

# **LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND LADY CAPTAINS' GOLF ASSOCIATION**

## **1. Minutes and Apologies**

Minutes of the 49th Annual General Meeting held at Devonshire Place on Thursday 10th February 2022. 137 members attended. 20 apologies were received.

The President, Mrs Helen Buckingham took the chair and convened the meeting at 2.00pm. She welcomed County President Karen Bonser and all the members present to the meeting.

The President asked everyone to pause for a few moments to remember four past lady captains who died during the year. These included: Joyce Dunkley of Market Harborough who was a past president of the Association, Ann Henry of Scraptoft, Gwen Jefferson of Glen Gorse, and Margaret Wright of Ullesthorpe. Mrs Buckingham also asked those present to think of members who were experiencing poor health.

## **2. Minutes of the AGM 2021**

The President asked all ladies if they had read the minutes and was it their wish that she should sign them as a true record. Proposed by Sue Pallett of Lingdale and seconded by Val Betteridge of Ullesthorpe. All were in favour. Mrs Buckingham signed the minutes.

## **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

The President advised that the officers reports would all be read out and would be adopted together at the end.

## **4. President's Report**

The year started with us reluctantly having to cancel the Spring Meeting due to Covid. This would have been held at Rothley Park.

From then on, we were able to complete the rest of our programme albeit with some adaptations concerning social distancing. We were blessed with fine weather for all of our events which eventually commenced in June with the inter county matches.

The first versus Nottinghamshire at Longcliffe resulted in a 4-4 draw, as did the third against Northamptonshire at Cosby. Thank you to both clubs for hosting these home matches and making us so welcome. The away match was held at Matlock Golf Club where a strong Derbyshire team with local knowledge came out clear winners 7-1.

President's Day at Belton Park had a field of 56 players and I was pleased to share the event with last year's president Glenda Yeldham who had booked the venue for 2020, but was unable to host it due to yes, you know what - Covid. Thank you to all those who supported the day and helped to make it run so smoothly. You all seemed to enjoy it as much as I did.

Probably the highlight of the season was our 8-4 victory over the Society of L&R Golf Captains, known to us all as "the match against the men". This is only the second time in the match's history that the ladies have won, the last time being in 2013. Well done to all the team. I can still hear the cheer when I lifted the trophy on the team's behalf. Mrs Buckingham invited ladies who had played in this match to stand. Thank you to all the ladies who represented the Association by playing in teams throughout the season. Without your support we would not be able to play these matches.

The Autumn meeting at Market Harborough enjoyed fine weather and a large field had to contend with bullocks on the 9th green, a swan waddling across the first fairway, confident it wouldn't get hit, and a red kite riding a thermal over the 4th green. The joys of rural golf. Three members of the committee herded the bullocks back to their adjoining field and one member was heard to mutter "I don't remember this being in the job description". Seriously though, the course was in great condition and thanks go to the club for making us so welcome.

Three other events took place. Firstly, the very enjoyable AMAM with the County Vets where two players from each association make a team. Thanks go to Kirby Muxloe for hosting the event and to the County Vets for organising the day.

Secondly our annual Captains and Vice Captains event at Hinckley saw 24 ladies play a nine-hole AMAM and afterwards share ideas and experiences of being a captain, whilst enjoying lunch on Hinckley's new patio. A valuable and worthwhile event for new captains.

Finally, the Bridge Drive at Birstall was in doubt due to Covid but we went ahead and the ladies playing were pleased to be able to at last sit-down face to face at tables, play bridge, socialise and enjoy Birstall's excellent food. Thank you Birstall and thank you Vice-President Pam for organising the day.

I have already said many "thankyous", but most of all I would like to thank the committee for their unwavering and enthusiastic support throughout the year. I feel I have made a lot of new friends.

The Association would not be as strong as it without the support of you the members and I 'd like to wish you all an enjoyable year of golf and I hope to see many of you at this year's events.

Mrs Buckingham concluded her report with the following poem.

### **LRLCGA AGM President's Poem**

We started the year wondering what was to come.  
Would it be cancelled again and nothing get done?

The Spring Meeting at Rothley we just could not play  
But we hoped the rest of the year would turn out ok.

And sure enough our June matches went ahead  
We forgot all our woes, put them firmly to bed.

For the rest of our year the sun shone through.  
The rain stayed away and the skies were blue.

Our golf we played at clubs near and far  
When that was over we'd meet in the bar.

Old friends we met up with and new friends we made.  
We shared our stories of the games we had played.

So join with me ladies, be thankful, be glad  
For the golf that we've played and the fun that we've had.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Mrs Wesley, advised that it was her pleasure to present the accounts to 30th November 2021. A few copies of these accounts were available on each table for members to review. Mrs Wesley hoped that ladies had taken the opportunity to look at them.

Our membership was down once again and at the end of 2021 we had 417 members a decrease of 20 from 2020.

Competitions started with President's Day in June when we were able to start selling merchandise and holding raffles once again.

The proceeds from the raffles go to the County Juniors and a donation is also made to the County Ladies. In 2021 £75 was donated to the County Ladies and £150 to the County Juniors.

Presentations were made to Mrs Buckingham on her President's Day and to the departing Treasurer and sundries included the cost of a repair to the President's brooch.

As from the 1st of November 2021 all HSBC Community Bank Account holders have been moved to a new Charitable Bank Account which comes with a £5.00 a month fee and a 40p charge to pay in a cheque. We are therefore encouraging members to pay using the BACS system and details of our account have been added to the fixture list along with my contact details so that members may confirm to me what these payments are for. Mrs Wesley confirmed that the account was held in the name of LRLCGA.

Mrs Wesley confirmed that she will be looking into possibly moving to a free Charity Bank Account but most of the major banks are not allowing groups with accounts at other banks to switch or they require one of the signatories on our account to have an existing account with them so this might not be straight forward.

Mrs Wesley confirmed that our accounts remain in a healthy position.

### **6. Secretary's Report**

Mrs. Bramley, confirmed that there were 25 clubs affiliated to the Association. Four members passed away since the last AGM and 28 resignations have been received. The total number of members in the Association stands at 403 including 5 honorary members and 10 ladies who play for clubs outside the counties of Leicestershire & Rutland. The membership has reduced as many lady captains take on the role for a second or third time, we are all getting just a little older, some members move away to other parts of the country and sadly, some clubs have been unable to recruit a Lady Captain.

### **Results of Trophy Events Held During 2021**

The Spring Meeting planned at Rothley Park GC was again cancelled due to the Coronavirus. We are however, delighted to confirm that Rothley Park have agreed to host the Autumn Meeting in 2022.

President's Day was held on 28th June at Belton Park GC and attracted 56 ladies in 14 teams playing an AM/AM format. The winners of the President's Quaich's, which translate as the cups of friendship were:

1st	Helena Woodward and Sandra Baum of Hinckley Sue Fletcher and Sally Hollis of Lutterworth	80 points
2nd	Elaine Wesley and Pat Sutton of Glen Gorse Leona Harris of Cosby and Loraine Washington of Scraptoft	79 points

3rd	Kim Griffin and Christine Walker of Beedles Lake Bubbles Emmett and Liz Toney of Lutterworth	76 points
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The Autumn Meeting was held on 6th September at Market Harborough Golf Club where 72 ladies played in a 4 BBB pairs competition for the Renee Shipman Trophy. Winners of the Renee Shipman Trophy:

1st	Annette O'Meara Di Thornton	Charnwood Forest GC Charnwood Forest GC	43 points
2nd	Julia Dunkley Ruth Palmer	Kibworth GC Kibworth GC	40 points (OCB)
3rd	Julia Booth Ann Martin	Charnwood Forest GC Charnwood Forest GC	40 points (OCB)
4th	Marian Overlunde Sarah Bowler	Lingdale GC Lingdale GC	39 points
5th	Julia Holley Trish Formoy	Kibworth GC Kibworth GC	38 points (OCB)

The Bridge Drive held on 4th November at Birstall GC was the last event of 2021. 44 ladies played and we are pleased to announce the winners at the AGM again this year.

1st	Chris Massie of Kirby Muxloe	3470 points
2nd	Janet Scarratt a guest of Hinckley	3030 points
3rd	Jane Jennings a of guest of Hinckley	2550 points
Nearest to zero	Elaine Edwards of Hinckley	-50 points

The raffle held on the day raised an amazing £156 for the County junior girls.

Congratulations were sent to all the winners of these events.

The Council would like to thank both the members and staff at the clubs where these competitions were held, for their co-operation and help, both before, and during the day. This helps to make these events successful and hopefully an enjoyable experience for everyone. Our thanks are also sent to all to the ladies who have supported our events throughout 2021.

The Secretary sent a big "thank you" to all the ladies who were Club Contacts for the Association for collecting membership subscriptions and for sending these in with the match availability sheets. Mrs Bramley confirmed that they were "all stars" and that she could not thank them enough.

Mrs Bramley confirmed that she was an avid advocate of this Association, but that she was troubled that we had such difficulty attracting new members onto the Council this year. Never before had there been a time when we have held the AGM without having the full membership of the Council although, it has become increasingly difficult over the years to persuade ladies to join. As past captains this is more than an opportunity to serve, Mrs Bramley confirmed that, personally it had been an absolute pleasure to meet and get to know ladies from other clubs and to build lasting friendships on a committee that is in no way onerous. The purpose of the Association is purely social, there are no politics, as a committee we work together to make things happen and to organise events for the benefit of our members but we laugh and we have fun in the process. We learn from each other and get to know the members of the Association. We usually meet five times during the year, just prior to our main events and the majority of the Council are present at each event, so it is not a huge time commitment.

Mrs Bramley enquired of participants, would they want to see this Association fail as it approaches the 50th Anniversary in 2023 or will someone come forward to serve on the Council for just two years, to ensure the Association's future success? Maybe you know someone who would like to participate, please let us know.

The Secretary advised that 2020 was a very difficult year due to the Coronavirus when as Council members we were unable to meet and most events were cancelled, so we all missed out. In August 2021 we were finally able to meet face-to-face as a committee and events did take place albeit with social distancing in place. Zoom meetings enabled us to manage during the pandemic but there is nothing that compares to being able to physically meet together and develop the relationships and friendships for the future.

In 2020 recognising the importance of being able to communicate with members, the Association invested in the development of the new website. We continue to maintain and update this to provide information for members. Entry forms, start sheets and results of competitions are all detailed. Team selections and results of matches are also posted. Honours Boards detail Past Presidents as well as all winners of trophy events held since the inception of the Association. Please access the website for information throughout the year.

Merchandising can now also be viewed and ordered via the website. There is a link to the Glenmuir website so that members can view the products and sizes available. A “News” item has been posted to identify how to get to this function on the website.

It is wonderful to see so many familiar faces at this AGM and to meet new members of the Association. This is a very special event that provides the chance to renew friendships and marks the beginning of the golfing year. Mrs Bramley advised that she hoped to see as many members as possible at the events planned for the coming year.

Mrs Bramley confirmed that she had enjoyed working with all the members of the Council who worked very hard throughout the year to organise and maintain everything on behalf of the membership and confirmed that she looked forward to working with the committee again in 2022. As always it had been a pleasure to serve this Association.

Joyce Calow of Birstall proposed that all reports be adopted and Jenny Martin of Glen Gorse seconded. All were in favour.

#### **7. Presentation of Trophies**

The winners of President’s Day and the Autumn Meeting were presented with the President’s Quaiches and the Renee Shipman Trophy.

#### **8. Presentation of Donations**

It was confirmed that a donation of £100 had been made to the County Ladies and £470 to the Junior Girls. The President invited County President Karen Bonser to collect letters confirming the BACS donations that had been made. Ms Bonser thanked the Association on behalf of the County.

#### **9. Election of Officers and Council**

The following names were put to the meeting for formal acceptance:

President:	Helen Buckingham of Hinckley
Vice President:	Pam Hall of Rutland Water
Treasurer:	Elaine Wesley of Glen Gorse
Secretary:	Lynda Bramley of Beedles Lake
Council Members:	Jane Linsley of Glen Gorse
	Sandra Baum of Hinckley
	Julia Dunkley of Kibworth
	Sheila Major of Kilworth Springs

The President advised that Julia Dunkley and Jane Linsley had been on the committee since the AGM in 2020 and were due to step down at this AGM, however the past two years have been unprecedented. During 2020 as new Council members they were unable to participate as no events were held due to the Coronavirus. Fortunately, both of these committee members had expressed a willingness to serve on the Council for an extra year to aid continuity. We trust that this is acceptable to the members given these extraordinary times.

Mrs Buckingham also confirmed that no new members had come forward to serve on the Council. We are very fortunate that Julia Dunkley and Jane Linsley were willing to continue to serve on the Council otherwise we would have been three Council members short for 2022 and this may have affected our ability to serve the members of our Association. She confirmed that there was still a vacancy that we would like to fill so if any member here would be interested in joining for a two-year term of office, please come forward after the AGM.

Gail Neill of Scraftoft proposed that the Council be elected on block. Chris O’Neill of Kibworth seconded the proposal. All were in favour.

The President thanked all the members of the Council for their hard work and support throughout her term of office with a special thank you to Pauline Milner who retired from the committee at the AGM but was unable to attend the event.

#### ***Auditor for 2021***

Mary Jarvis has audited the accounts this year. Mrs. Jarvis has agreed to conduct the audit for the Association in 2022.

Elaine Wesley of Glen Gorse proposed Mrs Jarvis as Auditor for 2022, seconded by Sandra Powell of Glen Gorse. All were in favour.

#### **10. Fixtures**

Mrs. Buckingham confirmed that fixture cards were located on each table. The 2022 spring meeting at Luffenham Heath GC and will be organised by Jane Linsley and the autumn meeting at Rothley Park GC will be organised by Sandra Baum. Their contact details are detailed on the entry forms on your fixture card.

There was an error on the entry form for the venue of the Bridge Drive which is booked to be held at Kirby Muxloe GC (not Birstall GC). Ladies were asked to make a note on their entry form.

### ***Trophy Events***

Mrs Buckingham confirmed that it was hoped that during 2022 we would be able to utilise the on-line booking system for competitions through Golf Genius as used by the Leicestershire & Rutland County Ladies Golf Association. This may be a possibility but the details for this need to be finalised. It was anticipated that this would be accessed via our website which would link to the Ladies County website. This would enable ladies to enter competitions and make payment via credit or debit card. We will advise everyone via email once this system becomes live.

Start sheets for each of our competitions will be posted to the website three or four weeks prior to the event taking place. Results will also be posted to the website as soon as possible after the event.

As the spring and autumn meetings involve early start times that may run well into the afternoon, we do not plan to hold a presentation following these competitions. This avoids ladies having to return to often, far away venues. Vouchers will be sent on to all winners. However, if there are winners in attendance at the end of the day then they will be presented with their prizes.

There will be a two tee start on President's Day and generally a smaller field so holding a presentation may be feasible however, the Council reserves the right to review this on the day.

### ***Matches***

Match availability forms were sent to the club representatives during January and a blank form has also been placed on each table for members to indicate their interest in playing. Vice-President Pam Hall will be organising the matches during the year and will contact ladies to confirm that they are still available to play. As many ladies as possible will be given the chance to participate in the matches scheduled in 2022.

Teams will be posted to the website and the results will also be posted after each match.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our trophy events and matches that have been scheduled during the year.

### **11. Any Other Business**

There was no other business raised by any member of the Association.

### ***Gratuities***

The President advised that gratuity envelopes were available on each table. If ladies had enjoyed their meal and received good service, they were invited to leave a gratuity for the staff.

### ***Date of AGM in 2023***

The date of the next AGM will be Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

### **12. Vote of Thanks**

Mrs Jane Fletcher of Kirby Muxloe golf club thanked the committee for their hard work behind the scenes.

### **13. Closure**

Mrs Buckingham closed the meeting at 14.35p.m.

Signed

Date