

LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND LADY CAPTAINS' GOLF ASSOCIATION

1. Minutes and Apologies

Minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting held at Devonshire Place on Thursday 9th February 2023. 168 members attended. 25 apologies were received.

The President, Mrs Helen Buckingham took the chair and convened the meeting at 2.00pm. She welcomed County President Alison Horak, Vets President Sue Barker 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; Barbara Sanderson of Beedles Lake, Eileen Lucas of Birstall, Margaret Channing of Hinckley and past president Bunty Nutall also of Hinckley. Mrs Buckingham also asked those present to think of members who were experiencing poor health and the peoples of Ukraine, Syria and Turkey who are suffering as a result of war or recent earthquakes.

2. Minutes of the AGM 2022

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 Anita Higginson of Kibworth, seconded by Andrena Porter of Lutterworth. 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

Mrs Buckingham again welcomed County President Alison, Vet's President Sue and all ladies present to the 50th AGM. She also thanked all past presidents and past council members present and acknowledged that they were the ladies who had moulded the successful Association that exists today.

Mrs Buckingham said that she hoped ladies had been able to enjoy the displays set-up in the registration room and the 50th anniversary decorations set-up in the dining room. She advised that committee members had a lot of fun putting the 50th anniversary commemorations together, looking through old photos, events history in the President's Logs as well as decorating the tables. Some of the more unusual "Association" facts are detailed in the commemorative leaflet distributed to each attendee.

For the first time in three years (due to Covid) we were able to host a full programme of events and fittingly this, in run up to our 50th year and a cause to celebrate.

The Spring Meeting was held at Luffenham Heath GC with 31 teams taking part in the 3 Ball Alliance for the Wendy Johnson Trophy. The course as usual was a pleasure to play and thanks to the everyone at the club for making us so welcome.

Our three inter-county matches were held in fine weather but all resulted in losses. Nottinghamshire away at Nottingham City GC ended in a 2½-5½ loss, Derbyshire at Willesley Park GC resulting in a 1-7 loss and Northamptonshire away at Kingsthorpe GC ended in a 1½-6½ loss. All three matches were played in good spirit and individual matches were much closer than the overall results showed. The President thanked all those who played, Willesley Park GC for hosting the only home match and Vice-President Pam for arranging the teams during 2022.

It is our policy to give as many ladies as possible the chance to play in a match whilst some other counties seem to select the same strong players for all their matches. This may not get the results, but we prefer to involve as many as possible and have an enjoyable but competitive day out.

President's Day was held at Ruddington Grange where 56 ladies took part in a two-tee start. Mrs Buckingham thanked Past President Glenda Yeldham for acting as the second starter. Everyone at Ruddington Grange made us very welcome, providing a private room upstairs and serving a delicious buffet. The President added that this was a highlight of the year for her. She had so enjoyed meeting old, or more accurately, long standing friends as well as making new ones. She thanked all those who supported the day and noted that ladies had also seemed to enjoy it as much as she had.

The combined AM AM with the Vets was held at Hinckley. This is always a fun event with two Captains and two Vets per team, so players are team mates not rivals. Mrs Buckingham thanked Hinckley GC for hosting the event on yet another sunny day.

In our annual match against the Society of L&R Golf Captains, known to us all as "the match against the men" we did not quite manage to match last year's victory. The result was in the balance right to the last match, with the final score being

7-5 to the men. As usual Beedles Lake were the perfect hosts and thanks to Lynda for her help both in setting up the match and on the day. Mrs Buckingham also wished Pam and the team the best of luck for 2023 and added that the matches had certainly been a lot closer in recent years.

The Autumn Meeting was held at Rothley Park and the fair weather and interesting course made for an enjoyable day for the 44 pairs who took part. Once again, many thanks to Rothley Park GC for making us so welcome.

Our penultimate event of the year was the captain and vice-captain event and our thanks are sent to this year's host Kibworth GC. This is a chance to not only play a nine-hole AMAM but afterwards to enjoy a light lunch and share ideas and experiences of being a captain. A valuable and worthwhile event for new captains.

The Bridge Drive at Kirby Muxloe attracted thirteen tables of players and was a chance to play bridge, socialise and have lunch. Mrs Buckingham thanked Kirby Muxloe GC and Vice-President Pam for organising the day.

The President concluded that she had said a lot of thanks so far, but most of all she would like to thank all the members of the Council for their support over the last two years. Their enthusiasm, dedication, team spirit and sheer hard work had made her time as President so enjoyable and dare she say, successful.

Mrs Buckingham wished the incoming President Pam and her Council all the very best for the 50th Year activities and said that she would look forward to meeting the members again out on the courses around the county.

Surprise, surprise Mrs Buckingham concluded her report with another poem.

4.1. LRLCGA AGM President's Poem

It started fifty years ago, two ladies with a cup of tea,
They'd just played golf and thought a bit of what could possibly be.

We've both been Lady Captains, like others gone before,
And over the years there's going to be so very many more.

Let's start a club for Captains, from the county just like us,
We'll play competitions and matches with a minimum of fuss.

And so, it began half a century ago,
And it's grown and blossomed like a seed that you grow.

We're here today just fifty years on,
A group who still like to play golf and have fun.

So, to Renee and Wendy we'll raise a toast,
For starting a club about which, we can boast.

We'd like to say thank you for living the dream,
And to reassure you we'll continue the theme.

We've grown over time but we're still just the same,
Our values hold true and, we've kept the same name.

So, here's to the last fifty years gone by,
And to fifty more years when our trade we will ply.

Helen Buckingham

5. Treasurer's Report

Mrs Wesley, advised that it was her pleasure to present the accounts to 30th November 2022. 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.

The Treasurer confirmed that merchandise sales went well during 2022 increasing by almost £100 more than in 2021 although last year had been disrupted by the Pandemic.

Presentations had been made to Mrs Buckingham as President and to our Auditor Mary Jarvis. Mrs Wesley confirmed that Mrs Jarvis had agreed to audit the accounts again at the end of this year.

Bank charges of £5.00 a month started at the beginning of this year so of the £70 shown on the accounts £55 was the mandatory monthly charge and £15 was the cost of paying in cheques and cash, this is approx. 37 transactions.

Hopefully now that members are used to using the BAC's system for payment, which is working well for the Treasurer, the number of cash and cheque transactions will fall.

Moving to a free Charity bank account has not been possible for the reasons given last year.

The Treasurer confirmed that we had been very fortunate to receive AGM Sponsorship of £200 for the 50th Anniversary, from Premfloor (UK) Ltd who design, supply and install quality flooring to domestic and commercial customers. Their business card with contact details was available on each table.

Mrs Wesley sent her thanks to all the club representatives for the efficient way in which they have returned their membership lists and lunch attendees, it is much appreciated.

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

6. Secretary's Report

25 clubs are affiliated to the Association. Four members passed away since the last AGM and 24 resignations have been received. The total number of members in the Association stands at 406 including 6 honorary members and 10 ladies who play for clubs outside the counties of Leicestershire & Rutland. Membership increased for the first time in many years from 403 in 2022.

6.1. Results of Trophy Events Held During 2022

The Spring Meeting was held on 25th April at Luffenham Heath GC with 93 ladies in 31 teams playing in a 3 Ball Alliance.

The Winners of the Wendy Johnson Trophy

1st	Julie Dawson, Anna Taylor and Diane Wood of Kirby Muxloe	84 points
2nd	Doreen Brown, Gail Neill and Loraine Washington of Scraftoft	80 points
3rd	Suzanne Gee, Ross Hecks and Cheryl McGann of Kibworth	79 points
4th	Fiona Johnson and Alison Seddon of Longcliffe and Jane Horwood of Stanton-on-the-Wolds	79 points (OCB)
5th	Marion Overlunde, Sue Pallet and Sue Pritchard of Lingdale	78 points (OCB)

President's Day was held on 23rd June at Ruddington Grange 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	Margaret Theakston and Yvonne Gilman of Luffenham Heath Andrena Porter of Lutterworth and Sue Barker of Whetstone	80 points
2nd	Jo Trouve of Charnwood Forest, Jacqui Knight of Lutterworth Trish Formoy and Chris O'Neill of Kibworth	79 points
3rd	Pam Fox and Lyneve McLoughlin of Lingdale, Rita Watts of Hinckley, Doreen Brown of Scraftoft,	79 points (OCB)

The Autumn Meeting was held on 5th September at Rothley Park Golf Club where 88 ladies played in a 4 BBB pairs competition for the Renee Shipman Trophy.

Winners of the Renee Shipman Trophy:

1st	Helen Lowe and Cathryn Hoyland of Scraftoft	43 points
2nd	Sue Ayre and Helen Adams-Brown of Hinckley	42 points (OCB)
3rd	Ann Knight and Andrena Porter of Lutterworth	42 points (OCB)
4 th	Julia Dunkley and Ruth Palmer of Kibworth	42 points (OCB)
5 th	Karen Docherty and Sue Rossiter of Lingdale	40 points (OCB)
6 th	Jo Brown of Scraftoft Rosie Black of The Leicestershire	40 points (OCB)

The Bridge Drive held on 3rd November at Kirby Muxloe GC was the last event of 2022. 52 ladies played and we are pleased to announce the winners at the AGM again this year:

1st	June Green, a guest of Beedles Lake
2nd	Pat Darke of Kibworth

Congratulations were sent to 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 as this helped to make these events successful and hopefully an enjoyable experience for everyone. Our thanks are also sent to all to the ladies who supported our events throughout 2022.

Mrs Bramley urged everyone to participate in the trophy events planned for 2023. Entries during the past couple of years had understandably been down compared to pre-Covid entry levels. Please send in your entry forms and come and celebrate the 50th anniversary with us through 2023.

6.2. Club Representatives

Mrs Bramley confirmed that as an Association we rely on individuals within clubs to liaise and communicate on our behalf. Many clubs have a club representative, others have a tradition of using a past captain, lady captain or even an incoming vice-captain to take on this role. It does make life easier if there is someone who understands what the Association is all about and to have a bit of continuity but that she did appreciate that not everyone would want to have the hassle on an annual basis but continuity can be achieved in many ways. She said a very grateful thank you to all the club representatives who had communicated on our behalf with members of their club, for collecting membership subscriptions and for sending these in with the menu choices for the AGM luncheon. She confirmed that they are all "heroes" and that she could not thank them enough.

To provide more support the Council are thinking of inviting the club representatives along to the captain and vice-captain event held in September each year. This is 9 holes of golf played as an AM/AM followed by lunch. Chatting with other club representatives and council members might prove to be beneficial.

6.3. Website

Recognising the importance of being able to communicate with members, during 2020 the Association invested in the development of our website. This is comprehensive and easy to use and we continue to maintain and update this to provide information for the benefit of members. This includes:

1. News Items that highlight up-coming events as well as post event updates
2. Team selections and Results of matches
3. Entry forms for 2023 Trophy Events are available now and Start Sheets will be posted 2-3 weeks before the event. Results of competitions are posted as soon as possible after the events.
4. Honours Boards detail all winners of Trophy Events since each of these started as well as Past Presidents of the Association.
5. "About Us" you will find the Constitution, information about the Council, AGM minutes, Diary of Events, Merchandising can also be viewed and ordered via the website.

The Secretary urged members to access our website www.lrlcga.com for information throughout the year.

Mrs Bramley advised that it was nice to see so many familiar faces at the AGM and to meet new members of the Association. She confirmed that the AGM is a very important event that for her provides the chance to renew friendships and marks the beginning of the golfing year. Spring really is just around the corner.

The Association is special and this is the best committee that anyone can join. It is not an onerous job as there are only 5 or 6 meetings held during the year. We are efficient; we get on well together and we are energised by new members joining the Council each year. If you get the chance to join, take the opportunity and come and serve this Association. Everyone brings a different input and perspective and so, she looked forward to working with the new Council for 2023. Mrs Bramley confirmed that, as always, it had been a pleasure to serve the Association.

Margaret Weston of Beedles Lake proposed that all reports be adopted and Caroline Butcher of Rutland Water seconded. All were in favour.

7. Presentation of Trophies

The winners of the Spring Meeting, President's Day and the Autumn Meeting were presented with the Wendy Johnson Trophy, 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 £500 to the Junior Girls. The President invited County President Alison Horak and County Junior Girls Organiser Anita Higginson to collect letters confirming the BACS donations that had been made. Mrs Horak thanked the Association on behalf of the County ladies and Mrs Higginson outlined the exciting opportunities now available to junior golfers and she thanked the Association on behalf of the junior girls.

9. Election of Officers and Council

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

President:	Pam Hall of Rutland Water
Vice President:	Julia Dunkley of Kibworth
Treasurer:	Elaine Wesley of Glen Gorse
Secretary:	Lynda Bramley of Beedles Lake
Council Members:	Julie Dawson of Kirby Muxloe Sheila Major of Kilworth Springs

9.1. *Joining the Council in 2023:*

Three members have put their names forward to join the Council in 2023. The President invited the nominated ladies to stand:

- Joyce Calow of Birstall
- Sara Glover of Rutland Water
- Elaine Holloway of Kilworth Springs

Kim Griffin of Beedles Lake proposed that the Council be elected on block. Helen Adams-Brown of Hinckley seconded the proposal. All were in favour.

Mrs Buckingham then handed over the Presidents badge to Pam Hall and wished her every success as the incoming President.

Ms Hall acknowledged that Helen's second year as vice-president was severely restricted by Covid when in essence none of the planned events took place until the end of the year. This was followed by two very contrasting years for her as President, having to deal not only with personal issues but once again Covid, during her first year.

So much had changed during the last 50 years ago, it would be difficult for our founders, Renee and Wendy, to imagine an AGM via Zoom. Ms Hall continued, Helen with her enthusiasm and commitment did a great job, keeping in touch with members and committee throughout Covid which were difficult times.

Mrs Buckingham's second year saw a return to some kind of normality with our trophy events going ahead and all matches being played as scheduled. Helen, at last, was able to enjoy her year and as you may be aware if you have attended any of our major events, her poems are legendary.

Mrs Buckingham has always been a great ambassador for ladies & girls golf and has given her time and support in various roles over the years. Ms Hall wished Mrs Buckingham well in 2023 and beyond and on behalf of the Association presented her with a gift of garden vouchers as a thank you for all her work over the past two years.

Ms Hall advised that she was very honoured to have been asked to be the President of such a wonderful Association. She added that she had been playing golf since 2008, a relatively short time compared to some and "believe me I wish I'd taken it up much sooner" she added. Ms Hall said that she had received great help, support and friendship from the Ladies at Birstall GC in the early years, particularly Sandra Clarke who kept her "on her toes" as Lady Captain. This is also the ethos of this Association, not Sandra keeping you on your toes, but great friendship and support and why she was proud to be President and that she was looking forward to working with the Council and members over the next two years.

Ms Hall commented that ladies couldn't help but notice this is our 50th year, what a great milestone. She thanked the Council of 2022 for their help with ideas and the decorations for the AGM event. She added that the 50th anniversary will continue to be celebrated throughout 2023 and it is hoped that ladies will continue to support our events and matches. Ms Hall added that she would look forward to meeting members throughout the year and enjoying our events in 2023

The President invited Julia Dunkley to come up and collect her Vice-President badge. Ms Hall said that she hoped that Mrs Dunkley would enjoy the next two years in office as Vice-President.

Mrs Dunkley thanked the President and said that she was honoured to become Vice-President and that she would do her utmost to support Ms Hall in her role as President of the Association.

Mrs Dunkley then invited all the past President's in attendance to join Ms Hall to have their photograph taken to commemorate the 50th Anniversary.

1997-98	Shirley Booth	Melton Mowbray
2001-02	Sandra Clarke	Birstall
2005-06	Alison Seddon	Longcliffe (previously Park Hill)
2007-08	Christine Price-Jones	Market Harborough
2009-10	Lynda Bramley	Beedles Lake
2011-12	Jean Edmonds	Kibworth
2013-14	Chris Hyde	Birstall (previously Forest Hill)
2015-16	Jenny Martin	Glen Gorse
2017-18	Jan Johnson	Scraptoft
2019-20	Glenda Yeldham	Longcliffe
2021-22	Helen Buckingham	Hinckley
2023-24	Pam Hall	Rutland Water

10. Fixtures

Ms Hall confirmed that fixture cards were located on each table. The 2023 Spring Meeting at Kibworth GC will be organised by Julie Dawson and the Autumn Meeting at The Leicestershire GC will be organised by Sara Glover. Their contact details are detailed on the entry forms on your fixture card.

10.1. Trophy Events

At the last AGM we advised that we were reviewing Golf Genius, the competition software used by County. In conjunction with the County Competition Secretary, it has been decided that Golf Genius is too complex for running our competitions, none of which are singles qualifying competitions. As a result, it has been agreed that this software will not be adopted by the Association.

Golf Genius would have enabled online booking and payment for events. The existing process of booking and payment now needs to be retained. As confirmed earlier by the Treasurer, the Association incurs a charge when cheques are paid into our account. As a result, we request payment via BACS where possible. The bank details have been added to the fixture card to enable members to set-up payment. We also request a notification be sent via email to Elaine Wesley with details of what the payment covers. This will enable Elaine to balance the books.

Start sheets and results sheets will be available on the website as previously advised.

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.

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

10.2. 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. Julia Dunkley 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 for 2023.

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

A new inter-county match has been added to the fixtures. This Four Counties event planned for 2023 has Leicestershire & Rutland hosting Derbyshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire at Beedles Lake on Thursday 20th July. A new 50th anniversary trophy has been put up for what is hoped will become an annual event. Team players will be invited to participate in this inaugural match.

We look forward to seeing many of you at our 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.

11.1. Gratuity

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.

11.2. Date of AGM in 2023

The date of the next AGM will be Thursday 8th February 2024.

Ms Hall passed the meeting back to Mrs Buckingham.

12. Vote of Thanks

Mrs Alison Seddon of Longcliffe GC thanked the committee for their hard work behind the scenes.

13. Closure

Mrs Buckingham closed the meeting at 3.00p.m.

Signed

Date