



DORSET LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FERNDOWN GOLF CLUB

WEDNESDAY 18th October 2017 at 2.00pm

1. Notice convening the Meeting and welcome by the President

The President invited the Secretary to convene the Annual General Meeting.

The President then asked the meeting to stand for a minutes silence to remember all our members who are sadly no longer with us.

President's welcome.

Firstly, I would like to welcome you all to our Annual General Meeting and it is lovely to see so many of you here. A special thank you to Ferndown Golf Club for allowing us to hold our AGM at their Club.

This year has been really busy, with the inaugural Bowmaker competition, which was kindly hosted by Bulbury Woods and the South West Bowmaker which was held at Lyme Regis.

Sadly, we lost the services of our Development Officer, Elaine Barrow. Elaine worked tirelessly and beyond her brief, to oversee the successful Girls Golf Rocks program and the Dorset Tour.

However, we are very pleased to welcome Natalie McColl, who has been appointed by England Golf as Club Support Officer. Natalie will cover Dorset and Wiltshire and I am sure she will be visiting your Club, if she hasn't done so already.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sheila and all the Executive Committee for their support and the hard work they have put in to make each event such a success.

Also, thank you to the other Officers with special 'thank you' to Karen Gray for managing our website so well (even when on holiday) and Kay Everett, our County Junior Organiser. Thank you all!

I have very much enjoyed my time as your President and I thank you all for the honour to serve on the Executive Committee. Thank you for your support

2. To receive apologies for absence.

There were 20 Apologies recorded.

3. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19th October 2016.

These minutes have been posted previously to all County Club Representatives.

Proposed by: Karen Gray; Dudsbury

Seconded by: Kay Everett; Ashley Wood

Agreed

Signed as a true record by the President

4. Matters Arising from the above meeting.

No matters arising.

5. To receive reports from the Association's Officers

a) Captain – Sheila Davidge

Shortened report for the AGM

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for attending today, it is always a pleasure to see so many of you here, especially as some have travelled from the far corners of the county.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my last year as your Captain, I feel particularly lucky that so many of the events that have been held this year have been blessed with lovely weather (makes our job so much easier).

We had a great County team, although rather thin on the ground due to illnesses, exams and playing in EG competitions but all the players really pulled together for me and I was very proud of them all. As you know the full report of the match is on the website. I would like to thank all the ladies and girls for playing in all first, second team and junior matches. Although a small county we have some outstanding players and I believe that we have a few juniors who will be hopefully playing for England in the near future.

I do not plan to read out all the competitions just a short precis of all the meetings just to congratulate the winners:

Alice Plumb	County Champion
Alex Cornell	Junior Girls Champion
Kate Roberts	Johnstone Cup
Carole Browne	Silver Spring Gross & Nett
Libby Legg	Senior Champion
Broadstone	Interclub Foursomes Scratch
Weymouth	Interclub Foursomes silver
Came Down	Interclub Foursomes bronze
Yeovil	Humphrey Bowl
Dudsbury	Parkin Cup
Parkstone	Interclub Winners

And all the other winners in Spring and Autumn meetings, Over 70s, Bowmaker and Veteran Competitions.

This year we allowed players with handicaps up to 15 to enter the County Championship and this will continue in 2018.

Many congratulations to Georgia Hall, who was selected to play in the Solheim Cup. Tracy and her husband David thought they should go and support the team – with Tracy wearing her Dorset polo shirt. Georgia, has since risen to 37th in the World Rankings and won the UK Player of the Year.

Melissa McMahon has won the Audi Quattro UK finals and is off to play in Mexico for the final – we wish her and her partner good luck.

Our County Champions – Alice Plumb – won the Liphook Scratch and has been improving her handicap since she returned from the States. Alice will be going to qualifying school in November and we wish her the best of luck.

Seniors won the South West Jamboree – retaining the trophy they won last year, well done to Val and her team.

I am sure that I have forgotten to mention someone within Dorset who has won a Trophy or played in a prestigious competition – my apologies to them.

I have covered as much as I possibly can here now...but I would like to remind you that any results of competitions or Dorset winners should be sent to Karen Gray for putting on the website. Karen

regularly updates the website and there always seems to be something of interest to read. I would like to thank Karen for her continuing good work – we often chat at some strange hours in the evening.

Personally, I would like to thank all the Execs for their support and hard work over the last four years, your help and advice is very much appreciated. It has been hard work but very enjoyable. Thanks also to Margaret Swift, our Interclub, Humphreys and Parkin Secretary, we certainly keep her very busy, thank you for all your hard work.

I am very pleased that we have so many ladies who want to play golf and support the Association and I would like to thank the other ladies behind the scenes – Ann Talbot – Handicap Secretary, Kay Everett – CJO, Julia Norman – Veterans Captain, Kate Roberts – County Welfare Officer, Jane Southcombe – SW Delegate, Website – Karen Gray, Seniors Captain – Val Ford and of Course Rating Team Leader – Jenny Waterhouse. Without these ladies giving up their time – the Executive would not be able to function.

I would like to finish by expressing my thanks and admiration for Dawn Ley and Liz Walker who spend hours in preparing competitions and then making sure that they run smoothly. They are the forgotten hero's within the Association. I have tried to arrive at clubs to help carry Liz's numerous boxes in – even leaving earlier than we agreed but they still beat me and get there first. They put in hours and hours in making sure that when you turn up to play golf everything is as well organized as possible – they cannot always control the weather or traffic conditions but I think they try to do everything else. I would like to give them a small appreciation for all their time and effort. I wish the Incoming Captain – Tracy all the best and also to Grace as President. It is long hours and there is lots of planning to do – but it is all worthwhile. To Ann, have a rest you deserve it, enjoy some bird watching. Lindsay – you have managed really well in tackling the accounts – thank you and Jane, for being there when needed.

I would like to thank all the members of the Association for their support over the last four years – everyone has made me feel very welcome when I arrive at their club – I wish you all good golfing, making new friends and enjoying life.

Thank you

Tracy

What can I say – those that have met Tracy will have found out how passionate she is about golf, as I said earlier even going to the States to watch the Solheim cup. She is very lucky in having a very understanding husband in David. Tracy has been very supportive to me over the last eighteen months and I thank her very much for standing in at the last moment.

I am sure that she will be a very good Captain and I wish her all the best for the next two years.

The 88th County Championships were held this year at Broadstone Golf Club.

Thank you to all at Broadstone, the event ran very smoothly, the course was in excellent condition and the members and staff looked after us all very well even though it was cold and sometimes very wet.

This year we were treated to a very exciting Championship final between Melissa McMahon (Lyme Regis) and Alice Plumb (Sherborne), great friends who have been playing together for a long time. The rain started but Alice started off very well and then we were privileged to watch par golf with Mel eventually getting the match back to all square. They were all square going down the 18th and both had long putts (well very long to me). Mel had a very long putt and it just missed by inches and then Alice not much closer putted and holed the putt for a birdie and win. Brilliant match to watch and it was a shame that anyone had to lose.

The Johnstone final was between Shannon Stobbs (Yeovil) and Kate Roberts (Broadstone). This match was enjoyed by both players with Kate winning 1 up.

The Silver Spring Challenge was played after the Johnson Cup qualifying round and it was slightly warmer, the best gross and nett was won by Carole Browne (Bridport) - well done Carole.

Many congratulations to all the winners.

I was pleased to see so many players for all the competitions, thank you so much.

Next year the county championships are being held at Dudsbury Golf Club on 11-13th May, can I please urge you all to enter as this year we had 34 players.

The Seniors Championships hosted by Lyme Regis.

This is proving to be an exceptionally popular Championship with the entries rising again this year. There were 107 players enjoying the glorious course at Lyme Regis. Lyme Regis has one of the best views on a golf course and we were lucky to be able to play such a great competition on their course. We had a lovely welcome from all at Lyme Regis. Many thanks Mel (in the office) and Gilly and all the members at the club.

Congratulations to Libby Legg (Weymouth) who won the best gross and the Holmes Cup and to Patricia Watson (Parkstone) who won the best nett and the Centenary Bowl.

The Bronze Spring Meeting held at Sherborne Golf Club

What a beautiful day that got hotter as the day went on and we were warmly welcomed by Nic, the Lady Captain and all at Sherborne Golf Club. The Course looked in great condition, and played very well. I am sure that everyone enjoyed the day and the course.

Many Congratulations to all the prize winners and all who took part.

Interclub Foursomes Held in June at The Ashley Wood Golf Club

What a difference a day makes – Wednesday beautiful, sunny and in the 30s and on the Thursday, we were lucky if the temperature managed to get to 20. We were warmly welcomed by Ann (Lady Captain) and the Club Captain – Clive being starter ably supported by Terry Everett. Thank you to everyone that helped over the two days.

This year we had 10 teams entered in the Scratch competition, 18 in the silver and 17 in the Bronze an excellent turn out – thank you to everyone that played.

Many congratulations to all the qualifiers, there were some very exciting foursomes matches, a very serious test of golf, not only of endurance over 36 holes but also concentration and a test of pairings! Many congratulations to Broadstone, who were victorious over Yeovil (scratch), to Weymouth who victorious over Broadstone (Silver) and Came Down who were victorious over Parkstone (Bronze). Excellent matches and great golf played by everyone.

The Autumn Meeting 2014 held at Crane Valley Golf Club

The year before we had mist at Wareham and it started out foggy at Crane Valley but soon cleared. Dawn Gale (Lady Captain) was everywhere – making us very welcome along with Sue Spencer and the Club Captain Derek Baynes. Thank you to Crane Valley, Hoburn and all their members.

The winner of the Felicity Eden bowl was Jane Southcombe (Yeovil), still trying to break 80 (her words not mine). Julie Pick (Dudsbury) was on fire and won the Gross and nett (Bronze) winning the Janet Holmes Salver. The high bronze was closely contested with Pauline Ross (Dudsbury) winning the Olive James Salver, a good day for Dudsbury GC.

Humphreys Bowl and Parkin Cup finals – 2107 at Came Down GC

Thank you to Came Down Golf Club for kindly hosting this event. Many congratulations to Broadstone and Yeovil for making the final and to Yeovil for winning the Humphreys Bowl. The Parkin Cup was keenly contested between Knighton Heath and Dudsbury with Dudsbury coming out the winners.

The finals provided some very exciting matches, commiserations to Broadstone and Knighton Heath.

Interclub Final 2017 – Ferndown Golf Club

Very many thanks to all at Ferndown for hosting this event.

A very exciting Final held between Parkstone and Broadstone. Both teams played some excellent golf and matches went down to the wire, with Parkstone winning on the 18th hole of the last match. Congratulations to both teams on reaching the final.

Over 70s 2017 – Dorset Golf and Country Club

Our second Over 70s with over forty players. We were welcomed and made to feel very at home by

Lesley and Rob Brown – Captain and Lady Captain and Peter Foster – President for their welcome and allowing us to play at Dorset Golf & Country Club.
Congratulations to Cattrin Wickens (Parkstone) for winning with 21 points.

Inaugural Bowmaker – Bulbury Woods GC

Thank you to everyone that entered our first Bowmaker – 43 teams entered and I think it was a great success and I hope more teams enter next year. The weather started out drizzly but cleared up during the day. Thank you to Diane (Vice Captain) for being there so early 7am to welcome us. I think everyone enjoyed the day – many thanks to Bulbury Woods for making such a success to the day. The winners were Rose Warwick, Jenny Burchell and Carolyn Weldon(Broadstone).

Finally, many congratulations to Georgia Hall, who was selected to play in the Solheim Cup. Tracy and her husband David thought they should go and support the team – with Tracy wearing her Dorset polo shirt. Georgia, has since risen to 37th in the World Rankings and wins UK Player of the Year.

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I have covered as much as I possibly can here now...but I would like to remind you that any results we are notified of are posted on the Dorset Website. Please remember to send Karen Grey news items as soon as possible. Karen regularly updates the website and there always seems to be something of interest to read.

Personally, I would like to thank all the Execs for their support and hard work over the last four years, your help and advice is very much appreciated. It has been hard work but we have had great fun and lots of laughs. Thanks also to Margaret Swift, our Interclub, Humphreys and Parkin Secretary, we certainly keep her very busy, thank you for all your hard work.

I am very pleased that we have so many ladies who want to play golf and support the Association and I would like to thank the other ladies behind the scenes – Ann Talbot – Handicap Secretary, Kay Everett – CJO, Julia Norman – Veterans Captain, Kate Roberts – County Welfare Officer, Jane Southcombe – SW Delegate, Website – Karen Gray, Seniors Captain – Val Ford and Course Rating Team Leader – Jenny Waterhouse. Without these ladies giving up their time – the Executive would not be able to function.

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I would like to thank all the members of the Association for their support over the last four years – everyone has made me feel very welcome when I arrive at their club – I wish you all good golfing, making new friends and enjoying life.

b. Vice-Captain – Tracy Bryant

When I stood before you to give my report last year, I said that I anticipated that this would be a very steep learning curve. I wasn't wrong. This year has, however, been full of incredibly enjoyable experiences with a great team.

My main job has been running the second team which has been an absolute pleasure. This has consisted of organising training with our coach Scott Godfrey, of Ferndown, and also sorting out the matches.

For those of you who don't know what training involves for the girls, much of it is done in the coldest months of the year. The girls showed huge dedication, standing out in freezing cold wet weather practising chipping, putting and their long game. It's pretty cold for me and Sheila too, but everyone enjoys it and learns a lot from Scott's expertise. As well as the outdoor coaching, Scott gave the girls lessons on how to approach the game and also how they should go about recording their club distances for different conditions. It was fascinating and incredibly useful.

Our first second team match was against Devon at Bulbury Woods on 16th July 2017. Devon beat Dorset by 6 ½ to 2 ½ but this doesn't really do the Dorset performance justice. Many of the matches were almost too close to call. Results were achieved on 18th green in four of the nine matches with Dorset gaining only a ½ from these. It was played in a great spirit and I know that the girls learned a lot.

Our final Second Team match was against Cornwall. We made the very long journey down to Truro GC for our practice round on the Saturday. Most of us arrived at the same time as the torrential rain! Practice was abandoned! This meant that we had to play the matches on a course we hadn't played. Cornwall put out an incredibly strong team with many of the ladies being home members of Truro GC – in fact one was turning pro the next day!

Though the team lost 9-0, I was incredibly proud of every one of the players. They never let their heads drop and kept battling to the end. The matches were played with a wonderful camaraderie and our ladies actually came away feeling pleased they had done their best.

My full reports all of the matches can be found on our website.

A few months ago I set up a Twitter feed for Dorset Ladies' Golf. You can find this by going to our website and clicking on the Twitter icon. You then click on 'Dorset Ladies' Golf'. This will take you to the feed. You can also Google 'Twitter Dorset Ladies Golf'.

You do not have to join Twitter. You are able to see all the news as it happens. I add local and national videos and items of interest and also news from Georgia Hall and Henni Goya. For those of you that don't know she is a former Dorset girl who is now a Sky Sports anchor for ladies' golf. The Twitter feed is designed to complement the website by being less formal, more instant for immediate results. Twitter is, by its nature, uncomplicated and brief. I would encourage you to inform all of your members to check it out.

Once again I'd like to thank Sheila and everyone on the Exec for the support I have received. I very much look forward to working with them all in the future.

c) Honorary Treasurer – Lindsay Beaumont

I am pleased to present the accounts for the year ending 31 August 2017 and would like to thank Jenni and Rod Mitchell-Fox, of Ferndown and Dudsbury Golf Clubs, for independently examining the figures and signing off the accounts.

As you will see, we have a healthy balance at the end of the year of £27,754. This includes £7,204 ring-fenced for the Dorset Juniors.

The £7,204 for the juniors includes £1,710 from England Golf, £1,000 from the main account for junior training and an increase of approximately £1,000 in income from training since we started running the Academy program. Some of the funds are ring fenced for U14 training.

Overall the Dorset Ladies' account shows a loss of £4,441 compared with a loss of £5,432 last year. Excluding the juniors brings the loss to £7,300. There are 3 figures which stand out in the analysis – the Affiliation fees, the 1st team matches expense and the Uniforms expense. The Executive agreed to fund new uniform for the seniors who in the past have made do with hand me downs from the 2nd team. It should also be noted that we have increased the disbursement fee that we pay to clubs which has meant we have broken even on all events.

The collection of Affiliation fees has changed to a real time basis this year. It may be that, by the end of the calendar year the figures for 2016 and 2017 are much closer. The expense for 1st team matches includes a large amount of expenses from County week.

The reduction in the size of the bank balance has been a conscious move as it is thought by the committee that we should not hold large amounts in the bank. However, we need to hold a reserve sizeable enough to fund future events such as getting through to County Finals - this could have an extra cost of between £4,000 to £6,000 depending on the venue, changing uniform from the yellow jumpers to blue jumpers (as agreed at a previous delegates meeting) due to the difficulty in sourcing yellow jumpers.

I should like to offer a big thank you to all those clubs and individuals who have contributed to our account through donations, raffles etc.

Returning to our Affiliation fees, these have remained at £10 per person for some years and will be the same for 2018. However, it is proposed that the Affiliation fee be increased for 2019 to £12 to account for inflation.

Lindsay Beaumont
Honorary Treasurer
14 October 2017

The President thanked Lindsay for her presentation of the accounts and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

d) County Representative EG SW Region – Jane Southcombe

South West Regional Competitions.

The South West Inter-Counties match week was again won by Gloucestershire. Unfortunately, Gloucestershire were not able to defend their title at County finals week but they were runners up to Yorkshire. In a nail-biting deciding last day when the last singles match was decided, on the last green, unfortunately Gloucestershire just missed out to Yorkshire, but another huge congratulation to them for doing so well that week.

The Brenda King foursomes were won by Jo Shorrocks and Amanda Mayne for the third consecutive year.

The Australian spoons had a very good entry at Long Sutton Golf Club and the winners were Chris Mitchell and Brenda Smith from South Cerney Golf Club, they went to Woodall Spa to compete in the final at the golf week in August and they won the final – congratulations to them.

The South West Bowmaker was held at Lyme Regis – this was another successful event for the Southwest, which was well supported.

It was won by Pauline Henson, Lyn Habens and Angie Brudenell from The Dorset Golf and Country Club, congratulations to them.

The Southwest foursomes was held at the Bristol Golf Club and Dorset had a particularly good day. They won 3 out of the 7 prizes with Harriet Legg and Carly Frost, taking the best Stableford and Jo Terry, and hopefully ably assisted by myself, won best gross.

The main Southwest Women's Championship, unfortunately, was cancelled after rain stopped play at Churston Golf Club. This was particularly unfortunate as we had a reasonably large field and it was being well supported.

Next year Dorset will be hosting the South West Women's Championship and I hope that you will all support this event. It will be held at Broadstone.

All the other events which the South West committee organised will be on our website once all the dates and venues have been confirmed and this should be about January and I hope that you will all support these events.

England Golf.

1. As expected, Sports England have cut the funding that England Golf receive to £8.45 million.
2. The new strategic plan is out and is on the England Golf website, and it is reasonably similar to the previous one.
3. Worldwide handicapping will be with us by January 1, 2020.
4. The rulebook is being re-written and again should be out by 2020.
5. The board size for England Golf is going to be cut from 15 to 12, this is a directive from government. So, all governing sports bodies boards' will be 12. Any sports body that decide not to follow the directive then Sports England will be cut their funding, which I believe has happened in Badminton. This will be ratified at the next General Meeting, which is in November.

The working group for the Championships committee, which I attended, was, I felt, fairly positive and hopefully in the future we will have match finals for the girls and senior women sometime in the future. Hopefully England Golf, in the future, will give more support the regional events via branding, finance and support from referees and the like. I think the next meeting will be in January 2018.

South West committee.

There are two counties in the region where the associations and unions are going to merge, these counties are Devon and Wiltshire and this will be operative from the early part of next year. They will become Devon golf and Wiltshire golf and they will be fully merged.

This will impact on the Southwest regional committees, so the men's and women's committees will have to have much more joined up workings and hopefully will run as one committee, something that will be discussed at our next meeting, which is 14 November.

Ann thanked Jane for her report and all the travelling she does on our behalf. Most of the meetings are at Woodhall Spa in Lincolnshire.

e) Handicap Advisor – Ann Talbot

I recently held a Handicap Meeting for Clubs in Dorset where we discussed the new CONGU Handicapping Rules being introduced on the 1st January 2018. It was lovely to welcome so many other members of the Clubs who were interested in the Handicapping System.

In view of the proposed introduction of the World Handicap System (WHS) the changes have been kept to a minimum and take into account some of the options likely to be adopted in the WHS, principal of which is to encourage players to submit more scores to their handicap record.

The changes, which come into effect on the **1st of January 2018**, are:

- **Retirement of Club & Disability Handicaps** - As a result of their low impact these have been removed and replaced by a new Category 5 for Men and Category 6 for both Men and Women, providing for a maximum handicap of 54.0 for all golfers. Players will be able to maintain a Competition Handicap in all six categories. Upward adjustment for all categories will remain at 0.1 and downward adjustments for Net Differentials below Buffer Zones will be 0.5 for Category 5 and 0.6 for Category 6.

After 1st January 2018 Handicap Committees can increase handicaps above the current limits of 28.0 and 36.0, and they will also increase above those limits automatically as a result of above Buffer Zone returns in Qualifying Competitions and Supplementary Score submissions.

- **Supplementary Scores** - Relaxation of the rules to allow an unlimited number of score submissions per year and removal of the restriction of one per week. However, the restriction on Category 1 players will remain in place.
- **Mixed Tee Competitions** - Reinforcement of the single CSS Adjustment Calculation. Having a single CSS adjustment for two or more competitions will provide a more equitable value when one of the competitions has a very low number of players. To overcome the technical IT implementation issues, the approach agreed will be to enter all scores into a single competition (and so a single CSS Adjustment Factor is calculated) with a facility within the software to allow the results to be separated for each group of competitors.
- **Definitions** - Confirmation that cards submitted for Initial Handicap Allocation are included in the definition of Qualifying Scores for handicap purposes. Accordingly, a player whose handicap is allocated on the basis of such submitted scores under Clause 16 will automatically be allocated a Competition Handicap status.
- **9 Hole Competitions** - Introduce the option of 9-Hole Medal Competitions and 9-Hole Open Competitions. For handicap purposes, the 9-Hole Medal scores will be converted to Stableford and will appear as stableford on the players handicap record.
- **Handicap Adjustments** - Confirmation that the adherence to Appendix M (Guidelines for Handicap Reviews) is mandatory, not optional.

There will be no new hard copy of the CONGU® Manual, but an updated online version will be available on the CONGU® website, where a full summary of the changes will also be posted. This document represents the substantive changes for 2018 - other changes, which are largely for clarification purposes, will be highlighted in the online documentation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Handicap Secretaries for their continued support at their Clubs and for their valuable input to our Meetings.

I also extend my personal thanks to Carole Brown, who has added another dimension to our discussions at the Meetings, often raising questions that help us understand the System in more depth.

f) Junior Organiser – Kay Everett

I cannot believe that two years has passed by since I became County Junior Organiser, and am now ready to vacate the post and hand the warm seat back to our retiring Lady Captain, Sheila Davidge.

This is not a detailed report as such, as listening to Results lists and Players names can get a little boring and may not mean much to a lot of members, because unless the girls are members of your Clubs or you are actively involved it does not mean a lot. Plus I am sure that your Delegate representatives have kept you fully informed as to what is happening in the Junior World, and you can read about the Matches etc.on the Website.

Once again we have run another Girls Golf Rocks Mark 2 under the auspices of England Golf, which again has proved to be very successful.

The Girls Academy now under the umbrella of our Ladies Golf Association proved to be equally successful this year, and we owe a great deal of thanks to Mike Dodd the Academy Coach. With a new influx of youngsters we are able to maintain four training groups with approximately 41 girls learning and honing their skills. We now have at least ten girls with handicaps of 10 and below, which is marvellous however this does in fact cause other problems when it comes to choosing a team for a Junior Match.

The bonus being that those young ladies are also available for at least the County Second Team, and subsequently in the future the First Team, as we seem to be struggling to get mature ladies to step up to the Tee.

We have played two Inter County Matches. One against Wiltshire at Cumberwell Park, and one against Devon at Exeter Golf and Country Club.

The first encounter with Wiltshire was a very friendly affair and played with great team spirit on both sides. The format was foursomes and the result ended up in an honourable draw.

In the second match played against Devon with the format being agreed as Singles Match play. All the matches were close, and the result was a win for Devon, 5.5 – 4.5.

The Junior Inter Counties Competition was held at Exeter Golf and Country Club.

The team members were: Becky Dodd, Captain, Sturminster Marshall, Alex Cornell Vice Captain, Parkstone Becky Hobell, Broadstone, Charlotte Heeps, Ferndown, Georgina Wrixon, The Ashley Wood, Lauren Purchase, Broadstone, Molly Kington, Came Down Scarlett Williams, Parkstone.

We had high hopes for the team this year and although we didn't achieve pride of place, we came joint third which was the best result for a few years. I am not going into details because the On Course Reporter – Me - wrote a mini blog every day which was and probably still is on the website. We have another Match to be played this weekend against Hampshire, which is an annual fixture and this is to be played at Romsey.

The Junior Championship was held at the end of July at The Ashley Wood Golf Club. The scores were tight but the winner and Junior Champion for this 2017 Alex Cornell, the Junior Vice Captain, of Parkstone Handicap Winner was Georgina Wrixon of Ashley Wood and the Birdie Trophy Winner was Amy Travers, of Christchurch. Again full results are available on the website.

The Ashley Wood and Palmer Trophies were played for last month. Louise Burke of Broadstone won The Ashley Wood Trophy and Molly Kington of Came Down the Palmer Trophy.

Also in September, a team played in the Alresford Cup at Alresford. This is a lovely competition held on a Sunday with eight County Teams participating, including Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Hampshire, Wiltshire as well as Dorset. The girls played very well under the leadership of their Captain Becky Dodd who along with Becky Hobell were playing in one of their last matches for the Junior Team. Age has overcome them. It was great to see four of the newer girls playing in the team for the first time.

Notable successes this year were accorded to other Juniors which can be seen on Club and County websites.

I would like to express my gratitude to the support I have received from our President Ann Talbot, and to Grace Burke, Vice President. They turn up at all the Junior happenings, not just to present Trophies but to help in any way that was required. I also need to thank Sheila, for all her support and assistance, particularly if I could not attend some event for whatever reason. She does know the Girls far better than I do in many respects, and we do a remarkable duo of "Good Cop, Bad Cop" she surprisingly, you might think, is the softie.

Now, where would we be without the parents who support their girls to the hilt, with transport etc, and being there in support either on the Committee, at events or on the course acting as Marshalls, when required. Thank you all.

Finally I would like to thank all the Ladies Sections in Dorset not only for their financial support but also for the time that the Ladies give to playing in competitions with the girls because it is from you that they do learn many of the Rules of Golf, and perhaps most importantly Course Etiquette.

When Dee Wood asked me to become Assistant Secretary, I never dreamt that my tenure with the County would go on for twelve years, and cover so many roles not to mention six Captains. On the whole I have enjoyed every minute of the experience well almost, and I will hopefully still be a helping hand when required.

Thank you all.

g) Club Support Officer – Natalie McColl

6 Month Review October 2017

The purpose of the biannual review is to highlight progress for the period April to September 2017.

The review has been based on the CSO monthly report structure. Monthly reports will therefore provide a useful starting point, along with the supporting notes (ref. appendix 4a CSO consistency folder).

This form should be completed by the Club Support Officer, supported by and in consultation with the county and the (Senior) Regional Manager.

Please submit the completed form to Sharon Heeley (s.heeley@englandgolf.org) by **MONDAY 9th OCTOBER 2017**.

The following documents should also be returned:

- Current County Workbook
- Current Club Visit Tracker
- Participation Spreadsheet

(Monthly review document sent to Delegates prior to meeting) Natalie gave a very detailed account which will be on the website.

h) Veteran's Captain – Julia Norman

I have now completed my first year as the Dorset Veterans' Captain and must firstly thank my predecessor Valerie Williams for handing everything over in such good order. In November, following Yeovil's decision not to provide a Vice-Captain, the baton passed to Lyme Regis and I was delighted when Rosemary Shepherd volunteered and has proved to be a great support this year as has my Secretary, Helena Peart.

This year did not turn out quite as planned for me personally as I managed to break my wrist at the beginning of May which meant I was unable to play in any of my fixtures but at least, apart from the very first match of the season, I was able to attend and support all the events.

The season as always began with the South West Veterans' Field Day held at Teignmouth Golf Club on 30 March. 105 ladies played and although there were very few from Dorset we had two prize winners; Helena Peart from Sherborne was the winner of the high bronze division and Sue Winkle from Bridport was runner up in low bronze.

The Dorset Vets Spring Greensomes Meeting was held at Sherborne on 3rd April. 42 pairs entered and the Cumberledge Ware Spoons were won by Debbie Driver, a newly qualified vet, and Chris Hobson from Broadstone.

Our matches began with the first of our South West Trophy ties against Somerset at Enmore Park. Unfortunately this was rain effected but we managed to win 4/3 ably led by Rosemary Shepherd as, due to my injury, I was unable to attend. The second trophy match versus Devon was held at Bulbury Woods on a beautiful day and we had a very good win 5 ½ / 1 ½ . This meant we have a very good chance of winning the South West Trophy if we could beat the Cornish. That match took place at St Austell in thankfully reasonable weather conditions. However local knowledge proved vital on this very tricky course and we unfortunately lost 2/5 meaning that Cornwall retain the trophy. It is interesting to note that the Cornish take their Veterans very seriously having a large committee headed by a president and holding several Vets events throughout the year. They are therefore well set up to run the South West Vets section for the next two years, Dorset needs to be aware that it will be our turn to run it in 2021/22.

Our two friendly fixtures were against Hampshire at Wellow, which we lost 3 / 4, and Wiltshire at Sherborne which we won 4/3.

All in all an excellent set of results and my thanks go to all those who participated in these matches. The Dorset Autumn Greensomes Meeting was held at Bulbury Woods and the Irma Keyes Salver was won by Sally Bruce, another newly qualified Vet, and Glenda Llewellyn from the Dorset Golf and Country Club.

The season was rounded off with the South West Field Day at Lyme Regis on 27th September which was a very oversubscribed. 111 ladies played with just one Dorset lady featuring in the prizes, Jane Dowling from Bridport in high bronze.

The Dorset Millennium Rose Bowl is presented to the club that gets the best aggregate score from 2 pairs in both the Spring and Autumn meetings. There were only 7 clubs which managed 2 pairs in both the Spring and Autumn meetings and therefore eligible for the trophy. The final result was very close; Parkstone was 3rd with 123 points, Sherborne were runners up with 126 points but Dorset

Golf and Country Club were winners by 1 point with 127. This year it was agreed that a cheque for £40 should go to the winning club along with the trophy.

My charity for this year and next is Mosaic, a local charity which supports bereaved children, young people and their families. The raffles which were held in the Spring and Autumn raised a total of £447.56 and this will be carried forward to next year.

I would like to thank all the Clubs who have hosted events this year. We are very fortunate that so many of our Dorset Clubs are willing to give us courtesy for our County Matches.

May I also take this opportunity of thanking delegates who have raised the profile of the Vets within their club and encouraged the over 60s to enter the events and matches. However, we still have quite a few clubs that have no participants at all and I would like to put a plea out to those with a reminder that anyone 60 or over is eligible to play, all they have to do is purchase a badge for £5 at their first event and they are a life member.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you in the forthcoming year, where we have some exciting venues in the South West.

i) Seniors' Captain – Val Ford

The Seniors had 1 internal fixture this year.

- This was a Foursomes match against the Junior girls at Ashleywood back in April. It is a fixture that we really enjoy. Despite our very best efforts we lost 3-1.
- It was Dorset's turn to host the **South West Seniors** event earlier this month. Parkstone GC kindly agreed to be the venue for the Championship. Dorset was defending the title we won in Wiltshire last year.

The format is scratch Foursomes. We beat Wiltshire; Devon; Somerset; Cornwall and halved with Gloucestershire to secure Dorset's victory.

Stats were:

Played 15

Won 13

Halved 1

Lost 1

The very attractive trophy was again awarded to us, with Devon getting the 'Wooden Spoon'.

Next year we will be trying to secure 'the triple'. This has only been done ONCE before, by Cornwall, and not since 2008. Gloucestershire will be hosting in 2018.

This year, players who represented their County at Senior level, came from: -
Parkstone, Broadstone, The Dorset, Ashleywood, Yeovil, and Ferndown.

It has been my pleasure, during the last 3 years, to lead such an enthusiastic and entertaining group of women with whom I have had such fun. Thank you.

Val Ford (Senior Captain)

6. To receive and adopt the Examined Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2017.

Proposed by: Jackie Wilson

Seconded by: Jean Pomeroy

Agreed

7. To appoint Jenni Mitchell-Fox as Accounts Examiner for 2017/2018

Proposed by: Carole Brown; Weymouth

Seconded by: Margaret Swift; Parkstone

Agreed

8. Resolution 1

That Association Members retain the per capita subscription at £10.00 for the 2018 Subscription Year. The per capita subscription for the 2019 Subscription Year shall be increased to £12.00.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends to the Association Members that they accept Resolution 1.
Seconded by: Penny Hunt; Weymouth Agreed

Resolution 2 - Rules of the Association – Rule No 5 - *EXPULSION*

Substitute the words “a General Meeting” with “an Extraordinary General Meeting” in three instances.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends to the Association Members that they accept Resolution 2.
Seconded by: Kay Everett; Ashley Wood Agreed

Resolution 3 - Rules of the Association – Rule No 6 – *OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE*

Remove Vice-President from the first paragraph. At the end of the paragraph, add “The Immediate Past Captain shall be a member of the Executive Committee without voting rights”.

In the second paragraph, substitute “Competitions Secretary” with “Interclub & Knockout Secretary”.

Background: because of the difficulty of finding a Vice- Captain for 2018 the position of Vice-Captain will be for one year only, a position is created of immediate Past Captain without voting rights, also for one year. The position of Vice- President to be discontinued whilst the President will remain for two years.

It was agreed the incoming nomination for President be made at the July Delegates meeting and shadow the incumbent President for the remaining months.

Change of title from Competitions Secretary to Interclub and Knockout Secretary- approved at the November Delegates meeting 2016.

This has been amended as there was some confusion in the early part of last year as to who was running which event. Entries to our Meetings were being sent to Margaret Swift instead of Liz Walker.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends to the Association Members that they accept Resolution 3.
Seconded by: Val Williams Agreed.

Resolution 4 - Rules of the Association – Rule No 7 - *MANAGEMENT*

Add a further paragraph to read:

“The President, or in her absence the Captain, shall chair the Annual General Meeting and any Extraordinary General Meeting. The Captain shall chair Executive and Delegates Meetings: in her absence, the Captain shall nominate a Chairperson. In the event of equality of votes, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote”.

This paragraph was added to clarify who should Chair our Meetings.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends to the Association Members that they accept Resolution 4.
Seconded by: Kate Roberts; Broadstone Agreed

Resolution 5 - Rules of the Association – Rule No 8 – *ELECTION OF OFFICERS*

Make amendments to the text as indicated below:

The President, ~~Vice-President~~, Captain and Vice-Captain shall be nominated by the Executive Committee. The President, ~~and Vice-President~~, the Captain ~~and Vice-Captain~~, the Captain and Secretary of the Veterans’ Section, the Honorary Secretary and the Assistant Secretary shall not normally hold office for more than two years in succession.

*The Vice-Captain and Past Captain shall each hold office for one year.
The ~~Vice-President~~, Vice-Captain and Assistant Secretary will be expected to become
~~President~~, Captain and Secretary respectively after these periods.*

*The Honorary Treasurer shall hold office for three years. The County Junior Organiser and
~~Competitions Secretary~~ Interclub & Knockout Secretary shall hold office for two years.
All these officers shall be eligible for re-election on a year to year basis in special
circumstances.*

*Nominations with seconders for all Officers of the Association, excluding President, ~~Vice
President~~, Captain, Vice-Captain, Immediate Past Captain,*

These amendments are to confirm the previous Resolution 3 and to change text to reflect this.

Recommendation

The Executive Committee recommends to the Association Members that they accept Resolution 5.

Seconded by: Libby Legg

Agreed

9. Presentation of Trophies and Prizes from the Veterans' Section, Seniors' Championships, Autumn Meeting and Aggregate Club Trophies won during the year.

10. Election of Officers to County Committee

The following Officers, to be elected according to the Association's Rules

		Nominated by
President	Grace Burke (KH)	Executive Committee

Ann introduced Grace to the meeting and presented her with her President's badge and asked for the approval of the meeting. Approved.

President Grace Burke - Acceptance

I am honored to be your President for the next two years, I hope we have a happy and successful time. We were going to be a depleted team but I heard the news this morning that we do have a nomination for Assistant Secretary which is great. Ann will be staying on as Handicap Advisor, it will be good to have someone I can call on who will be willing and able to point me in the right direction if I need it. Sheila and Jane will still be on the Committee with their wealth of knowledge and experience. Thank you to Dawn and Liz for all their hard work and last but not least, Tracy, I am really looking forward to the next two years. Thank you everyone.

Grace as the new President continued with the meeting.

Captain	Tracy Bryant (B'stone)	Executive Committee
Sheila introduced Tracy to the Meeting and presented her with Captain's badge and asked for the approval of the meeting. Approved.		

When I played my first ever County Competition at Ashley Wood, I was shaking with nerves. Sheila was so kind and reassuring to me – even though she had never met me before. She doesn't remember this, I am sure, but it was her that calmed me down and encouraged me to do my best. I was inspired by her and won't ever forget that.

Not long after this I attended my first Delegates' meeting. I came home and said to my husband David that, when I couldn't play golf anymore, I wanted to be one of those County women in the yellow jerseys. Well, if you had seen me play a couple of weeks ago, you would you know that I have achieved both goals!

So when Sheila asked me to be her VC, I was both honoured, surprised and a bit scared. Sheila said that she knew who I was, and chose me, because I sat at the front at Delegates' meetings. Actually Sheila, I always sat at the back. I still wonder to this day, if Sheila meant to ask someone else instead of me.

I thought I could probably do a good job as I'd been Captain at Bulbury Woods. How hard could it be? I sat in my first Exec meeting like a 'rabbit in the headlights'. It's really quite hard! The work and time that all of these ladies put in is incredible.

That, however, was a long time ago. I have been very lucky to have had Sheila as a mentor. She has been generous with her time, her knowledge and she has taught me so much. I have grown to see Sheila not just as a Captain, but as a friend.

For those of you that don't realise, Sheila dedicates her life to golf. She has been a superb Captain working tirelessly for the benefit of the team and all of the ladies and girls in the County. She is leaving very big shoes to fill! Although Sheila is not giving up all of her roles within County and England Golf, I hope that she will now have more time for relaxing, spending time with her family and friends and - taking care of herself. She thoroughly deserves it.

We would like to present you Sheila with a gift to show our appreciation of all the hard work, time and dedication you have shown.

The President returned to the election of officers.

Hon Secretary	Liz Walker (B&WD)	Executive Committee
Assistant Secretary	Kate Roberts (Broadstone)	Executive Committee
Immediate Past Captain	Sheila Davidge (AW)	Executive Appointment

These three appointments were approved.

The following Officers, who continue their terms of office according to the Association's Rules, to be elected en bloc.

		Proposed by:	Seconded by:
Hon Treasurer	Lindsay Beaumont (F)	Ferndown	Came Down
Vets Captain	Julia Norman (S)	Valerie Williams (AW)	Gill Philip (AW)
Vets Secretary	Helena Peart (S)	Valerie Williams (AW)	Gill Philip (AW)

These appointments were approved.

The followings Officers to be elected en bloc in accordance with the Association's Rules.

County Representative EG SW Region	Jane Southcombe (Y)	EG appointment
Handicap Advisor	Ann Talbot (CD)	EG appointment
USGA Course Rater	Jenny Waterhouse (DG&CC)	EG appointment
County Junior Organiser	Sheila Davidge (AW)	Exec Appointment
Interclub & Knockout Secretary	Margaret Swift (P)	Exec appointment
County Welfare Officer	Kate Roberts (B'stone)	Exec appointment
Communications and Web Site Officer	Karen Gray (D)	Exec appointment

These Officers will continue their terms of office as agreed by the Meeting.

Sheila at this point presented Dawn and Liz with gifts from the association.
Dawn

What can I say – you have been brilliant, cheerful always happy and nothing appears to faze you. Even though you have had pressures in looking after your mum and grandchildren you have attended all the competitions and meetings. You and Liz make an amazing partnership and I am sure that Liz will miss you next year. It isn't always easy contacting clubs pleading for tee times but you just carry on regardless and usually get what you and Liz have asked for.

I will miss not having to worry about whether to ask for burnt or cremated bacon. You have been a great asset for Dorset Ladies and we wish you all the very best to you and Graham for your future and I hope that it will be a little bit easier.

Thank you for all your support and help.

Liz

The other sidekick to Dawn. Always helpful and no matter what I said about arriving – both Dawn and Liz ignored me and arrived when they thought they should.

Liz had everything organised, her boxes will become history within the Association, boxes for everything. Do not try and borrow a pen from Liz – she notices and gives you a look...

Liz spends hours in ensuring that everything is well organised, chasing people up and even though she is still working, Liz manages to fit everything in.

Thank you for your help and support over the last four years.

Thank you to outgoing President Ann Talbot given by the President Grace Burke.

Well Ann it has been a pleasure working with you, I hope you have enjoyed your time as President, this is going to be a hard act to follow. You have clarified the rules of the Association and given me lots of information to help me for the next two years. I bet Julian is looking forward to spending some quality time together when you go on holiday shortly. And now please except this small gift to say “thank you” from us all.

11. Any other business - none

12. Vote of Thanks by County Champion

Good Afternoon Ladies,

Sorry I am unable to attend this year's AGM.

First of all, I would like to thank Broadstone Golf Club for hosting this year's County Championship. I thought the course was in really good condition and I would like to thank the greenkeepers for all their hard work and time they put in preparing the course for the championship.

Thank you to all of my playing partners for really enjoyable rounds, especially Mel who I met in the final. It was great to play with Mel again who I have been playing golf with since I was 8 years old. For those of you who came out to watch the final will know that we had a really close game with the match going down 18. We were both on the green for 2 but Mel having to putt first just missed by inches and that's when I managed to hole my putt to win the Championship 1up.

I really enjoyed watching so many young girls taking part and seeing how well they are all doing, it is great to see how much effort the county development teams are putting into the juniors and promoting girls golf especially in Dorset.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend this year's County Champions of Champions as I was away in Holland.

Finally, I would like to Thank Sheila for everything she has done over the last 2 years of being County Captain. The amount of effort and care Sheila puts in is just great. It's wonderful seeing all the work you've done for the Dorset Girls and seeing how far they have come with your help. Thank you for all of your support and I feel very lucky to have had you as my captain.

I look forward to defending my title next year.

Thank you,

Alice Plumb

13. Date of 2018 Annual General Meeting: 17th October 2018 at Ferndown Golf Club.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year, I look forward to seeing lots of you at County Meetings during 2018.

The President, Grace Burke, closed the meeting.