



Minutes of the Delegates Committee Meeting held on 9th September 2023 held at Isle Wedmore Golf Club	
	<p>Present :</p> <p>Fran Davies, President Sandra Ford, VP (temporary SW Rep) Angie Frith – Assistant Competitions Secretary Helen Hayward – Captain Lloyd Katz – County Junior Organiser Becky Thompson, Hon. Secretary</p>
1.	<p>Apologies :</p> <p>Louise Buxton – Treasurer Janet Fear, Handicap Representative Susie Gibbins, Course Rating Representative Jackie McDonald, Competitions Secretary Margaret Gliddon, Past President</p> <p>Louise Buxton, Bath Linda Edmondson, Brean Lyn Russell, Cannington Ruth Dowell, Cricket St Thomas Maggie Dommett, Isle of Wedmore Pauline Cornish, Mendip Spring Anne Collins, Mendip Ruth Ball, Minehead - Sarah Hill, Lady Captain attending Sheila Grant, Oake Manor Patricia Pitt, Orchardleigh Di Richardson, Tall Pines Sandra Eaton, Vivary Park Saybria Sims, Weston Super Mare Janet Fear, Worlebury</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of Delegates Committee meeting held on 22nd May 2023 were approved and signed by FD.</p>
3.	<p>Finance Report – Previously circulated to Delegates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Overall, SLCGA funds have decreased this year by £2,167 to £45,474 at 31st August 2023 as we continue to support female golf in Somerset.

	<p>Profit and Loss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affiliation fees continue to be collected by the SGU and passed on to the SLCGA about 1 month later. I am grateful to the SGU for their assistance. • Competitions continue to make a small loss, as agreed by the Exec. Costs relating to the Fowler Lock 4BBB, Rogers Cup and Centenary Plate will be set off against the entry fees in September. • A small profit (£300 approx.) was made from hosting the SW Australian spoons, which has been transferred to the SW Association • Bank interest (£362) is significantly more than last year. • 2023 SW Intercounties match week expenses of £4,846 were more than 2022, mainly due to higher team accommodation costs at Cumberwell Park. • Team expenses this year of £1,894 include the Senior Team event. • 2023 Team coaching costs should be paid in September. • 2023 SW Junior Intercounties expenses of £4,618 at Teignmouth were also more than 2022, mainly due to higher team refreshment costs. <p>Balance Sheet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £15,000 has been transferred from the current account to a deposit account with a higher interest rate. • We have recently acquired new stocks of both prize golf balls (£435) and team match golf balls (£820), which should be sufficient for a while. • We have received a £2,714 iGolf Surplus grant from England golf, which has been earmarked for use supporting Junior grass roots golf. <p>Junior Coaching Account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 Junior coaching programme is complete and most of the coaching invoices have now been submitted and paid. <p>The subject of the monies held in the account was raised. Suggestions are welcomed by the clubs as to where they would like us to donate some money. We will send out a promotional email asking clubs to put forward suggestions.</p>
4.	<p>Captain's Report – Helen Hayward</p> <p>First Team</p> <p>There have been several events since my last report.</p> <p>This year's intercounties held at Cumberwell Park was a wonderful event, even though the result weren't what we wanted. It was a shame not to continue with the</p>

running streak for Somerset, but the team did the county proud and dug deep every match!

This year the team was made up of:

Abby Gray, Aimee Sawyer, Ellen Reakes, Frankie Dezis, Hannah Woodley, Jade Cope, Jess Haines, Lizzie Stephens.

A special mention to Hannah who played only 4 months post delivering baby Poppy, it was incredible to see her play such quality of golf while being a new mum and all that comes with motherhood.

The overall results were summed up by the narrow losses we had during the few days. An example of such was the deciding game in the Dorset match which went up the last where one of the Dorset players balls jumped out the out of bounds hedge back into play. I was so proud of the team and the quality of golf at the event gets better and better. Congratulations to Dorset on their win.

Second Team

The second team beat Cornwall at Enmore golf club 5/4, back at the end of May. The second team matches were very close this year with Somerset, Devon and Cornwall all with a win and a loss in our side of the league. After a check of the rules as what to do with a tie meant it came back to matches won between the teams. Cornwall coming out the winners.

Unusually the other league also had a similar tie with the three teams with Gloucestershire coming out on top with games won.

We had several new players in the 2nd team this year, Sara Cox Conlin, Maria Wheller, Ffion Lockley Ava Hirons, Abby Whittock all who have done brilliantly this year.

Other news

There have been a number of big individual mentions I would like to make. Firstly, the appearance of 3 Somerset ladies in the Home International Ladies team, Harriet Lockley for Wales and Patience and Mimi Rhodes for England. Patience the standout player for England winning all 5 matches played including 3 foursomes matches with sister Mimi.

Also playing in the girls Home Internationals Ffion Richardson representing Wales. She also recently won the Welsh under 14 Championship.

As the season comes to an end, I am in the process of organising team coaching and the plans for the next season.

County Championships. These competitions are for all players not just low handicappers, 28.0 and under. She asked delegates to promote these competitions within their clubs. It is 36 holes in one day. HH asked if we could have some feedback as to why players are not participating. All county competitions are on the website for 2024. It was agreed that all information should be put on FB, Instagram, and emailed.

5. **Competitions Secretary – Read by Assistant Competition Secretary**

Since our last meeting we have run two events.

The 50+ Championship at Saltford and the Handicap Champs at Enmore Park.

50+ Saltford were great hosts, complimentary tea/coffee and pastries were very welcome.

The ladies ran the welcome desk and the men acted as starters, they did a good job in taking everyone's photo for the social media accounts.

Amanda won the overall gross and the Sally Irlam trophy with a score of 80.

Our very own treasurer Louise took the Margaret Webber trophy for the best nett 76.

Full results of the age-related categories are on the website.

HC Championships

It was very disappointing that 8 ladies withdrew in between the start sheet being published and the event itself. Most had very valid reasons and were suitably apologetic, however it did mean reshuffling of the start sheet.

It was late morning when we got wind of the traffic chaos due to the motorway closures. In the end, all but two ladies made it to Enmore to play.

The Enmore ladies who ran the welcome desk and starter duties did an amazing job and everyone went out to play with only some slight shuffling around. Like with Saltford we were hosted exceedingly well.

Aimee (the Mendip) won the gross medal and the Dickinson Cup
Bev Broad (Enmore) was the nett winner

Andrea Jordan (SWV) won the Stableford and the Barlow Cup
Joan Stenbridge (Wells) won the 9 hole and the Grass Roots trophy.

Other winners are on the website.

The motorway chaos meant that more stayed for the presentations and that was a very nice way to round off a long, exhausting but successful day.

The Rogers Cup & Centenary Plate finals were held at Isle of Wedmore who were also excellent hosts. The tee time was later than we would have liked due to other bookings and it was clear that in future the CP match should go out before the RC matches. However, matches were all played in good spirits and Burnham & Berrow won both trophies, T&P coming second in the RC and Mendip Spring runners up in the CP.

We have one more event left, the Fowler Lock 4bbb, which has been cancelled in the last two years through lack of interest.
This year however is different, more publicity and changing the format to 4bbb means that currently we have 24 pairs playing.

This brings my term of office to a conclusion, it's been a varied 3 years, picking up

	<p>the reins after covid and lockdowns. Finding and sorting out all the County Silverware, changing from paper entries and cheques to IG and BACS and utilising social media to spread the County message.</p> <p>It has been a huge learning curve, but a position that I have enjoyed. Having worked with Angie over the past 2 years, who in her own right has done a massive job in computerising all our information, history, record etc, I know that the Competition Secretary role will be in safe hands.</p> <p>I would like to thank the current and past Exec for all their support over the past 3 years, and my very best wishes for the future.</p> <p>AF to check rules for centenary plate i.e. handicaps.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>SW Report – Sandra Ford</p> <p>A report has been circulated to the President and Captain containing details of the proposed changes to the Inter County Women’s event. In the proposal the format i.e., foursomes and singles match play will be going forward to the final there will be 8 regions followed by a play-off of all 8 to reduce to 4 who will then be play a final. We need to give a response by the end of August.</p> <p>England golf update focused on the new movement Respect in Golf which has been circulated. The next England Golf event is the General Meeting at Woodhall Spa 27/28 September. I will be attending and travelling with Rob Davis.</p> <p>Last two SW events are: SW foursomes at Long Ashton September 28 and SW Bowmaker October 2 at Weymouth.</p> <p>SW Representative role. In order to incorporate the SW role into the Vice President’s and the Competitions Organiser’s roles the following changes will need to be made to the constitution.</p> <p>In officers: SW Rep should read The England Golf SW Representative shall be the Vice-President and serve a period of 2 years.</p> <p>In AGM remove the election of England Golf SW Representative.</p> <p>Changes will also need to be made to the Vice-President, Competitions Secretary and SW Representative.</p> <p>SF raised the question as to whether a Somerset County online diary might be useful to the delegates. It was overwhelmingly welcomed. AF will be the contact for the administration of this diary and all enquiries and entries etc. are to be directed to her. This diary will include all county information as well as individual clubs as to the dates for their competitions etc.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Junior Report – Lloyd Katz</p> <p>Somerset Junior Girls have had a good summer.</p> <p>To start with some good news!</p>

This year we had thirteen-year-old, Freya Keirl from Wells GC (playing off a handicap off 29 at the time), win the National Road to Woodhall Spa Stableford event. In the same event another talented young golfer, Amber Thorp (also 13) playing of a handicap of 10, finished in 5th position.

For the first time in a while, we have had 7 girls qualify to play in the R & A girls U16 and U14 Championships.

In addition, we had our lower handicap girls playing in some national tournaments across England, Scotland, Wales and also Ireland.

Special shout out to Ffion Lockley from Burnham and Berrow, who goes into the last 16 of the Welsh Ladies Championships.

As Girls handicaps have improved and they have matured, it has been pleasing to see more of our Elite and Performance players playing more Ladies club golf. As a result, we have seen positive outcomes as three or more of the junior girls have won their Club ladies Championships this year.

South West Girls' Inter Counties Championship

The annual South West Inter Counties tournament hosted by Devon and held at Teignmouth GC this year saw our Somerset Girls team finish 2nd out of 6 counties. The team beat Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. We narrowly lost to Cornwall and Devon.

Big thank you to Janet Fear, Sarah Whittock and Eileen Binding for helping me in supporting the girls at Inter Counties this year.

Matches

The girls played a fantastic friendly match against Saltford GC which the girls just won. Thank you to all the ladies from Saltford for your friendly welcome, learning and kind hospitality.

Next big focus

Alongside 9-hole events and a remaining match against Clevedon Golf Club in October, we have also entered the girls into the Wessex Salver this year which will be played at Yeovil Golf Club.

Finally, we are getting our winter coaching back up in full swing. We are holding a selection day on the 24th September 2023, at Mendip Spring, 1.30pm for any girls in your clubs that are currently not part of our coaching squads. We want as many girls playing golf as we can so, please invite all your Junior girls who meet the criteria, to this day. More details can be found on the Somerset Juniors website www.somersetjuniorsglf.co.uk and a poster will be sent out to all Club Delegates.

Thank you to all the clubs and Delegates for all your continued support for junior golf.

CP raised the question of inter county differentials. It was proposed that maybe someone from Somerset and a.n.other county swap ratings. SG to investigate?

8. Handicap Assessor Report – Read by Hon. Secretary

Another season nearly over, not too many questions this year.

However, I am still hearing about General Play Scores being done during Team opens. All handicap cards can only be done in a singles format.

If you are holding an Open it is possible to turn off your tees on the WHS platform so that visitors cannot register a GPS.

That leads me back to my usual comments;
Are your committee checking the following reports on WHS every day if possible;

General Play Scores
Score Listing by day
Deleted Score Intent
Penalty Scores
Unsatisfied score intent.

Your club needs to be on top of what your members and visitors are doing at your club. Grumble over.

One clarification that has cropped up this year. In a 4bbb match when both men and women are in the match any shots must be given from the stroke index for the gender of the player receiving the shot. This could be different holes if you are giving shots to both men & women.

Lots of rumors going around about the WHS Handicap revision that is in the pipeline. This looks like happening next spring, so I expect there will be a handicap meeting in the new year once I have been to a training day but still not heard when that will be yet.

With my other hat on, I have filled in and sent off a request for a Level two School to be done locally to England Golf (again) So we wait to see if that happens!

9. Course Rating Report – Read by Hon. Secretary

Mendip Spring and Weston Super Mare have been fully re-rated this year under the 10-year cycle. Saltford is due to be rated on 1 September and Brean on 25 September.

Already we have a couple of clubs in the dairy for next year.

Three ladies who joined the course rating team earlier this year have been out rating and have enjoyed it very much. Two other ladies are yet to experience the joys of actually rating but will be with us for the Brean rating in September. We are still looking for volunteers who aspire to become Team Leaders.

11. Any other business :

None.

12.	<p>Questions :</p> <p>None.</p>
13.	<p>News from the Clubs :</p> <p>Burnham & Berrow – B&B won the EG Award for the Women & Golf Award for the Club offering women 'the best experience'. The award ceremony took place at Walton Heath Golf Club. Also, for the Mens Open Qualifier competition lots of improvements have been made to the course so fingers crossed for next year.</p> <p>Clevedon – Women in Golf charter starting. They have a waiting list even for the ladies! Lots of ladies are joining but they tend to be older with high handicaps. No juniors, sadly. They would welcome some more low handicappers.</p> <p>Enmore – They have closed the application for golf club manager as they have received a number of applications. They are struggling to find a Vice Captain for 24/25. They are currently reviewing captaincy as it is believed to be too onerous.</p> <p>Farrington Park – New owners who don't seem to be that good at communication. The membership has not been consulted about the changes and there is an element of concern.</p> <p>Long Sutton – more changes to the course coming next year as the owner is constantly upgrading.</p> <p>Mendip Spring – With a 60 year age gap, County Junior Emelia Pearce (7) and senior Bina Tomes (28) won the England Golf Trust Ladies National Pairs Stableford at Kings Norton Golf Club with 41 points, 2 ahead of the 30 qualifying teams. This proves a great achievement in the inclusive sport of golf and handicap system!</p> <p>Mendip, FD - Aimee Sawyer won “Inspirational Golfer of The Year” and she was runner up at The EG Awards for “Unsung Hero” also at Walton Heath. Her video is truly inspirational and is a great watch. Below is the link so that delegates can forward on to their membership.</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1Y8exTLgU0</p> <p>Minehead – Women in Golf charter achieved. 10 new lady members this year who are not all 60 plus! Their Open is on 5th October and the Somerset Seniors AGM is 19th October.</p> <p>Saltford – Nothing major happening. BDLGA – changes are coming.</p> <p>Wheathill – held a Women on Par event in August which was well attended by our new ladies and all proceeds went to Prostate cancer which is the lady captain's charity this year.</p>
14.	<p>Future Delegate Meeting Dates :</p> <p>Suggestions are always welcomed for topics which delegates would like discussed at future meeting. Please forward any ideas to the Hon. Secretary.</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**