



SOMERSET LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Isle of Wedmore Golf Club on 8th November 2013 at 11.00am

Present:

Sally Irlam President; Anya Patten County Captain; Fran Davies Vice-Captain; Amanda Mayne Regional; Hilary Weaver Honorary Treasurer; Diane Gough Junior Organiser; Ros Williams Competitions Secretary; Kate Musgrave-Brown Assistant Competition Secretary, Sheena Smith Honorary Secretary.

1. The President's Address

The President welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting of the Somerset Ladies County Golf Association and thanked Wedmore for their hospitality. The Delegates were thanked for all their hard work during the year and the Captain Anya Patten, Vice Captain Fran Davies and County Junior Organiser Diane Gough were congratulated for all their hard work and dedication. The Somerset teams were all great ambassadors for their County in attitude, team spirit and talent. Congratulations were given to Amanda Mayne and her success in Senior event where she played in the Home Internationals in Scotland in September played in the international squad Bled, Slovenia and came 5th in the Seniors Order of Merit. There were three new County Champions - Junior Tori Watts, won the Ladies Somerset Championship at Weston-super-Mare, Megan Dennett who became the Juniors' Champion in her last year as a Junior and to Amanda Mayne who won the Seniors' Championship at Orchardleigh.

The Honorary Secretary convened the meeting for 2013-11-06

2. Apologies for Absence

Margaret Gliddon Past President; Val Newell Standard Scratch Assessor; Sandra Ford SLPCS; Beryl Richards Squad Co-ordinator; Ruth Dowell Windwhistle GC; Vicky Stanley Stockwood Vale GC; Hazel Clutterbuck Tall Pines GC;

3. Minutes of the Annual General meeting 2012

Agreed and signed as a true record

Matters Arising:

Proposed by:

4. Finance. Hon Treasurer: Hilary Weaver.

Presentation of the Accounts for 30th September 2013.

The current account stands at £7,988 and the deposit account at £25,000. When all the accruals are paid after the year-end, the disposable bank balance will be £4,191.

There was a surplus for the year of £1,477, a small increase over the £984 made last year. The Juniors had a deficit of £2,570, compared to a small surplus of £392 last year, however last year there was a transfer of funds of £2,500 from the County. During this year we have discontinued running a separate bank account for the Juniors, although we are obviously continuing to support them.

Overall in this year there is a deficit of £1,021, compared to a surplus of £1,376 last year but this year the squad's waterproof jackets were replaced at a cost of approximately £3,500 so this is a healthy position.

EWGA ceased to exist at the end of last year so, as a result, the SLCGA for the first time this year has successfully collected all the fees for the LGU, England Golf, our own SLCGA per capita fees and the County cards. And paid over to England Golf all fees due to

them and the proportion of the County Cards money due to the SGU. The same arrangement will continue in this year and a letter has already been sent to your club managers and secretaries informing them of this. Questions were invited before the accounts were formally approved.

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

5. Reports

a) County Captain: Annya Patten

In June Team Somerset took on the cream of the South West at Woodbury Park. Playing for Somerset were:- **Hannah Grant and Megan Dennett** of Enmore Park : **Becky Gibbs and Charlotte Humphries** of Burnham and Berrow: **Amanda Mayne** of Saltford: **Fiona Beattie** of Taunton and Pickeridge : **Michaela Chivers** of Farrington Park: **Lizzie Stephens** of Clevedon: **Kelly Caple-Gallier** and **Jade Cope** of Weston Super Mare : **Annabelle Faragher** of Wheathill was selected but was injured and **Heather Kerr-Wilber** of Mendip Spring was our non travelling reserve. After a great start against Dorset on the first day, things went somewhat downhill after that and on the final day we needed to knockout Devon and for Cornwall to knock out Gloucestershire. In the end Gloucestershire went on to represent SW at County Finals. Team Somerset gave 100% to every game and the camaraderie was highly noticeable. The other extremely exciting positive from Woodbury was the level of Support for Somerset. Thanks to everyone for this support.

Lizzie Stephens from Clevedon gained her 1st team colours after Match week. a. Our Rookies, Jade Cope, Charlotte Humphries and Megan Dennett all won points for the team which was a fantastic debut for them all. It was an absolute delight to captain the 2013 Somerset Team

The training schedule has now begun with the coaches, Karen Nicholls and Stuart Wells at Millfield School and we will be asking to feed back after every game of golf they play and every practice session they undertake using the SmartPRO online software. This will give the coaches information to build a picture of the strengths and weaknesses to build team Somerset to be winners. It will also show measured progress, and allow the Executive to see if the investment of finance is good value so that we can plan for future training budgets.

The new County waterproof jackets are excellent brilliant and Paula Chivers(Farrington Park) was thanked for making the individual bags for the jackets.

Thank you to Beryl Richards, Squad Coordinator – who has done a great job with correspondence and admin with the squad.

b) Vice Captain: Fran Davies

How exciting it has been in 2013 to see the 2nd team progress as many of them had the potential to be first team players. Jade Cope , Megan Dennett and Charlotte Humphries all played for the first team in match week and secured several points for the team.

The 2nd team got through to the final of the 6 counties South West League which was played at Okehampton against Cornwall. Jade Cope, Megan Dennett, Charlotte Humphries, Victoria Watts, Annabelle Faragher, Helen Hayward and Heather Kerr were the team were disappointed to lose 3 1/2 to 5 1/2. Hopefully we will get to the final again next year and win.

Three friendly matches this year against Mendip, Enmore and Taunton & Pickeridge . and we are very grateful to these clubs for hosting us so well. Lastly thanks to Sally for her support, Annya for all her help and advice, Beryl who has done so much work behind the scenes. It has been great to be captain of such a lovely bunch of youngsters and looking ahead to 2014 with more promising players waiting in the wings.

c) Junior Organiser: Diane Gough

Junior Captain Megan Dennett (Enmore) played in the Southwest Colleges Championships, her team came first and Megan came 7th individually.

The Spring Meeting was at Taunton Vale and the Chivers Trophy was won by Megan Dennett and the 9 hole competition was won by Georgia Pope of Isle of Wedmore. 2 of the squad, Megan Dennett came 2nd and Laura Herbert came 3rd in the Somerset Schools at Enmore. Junior Vice-Captain ToriWatts of Farrington won the SLCGA Championships. Well done! Several juniors were selected for training for match week at Woodbury with only Megan being able to take part in the actual event

Junior girls also took part in the EG Southwest Girls Championships at Bath, EG U18s chship at Oake. The under 15's were at Tiverton and Knowle held the England Golf Southwest Championships. South West Inter County Championships took place at Bristol & Clifton in August. We won 2 matches, drew 2 matches and lost 1 match and were 3rd in the competition overall.

We have enjoyed 2 matches with the County Boys this season, winning one and losing one.

Somerset Girls County Championship was held at Saltford in August and the winner was Megan Dennett of and runner-up was Annabelle Faragher of Burnham & Berrow. U15 Gross winner was Arabella White of Bath and Best Nett was Chloe Wedlake of Tickenham. Jess Hays of Bath won best Stableford.

Thanks to Junior Captain Megan Dennett, Junior Vice Captain Victoria Watts and the junior Committee for all their hard work. The end of Season get together is on November 24th when the Junior Captaincy is passed to Victoria Watts.

Thanks all the clubs that continue to donate funds in order to support the County juniors, also, thank you to clubs that offer course time for fixtures and matches, it is very much appreciated.

Despite losing some valuable juniors from the junior team due to becoming 18 years old, we have included another 7 new golfers to the junior squad for 2014.

d) England Golf SW Regional Committee Representative: Amanda Mayne

Somerset hosted a very successful South West Girls Championships at Bath Golf Club in July: Sophie Keech from Dorset was the Winner.

Somerset did well in the South West Championships with Arabella White (Bath GC) winning the Fraser Evans Bowl for the best nett score and Somerset won the Taylor Young Trophy for the 3 best nett scores. Three girls qualified for the top flight and 3 qualified for the second flight.

The South West Foursomes held recently at North Wilts Golf Club on a very windy day, was won by Jane Southcombe and Melissa McMahon from Dorset, however, Somerset did have several prize winners in both the gross and nett categories.

Tavistock Golf Club won the EWGA Trust stableford competition.

Georgia Hall (Dorset) has done extremely well this year she has represented her county in various events and at the end of the season was 4th on the England Golf Order of Merit and she won the LGU Order of Merit.

Sarah Jane Boyd from Cornwall has also represented her country in various events and was 2nd on the England Golf Order of Merit. Others that have done well are Sophie Keech and Hayley Davies (Dorset) and Bethan Popel (Gloucestershire). Sarah Jane and Hayley have been selected to train in the England Golf Womens Squad and Sophie has been selected to train in the England Girls Squad.

Somerset will be holding the South West Championships at The Mendip Golf Club next year during July - this will be the first year the event will be staged over a Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Carole Paterson will be taking over as SW rep for Somerset .

e) Voting Member for Somerset at England Golf: Margaret Gliddon

It has now been nearly two years since the merger between the English Women's Golf Association and the English Golf Union. David Joy was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of England Golf on April 22nd 2013. Since his appointment David Joy has been working on The Strategic Plan for England Golf 2014-2017 and is visiting every County in England in the next few weeks. The workshop at Saltford Golf Club on October 22nd. was attended by representatives from the SLCGA, SGU, Golf Clubs, SGP P and the PGA. There is 3year plan to increase the number of people playing golf. Club membership has decreased from 874,447 in 2000 to 744,165 in 2012. The number of women including girls has decreased by 10,500 from 2000 to 2012. England Golf want to provide more competitions for golfers of all abilities and support Golf Clubs to attract new members and meet the needs of existing members and visitors. The Strategic Plan once agreed will be approved at the Voting members meeting in February. In 2014 affiliation fees for men and women will equate at £7.25, however women over the age of 18 will still be required to pay the LGU levy of £2.50.

Members of more than one affiliated Club will only pay one affiliation fee to England Golf per annum, which should be collected from their home Club. This will be voted on at the November Voting members meeting. It would be considered appropriate that Counties also only charge members once if they are members of more than one Club unless the other Club is in another County. England Golf will adapt the USGA System of Course Rating as from January 2014.

All the Championships have gone well this year, apart from the weather, with the men and women working together. We had a very successful English Girls Open Amateur Championship at Oake Manor in July. Many thanks to Oake Manor for hosting this event.

Amanda Mayne is very modest but congratulations to her on being part of the England Senior Team who won a bronze medal at the European Team Championships in Slovenia and just losing out to Ireland in the Senior Home Internationals to come runners-up.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Voting Member for Somerset . I relinquish my post after the England Golf AGM in February.

f) Competitions Secretary: Ros Williams

Thanks to the golf clubs who hosted the County competitions in 2013 and to the Lady Captains, County delegates and their committees, for their help . Congratulations to Tori Watts from Farrington GC who became the 2013 County Champion. and to Amanda Mayne from Saltford GC. who won the 2013 County Senior's Championship. Congratulations to all those who were successful in our County competitions. All 2014 competition dates and venues can be found on the County web-site, Thank you to Pauline Thorogood and her band of referees for their help., to the executive committee, the delegates and Kate for her assistance during the last two years.

g) Handicap Adviser: Pauline Thorogood

In February this year Handicap Secretaries were invited to one of two handicap update meetings; these were held at Stockwood Vale and on a Sunday at Burnham & Berrow. Thanks to these clubs for their generous hospitality. Two handicap meetings are planned for February 2014, but the venues are not yet finalized. It is hoped that every club will be able to send at least one representative.

Most queries have been about Supplementary Scores, General Play reviews and $\frac{3}{4}$ handicap for fourball better ball competitions. The new concept of an ESR (exceptional score reduction), which was originally targeted at fast-improving new players and juniors, has taken one or two more mature ladies by surprise! Next year sees us all gaining a "c" on our numerical handicaps – this stands for "competition handicap" while what we now know as an inactive handicap will be a number only.

There will be some new Handicap Secretaries starting soon - if you would like some help, please get in touch I am able to come to talk to clubs/individual Handicap Secretaries about the CONGU system/Rules of Golf; winter is a good time – just let me know. Thanks to my assistant Val McFarlane for her help during the year.

h) Representative of the Senior Ladies' Association: Jenny Davis

The main activity during the year has been our matches. It was very pleasing that applications were received from all but one Club. Match selections is never easy and made harder by the imbalance of numbers for home and away matches.

It did not help that two of the three Shield matches were away this year, at China Fleet in Cornwall and Holsworthy in Devon, involving long journeys in both cases. With limited applicants and a disappointing number of drop outs after selection I was relieved to have 14 bodies present on match days! Thank you to those who stepped in, some at very short notice, to play. All the matches were very enjoyable and when we won our first against Cornwall at China Fleet I was very excited, but, down to earth with a bump against Dorset, at Long Sutton, when we lost $2\frac{1}{2} / 4\frac{1}{2}$! Losses followed against Devon, Gloucestershire and Hampshire. We did redeem ourselves in the final match against Wiltshire, played over 12 holes because of the intense heat, winning $5\frac{1}{2} / 1\frac{1}{2}$. No Shield for Somerset this year I'm afraid, but maybe next year?

Thank you to the clubs for their hospitality and to the ladies that gave their time to make sure visitors were made welcome. Flowers in locker rooms and 'greeters' were well received and remarked upon by both home and away teams.

My year was most enjoyable helped by the support from an excellent committee and, in particular, Val Boothman, as President, was an invaluable source of wisdom and experience. I wish my successor, Joy Jordan from Taunton Vale an enjoyable and successful year in 2014

i) Honorary Secretary: Sheena Smith

Thank you all the delegates and to those who are now handing over their files after their term has ended. They are: Jill from Burnham & Berrow; Alison from Isle of Wedmore; Ros from Long Sutton; Margaret from The Mendip; Carol from Saltford; Jan from Stockwood Vale; Hazel from Tall Pines, and Marnie from Worlebury,

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to be your Hon Sec; and I have received lots of help and encouragement from you the Delegates and the Executive committee and, in particular, I have enjoyed working with two very supportive Presidents, Joan Cumming and Sally Irlam.

My successor, Margaret Allen, will do a great job for you, capable girl that she is, and I wish her all the best in the post, .

j) Representative of the Ladies' Past Captain' Society: Sandra Ford

My apologies that I am not here to give my report but it was too far to come back from Florida!

Our aim as a committee is to match our members' expectations and to run events where golf, fun and camaraderie are all equal! Thank you to Lesley Organ for her dedication and commitment over the twelve years. The Society has certainly matured under her leadership and we will miss her at our Committee meetings. Valerie Key has also decided it is time for a change after being a very efficient secretary. So we have Ros Gait and Eliza Vail joining the team and bringing new perspectives.

The AGM was well attended and gave a fitting farewell to Lesley as our outgoing chairman. Congratulations to Fay Galley on completing her first year of organizing events so successfully.

This Year was the 7th year of our Team Event which is 36 holes played over 2 days.

Due to the size of the event we returned to the Vale. Unfortunately the awful weather which ruined our stay at St Pierre last year returned for the second day. However, despite testing weather and difficult courses the teams managed to perform very well with The Taunton Travelers team of Diane Gough, Stevie Foster, Terina Parker and Jackie Woodman all of Taunton Vale winning the event. May 11th/12th 2014 will see us back at St Pierre with Diane Barwell at the helm

Despite better weather in our Inter County Matches we actually fared worse than last year as we only won one match! However, as always the matches were enjoyable. Jenny Hobbs has threatened the members with winter training!

We held a very lively Delegates Day hosted by Claire Biggs at the Isle of Wedmore. It was reassuring that in the main we are meeting the expectations of our members. Key discussion points under review are the 2014 Spring Event and 2015 Team Event.

k) Standard Scratch Assessor: Val Newell

No report

l) Somerset Golf Partnership: Eileen Binding

It's been a year of coming and going really- the SGU left us and then came back- unfortunately because of this we had a much reduced grant from England Golf. This in turn has affected our ability to do many activities this year and our excellent County Development Officer Paul Barrington had to reduce by 1/3rd the hours that he worked for us. Paul is also starting a new business venture in the spring and would like to further reduce his hours and just spend a day a week for SGP covering admin, newsletter and website. So we need to fill the 2 days per week vacancy that we have been left with. Meanwhile, our hard working SGP academy director Sarah Burnell has resigned but her role will be taken over for the next 6 months by Nick Pope PGA Pro from Isle of Wedmore . Nick will also take on part of Paul's role until June. In the meanwhile, we will be sorting out the job descriptions of the new combined role and advertising the post in the New Year. June Mills our Treasurer for 6 years has retired and we are very grateful to her for all the work she has done for us.

We held a Development day earlier in the year and England Golf also held a seminar at Saltford. I am very grateful to all the ladies who turned up, it was really positive to find them fully involved and contributing well to the debate. We hope to hold further seminars in the next year and to start to visit each club to talk to and try to help them with any issues they may have.

We have also applied for a Coaching grant to help with coaching for talented junior player, girls and boys. We will let you know if our application has been accepted.

m) County Welfare Officer: Carole Paterson

The role of county Welfare Officer is important within Somerset and I am the point of contact for golfers and their clubs to discuss any welfare concerns / queries.

We have produced a document to assist the transfer of Junior golfers through to the County ladies squads. It's not always easy for youngsters to know how to fit in or respond in a group of older / mature players. I am especially pleased that the squad Captains are keen to know the requirements regarding Junior players in their teams. i.e. Support / transport issues / consent forms. We deal with any issues jointly, if / when they arise.

I continue to be involved locally and at County level with such issues as:

Advice on the use of volunteers within golf; Volunteers / helpers and CRB checks. Appropriate accommodation and transport for junior golfers whilst representing their club / county in events; Monitoring of adults who frequently play golf with non related juniors; Having a strategy in place, should a known concerning adult become involved with a club;

Trying to encourage parents not to over interfere with decisions made concerning golfing events/ team selection and the level of play for the young people; we do have parental involvement guidelines at golfing events;

Equality issues: what does this mean in 2014 and onwards.

I am available to discuss any issue that may cause concern or anxiety and hopefully find a way forward.

n) Merchandise: Carol Lake

Thank you once again to everybody who has supported the County by buying merchandise. After 8 years I had thought that it was gradually slowing down but this year I have taken double the amount of last year. This has probably been, of course, as a result of ordering new brollies and the Aspen headbands started by the teams and proving very popular.

We stock 14 different items at present, but some stocks are running low and won't be repeated so if you need a rainhat, visor, magnetic hatclip or a towel, now is the time to get them. All the other items can be ordered, the details are on our website with my contact details and I can always get the items around the County without any problem.

This was my last year as County Delegate for Saltford and Lesley Organ is taking over but I haven't been able to persuade her to take over the County Kit, so I will try to take it to some of the Opens and meetings.

o) Web-site Co-ordinator: Eileen Binding

The website is proving to be very useful and ladies are making use of the information that can be found there for every section of County Golf. The only disappointment is that I receive very little news from clubs. However, a twitter account has been set up #somerset ladies golf which should result in more exchange of information- but I have yet to learn how to do it. My younger colleagues tell me it is the way to go but we will see. All helpful advice will gladly be received.

The newsletter seems to have been well received and there will be another issue after this AGM.

6. The Election of Officers To confirm the Election of Officers duly nominated for vacant positions "With no amendments and with your approval these can be taken 'en bloc' "

Term of Office ended	
Name	Position
Sally Irlam	President
Amanda Mayne	England Golf SW Regional Committee Representative
Margaret Gliddon	Voting Member for Somerset at England Golf

Ros Williams	Competition Secretary
Sheena Smith	Honorary Secretary
Val Newell	Standard Scratch Assessor

NOMINATIONS FOR VACANCIES ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Name	Position	Proposer	Seconder
Margaret Allen	Honorary Secretary	The Mendip GC	Long Sutton GC
Sandra Ford	Assistant Competition Secretary	Long Sutton GC	Enmore Park GC

APPOINTMENTS 2014

President: Sally Irlam

Our thanks go to Amanda Mayne who has served 5 years as our South West Representative - to Margaret Gliddon acting as the Voting Rep for Somerset at the England Golf meetings at Woodhall Spa and to Val Newell who has acted as Standard Scratch assessor.

The following appointments have been made by the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- 1). ELLIE HARPER. Vice President 2013-2017 . Proposed by Sally Irlam and seconded by all the Past Presidents
- 2). CAROLE PATERSON. Appointed as England Golf South West Regional Representative and Voting Member for Somerset at England Golf.
- 3). The same goes for KATE MUSGRAVE-BROWN who takes over as the Standard Scratch Assessor. This now comes under the auspices of England Golf and will entail joint assessing with a man and a lady. Her assistants are Helen Clark and Suzie Gibbons. Kate also automatically becomes the Competition Secretary. It is wonderful that all these ladies are prepared to give up so much of their time voluntarily. What would Somerset do without them?

Accepted en bloc

7. Competition Results 2013

The 2013 SLCGA Competition Results have been circulated to all Club Delegates for display on Ladies' Notice Boards. Fixture Lists for 2014 will be included in the Delegates' January Pack 2014

8. Propositions

A proposition has been received from Lansdown GC, seconded by Burnham & Berrow GC as follows:

"The clubs in the first round and byes in the Rogers Cup, be drawn and subsequently allocated a neutral venue, as near equidistant or as geographically acceptable to both clubs, taking into consideration both time and cost."

The County Captain, Vice-Captain, England Golf SW Regional Committee Representative, and the Delegates were asked to vote with the following result:

For the proposition:

Against the proposition:

Therefore the proposal was rejected.

9. Presentation of Trophies 2013

The President, assisted by the Competitions Secretary presented the following trophies and photographs were taken for the web-site.

Grass Roots Trophy

Winner Pitti Morris Farrington Park GC
 Runner-up Vicky Stanley Stockwood Vale GC

Centenary Plate

Winners Taunton & Pickeridge GC
 Runners up Frome GC

Rogers Cup

Winners Taunton & Pickeridge GC

10. The President's thanks to retiring Officers and welcome to incoming Officers

Thank you to the Executive Committee for all the support they have given me over the last two years.

Thanks were expressed to Retiring Committee members Sheena Smith and Ros Williams for all their hard work over the last 4 years. Both were given a small token of appreciation.

11. Presentation of Badges Sally Irlam

Incoming President Eileen Binding was wished a very happy and successful term of office.

President's badge was presented to Eileen Binding by Sally Irlam

Past President's badge was presented to Sally Irlam by Eileen Binding

Vice President's badge was presented to Amanda Mayne by Eileen Binding

Competition Secretary's badge was presented to Kate Musgrave-Brown by Ros Williams

Honorary Secretary's badge was presented to Margaret Allen by Sheena Smith

Life Member badges were presented to Jenny Hobbs & Martha Perriam by Sally Irlam

Presentation of Life Members Badges to Jenny Hobbs (Bath) and to Martha Perriam (Weston) for enormous contribution to Somerset Ladies County Golf. Both of the life members spoke a few words of appreciation for this honour.

12. The meeting was closed at

Date of next meeting: Monday 6th January 2014 11:00 Burnham & Berrow GC

Meetings 2014:

Executive Committee Meetings		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
18 th Nov (2013)	11:00	Burnham & Berrow GC
14 th March	10:00 & 11:00	Championship & Executive Meetings Enmore Park GC
19 th May	10:00	SW Championship Committee Meeting The Mendip GC
14 th July	11:00	Taunton Vale GC
20 th October	11:00	Weston-Super-Mare GC

General Committee Meetings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
6th January	11:00	Burnham & Berrow GC
19 th May	11:30	The Mendip GC
22 nd September	11:00	Wells GC Including 12 holes golf and meal
AGM 2014: Monday 3rd November 11:00 Isle of Wedmore GC		

Signed

Date:.....