

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE LADIES’ GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2019

Pat Collins, the outgoing Ladies Captain, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

1. **Members Present**

Pat Collins (PC) Lady Captain

Jess Howard (JH) Vice-Captain andWeekend Competitions

Mina Crowe (MC) Past Lady CaptainandCharity Secretary

Jane Pugh (JP) Vice-Captain 2020

Anne Stratford (AS) Secretary

Ann Ryzner (AR) Midweek Competitions

Sue Ketcher (SK) Weekend Matches

Helen Corbett (HK) Junior Committee representative

Teresa Green, Rosey Foster, Kim Price, Steph Williams, Angela Strevens, Rosie Laws, Sue Reed, Eve Spiller, Sheila Van Piggelen, Patricia Coleman, Fern Freeston, Carol Hardy, Julia King, Nessa Lynton, Ruth Evans, Di Heavey, Maggie Fraser, Shirley Buckwith & Derrin Gill

1. **Apologies**

Julie Smith, Jill Toothill, Carol Allport, Sue Farminer, Vikki Kitkat, Ali Henley, Marion Richardson, Sally Royall, Karen Brice, Val Castle, Sally Byrne & Glenys Palmer

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

These were agreed.

Proposed: JH Seconded:MC

1. **Matters arising**

None

1. **Midweek Competitions (Ann Ryzner)**

983 rounds of golf have been played on Thursdays in the past 12 months. There have been fun and not so fun games and played in various weather conditions. Let’s aim for 1000 rounds next year.

The Morgan Cup was played again this year and was won by Ali Henley with Sally Byrne being the runner up.

Knockout competitions have included the Bronze Midweek Trophy which has been won by Anne Stratford with Kathy Skilton being the runner up.

The Bronze Plate was won by Carol Allport (again) with Maggi Fraser being the runner up.

A new competition was introduced this year – The Midweek Random Pairs. Most Ladies have enjoyed this competition and we will be running it next year. The final is due to be played on the 6th November – good luck to the finalists. *‘Due to the fact that my partner and I were knocked out in the 1st round we will be having a plate competition next year’*.

Invitation Day was held 3 weeks ago, and we had 54 Ladies playing. The weather was good, and everyone seemed to enjoy it. We will be running it again next year.

The 2 Course Challenge was played 2 weeks ago with a good turnout of 34 players. Jess was the overall winner with Sally Byrne runner up.

Well done to all winners.

January, February and March are not normally Ladies favourite times to play golf but do come along and just play 9 holes or at least come and have a social cup of coffee and chat.

Finally, a big thank you to all the starters this year - it is not always easy taking phone calls and sorting out start sheets, but it is much appreciated.

**Midweek Matches (Sally Royal)**

The Ladies Midweek Friendly matches this year were really enjoyable, played in goodspirit - and mostly good weather! - And along with the trend in the Ladies Section this year,we had a lot of success, improving on results in recent years. The results were asfollows:

Cowdray Park Lost 1 - 3

Pyrford Drew 2 - 2

Cranleigh Lost 1 - 3

Woldingham Won 4 - 0

Sutton Green Won 3 - 1

Guildford Won 4 - 0

Hartley Wintney Won 4 - 0 Coombe Wood

Lost 2 - 1 and 1 drawn match

We had a fantastic number of ladies taking part - 34 in total - which made team selection a lot easier, and thanks to all those who signed up.

1. **Weekend Competitions (Jess Howard)**

There was a good attendance for weekend competitions in 2019.

In 2020 we will introduce on line sign up for weekend social golf. Sheila van Piggelen has kindly stepped in to run these fun competitions. We will vary these between Saturdays and Sundays when there are no other competitions running.

3 teams have been entered into Mary Forster winter league, Please contact Jess or Di Heavy if you would like to play.

Ladies pairs won by Jess Howard & Debbie Evans

Ladies singles won by Carol Hardy

Ladies Plate won by Marian Richardson

1. **Handicapsecretary report (Pat Collins)**

Not so much to report this year as the new Congu rules and guidelines have bedded in quite well, but of course now it is all going to change again next year (allegedly) with the World Handicap System.

Currently there are 6 different systems throughout the world, and we are all going to adopt the same system, so wherever and whoever we play will be using the same system.

Of course the details have not been finalised, but the basic idea is that every golf course will have an index and a slope rating your handicap will be adjusted each time you play a different course added to that will be weather conditions, when you are playing a competition. Your scores will be entered every time you play, and the big brother computer will take the best 8 scores from your last 20 games and recalculate your handicap at midnight every day.

The new 54 limit is here to stay but doesn’t seem to have been as problematic as was imagined.

This all sound alarmingnow but I’m sure it will all become clear. If you want to find out more and watch the progress, look at **englandgolf.org/handicaps-rules/whs-2020**.

It is interesting and done in nice cartoon format!!!!

The new competition handicap divisions seem to have been a success and I know they will be reviewed at the year end.

And finally, we have had some stunning handicap reductions this year. Congratulations to all of you for your well-deserved successes.

1. **New Members Report (Mina Crowe)**

Good Evening. This has been a good year for new members. BGL have made a magnificent effort to recruit new members to the club and we now have many more men and ladies playing on a regular basis.

We have said goodbye to a few old faces this year but we have welcomed many more.

We have recruited ten new ladies this year who play on Thursdays and we have another six or so in the pipeline who I am encouraging to gain their handicaps so that they can begin to play with us as well.

We have a ‘pool’ of new recruits - “The Spring Chicks” who play regularly on the Shey Copse and who have mostly now got handicaps for the Shey. I am beginning to take them out on the Main course, and we have invited them to join us for the Christmas Special.

The growth in new membership is encouraging and the club is in a good place now. Many thanks, to all of you ladies who have given up your time to take ladies round for their handicaps, and to all of you, for being so welcoming and inclusive.

1. **CharityCommittee Report (Mina Crowe)**

I took over responsibility for Charity Fund raising in December 2018 from Debbie Evans who had led the team for many years.

I would like to start my report by thanking Debbie for her tireless work as chair of the charity committee. She motivated, encouraged and drove the fund-raising efforts and put in an enormous amount of her own time and energy to ensure that as much cash as possible was raised each year for all the good causes we have supported over the years. She helped to raise in excess of £120,000.00 and I think you would all agree that is a magnificent achievement.

***The whole meeting agreed – thank you Debbie.***

She has now resigned from the committee and we will all miss her very much.

Thank you, Debbie, for your hard work, advice and generosity and we hope you thoroughly enjoy your rest now that you have stepped down.

The Charity year began on November 1st, 2018. A number of fund-raising events were held throughout the year beginning with Beaujolais Day and closely followed by a string of events at which you all gave generously and had a jolly good time as well, I hope! There is a brief financial summary which will be attached to the minutes of the meeting for you to read.

I would like to thank everyone who organised events throughout the year – Rosey Foster, Ann McCarthy, Sue Reed, Teresa Green, Fiona and David Marshall and of course all the committee members who worked so hard to help organise and run Charity Day. I also must thank all the men who gave so generously of their time and money to help raise so much cash. I must mention Graham Norris and Mark Pearce with their 72-hour challenge who raised nearly £3,500.00

Charity Day is our main fund-raising event of the year and this year the day raised nearly £10,000.00. 28 teams entered and we were blessed with good weather. A new event “Beat the Pro” proved to be very popular and raised over £400.00 to add to the funds.

In total, to date we have raised about £25,000.00 for the two Ovarian Cancer Charities and the cheques will be presented at Presentation Evening on November 9th.

Once again Ladies I want to thank all of you for your time, effort, donations and your generosity in giving so much to raise such a magnificent total for our 2019 Charities.

1. **NAPGC report (Di Heavey)**

Good evening,

We at Hoebridge belong to the National Association of Public & Proprietary Golf Courses (NAPGC)

They organise over 30 competitions for men, ladies & juniors of all ages, abilities & handicaps at individual, club & national level.

They have 60 affiliated courses.

This year started off by entering the Mary Forster Bowl, which is a winter competition, starting in November. This is a combined team medal score. We entered 3 teams where 1 got through to the final at Cherwell Edge. The final scores only had a range of 10 points from 1st to 7th place. The overall winners were Easthampstead with 103.

Well done to all who took part but especially Carol, Anne Stratford & Teresa who played in the final.

In the Toprock Comp –( which is Greensomes matchplay) we entered 2 pairs both going out in the 2nd round to Easthampstead – to who by the way have a very active ladies section due to a few local courses to them all having closed down; hence them gaining a lot of new ladies.

In the matchplay pairs, Pat & I lost on the 19th, and Debbie & Jess losing in the 2nd round to (you’ve guessed it) Easthampstead.

White Webbs – team of 4 playing 4BBB combined stableford, drawn home or away on a knockout basis.

Ferns team lost in the 3rd round 80-78 – to Easthampstead

Kim’s team went on to win the final at Staverton Park with 80 points against Abbey Hill, Easthampstead and Cannock Park. The team were Jess & Carol with 36pts and Kim & Steph with 44 pts.

The Hawtree (4 x mixed pair’s greensomes aggregate) had 2 teams to which Graham’s team came 3rd in the national final.

The Seniors Trophies were played for at West Middlesex but only seeing 2 pairs enter, individual & pairs competition but unfortunately not bringing home any silverware this year.

The JHB trophy was also played at West Middlesex Golf Club. This is a team of 3 combined medal score. We had 1 team in the gross and 2 in the nett. Di, Jess & Kim won the nett and came R/up in the gross too.

The Ladies Championship of England was played at Sandford Springs, where we had 7 ladies qualify. Kim came 2nd in the Gross and Steph winning the nett in the silver division.

The highlight of the year is always the UKPCC final played on the Eden course at St. Andrews.

This year 5 ladies qualified which is an amazing feat alone.

Jess won the Silver nett with 37 pts and Karen came r/up with 34. Carol, Di & Pat all had 31 which considering the worst possible weather that you could imagine were very respectable scores.

Huge congratulations to Jess & Karen on such an amazing achievement.

That concludes our very busy season.

Please look on the website for the individual competitions which you can all book for yourselves or speak to Jess or I – we would love to see more players in 2020. Please note the main competitions i.e. Mary Forster, White Webbs & Hawtree are all funded by Hoebridge.

We have had one very successful year, insummary: -

Mary Forster finalists,

White Webbs – Winners

Hawtree – Finalists and overall 3rd place

Ladies Championship – r/up gross and Winner Silver nett

UKPCC – Winner & r/up in the silver nett.

Well done to each & everyone who have entered these competitions, it is you that keep this wonderful organisation going, please continue with your support.

Good luck for the forth coming 2019/20 season.

1. **Outgoing Lady Captain (Pat Collins)**

I remember this time last year, when I was asked to give my vision of the future and I responded that I wasn’t really one for visions and that I made most decisions on the hoof, I looked that expression up, and it means without proper thought or preparation. I must just be lucky.

So,on proper reflection I decided that my vision would be to try and make sure people enjoyed themselves, and I hope you have.

I have also discovered in life, that if people are enjoying themselves, they are more successful.

It seems to me some people have been enjoying themselves far too much this year, judging by the silverware from the NAPGC and the fantastic handicap reductions.

We introduced two new competitions this year The Super Seniors, which had a modest start, but I envisage will grow from strength as some of our strengths decline.

The other was The Random Pairs, which was a phenomenal success considering the sharp intakes of breath that occurred when we suggested to the powers that be that we would invite the entire ladies section to sign up to a pairs competition and that you wouldn’t know who the hell you would be playing with. Well it is a testament to the friendliness of the ladies of this club, you signed up in your droves and I am sure lasting friendships have been made or certainly lasting acquaintanceships.

I would also like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the people that have worked so hard and enthusiastically to help me and the club this year.

Mina, who never let go of my hand for months, likewise with her spring chicks. Jess with her encyclopaedic knowledge of golf, computers and the winelands of South Africa. Ann and Sally, who have made the midweek competitions and matches so enjoyable and successful. Anne ably assisted by Helen for their admin skills. And other members on the committee who did as much as they were able, of course Dorothy Buckrell, Sue Ketcher and Pam Pitcher.

Others I must mention - Sally Lester for arranging that fabulous away day. I shall never forget that beautiful ‘pink’ day. Carol Hardy for educating and enthusing members about the charity eclecticand dishing out the prize money. It’s always a joy to see Carol advancing towards you with a fistful of envelopes. I am trying to decide what to spend my £5 voucher on this year! And dear Di for her work with the NAPGC, and her fortitude tolerating me as a partner and not least for taking my golf clubs on holiday with her to St Andrews, Kingsbarns, Carnoustie and Gleneagles – *‘please Di, next time could I be holding the other end of them’.*

On to more mundane matters, Hoebridge Golf Club is in a strong financial position and we have had great support from Burhill, in that they are very good at recruiting new members to our club. There are a lot of new men joined and a lot of ladies waiting in the wings to graduate to the main course and thank you to Jonathan for providing the refreshments tonight.

Invitation Day and Past members day were a big success, growing numbers and we are looking forward to seeing even more new and old faces next year.

Thank you so much for all your support and I know I shall leave you in the most capable hands of Jess ably supported by her lovely assistant Jane.

I won’t go into all the knockout winners here but extend a warm welcome to you all with or without your partners to presentation night on the 9th of November. You still have a week or so to sign up - it’s posh frocks and black tie or smart casual. It’s the club’s flagship event of the year, so please come along, and salute your champions, it’s your club, make it even better.

I now hand you over to next year’s captain and hear her vision and plans - Jess Howard

1. **Incoming Lady Captain (Jess Howard)**

Thank you to Pat and just to remind her she is Lady Captain until Feb 2020 as the AGM has been moved to the financial year – so a few more months for you to be Captain!!

My vison will be to continue to build on the fantastic foundations laid by our previous captain’s, promoting fun social golf with a competitive balance.

I would like more ladies to be involved doing a little bit, rather than a few doing a lot. You do not need to be on the committee to help.

We also hope to have more interaction with the Men as follows:-

Mixed stableford reintroduced, starting with Dec 22nd 2019

Mixed Greensomes will be later, startingin 2020 to encourage ladies to sign up plus the re-introduction of mixed matches in 2020.

Finally we will be reviewingthe handicap divisions at the end of 2019, to equalise the divisions.

1. **Election of New Committee Members 2020 and 2019 Committee (Anne Stratford)**

PC thanked MC for her ‘numerous years’ on the committee as she is now stepping down.

The following members have been nominated

* **Jane Pugh Proposed JH Seconded PC**
* **Pat Collins Proposed JH Seconded AS**
* **Nessa Lynton Proposed Joyce Dowdeswell Seconded Christina Sell**
* **Steph Williams Proposed PC Seconded JH**
* **Marian Richardson Proposed JH Seconded AS**

All nominations were carried at the meeting.As such, the 2020 committee will consist of 10 members.

1. **Captain’s Charity for 2020 (Jess Howard)**

JH announced that her charity will be Age Concern Woking – a small but very deserving charity.

1. **Any Other Business**

**15.1 Pearsons 2018/2019 Report (Rosie Laws and Sue Reed)**

We did receive a very difficult draw this year which included Foxhills, the defending champions. The other teams were a very competitive Royal Mid Surrey and Farnham.

Being a winter competition, the conditions can be quite challenging as was the case with the first home match against Farnham. A very wet day and all the ladies did very well to complete the match which unfortunately finished in a 6/1 win to Farnham.

The next match was quite daunting in facing Foxhills, last year’s winners. Their team played very well and were well practised for this matchplay competition. They won 7/0. Our ladies acquitted themselves well and especially in taking the loss in a very friendly and sporting manner.

Then quite a challenging visit to Royal Mid Surrey, Richmond on a difficult Monday morning with train problems and roadworks causing traffic havoc in our journeys to get there for 10 am meet with 10.30 tee offs. We made it and played in our usually friendly manner. Again, we faced a 7/0 whitewash.,

The fourth match was a visit to Foxhills on their Bernard Hunt course. Some of our ladies had been for a practice round which they had very kindly provided at a cost of only £20. This was very generous as the normal cost is expensive. All our ladies had very nice matches with a friendly group but again the loss was 7/0. But the edge was taken off by the magnificent tea that they provided in the Manor House. We will always remember the pink bread used for the dainty sandwiches, scones, cream and jam, and the CAKES with the kind thought of Foxhill named doggy bags for those who wanted to share at their homes.

Into January 2019 and an away visit to Farnham. You wouldn’t have believed it was 11 January, the sun shone, no wind and a reasonable temperature. We rose to the occasion of the weather and had a WIN 4 matches to 3. Hurrah. The Farnham ladies were very hospitable and welcoming, and everyone had a brilliant time.

Not much time to recover as Royal Mid Surrey were coming to us on Monday 14 January and the weather was still as good. We finished with the RMS winning 4 to 3 which we were delighted with, as they have a very strong team. Bacon rolls at the halfway point and tea and cake after the match with lots of chatting were enjoyed by all the players.

Our players have stayed very positive and upbeat as the first four matches were quite disheartening so hurrah for Hoebridge and deserved success in the last two.

Sue and I are giving up organising after 5 years and really thank all those who’ve been so supportive in their availability and smiles. Let’s hope for a kinder draw next year!!

This season’s squad of players were Ann Ryzner, Steffi, Teresa, Fern, Sally Lester, Marian, Pat Collins, Jess, Patricia Coleman, Wendy, Sally Royall, Sheila Van Piggelen, Bridget, Pam, Sue Reed, Rosey F, Rosie L, Debbie, Carol, Jo.

**Sally Lester and Jane Pugh are taking over the reins so please email them if you would like to play next year – handicaps 13-34 – matches to include Wimbledon Common, RAC Club and Coombe Hill.**

* 1. Maggie Fraser thanked PC for all her time and effort and said that this year had been an extra special year – Hoebridge is a very friendly and welcoming club once again.
  2. **Events coming up to look out for and sign up online**
* Christmas mixed stableford
* Beaujolais day
* Poppy day Scramble (mixed team)
* Shey shoot out – diary change – now Saturday 2nd Nov 1pm start
* 2 mixed friendly weekend matches (speak to SK)
* Men v Ladies v Pros – Saturday 30th Nov
* Christmas midweek special – Thursday 5th Dec
* Christmas Jumper Day – Sunday 15th Dec

**As there was no further business, the main meeting was closed at 8.20pm**

1. **Round Table Forum (8.20-9.20pm)**

Round Table discussions were carried out with 3 questions asked per table – see Appendix.

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

Pat Collins, Lady Captain in 2019

**Date of next meeting:tbc Nov 2020.**

**APPENDIX**

Feedback from round table discussions 2019

**Question**

**1 What have you enjoyed about Hoebridge Golf Club this year?**

* Different golf competition formats
* Random pairs
* Invitation day
* Fun competitions
* Friendly matches
* Chairman’s BBQ
* All inclusive – welcoming – not sign up with friends
* Spring Chicks – coming to invitation day
* John the Pro’s roll ups are good
* Need a taster day

**2 What have you not enjoyed about Hoebridge Golf Club this year?**

* Food – not consistent
* Poor staffing levels
* Early tee times – nothing later in the day – perhaps split tee times?
* More events on the Shey in the afternoon
* More people to socialise after golf on a Thursday – perhaps some fun and games afterwards
* People not arriving the required 30 mins before tee time to allow the starter herself to get ready
* Course etiquette needs explaining i.e. to prevent slow play
* High handicappers given a bit of a hard time until handicaps reduced

**3 Do you think Social Media has a place in our club?**

* Permission to allow email and contact numbers shared – starters mobile number needs to be added to Howdoido sign up for contact on the morning of competitions
* Rules around Whats App use
* Maybe a separate What’s App group for less important items i.e. photos
* No to Facebook group