



**Minutes of the Delegates Committee Meeting held on  
8th September 2025 held at The Mendip Golf Club**

**Present :**

Louise Buxton, Honorary Treasurer  
Janet Fear, Vice President, SW Rep, Handicap Advisor  
Sandra Ford, President  
Angie Frith, Competitions Secretary  
Denise Overson, Vice Captain  
Becky Thompson, Honorary Secretary  
Sarah Whittock, Captain, and Saltford Delegate

Sara Deverell, Bath GC, Hon. Treasurer from 2025/6  
Michelle Green, Bath GC, Asst Competition Secretary 2025/6

**Delegates**

Katrina Foote, Wells GC  
Pauline Cornish, Mendip Spring  
Carole Paterson, Long Sutton  
Margaret Gliddon, Minehead & Past President  
Lyn Gridley, Taunton & Pickeridge  
Sheila Grant, Oake Manor  
Anne Collins, The Mendip  
Kate Vaughan-France, Burnham & Berrow

**1. Apologies :**

Susie Gibbins, Course Rating  
Lloyd Katz, County Junior Organiser  
Angela Trenchard, Assistant Competitions Secretary

Lynn Russell, Cannington  
Julie Blumgart, Enmore  
Kate Cleverley, Wheathill  
Ruth Dowell, Cricket St Thomas  
Alison Rushgrove, Bath  
Di Rich, Tall Pines  
Alison Powlesland, Stockwood Vale  
Maggie Dommett, Isle of Wedmore  
Jackie McDonald, Clevedon  
Pat Pitt, Orchardleigh  
Sue Stilwell, Weston Super Mare

2.	<p><b>Minutes</b> of Delegates Committee meeting held on 12th May 2025 were approved and signed by SF.</p>
3.	<p><b>Finance Report – Louise Buxton</b></p> <p>The accounts information had been previously circulated to the delegates.</p> <p>Carol Paterson asked if the lower fees for the 11 months to 31st August 2025 (£11,434) compared with the year to 30th September (£16,920) implied a significant reduction in members.</p> <p>LB explained that the SGU collect the affiliation fees from the clubs on behalf of the SLCGA and there can be a time lag before the SLCGA receives fees. A further £4.4k fees was received in September. It is likely that overall fees will be less this year as fees from a couple of larger clubs that were received before 30th September 2024 will probably be received after year end. However, this is not necessarily an indication of lower member numbers, more a timing issue in receipt of fees. Final female golfer numbers for 2023 are (Women-1656, Girls-114) and 2024 (W-1561 and G-97) and 2025 YTD (W-1007 and G-79).</p> <p>EG is performing random audits of clubs to investigate the differences between the member numbers per WHS and those reported for affiliation fee purposes. In 2025 The Mendip and Cannington have been audited.</p> <p><i>Please can you remind your handicap secretaries to go through their WHS system and pay particular attention to removing players from the system.</i></p>
4.	<p><b>Captain’s Report – Sarah Whittock</b></p> <p><b>Match week – East Devon – 30<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b></p> <p>What a match week!</p> <p>After a rather frustrating fog delay on the Monday morning, we finally got out on the course to play Dorset in a reduced 9 hole match and we won 3.5 – 1.5.</p> <p>After a quick lunch it was then the home team Devon who we faced. We managed to again win 3. – 1.5</p> <p>So, an excellent first day. The second day in the morning we faced Wiltshire and thankfully the sun was shining from the start. We proceeded to beat Wiltshire 5-0. However tough opponents in Gloucestershire were next in the afternoon. After a hard battle and some tight games, we unfortunately lost to Gloucestershire 1-4.</p> <p>So, it was all to play for on the final day. We knew we had the games in hand over Dorset, it was a case of how well Gloucestershire were going to do against Devon. We could only control our element, and the team had a fantastic 5-0 victory over Cornwall. It was now over to Devon.</p> <p>The rumours started to fly in that Devon had won at least one of the games, which meant on countback we would have succeeded had Gloucestershire won the rest. Then even better news arrived, Devon had managed to half the match with Gloucestershire,</p>

so they only had one match point. We were therefore tied with Dorset who had beaten Wiltshire, but due to our games points we were crowned the overall winners!

I would like to pass on my thanks to:

Sandra, Janet, Denise and Joe who were so helpful and brilliant supporters. To our supporters and caddies who gave up their time to cheer on the frogs.

Finally, to the team:

Jess Haines	Burnham and Berrow
Frankie Dezis	Burnham and Berrow
Harriet Lockley	Burnham and Berrow
Aimee Sawyer	The Mendip
Hannah Woodley	Enmore Park
Ellen Reakes	The Mendip
Abbie Moore	Isle of Wedmore
Libbie Dezis	The Mendip
Arabella White	Saltford

I cannot commend them enough for their effort, teamwork and brilliant golf



### **National Finals**

So next part of the journey – the national finals at Selby! Unfortunately, due to Jess, Frankie and Harriet having to return to the States, we are without them at finals. However, I have still been able to gather a fantastic squad, who are as follows:

Aimee Sawyer	The Mendip
Ellen Reakes	The Mendip
Abbie Moore	Isle of Wedmore
Libbie Dezis	The Mendip
Arabella White	Saltford
Lilianna Marshall	Bath
Emelia Pearce	Mendip Spring
Abigail Whittock	Saltford

Below is link to the event:

[English Women's County Finals 2025 Event :: Championship Information](#)

The event is 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September. The matches are as follows:

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – we play Buckinghamshire in the morning and then Surrey

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> – we play Northumberland in the morning and then Lincolnshire

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> – we play Norfolk

So, if anyone happens to be in the area – please come and support!

## 5. Competitions Secretary – Angela Frith

The various competitions have continued to run smoothly with great help and support from the clubs. We really are indebted to the delegates and women's captains to find helpers for these competitions.

The 3-ball Bowmaker was held in early June at Tall Pines who were excellent hosts. 19 teams competed and the winners were Lynda Russell, Madeleine Casson and Wendy Mayes, all from Cannington, with 83 points. We were very grateful for the assistance Tall Pines gave us, to allow us to play in the event ourselves.

Next came the 50+ Championship at Worlebury in mid-June. Janet found us lots of willing helpers, so Angela and I were able to play in this one too. 39 players entered and Amanda Mayne yet again triumphed for the third year running, with a Gross 78. The nett winner with 72 was ..... me! (For the last three years, someone from the exec committee has won this trophy so it's definitely worth going on committee!!!)

In August, we held the Handicap Championships at Bath. This is always the biggest event of the year, with 90 entrants. In the end, 86 played for nine different trophies, some of which are trophies within the envelope of the main competitions. Aimee Sawyer won the Handicap Medal for the third year running, with a gross 76; Nicola Diamond won the Stableford with 38 points; and Denise Stone won the 9-hole Stableford. The Dickinson Cup was won by Kerri Flynn, the Barlow Cup by Nicola Diamond and Grass Roots by Suzie Howe. These three trophies are open to those who qualified earlier in the year. Full results and write-up are as ever on the website.

We choose the club to go forward to represent Somerset in the England Golf Champion Club event for the following year by looking at the best three gross scores in the medal. This year, Burnham & Berrow won the honour of competing in 2026 with a gross total of 265 by Gill Brown, Sara Cox-Conklin and Alysia Rees. This year's championship has just been held at Newcastle and Weston-super-Mare was our chosen club. The team comprised of Sue Stilwell, Glenda Latham-Creasy and Shirley Gooding. They didn't win but thoroughly enjoyed the whole event.

### **Entrants for the final competitions for the year -**

Fowler Lock at Wheathill on 17<sup>th</sup> September - *entries have closed at 34 players*

EG SW Bowmaker *We have 78 entries so there room for one more team*

This is a three-ball bowmaker with a one-course meal included, for £35 per person. Please sign up on the SGU site if you would like to get a team together to take this last place.

The Rogers Cup and Centenary Plate finals results are T&P for both. Thank you to the Mendip for hosting the finals since both the chosen course and back-up course had teams in the finals!

	<p>Please let me know of any notable achievements for the website or our Facebook page and thank you for continuing to disseminate information from us to your women's sections.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>SW Report - Janet Fear</b></p> <p>Report from EG regional meeting first.</p> <p>All teams have done well in the Home Internationals. Girls, Boys, Men and Ladies won.</p> <p><b><u>Junior Development</u></b></p> <p>Research in 2022/23 showed 92% of juniors come through the clubs. 11% tried golf at school, 84% have parents that play of those 54% are club members, 14% both parents play.</p> <p>Juniors are influenced by: 58% the weather, 39% friends, 27% time.</p> <p>New The Junior journey – 5 parts;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Finding out at school or in the community.</li> <li>2. Introduction to Clubs</li> <li>3. Coaching</li> <li>4. Getting on the course</li> <li>5. Membership and Competitions.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Junior Hubs</u></b></p> <p>Clubs can apply to be a junior Hub, so far 31 clubs have applied. Benefits are EG help with Promotion, Guidance, support, Igolfer grants for the junior journey mentioned briefly but no details!</p> <p>There should be a list of Junior Hubs in “Get into Golf”</p> <p><b><u>County Talent Funding 2025-30</u></b></p> <p>Current funding of £2k per county and £60 per affiliated club goes to SGU who share with us. From 2025 our share will come direct to us. 2026/7 there will be the fixed payment an extra based on performance players. Measured by entry to national championships using info from WHS. This will be transparent and easy to understand. There will be County Workshops in Oct/Nov to find out more.</p> <p>Clashes with all the fixtures was mentioned esp. Girls/ladies teams.</p> <p>National Golf centre still plan to break ground in October.</p> <p><b><u>Handicapping/Rules/Beginners golf</u></b></p> <p>Rules will be reviewed a year later than planned so they change the same time as Handicapping review is next done 2028 I think.</p> <p>Somerset are considering running another Level two rules school during the winter, let me know if you are interested and I will pass on your name.</p>

### **Igolf grant for beginners golf days**

So far paid out to Worlebury, Tall Pines, Cricket St Thomas, Minehead, Wheathill, B&Bs Teenage girls programme. I had hoped some of the other small Ladies sections would apply. Bleadon, Brean, Fosseway, Tickenham, Vivary, Wincanton, Stockwood.

There is still money in the pot! Won't be here next year.

### **7. Junior Report – Lloyd Katz - read by Janet Fear**

This year has been highly successful for Somerset's junior girl golfers. The updated winter coaching program for 2024-2025 has successfully increased the number of players with handicaps between 10 and 18, a crucial development to continue to support the pipeline for the county's Ladies' 1st and 2nd teams. This year we had 2 junior girls represent the Ladies 1st team in their success at SWIC and 3 juniors are part of the 1st team going to the National finals in September.

We also had a number of juniors represent the county 2nd team in their matches this year. The coaching program also welcomed 20 new girls (mostly 6-10 years old) and saw significant improvement among those with higher handicaps.

In addition to the coaching program, Somerset Girls has continued to pursue growing the game of golf by partnering with clubs to run taster sessions in schools and offer coaching at local clubs. This initiative is supported by funding from England Golf. We are particularly encouraged by our latest partnership with Weston-Super-Mare Golf Club and Jade Cope, who will be leading coaching sessions for girls.

The Somerset girls 9 hole competitions across the county have also given our younger girls opportunities to get more course time and play in a fun competitive environment.

Thank you to all the clubs who have supported our girls program and made the Somerset Girls experience a huge success this year.

Special thank you to the junior committee for their support and service.

### **Somerset Girls Championship**

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mendip Golf Club for hosting the Somerset Girls County Championship this year. The course was in immaculate condition, providing a challenging and beautiful setting for the event.

The staff were also incredibly welcoming and helpful, which greatly contributed to the day's positive atmosphere. The competition was a resounding success, running smoothly despite a mix of sun, wind, and rain. The girls played exceptionally well, with some achieving excellent scores and reducing their handicaps. We are truly grateful for Mendip Golf Club's fantastic support of junior girls' golf in Somerset.

2025 Winners:

Libbie Dezis - 36 holes gross and county champion

Maisie Dezis - Under 15, 36 holes gross

Matilda Rocker Cook - 18 holes gross champion

Bella Sheppard - 36 holes nett

Phoebe Whittock - 36 holes stableford

Cerys Hitt - 18 holes nett  
Lauren Morris - 18 holes stableford

### **South West Girls Championship**

Somerset hosted the South West Girls Championship on Sunday, July 13, 2025 at Oake Manor Golf Club. The course was in fantastic condition, setting the stage for a day of high-quality golf. Competitors from across the counties delivered impressive scores, but it was the Devon girls who truly shone. They secured the team gross title with a superb score of 221. The individual accolades also largely went to Devon, with Susie Carr crowned the overall gross winner after an outstanding round of 69 (-2), which also established a new course record. Isla Schofield, also from Devon, claimed the best overall nett with a tremendous score of nett 58, following a gross 73.

The organisers extended their gratitude to Oake Manor and its staff for their hospitality, to referees James Wild and Janet Fear for their efforts, and to all the competitors and parents for their participation.

### **South West Girls Inter-Counties**

What a fantastic week it was for the Somerset Girls to represent their County at the Inter Counties match week! While the final results may not tell the whole story, these players gave it their all, showing incredible spirit, resilience, and their deep love for the game of golf.

On the first day, the team showed their fighting spirit early on. After a narrow 3-2 loss to Dorset, they faced a difficult match against Gloucestershire. Despite being heavily down, they rallied with a fierce comeback, showing a never-say-die attitude that made everyone proud. Although they ultimately lost, two of those matches came down to the final hole, with one heartbreaking lip-out and another ball hanging on the edge - a testament to their tenacity.

Day two saw even more impressive performances against Cornwall and Wiltshire. The team battled hard, losing to Cornwall by the slimmest of margins, with the final game decided on the 17th hole. They followed that up with a hard-fought draw against Wiltshire, with yet another lip-out on the 18th hole denying them a well-deserved victory. The results don't fully capture the heart and great golf this team displayed throughout the day.

The final day brought a tough match against the eventual champions, Devon. The Somerset girls put up a valiant fight, but Devon's desperation to win the trophy saw them take a 4-1 victory.

While there were losses this week, the team secured monumental personal and county wins. This week was about more than just the scoreboard. The girls learned the tough reality of competition and also life lessons of what it means to fight to the end, learn to lose as a team, and to pursue victory together. They wore the Somerset badge with honour and gave everything they had, showing remarkable team spirit and pride.

This tournament also marked an exciting moment for the future of Somerset golf. Three new girls represented the county for the first time, continuing the strong line of succession needed for the future successes of first and second ladies' teams.

A massive thank you is due to everyone who made this week possible especially: to Janet Fear and Sarah Whittock for their tireless time, help, and support.

to Sarah Thorp and Sarah Jane for their invaluable help with logistics, to Denise, who not only offered her support but also kept the girls dry with waterproofs, to Louise for handling all the financial details, to our President, Sandra, for her powerful and motivating words after matches. And to Abi Moore, who provided outstanding leadership, pulling the team together and leading from the front.

All supporters including, the ladies exec, parents, past players and all those on the junior committee.

Finally, this week of fierce competition, growth, and team spirit sets the stage for an even more successful future. With a mix of good existing talent and a fresh wave of promising new players coming through, the future of Somerset Girls golf remains incredibly bright. We will compete again next year, stronger, prepared and with invaluable experience under our belts.

Thank you, girls for your effort. You are appreciated.

### **Upcoming Event**

#### **Wessex Salver**

On the 28th of September 2025, the Somerset Girls Golf will play in the annual Wessex Salver. The event is played against Dorset, Gloucestershire, Devon, Cornwall and Wiltshire. This event is a handicapped event for players with a handicap between 10-36. The team for this year's event is,

Freya Keirls - Wells GC  
Scarlett Thorp - Saltford GC  
Rebekah Muncer - Saltford GC  
Georgie Powell - Wells GC  
Isabella Shepard - Wells GC  
Darcy Fry - Saltford GC  
Jo Jo Knetchli - Bath GC  
Lauren Morris - Mendip GC

### **Winter coaching**

#### **Upcoming Winter Coaching for Junior Girls**

We are preparing for our 25/26 winter coaching for junior girls across the county.

#### **If your club has any junior girls from 6-18 yr old**

An assessment day for junior girl golfers aged 6-18 will be held on **September 14, 2025**, at **1:00 pm** at **Mendip Spring Golf Club**. This is for girls who are not currently in a county coaching squad but are looking to improve their golf.

For more information or to book a place, please email [juniors@somersetladiesgolf.org](mailto:juniors@somersetladiesgolf.org).

### **Competitions in 2026**

The girls' Spring Meeting will be hosted by Weston GC in April 2026.  
The Girls Championship has been confirmed for Oake Manor in June 2026.

### **Somerset hosting SW Girls Inter Counties**

	<p>Somerset Girls will be hosting the South West Championships in early August 2027. We are starting the preparations for this in the coming months.</p>
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>Handicap and Rules Update – Janet Fear</b></p> <p>Well, what a fun summer that proved to be, those with a flat course, how lucky you are, those of us on a hill with sloping fairways, gosh that has been a nightmare. But it is now raining and we have a faint haze of green back.</p> <p>Hopefully all your ladies handicap indexes have come down and maybe like Worlebury you have an empty Soft &amp; Hard cap report for the Ladies! Now we have to see what the winter brings and see if we can all play to them!</p> <p>The Adverse Weather guidance has not been updated since last December so I guess it is still up to clubs when they bring in preferred lies, as long as it is really necessary not just because it makes golf easier.</p> <p>I have received lots of comments about the winning scores in Opens and team competitions, some of this is probably due to the run on the ball this summer, but I have also received lots of comments on how few handicap cards some winners are doing.</p> <p>Nothing wrong with being a social golfer, but don't then enter competitions! Many clubs are now bringing in a minimum number of handicap cards to enter their opens.</p> <p>Clubs are now able to access the Race to Woodhall Spa report, although this doesn't finish until the end of the year.</p> <p><b><u>Igolf grant for beginners golf days</u></b></p> <p>So far paid out to Worlebury, Tall Pines, Cricket St Thomas, Minehead, Wheathill, B&amp;Bs Teenage girls programme. I had hoped some of the other small Ladies sections would apply. Bleadon, Brean, Fosseyway, Tickenham, Vivary, Wincanton, Stockwood. There is still money in the pot! Won't be here next year.</p> <p><b><u>On the rules front</u></b></p> <p>The update of the rules will be postponed a year so it can be done the same time as the update on handicapping, just makes more sense.</p> <p>Somerset are thinking about doing another Level Two Rules School this winter. If you have someone interested do let me know.</p>
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>Course Rating Report – Susie Gibbins - read by Becky Thompson</b></p> <p>The team have been very busy this year and have successfully rated 5 courses, Clevedon, Tall Pines, The Mendip, Tickenham and Enmore Park.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to illness these ratings have not been processed as quickly as normal but are now going forward in the pipeline.</p> <p>The system for recording on course data and transferring this to EG spreadsheets is on the change with the majority of the work to be done on tablets. AF1 is a Canadian</p>

	<p>system that EG have adopted and are hopeful that all counties will be able to work through the transition during the 2026 rating season. Heather Neale will attend the first workshop in Exeter on 29 October.</p> <p>The Somerset Rating Team have decided on which courses are to be rated next year but no dates have been fixed as yet. The courses are Burnham &amp; Berrow Championship and Chanel courses and Fosseway.</p> <p>If anyone is interested in joining the team, please speak to one of us after the meeting.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Any other business :</b></p> <p>We now have volunteers to take over the Treasurer role and Assistant Competition Secretary, but still no one to take over as Secretary.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Questions :</b></p> <p>None</p>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>News from the Clubs :</b></p> <p>Report from Weston Super Mare - read by Becky Thompson</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are pleased to announce the appointment of Catherine Kromholm as the Club's new General Manager. She took up post in June and many of you may know Catherine from her time working in Golf Club management in Cornwall.</li> <li>2. A reminder that our Club's final Ladies Opens of the year take place on Tuesday 7th October (Berry Bowmaker) and Tuesday 2nd December (Christmas Pudding Open). Although the Berry Bowmaker is nearly full, there are still spaces in the Christmas Pudding Open. Entry is via the Weston-super-Mare GC website.</li> </ol>
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Future Delegate Meeting Dates :</b></p> <p>AGM Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 11.00 am at Isle of Wedmore Golf Club.</p>

**Signed** ..... **Dated** .....

Sandra Ford, President