



**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
COUNTY LADIES GOLF
ASSOCIATION**

DELEGATES' MEETING MINUTES

**HARLEYFORD GOLF CLUB
WEDNESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2022
11.30 - 13.15**

PRESENT: Janet Beal (JB)	Captain
Lynda Hilton (LH)	President
Fiona Robb (FR)	Hon Secretary
Susanna Mitterer (SM)	England Golf Representative/ Vice Captain
Jackie Maher (JM)	Competition Secretary
Jackie Edwards (JE)	2nd Team Captain
Karen Scott (KS)	Handicap Advisor

Affiliated Club

Delegate/Representative

Beaconsfield	Debbie Parrish
Burnham Beeches	Jackie Maher
Chartridge Park	Christine Davies
Chiltern Forest	Margaret Pitman
Denham	Dot Kelleher
Farnham Park	Lynn Dickeson
Flackwell Heath	Susan Light
Gerrards Cross	Pamela King
Harleyford	Gill Redman, Sue Cooke
Harewood Downs	Gilly Brewer
Hazlemere	Alison Caldwell, Karen Scott
Huntswood	Diane Forman, Denise Haynes
Lambourne	Norma Lee
Oakland Park	Lynda Hilton
Wexham Park	Debbie Quigley, Nishele Short
Whiteleaf	Tricia Fisher
Woburn	Alison Kavanagh
Wycombe Heights	Margaret Devlin, Anthea Hickman

1. FR welcomed all the Delegates and Club Representatives to Delegates' Meeting and then handed the meeting over to Janet.

2. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from the following ladies:

Lois Shoosmith - Ellesborough
Delyth Barnett - Ellesborough
Carolyn Rivett - Princes Risborough
Diane Hofman, Sue Moore - Buckingham
Sandra Siggers and Melanie Mounsdon - Stowe
Sara Lumley - Harleyford
Janet Crookes - Wycombe Heights
Sue Pomerory - Princess Risborough
Sue Withey - Huntswood
Anne Slattery - Farnham Park
Jacqueline King- Chiltern Forest
Annie Shaw - Oakland Park
Sue Holdship - Gerrards Cross
Karen Kitto - Abbey Hill
Kate Brown - Denham
Marilyn Plummer - Ellesborough
Jenny Gibson - Woburn
Caroline Bond - Thorney Park
Jenny Aitken - Datchet
Anne Chaplin - Whiteleaf
Sue Schmidt - Beaconsfield
Maggie Stevens - Burnham Beeches
Gill Outram - Harewood Downs
Trish Morrisby - Chartridge Park
Kirsty Fuller - Farnham Park

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22 JUNE 2022:

The minutes had previously been posted on the BCLGA website, they were agreed and signed by the County Captain as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

5. VACANCIES:

JB reported we are still looking for a County Welfare Officer to take over from Cathy Armstrong (Ellesborough) after the AGM.

Also a Competitions Assistant to look after the Bucks Shield and Inter-Club Foursomes competitions working with Jackie Maher, the Competitions Secretary. Most of the organisation work is concentrated around September and October to run these two competitions each year. JB asked if you know anyone who may be interested in this role, please let her know.

6. COUNTY COMPETITIONS 2023:

JB reported we are trying to get the 2023 dates organised and available as soon as possible.

Dates for next year include:

Wednesday 8 March 2023 - Centenary/County Lunch at Woburn - a celebratory lunch.

President's Summer Meeting at Oakland Park Golf Club - date to be confirmed for early summer.

Thursday 27 April 2023 - Seniors Spring Meeting at Buckingham Golf Club

Monday 22 May 2023 - Par 3 Competition Wycombe Heights.

JB reported this was a fun day in 2022 on not a particularly easy course, and everyone enjoyed it. It was 18 holes of golf and a light lunch. LH received feedback this year that ladies did not want it dropped in 2023.

18 - 21 June - County Match Week at Sonning Golf Club

Friday 14 July 2023 - Gala Day at Harleyford Golf Club:

JB indicated there will be no golf involved but events like Pilates, Yoga, Clothing sales, coaching sessions on the practice ground which can be pre-booked, and also a meal. There will be a one-off charge for the day, which will run from late morning to early evening. Charge likely to be in the region of £15 to £20 tbc. Tony Bowers (County Coach) and professional coaches will be running the coaching sessions. Some of the coaches will be the girls who previously played for County who have since turned professional, so will be exciting to have them run some of the coaching sessions on Gala Day.

Wednesday 9 August 2023 - Centenary Trophy at Woburn Golf Club on the Marquess Course. 4BBB pairs event open to every club in the County. 32 clubs are members of the BCLGA. A draw will be made of 2 pairs per club from the entries received. County will let the pairs know who have been successful in the draw and at that point will be asked for their entry fee. A Handicap Index limit of 36, which will equate to 40 shots. There will be a 2 course meal after the golf. The winners will receive a new Centenary Trophy, and the hope is that this will become an annual competition.

Gilly Brewer (Harewood Downs) asked if clubs were to run a qualifying competition for find the two pairs per club, as had previously been mentioned at an earlier Delegates Meeting? SM responded that the decision had now been made to open the competition to everyone to enter rather than have a pre-qualifying competition, and the 2 pairs will be drawn. Some clubs may not enter at all, so there will then be additional places to fill, which will be drawn. This will be the most administrative way of running the competition but the most inclusive for clubs. Woburn has stipules the maximal handicap index of 36 for playing the Marquess course. JM indicate that all possible places will be used up. Some clubs may not put entries forward. SM reiterated that it would be nice to have a pair enter from each of the members clubs. JB hoped that this competition would be very popular next year. Also that entries will need to be received by a certain date early in the summer so that the draw can be made and notified. The rules will be coming out shortly.

Friday 3 September 2023 - Seniors Autumn Meeting at South Bucks Golf Club (Farnham Park). JB reported that the course was good for the competition this year, on 1 September.

JB also reported that for the Centenary Year 2023 we were going to reintroduce the Yearly Handbook, last printed in 2012.

7. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

SM reported that the Safeguarding initiative started 3 years ago and has been a success. The next initiative for England Golf (EG) is Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Golf is still a little behind in equality. Womens' golf has a different structure to mens' golf and you rarely have mixed golf competitions. Some clubs have medals on the same day but run as different competitions for men and ladies.

There is the R&A Women in Golf Charter which we have signed up to as a County. We recommend that all clubs sign up to this initiative. This charter supports Women in administrative and management roles and therefore equality. It is widening inclusiveness at club and county level.

Strategic driven inclusion needs improving to avoid age and profile taking over and excluding working women. We need representation for girls, juniors and working women.

Ethnic minorities are also under-represented. There is a lot of work to be done at county and club level to become more inclusive and diverse. There will be a range of documentation coming out from EG in the coming months and years to help with this initiative.

Sue Cooke (Harleyford) asked if we should change the name of the BCLGA from Ladies to Womens association? SM responded we had discussed this previously and taken a vote to remain with Ladies Association. It would also require a lot of money to be spent on changing the logos' flags, clothing etc if we were to change. Sue Cooke responded that a lot of young women don't think of themselves as ladies.

Gilly Brewer (Harewood Downs) asked why are so few Asian women (and men) in amateur golf? SM: EG have commissioned a research project by a new director about Asian men. There are barriers and attitudes that we are not giving them a welcome. There is a perception that non-white women are not welcomed. It is a perceived hurdle and image. SM indicated there is no evidence of them not being made welcome. Photos seem to show only white Caucasian people. Barriers also include social network; you are in a group of friends only who have individual reasons; how can we make golf more attractive. Different agendas at each club. 1 or 2 people are in clubs, need to broaden out the image to help to encourage others to join clubs.

SM reported that EG social media is making a conscious decision to feature non-white juniors and golfers. Gill Brewer (Harewood Downs) indicated there is a higher perception in juniors due to schools and ethnic makeup. JB mentioned a youtube video by the R&A which features 2 Bucks Juniors - Roisin Scanlon and Rosie Bee Kim - both British but not white caucasian. SM indicated there are initiatives coming from EG and the R&A to help in this area.

Pamela King (Gerrards Cross) potential barriers are timing of meetings; perhaps have meetings at 5pm/evening or Zoom meetings in the evening then you would see different people at Gerrards Cross. The Delegates Meetings taking place during the daytime are a barrier to the Gerrards Cross lady.

It was mentioned about the potential merger with the BB&O to include the ladies. It is a hot topic; they want to have mens and ladies competitions. Pamela King (Gerrards Cross) we need to retain the good things we do for ladies golf. SM indicated this is a topic for another day; the thoughts for the future for the mens' and womens' golf.

JB indicated we would look at the times of day and dates for our County meetings. SM indicated that she lives abroad in the winter months, so would look to have Zoom Meetings in the Winter months. Pamela King says it is a struggle to sell the County Delegate role for a replacement with Zoom; interaction with the ladies is important. SM: has worked a lot with social media but that some ladies do prefer face-to-face meetings. We need a mix; some during the daytime and some in the evenings but appreciate that working ladies can't attend the daytime meetings. Daytime meetings do preclude young ladies of being the County Delegate.

Lynn Dickeson (Farnham Park): Like a lot of clubs there are certain ages of ladies as members, our club wants to help to be diversified. We want to encourage more ladies and make them more welcome in County. What can we do to encourage ladies of 20-35 age group who are working, to possibly be able to participate more? Play in county matches etc.? JE asked do those ladies understand that we want more diversion?

JB: explained that County Competitions are predominantly played during the week. The difficulty revolves around availability of tee-times at clubs which is very much more difficult at the weekends. The Gala Day in 2023 will run for the whole day and into the evening so that working ladies can come late afternoon so they can see how county works. We will look at the Delegates Meetings dates going forward.

Gill Redman (Harleyford) County Meetings have evolved over the years. SM: you can break into groups on Zoom and then come back as a plenary session for feedback from the breakout groups. We must be more inclusive for the younger ladies, so invite younger ladies to join the Delegates Meetings. Twice a year we have Delegates Meeting via Zoom, so

perhaps have a second Delegate represent club on a Zoom Meeting, and therefore get a different perspective. Must not be blinkered by our own experience.

Nishele Short (Wexham Park) we must not just be inclusive, we need to be open-minded to people who have other duties i.e. collect children from school, cook dinner and have to work. A lot of us start golf as a young girl, but then have to work/have a career so take a break away from golf, have children, then later on in life come back to playing golf again; life is in the way!! JE: it is not colour only to make it open. it depends on what we do, it's how we behave. SM: lots of ladies come to golf after their career and having family. Why don't Asian ladies return? We need to encourage ladies; ie R&A and EG encourage clubs to be more inclusive. The Managing Director and Secretary on EG are driving it through their agenda.

SM: Clubs say we do inclusive golf with mixed golf competitions but ladies don't want to join in with the men although the opportunity is there; we need to persuade/encourage the ladies to join in. We need to change perception and attitudes. The ladies say they can't hit the ball as far as men, but we are straighter. We need to encourage the ladies to join in. The younger ladies are more happy to do so. Older ladies/section are resistant to change. The younger and mid age men are happy to join in. Older men don't want to sign up.

Action: we will re-email the Women in Golf Charter strategy/documentation so that you can encourage your clubs to sign-up to the Charter.

JM: The Women in Golf Charter is on the England Golf website under the Support Section / Women in Golf Charter, and has all the links to the support information and toolkit, and examples. [Web link: https://www.Englandgolf.org/women-in-golf-charter](https://www.Englandgolf.org/women-in-golf-charter). Ivinghoe and Princes Risborough are already signed-up. LH: Oakland Park General Manager had not received the information. SM: Asked the County Delegates and Ladies Captains to ensure that the Women in Golf Charter gets onto their Club's Management agenda. JB: Equality, Diversity and Inclusiveness goes to the Club Managers and Club Secretaries. BB&O are not pushing women in golf.

Woodhall Spa and National Golf Centre: SM asked if the ladies had seen the report /issue on the England Golf National Golf Centre (NGC) at Woodhall Spa. The land at Woodhall Spa and the NGC was gifted by the Hotchkin family to sport in perpetuity - there are 2 courses and at the time of the gift the WSEM (Woodhall Spa Estate Management) was set up. EG hold the leasehold only. When the 2 entities formed, the men are the shareholders in the Estate. In 2012 when the ladies merged/joined England Golf they did not become a member of the estate. EG have proposed a £10M new clubhouse and accommodation block. EG saw that the ladies were not part of the Estate, and the Board wish to include the ladies into the shareholding of WSEM, however the mens' shareholding would be diluted by the ladies joining the shareholding. EG will not invest in the new clubhouse if this is not addressed now. EG will protect their £10M investment.

SM: is attending the EG AGM on 29 September where this matter will be discussed in more detail. EG want to ensure the ladies have a share / equality in the outcome of the WSEM. EG want to ensure this stands up in law for equality. The Woodhall spa Estate is never going to be sold. The WSEM Board are all male; EG want to change the structure to include ladies. SM remarked it is interesting that John Kennedy of the BB&O is in support of this initiative.

Lynn Dickeson (Farnham Park) remarked that the same is happening at the MCC in Cricket to include women.

JE: questioned why we want separate divisions - ladies and men? SM: if we want equal seats, not all women's associations are happy. 10 years ago in 2012, EWGA merged with England Golf.

JB: reflected that there are interesting times ahead of us. We will look at the Delegates Meeting to make them more inclusive and also send out the information on the Women in Golf Charter to the Delegates and Ladies Captains.

8. CLUB COMPETITIONS AND HANDICAPS:

FR reported that Anthea Hickman (Wycombe Heights) had written in with a question for the Delegates Meeting related to how many medals per month were played at other clubs?

KS: responded at Hazlemere they have 2 competitions a month; a stableford and a stroke play competition, which is a Medal. There is no guidance as to how many medals should be played each month. There is an England Golf Report whereby you can determine who has the best 4 medal rounds at your club and would qualify to play in the Regional Medal Event each year. Pamela King (Gerrards Cross) indicated that in the past CONGU stipulated 16 medals a year need to be played .

KS: there is now no stipulation on the number of Medals. There used to be a minimum of 4 medals a year to produce an entrant from each club for the regional medal final, but now Stablefords are included. KS had looked to see if there was anything about Alternate Day competitions and she had found nothing. KS: indicated Hazlemere held competitions on Wednesdays and same competition on Saturdays. You can play on Saturday if raining on the Wednesday; so 2 days for the competition - it comes down to a choice thing. Same competition on the Wednesday and Saturday so that working ladies and juniors can play in the competition. Juniors are now signing up to play with the ladies rather than play the competition with their father. KS will look at competitions in clubs to see if they are suitable for modern-day life rather than how we have always done in the past.

KS: golfers receive a Handicap Index if you have put in 3 rounds scorecards. It becomes a fully developed handicap once you have put in 20 rounds scorecards. We need to encourage ladies to put in cards.

Margaret Pitman (Chiltern Forest) at Chiltern Forest you can play together in the ladies assigned tee-slots or can play outside the main tee-slots and be included in the main competition as long as you have someone mark your card that same day,, who has a valid handicap. KS: at Hazlemere we close the competition at the end of the day.

You can have your working ladies and juniors included in the competitions but are we doing enough to include everyone? KS: we need to have a range of competitions.

Pamela King (Gerrards Cross) clubs are different in how they run their competitions. Gerrards Cross have active roll up groups. Suggested that we gravitate towards certain clubs because of how they run them if they give ladies opportunities to join in. KS: when it comes to Club Championships, they are run differently at each club, different profiles. Some clubs run the Championships over the weekend/2 days. Some clubs run 36 holes on one day in the week.

JE: In the past if you play on an alternate day you sign in a book. No rule about alternative day competitions; no place today. Only thing with alternate day as a combined competition is there can be different weather conditions on both days, so it is the luck of the draw as it is an outdoor game. KS: there can be different playing conditions on the alternate day, but the results are combined.

JB: County allow no buggies in competitions unless you have a medical condition and have a medical certificate to support playing with a buggy. Clubs decide on how to play the competition. If you say no to buggies you exclude people. Conditions of the course on the day can be difficult and therefore preclude the use of buggies. LH: buggies can be used by caddies if they cannot walk the course, but the golfer cannot use the buggy. This rule applies to the Bucks Shield. JB reiterated that if a player needs a buggy for County Competitions they have to have a medical certificate, in which case the caddy can ride in the buggy too.

Action LH: to check on the rules for County.

JB: each club can decide their own rules for their competitions. JB used the example of her country membership at Burnham and Berrow where there are ladies competitions on Sundays and Tuesdays open to all lady members. Mondays there is a mixed stableford, no tee times booked, you just sign up to the competition and play. Competitions are really open. There are men's competitions every Saturday where ladies can play, but not win any trophies.

KS: please encourage the ladies to play in the competitions because they don't have current handicaps.

Lynn Dickeson (Farnham Park) we are a fully integrated club, but asked if you have a Seniors Mixed Group? Maybe it is an area that needs to be looked at?

Susan Light (Flackwell Heath) asked how many ladies wanted to play in mixed seniors golf?

Lynn Dickson (Farnham Park) asked how many clubs allowed Ladies to play in the Senior Section and only Farnham Park and Huntswood raised their hands. It was then put to the room whether delegates would like to be included in the Senior Section. Several clubs confirmed they would like to play and may take the suggestion back to their committees.

SM: Woburn has a medal competition on Sat/Sun/Wed and play as mixed. JB: perhaps all clubs need to think about having mixed competitions. The computer system works it out as being fair.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

JM indicated there was a Christmas Par 3 Competition on 3 December at Wycombe Heights.

Reminder about **Interclub Foursomes at Flackwell Heath on 13 October:** There have only been a very few entries received to date. Please check with your clubs. We know that Chiltern Forest and Wexham Park have entries to come in.

10. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 30 November at Weston Turville at 11.30 am.

JB: Other dates for your diaries:

BCLGA AGM on Wednesday 26 October 2022 at Harleyford Golf Club at 14.00 pm

County National Finals week 16 - 18 September 2022 at Stoneham Golf Club, Southampton: it will be a good week; we have a good team of girls to play in the Finals. JB has put a link under County Teams on the BCLGA website so that you can follow the results.

JB then closed the meeting and wished everyone a safe journey home.

Signed Date

APPENDICES - EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Captain's Report for Delegates Meeting 14th September 2022

Events Attended

My Summer Meeting was on 13th July at Beaconsfield. We had warm sunny weather, not too hot, the course was in excellent condition and the meal afterwards was delicious, My husband was out on the course with a Pimms buggy, serving Pimms to all the ladies as they came round. Many thanks to the Beaconsfield ladies who made cakes and helped at the halfway huts.

The Seniors and Juniors Championships were both at Harleyford on 21st July and 4th August respectively. Congratulations to Katie Reid, who retained her seniors championship, and to Ella Butteriss who won the juniors championship. Ella shot a course record 68 in the junior championship.

I was also at Harleyford on 24th July at a junior scratch match against Berkshire. We had a number of new girls playing in the team, and we lost narrowly.

I did a couple of rules presentations, at Huntswood and Flackwell Heath. It was nice weather, so I was able to run these outside and demonstrate the various rules rather than just showing slides. Everyone agreed that this was far better than a 'chalk and talk' session.

Centenary

Work has been ongoing to arrange various centenary events. The following dates are confirmed:

- Centenary County Lunch – Wednesday 8th March at Woburn
- Centenary Gala Day in 2023 – Friday 14th July at Harleyford
- Centenary Competition – Wednesday 9th August at Woburn

Future Events

Women's National Finals start tomorrow (Thursday 15th September) at Stoneham. The team was announced a few weeks ago and is as follows:

Ella Butteriss (Beaconsfield)
Megan Dennis (Woburn)
Ciara Egan (Woburn)
Thalia Kirby (Harleyford)
Alice Kozlowski (Ellesborough)
Lulu Leetham (Buckingham)
Georgia Lloyd (Buckingham)
Rachel Mackinlay (Harewood Downs)
Lily Robinson (Buckingham)
Roisin Scanlon (Woburn)

Lynda Hilton, Susanna Mitterer, Helen Mines and Tony Bowers will all be joining myself and the team at Stoneham so I am looking forward to a very enjoyable, if stressful, few days.

We are also working on preparations for the AGM, which is on 26th October.

Janet Beal

County Captain

PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR BCLGA DELEGATES MEETING

14TH September 2022 - Harleyford Golf Club

◆ 12th to 15th June

County Match Week at Leamington -Again, the First Team won this three-day event, qualifying for the National Team Finals at Stoneham Golf Club in Southampton.

◆ 22nd June

I attended the Delegates Meeting at Buckingham GC.

◆ 8th to 16th August

I was on holiday from, so I have nothing to report for that period.

Discussions are ongoing by the Executive Centenary Committee regarding further ways to celebrate this important Centenary year. I will keep you all updated with anything concrete that is agreed upon.

◆ Seniors & Vets Autumn Meeting

2nd September 2022 at The South Buckinghamshire

◆ National Team Finals

15th to 18th September 2023 at Stoneham Golf Club, Southampton

I will report back to you at your next meeting.

◆ Executive Meeting

18th September 2022 at Oakland Park Golf Club.

Future (Confirmed) Dates for your diaries.

◆ Par 3 Fun Competition 18yrs+

22nd May 2023 at Wycombe Heights Golf Club

◆ The Centenary Gala Day

14th July 2023 at Harleyford Golf Club

(Similar format as the one held at Gerrards Cross in 2018)

◆ The Centenary Trophy

9th August 2023 at Woburn Golf Club

A completely new event/competition in recognition of BCLGA's Centenary year.

It is open to all handicaps with a ballot for places.

Lynda Hilton
BCLGA President

12th September 2023

Competitions Secretary's Report for the Delegates Meeting

on 14th September 2022

Bucks Shield

- The final of the Bucks Shield will be played between Ellesborough and Gerrards Cross at Beaconsfield on 9th October 2022.

Summer KO's

- The finalists for the Challenge Cup are Bryony Moore (Harleyford) and Sara O'Kelly (Oakland Park).
- The finalists for the Rose Bowl are Margaret Southerden (Burnham Beeches) and Sue Hughes (Gerrards Cross).
- The finalists for the Summer Greensomes are Jan Collis and Barbara Francis (Beaconsfield) and Nishelle Short and Carol Cottrell (Wexham Park)
- The finalists for the Champion of Champions are Demi Maxy (Abbey Hill) and Alice Kozlowski (Ellesborough).
- Dates and venues for the finals are to be confirmed.

Summer League

- The Summer Leagues are coming to their conclusion and prizes for the winning Club in each Division will be presented at the AGM.

Interclub Foursomes

- The Interclub Foursomes will be held at Flackwell Heath on 13th October 2022.
- The closing date for entries is 19 September 2022. At the time of writing, we have received entries from: Beaconsfield, Buckingham, Ellesborough, Gerrards Cross, Harewood Downs, The Lambourne, Burnham Beeches and Woburn.

Winter Greensomes

- At the time of writing, there are 35 entries for the Winter Greensomes.
- The closing date for entries is 15 September 2022.

Winter League

- This year, we have 13 teams that have entered the Winter League. 6 in Division 1 and 7 in Division 2.

Honours Board

- The updating of the Honours Board is progressing slowly but more help from Clubs would be appreciated.
- We are hoping to put together a pictorial history of the County so copies, of any photographs, held by your Club taking part in a County event would be much appreciated.

Jackie Maher
Competitions Secretary
Dated 11 September 2022

Senior's County Captain Report for Delegates Meeting on 14 September 2022

The Senior's Championship, on 21st July was won by Katie Reid of Gerrards Cross with Sue Cooke of Harleyford winning the Net prize. The course at Harleyford proved challenging with the dry weather. We were very well looked after and thank Harleyford Golf Club very much for hosting the competition.

The Autumn meeting was held on 2nd September at South Bucks Golf Club. We nearly had a full field. All the ladies seemed to enjoy the course, and the lovely lunch. Bernie Howe, Fiona Robb and Carol Mitchel from Buckingham Golf Club won the Vet's Cup and Pauline Gillard, Sandra Spence and Julie Pearson from Oakland Park and Burnham Beeches Golf Clubs won the Senior's cup. Thank you to South Bucks for hosting the day.

The overall result of the Inter-county Seniors League matches was disappointing with Bucks finishing last. We halved the friendly match against Bedfordshire at Buckingham. 3 ladies who were new to Seniors Inter-county golf played. I hope to encourage more next year.

Lois Shoosmith
Seniors County Captain

2nd Team Captain's Report BCLGA Delegates Meeting 14 September 2022

The 2nd Team matches and final are now complete. The Bucks 2nd Team won one match and lost the other against Oxfordshire and Berkshire respectively. That put us in the 2nd Team Final, held at Badgemore Park, competing against North Hants for 3rd Place. Bucks came away with 4th place after a hard fought match against a strong North Hants Team.

This is the last year of my captaincy and we have a great candidate to take over the role, subject to confirmation at the upcoming AGM in October. I've very much enjoyed the role and wish great success to the new Captain. The 2nd Team players have done a fantastic job over the last two years (no matches in 2020) and I know they'll go on to win the trophy back for Buckinghamshire.

Jackie Edwards
Bucks 2nd Team Captain
14 September 2022

County Junior Organisers Report – Delegates Meeting 14 September 2022

It has been a great Summer and we have been fortunate that the weather was cooler on the days when our competitions went ahead.

Training with Tony

We had another training session with Tony at Oakland Park in August – as always, Oakland looked after us really well. We hope to have one more training session in October.

Pre handicap and higher handicap Par 3 Fun Days –

These continue to be held once a month on the first Sunday of every month. This is an opportunity for the girls to come and play with other girls and start to use the skills which they are being taught in their lessons. Please encourage any of the girls at your clubs to come along, it is a great way to practice.

County Competitions

Junior county championship – this was well attended and the winner and our junior champion for 2022 is Ella Butteriss, who in winning also set a new course record at Harleyford Golf Club.

Midland South Championship was held at Tadmarton Golf Club – Oxfordshire. This was well attended by the girls from Buckinghamshire and consisted of 36 holes for those with handicaps under 18 and 18 holes for higher handicaps. It was a good day and the girls all played really well.

Autumn Meeting – Buckingham GC – 25th September – for girls with handicaps to 45.

Midland South Team matches

We have our last match against Berkshire on 24th July at Harleyford. We sadly lost the match and have not made it to the finals this year.

Midland South Team Stableford Competition. This was played at The Warwickshire Golf Club at the end of July and 6 girls played against the other counties in the region. I am delighted to announce that we won the competition.

Funding

I have had a zoom meeting with the England Talent Development Manager regarding the funding they provide us with and have updated our Pathway which is attached.

Delyth Barnett

BCLGA County Junior Organiser

Handicap Update for County Delegates Meeting 14th Sept 2022

Please encourage your members to play qualifying competitions or submit general play rounds as often as possible so that their handicap index reflects their current playing ability. Remember that a handicap index of up to 54.0 is a valid handicap.

Please remind ladies that only singles events can be used for General Play Rounds. If ladies are playing in team events, eg 4BBB, alliances, ..., these scores are NOT VALID for handicapping purposes. There have been cases of ladies playing in team competitions away from their club in open events who are using their scores for handicapping purposes.

There are still some ladies who have handicap scores from 2019 counting towards their 20 most recent rounds. These scores are now from 3 years ago and these ladies may not be playing to the same level. Please encourage ladies to play rounds for their handicap so that their current playing ability is reflected in their WHS handicap index.

Qualifying competitions

Once players have signed in for one of these competitions they need to submit their score at the end of the round. If it is a strokeplay round and a player has a 'nightmare' hole the software will adjust this down to a 'nett double bogey'. Even if this hole is 'blobbed' the scores for all the remaining holes should be entered as normal, a handicap calculation will still be made.

General Play Rounds

Players should pre-register for these by using the Club software or the myEg app, scores must be recorded after the round. Only very exceptional circumstances should lead to 'good scores' that have not been pre-registered being considered by the handicap committee.

Unsatisfied Score Intents

All general play rounds should be pre-registered using the golf club software or via the myEG app. Any general play or competition rounds that do not have a score submitted in a timely fashion will be subject to an automated penalty score applied by England Golf, this = Course Rating + Course Handicap.

myEG app

Please encourage members to download this, it is a great tool for members to follow their handicap index changes. It can also be used to enter General Play rounds at away courses. In order to use this members need to create an account on the England Golf website, using their membership number (CDH number). These details are then used to log onto the myEG app.

Karen Scott

22nd August 2022

Delegates Meeting 14 Sept 2022

Report from Seniors Competition Organiser

On 2nd Sept we held a very successful Autumn Meeting with 14 Teams of 3 competing for the Seniors & Vets Trophy respectively. A huge congratulations must go to the entire team at The South Buckinghamshire for presenting the course in good condition and looking after our catering/refreshment needs.

Winners of the Autumn Meeting & Vets Trophy:

Bernie Howe, Fiona Robb, Carol Mitchell (Buckingham) with 88 points

Winners of the Seniors Trophy: Pauline Gillard, Sandra Spencer, Julie Pearson (Oakland Park and Burnham Beeches) with 79 points

Dates for you diary for 2023:

Seniors/Vets Spring Meeting@ Buckingham GC on 27th April 2023

Seniors/Vets Autumn Meeting @ The South Buckinghamshire 1st Sept 2023

Report from England Golf / Voting Member

Our General Meeting will take place at Woodhall Spa on 29th Sept 2022. Ahead of the meeting we received more detailed information about the ongoing discussions regarding the future of The National Golf centre, and in particular the planned changes regarding the freehold ownership structure which is currently separated from EG by a corporate veil, and under Woodhall Spa Estate Management (WSEM) and Woodhall Spa Land Holdings. You might be aware that EG have put forward a development proposal and £10m investment into a new clubhouse and accommodation facilities at the National Golf Centre. However, EG is now facing a divided house on this matter, as they are evaluating the option to transfer the Freehold Ownership of the golf course and land holdings from WSEM (stage 2) and as a minimum include the Women's associations into the current ownership structure under WSEM (stage 1). The current inequality of Estate ownership (WSEM is only owned by the male counties!) is a huge red flag for EG and they look to re-dress this inequality before they want to invest into the National Golf centre project. EG has proposed to protect the dissolution value and voting rights for the current (male) members but to add/invite new members – such as the Women's Associations and the NAPGC. Whilst the WSEM Board are generally supportive of the investment proposal they have raised two principal concerns:

Firstly, in their view the 2005 rationale for ring-fencing the property assets (golf course & land) in a separate corporate vehicle remains valid, given the number and size of potential litigation claims made against other governing sporting bodies. The current structure protects the Estate from any liabilities and claims relating to the operation of EG, thereby safeguarding the asset for the benefit of future generations. They fear any transfer of ownership to EG would pose too great a risk.

Secondly, the membership of WS Land Holding and EG are not the same, as when the Women's Golf Associations merged with EG in 2012 it was made clear that ownership of the Estate we explicitly excluded. Their objections is that on transfer of the freehold ownership to EG their (male) members value of shares will be diluted as the Women's Associations would become shareholders.

They seek clear mitigation and risk management strategies for both the above points.

EG have responded in detail to the above concerns, mainly offering to ring-fence the pre-investment value of the freehold for the current WSLH members to the value of £6m. EG has also provided details of the extensive insurance policies in place to mitigate litigation risk and the historic lack of any safeguarding / legal challenges in our sport. In the latest letter to the WSEM Board they have also stressed that they will only suggest proceeding with stage 1 – the proper reform to correct the inequality in estate ownership and move the sport forward in a modern and inclusive ownership and management model. They have stated that their stage 2 transfer of ownership away from WSEM is not currently proposed. But made it clear they are not prepared to invest significant sums of its reserves into a new property where the ownership does not reflect the membership of EG. The image of golf needs to move away from being male dominated and exclusive. As such they have proposed to create a ‘hybrid’ board with 9 members for EG alongside 3 invited members from the previous Estate Holding Board.

Susanna Mitterer

Seniors Competitions Assistant / England Golf Voting Representative