

**ENGLISH WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION
SOUTH WEST REGION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT BURNHAM & BERROW
24th April 2009 AT 1.00PM**

Present:	Mrs Sue Rawles	Chairman
	Mrs Gillian Merry	Regional Administrator
	Mrs Jenny Potter	Cornwall
	Mrs Penny Lyne	Devon
	Mrs Jackie Wilson	Dorset
	Mrs Sue Johns	Gloucestershire
	Mrs Margaret Gliddon	Somerset
	Mrs Anne Martin	Wiltshire

- 1. Apologies:** There were none.
- 2. Chairman's Remarks:** Mrs Rawles opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and in particular Mrs Sue Whittaker, Chairman of the Management Board of EWGA. Mrs Rawles introduced the members of the SW EWGA Committee and invited each member to give a short resume of their golfing careers so that Mrs Whittaker could see the range of expertise of the Committee. All the members of the Committee have served in various roles on their clubs and counties committees before their membership of the SW Regional Committee.

Mrs Rawles reported on local successes and awards. Sian James won the British Universities Stroke Play and the R&A Scholars title.

Hayley Davis captured both girls U16 titles at Women's Winter Golf Festival (Hacienda del Alamo) and also won the Scottish U16 Open Stroke Play title.

Di Gritt was honoured at the Volunteer Awards for her services to County Golf Development.

Dorset's Fern Grimshaw scored back to back college wins in the US and teamed up with SW players Emma Taylor and Hannah Bews to win the team event.

Hannah Barwood was the runaway winner of the Faldo Series Asia title in China and had been named in the Nations Cup team at the Scottish Championships.

Claire Hall (Cirencester GC) celebrated her 100th birthday – still playing golf!

Margaret Berriman is the new Operational Board Chairman.

- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 29th January 2009:** The Minutes were approved and signed.
- 4. Matters arising:** None
- 5. Correspondence:** There was none
- 6. To consider matters from the Operational Board Meeting on 1st April 2009:**

a) Counties have responded to the request for information re Public Liability Insurance the Company Secretary, John Green is pursuing various possibilities.

Mrs Rawles pointed out that when Counties do not pay a facility fee for a venue, they are not covered by the club's insurance and EWGA insurance does not cover them either.

b) Unfortunately the EWGA Trust has had to cancel the Charity Day due to lack of teams, but plenty of prizes were kindly donated and there may well be a draw in the future. Delegates were asked to promote the Trust Stableford competition within the clubs.

Awards by the Trust will be reduced again this year as funds decline.

EWGA is looking at the cost of producing a diary in 2010, similar to that of the LGU which is no longer available.

c) Delegates were asked if the format of the Australian Spoons competition should be reviewed. It was stated that some clubs hold a single day competition with the winners going forward to the Regional Final. A review of the rules for this competition will be held next year.

d) Taster days run by the counties to encourage more women to take up golf have proved very successful.

e) The EWGA Gender Policy is now in place, and clubs and counties should consider their own positions as regards to this.

There was concern at the impact of parental pressure.

f) There is a dearth of female coaches.

g) The new look EWGA Handbook has been distributed to all clubs and counties and has generally been well received.

h) Cheques for County Match Week will go to the host Counties in April. This will include the facility fee, which is payable to the club, plus expenses of £1200.00 to spend as necessary.

i) Although the R&A does not support the use of DMDs, a local rule may be introduced allowing their use.

j) The Regional Minutes will be published on the Regional website.

k) There is a proposal to run courses for future Rules Observers in early 2010. Information and application forms will be published in Ladies' Links.

l) Mrs Rawles asked the committee members to consult with their club delegates on 'players with active/inactive handicaps in EWGA Medals and report back at the June meeting.

m) Sue Whittaker brought the meeting up to date on the EGU/EWGA merger talks, further meetings are due to take place in April and July. The talks are funded by the EGP. The Chairman thanked those who had taken the time to return their comments on the merger.

n) Details of the state of the ring-fenced pot of funds will be announced in due course by John Green.

o) Mrs Rawles updated the meeting on the Centralised Handicapping Database, all the costs are being borne by the EGU. Information on men's handicaps is currently being uploaded, information on ladies' handicaps will be included later.

Users must have CONGU licensed software in order to participate in the scheme and will also require an internet connection. The new system will be a big help with returning of away scores and the audit of handicaps.

7. Regional competitions for 2009 and beyond

Mrs Martin reported that entries for the Championship were slow to come in and all counties should encourage their players to enter.

County Match Week	6-11 June 2010	Salford Golf Club Bristol Avon
Australian Spoons Regional Final	27 th July 2010	Brickhampton Court GC, Gloucestershire
SW Girls	11 July 2010	Royal North Devon
SW Girls	17th July 2011	Lyme Regis, Dorset
County Match Week	2011	North Wilts

Penny Lyne (Devon) queried the way in which courses were selected for major events by EWGA. Margaret Gliddon explained that she had completed a venue report as the SW representative on the Champs and Venues Committee. Penny felt that EWGA should seek the advice and expertise of the particular county before reaching a decision.

Since the re-structuring of the Regional Committee in 2008 it is the responsibility of the County member to ensure that a booking is made, using the Roster which began in 2009.

8. SW Championship 2010

The present 3 day format will be retained. Arrangements have been made for the Championship to be held at China Fleet GC from 13-15 July. There will be a facility fee of £1000.00. payable to the club.

9. SW Chairman and Regional Administrator 2010

Mrs Margaret Gliddon will take over the Chair at the end of the year.

Mrs Gillian Merry is also retiring as the Regional Administrator and we shall need a replacement.

Any other Business

1. Mrs Lyne (Devon) suggested that after a county closes a regional competition the relevant notes should be sent to the county running the next year's competition.
2. Mrs Gliddon reported from the Champs and Venues Committee –it has been suggested that the format for the Girls Championship will change to 72 holes strokeplay – this change has yet to be agreed.
3. Mrs Rawles distributed an EWGA commemorative plate to those counties who will be staging Regional Competitions in 2009.
4. Mrs Wilson (Dorset) said players in her county remained very unhappy about the fact that only one player per club would now go through to the Medal Finals – they were of the opinion that this favoured the “bronze players”. Mrs Rawles explained that Emma had looked at the balance of silver and bronze players and there was an even spread of winners in the past. Mrs Rawles would take this information back to the Op Board.

Date of the next Meeting: 15th June 2009 at 2.00pm at Burnham and Berrow Golf Club.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.00pm.

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