



## SOMERSET COUNTY SENIOR LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

### **President Elect's Address**

Welcome Ladies to a most unusual AGM due to the Covid-19 situation.

The 2019 AGM draft Minutes have been circulated and have been approved.

Proposer Pat Campbell (Oake Manor)

Seconder Kath Rushton (Long Sutton)

Please take a moment to remember Pamela Manuel, who has sadly passed away. Pamela had been a member of Wells Golf Club since 1986 and was Ladies Captain in 1991. She held the post of Senior Ladies Delegate for many years and was a Past Captain and Past President before being awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Association.

There have been several changes to your Committee over the last few months:

Regrettably, Judith Rowsell stood down from her Presidency at the end of June. Judith took on the Assistant Competition Secretary's role in 2013, to become Competition Secretary from 2014-2018. She then became the Association's Vice President in 2018 and President in 2019. Judith asked me to be her Vice President in 2020 and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all the help and advice she has given me. She has worked tirelessly throughout her time with the Senior Ladies, and we all wish her well in the future.

I took on an Acting President role to cover the interim period before the AGM.

Sue Harrop and Ann Gates have relinquished their posts of Competition and Assistant Competition Secretaries respectively. Between them, they did a grand job organising the fixtures for 2020 and also 2021. Thank you both, for doing all the hard work without reaping any benefits of actually having any of this year's competitions played!

June James has also decided to finish her Committee Member role. June initially was a Delegate for the Isle of Wedmore and then took on the Secretary's role from 2011-13, Vice Presidency in 2014 and President in 2015. She continued as a Committee Member and became an Honorary Life Member in 2016. She had major responsibility for producing the Handbook and has been the calming backbone of the Committee and, with her vast knowledge, she has always been the person we could go to for advice. Thank you, June, for the many years of service you have given to the Association. I know we shall still see you at Delegates Meetings and will enjoy having a cup of tea (and cake, of course) with you.

In light of Covid-19, we realised that a face-to-face meeting was not feasible, and therefore sent out a pre-AGM information leaflet, inviting any comments regarding the proposals to change elements of the Constitution, and to elect the 2021 Committee.

No comments were received and therefore the Association will amend the Constitution to read:

1. The President and the Vice President will serve for 1 year in each of their roles.
2. All Officers may claim travel expenses for formal Officers' and Delegates' Meetings.

The Officers for 2020-21 are as follows:

Yvette Gregg (Stockwood Vale)	President
Carole Paterson (Long Sutton)	Vice President

The following Committee Members have agreed to serve an additional year in their present roles:

Jill Paul (Taunton & Pickeridge)	Captain
Christine Harris (Saltford)	Vice Captain
Carole Paterson	Past Captain

The following Committee Members will serve for their normal term of office:

Marilyn Kirby (Bath)	Secretary
Hilary Dennes (Long Sutton)	Treasurer
Fay Galley (Bath)	Membership Secretary
Janet Handley (Minehead)	Competition Secretary
Linda Trump (Minehead)	Committee Member

Caroline Lumley-Frank (Long Sutton) Co-opted Member

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Janet and Linda. It is always daunting starting a new venture, but I can assure you that we will all be there to support you both.

Caroline was asked if she would return to the Committee following a 17<sup>th</sup> August Zoom meeting. She kindly agreed, which gives us continuity. Thank you and welcome back, Caroline.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank all our membership for the support they have given in these last months.

Members of my Committee have helped immensely, and my difficult job has certainly been made a little easier. We have had Zoom meetings and emails flying around like I don't know what, and my admiration goes to Marilyn for successfully writing up Minutes in these most difficult conditions! The Ladies have all put so much hard work into their roles, with none of the enjoyment derived from face-to-face meetings, competitions and matches with our membership.

I wish to give the Delegates a huge 'thank you' for putting up with all my emails and circulating the news among your lady members. I can't wait for us all to meet up again – double cake rations I reckon!

### **Captain's Report**

This has been a strange and worrying year for us all.

Normally at the AGM I would report on the inter-County matches, but of course there have been none.

After lots of discussion (phone and email) the dates and venues for next year have been fixed:

27 May:	Shield v Cornwall @ T & P
29 June:	Friendly v Gloucestershire @ Gloucester

6 July: Friendly v Wiltshire @ Long Sutton  
20 July: Shield v Devon @ Clevedon  
11 August: Shield v Dorset @ Ashley Wood  
7 September: Friendly v Hampshire @ Royal Winchester

We shall be following the same procedure as normal for selecting players for these matches, except that if ladies sign up for a particular 2021 match, which they were selected for this year, they will be given preference. (Selections were done for this year but not sent out to Delegates as it was done the week before lockdown.)

Sign-up sheets will be sent to Delegates: please check your dates carefully before signing. Remember, Reserves are part of the squad and should also keep dates free. Please note that Reserves are not listed in order of being chosen; it depends on the handicap of the lady being replaced to keep the balance of Silver and Bronze players.

I should like to thank the Delegates for keeping lines of communication with members open. I hope you have all felt that you have been kept up to date with the 2 Newsletters and information on the website. I regret that we have been unable to hold our Delegates Meetings as I was looking forward to meeting you all.

This year has been a year of "Firsts": no meetings, no competitions, no matches, no AGM. I really hope it will never be repeated. I am sure we are all keeping our fingers crossed that next year will be more normal.

Finally, I should like to thank fellow members of the Committee for their friendship this year. Although we have not held any face-to-face meetings since February, we have met regularly on Zoom, and got better at doing it. Marilyn has done a great job doing the Minutes, especially with not being able to hear very well when her wi-fi signal fades.

It is an honour and privilege that I have been asked to serve as Captain again next year.

I hope you all keep safe and healthy and I wish us all better times ahead.

### **Treasurer's Report**

This year has, for the first and, we hope, the last time seen cancellation of all matches and events, and even the AGM has to be held by email. As a result, any queries cannot be submitted at the meeting, and would need to be sent to the Treasurer (Hilary Dennes – hilary1golf@gmail.com) or the President Elect (Yvette Gregg – ymegregg@gmail.com).

The Annual Accounts, circulated by email, show an unprecedented surplus of income over expenditure of £1,153. This is, of course, attributable to the fact that, after the final events of 2019 were completed – one home match, the Stableford event and the AGM – no meetings, events or matches have taken place since the Officers' Meeting in February. The Association still, therefore, holds a considerable balance and, as a result, the decision was taken that all paid-up members from 2019/20 should not be asked for a subscription for the coming year, 2020/21. New members will, of course, be expected to pay the £5 subscription. Members are asked to note that the 2020/21 accounts may show a considerable deficit, assuming our activities for that year return to normal.

### **Secretary's Report**

As others have already highlighted in their reports, this has been a challenging year for everyone. Although we were able to hold the first Officers' Meeting of the year on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020, as the Covid-19 situation developed we made the decision to cancel the March Delegates' Meeting. Since then we have held four Officers' Meetings via Zoom, which certainly posed some issues for Minute-taking, with fluctuating internet speeds making it difficult always to follow the ebb and flow of conversations. There have also been many emails and phone calls as we strived to deal with a wide

range of Covid-19 related issues. We have also produced two Newsletters, which have been circulated to Delegates (and through them to the wider membership) and our Honorary Members.

On the plus side, I feel the Officers have worked extremely well together as a team and although it has definitely been a challenge at times, it has been enjoyable too!

### **President**

I feel we have a good year coming, Ladies. I have a great team behind me, and between us we hope to give you all the opportunities to enjoy both your golf and meet up with old friends, and quite likely meet new ones.

I am delighted and honoured officially to become your President for 2021 and I know that Carole will be a fantastic Vice President.

**Yvette Gregg, October 2020 (Virtual AGM)**