



Minutes of the Delegates Committee Meeting held on 22nd May 2023 held at Burnham & Berrow Golf Club	
	<p>Present :</p> <p>Fran Davies, President Sandra Ford, VP (temporary SW Rep) Jackie McDonald, Competitions Secretary Becky Thompson, Hon. Secretary</p>
1.	<p>Apologies :</p> <p>Louise Buxton – Treasurer Angie Frith – Assistant Competitions Secretary Helen Hayward – Captain Lloyd Katz – County Junior Organiser</p> <p>Jeanette Cook - Saltford Sandra Eaton – Vivary Linda Edmondson – Brean Sheila Grant – Oake Manor, represented by Pam Kinnear (Lady Captain) Alison Lee – Clevedon, represented by Jackie McDonald, Exec Di Richardson – Tall Pines</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of Delegates Committee meeting held on 14th January 2023 were approved and signed by FD.</p>
3.	<p>Finance Report – Previously circulated to Delegates</p> <p>SLCGA Balance sheet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall £51.6k net assets• £49.5k in the bank, of which £40k in deposit accounts.• Investment in display board and banners (£541), which I will depreciate over 5 years (£108/annum)• Acquisition of 50 pitchforks (£403) as prizes for Rogers Cup and Centenary Plate winners <p>SLCGA P&L</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall net profit of £4.3k for first 7 months• SGU have started to collect SLCGA and EG Affiliation Fees from the clubs. 1st instalment of fees to 31st March 2023 have been paid to SLCGA and the EG fees paid to EG.• Fowler Brooches essentially broke even.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry fees continually being received for other County competitions and SW Australian Spoons, which Somerset is hosting at Long Sutton. • Honoraria have been paid (Nothing to Vice captain, CJO honorarium donated to Junior Coaching Fund) • £500 administration fee has been paid to SGU - the fee historically covered the cost of providing county cards. It has been agreed that this fee will now cover all the services provided by the SGU to the SLCGA, including EG and affiliation fee collection, provision of the iG County Card App and use of the SGU iG system for managing SLCGA competitions. • Insurance renewed (£439) - no change in premium from 2022. • Increased contribution of £1k has been made to Junior coaching fund <p>Junior Coaching Account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current bank balance £13.1k • £1,880 EG grant received from EG (via SGU) and £1k received from SLCGA • Ongoing coaching and facility fee costs • 2023 Junior bursaries have been awarded and paid (£500)
<p>4.</p>	<p>Captain’s Report – Read by Hon. Secretary</p> <p>2nd Team match</p> <p>On the 23rd April we had our first Second Team Match at Torquay GC. The team was made up of Lili Marshall – Farrington Park. Ffion Richardson – The Mendip. Ffion Lockley, Alysia Rees, Sara Cox-Conklin and Maria Wheller all of Burnham & Berrow.</p> <p>With 3 “newbies” in the team we knew the day was going to be a good challenge for team Somerset. Devon was welcoming as ever, and great opponents. In the morning Lili and Ffion R showed their skills and winning their foursome match 3/2. The other two games proved challenging, so we were 2-1 down after the morning play.</p> <p>After lunch, the singles teed off in the pouring rain (we all got drenched on the first tee!). After quick distraction with the government emergency alert phone alarm for all the players; we needed a number of points to win, the team played their socks off, but it wasn’t to be. Ffion R playing beautifully being the only singles game to get a point.</p> <p>Somerset lost 7-2, however the score line didn’t reflect the quality of golf, playing against a strong Devon team. Congratulations to all.</p> <p>The next 2nd team match is at Enmore Park on Sunday 28th May. Support welcome!</p> <p>County Championships</p> <p>Firstly, a big thank you to Mendip Golf Club for hosting this year’s County Championship. The event ran smoothly, and it was fantastic to see so many juniors playing! The juniors outnumbered the adults considerably which is fantastic to see.</p> <p>As a player, thank you to Jac, Angie, Fran, Janet and the whole team who helped make the event run so smoothly. Thank you to all the members at Mendip, and Stuart the head pro.</p> <p>A perfect story seeing Aimee Sawyer winning her first County Championships after an incredible come back 3 years after her accident. From being told she wouldn’t be able to play golf again and to see her win at her home club, in the year she is ladies Captain brought tears to my eyes. Only Aimee could write this story. I couldn’t be prouder of her. A story of amazing courage and determination.</p>

Congratulations to Connie Cox who had a very impressive nett score of 12 under par winning the Phillips Trophy, and all the other trophy winners, prize winners and players who took part.

County training

The squad training is going well, led by County Coach Terry Williams. The team have had a couple of training days at Cumberwell Park in preparation for inter counties in early July.

Testing out their short game skills on the impressive facilities at Cumberwell, their par 3 skills on the challenging par 3 course (including island green) and then practice round the red course one training session, and on the yellow course the next (the courses we will be playing in July).

The team is looking forward to the challenge.

(Long Sutton) asked the question that if there are more mature ladies available to play for the second team would that take the pressure off the girls.

5. Competitions Secretary – Jackie McDonald :

April saw the first County event of the season with the Fowler Brooches at Cricket St Thomas. My thanks again to them for hosting and for all the extra help from the Ladies for registration, scoring and just helping where needed.

30 pairs played, an increase in last year's number. The overall winners with 43 points were Jackie Hallet and Julie Poole from SWV. SWV also took the Bath Shield for the best two scores from players from the same club.

May saw the County Championships at The Mendip, sadly our numbers were slightly less than previous years, but that didn't detract from the quality of the golf that was displayed.

Our thanks to everyone at The Mendip who hosted a fabulous event, it was lovely to see several "supporters" following the players and the presentation was held in front of a busy Clubhouse, there was a truly great vibe around the room.

The Nett winner was Connie Cox aged 14 from the Mendip. She scored a Nett 70 in R1 and followed that up with a nett 68 in R2, needless to say a good handicap cut for her 15-12.

Aimee Sawyer, The Mendip, shot a first round of gross 73, this would have been a course record, but sadly we were on preferred lies, so we are calling it the lowest gross score recorded!

R2 saw a high tussle between Aimee and Harriet but Aimee hung on carding a gross 77. She was the County Champion by 1 shot. Only 5 shots separated the top 4 players.

If you know Aimee and her background of the last couple of years you will understand the mighty cheer and loud applause when Fran announced her as the winner. It still brings a lump to our throats.

Our next event is the County Bowmaker at Worlebury, already we have 6 more teams than last year (so 18 more players). Sign up closes on 25th May so there is still time to put an entry in.

Sign up is open for the 50+ and handicap champs I look forward to receiving your entries.

	<p>Stockwood Vale - Why does the Centenary Plate and Barlow Cup etc. have different handicap limits? It was explained by JM and JF that handicaps have to be drawn somewhere and they are just numbers, there is no specific rationale. It was agreed that maybe they need to be reviewed.</p> <p>Wells – Made the comment that it was disappointing that food stopped at Cricket St Thomas. The Cricket St Thomas delegate lady explained why the food was not available and that it was a problem within the club and was very apologetic.</p> <p>Enmore Park - Questioned whether clubs hosting the Rogers Cup and Centenary Plate should grant courtesy rounds to players beforehand. JM confirmed that this is down to club discretion, it is not a county decision.</p> <p>Burnham & Berrow – low number of ladies entering the County Championship could be due to the competition being held over the Coronation weekend.</p> <p>Bath suggested that individual club champions enter the County Championship and the county pay part or all of the entry fee? JM agreed this would be considered, but entries are limited to 30.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>SW Report – Sandra Ford</p> <p>Australian Spoons Regional Final 19th June 2023. Closing date 4th June 2023. Entry numbers are quite low. Of greater concern is the monies sent with the entries is low. The awful weather in April resulted in very small fields. There is a risk of a financial loss with this event if numbers and entry fees do not increase considerably.</p> <p>The plan to refurbish the Club House and facilities at Woodhall Spa is proving to be difficult to execute due to the issues of ownership.</p> <p>A working group across the country is reviewing whether the format of the women’s inter-county match week could be improved. A proposal based on eight divisions rather than six regions with an additional play-off before the final is being discussed. Having talked with Fran and Helen we can see no advantage in this proposal particularly as it puts more demands on players’ time.</p> <p>Karen Rix of Gloucestershire has confirmed that Launceston Golf Club has been booked for Wednesday 23rd August for the Senior Team Event. So far Somerset, Devon and Dorset have committed, and it is hoped that Wiltshire will also participate. To enter a team of 4 women over 50 is needed. How do we propose to select the team and who will manage it? The eligible past County captains I have approached have been interested in playing but not organising!</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Junior Report – No report presented at meeting</p> <p>The Somerset Junior Girls season is in full swing.</p> <p>Our winter coaching programme saw over 60 girls from across the county prepare for the 2023 season. Through the hard work of every girl over the winter there has been significant improvements in all the girls’ golf. Thank you to all the coaches for their dedication to our girls. Also, a big thank you to all the clubs who hosted our girls from these training sessions.</p> <p>It has been a busy calendar with several highlights. A number of our girls have started gaining valuable experience playing in a national tournament this year. A recent highlight was seeing the number of junior girls compete in the Ladies County Championships. One of</p>

our juniors, Connie Cox from Mendip G.C, playing 36 holes for the first time, won the net event with a score of -10 over the 2 rounds.

Matches

The girls have played several friendly matches against a number of ladies clubs golf teams this season. This included a match against the Wedmore ladies, Enmore ladies and the u16 Somerset Boys at Burnham & Berrow Golf Club.

Match v Wedmore

Importantly, the sun made a very much needed appearance, and the course was in excellent condition for this year's match against Wedmore. The groupings were well matched apart from one which had to give away 10 shots. After nine holes the scores were tight with the girls being up in 2 matches and down in 4. As the teams came in the strong teamwork was on show, as the number of groups waiting at the 18th slowly grew welcoming in their teammates whether they won or loss. The result was a well-deserved half for both sides.

Huge thank you to the Ladies Club captain Helen Tanswell, the Wedmore Ladies and Wedmore Golf Club for hosting the event.

Match v Enmore

With good weather for the first time in a while, the girls had a lovely welcome by the Enmore Ladies President, Heather, and by the rest of the Enmore team. The matches were played in great spirit, and everyone enjoyed the course which was in excellent condition in spite of the poor weather of the last few months. The result was a win for the girls in all 5 matches. Afterwards we all sat down to pizza and chips! Huge thank you to the Enmore ladies for their hospitality and thanked Enmore Park for hosting the event.

U16 Match v Burnham

What a superb day's golf. As CJO, I was extremely proud our girls' determination and the quality of the golf played on the day.

The day started early for many as we travelled to Burnham & Berrow for a 09:15 team meet up. Every girl arrived on time which showed good qualities of match preparation and readiness. We started with a quick team chat and the girls discussed the rules around the Foursomes format together and, in their pairings, discussed how they would go about playing together. The foursomes matches over 9 holes were really exciting. The girls played an extremely aggressive golf and had the boys under pressure from hole one. With solid golf and good teamwork, the first round of matches ended an exciting 2-2 with two huge wins and narrow 2 losses for the girls.

At lunch the girls had some switch off time relaxing and enjoying a tasty meal provided by Burnham & Berrow catering staff.

Next to be played was the singles matches. This time the girls went out in handicap order. The sides were fairly evenly matched with the boys only providing between 0 to 4 shots per match. In typical match play style, the atmosphere was intense and extremely competitive. Each girl fought for every hole with the majority of the scores fluctuating across the matches. On minute the boys were up, next minute the girls were up. It was a nail-biting affair. The final result was a well-earned 6-6 draw.

Thanks to Burnham & Berrow for their valuable support hosting these county events and providing facilities and the meal.

	<p>You would have been super proud of the girls, They never gave up once, continuously played with a smile and hopefully achieved the goal of the day which was to learn lots about their own golf, learn about match play golf and importantly learning how we can improve.</p> <p>Competitions</p> <p>Our first key competition of the year, the Spring Meeting was an extremely exciting day of golf. The weather was dry even though there was a cold easterly wind blowing. 32 girls took part in the competition, 19 in the 18 holes and 13 in the red/advanced tees 9 holes competition.</p> <p>The Chivers cup for the overall winner was won by Georgie Cushing from Saltford (18 handicap) with 40 points. This year we awarded a prize for the winner of Division 1 (16 and under handicap) and that was won by Sienna Elliott from Wells (13 handicap) with 36 points. Division 2 winner was Freya Keirl, also from Wells (28 handicap) with 37 points.</p> <p>The 9 hole comp was won by Bella Sheppard (Wells) with 25 points and Harper Howerd was runner up with 21 points. Advanced tees was won by Florence Sheppard (Wells) with 34 points! Many thanks to the local club volunteers who support the junior committee, and the Junior Committee for their support and help. Big thank you to Eileen who helped me with the organising of this event.</p> <p>A big thank you to Long Sutton for hosting the day for us.</p> <p>Long Sutton also hosted a Somerset girls 9 hole event in May. This is one of five 9 hole competitions for girls with higher or no handicaps. These competitions are designed to give girls who need more experience playing golf an opportunity to do so in a competitive environment. The Long Sutton event had 16 girls participate and was a good day of golf.</p> <p>Finally, we are most grateful for the continuing support of clubs who provide courtesy to their courses. Without this forward thinking of clubs, Somerset junior girls golf the future of junior golf would not be as successful.</p> <p>Next big focus</p> <p>Alongside all the 9 hole events and remaining friendly matches against Saltford and Clevedon Golf Clubs, our next big focus is the Junior County Championships on the 25th June 2023 held at Worlebury. We would like to extend an invitation to all those ladies who live close by and would like to watch some competitive County Girls Golf to join us on the day.</p> <p>Thank you to all the clubs and delegates for all your continued support to junior golf.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Handicaps and Rules Update - Janet Fear :</p> <p>We have been waiting for summer, but the season has started regardless.</p> <p>Many of the England Golf guidance documents have been updated and can be found in the Resources Page on the England Golf Website.</p> <p>There should now be someone at your club checking the General Play Scores, Penalty Scores and Deleted Score intent reports daily if possible. Checking that the scores have been preregistered and a score submitted. Checking that any done using the EG App have been attested properly and a penalty score hasn't been applied. Checking that a player hasn't submitted the score twice or not done it properly the first time and a penalty score added on the same day.</p>

	<p>Good idea to keep an eye on the N/S report as well, to check players are not entering NS instead of NR in Stableford competitions.</p> <p>A reminder, that there should be no N/Rs when you close a medal, if a hole is not completed the score is disqualified, Rule 3.3c Failure to hole out. For missing cards, Rule 3.3b Failure to submit a scorecard, and the score needs to be tracked down or a penalty score applied.</p> <p>I would like to think that all clubs have got their WHS membership list up to date. All new members added on day one of their membership, with or without a handicap, all of those left, resigned. I have seen a few clubs checking their list but a lot I think have not.</p> <p>The number of Independent Golfers is growing rapidly. Now 31,500. Maybe at our next handicap meeting we need to have a look at this.</p> <p>At the end of this year the handicap system is having its four-year review, I hear rumors of changes but not had details yet. I hear rumors of another presentation looming! Remember your handicap is the average of your best 8 scores, this winter has been wet and I think many of us have gained a few shots, but I am sure when summer arrives the handicaps will start to drop again.</p> <p>Happy golfing!</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Course Rating Report – Read by Hon. Secretary</p> <p>Following the success of the advertising on Facebook and the County website a course rating seminar was held on 30 March at Worlebury. There were 9 ladies attending as well as several men. Jim, Di and I were all involved in the presentation and Lesley Wicking assisted on the course with collating the Greens Data.</p> <p>The seminar was a great success, and everyone enjoyed rating holes 1,2 and 18 which gave them a good taste of what was involved. Everyone agreed that being on the course and seeing it taking place was less confusing than hearing about it!!!</p> <p>Following that day, 3 ladies decided they did not wish to proceed any further due to various commitments, but one did say she would be interested next year once she had finished her golf club commitments for this year. Another is yet to commit but I will be keeping in touch as and when the ratings are due to be held for her availability.</p> <p>Mendip Spring Brinsea course was rated on 13 April with Andrea Jordan and Julie Poole joining Di, Lesley and myself. The two new ladies soon got into the swing of it and were very interested and extremely helpful. They both had clearly done some reading beforehand and will be a great asset to the team. Jim is just finishing off the men’s tees spreadsheets and then all of them will go forward to EG for finalising.</p> <p>The other 3 ratings this year are Weston on 25 May, Saltford on 20 July and Brean on 25 September. The team are also possibly looking to rate the 9 hole Lakeside course this year at Mendip Spring if there is time.</p> <p>I am hopeful that by the end of this year we shall have increased the number of ladies permanently in the team.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Any other business :</p> <p>None.</p>

12.	<p>Questions :</p> <p>None.</p>
13.	<p>News from the Clubs :</p> <p>Long Sutton – Holes 5 and 11 have been extended within the tee areas and are much improved from 3 years ago. The course is playing well.</p> <p>Mendip Spring – Course rating being carried out today – one less for the ladies. Luke Collins is coming back. The Ladies Open is on 3rd and 4th June 2023.</p> <p>Burnham & Berrow – Barney Coleman, is the new managing secretary. Unfortunately the mens qualifying competition has gone to Porthcawl as the course was not up to scratch.</p> <p>Isle of Wedmore - Open week Monday 17th – 22nd July 2023.</p> <p>Enmore Park – Unfortunately have lost our manager and currently looking for a new one. Enmore was very wet and lost the Open at beginning of May. However the course is drying out and hoping to get the ladies Open rearranged. Hosting the Handicap Champs on 10th August 2023. Gender neutral tees now in place blue, purple (yellow) and green (old red). There have been a few problems with the colours in particular men getting confused between which are blue and which are purple! SI has been changed so all the same. We also have our First Lady Club Captain.</p> <p>Wheathill – Unfortunately the course was closed a lot through the bad weather but is now open and playing very well. Ladies Open is on 3rd August 2023.</p> <p>The Mendip – The Championship went really well and the course looking great. The new driving range now open and is proving very popular. There is a New President, a lady, which is really good for the club.</p> <p>Bath – Now refer to the ladies as women, also have joint club captains. Currently having white tees rated for women. The Harper Salver is played from the whites. July 6th and 7th July are the Open competitions.</p> <p>Stockwood – Not had to close at all as the course drains well. Would love more ladies to come and play, especially entering the Opens.</p> <p>Orchard Leigh – No longer have a ladies section. The course is gorgeous, and they are hosting a coffee morning on September 5th 2023. The current lady captain has no charity but there may be a fund raiser for that day.</p>
14.	<p>Future Delegate Meeting Dates :</p> <p>Suggestions are requested for topics which delegates would like discussed at future meeting please.</p> <p><u>Saturday 9th September 2023 to be held at Isle of Wedmore</u></p> <p>11.00 am Delegates Meeting</p> <p><u>Monday 13th November 2023 to be held at Isle of Wedmore</u></p> <p>11.00 am AGM</p>

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Signed **Dated**