

Somerset Ladies County Golf Association

Minutes for the General Meeting held on 10th January 2022 at 11.00am at Burnham & Berrow Golf Club

Present

Fran Davies President, Louise Buxton Hon Treasurer, Gill Brown County Captain, Jackie McDonald Competition Secretary, Angie Frith Assistant Comp Sec, Sandra Ford VP and EG SW Rep,

Pat Roscow-Farrington Park, Margaret Gliddon-Past President, Minehead, Pauline Cornish-Mendip Spring, Lyn Gridley-Taunton & Pickeridge, Yvette Gregg-Stockwood Vale, Jenny Davis-Wells, Hilary Rowdon-The Mendip, Jean Booth-Burnham & Berrow, Sheila Grant-Oake Manor, Ruth Dowell-CST, Janet Fear-Handicap Advisor, Worlebury, Lin Phillips-Long Sutton, Maggie Dommett-Isle of Wedmore, Louise Buxton-Bath

1. Apologies

Helen Hayward - County Vice Captain, Susie Gibbins - Course Rating Assessor, Lesley Matthews - Hon Secretary, Helen Hayward - County VC, Anita Butcher - CJO, Beryl Richards, Amanda Mayne, Ellie Harper, Carole Paterson, Eileen Binding, Sally Irlam, Madeleine Casson, Irene Dickinson, Alysia Rees

2. Minutes of the General Committee Meeting held at Burnham & Berrow on 13th September 2021

Proposed by Jenny Davis (Wells), seconded by Margaret Gliddon (Minehead) and signed as correct.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meetings 13th September 2021, 18th October 2021 and 29th November 2021 already approved and circulated.

3. Finance Report – Louise Buxton

Account Balances: Current Account £22,985.38. Fixed Term Deposit Account £25,000.00

Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss and the Junior Coaching Account to Dec 31st were all circulated prior to the meeting and appended to the minutes.

Fees have been received from 20 clubs for the Rogers Cup and 21 clubs for the Centenary plate entry forms and fees.

We haven't increased competition entry fees although green fees have increased by £4 at most venues. We have included 2 spots. We do have a healthy bank balance but expect to compete more in Inter-County rounds.

Affiliation fees received from each club for each player are £19.50 of which £9.50 goes to EG. The £9.50 is non-negotiable but other charges are not consistent around the county. In some clubs, boys pay £1.00 only creating a gender inequality, especially evident with brothers and sisters both playing. The committee has voted to charge girls a flat £1 to bring this into alignment. We have 107 girls so this will mean a subsidy of approximately £1,000 pa.

Juniors – account should break even so although we have a good amount in the bank there are expenses to come out. Of the ring-fenced money, we will buy two new team bags.

4. | County Captain Report plus VC news – Gill Brown

& After a couple of difficult years, life is beginning to have a more normal feel about it, paving the way to a good golf season in 2022.

Terry, our County coach, and I met recently to discuss our plans for the coming season, we have arranged four coaching days at Wells Golf Club, with the first one planned for Sunday 27th February. A match against Devon has been arranged for Sunday 10th April at Tiverton, the format will be greensomes, to work on partnerships and hone the girls' alternative shot skills. In the new three-day format the foursomes games are now proving so important to the match result.

Preparations are underway for organising the South West Inter-Counties, which Somerset are hosting at Clevedon on the 3rd – 6th July.

The second team remains in the same group as last year, with an away fixture against Gloucestershire on Sunday 5th June at Knowle, the home match against Wiltshire is to be arranged. The second team final will be held at Tiverton on Sunday 2nd October.

With the young talented squad, we are looking to build on the success of last year with the goal of reaching the national finals at Stoneham in September, following a fantastic 2nd place last year maybe Somerset can go one better this year!

6 Junior Committee Report – Anita Butcher read by Angie Frith

Planning is continuing for events in 2022 including County Competitions, 9-hole Stablefords and friendly matches.

Confirmed events are as follows:-

- Sunday 24th April 2022 Spring meeting Tall Pines
- Sunday 19th June 2022 -Girls County Championships The Mendip
- Sunday 16th October 2022 Autumn meeting- Burnham & Berrow

We will be contacting delegates at all of the above clubs for assistance with County and 9-hole competitions.

Coaching is progressing well with positive reports from the girls, parents and coaches. There are no coaching sessions in January the next planned session is Sunday 13th February 2022.

All but two of the Girls County Cups/Trophies have been collected and taken to Burnham & Berrow Golf Club for valuation, engraving etc.

An important plea - we do need a Junior Organiser to take over in November so please do ask in your clubs and try to identify a successor in good time.

7 | Competition Secretary – Jackie McDonald

Thank you to those who have returned trophies to me for getting repaired, cleaned, engraved and now to be re-valued as this hasn't been done for a while. Some are likely to be quite valuable so the committee has been discussing whether these should all be stored at a club rather than taken by individuals after presentation. I have asked all clubs about storage and Burnham & Berrow have offered a locked cupboard but the trophies will not be on show, which seems a shame. Four other clubs came back with negative replies but I haven't heard from the others.

Please would you ask your clubs to consider whether they can house them. We would pay for a new lockable glass cabinet and the insurance.

The date of the Fowler Lock Greensomes at Wells is incorrect and should be Tuesday 6th September, not Thursday 8th. Please inform your clubs. The poster and information on the website will be changed later today.

We have agreed that prizes for all competitions will be M&S vouchers this year.

The Rogers Cup and Centenary Plate draws were done this morning, read out at the meeting, and will be on the website later today

8. | South West report – Sandra Ford

Dates being added to the website as soon as confirmed. Key date to remember is Inter-county Match week (4-6 July) which is being hosted by Somerset at Clevedon. Come and support your County Ladies wearing green. It really gives the team a boost seeing a sea of green! A key England Golf initiative this year is looking at Woodhall Spa. The Dorset SW representative is on the committee but I have said if she has a time constraint I will take over.

The Regional Medal, which was based on players' 4 best medal rounds is now taken from all qualifiers, a significant change.

9. | Handicap Advisor – Janet Fear

Here we are in Winter Golf. England Golf has produced and updated its document giving advice on Winter Golf.

The most asked question is "do we have to play qualifying competitions", our old routine of not playing all the holes no longer makes it non-qualifying. Yes, if you are playing a qualifying course in an acceptable format it has to be a qualifying competition.

But this is a good time of year for fun golf, Bowmakers in many ways, 4BBB, greensomes and foursomes. All a good option to get out on the course to meet up for some social golf. But why not throw in the occasional qualifier.

General Play Scores are another popular subject. The number of these now being done has hugely increased, but you must keep an eye on the tee positions as many courses now move off the main tees for a few months.

Remember a tee must be within 10 yards of the permanent marker for it to be a qualifying course.

There is a way to turn off the available tees for general scores on The Platform.

Visitors to your course may also be doing general play scores so someone at your club must be keeping a check on which tees are available for general play scores.

We go into this year's golf with a better understanding of how the World Handicap System works and maybe now a few more players are beginning to understand it.

Just waiting for the courses to dry out, the grass to grow and the sun to shine.

Happy golfing in 2022 everyone.

Janet then answered questions from the floor.

• If you enter an away score in the EG App, it will not show on your IG App. It will of course be taken into consideration for your HI

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10. News from the Clubs

Bath

We have a new Course Manager, Tom Hayward, who was the previous deputy. We are delighted that Russell Covey, our Professional, has been included in Golf Monthly's Top 50 golf coaches.

Minehead

Fully open at the moment despite the wet weather. Open Week starts 7th March

Mendip Spring

Open week is in June. Very pleased for Davina Xanh who came 5th in the Rose Bowl.

Taunton & Pickeridge

New Greenkeeper and General Manager are being appointed, to be announced soon. A new Pro started last July and has taken over the running of all competitions.

Oake Manor

Shut at present

The Mendip

New 17th & 18th will be in play from 1st April. Work is starting on the driving range in the summer.

Wells

Looking for a new Head Greenkeeper

Burnham & Berrow

Opens are in May and September

Stockwood Vale

New clubhouse refurbishment and now serving Costa-style refreshments which are well-liked. Pleased to report that the Ladies Section is now growing. Not using IG, but HowDidIDo.

Long Sutton

Currently closed. Driving range has been upgraded to use Trackman, proving to be popular. New Administrative Assistant is in place and new Pro started last summer.

Farrington Park

Lots of work has been done on drainage but the front 9 has still had to be closed during the recent wet weather. Top Tracer has been installed on the driving range. They have had volunteers for Ladies Captain and Vice Captain for next year.

Enmore Park

It has been a very busy year. Buddy system is working well and ladies are becoming more integrated into the Club. The Pros are going from strength to strength.

Isle of Wedmore

Currently closed. Open Week 17-23 July

Worlebury

Opens are all online. No Vice Captain for the ladies this year.

Questions – Lin Phillips Long Sutton - when will we be able to see our County Card on IG? LB SLCGA County Cards are all provided by the SGU, for which an annual fee is paid by the SLCGA. The SGU/EG are considering the IG option for future use, but it is unlikely to be within the next year.

11. President's Comments – Fran Davies

A serious plea – we need a new honorary Secretary to replace Lesley, who is already starting an extra year, with Angie helping when Lesley is away. The committee cannot function properly without a secretary but it is not an onerous task. We all enjoy playing but do need to give something back to ensure the smooth-running of these committees.

Likewise, we will need a Junior Organiser in November. The position is backed up with an excellent committee of 4/5 members and to include parents. Again it is a key role. Please go back to your clubs and identify suitable candidates to take on these roles.

Discussion ensued regarding lack of volunteers for the county committee and also committees at club level.

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Signed	Date	

The meeting closed at 12.15pm. The next General Meeting will be held at Wells GC at 11am on Monday, 23rd May 2022

APPENDIX

Financial Reports