

<u>ENGLISH WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION</u> Minutes of the East Regional Committee held at Gog Magog Golf Club on Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 10.30am		
Present:	Mrs Anne Pyke - Regional Chairman Mrs Margaret McCall - Cambs & Hunts Mrs Pat Garner – Essex Mrs Ann Green - Hertfordshire Mrs Nicky Wylie - Norfolk Mrs Judi Walker – Suffolk Miss Kathrynn Harris - Regional Administrator Mrs Chrissie Owens - EWGA Non-Executive Director	Part of meeting
		Action
1. Welcome, Apologies and Chairman's Remarks	<p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mrs Margaret Seabrook – Bedfordshire.</p> <p>The Chairman's remarks had been previously circulated.</p> <p>In the Home Internationals England were third, Charlie Douglas, Brockett Hall, Herts winning four out of six matches. The Under 18's won the Junior event and the Seniors were runners up to Scotland, Jo Ashmore, Barnham Broom, Norfolk, and Paula Parker, Abbotsley, Cambs &amp; Hunts were in the team.</p> <p>In the European team events, England won the Silver Medal at Bled, Charlie Douglass in the team; the Seniors team, including Jo Ashmore, won the Bronze Medal in Ireland but the girls lost in a play-off for the bronze medal in Finland, Heidi Baek, Felixstowe Ferry, Suffolk, in the team.</p> <p>Lucy Williams, Mid-Herts, was in the all women team which in Germany won the World Student Matchplay Championship. She was runner up in the Scottish Under 21 Strokeplay, losing in a play -off at the second extra hole.</p> <p>Charlie Douglass has been included in the 20 strong squad for next year's Curtis Cup near Boston.</p> <p>Kelly Tidy, Lancashire, had a 100% record in the Junior Solheim Cup.</p> <p>Jo Ashmore was 8<sup>th</sup> in the British Seniors.</p> <p>Hannah Burke, Mid Herts, has been performing well in the USA; her US college record being 9 top 5 and 16 top 10 finishes. Hannah was second in the English Strokeplay and runner-up in the Irish Championship, losing a play-off at the 7<sup>th</sup> extra hole.</p> <p>Lilias Adamson and Sue Pearson, Ely City, Cambs &amp; Hunts, were winners of the PING plate competition – the top 60 pairs go to Grand final, the next 72 to the Plate Final, replacing previous regional finals.</p> <p>At the Golf Medal Finals at Frinton, Shirley Clayton, Basildon, Essex, was the winner with a net 70, runner up</p>	

	<p>Georgina Blackman, Chelmsford, Essex. In the Silver Medal at Colchester, Brenda Mace, Basburgh, Norfolk, won, Ann Barke, Gosfield, Essex, was runner up.</p> <p>Charlie Douglass and Harriet Key, South Herts, retained the 36 holes scratch foursomes Beaconsfield Salver.</p> <p>Hertfordshire were runners up to Lancashire in County Finals.</p> <p>Daisy Dyer, Chigwell, Essex, won the inaugural East Region Girls' Championship.</p> <p>Ann Irvin will be the new EWGA President. Ann has an outstanding golfing record including playing in 11 Home Internationals and 4 Curtis Cups. She has more recently been an England Selector, and an International Selector.</p> <p>Thordon Park are through to the Mail On Sunday final in Spain. The team is Sally Barber, Fiona Coull, Emily Irons, Sue Boon, Wendy French and Sally Ager with handicaps ranging from 6 to 19.</p>	
<p>2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> June</p>	<p>The Chairman asked for any amendments or comments.</p> <p>The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda</p>	<p>a. Rules Courses There have been 224 applications for the rules questionnaire. Marking is almost complete and EWGA will be allocating successful candidates to seminars in March. The planned seminars are: 2 March, Harpenden, 4 March Burnham &amp; Berrow, 16 March Beeston Fields, 18 March, Leyland.</p> <p>b. Merger A fourth meeting has taken place following the EGU's Voting Members Meeting at which counties expressed their support for a single governing body, harmonisation of subscriptions, etc.</p> <p>c. Public Liability Insurance As not all counties wanted to take up Towergate's specially priced policy, their offer will not be available on an individual basis and it will be down to counties to arrange their own cover. They may wish to do this via Towergate, however, the company have said that their premium if unlikely to beat AXA on price.</p> <p>Many Counties have joint PLI with Trophy Insurance and it was agreed to find out exactly what each county is paying. Judi will speak to John Green next year to see if the offer can be repeated.</p> <p>d. Scratch Golf Questionnaire The response has been in support of a competition for club low handicap golfers. Using the same formula as the medals, but with the gross score counting, would be straightforward. A competition between local club</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	<p>champions would also be possible.</p> <p>e. New member's leaflet This is now available for distribution, which will include Club Delegates. It is aimed at new members but clubs will have a copy to display on a notice board.</p>	
4. Report on 2009 Regional Competitions	Overall, the East Region made a small profit, which is very commendable especially as one region made a loss of over £800. Anne thanked everyone who has worked hard to promote our competitions and also thanks to The Links Golf Club who were happy to have as a facility fee the profit on the day.	
5. 2010 Regional Fixtures	<p>Information for the East Region poster was confirmed and will be sent to Lisa (EWGA) by Friday 30 October at the latest.</p> <p>Competition Prizes for 2010 were agreed as follows:</p> <p><b>Championship</b>  £75 1<sup>st</sup> Scratch 36 Holes  £50 2<sup>nd</sup> Scratch 36 Holes  £25 Best 18 holes AM  £25 Best 18 holes PM  £30 1<sup>st</sup> Handicap 36 Holes  £20 1<sup>st</sup> Handicap 36 Holes  Total £225</p> <p><b>Girls' Championship</b>  £40 1<sup>st</sup> Scratch  £25 2<sup>nd</sup> Scratch  £20 Best 18 holes AM  £20 Best 18 holes PM  £25 1<sup>st</sup> Handicap  £15 1<sup>st</sup> Handicap  £15 Under 15 1<sup>st</sup> Scratch  £45 Gross Team Prize (Named Team best 2 of 3)  Total £205</p> <p><b>Foursomes</b>  £40 x 2 1<sup>st</sup> Scratch  £25 x 2 2<sup>nd</sup> Scratch  £30 x 2 1<sup>st</sup> Nett  £25 x 2 2<sup>nd</sup> Nett  £15 x 2 3<sup>rd</sup> Nett  £10 x 2 Best Nett 18 holes AM  £10 x 2 Best Nett 18 holes PM  Total £310</p>	KH
6. 2011 Regional Fixtures	As soon as fixtures are booked all details must be sent to Kathryn.	ALL
7. Transportation of Regional items	Anne has two crates to be used for this purpose and these were passed to Suffolk with the flags etc. ready for the first fixture in 2010. If it is not possible to pass them on at the end of each fixture they can be couriered using the EWGA TNT account. Any courier costs must be included in the accounts of the competition but will be reimbursed from the 'ring fenced pot'.	
8. County Colours and eligibility for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team	The Operations Board have requested information on the awarding of county colours, number of games, points, etc. It was agreed that this should be consistent across the	

	<p>region and will be discussed at the meeting (for County Captains, County 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Captains and County Junior Organisers) being hosted by Hertfordshire in November. The results will be brought to the February meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed that the 2<sup>nd</sup> team should be a training ground for the 1<sup>st</sup> team but this is not always happening. Again this will be discussed at the above meeting and reported at the February meeting.</p>	
<p>9 Items from Operational Board August and October Meeting</p>	<p><u>County Affiliation Fees</u> Clubs are being asked if they want EWGA to collect their fees.</p> <p><u>Central Database of Handicaps</u> The software is being amended to include women and girls and the difference in county structure between EGU and EWGA - eg BB&amp;O combination in EGU only. Hopefully this will be introduced soon.</p> <p><u>Amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association</u> The sub-committee has produced its proposals and our solicitor has checked these. Details of the amendments are being sent to clubs and counties this month. A delegates' meeting will be needed to get discussion going in clubs and then county vote before our AGM in January. The amendments are just tidying up the MAA.</p> <p><u>Restrictions on Children playing in competitions</u> This is against EWGA policy and not a change. A letter has been sent to County Secretaries, County Captains, Regional Committees and CJO's stating that EWGA will consider withdrawing EWGA medals from any club excluding juniors and if counties do not adhere to EWGA policy, consideration will be given to preventing them from competing in Regional County Match Weeks.</p> <p><u>Formation of a rules sub-committee</u> A proposal to reinstate the Rules Sub-committee will be put to the Management Board. The Champs, Venues and Rules committee are not in a position to prepare a Rules Questionnaire or run Seminars in order to train Rules Officials. Although there is a list of R&amp;A qualified referees in the Handbook, the office receive quite a number of queries which would be better addressed by a Rules Committee.</p> <p><u>County Finals</u> It is proposed that EWGA no longer books accommodation for the regional winners. Perhaps after the planning meeting between EWGA Championship staff and the club has taken place a list of hotels could be sent to the Regional Administrator and the region could book rooms. The East Region will be hosting County Finals at Thorndon Park, Brentwood, Essex, in 2011.</p> <p><u>EWGA Medals</u> As promised, in the new year views will be sought about</p>	

	<p>the recent change in EWGA Medals. Looking at entries this year, if a club were to have had only one winner, there would be an equal split between silver and bronze. Players are reminded that next year they will have to have <b>active handicaps</b> to play in medals, ie to have played in three qualifying competitions in 2009. If there is a short fall they will have to play in three competitions in 2010 as they will not be allowed to carry over from 2009 to 2010. It is proposed that the Regional Chairman should run their Regional Final.</p> <p><u>Australian Spoons</u> There will be a minimum entry per club of £5, which would be equivalent to 5 entries. Volvo is sponsoring this competition. County Representatives are encouraged to support this competition and to report it at their AGM where possible.</p> <p>In addition to Australian Spoons Volvo is also sponsoring the EWGA Medals and the Rose Spoon competition.</p> <p><u>EWGA Trust</u> Because of lack of money, the Trust will only be able to pay coaching grants this year - £10 per affiliated club per county. These will be phased out over four years and money will come from other sources, ie CGPs, 75% in 2011, 50% in 2012, 24% in 2013, no funding in 2014.</p> <p>£642 was made from the on-line Auction.</p> <p>There is concern that it has not always been the most needy girls who receive money and therefore the application system will be reviewed.</p> <p>The Diary is selling well and all profits will go to the Trust.</p> <p>A suggestion has been made to include a tick box on English competition entry forms asking members if they wish to donate 50p to the Trust, excluding Girls' events. The Trust is trying to get gift aid set up.</p> <p><u>PING</u> This year over 16,000 ladies took part. The winners were Sue Elliott and Rachael Thomas, Gloucestershire.</p> <p><u>Seniors' National and Regional Events</u> It has been decided that for the Close Championship, the top 16 qualifiers will play in Flight 1, and the next Championship in Flight 2 - ie no + to 6, and 7 and above divisions. In the stroke play, half the field will qualify for the final round, regardless of handicap. In the Regional events, there will be no change.</p> <p>County Representatives are asked to report the Regional events at their AGM where possible - next year's are at South Winchester, Hampshire, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands and Warrington, Cheshire.</p> <p><u>EWGA and LGU events in East Region</u></p>	
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	<p>In 2011, Thorndon Park, Essex, will host the County Finals. John O’Gaunt, Bedfordshire, will be the venue for the Mid-Amateur in 2013 and in 2014, it is hoped that a Seniors Regional event will take place in our Region. The LGU have requested an additional venue in our region for the 2010 Coronation Foursomes and Judi has suggested some clubs in Suffolk. Hertfordshire has put forward a couple of names for 2011.</p> <p>The previous rota was based on the old Divisions, but from 2014 it will reflect the change to 6 areas so that each has an opportunity to host an event.</p> <p><u>English Girls’ Championship 2010</u> The Girls Championship will be held over 72 holes stroke play so that the competition will be concluded in sufficient time for the Girls’ team to travel to Belfast for the Home Internationals.</p> <p><u>Finance Report</u> A small surplus is expected for the 2008-2009 year but a small loss is budgeted for in 2009-2010. Not all the profit and loss accounts are in yet so the state of the ring fenced pot is not known at this stage. It is still too early to tell how it will pan out over the next few years. County Finals may get more help.</p> <p><u>County Academy Programme</u> Stuart Armstrong, England Golf Development Manager, made a presentation on this programme. 25% of the money will be spent on training girls - money that previously might have come from EWGA to be distributed.</p>	
11. Any Other Business	<p>Margaret McCall asked if Counties knew how many clubs were running 9 Hole competitions? It was agreed that most clubs were doing this. Post Meeting Note: Can actual figures be available for the next meeting.</p> <p>Judi explained that Suffolk were struggling financially with Count Match Week, 50% of the county income is used for this purpose. There was agreement from smaller counties and the several questions concerning the format were put forward which should be discussed at the forthcoming meeting (mentioned earlier in the minutes) and reported back in the January meeting.</p> <p>Judi put forward the subject of dress code for County events especially for juniors. It was agreed that this should be discussed at County level and guidelines suggested.</p> <p>Anne introduced Chrissie Owens to the meeting. Chrissie is one of the four non-executive Directors of EWGA and also an independent sponsorship and marketing consultant – and a golf addict.</p> <p>Chrissie, who is based in Norfolk, trained as a professional musician at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, studying the French Horn. But with arts cutbacks she turned to business, developing a highly successful</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>AG</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>career with Coca-Cola and then Diageo, the international drinks company, where she worked closely on Smirnoff.</p> <p>Three years ago she set up her own consultancy and her clients includes Smirnoff, Sainsbury's and Weetabix.</p> <p>Apart from business, Chrissie plays in three Norfolk orchestras and is a member of two golf clubs and works as a volunteer at a local nursing home.</p> <p>Chrissie explained how EWGA are trying to build up a database of members so they can better communicate to them using email. Jim Robinson has already stated that email addresses will NOT be passed to outside agencies. It is hoped that there will be 'opt in' tick boxes on EWGA Regional Event forms for members to sign up for the EWGA News Letter.</p> <p>EWGA have recently changed their image, which is reflected in the new logo on communications. They have issued new fonts and ink colours, which should be used where possible in all EWGA related communications.</p> <p>Chrissie is also looking at extending commercial sponsorship to increase awareness in the wider world of EWGA.</p> <p>There will be an EWGA stand at the Golf Show at the NEC in November and EWGA are offering a 2 for 1 ticket on the web site.</p> <p>Chrissie encouraged us to make sure that at a minimum all Club Committee members were signed up for the EWGA Newsletter and explained that for November and December there was an incentive of a Hamper prize draw.</p> <p>Anne thanked Chrissie for attending the meeting.</p> <p>As this was Anne's last Regional meeting she thanked all the members for their help and assistance over the past 2 years and wished Judi well for her term of office.</p>	
12. Date of next meeting	The next meeting will be on Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2010 at the same venue starting at 10.30.	
13. Other dates for 2010	<p>East Region Committee Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April, Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October</p> <p>Operational Board Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November</p>	

Signed.....

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