

**DORSET LADIES COUNTY**



**GOLF ASSOCIATION**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Zoom Meeting**

**WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 at 2.00pm**

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Notice convening the Meeting and welcome by the President.**

The President (Val Ford) invited the Assistant Secretary (Kate Roberts) to convene the Meeting.

The Assistant Secretary convened the 2020 Dorset Ladies County Golf Association AGM at 14.07hrs

The President asked that all mobile phones be switched off and gave procedural information.

During the meeting ladies will be 'muted' on their Zoom account. If they have a query or question could they TYPE it on the "CHAT" OPTION that appears at the bottom of your screen. If invited to speak then they will be unmuted but must also unmute themselves. Please add your name and club.

VOTING. This will be done by raising your hand if proposing or seconding. Please also raise your hand if you are asked to agree a motion.

The President asked the meeting to 'bow their heads for a short silence' to remember all our members who are sadly no longer with us. Remembering:  
Fran Berry, Peggy Griggs, Elaine Shenton, Joy Bevans, Shirley Kellaway  
Margaret Banks, Betty Robinson, Pat Hunt, Elizabeth Linnert,  
Peggy Marriot, Meriel Gibson and Pat Steer.

#### **President's Welcome.**

Good afternoon Ladies. Due to the unprecedented circumstances of the pandemic we are holding the AGM via Zoom. Technically we should be together physically but this is not allowed under COVID 19 restrictions. Hopefully, today's technology will run smoothly and the AGM will be conducted without any 'freezes or glitches'!!!

Despite COVID19 we have continued to meet with the Dorset Men's Union. We have been trying to work collaboratively and progress is being made. I am delighted to announce that the Ladies and Men's County Championships will be hosted, TOGETHER, in 2022 at Parkstone GC.

## **2. To receive apologies for absence.**

So far we have received 10 apologies for absence. If there are any more could you please Email their name and club to Kate Roberts. Her Email address is: [katewroberts54@gmail.com](mailto:katewroberts54@gmail.com).

## **3. To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd October 2019.**

These minutes have been posted previously to all County Club Representatives. Slight amendment to the Minutes concerning the Over 70's. It should read that Val Tucker (Moors Valley) got 27 points not 20. These will be altered and posted on the DLCCA Website

Proposed by: Ruth Thrussell (Ferndown)

Seconded by: Karen Gray (Dudsbury G&CC)

Agreed

Signed as a true record by the President.

## **4. Matters Arising from the above meeting.**

The President asked if there were any matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

## **5. To receive reports from the Association's Officers**

### **a) Acting County Captain – Tracy Bryant**

Good afternoon ladies. As you can imagine, my Captain's report is going to be a little different this year.

When we had our AGM last year, I am sure that none of us envisaged ever having to conduct an AGM like this. Most of us had never heard of Zoom twelve months ago and yet many of us have now become very familiar with that phrase, "Can you hear me?"

This pandemic has brought the game of golf many challenges. As a county, we have been operating within ever changing parameters. It was a very difficult decision to cancel all of our competitions until July 27<sup>th</sup>. At the heart of everything we have done in 2020, your safety and well-being has been paramount. The last time that ladies county competitions were cancelled in Dorset, and indeed across the country, was from 1940/47. That was because of The Second World War. That just shows what strange times we are living through.

Without competitions until July, you may be wondering what we have had to keep us busy. I thought I'd take this opportunity to fill you in on some of the things we have been doing on your behalf.

By this time, normally, we would have had three Exec meetings and a couple of Delegate meetings. Believe it or not, our meeting schedule has expanded because of the pandemic. We have had six virtual Exec meetings and many other socially-distanced face-to-face meetings in small groups. By far, the majority of our discussions and planning have centred

around the new protocols we have needed for competitions because of COVID. We have also spent some time on recruitment – as well as all of the other County business that comes up as a matter of course.

We have had to write a new COVID Safe Play Policy and medical questionnaire to go out to every entrant. As well as this, we have designed risk assessments and visited clubs to meet with managers and carry them out. All of this has to be done in advance of competitions. When we helped to run the Junior Championship in August, we were able to try our new procedures on a competition with a small number of entrants. This was a very good learning experience for when we came to run the much larger Bowmaker in September.

I mentioned recruitment. Following on from my letter setting out the county's position and our desperate need for volunteers, we have had a lot of interest. We have been thrilled to appoint Sara Lees from Ferndown as our new Assistant Secretary. I know that Kate will be telling you a bit more about Sara later on in the meeting.

We have also filled the vacancies for team managers with Melissa McMahon (Lyme Regis) as first Team Manager and Lesley Muddiman (Broadstone) for the Second Team Manager.

Most of you will be very familiar with Melissa. She is the manager of Lyme Regis Golf Club. Mel has been playing for County teams since she was a little girl. She has been in the County Championship final nine times and has won it five times which is quite extraordinary! We are very lucky to have someone like Mel to run our team.

Lesley, who is an accountant, is a lover of all sports - but golf is her passion. She said that she was excited when she saw the vacancy and is looking forward to supporting and motivating the second team.

We are also lucky to have Jane Payne of Knighton Heath who has volunteered to shadow Kate in her role as Welfare Officer with the plan of taking on the job when she has completed her training.

I can honestly say that I was delighted with the response to the letter. Unfortunately, we are still lacking a volunteer for VC who would take over from Kate when she finishes in her role as Captain this time next year. I know that being VC is something that we generally wait for an invitation for, but in this case – if you think that you have the skills and would like to join this excellent team, please don't hesitate to step forward and contact Kate. If you would like to recommend someone who you think would willing and enjoy it, please contact us and we can approach them.

As many of you know, last year we decided to run a year-long pilot in which we changed the structure of the jobs at County. This included splitting the Captain's job up and changing the length of tenure as well as dispensing with the Past Captain role. This pilot does seem to be working as we have managed to fill most of the posts. Because this year has been a very different year to most, we feel that we can't properly judge the pilot scheme - so we have decided to extend it by a year. We will hopefully be in a better place next year to make our decision about it.

## **Other news**

Despite the fact that there hasn't been much golf this year, Dorset's England U16 player Louise Burke of Broadstone, managed to win in the under 16's event of The Faldo Series. She had a final round of 66, winning by six shots.

I am sure that we were all also delighted to see Dorset's Georgia Hall winning The Portland Classic on the LPGA tour.

One of the names read out on the list of members we have lost was Elaine Shenton. I would like to say something about Elaine.

Mrs Elaine Shenton (née Wilson) passed away at the beginning of August. Throughout her life Elaine was a keen sportswoman. Before she played golf, tennis was her game.

In 1954 she won the Italian International Championship's Tennis Open Doubles with Patricia Ward. She played in the Wimbledon Championships almost every year from 1951 to 1964, although never made it to the final stages.

In later years, Elaine became a keen golfer. She and her husband Bernard joined Dudsbury Golf Club as founder members in 1992. She was pivotal in setting up the Ladies section at Dudsbury. She was Dudsbury's Lady Captain in 1994.

In 1996 Elaine asked the then owner of Dudsbury GC, Mr Colin Legg, to sponsor a lady's winter interclub knockout competition. The Legg Bowl was the result, a successful competition that continues to this day. In 2019 there were 52 participating clubs from Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire.

Elaine and her husband moved to the Loire area of France in 2001. Although by this time well into her 70's, she became the feared but much respected matriarch of her local French golf club, correcting their rather quirky 'French' interpretations of the rules of golf and reorganising their course.

## **Competitions**

As you know, we have had only one competition this year and that was the Bowmaker at Lyme Regis, which we ran in place of the Autumn Meeting. This was a fantastic two days. We had 228 entrants in wonderful weather. The winning team comprised of Julie Pick, Pauline Ross and Alison Fitzpatrick – all of Ferndown. Second place went to Sue Edwards (AW), Jane Southcombe (Y) and Jayne King (B). Third place went to Mel McMahon (LR), Becky Hobell (B) and Harriet Teversham (Y). We also had two daily prizes that we awarded to teams.

I know that everyone who went enjoyed it. It was a fantastic event to kick off our return to Ladies' County Competitions. (My full report and full list of prize winners can be found on the website)

I am very pleased that we have so many ladies who not only want to play golf, but also support the County. I would like to thank all of the other ladies that make this possible whether it's front of house in The Exec or behind the scenes.

Sheila Davidge – our longstanding, highly-dedicated Junior Organiser. Sheila, I know everyone will want to join with me in wishing you every good health from now on.

Ann Talbot – our knowledgeable Handicap Advisor who has done an excellent job in helping us all to understand the World Handicap System this year.  
Cathy MacFarlane - Thompson Interclub & Knockout Secretary,  
Rosemary Shepherd – Our Veterans’ Captain,  
Karen Gray our excellent Communications Officer  
Seniors’ Captain –Carol Cass and USGA Team Leader – Jenny Waterhouse.  
I’d also like to thank, Grace Burke - for staying on to chair the Partnership meetings with the Dorset Golf Union.

Without these ladies giving up their time, not only would the Executive Committee not be able to function – but we wouldn’t have any competitions!

Obviously, I would like to say something about the Exec.

Val, our President, who has worked so hard and been such a great member of the team.  
Liz our Secretary who works tirelessly, so that all of our competitions run smoothly.  
The multitalented Kate Roberts – County Welfare Officer, Assistant Secretary and Vice Captain. What more can I say?  
Jane Southcombe our SW Representative who has a wealth of knowledge about all things England Golf.  
Annie Hobell, who has come in as our Treasurer and done a brilliant job in controlling the purse strings.

They have done an exceptional job in very difficult times. They have adapted to the circumstances and always pulled together and worked for each other.

Of course, I haven’t forgotten you, the Delegates, for keeping us in touch with our members, so effectively. I’d also like to thank all of you ladies for your continued support of the Association.

To many at the beginning of Lockdown, golf may not have seemed very important. But, when we returned to golf, albeit in its new form, it seemed like a return to some kind of normality. The fresh air, exercise and friendship, as well as the competition, is not just good for our physical health, but it is so good for our mental health. We are all very lucky, especially now, to be able to play such a wonderful sport.

It’s been a huge privileged to be a part of this Association. I wish the team the best for the future. Kate will be a fabulous Captain. None of us knows how the next year will pan out, but I sincerely hope that all of you and your families and loved ones have happiness and good health.

b) Vice - Captain- No Report.

**c) Honorary Treasurer – Annie Hobell**

Good afternoon ladies, I have pleasure in presenting our accounts for 2019/2020

The accounts have been checked and put together by the Finance Manager for Dorset Community Action.

On page 3 – Statement of Financial Activities, you can see the income for 2019/20 was £35,043 which was about 4% less than the previous year and the expenditure was £15,692 which was about 58% less than the previous year. This marked downturn in expenditure was a direct result of the Covid 19 pandemic and the enforced restrictions on the activities of the ladies section from March 2020 onwards.

The net movement in funds for the year was a surplus of £19,351, added to the reserves from the previous year of £24,695 the reserves as at the end of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 now stand at £44,046.

If you look at page 4 – The Balance Sheet you can see we had £2,808 in the way of Prepayments and £2,047 in the way of Creditors. The total funds (reserves) of £44,046 are broken down into Ladies £33,223 and Juniors £10,823.

Finally page 5 shows a detailed breakdown of the Income and Expenditure.

I have also enclosed a separate breakdown of the Juniors Income and Expenditure.

We are aware that we have a big surplus of cash at the moment (covid related), and would like to give an explanation on how we (Exec) will address this.

Gratuities for the loan of courses has increased over the last 5 years, and a few years ago we could see severely dwindling funds over the next 5-10 years becoming a big possibility.

If we get to the National Finals it would incur an extra expense in the region of £8K so we need to ensure we always have enough funds in reserve to cover this.

As an EXEC we will be discussing ways to ensure that funds are kept at a manageable level and that we are fair in disbursement of any funds to different sections within the DLCGA.

**The President thanked Annie and asked if there were any questions.**

**Cathy MacFarlane-Thompson (Broadstone)** asked about the figures shown for the Humphry's & Parkin K/O competitions. Annie confirmed the figures showing under income and expenditure take into account the way £444 was reported in the previous years accounts. All refunds for Humphreys' and Parkin were processed.

Annie also informed us that some ladies, rather than having competition fees returned, elected to have them given to the Vets section as a charitable donation. We also gave 'left over 2s' money to the section.

**d) County Representative EG SW Region – Jane Southcombe**

This is a year completely dominated by COVID 19.

**England Golf.**

At the beginning of the year England golf were exploring the options regarding engagement with the independent golfer and although this was shelved for 6 months due to COVID it's

now very much back on the agenda. There will be more information coming out in the next 6 weeks, following a core strategy from the R&A.

During the pandemic England Golf were extremely good at keeping the voting members, clubs and counties up to speed with all the changes that COVID brought. We had meetings every fortnight - virtually obviously. During these meetings England Golf put in place the 'play safe stay safe' initiative, which I'm sure you are all now familiar with. They also took action against any clubs that were not adhering to these rules.

The R&A setup a COVID-19 support fund of £2.55 million, this fund has been distributed between 328 clubs in England. England Golf have added another half a million to this fund and this will go towards the clubs that just missed out on the initial funding from the R&A.

England Golf have now got a marketing campaign in place which is called 'golf, give it a shot' which is trying to encourage people into golf.

Membership during the pandemic increased probably due to the fact that many of the independent golfers were not allowed to play because they weren't members of golf clubs.

England Golf managed to run most of the elite championships. All team events and events for handicap golfers were cancelled for this year.

As I am sure you are aware the worldwide handicap system is all set to go live on the 2nd November.

'Safe Golf' - due to the pandemic the deadline for accreditation has moved to March 2021.

Graham Yates has taken over as President of England Golf with President elect Les Wilson. These posts will run until April 2022.

We cancelled all the Southwest competitions for this year.

### **Dates for your diary next year**

Match week 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July at the Bristol and Clifton Golf Club.

Australian Spoons will either be at Lyme Regis or Yeovil Golf Club in July.

South West Foursomes to be held at Stover Golf Club date to be confirmed.

SW Bowmaker at St Enodoc 20 October.

### **e) Handicap Advisor – Ann Talbot**

Good afternoon Ladies

Ian Hulse (DCGU) and I held two very successful workshops for the Club representatives, ably assisted by Mike Marshall, Giles Legg & Jenny Waterhouse. One was held at Yeovil, the other at Broadstone, on 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 respectively. We welcomed the SW Area Handicap Adviser, Liz Turner, and thanked her for helping to explain some aspects of the system.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, Carole and I were unable to hold the proposed May meeting for Handicap Secretaries. Over the past six months we have sent out a lot of documentation for them to read and pass on to their members. However, we did organise a Zoom meeting in September which was 'attended' by 19 of our County representatives. All

aspects of the WHS were covered and we had some interesting discussions, which I hope will have been passed on to your Committees.

It was hoped that England Golf would be allocating a Handicap Index to members during September, to run alongside their present CONGU handicap. Unfortunately, this has not happened. The Handicap Index will be based on the scores returned, dating back to 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018. An average of 8 from 20, but if less than 20 scores have been posted, the average number of scores will be amended.

Every Club will have a Course Rating & Slope Rating Table available to view. Clubs that have not yet been assessed will be given temporary ratings. Your Handicap Index will be converted to a Course Handicap for play. In competitions, there may also be an additional Handicap Allowance, which will be mandatory under England Golf. However, your Course Handicap will be used for handicap purposes and therefore must be on your Score Card.

An update on EG Medals: It is hoped that Clubs will be able to arrange at least four EG Medals for their ladies during 2020 to qualify for the Regional Finals in 2021. Due to the impact of COVID 19, mementos for 2019 club winners will be sent to golf clubs in due course when EG championship staffing levels return to normal.

I would like to extend my special thanks to Carole and all the Club Handicap Secretaries for their help and understanding over this difficult time with the COVID restrictions.

#### **f) Junior Organiser – Sheila Davidge**

2019 ended with the usual Christmas Party at Sturminster Marshall and the new Junior Captain, Hermione Christey-Clover (Ashley Wood GC) being presented with her badge of office and Lauren Purchase (outgoing Junior Captain) with commemorative glassware. Lauren was an exceptional Captain, attending all coaching, playing in all matches and supporting the CJO.

We were delighted that Georgia Hall and her father Wayne, came along in the afternoon and Georgia talked to the girls about her golf and what you have to do to win. Georgia then spent ages having photographs taken with both girls and parents. Georgia has been very kind to donate clothing to be sold for junior funds. She also gave us a golf bag that was auctioned and was bought for £600. We have more clothes and a top that Georgia wore when she played in the Solheim Cup to sell.

The Order of Merit winner for 2019 was Molly Kington (Weymouth GC) and runner up was Chloe Northover (Yeovil GC)

Player of the Year 2019 was Ellie Mans (Dudsbury GC) and runner up was Sienna Birch (Broadstone GC).

I would like to say how extremely lucky we are to have Mike Dodd, Fern Grimshaw, Charlie Pilinger as our County Coaches.

#### **Girls Championship & Birdie Trophy**

A big thank you to Tracy Bryant, Kate Roberts for sorting out the COVID guidelines with Steve Sanger and Kay Everett at Ashley Wood and Val Ford for starting the competition.

The Girls' Championship being held at Ashley Wood Golf Club. This year it was going to be held over 36 holes but due to thunder and lightning was only over 18 holes. Hermione Christey-Clover played extremely well and won with a gross 70, nett 64 and the runner up

was Lilli Horn (Ferndown GC). This was an extremely close competition with a number of players playing very well.

It was really good to have a number of new girls playing for the Birdie Trophy at Ashley Wood GC for girls with higher handicaps and it was won by Natalie Stainer (Ferndown GC).

### **South West Inter Counties**

Due to COVID this was not held this year.

### **Peter Alliss.**

The Peter Alliss Trophy final was between Chloe Haesler (B) and Chloe Northover (Y), with Chloe Northover retaining her trophy!

### **Ashley Wood & Palmer**

The Ashley Wood competition (Gross) was very tight between the lead group. There was little separating Lilli Horn (Ferndown GC), Ellie Mans (Dudsbury GC) and Chloe Haesler (Broadstone GC). Despite Chloe finishing with a strong birdie, par finish, this could not beat Lilli as they both finished 2 over par 73's. Lilli shooting a 35 (-1) for the back nine proving to be one better than Chloe. Great play by all players.

The Palmer Trophy (nett) was another keenly fought contest and again needed countback to find a winner. Both Funky Diamond (Dudsbury GC) and Suzy Cribb (Ferndown GC) scored great rounds with 4 under nett scores of 67. Suzy came out the winner with a stronger back nine.

### **Wareham Trophy**

Again, this could not be played due to COVID.

### **Pukka Pads and Dame Laura Davies Trophies**

The Pukka Pads was between Chloe Haesler and Honor Johnson with Chloe winning at Broadstone GC.

The final of the Dame Laura Davies was between Funky Diamond (Dudsbury GC) and Elizabeth Ashford (Sherborne GC). The winner was Elizabeth after a competitive match.

### **Handicap reductions**

This has been another brilliant year for handicap reductions, the total handicap reduction is 151 from 30 girls, in this difficult year, this is an excellent achievement with:

Evie Brown has dropped her handicap by 29 shots, amazing, Natalie Stainer reducing her handicap by 11.6 shots, Connie Evans by 10.4, Scarlett Phillips by 9.5 and Funky Diamond by 9.4.

Our lowest handicap is 0.5 held by Louise Burke with Lilli Horn on 1.8 and Ellie Mans on 1.9.

11 girls with handicaps under 10. You must admit that is fantastic achievement.

I am also pleased to report that Louise Burke, Alice Webb, Lilli Horn, Charlotte Brook, Ellie Mans, Sienna Birch and Honor Johnson have been chosen for the England Golf South West Region U18 squad.

I would like to thank all the Golf Clubs for continuing to support Junior Golf in Dorset, a big thank you to parents and grandparents. Thank you to a number of Ladies sections who continue to donate to junior golf.

A special thank you to Steve Sanger (General Manager – Ashley Wood GC) and all members of Ashley Wood GC for allowing us courtesy of the course to play in extremely difficult circumstances, the Girls Championship, Birdie Trophy and Ashley Wood and Palmer at their course.

I would also like to thank Tracy Bryant, Val Ford, Kate Roberts, Martin Purchase, Annie Hobell, Kay Everett, Steve Haesler, for running the competitions whilst I have been in isolation. Without their help and all the work in carrying out COVID guidelines the above competitions could not have taken place.

This year has been a difficult year and we have some amazing young girls lowering their handicap and very keen to play for the County.

I personally would like to thank everyone for their support whilst I have been going through chemotherapy (not very nice) and radiotherapy (a lot easier), thank you to the girls for their presents that I have received. Thank you to Annie Hobell and Steve Haesler for contacting me at regular intervals and to the parents of the girls, who email me when the girls have played well. It has kept me going throughout the hard times and I am back in full flow – well mostly. I look forward to seeing the girls and parents throughout the year.

Please keep watching the junior page on the website – lots happening.

- g) **Veteran's Captain – Rosemary Shepherd** (unfortunately Rosemary was unable to attend the meeting so her report was read by Kate Roberts)

Unfortunately, all our fixtures for this year, SW Trophy matches, friendlies and Spring and Autumn Meetings, were cancelled. It has been agreed with the other counties that wherever possible the matches in 2021 will take place at the venues planned for this year and at similar dates. I am very grateful to Jane Dowling and Sue Winkle who have been working on this.

Moving forward: When I began planning for this year, it became clear that fewer Golf Clubs within Dorset were able to offer courtesy of the course for our matches. I discussed this with Tracey and Kate, who took it on to the Executive. It has been agreed that in future, all host Clubs will be offered a gratuity of £100. This will be even more vital for Clubs in the present circumstances. We do have a bank balance that will go towards this but to ensure the future of the Vets Section, all team members will be asked to pay a match fee of £5. The Exec also promised profits from the Presidents Raffles at County meetings will be shared between the Juniors and the Vets. Many thanks for the donation of £63 that I recently received.

I would like to thank all who supported me, and the County Vets, during my one active year. It made my task so much easier to have your backing. I very much appreciate the donations made towards my chosen charity, Whizz Kidz, at the Spring and Autumn Meetings. I have been able to send a cheque for £215 to the Charity.

Finally, my grateful thanks and best wishes to Jane Dowling, next years Captain and to Sue Winkle, her Vice-Captain and Secretary. I do hope we return to near normality enough to enable them to enjoy their terms of office without too much hassle. They will be highly organised and very efficient. I know that the Vets will continue to support them so that we can all enjoy the golf that we have so sadly missed this year.

- h) **Seniors' Captain – Carol Cass** (unfortunately Carol was unable to attend the meeting so her report was read by Kate Roberts)

There have been no Senior fixtures played in 2020 due to the Coronavirus restrictions. Hopefully in 2021 we will once again enjoy some fixtures.

We are planning:

- Our usual matches against the Juniors and Second team, dates TBA.
- A friendly match in July against Hampshire Senior Ladies at Blackmoor G.C.
- A new event, the South West Senior Ladies Team Trophy - a strokeplay event played by a team of 4 over 18 holes hopefully being played in September at Bristol and Clifton G.C.
- The South West Senior Ladies Inter County Trophy (foursomes matchplay) hosted by Cornwall at Tehidy G.C. in October.

This concluded the reports.

**6. To receive and adopt the Examined Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020**

Proposed by: Annie Hobell (SM)

Seconded by: Ann Talbot (Came Down)

**Agreed**

**7. To appoint Linda Riggs as Accounts Examiner for 2020/2021**

Proposed by: Sheila Davidge

Seconded by: Grace Burke (Knighton Heath)

**Agreed**

**8. Resolutions - 1. Rule amendments for the introduction of World Handicapping System 2020 and changes to the Rules of Golf 2019.** (document sent out from our Handicap Advisor Ann Talbot with the agenda)

**Recommendation (This has already been approved by 6 clubs in writing.)**

The Executive Committee recommends to the Association Members that they accept Resolution 1

Seconded by: Cathy MacFarlane-Thompson (Broadstone)

**Agreed**

- **Change to the Rules of the Association. Note – Rule 6. Remove the ‘immediate Past Captain with voting rights 2019/20’.**  
The background on this is: This was a temporary change of the rules to reflect the position that the Executive found themselves in. It was agreed last year AGM to remove it from the rules in 2020.

**9. Election of Officers to County Committee**

The following Officers, to be elected according to the Association rules

**Captain**

**Kate Roberts (B)**

Executive Appointment

Kate's acceptance.

When Tracy asked me to be her Vice Captain I must admit I was extremely honoured but also a tad scared. I have always wanted to be involved in the County but have seen myself as part of the support team rather than the lead and have certainly enjoyed the camaraderie of working with the Executive and of meeting all you lovely ladies at County events.

I have been Welfare Officer for a number of years and Asst Secretary since 2017 so have seen how much work is involved in running the County. Having worked closely with Tracy for the last 3 years I see first hand how much she has done. This last year is no exception as you have heard from her report!

Tracy has been an excellent Captain. She has given 5 years of service to the County. In that time we have all worked well together because Tracy has given us plenty of encouragement, support and praise. There has been a good team spirit not only in the executive but also within the Teams - everyone has pulled together. Throughout the County at all our meetings everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves not least because Tracy is always there with a ready smile and joke!!

I personally want to thank Tracy for the work she has done. I will miss her but am sure that whatever she chooses to do in the future she will make a great success. However the friendships formed and the excellent team spirit she has helped to generate will set us up very well for playing next year. I only hope I will be able to follow in her very big footsteps. She is a hard act to follow. I will do my very best and hope that with all of your support (COVID permitting) 2021 will be a good golfing year.

Vice Captain

Unfilled Post

**Asst Secretary**

**Sara Lees (F)**

Executive Appointment

Kate introduces Sara

Sara was an overseas member of Ferndown for 3 years but is now back in the Country and playing at Ferndown permanently. She has played in several county events **and** has even enjoyed them!!

Whilst abroad Sara was Ladies Captain of San Roque GC and Captain of the Western Senior Ladies League on the Costa Del Sol in Spain. Professionally Sara has also run her own business. So from her past experiences and knowing how much work goes into running competitions we were delighted when she was encouraged to put her name forward to be Assistant Secretary.

Sara will be an excellent Assistant Secretary and very supportive of Liz and the Executive. We recommend her to you.

Vets Captain

Jane Dowling (B&WD)

Proposed Rosemary Shepherd (LR)

(B&WD)

**The President asks approval for these appointments.**

**Approved**

**The following Officers have agreed to continue their term of office according to the Association rules.**

President	Val Ford (P)	Executive Appointment
Hon Treasurer	Annie Hobell (SM)	Executive Appointment
Hon Secretary	Liz Walker (B&WD)	Executive Appointment
Vets Secretary	Sue Winkle (B&WD)	Executive Appointment
Interclub & Knockout Sec	Cathy McFarlane Thompson (B)	

**The President asks approval for these appointments.**

**Approved**

**The followings Officers to be re-elected en bloc in accordance with the Association Rules.**

County Representative EG SW Region	Jane Southcombe (Y)	Exec Appointment
Handicap Advisor behalf of EG	Ann Talbot (CD)	Exec Appointment on
USGA Course Rater behalf of EG	Jenny Waterhouse (DG&CC)	Exec Appointment on
County Welfare Officer	Kate Roberts (B)	Exec Appointment
County Junior Organiser	Sheila Davidge (AW)	Exec Appointment
Communications and Web Site Officer	Karen Gray (D)	Exec Appointment

**The President asks approval for these re-elected appointments?**

**Approved**

**10. Thanks by Tracy Bryant**

**Kate Roberts Assistant Secretary**

As you will know Kate is not leaving us, but she is taking on the role of Captain this year.

Kate has been doing the job of Assistant Secretary for the past three years and Welfare Officer for longer than she can remember. She has been a fantastic support to Liz and an asset to the county. She is hard-working, generous with her time and reliable. Kate's attention to detail is second to none. In fact, I may ask Kate to check all of the letters I have to write in my personal life from now on!

Although Kate's jobs have been as Assistant Secretary and Welfare Officer, she has rarely stuck just to her job description and has helped us in so many other ways. She has been a magnificent VC this year. Kate has attended the past two Match Weeks and without her

help I don't think we would've coped. She has done any job asked of her. This has included: caddying, shopping, paperwork and general team support and organisation.

One of the things that I like about Kate, is that she picks up on ideas very quickly and she is able to be flexible and intuitive. I have no doubt that Kate's attitude, quick thinking and empathy will stand her in good stead for the next year. I feel very fortunate that I can count Kate as one of my friends. She will be a fantastic Captain. The Association is lucky to have her.

### **Rosemary Shepherd – Vets' Captain**

Rosemary has been an exceptionally good Vets' Captain. She has shown a diligence, professionalism and dedication to the job that has been invaluable to the section.

Kate and I have been lucky to have worked closely with Rosemary on issues to do with the Vets. She is very good to meet with as she is very open-minded and approachable. Rosemary knows her way around the facts and figures and has taken initiative with several new ideas. I can honestly say that it is always a pleasure to listen to Rosemary's reports about what has been going on in section.

I'm sure we will miss Rosemary as Vets' Captain, but we wish her a very happy retirement. Thank you so much for everything you've done Rosemary. We look forward to seeing you in the future.

## **11. Any other business**

**a) Penny Bartlett** (Bulburry Woods GC) – Penny asked for clarification on pt 62 in the Rules & Conditions of Play – e.g. if a player with a h'cap index in the silver division enters say the Johnstone Cup and then on the day of competition her course h'cap takes her into the low bronze division, would she be able to still play the comp?

(This was a question from a Bulbury silver player)

Ann referred to the General Rules 7a & 7b. So - the criteria for entry to any competition is the player's Handicap Index.

Under 7b: on the first day of the competition the Handicap Index will be converted to a Course Handicap and Handicap Allowance if applicable. Ann confirmed that if the player's Handicap Index was correct for entry on the day they would not be sent home but would play off the adjusted handicap. Which is why (7a) it is important to inform the County Secretary immediately changes are known.

**b) Jane Southcombe** – Jane asked why Mel McMahon and Lesley Muddiman hadn't been voted on. Tracy was able to explain that this was because we were still running the pilot.

**12. \* Date of 2021 Annual General Meeting October is to be rearranged as the date proposed clashes with the recently organised SW Bowmaker to be held at St Enodoc on 20<sup>th</sup> October.**

**\* Date of the next Delegates meeting: FRI 13<sup>th</sup> NOV. 10.30am ZOOM. Details to follow.**

**The President closed the meeting.**

This year has meant that many rules of golf have had to change, temporarily, to incorporate safe play within a world pandemic. For example: not removing the flag or preferred lies in bunkers.

During the Second World War Richmond GC in Surrey introduced Temporary Wartime Golf Rules and I thought that I would share them with you..... there are 7.....

1. Players are asked to collect Bomb and Shrapnel splinters to save these causing damage to the Mowing Machines.
2. In Competitions, during gunfire or while bombs are falling, players may take cover, without penalty, for ceasing play.
3. The positions of known delayed action bombs are marked by red flags at a reasonably, but not guaranteed, safe distance therefrom.
4. Shrapnel and/or bomb splinters on the Fairways, or in Bunkers within a club's length of a ball may be moved without penalty.
5. A ball moved by enemy action may be replaced, or if lost or destroyed, a ball may be dropped not nearer the hole without penalty.
6. A ball lying in a crater may be lifted and dropped not nearer the hole, preserving the line to the hole, without penalty.
7. A player whose stroke is affected by the simultaneous explosion of a bomb may play another ball from the same place. Penalty: One Stroke.

**Wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, COVID free, New Year!**