



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

DELEGATES' MEETING MINUTES

GERRARDS CROSS GOLF CLUB

Thursday 22 February 2018 - 11.00am

(Short game coaching clinic 09.30am –
10.30am)

PRESENT	Sally Harborne	President
	Gail Sharp	Vice Captain
	Maura Spencer	Hon Secretary
	Carolyn Rivett	Honorary Treasurer
	Susanna Mitterer	Seniors' Captain
	Janet Beal	County Junior Organiser
	Di Davies	Joint Competition Secretary
	Gilly Stimpson	Joint Competition Secretary
	Tony Bower	County Coaching Officer
	Phillipa Cook	England Golf Representative
	Ashley Rump	EG Senior Regional Manager

	<u>Affiliated Club</u>	<u>Delegate</u>	<u>Additional Attendee</u>
1.	Abbey Hill		
2.	Aylesbury Park	Beth McCunn	Bobbi Ecob
3.	Beaconsfield	Sue Schmidt	
4.	Bletchley		
5.	Buckingham	Mary Clarke	
6.	The Buckinghamshire		
7.	Burnham Beeches	Jackie Maher	
8.	Chartridge Park	Lesley Curtis	
9.	Chesham and Ley Hill	Sandra Eland	
10.	Chiltern Forest	Margaret Pitman	
11.	Datchet		
12.	Denham	Diane Wilson	Pat Mullins (Secretary)
13.	Ellesborough		Janet Pusey LC
14.	Farnham Park		
15.	Flackwell Heath	Sue Martin	Sue Sweeney
16.	Gerrards Cross	Louise Cosslett	Carol Derbyshire LC
17.	Harewood Downs	Gilly Brewer	
18.	Harleyford	Pat Elwell	
18.	Hazelmere	Linda Poore	Jane Frizoni
19.	Hedsor		
20.	Huntswood		Jenny Haynes VC
21.	Iver		
22.	Ivinghoe		
23.	Lambourne	Gay Clough	
24.	Magnolia Park	Anne Terry	
25.	Oakland Park	Linda Liston	
26.	Princes Risborough	Sue D'Arcy	
27.	Richings Park		
28.	South Buckinghamshire		
29.	Stoke Park	Anne Worby	
30.	Stowe	Cheryl Dawson	
31.	Thorney Park		
32.	Three Locks		
33.	Wavendon		
34.	Weston Turville	Debbie Gibb	
35.	Wexham Park	Rose Norey	
36.	Whiteleaf	Jenny Masterton-Smith	
37.	Woburn	Julie Clarke	
38.	Wycombe Heights		

INTRODUCTION

In the absence of Sue Ashworth, County Captain, Gail Sharp welcomed everyone to the first Delegates' meeting of 2018

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Sue Ashworth	County Captain
Christine Bishop	Handicap Advisor
Janette Psyllides	2nd Team Captain

Lesley Cropper	Harleyford
Marilyn Plumber	Ellesborough
Sue Goodger	Wavendon
Sue Coleman	Wycombe Heights
Lynn Dickeson	Farnham Park

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true copy.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Page 10, item 6(viii): - New post of '**Junior Match Organiser**' is still vacant so if you know of anyone who might fit the bill then please contact Janet Beal.

Page 4, item 4: Tri-fold Pamphlet The county flier has now been circulated to all the clubs. Delegates are asked to make it available to all lady members electronically and to also place a copy on a ladies' noticeboard.

Page 4, item 4: - Results of the Bucks Shield semi/finals Day Consultation

Option A - Final held on a weekend date	20% in favour
Option B - Semi final held as home and away fixture	23% in favour
Option C - 3rd & 4th place play off	10% in favour
Option D - No change to current format	47% in favour

Of the 30 clubs, 22 replied with a preference, 3 clubs don't take part in the Bucks Shield competition and 5 clubs didn't respond. As a result, the Bucks Shield Finals Day will remain in its current format. Flackwell Heath GC has kindly agreed to host the event this year on **14th September**.

Page 6, item 4: - County Grant. The County Grant is now up and running. Delegates are asked to publicise the grant amongst your membership. Applications are available on the County website. **The first applications have been extended to 1st April 2018.**

ACTION

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4. **CAPTAIN'S REPORT – Sue Ashworth** *read in absence*

2018 Fixture List - is almost complete now and available for everyone to see on the County website. It is colour-coded for ease of reference and there's something for everyone amongst the comprehensive list. Please take a look for yourself and encourage your members to enter as many events as possible.

http://www.bclga.org.uk/index.php?page=top_fixtures

New Website - Anne Terry (our professional website designer) is making good progress with the development of the new website and came along to our last Exec meeting to give a very informative practical demonstration. She invited comments from the Exec on what worked particularly well and where improvements could be made, however, for the sake of all our sanity I've requested that the new website will not 'go live' until after the conclusion of CMW.

Merger Talks - At the beginning of January the Presidents, Captains and EG Representatives from each of the Bucks, Berks and Oxon Ladies Associations were invited to a meeting with the BB&O Union - the topic of discussion being 'Merger'. This hasn't been discussed since 2010 but it was felt that a pre meeting between the Ladies Associations would be prudent.

Although EG has a long-term aim of all the Associations and Unions merging, it is not at this stage compulsory or imminent. The number of Counties who have merged so far (or who are in the process of merging) is only 4, with a further 3 by 1st April. That's a total of 7 and about 20% of the total number in the country and so it may be considered somewhat premature to be considering merging at this stage, particularly with the complication of our 3 counties. Combined counties will (by the nature of their large and complicated set-up) no doubt be the last to merge.

However, full and frank discussion took place where opinions were voiced on the many concerns that a merger might raise. Essentially, any merger or incorporation into the BB&O Union would require the 3 Ladies Association to merge first and although there was no overall desire for a full merger between the 3 Ladies Associations, there was common ground and opportunities to work together in several areas. In particular with regard to Junior and County competitions.

It was agreed that an annual meeting of the 3 Ladies Associations would be worthwhile to review the situation as personnel and circumstance may change over time. The sharing of ideas, opinions and concerns provided a sound base for constructive discussions and it was felt this should definitely be continued.

The upshot is - it was discussed, documented, circulated to the various Exec Committees and filed for another year.

General Data Protection Regulations - In May this year new data protection standards will come into force - General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). BCLGA (like every other organisation that requests, stores or uses personal data) will be affected by this and we will need to ensure we are fully compliant by 25th May. We'll be working through the implications in the next few months possibly in conjunction with the Berks & Oxford Ladies Associations and with the advice from England Golf. It may have an impact on:

- *What personal information you are asked to provide which will ONLY be used for the purpose for which permission has been given.*
- *The need to ensure everyone clearly opts in to any communication from us.*
- *The deletion of data once it is no longer required.*

- *The County's approach on social media (currently the only social media we use is Twitter and that is generally only during CMW)*

We already take data protection extremely seriously, so hopefully no major changes will be required but we will keep you posted.

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Sally Harborne**

I was invited to join the Juniors for their training day at Burnham Beeches, 19 girls turned up for an extremely worthwhile day. Tony had set up a challenging putting and chipping competition for the morning session. The girls enjoyed the challenge and learning some new techniques to perfect their short game. After lunch they took part in a greensomes match, which sadly took place in pouring rain, but the girls gamely played on with a smile and thoroughly enjoyed the day. There was a suggestion from one quarter that maybe just maybe they could have their next Training Day in the warm sunshine of Spain but somehow I doubt our finances will run to that.

Yesterday I attended the AGM and Lunch of the Buckinghamshire Lady Captains Golf Society and met up with many old friends. The Society presented our junior section with a cheque for £200 for which we are very grateful and we will certainly put it to good use.

With Spring and Summer fast approaching I will have more to report at the next Delegates meeting.

In the meantime, can I remind you about the County Summer meeting which is being held at my own club Whiteleaf on Wednesday 27th June. I do hope I can count on you all to join me there with your friends for a lovely day's golf, you can be assured of a very warm welcome from our members and staff and I know that our greenkeepers (Mike and Justin) will provide us with a course in tip top condition. Let's just pray for a fine day.

I have some entry forms here with me if anyone would like one after the meeting.

6. **VICE CAPTAINS REPORT - Gail Sharp**

At the Executive Meeting held on 25th January 2018, it was agreed to explore holding a Gala Golf Day in 2019, which will be open to all BCLGA lady golfers. The aim will be to have a wide range of activities and demonstrations with catering provided to sustain everyone throughout the day.

As this falls into my first year as Captain, I have taken responsibility to start a planning group. Our first meeting will be this afternoon. I am keen that this Gala Golf Day should have as wide an appeal to lady golfers throughout Bucks as possible. I would welcome any ideas and suggestions you may have and if anyone feels interested in helping with the planning, please let me know.

Apart from this, I have drafted the application form for the new County Grant and started to pull together a BCLGA statement regarding our responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulations, which come into force on May 25th 2018.

Next week Sally and I make our first 'club visit' to meet the ladies at Chesham and Ley Hill.

We would welcome other invitations.

7. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

(i) **JOINT COMPETITION SECRETARY – Gilly Stimpson** (Meetings and Leagues)

We are now approaching the end of the Winter Scratch Greensomes League, with just one round left to play. We've been relatively lucky this season with the weather and so I am hoping it will continue to be the case until the end of the matches. I'd like to thank the League contacts

who have promptly reported scores helping me to ensure the County website is up to date. The Summer League kicks off from 17th March. This year we have lost Lambourne from both the Bronze and Silver Leagues and Datchet from the Bronze League. We have however, gained a second team from Gerrards Cross who will join the bottom of the Silver League. This is the first time that clubs have been allowed to enter two teams to a League. All the paperwork has been sent out and I am aware that the matches are starting to be organised. Good luck to everyone playing.

The **Summer Meeting** will be held at Whiteleaf GC this year and will take place on Wednesday 27th June. The sign-up sheet is on the County website. Whiteleaf is a delightful course and I know they will look after us well - please sign up a team and support our President, Sally.

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I also need to remind clubs who have not yet sent in their **Coronation Medal** results for 2017. There has been some confusion over this competition as we were asked if it 'just related to EG medal rounds?' The Executive confirmed that it covers ALL strokeplay, qualifying rounds and as a result the rules on the County website have been amended. The date for entry has also been extended to April so that you have plenty of time to look at your entries again and send them to me. The entry form is on the County website under 'Club Competitions'.

I have two other areas of responsibility, which I am always keen to increase participation in. The County has two annual competitions which clubs are asked to support. **The Cygnet Trophy** was first donated by Christine Watson in 1999 (County Captain 1999-2000). She gave it specifically to raise funds for the Junior section to offset general junior expenses, which include coaching, and some expenses associated with matches. The format is stableford and can be nominated and played at your club any time 1st April to 30th September. We ask that the entry fees (min £2.50 per person) are submitted to the County to help support our thriving Junior section. Each club submits a result sheet which can be found in the 'Club Competition' section on the County website. Two scores from each handicap category are submitted which gives you a 'Club Score'. A trophy is then awarded at the AGM to the winning club. Please encourage your Captains and competition organisers to set aside one week for this competition.

My second plea is to support the **Charity Eclectic Cup**. This is an Eclectic competition set up by your clubs which runs from the beginning of April through to September. Players may enter as many times as they like and the focus is on improving your individual score on each hole over this period. It is up to your club how much is charged for entry (eg. at Hazlemere we pay £4 to enter and we are able to submit as many scores as we like thereafter to improve our eclectic score). This money is then sent along with the entry form to the County; the results are calculated and a trophy awarded. I am disappointed with the number of teams who enter this competition, so please ask your club to enter this year if they haven't done so before. You could consider running it alongside your other competitions? Remember, it can be 'counted' at any time, other than in team competitions and will help raise money for a great charity.

This year the chosen charity of Sue our County Captain is The Willow Foundation. They are the only national charity working with seriously ill young adults aged 16 to 40 to fulfil uplifting and unforgettable Special Days. Since 1999 The Willow Foundation has fulfilled more than 13,000 Special Days for young adults living with life-threatening conditions such as cancer, motor neurone disease, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy and Huntington's disease.

(ii) **JOINT COMPETITION SECRETARY – Di Davies** (Bucks Shield, Interclub Foursomes & K/O's)

Winter Foursomes - The competition is at the semi-final stage; Lois Shoosmith and Marilyn Plummer from Ellesborough (where the match is to be played) will play Tracy Searson & Kathy Fraser from Harewood Downs. Elaine Harrison and Bernie Howe from Buckingham will play Sandra Lacey and Fiona Moore from Chartridge Park at Chartridge Park. The matches are to be played by 4th March.

Bucks Shield - We have 21 teams participating in the competition this year and the 1st round draw will be done today. Following consultation with Clubs it has been agreed that the Finals Day format will remain unchanged with the semi-final and final being played on the same day. This year Finals day will be hosted by Flackwell Heath GC on Friday, 14th September. Round 1 will be played between 26th March and 3rd May. The draw for the 2nd round will take place at the Vice Captains' Meeting on Wednesday, 18th April. Round 2 will be played between 4th May and 5th July but excluding the period 16th to 21st June, as this is Regional County Match week. No games are to be scheduled in this period. The 3rd round matches are to be played between 6th July and 24th August.

Champion of Champions - We have 10 applications so far and would encourage other clubs to submit their entries as soon as possible please. The closing date is 28th February.

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Summer Knockouts

Greensomes - 14 entries received so far and the closing date for applications is 28th February.

Challenge Cup – this is a singles knock out competition for players in the Silver division with maximum handicap of 20.4. The closing date is 28th February. So far we have received 9 entries – please can you remind ladies to submit their applications?

Rose Bowl – this is a singles knockout competition for players in the Bronze division with handicaps of 21 and above. The closing date is 28th February. So far we have only received 6 entries so please encourage your ladies to submit an application. It is a great way to play other courses in the County and to meet new friends.

(iii) **SENIORS' CAPTAIN – Susanna Mitterer**

This is a quiet time for the Senior Ladies within the County. Our League and Friendly matches are now all arranged but not due to start until May 2018.

I've been busy drumming up support for the Senior Spring meeting which is to be held at Buckingham GC on 12th April and I'm pleased to say that we already have 14 teams entered. With 43 starters we will have quite a competitive field and I'm hoping we can encourage a few more entries before the deadline of 1st March. Please remind your ladies (60yrs +) that we would love to have them join us on the day.

I've also (already) received 2 team entries for the Senior Autumn meeting and look forward to receiving more over the course of the year.

Please let me know if you have any new lady members joining who are eligible (over 50yrs with a handicap of 14 or less) and I'll gladly add them to the squad.

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

The 2nd team fixtures are now complete and can be found on the BCLGA County website. The date for the pre-season friendly match with Middlesex has been confirmed as Sunday, 22nd April at Harleyford GC. I am now focusing on player availability and team selection.

(v) COUNTY JUNIOR ORGANISER – Janet Beal

Since the last Delegates meeting we have only had 2 junior events:

- We played against Woburn Boys last Tuesday and I am pleased to report that we won 3-1. This is an annual match and we normally come 2nd, so a great result.
- We held our first Intermediate Coaching day for 2018 last Wednesday at Burnham Beeches. 19 girls came along and we had lots of chipping and putting skills challenges in the morning, then played 9 holes greensomes matchplay in the afternoon. Thanks to Sally, Janette and Georgina Bowers for coming along to help.

With the CONGU changes for 2018 we have revised our competitions so that all our main 18-hole competitions are open to girls with handicaps up to 40. The previously known as 'Pre-handicap' competitions are renamed as 'Cygnet' competitions and will be open to girls with handicaps from 37 to 54 as well as girls without a handicap.

All the main junior competition dates are on the County website and we are just finalising our Cygnet competition dates.

Girls Golf Rocks will be running at Abbey Hill, Wexham Park and Wycombe Heights this year, so if you have any daughters, granddaughters, nieces etc. who would like to try their hand at golf, please go along to one of the free Taster Sessions and let them have a go.

We are still looking for a volunteer to take on the role of Junior Match Secretary. This is not an onerous task – there are about 8 matches a year to arrange and it's an excellent way of getting to see some great golf and getting to know our very talented juniors. If anyone is interested, please get in touch with me.

Finally, congratulations to a couple of our girls on gaining national recognition:

- Thalia Kirby, our new Junior Captain has been named as a member of the England Girls' Squad (part of a team of 9 girls from across England).
- Jess Pilgrim (aged 12) has been selected as a Young Ambassador for England Golf and the Golf Foundation, part of a group of 11 young people from across the country.

(vi) HANDICAP ADVISOR – Christine Bishop *read in absence*

At this time of year most of the queries I field are for Annual Review and this year has been no different except that most clubs followed the recommendations to delay their Review until January 2018 so that their software updates reflects the 2018 CONGU changes.

In early January I sent out an email to our Handicap Secretaries attaching the 2018 CONGU Changes document. It included the EG Handicap Appeals Procedure and notification and wording for a new local rule provided by the R&A/USGA which states that clubs are able to introduce (if they so wish) to eliminate the additional 2 stroke penalty for failing to include a penalty on the scorecard when the player was unaware of the penalty. See attached link for further details <https://www.randa.org/RulesEquipment/Rules/Rules-Updates>

England Golf have organised a workshop at Kings Norton GC in February for all the County Handicap Advisors to cover World Handicaps. Later in the year Club Workshops will continue to be run.

A number of clubs have contacted me regarding a Rules Seminar - I currently have Harewood Downs and Chartridge Park in the diary and Stoke Park soon to be booked in.

(vii) HONORARY TREASURER – Carolyn Rivett

Balances and transfers as at 16th February 2018

ACCOUNT BALANCES	£
HSBC CURRENT	34,402.83
CLOSE BROS DEPOSIT	23,512.45
Significant Income None - just ongoing competition fees	
Significant Expenditure Audit Fees	480.00

(viii) CTO - Tony Bowers

Thank you to all who attended this morning's clinic.

I attended the County Girls match at Woburn against the boys on Tuesday, February 13th where the weather was very chilly but dry and I was impressed by the golf on display. It resulted in our first victory over the boys (that I can recall). All the girls performed extremely well and had the boys 'on the ropes' from the start. It bodes well for the upcoming season.

The following day I held a training camp for the Intermediate Girls, which was very well attended considering the weather conditions. Very cold in the morning and very wet in the afternoon. This however, did not dampen the girls' enthusiasm and they performed very well in the morning skills tests. During the afternoon they played 9 holes foursomes matchplay to give them some experience of this format. Despite the very damp condition there was some sparkling golf on display. A big thank you to Janet, Sally and Jeanette for helping on the day with scoring etc.

We have our first Elite Training session of the year on Sunday, 25th February at The Oxfordshire GC, which will be followed by the inaugural 1st Team v Junior team match which we hope to make an annual event. This will give the younger girls a chance to meet and play with the Elite players. A report on this match will be included in my next report for the Delegates meeting.

(ix) ENGLAND GOLF REPRESENTATIVE - Phillipa Cook

There is little for me to report today in the Voting Member role. I have not attended any Voting Members' Meetings since the last update given at the December Delegates' Meeting and Ashley Rump will be giving you a full presentation of England Golf matters shortly.

USGA RATING

I have drawn up a spreadsheet of all the Bucks Courses and the dates of the ratings done to date. So far 21 of the 41 courses have been completed – 8 were done in 2017, this would have been 9 had one course not cancelled at the last minute. I have drawn up a schedule to complete the remaining courses before the end of 2019. This will be a challenge but one I hope to

achieve. Any courses not rated by the start of 2020 will be given a provisional rating in advance of the introduction of the Worldwide Handicap System. I rate the courses alongside the men for the BB&O - our counterparts in Berks and Oxon are well behind schedule and it is very doubtful they will complete the rating by the due date.

County Week:

Sue and I had a meeting with Denham last month to outline exactly what is required and we are confident that they will be able to deliver all that is necessary to run the event to a high standard. I have asked them to advise us as to how much help the membership will be able to provide. I will then work out the level of support required from further afield. What I would like you to do at this stage is to spread the word that we will need plenty of volunteers and supporters.

WEBSITE:

Nothing to report on the current website except that I have advised the Exec that I will be stepping down as Website Administrator as and when the new website goes live. Having done the job since 2003 and set up the current website from scratch in 2007, I feel that this is the right time to pass it over to someone else.

This is not a formal Exec position – it is a role delegated by the Exec with no requirement for nomination for election, nor is there a set start date for the role, or a term of office.

8. ENGLAND GOLF PRESENTATION - Ashley Rump, EG Senior Regional Manager

Gail introduced Ashley Rump (Senior Regional Manager, England Golf). Ashley's presentation is attached to the Minutes as a separate PDF file. Ashley referred to several links on the England Golf website – these can be found on the penultimate slide of the presentation.

MS(pdf)

9. COUNTY LUNCH

21st March will soon be upon us. If you haven't applied yet then please get your applications to Helen Mines before 7th March. The cost will remain at £35 per head and we have a quiz to provide some 'competitive entertainment'. I'm confident it'll once again be a superb meal and we've already received promises of 4 Ball vouchers from 14 clubs. Thank you to those of you who have brought along vouchers &/or raffle prizes today... all most gratefully received. Megs Wilson (wife of the ex England goalkeeper Bob Wilson and co-founder of the Willow Foundation) will be my guest speaker. If any of you fancy 10 holes before lunch, Beaconsfield GC have kindly agreed a very reasonable rate and secured tee times for you, so please contact the Pro shop directly. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

ALL

10 BUCKS SHIELD DRAW

The Bucks Shield Draw took place, the first 11 clubs drawn receive a **Bye** to the 2nd round. Full details, rules and play-by dates can be found on the County website:

<http://www.bclga.org.uk/index.php?page=bucks-shield-2012>

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | HAZLEMERE | | |
| 2. | FLACKWELL HEATH | | |
| 3. | BEACONSFIELD | | |
| 4. | HUNTSWOOD | | |
| 5. | BURNHAM BEECHES | | |
| 6. | CHILTERN FOREST | | |
| 7. | ELLESBOROUGH | | |
| 8. | OAKLAND PARK | | |
| 9. | STOKE PARK | | |
| 10. | LAMBOURNE | | |
| 11. | HARLEYFORD | | |
| 12. | MAGNOLIA PARK | V | 13. WESTON TURVILLE |
| 14. | CHARTRIDGE PARK | V | 15. WAVENDON |
| 16. | BUCKINGHAM | V | 17. WOBURN |
| 18. | HAREWOOD DOWNS | V | 19. DENHAM |
| 20. | WEXHAM PARK | V | 21. GERRARDS CROSS |

11. DELEGATES FORUM

No questions were raised.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Our thanks to Gerrards Cross GC for hosting us today and please have a safe journey home.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 13th June 2018, 2pm at Buckingham GC, Tingewick Road, MK18 4AE. A short game clinic will be held before the meeting, 12.15 - 1.30.

Signed..... *Date*.....