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# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

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DELEGATES' MEETING MINUTES

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BUCKINGHAM GOLF CLUB

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Wednesday 13 June 2018 - 2.00pm

(Short game coaching clinic 12.30pm –  
1.30pm)

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<b>PRESENT</b>	Sue Ashworth	County Captain
	Gail Sharp	Vice Captain
	Maura Spencer	Hon Secretary
	Gilly Stimpson	Joint Competition Secretary
	Christine Bishop	Handicap Advisor
	Phillipa Cook	England Golf Rep

	<u>Affiliated Club</u>	<u>Delegate</u>	<u>Additional Attendee</u>
1.	Abbey Hill		
2.	Aylesbury Park	Beth McCunn	Fran Angeletta LC
3.	Beaconsfield	Sue Schmidt	
4.	Buckingham	Mary Clarke	Gina Lloyd LC
5.	The Buckinghamshire		
6.	Burnham Beeches	Jackie Maher	
7.	Chartridge Park		
8.	Chesham and Ley Hill		
9.	Chiltern Forest	Margaret Pitman	
10.	Datchet		
11.	Denham	Diane Wilson	
12.	Ellesborough		
13.	Farnham Park		
14.	Flackwell Heath		
15.	Gerrards Cross	Louise Cosslett	
16.	Harewood Downs		
17.	Harleyford	Lesley Cropper	
18.	Hazlemere	Jane Frizoni	
19.	Huntswood		
20.	Iver		
21.	Ivinghoe		
22.	Lambourne	Gay Clough	
23.	Magnolia Park	Anne Terry	
24.	Oakland Park	Linda Liston	
25.	Princes Risborough		
26.	Richings Park		
27.	South Buckinghamshire		
28.	Stoke Park		
29.	Stowe	Joy Thorne	
30.	Thorney Park		
31.	Three Locks		
32.	Wavendon	Sue Goodger	
33.	Weston Turville	Sheila Cadge	
34.	Wexham Park		
35.	Whiteleaf		
36.	Woburn		
37.	Wycombe Heights		

## INTRODUCTION

Sue Ashworth extended a warm welcome to all the Delegates. She thanked Tony for another excellent short game clinic. Also thanks extended to Buckingham GC for hosting this meeting.

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Sally Harborne	President
Susanna Mitterer	Seniors' Captain
Di Davies	Joint Competition Secretary
Janette Psyllides	2nd Team Captain
Janet Beal	CJO
Tony Bowers	CTO
Carolyn Rivett	Hon Treasurer
Anne Worby	Stoke Park
Cheryl Dawson	Stowe
Sue D'Arcy	Princes Risborough
Marilyn Plummer	Ellesborough
Jenny Masterton-Smith	Whiteleaf
Caroline Bond	Thorney Park
Debbie Gibb	Weston Turville
Sandra Eland	Chesham & Ley Hill
Julia Clark	Woburn
Jenny Haynes	Huntswood
Rose Norey	Wexham
Sue Sweeney	Flackwell Heath
Sue Martin	Flackwell Heath
Gilly Brewer	Harewood Downs

### 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true copy.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING

**Page 8 item 7(v)** - The post for Junior Match Manager is still vacant.

### 4. CAPTAIN'S REPORT - Sue Ashworth

The **County lunch** at Beaconsfield GC achieved similar numbers to last year (~80) and raised **£2,755** for The Willow Foundation which came from the Silent Auction and raffle. Thank you to everyone who came along, donated a raffle prize &/or bid in the Silent Auction.

**County Grant** - The County Grant attracted several applications in April and the 2nd closing date will be 1st August. We have approx. £2½K remaining to offer so if you know of someone (adult or junior) who might benefit from financial assistance, please encourage them to apply. Applications are available through the County website.

We planned 3 **Elite Training Days** since our last Delegates meeting in February (at The Oxfordshire, Woburn and Denham) but had to cancel the Woburn date in March because of the atrocious weather. Having the opportunity to play the course as it will be set up for CMW at Denham last month proved extremely beneficial and my thanks to all the venues who have hosted our training this Winter and Spring.

In March I acted as starter at the **Bucks Schools Championships** hosted by Buckingham GC and we had 11 of our junior girls playing. Daisy Kennedy won the gross prize and Amelia Curtis came 2nd. Amelia went on to finish 6th in the 36 hole English Schools Golf Assoc Girls

Championships at Bury St Edmunds on 1st June and 14yr old Amelia is clearly having a 'purple patch' as she won the Ladies Club Championship at Lambourne recently, playing to her handicap of 5.

Both Daisy and Amelia are both part of the **England U16 Thames Valley Regional squad** which selects top quality single figure girls from Bucks, Berks, Oxon, Hertfordshire & Middlesex. They made up 2 of the 6 players that won the England inter-regional match played at Stoke by Nayland last month.

Buckingham GC hosted the **County Championships** 11th - 13th May and we were extremely well looked after. The catering was delicious and the staff were both courteous and attentive. The green staff deserve a special mention for the excellent presentation of the course – it was definitely a challenge particularly with such fast greens and the course proved a true test for our elite golfers. My thanks to Gina Lloyd their Lady Captain who acted as starter on Friday and enlisted the help of several lady members to act as ball spotters. The full results are available on the website but in the Final on Sunday afternoon Daisy Kennedy (Stoke Park GC) beat Rachel Goodwin (Harleyford GC) to become our new 2018 County Champion - the standard of golf was exceptional and was played in excellent spirit. Congratulations also to Daisy who was selected to **represent England U16 Girls in the England V Spain** match in Madrid last month, but exam commitments precluded her from taking up the place.

The squad for **County Match Week** will be:

Georgina Bowers (Stoke Park)	Hannah Cash (The Buckinghamshire)
Amelia Curtis (Stoke Park)	Megan Dennis (Woburn)
Rachel Goodwin (Harleyford)	Daisy Kennedy (Stoke Park)
Gillian Kinnear (Gerrards Cross)	Thalia Kirby (Stoke Park)
Alice Kozlowski (Ellesborough)	Lily Robinson (Woburn)

4 of whom are juniors and we are looking forward to competing against the 5 other Midland South regions at Denham next week. I'm really hoping this year's shortened version of 2½ days rather than 5 days won't work against us as I know it may favour some of the other counties who often struggle with availability of their players for the longer event. Rest assured we will be aiming to continue our victorious run and bring home the Midland South trophy once again! Phillipa Cook is the Event Organiser so I know we are in good hands but we always need more volunteers so.... given it's very local to most of you and if you have half a day or even a full day free, please get in touch with Phillipa and offer your services as a volunteer caddy, flag marshall or ball spotter. In return we will offer you lunch and promise some spectacular golf. I really hope to see hoards of supporters (in red) lining the fairways throughout the tournament!

Another success story of special mention is Megan Dennis who is currently studying in the States. She finished joint 1st in the 36 hole **Astor Salver** with rounds of 70 & 73 (2 under gross) playing at The Berkshire GC - which bodes very well for CMW I think!

At the other end of the scale it was very pleasing to see the success **Harewood Downs** have had in attracting new blood to the sport. When I visited recently I noticed several flyers advertising their 'Get Into Golf Taster Sessions' for new ladies & the club recently featured on the BBC London news promoting these events. If you're club is thinking of doing the same sort of thing, or you already run 'Here Come The Girls' type fun sessions for lady beginners, please let us know so that we can advertise them for you through the County website.

Looking ahead we have some great team events coming up and if you'd like to enter full details can be found on the County website:

**County Summer Meeting** at Whiteleaf GC on 27th June & is played in teams of 3 and 1

believe it is now fully booked.

**Midland South Australian Spoons** at Northampton GC is on 9th July open to women with a handicap of 15-36. Details have been sent to all your Lady Capts and the closing date for entry is 18th June. Clubs are requested to hold a qualifying stableford foursomes competition to select their leading pair and there's a maximum field of 64 pairs who will play in this regional final. The winning pair from each regional final will qualify for the National final which will be held during Golf Week at Frilford Heath on 16th August.

**Midland South 4BBB** is hosted at the Cotswold Club this year on 21st August. Entry details can be obtained through the Oxfordshire Ladies Association website and on top of the £50 per pair entry fee, the Cotswold Club (which boasts a lovely Spa) are offering a fabulous overnight stay, dinner, B&B with a round of golf for £89. The closing date is 31st July.

And finally **The Karchargis Trophy** will be hosted by Oakland Park GC again this year on 4th Sept and is a Lady/Junior Greensomes format. If you have any 'up and coming' juniors at your club this is definitely the opportunity to shine by inviting them to join you and competing in this fun competition. I've already picked my partner & really hope I shan't let her down with the standard of my rather rusty golf.

## 5. **PRESIDENT - Sally Harborne**

I have had a busy time since the last Delegates Meeting.

I have attended:-

- County Lunch at Beaconsfield which was a lovely occasion and enjoyed by all.
- Went to Northampton Golf Club for a County Governance meeting which gave those attending plenty of food for thought. Insurance was our main concern and we are meeting with an insurance advisor soon to check we are on track and fully covered.
- The Vice Captains meeting at Gerrards Cross Golf Club which was a great opportunity to introduce ourselves and meet with next year's Ladies Captains.
- I have been DBS checked with the help of the BB&O office staff.
- Attended a Safeguarding Course at Gerrards Cross Golf Club.
- Attended the Elite Training at Harleyford, BB&O Junior Championships at Harleyford, Junior Spring meeting at Ellesborough, 2nd Team Match v Oxfordshire at Huntercombe, Junior Match v Oxfordshire at Woburn, BB&O junior meeting at Wexham Park.

These have all been enjoyable events some held in dreadful weather from Pea Soup Fog at Ellesborough, cold and very wet at Woburn and freezing cold winds at Wexham. The games have all been played with great spirit and our various representative have all excelled themselves with their enthusiasm and skill. We can be assured that in the future we will have a great new BCLGA team being made up of the very enthusiastic juniors we have in the pipeline.

Sadly, several events have had to be cancelled due to exceptionally bad weather.

The County Championships were held at Buckingham and whilst poorly attended were a great demonstration of golf. There were only 18 competitors playing the 36 hole championship on the Friday with 16 going forward to the Match Play knockout. Many games were won with pars and birdies and it was a great to watch. Daisy Kennedy is now our newly crowned County Champion.

## 6. **VICE CAPTAIN'S REPORT - Gail Sharp**

**GDPR** - The BCLGA has a new privacy notice, which is now posted on the website.

**Insurance** cover for BCLGA is under review.

I attended a **safeguarding** course in early June.

**Grants** - we have set aside £2,500 for the second tranche of applications for bursary support. Please bring to the attention of your members and emphasize that these applications are not intended to be just for juniors. Applications are required by 1st August.

I have been successfully DBS checked and attended a safeguarding course in early June.

## 7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

### (i) HON SECRETARY - Maura Spencer

None

### (ii) HON TREASURER - Carolyn Rivett

#### 1. Balances and Transfers as at 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Account Balances	£
HSBC Current	£36,031.36
Close Bros Deposit	£23,512.45
<b>Significant Income</b>	
<b>Significant Expenditure</b>	
Willow Foundation	£2,755.00
Bursaries	£1,580.00

2. Refunds have been made to all the Spring Meeting entrants by BACS or cheque.

### (iii) 2nd TEAM CAPTAIN - Janette Psyllides *read in absence*

In April the 2<sup>nd</sup> team played their first league match against Oxfordshire at Huntercombe GC. We fielded a strong team Gillian Kinnear (GX), Janette Psyllides (GX), Katie Reid (Wexham), Henrietta Watkins (Burnham), Sue Martin (Flackwell Heath), Kerry Sumner (Buckingham), Rosie Kim (The Buckinghamshire) and Olivia Lee (Gerrards Cross), 2 of our up and coming juniors. We took the morning foursomes 3-0 and the afternoon singles 4-2, the two youngsters did really well to both win their matches, giving us a fantastic win 7-2. Thanks to Sally who came and supported and walked with Rosie during her match, whilst I kept Olivia company.

In May, we played our 2nd league match at home to Berkshire, the match was played in brilliant sunshine at Harleyford. We were able to bring in some new players which was great. The team was Katie Reid, Amelia Curtis (Stoke Park), Dot Kelleher (Denham), Lyn Fitzpatrick (Burnham), Sue Holdship (GX), Pamela King (GX), Lisa Holloway, on her home course (and after playing a medal round in the morning) and Barbara Lewis (Hazlemere). We won the match again by the grand margin of 7-2.

Both matches were played in great spirit and I think overall the 2<sup>nd</sup> team is in a very good place with a good pool of players to draw on. It is a great way to bring on some of the youngsters and all of the older players are capable, experienced players with a great attitude who are keen to encourage the juniors.

We have now qualified for the league final on 22 August at Oxford Ladies for the second year in a row.

**(iv) SENIORS' CAPTAIN - Susanna Mitterer** *read in absence*

All Seniors' fixtures are now confirmed and results as follows:

Match	Results
Berks – 9 May at Burnham Beeches	Berks won 5 ½ - 1 ½
Hamps – 22 May at Blackmoor	Hamps won 5 - 2
Oxon – 6 June at Beaconsfield	Bucks won 4½ - 2½
Herts 13 June at Mill Green	
Middx – 30 July at Harleyford	
Beds – 30 August at Aylesbury Vale	
Team Championship 25 Sept at Highgate	

Sadly we had 1 person not turn up for our first match against Berks – she had mistakenly deleted this match from her Outlook diary and thus we lost 1 game by default. Denise Goodacre scored our only win and Julia Gallagher managed a half point.

All Refunds for the cancelled Spring Meeting (Buckingham 12 April,) have now been processed.

Applications for the Autumn Meeting are trickling in and so far 8 teams are confirmed. I will do another marketing round closer to the time.

**(v) CJO - Janet Beal** *read in absence*

After several postponed competitions we have managed to catch up with most of our 2018 schedule.

The Par 3 Championship was postponed from 4<sup>th</sup> March and was held on 6<sup>th</sup> May at Wycombe Heights on a bright sunny day. Rachel MacKinlay won with a fantastic gross 56 with Rosie Kim in second place on gross 57.

The BB&O Team Stableford was postponed from 18<sup>th</sup> March and was held on 19<sup>th</sup> May at Oakland Park. I am pleased to report that Bucks won the Team Trophy.

The BB&O Girls Championship was held at Harleyford on 10<sup>th</sup> April. Hannah Cash won both the scratch and handicap cups.

The Spring Meeting was held at Ellesborough on 12<sup>th</sup> April. We had to suspend play due to fog, so played the competition over 9 holes. Shivani Ram won with 21 points over 9 holes.

We have played one league match – a scratch match against Oxfordshire which resulted in a half. We had two other matches scheduled, but these were both postponed – one by Berkshire who could not raise a team and one by ourselves for the same reason.

Four of our girls went up to Fulford (York) to play in the inaugural British Under 16 Championships, where Rosie Kim won the Under 12 section.

We have three centres running Girls Golf Rocks – Abbey Hill, Wycombe Heights and Wexham Park. These were very popular and there seem to be lots of girls who are keen to play golf.

The girls are also playing in lots of junior opens and I keep getting messages about all their successes – too many to mention here.

We have a great bunch of girls in county – from the elite golfers to those just starting out – and it is great fun watching them all learning golf and making lifelong friends through golf. If anyone is interested in helping with any of the junior events, please get in contact with me.

(vi) **JOINT COMPETITION SECRETARY LEAGUES & ANNUAL MEETINGS - Gilly Stimpson**

The Summer League is now at Round 3 stage with the results coming in and being updated on the website.

**Summer Meeting**

This is now fully booked. Taking place at Whiteleaf Golf Club, we are running a morning and afternoon competition to enable as many to play as possible. It should be a fun day.

**Cygnets Trophy**

I would like to remind you all of the Cygnets Trophy competition which we ask all clubs to support by setting aside a competition during the summer to help us raise money to support our Junior Girls. Please ask your club to support this.

**Charity Eclectic**

This is now underway, and I hope that lots of Clubs will be supporting this. The funds raised go to the Captain's Charity, which for this year is the Willow Foundation, which brings special days to the seriously ill who are between the ages 16 and 40 years of age and live in the United Kingdom.

**Winter League**

The scratch greensomes league entry forms are on the website. Closing entries is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018. The league will start on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

A very big thank you goes to Sally Harborne for running another excellent County Championship.

Aggregate	Strokeplay	
<b>1st Scratch</b>	Thalia Kirby, Harleyford (+1)	Gross 71+74 = 145
<b>2nd Scratch</b>	Daisy Kennedy, Stoke Park (1)	Gross 77+79 = 156
<b>1st Handicap</b>	Alice Kozlowski, Ellesborough (2)	Nett 75+71 = 146
<b>2nd Handicap</b>	Rosie Bee Kim, The Buckinghamshire (7)	Nett 74+73 = 147

<b>Baxter Bowl - Intermediates: (Age between 18 &amp; 25 on 1st January 2018)</b>	Alice Kozlowski, Ellesborough (2)	Gross 77+73=150
<b>Seniors' Champs</b>	(Aged over 50 on 11 May 2018)	
<b>1st Scratch &amp; Champion</b>	Denise Goodacre, Lambourne (4)	Gross 83
<b>2nd Scratch</b>	Janette Psyllides, Gerrards Cross (6)	Gross 83
<b>1st Handicap</b>	Dot Kelleher, Denham (9)	Nett 74
<b>2nd Handicap</b>	Jenny Cadelle, Woburn (17)	Nett 76



Well done to Daisy Kennedy (Stoke Park) for winning the Match Play Championship, beating Rachel Goodwin (Harleyford) 8&6

I am leaving the Executive Committee at the next AGM and therefore looking for a replacement. If you are interested or you know of anyone who you think might be interested, please let me know. I am happy to chat through what I do and will ensure a good handover.

**(viii) JOINT COMPETITION SECRETARY K/O, IC 4'S, BUCKS SHIELD - Di Davies** *read in absence*

**Winter Foursomes Final** – This was played on Wednesday 3rd May, kindly hosted by Gerrards Cross Golf Club – it was a closely fought Final between Lois Shoosmith and Marilyn Plummer from Ellesborough against Sandra Lacey and Fiona Moore from Chartridge Park – Sandra and Fiona won 2 up and our report is on the website.

**Summer Knockouts** - All the rounds are going well and the website is up to date.

**Bucks Shield** - The draw for the third round will be undertaken today.

**Interclub Foursomes** – Harewood Downs Golf Club are kindly hosting the event on Thursday 18th October. The entry form & rules will shortly be emailed out to the Lady Captain's.

**Winter Foursomes** - The entry form for 2018/19 will be on the website soon.

Finally I would like to advise that I will be stepping down from this role at the AGM and I would like a volunteer to step forward to fill the role. I was co-opted at the last AGM and due to personal reasons, I am unable to continue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like some more details of what the role entails.

**(ix) HANDICAP ADVISOR - Christine Bishop**

I continue to answer queries from our clubs on matters relating the competitions, rules and handicapping. Recently, there have been a number of enquiries relating to Conditions of Competitions and I recommend all clubs review their current conditions with a view to amending to reflect the recent changes in handicap limits.

In late April, England Golf extended the Winter Rules period to 31<sup>st</sup> May due to the extreme weather conditions and I notified all our Handicap Secretaries of the extension.

I am running 2019 Rules Seminars to give players an awareness of what to expect from 1<sup>st</sup> January next year. If you wish me to visit your club, please contact me; my details are on our website. **Joy Thorne, Stowe GC highly recommended clubs to avail of Christine's 'Rules Seminars'.**

In April I attended a World Handicapping Seminar at Frilford Heath and I will give a short presentation of the new system.

A presentation on the WHS followed Christine's report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes and the file can also be found on the [website www.bclga.org.uk](http://www.bclga.org.uk)

Also attached is the EG cleansing CDH Document.

**Some questions following the presentation -**

**Q: How will the new system affect handicap changes**

**A: This will be based on an average calculation but will be capped, not yet clarified but will most likely be capped by 5 shots annually**

**Q: Is there a time limit on when the 20 cards will need to be completed**

**A: From now until 2020, most likely to Spring 2020. If having difficulty in completing 20 qualifying rounds then it was suggested submitting supplementary scores - 9 hole**

DD MS

CB  
DEL

supplementary rounds are acceptable.

Q: Will the slope ratings be published?

A: No, these will not be released until instructed by England Golf.

September/October Gemma Hunter England Golf, will be running workshops on the new WHS. These workshops will be advertised once the dates have been confirmed.

(x) **CTO - Tony Bowers** *read in absence*

We held an **Elite Training** session at Harleyford on Saturday 7 April, unfortunately and for various reasons we only had 5 Attendees.

A skills session in the morning was followed by some Foursomes play in the afternoon where Sue very kindly stepped in to make up numbers.

I attended the **BB&O Championships** on Tuesday 10 April and with a low turnout of players by Berks/Oxon, Bucks was very heavily represented and resulted in a great win for Hannah Cash at +5

A very good standard of golf was on show all day and some very good performances from the Bucks girls.

On Saturday 28 April I attended a **Junior Scratch Match** against Oxon at Woburn.

Conditions were not ideal, cold and damp but the golf was of a very high standard indeed.

Bucks fielded (in reality), a B team due to other competitions going on at the same time and a couple of late withdrawals but WOW, did they step up to the plate.

All matches went to the final 2 holes and even though the opposition had Single figure handicap players in all 3 groups. Our girls more than held their own and even had a putt on the last green to win the match outright. Eventually the matches finished 1 ½ to 1 ½, a fantastic result for our very inexperienced young players, a credit to the County.

**County Championships.**

I attended the County Champs on Friday 11 May for the qualifying stroke play event. Given the very fast and hard greens which the competitors found very difficult especially in the morning round the golf was of a very high standard. The final 4 competitors all played very well and Daisy was a deserved winner in the end. It was great to meet Lily Robinson who has come over from Oxon.

**Elite Training**

We held our final Elite session on Saturday at Denham in preparation for the CMW in June. 7 players attended although 1 had to leave early due to Exam preparation.

The session was made up of 2 groups in the morning split between myself working on the range with the players using our 'Launch Monitor' which gave the girls some very useful information on their ball striking and yardage. The other group had a session with Sam Jarman who is a mind skills coach and the girls seemed to find that very helpful In the afternoon we played the full CMW course which proved of great benefit to the girls as the course has been lengthened considerably It was also very pleasing to see Megan Dennis back from the States.

We held an Intermediate Training session on Wednesday May 30 at the R.M.S. school in Rickmansworth where we had 15 girls attend.

We started with some Driving Range work and then went onto some Short/Game skills tests

for the girls to improve their skills and we decided to hold our own mini Curtis Cup.

Sue's (Super Stars) v Gail's (Gals), points were scored and then after lunch we played on the 6 hole course in some different formats for the girls.

Greensomes pairs followed by some Foursomes pairs and at the end of the day we also had some nearest the pin competitions.

The final result was a win for Gail's (Gals) by 1 point

The girls had a great day and we had some very positive feedback from quite a few parents.

My thoughts are now full onto CMW in a week's time.

**(xi) ENGLAND GOLF REPRESENTATIVE - Phillipa Cook**

I attended the Annual Meeting and Voting Members Meeting on 18th and 19th April at Woodhall Spa. There was one subject that has given rise to an additional Voting Members' Meeting being called for 3rd July at Copt Heath Golf Club.

At the General Meeting last November, the issue of increasing the affiliation fee was raised for the first time since 2015. The Board proposed that the affiliation fee be set at £9.50 for 2019. The level for future years will be considered through the long-term Business Plan, which will be discussed and debated over the coming months.

The Board took into account a number of factors in arriving at this proposal:

- Inflation over the three years where there has been no affiliation fee increase has totalled around 9%, which equates to around 75p per member.
- There has been a significant development in support services and improvements in the delivery of core activities in this period which incur a cost, including involvement in a significant increase in the number of safeguarding and disciplinary cases
- Public funding through Sport England will continue to reduce by around £200,000 year on year through to March 2021. Funding was reduced from £2.5 million in 2016, to £2.2 million in 2017 (as the new funding cycle started) and will continue to reduce to £2.1m in 2018, £1.8m in 2019 and £1.7m in 2020.
- The 2017 accounts, just published, include an operating deficit for England Golf of just over £290k. 2018 will be a year of a greater operating deficit, with a £475k budgeted deficit.
- At the current fee level these operating deficits, together with the fall in value of our investment portfolio due to the stock market, will mean that by the end of 2019 the reserves are likely to fall below the six months core funding minimum reserve which has been the long-established policy.

The Board considered that the £1 increase to £9.50 will address both inflation and reduced Sport England funding in 2019. It seemed a sensible increase to me and I was fully in support of the affiliation fee of £9.50. However, when it came to the vote there were 83 for the proposal and 78 against. As the voting was close, a "poll vote" was called, which gives weighting to the number of members affiliated to each county. On this basis the proposal failed. The larger counties were among those who objected.

This gives a huge problem as the 8 new Board had just been elected – all Board members were on the old Board which had put forward this proposal and so there is an issue of trust and confidence.

It is difficult to know what the issue was to object to what is really a very small amount. There has been disquiet that the independent golfer does not contribute anything to the running of the game. That is being addressed by EG but any funding from that source will not be available that quickly. Papers have just been sent out for the July meeting and it is hoped that some sort of agreement can be reached.

The Mid South Reps met and discussed the various competitions being held throughout the season, plus the handover of the EG items from one county to the next (EG sails and tee markers). There seemed support for a proposed new Seniors' Regional Meeting and this will be further discussed at the next meeting. The EG Championship Department would like to meet with each of the Regions at some stage and it is proposed that a meeting is held with James Crampton whilst he is visiting County Week at Denham as all the representatives or someone from their county should be able to attend.

**USGA RATING:**

The first three ratings have been done:-

27th March                      Stoke Park holes 19 - 27

16th April                        Denham

25th April                        Woburn – Dukes

The next courses to be rated are Beaconsfield, Woburn (Duchess and Marquess) and Burnham Beeches, plus Buckingham in the autumn.

**WEBSITE:**

Nothing to report on the current website except to say that the County Week scores will be uploaded at the halfway stage of the matches and the full results as soon as possible after conclusion of play. The results will also be published on Twitter.

**8. COUNTY MATCH WEEK**

The final preparations are taking place for County Week.

As you know the format is very different this year, run over three days not five. Two foursomes matches immediately followed by three singles matches against a county in the morning. Followed by the same set of matches against another county in the afternoon. It remains to be seen whether this new format will have an effect on the relative performance of the counties.

The course has been set up so that we will be using a combination of White, Yellow, Blue and Red tees - the course is lengthened by 300 yards to 5903 yards. We will be using a Flag Marshal / Ball Spotters on 5 holes.

Having given warning for almost a year that we would be asking for help for caddies, ball spotters etc the response to the request for volunteers has been very disappointing. Only about a third of the number of volunteers have come forward as at Kings Norton last year.

Having sent the request to Lady Captains and Delegates clearly asking them to enquire of their members who would be willing to help and send their details on the Form to me. The number of returns from the clubs was minimal, not even a reply to say that no-one at their club was willing to help. Thank you to Beaconsfield for the support that they are giving. We would have been extremely stretched if it was a five-day event.

That said, Denham have come up trumps and many members will be helping in one capacity or another and we thank them in advance for their assistance in running this event. Their staff and management at Denham have also been extremely helpful in the preparation for this big event.

Janet Beal is coordinating the Referees - there will be 5 for most of the time. The Conditions of Competition have been drawn up in conjunction with the EG Hard Card. Pace of Play will be carefully monitored by the referees.

All the paperwork is now virtually complete. Helen Mines has been helping me with this and all should be in place for a smooth-running event. As I have mentioned before the other Regions around the country are looking to us to see how the event goes, as is England Golf. James Crampton, EG Director of Championships will be at Denham on Tuesday and Wednesday to report as to how the event works and how it is received.

Sue extended her sincere thanks to Phillipa for all her organisation for County Match Week. Sue reinforced Phillipa's disappointment in the lack of response to our request for assistance from some clubs. Sue requested that the Delegates should take these comments back to their clubs.

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## 9. 2019 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

We have the agreement of Burnham Beeches to host next year's championships. The format will be similar to this year, i.e. 2 x 18 hole qualifying rounds plus the 18 hole seniors championships played on Day 1 and then 16 qualifiers to go forward for match play on Day 2 (16 to 8 in the morning , and 8 to 4 in the afternoon) and the semi-finals and final on Day 3. The major change for next year is that Day 1 qualifying rounds will be on **Sunday May 12th** and the match play will take place on **Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May**.

So all championship play will be on weekend dates. We hope that this will encourage more working ladies to enter and also those who blanch at the thought of 3 consecutive days of 36 holes. Please start to spread the word about this to the working ladies.

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## 10. BUCKS SHIELD DRAW

The draw for the 3rd round of the Bucks Shield took place:

DENHAM	V	BURNHAM BEECHES
ELLESBOROUGH or OAKLAND PARK	V	BEACONSFIELD
WOBURN	V	MAGNOLIA PARK or WEXHAM PARK
STOKE PARK or CHARTRIDGE PARK	V	HARLEYFORD or CHILTERN FOREST

Di will email the results of the draw to the respective Lady Captains. The draw will also be available on the website.

DD

## 11. VACANCIES

There are 2 vacancies coming up at the next AGM, both for Joint Competition Secretaries. Please spread the word and ask anyone who is interested to contact either Gilly Stimpson or Di Davies or email Maura Spencer. Both Di and Gilly are happy to discuss what's involved and possible candidates will be assured of a detailed handover.

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There is a vacancy for Junior Match Organiser on the Junior Committee. Interest for this role should be directed to Janet Beal.

## 12. DELEGATES' FORUM

No questions were raised.

## 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Gail asked the Delegates if they would like the short game clinic, which is run before each Delegates' meeting to continue? There was a resounding YES in support of the clinics.

A further question was asked if Delegates were happy with the current times of the meetings - 2pm start for the 2 Summer meetings and 11am for 2 Winter meetings. The general consensus was to keep to these times.

## 14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Thursday 6th September 2018, 2pm at Gerrards Cross GC (short game clinic 12.30 - 1.30)