiasm is infectious! The 2nd Team is a young team, so we rely heavily on parents transporting the team to the venues and for supporting the team even at away matches – thank you to the Mums and Dads.

My final thank you is to our Captain, Gill Brown, for the help and guidance she has given me during the year. It was a pleasure to support her and the 1st team at the South-West Inter Counties Championships at Bristol & Clifton GC and particularly at the National Finals at Denham GC.

I have decided to resign as Vice Captain due to a number of personal/family reasons – a decision that I have not taken lightly. I wish Gill and my successor, Helen Hayward, good luck for next year as the Ladies County teams built on their tremendous successes during 2021.