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**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE  
COUNTY LADIES GOLF**

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**ASSOCIATION  
DELEGATES' MEETING MINUTES**

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**WESTON TURVILLE GOLF CLUB  
WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2022**

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**11.30 - 13.15**

<b>PRESENT:</b> Susanna Mitterer (SM)	Captain/England Golf Voting Representative
Lynda Hilton (LH)	President
Fiona Robb (FR)	Hon Secretary
Alison Cadwell (AC)	Treasurer
Jackie Maher (JM)	Competition Secretary
Lois Shoosmith (LS)	Seniors Captain
Karen Scott (KS)	Handicap Advisor

**Affiliated Club**

**Delegate/Representative**

Beaconsfield	Ingrid Creighton, Regitta Gomersall
Buckingham	Bernie Howe, Sue Moore
Burnham Beeches	Jackie Maher
Chartridge Park	Trish Morrisby
Chiltern Forest	Margaret Pitman
Denham	Dot Kelleher via Zoom
Ellesborough	Marilyn Plummer
Farnham Park	Annie Slattery
Gerrards Cross	Julia French
Harleyford	Gill Redman
Hazlemere	Karen Scott
Huntswood	Denise Haynes, Sue Withey
Lambourne	Norma Lee
Oakland Park	Lynda Hilton
Princes Risborough	Jill Pepper
Weston Turville	Yvonne Black
Wexham Park	Debbie Quigley
Whiteleaf	Tricia Fisher
Wycombe Heights	Margaret Devlin, Anthea Hickman

1. The County Captain, Susanna Mitterer welcomed all the Delegates and Club Representatives to Delegates' Meeting .

2. **APOLOGIES:**

24 Apologies were received from the following ladies:

Katie Reid - Gerrards Cross  
Delyth Barnett - Ellesborough  
Diane Hofman- Buckingham  
Sandra Siggers and Melanie Mounsdon - Stowe  
Sara Lumley - Harleyford  
Sharon Squire - Ellesborough  
Alison Kavanagh- Woburn  
Caroline Bond - Thorney Park  
Jenny Aitken - Datchet  
Susan Light - Flackwell Heath  
Aggie Bzinkowska - Burnham Beeches  
Gilly Brewer and Helen Audaer - Harewood Downs  
Christine Davies and Jane Osborne - Chartridge Park  
Maura Spencer, Rosie Herbert and Beth Heald - Lambourne  
Carol Cottrell and Nishele Short - Wexham Park  
Jacqueline King - Chiltern Forest  
Anita Parker and Dawn Baldwin - Weston Turville

3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 September 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:**

SM very pleased to report that we have a new County Welfare Officer, Pam Munday-Cripps from Ellesborough.

We are still looking for a Competitions Assistant to look after the Bucks Shield and Inter-Club Foursomes competitions working with Jackie Maher, the Competitions Secretary. SM had emailed all the Ladies Captains in Bucks, to ask them to spread the word and encourage anyone interested in the role at their respective clubs to apply. JM has prepared the paperwork for the two competitions. The Inter Club Foursomes will take place on 10 October at Ellesborough. The venue for the Final of the Bucks Shield on 8 October is still to be decided. It will be an easy first year for the candidate as it will just entail receiving the entries and assisting with the draw.

Note: we have subsequently received an application from Rosemary De Lacy and she has now been confirmed in the role

Dates outstanding:

Presidents Summer Meeting at Oakland Park on Friday 28 July.

The London Foursomes will take place at Burnham Beeches on 24 & 25 March. This is open to all clubs in the County within 55 miles of London. The entry forms are on the Website under Competitions.

The Gala Day at Harleyford had been agreed for the 14 July with the General Manager, who then left and the new Management team said we could not have the date so has to be re-arranged. The Centenary Project Team are meeting after the Delegates Meeting this afternoon. **Since the meeting, the date has been confirmed as Tuesday, 18 July 2023.**

The merger with the BB&O: we have received a formal invite to discuss unification. SM & LH replied after having wide discussions with Berks and Oxon and other associations who had previously merged with the men. We have sent a formal, polite letter with no thanks at this time. The issue is our Constitution; we serve all our lady members and girls, whereas the BB&O focuses on elite mens' golf. We could lose a number of our competitions, so not the right time at the present. We did talk about closer co-operation and possibly running a number of joint events. So we have not closed the door, but no at the moment. The other two associations were not so polite with a very firm no to unification.

## **5. VACANCIES:**

JM indicated as mentioned earlier, we are still looking for a Competitions Assistant for the Bucks Shield and Inter-club Foursomes competitions. The Inter-club Foursomes has been booked for 10 October at Ellesborough so we just need a person to take on the entries and admin. **Since meeting, Rosemary de Lacey from Burnham Beeches has agreed to take on the role of Competitions Assistant.**

## **6. ROLE OF THE COUNTY DELEGATE AND CHANGES TO THE BCLGA CONSTITUTION:**

SM indicated the next two agenda items are linked together.

The County Delegate role is defined by our Constitution. The Delegates were provided with a revised Constitution following the changes SM had made and been agreed by the Exec Team on 23 Nov 22.

Changes made: Pg 2 - Under General in bold type: there is an England Golf policy that defines what happens when a player wants to switch county allegiance and the process required to make that switch.

Margaret Pittman, Chiltern Forest asked how is the year defined?: SM: you write to the new County and the old County for permission to switch. If both counties agree to the change, then you can play immediately. If either County does not agree then you have to wait for a 12 month period before playing for the new county. If you play for old county on 12 June, and if there is no agreement, you cannot then play for the new county until 13 June the following year.

Requests for switches need to be handled very diplomatically between the 2 counties if you wish to be switching and playing immediately. This policy applies to both Ladies and Juniors, and we now have to comply with this EG policy.

The new policy is very restrictive if the Counties don't co-operate with each other when a request for a switch is made.

Changes Pg 3 - Management - Point II - Roles for Advisory Members for the Executive Committee - we have now added the WiG Charter Champion to the list of roles of advisors.

Changes Pg 4 - SM has created a table for the Executive Roles and Terms of Office, so has tidied up this section.

Changes Pg 6 - AGM - Point I - Quorum of 20 ladies required now, instead of the previous 35 ladies excluding the Executive Committee members.

The revised and approved Constitution has now been uploaded onto the BCLGA website.

Moving to the role of the County Delegate, which is defined on Pg 6 of the Constitution, SM noticed that the role of the CD serves for a minimum of 2 years, and a maximum of 5 years. We have noticed that some clubs rotate the role on a yearly basis which leads to a lack of continuity in the role, so there is a discrepancy at some clubs. SM invited the CD's to speak to their clubs/Ladies Committees and get the CD role back to serving a minimum of 2 years and a maximum of 5 years unless there are significant reasons for not complying. If there are issues please get back to County. **Action: CD's to speak to their respective clubs/Ladies committee and report back any problems.**

Trish Morrisby, Chartridge Park asked how many Delegates Meetings are there? SM next year we have 2 x Zoom Meetings (22 Feb and 29 Nov) and 2 x actual Meetings (15 Jun and 12 Sep) plus the AGM on 25 Oct.

At the last Delegates meeting we had an interesting discussion in terms of being inclusive, our timing and locations of our Delegates Meetings, and the diversity of the delegates. We are here today at lunchtime for our meeting and therefore excluding working ladies, teachers, and excluding everyone that isn't very mobile, as you need a car to get to the meetings.

We have decided as it is not nice to travel in the winter months, we have scheduled two Zoom Calls for 2023 for Feb and Nov late afternoon, to allow the delegate to attend via Zoom if they are a working lady or teacher. If you are a professional lady, our hope is that you will be able to attend the late afternoon Zoom calls.

The dates for the 2023 Meetings are on the Website.

Question about who is willing to take on the Delegates role at clubs, some ladies are happy to take on the role for a longer period, is it not better to have that person do the role than no one at all? Some ladies only wish to take on the role for a year. SM the issue of continuity is a common one. 1 year is very short, 2 years is not very long, but a maximum of 5 years in the role so that it allows for new blood and new ideas. If 5 years is thought to be too restrictive, then let us have a discussion. Although it is in our constitution, it is not law, but we would prefer to have a delegate for a year rather than none at all. If there are problems, speak to us.

Gill Redman from Harleyford remarked that after you finish your year as Ladies Captain, you then go on to be the Delegate for the next two years. SM indicated when you join Ladies Committee at Woburn, your first two years you are appointed as Delegate, so you learn what happens at Club level and also at County level; it is part of your remit when joining the Ladies Committee at Woburn. Jackie Maher indicated she had been Delegate for Burnham Beeches for 5 years, and had been the Delegate when she was previously at Wexham Park.

## 7. **PRIVACY POLICY UPDATE AND POLICY ON THE USE OF BUGGIES::**

**Privacy Policy:** copy provided to the Delegates at the meeting.

SM thanked Jackie Maher and her husband for the work they have carried out on reviewing and rewriting the Privacy Policy. The document has been uploaded on the website. The Privacy Policy (a legal requirement) had not been updated for a number of years. How we use the data has changed; and the Entry Form will now say that the BCLGA Privacy Policy will apply, so it will be simpler and forms can be just one page. We don't sell any data to anybody or company, we only use for our own business. So your information will only be used for the competition, and if you have opted in you will receive the County Newsletter. There are some separate rules that apply to juniors where we obviously have to create the profile form and get their parents' permission etc. especially related to photography of juniors, there are more restrictive requirements to get their agreement for social media etc. Please read the Privacy Policy and if you have any comments please contact us.

**Policy on the Use of Golf Buggies - Transportation Policy:** copy provided to the Delegates at the meeting.

This Policy is just an update; we have not changed it. If you wish to use a bug in a county competition, then the individual concerned needs to provide a valid Medical Certificate, and request permission to use a buggy by the closing date of the competition. The competition

secretary or organiser then needs to approve the request for the buggy. If the request cannot be approved such as a golf club issuing a mandate that no buggies are allowed for Health & Safety reasons, then the request would not be approved. Players using buggies will need to sign a transportation policy consent form prior to the use of the buggy, a healthy and safety regulation. JM requested that you should let your opponents know in advance if say a league match. If a caddy requires a buggy your golf bag can be on the buggy, but the player cannot ride on the buggy, only the caddy.

## 8. CENTENARY HANDBOOK:

FR reported the last time a County Handbook was created was 2012, so the decision was made to create one for the Centenary Year in 2023. It is hoped they will be delivered to the clubs just before Christmas or early in the New Year. It contains photos and a roll of honour for the 2022 Prizewinners, introduction from Susanna, Executive Team and Junior Committee members and contact details, Executive and Delegate Meeting dates in 2023, Fixtures, Seniors and 2nd Team Matches and Junior Fixtures, and the details for all the Knockout Competitions and the County Championship in 2023, a photo of the 1st Team at National Finals Week and finally on the back cover Susanna's chosen Charity: Dogs for Good. It was decided to deliver about 20 copies of the handbook to each club, as not every ladies member would want a copy of the handbook. **Action since meeting: handbooks together with various posters and application forms for Centenary events in 2023 were posted to golf clubs on 3 January.**

## 9. COUNTY COMPETITIONS 2023:

**County Championships in 2023:** 1-page overview provided at the meeting.

SM reported that the decision had been made by the Exec following discussion at the recent AGM, one of our key objectives is to be much more inclusive in the future so we have decided to change the format of the County Championships in 2023; to make it more inclusive and much more attractive to players of all ages and all handicaps, and not exclusive for the elite golfer only. Janet Beal had pointed out, that in the past, we used to have a Spring Meeting which served as the qualifier for the County Championship. We had several meetings and discussions with clubs to find a venue and have chosen Flackwell Heath for the County Championship and Intermediate Championship.

The Spring Meeting will be on Wednesday, 10 May at Flackwell Heath. In time we are hoping that we will get everything on a weekend only. Those that wish to play 36-holes, can play 36 holes and the top 8 scores of the gross scores will qualify for the matchplay knockouts and play for the title of County Champion. Those that wish to play just 18-holes at the Spring Meeting will qualify for a Nett prize and then the best 8 Nett scores from the 18 holes together with the best nett scores of the first 18 holes of the 36-holers who have not already qualified for the gross matchplay, will go into a Nett matchplay. So we are taking the 8 best gross scores into a matchplay, and then the best 8 Nett scores into a matchplay so we get a Nett Handicap County Champion. Lynda Hilton has kindly agreed to donate a plate for the Nett Champion. So we are hoping we will get a large entry by including an 18-hole Nett plus 36-hole traditional Gross qualifying rounds on 10 May.

Our hope is this format will be more inclusive for all players up to a maximum allowed handicap of 36 and will create a much bigger event with a mixture of players and that the 2 sets of matchplays will take place on the 13 and 14 May.

SM thanked Flackwell Heath for their great co-operation, flexibility and have been very accommodating in hosting the Spring Meeting and the Knockout Match play for the County Championships on the 10, 13 & 14 May. The entry fee of £38 does include a light lunch for the Spring Meeting on 10 May.

The matchplay of the best 8 gross and the matchplay for the best 8 nett will play in the afternoon of the 13 May, followed by the semifinals and finals of both Championships which will take place on the morning and afternoon of the 14 May. The 8 best gross will be off

scratch for the matchplay, and the best 8 Nett will be off 95% handicap medal play and shots given. The slope rating for the red tees at Flackwell Heath is 120, so not a difficult course to play.

## **10. WOMEN IN GOLF CHARTER:**

SM reported that the BCLGA have now formally registered for the WiG Charter; she also congratulated Chiltern Forest, Prices Risborough, Ivinghoe, Burnham Beeches, and Woburn who had signed up and achieved WiG status.

R&A launched WiG in 2018 with 3 main purposes.

In the UK we have the lowest percentage of ladies in golf (just 13%) whereas in Europe it is at 30% of ladies in golf.

The R&A have recognised the large discrepancy with what is happening in the UK versus Europe and that more focus needs to be applied to encourage more women and girls to play golf and also get more families involved in golf. Get more opportunities for women to work in the golf industry; not just as a pro, but there are lots of other job opportunities to work in the golf industry as only a very small percentage of jobs are filled by women.

It is interesting when you look at the number of our County girls aspiring to be pro golfers it is very, very difficult to make it as a pro (like Charlie Hull or Gemma Dryburgh) but they can make a career out of golf, like Evie Ing, Nel Green, Rachel Drummond, Zoe Fitz-Costa working in the industry as a coach, working for a management company, or golf events etc.

The question is do we have a role to play enticing more ladies and girls to play at our clubs but also giving them the means to look at opportunities within the golf industry for a career.

So today there are two things I would like to do. First, I am very pleased to announce we have appointed a County WiG Charter Champion, Dr Jenny Denyer, a member at Woburn. Jenny is a former British No 1 in Squash, who has played golf for the last 10 years, has 2 daughters who play golf and are part of our junior development program. Jenny's career has been as a Doctor of Performance Psychology, having worked across industry including designing and delivering a Women in Leadership Program for the R&A. This program currently has ladies from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, South Africa and France. These ladies are pursuing a professional career in golf in clubs, management companies, national associations, media etc. Jenny is very happy to give us her time and commitment, and will join us at the Feb Zoom meeting and hopefully conduct a workshop later in the year (if there is demand for it) to show us her capabilities, ideas and plans.

The second thing for today is to run a short workshop session on how to encourage more ladies to come and play golf, and whether we have a role to play in showing them career path opportunities. In your table groups please have a short discussion on "What should be the County's role and responsibilities to be more inspiring and encouraging to entice more women and girls into golf and to get them to think about career opportunities".

### **Ideas from table discussions as to what County could do to attract more women:**

**LH:** Quite negative responses, as Ladies equalities perceptions are still hanging on. Clubs have taken on board equality but the majority of clubs are still looked upon as a male-dominated area. County should somehow make the clubs realise the ladies are part of an egalitarian golf club. The County could try and make it more positive ie like the independent golfer; these day families have two working parents and at the weekend want to spend time with their kids, so ask EG to spread the word better about the iGolfers, this could attract older ladies to come back to golf having stopped earlier in life to have a family. Not many ladies in golf due to the expense of membership to be a 7-day member is prohibitive for a working lady to play. Some clubs have full membership but also have different levels of membership so that ladies could enjoy golf but not at the large fee. County are good at

encouraging juniors to progress through golf and stay on golf once becoming an adult. Our CJO does an excellent job in getting the girls to stay in golf; she runs all sorts of high & low handicap comps and 9-holes and encouraging them through the stages of learning to play golf. So in summary there is not a great deal County can do to influence.

SM responded by saying County can have a role in changing perceptions and image. We do have a role in influencing clubs; the challenge is how, as we rely on the Delegates to influence/talk the messages to the clubs on our behalf. It depends on the link/wider reach of the Delegate at their club to their Club committees, and getting the Women in Golf Charter on the meetings agendas. It is interesting that Princes Risborough got the men engaged and involved in their Charter submission; they talked to the men about the lack of perception of female golfers.

LH suggested it is more difficult to influence proprietary clubs with General Managers versus members clubs which are easier to influence. SM: we should talk to the men that they are part of the problem with the perception of women in golf, but that they are also part of the solution to encourage more ladies participation.

Sue Moore Buckingham - suggested County put together a case study on what happened since a young person has won the County Championship and use that in our communication with schools to promote/encourage young girls to try golf.

SM: thinking about how we could possibly do a podcast with lots of the girls in County like Alice Kozlowski, Harriet Beasley, Zoe Fitz-Costa, Charlie Hull etc on sharing their experience of going through County and the Club development programmes, and turning their love of golf into a career. Megan Dennis talk to the other girls on how to prepare for scholarship for a golf university, the positive and negative views, what Megan has learned and the pitfalls etc. So a series of small podcasts sharing wisdom and insights, and then putting these podcasts on Clubs websites and various social media. Sue Moore: suggested to develop promotional materials that illustrates why it is a great idea for you to start down the golfing route using case studies; this might encourage youngsters to try golf using youth media. Get across that it is fun, its not just the serious side of golf.

SM: Most of your young girls want to get on the tour, and some don't make it; they are not failures. Its about showing there are other good/rewarding opportunities in golf as well if they are not successful in becoming a pro. Alice has a good career within the golf industry and plays good amateur golf at +1 level. Its about showing them the options and other goals.

LS: why does Europe have a higher percentage of lady golfers? SM: its about the separation of ladies golf from mens golf. There is no separation in Europe of competitions for men and ladies, it is all about mixed golf. In the UK, some clubs wouldn't allow ladies to join and play at weekends if you worked; then the golf competitions were separated with a few exceptions. In the UK ladies play their competitions separately, ie on a Monday, which is a working day!. In Austria where SM started her golf, the Saturday Medal was open to men and lady golfers, and the same for all competitions, medals, stablefords, club championships, everything was mixed.

Norma Lee, Lambourne: indicated at Lambourne the competitions are mixed, however not all the women are playing mixed golf.

KS: at Hazlemere the weekends are open to men and ladies to play and you can sign up to play your competition at any time you like. Its all about opening up / accessibility.

SM: a journalist in a recent Golf Monthly article had done a lot of statistical research on women playing golf at a reasonable level, and found that a women had to take 20 days holiday from work per year to play her golf competitions vs a man only had to take 2 holidays per year, so by default that excludes ladies from active participation in golf. LH: this comes back to ladies perception of inequality in golf, its a reality.

SM: County and Clubs need to start the dialogue with the respective clubs' management on women in golf to get the perceptions changed and to encourage more equality for women.



LS asked if the R&A talk to the BB&O to encourage more women in golf as the BB&O only promote mens elite golf and have done for years. SM: in writing to John Kennedy at BB&O and declining the offer of unification of County into the BB&O felt awkward but at the same time knew we have to do more for women in golf, not just elite golf.

Sue Moore: it comes down to personal choice, our business ladies can play Saturdays in groups of ladies however we do have one lady who always plays with the men on Saturdays, and another who always plays on Saturdays with her husband. The rest play with the ladies, so its a comfort factor. So why enforce change, its their choice? SM: a survey was done asking clubs if they had mixed competitions, only 10 out of 18 clubs that answered? SM put her name down at Woburn for mixed comps played on a Sunday with 3 tee-times allocated for the mixed, and not one man signed up within those 3 tee-slots. Gill Redman Harleyford: the older, more traditional clubs in the county have fixed views on this matter, the newer clubs are far more flexible towards mixed golf.

SM: suggested we could do a straw poll across the 36 clubs in County and ask of their competitions how many of their them are mixed for medals, stablefords, club championships and then we could go to our own clubs with a percentage figure of clubs having genuinely mixed comps. At the moment it is all anecdotal, so a mini survey will give us the opportunity to find out what the numbers are.

Margaret Pitman Chiltern Forest: indicated she was a shift worker when she started playing golf; she was taught to play by men; she started playing with men from work, ladies are taught by men, so what is wrong with playing with the men at our clubs? SM; sees no problem, when she started playing golf she played with the men, but now 90% of the golf she plays is with only ladies. Woburn introduced a "Mixed Friday Swindle" to encourage mixed golf but it has died as most of the men only want to play with men. SM asked would it be helpful to have the case studies and examples from each club?

Trish Morrisby, Chartridge Park: they hold some mixed stablefords and trophy competitions each year. This year 6 ladies entered one mixed competition and finished in 1st and 2nd place, which was unusual.

**Action: SM to write out to Delegates to get some examples of their experiences: tell us what you do, how you got it up and running, which therefore could create ideas for other clubs to do more for inclusivity and equality. Also consider to create a survey to send out to all the clubs to find out what happens at the clubs by way of competitions etc.**

KS: she is the Handicap Secretary for the club at Hazlemere and it shows their committee's acceptance of having more females in board/committee roles.

Persuade a golf club committee to be run by a lady ie Buckingham has a Lady Club Captain in 2022, and Ellesborough have a lady club captain in 2023. LH: that pre-supposes that a golf club has a committee? SM: there are 100-150 ideas, but there could be 1 or 2 ideas that are worth pursuing.

Trish Morrisby Chartridge Park: County could make the elite girls aware/create a pathway with the clubs to get more women recruited as golf professionals, general managers, directors of golf with clubs as there is no clear pathway/structure of how to increase the opportunities for women to have a career in golf. County could help get more female pros at clubs which would help more women in golf.

**Action: SM to table the question "how can we get more clubs engaged in the WiG charter" and some case studies for the next Delegates Meeting Agenda? And for some clubs who have achieved the WiG status already, to give us some idea of what you did to help stimulate the discussion?**

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

JM reported that she has been working with Janet Beal to review all the rules of competition for 2023 and is in the process of putting them on the website. We have a new banner to celebrate the 100th year of County so all the entry forms are getting a new look with the Centenary banner. Currently on the website are the entry forms for the Par 3 at Wycombe Heights, the President’s Summer Meeting at Oaklands Park and the Centenary Trophy at Woburn, Do get your entries in, we would love to receive your entries for next year’s competitions. JM currently working updating on the League Entry Forms and hopes to have them up on the website before Christmas.

Note: all County Competitions are now available for entry on the website.

KS: asked to remind Handicap Secretaries at clubs to conduct the annual review of handicaps before the end of the year, using the England Golf/WHS Report on Annual Handicap Reviews, and each club should have a Handicap Committee so that decisions can be taken/decided. Also remind players that they can play general play rounds as well as qualifier rounds even when playing on temporary greens.

Additionally KS recently attended a one day WHS Handicap Seminar which will then get rolled out /presented early next year by County. Please keep handicap questions rolling in to KS, and if she cannot answer them, she will find out the answer from our Regional Handicap Advisor (Christine Bishop) or England Golf.

Note: the County Handicap Seminar is now scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Hazlemere. Register on the website or via e-mail: handicaps@bclga.org.uk

SM then thanked the audience for attending today and closed the meeting.

**13. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, 22 February via Zoom Call at 16.30 pm.

Signed ..... Date .....

## APPENDICES - EXECUTIVE REPORTS

### Captain's Report for Delegates Meeting on 30 November 2022

I've had a meeting with Tony Bowers, County Coach and also Katie Reid to discuss all potential  
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players to be invited into the County Elite Squad (both 1 and 2 team members). Letters and e-mails have gone out to 20 players and I'm collecting feedback and chasing responses throughout November and early December.

We have scheduled just 2 winter training sessions – 19 February (venue tbc) and 16 April at Woburn. This will avoid clashes with the EG TVR Girls Squad training and major spring events such as the London Foursomes at Burnham Beeches. I have also requested a practice session at Sonning GC ahead of County Match Week for 4 June.

We have been successful in appointing a Woman in Golf Champion to work with us at County level and have confirmed Dr Jenny Denyer (Woburn) in role. Jenny is a leadership and team development specialist with an impressive track record in both sport and business. A former world-class sportswoman (England Squash), with a Ph.D in Performance Psychology (Loughborough University) and over 15 years of organisational consulting, coaching and supervisory experience across sectors (working through Lane4 Management Group and Cranfield School of Management). Jenny brings a wealth of insight, rigour and dynamism to her work given her experience and lead tutor role on the R&A Women In Leadership Programme, we are confident she can make a hug contribution to our County.

On the topic of WIG – I would like to congratulate Burnham Beeches and Woburn who are the two most recent signatories of the Women in Golf Charter, joining Ivinghoe and Princes Risborough as only four signatory clubs in the county.

Much time has been spent on reviewing policies and constitutional documents and working behind the scenes on preparation for our Centenary events. Sadly our Golf Gala at Harleyford is now doubtful as the General Manager with whom we had agreed all the details has left the club and the new management team have reneged on our agreements. We will update if and when the Gala day can be held.

Susanna Mitterer  
County Captain

## **Competitions Secretary's Report for the Delegates Meeting on 30 November**

### **Winter Scratch League**

- This year, we have 11 Clubs/12 Teams competing in the Winter Scratch League, both Denham GC and Gerrards Cross GC have entered B Teams respectively.
- Sadly, Weston Turville GC has withdrawn from the Competition already citing a lack of players.

### **Winter KO**

- We have had the second highest number of entries on record this year with 39 pairs from 15 different Clubs.
- All matches in Round 2 have now been completed.

### **Par 3 Competition**

- The Par 3 Competition will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at Wycombe Heights GC.
- The entry fee will be £29.50 which includes a light lunch.
- Entry Forms can be found on the County Website.

### **Australian Spoons**

- BCLGA is hosting the Midlands South Regional Final for the Australian Spoons.
- The Regional Final will be played at Buckingham GC on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

### **Summer Meeting**

- The Summer Meeting will held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Oakland Park GC.
- The entry fee will be £52.50 pp for a 3-ball team Alliance followed by a 2-course lunch and prizes.
- Entry Forms can be found on the County Website.

### **Spring Meeting/County Championships**

- Flackwell Heath GC will host the Spring Meeting/County Championships on 10<sup>th</sup> May (36-hole qualifier for the County Championships, 18-hole Spring Meeting), 13<sup>th</sup> May (Match play rounds for 16 players – 8 net & 8 scratch), 14<sup>th</sup> May (am Match play semi-finals for 8 players – 4 net & 4 scratch; pm Match play finals for net & scratch).
- The entry fee will be £38 which includes a light lunch.

### **Centenary Competition**

- The Centenary Competition will be held at Woburn GC on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023.
- Entry Forms for the draw can be found on the Centenary page of the County Website.

### **Interclub Foursomes**

- The Interclub Foursomes will be held at Ellesborough GC on 10 October 2023.

### **Club Competitions Organiser**

- We are still looking for a replacement for Glenise for the role of Club Competitions Organiser (Bucks Shield & Interclub Foursomes).

**Jackie Maher**

**Competitions Secretary**

## **Bucks County Second Team Report Delegates Meeting on 30 November**

Hello, I took over as county second team captain a month ago. I am honoured and proud to accept this position. I have played for the county second team for about 6 years and felt it was the right time for me to contribute to the county. My aim is to balance youth and experience, but to also try and bring the average age down and approach younger women. If you have some younger single figure handicaps at your club please can you encourage them to contact me [2ndtmcaptain@bclga.org.uk](mailto:2ndtmcaptain@bclga.org.uk)

It has been busy this last month contacting other counties to arrange matches. I have managed to th

secure the following league match v Berkshire on Sunday 14 May. Unfortunately this was booked in before the county finals and the date clashes with the final date of the county finals. I contacted Gerrards Cross but haven't been able to find another date. In discussion with previous captains I have decided to keep the date as it is highly unlikely my team will involve players in the last 4 – as they will be first team players.

I secured a friendly game v Middlesex (a match that was a regular fixture but hasn't been play since rd

COVID) for Monday 3 April, Middlesex initially accepted but have since declined. I am still working on rearranging this date. I am also in contact with Bedfordshire to try and arrange a home friendly with them (this reciprocal friendly was resurrected last year by second team captain Jackie Edwards and we are due to host this year).

Katie Reid  
Bucks County Second Team Captain

## **County Junior Organisers Report – Delegates Meeting on 30 November**

There is not a lot to report since the AGM .....

Training with Tony

We had one last training session with Tony at Oakland Park the day after the AGM. It was a great day . We had 9 girls and we practiced skills in the morning and played the course in the afternoon.

Pre handicap and higher handicap Par 3 Fun Days –

We hold these once a month and these give the girls new to golf a chance to start to practice what they are being taught at their clubs and meet more girls within the county. We have had to cancel the last few competitions due to lack of support and it would be great if you could encourage more of your girls to play in them next year.

Fun Day with Burnham Beeches Golf Club

Burnham Beeches invited us to go along to their junior practice sessions to meet some of the new girls. Three girls from the county went along and led three texas scramble teams, playing three holes. The girls really enjoyed themselves, it was a great couple of hours and they look forward to going back again.

This is something we are keen to offer other clubs so please let me know if you have a group of girl cadets you would like us to come along and play a few holes with.

Delyth Barnett  
BCLGA County Junior Organiser

## **Handicap Report County Delegates Meeting on 30 November**

### **Annual Handicap Review**

Clubs should be carrying out the annual handicap review by 31<sup>st</sup> December. This should be carried out by the club Handicap Committee. The report on the England Golf Portal should form the basis for the review. Players are able to make requests to their committee with evidence for discussion.

### **Winter Golf**

Please refer to the Winter Golf Checklist on the England Golf website <https://static.whsplatform.EnglandGolf.org/clubs/1000-1/uploads/downloads/whs/whs-handicap-committee/winter%20golf%20checklist%20-%20branded%20150922.pdf>

Qualifying and general play rounds are still permitted and are encouraged if the course meets the requirements in the checklist. Please ensure players are aware of the checklist.

**Karen Scott**  
**Handicap Advisor**

## **Rules Advisor Report for Delegates Meeting on 30 November**

My role is to support BCLGA members and their clubs on the Rules of Golf. In addition to answering queries on the Rules used in play, I am also available to give advice on the Committee Procedures, such as course marking, local rules, terms of competition.

I am available to answer questions (by email) on your rules queries and also available to come and do rules presentations and demonstrations at your clubs.

There are changes to the Rules of Golf that will be implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. On first reading, the main changes are clarifying some of the areas that caused confusion in the 2019 rules and there are very few changes that will affect the majority of club golfers. I will be available to come and demonstrate the 2023 changes at your clubs in spring 2023.

I am also responsible for coordinating and arranging local rules education for people who are interested in becoming a rules official or just furthering their own knowledge, and I have access to people who are qualified to referee at events at various levels, so please contact me if you need a referee at an event.

I would strongly advise everyone to download the R&A Rules of Golf App – this contains all the rules you may need when playing, and also has quizzes to help you improve your knowledge of the rules.

I have a page on the BCLGA web site where I will post any interesting information about the rules.

Janet Beal

BCLGA Rules Advisor      [rules@bclga.org.uk](mailto:rules@bclga.org.uk)

## **England Golf Report for Delegates Meeting on 30 November**

### **Report from iGolf Update meeting (9<sup>th</sup> November)**

Over 34,350 sign ups since launch in July last year, with 27,500 current subscribers and **2490 golfer has so far moved to become members of Golf Clubs**. The iGolf scheme as a feeder pipeline for golf membership is working!

From Oct 21 to March 22 iGolfers submitted an average of 2 scores per month and from April 22 to Sept 22 that went up to 3 scores. 74% of iGolfers have a HI. Female participation is now up to just over 5% with 1,100 still in the programme and 146 having joined a golf club.

A key effort in 2022 was to target females through paid social advertising which helped to increase participation by 1% point. Next is a drive to develop a better understanding of the female independent market.

iGolf Surplus: the purpose for use of the surplus is to support the development of the game, including IG Connectivity; but all specific use is at the discretion of each county. 20 % of IG subscription will be distributed from October 2022 on an equitable basis across all counties. There will be opportunities for counties to apply for funds from the overall surplus – the working group will define who this fund will become available (i.e. women and girls promotion, promotion for participation of juniors and young adults, support for disability and minority groups)

iGolf subs to increase to £44 in early 2023.

### **Update on the Woodhall Spa Development Project (11<sup>th</sup> November)**

Following the vote at the EG General Meeting Jeremy Tomlinson (CEO of EG) and John Lee (Chairman of the WSLH Board) had several meetings and good progress has been made towards addressing the inequality of shareholding and ownership of the Estate. You might recall that the Women's associations are NOT currently shareholders of the Woodhall Spa Estate and therefore do not own a share of the golf course. EG have made it a pre-condition of their investment to build a new clubhouse that this inequality in shareholding is addressed.

There is a desire to ensure there is Equality of WSLH membership (invitation to County Associations & NAPGC to join). WSLH Articles to be redrafted to accommodate said by December (latest early Jan 2023)

Equality of WSLH membership is to mirror England Golf (EG Articles readily available). Agreement of WSLH Chairman & Board to support the EG development of the NGC aligning appropriate lease responsibilities, via re-write/design and providing appropriate documentation including:

- Structural engineer's report on the stability etc of the proposed building
- Building Control sign off
- Professional and Contractor warranties

EG/WSGM & WSLH Boards agreement to work towards a September 1st 2023 "break ground" NGC development date.

Membership of WSLH Board will change initially with the addition of 3 EG nominated Directors (Nominations to come from JT) in January 2023 if possible (but definitely before end March 2023), this will be followed by WSLH considering further changes to involve a more diverse Board in terms of gender and skills. WSLH will amend Articles ideally within the next 2/3 months to facilitate the potential for both changes to take place

Susanna Mitterer  
England Golf Voting Representative



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