

Nottinghamshire County Ladies Golf Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2015

Chair of meeting - The President Mrs Joan Underwood

69 representatives from clubs attending + council executive.

The President convened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 107th meeting of the NCLGA.

1. Apologies.
Angela Picker(Beeston) Angela Jackson (Mapperley) Belinda Briggs(Retford) Betty Johnson(Retford)
Elsie Shanks Sheila Freeman(Springwater) Pat Grinter(The Nottinghamshire)
2. Previous Minutes.
Proposed as a true record of the meeting by Bridget Patrick and seconded by Audrey Blelock.
Agreed unanimously and signed by the President.
3. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.
4. Captain's report 2015 Kathryn Horberry

Madam president, county officials, club officials and ladies it gives me great pleasure to present my report. I could never have dreamed last year when I took up my position what a great year it would be.

APRIL

Sheffield Union match

The opening event of the season was the traditional 4 ball match against the Sheffield Union ladies. This year it was hosted by them at the Walton golf club Chesterfield on Thursday 9th April in glorious weather. The match was played with the usual friendly, competitive spirit and there was some good golf by both sides.

In the top match Carol Wild and Caron Harrison went to the 18th where Carol narrowly missed a tricky downhill putt for a half.

In the next match Chris Hargreaves and Jane Fowler took their opponents to the 17th.

Then congratulations go to Laura Morris and Carol Houghton in the third match for achieving our only point with an impressive 6/5 win.

In the next two matches Glenys Priestley and Helen Maber and Pam Loch and myself took our opponents to the 16th and 17th respectively.

I am proud of my team even though we lost the match by 4 games to 1. The match was played off scratch and our opponents fielded a strong side with handicaps ranging from +1 to 7 which meant most of our players would have received shots in a handicap competition.

It is a special year for the Sheffield & District Association as they celebrate 50 years since their foundation. At the meal afterwards their committee presented the players with souvenir pens to mark the occasion.

Thank you to my team for an enjoyable day.

County Waltz

The next event in April was the County Waltz Stableford, the first of our fund raising competitions in support of the 1st and 2nd teams. This was played at Wollaton Park on Monday 20th April in glorious weather. Everyone enjoyed the course which was in excellent condition and then were well looked after by the bar and catering staff.

A full field of 31 teams (93 competitors) took part, representing 13 clubs.

In first place with 78 points was the team from Notts Ladies of Carol Wild, Sharon Coyne and Janet Slater.

Closely following in second place with 77 points was the team from Stanton on the Wolds of Louise Spray, Helena McCannah and Sarah Herson.

In third place with 73 points was the team of Colette Newton and Anne Harris both from Notts Ladies and Audrey Blelock from Wollaton Park.

Overall a fantastic total of £1445 was raised for the funds. This included £254 from a bottle raffle. Special thanks must go to the Wollaton Park members for their courtesy of the course and to their Lady Captain Fran Tunnicliffe who presented the prizes to the winners.

Thank you to everyone who entered the event and supported the bottle raffle and to everyone who helped towards running the event especially Jane Fowler who received the entries and produced the draw.

Midland Foursomes

Burton on Trent Golf Club hosted the Midlands North Regional Foursomes Competition on 27th April. Dry cold weather with fast, tricky greens gave challenging conditions for the 26 pairs who entered from the 6 counties within the region.

Congratulations go to Andrea Stockdale and Sue Penfold of Sherwood Forest Golf club for winning the Challenge Cup for the 36 holes aggregate nett score and title of the foursomes champions with their score of 162 (82.5 -79.5).

MAY

County Championship and Spring Meeting

The County Championship and Spring meeting event was held at Coxmoor on Friday 15th May through to Sunday 17th May.

Due to the low numbers entering the qualifying rounds in recent years it was decided to trial only having 8 qualifiers for the match play. This proved to be the right way forward as we only had 15 entries for the 36 hole qualifying round.

We had 34 additional entries for the Spring meeting which was played along side the morning round of the championship qualifying round.

The honour of hitting the first shot to open the Championship on Friday morning went to the player with the lowest handicap, Lauren Spray of the Notts Ladies Golf Club.

Lauren continued to lead the field with the best gross score of 77 in the morning and an even better score of gross 71 in the afternoon which contained 4 birdies and an eagle. Her playing partner Emily Lyle of Worksop Golf Club was runner up with scores of 79 and 73 and also won the Stacia Scrimshire cup for 21 years and under.

The best nett score of the day was 69 in the afternoon by Michelle Duckmanton of Sherwood Forest Golf Club playing off 11 handicap. Michelle also combined this score with a morning nett of 76 to win the 36 holes handicap event with 145.

The Notts Ladies Golf Club players Lauren Spray, Esme Hamilton, Laura Morris and Janet Slater won the Spencer Watson team shield with an aggregate gross of 653 over 36 holes.

Thank you to Alan Dickinson of Coxmoor for starting the players off and to our president Joan Underwood and Colette Newton and Jane Fowler for their long hours managing the desk.

The match play stages began with the quarter finals on Saturday afternoon and with some great golf being played. The ladies were making short work of the Par 5's, but the course still proved a stern test for the players due to the windy conditions and some difficult pin placements.

Lauren Spray, Emma Howie, Rachel Boulton and Emily Lyle all succeeded in going through to the Sunday morning semi-finals having beaten myself, Esme Hamilton, Caron Harrison and Laura Morris.

In the semi-final matches Lauren continued with excellent golf to defeat Emma with 4 holes to play and Rachel had a tighter match in defeating Emily on the 18th.

The Sunday afternoon final between Lauren and Rachel proved exciting to watch with the lead changing hands several times mainly because of the players scoring birdies. Lauren birdied the 1st and 13th and Rachel the 6th and 9th.

However Rachel regained the lead towards the end of the round with birdies on the 14th and 15th and was 2 up after 16 holes, eventually winning by 2up on the 18th to take the title for the first time.

Congratulations to our worthy champion Rachel.

Thank you to our president Joan Underwood for acting as starter for the final and to Maureen Clarke for refereeing the final. Also thank you to Jane Fowler for starting the other matches and to Joanna Smith and Val Peat for refereeing the semi-finals.

A big thank you must go to the members of Coxmoor Golf Club for their support of County ladies golf by hosting the event and congratulations to the head green keeper Ben Cumberland and his staff for the excellent condition of the course as can be seen by the quality of the scores returned against par 74. There were many compliments praising the excellent condition of the course.

Details of the scores are as follows

NCLGA Champion	Rachel Boulton (Springwater)	
Runner Up	Lauren Spray (Notts Ladies)	
Semi finalist	Emily Lyle (Worksop)	
	Emma Howie (Stanton)	
36 Holes Scratch	Lauren Spray (Notts Ladies)	77 + 71 = 148
36 Holes Handicap	Michelle Duckmanton (Sherwood Forest)	76 + 69 = 145
Stacia Scrimshire Salver	Emily Lyle (Worksop)	79 + 73 = 152
18 Holes Scratch PM	Lauren Spray (Notts Ladies)	71
18 Holes Handicap PM	Michelle Duckmanton (Sherwood Forest)	80 - 11 = 69
18 Holes Scratch Spring Meeting	Lauren Spray (Notts Ladies)	77
18 Holes Handicap Spring Meeting	Janet Slater (Notts Ladies)	86 - 13 = 73
Runner Up	Carol Bowles (Ruddington)	92 - 17 = 75
3rd Place	Jo Hopkins (Notts Ladies)	85 - 10 = 75
4th Place	Esme Hamilton (Notts Ladies)	79 - 4 = 75
5th Place	Emma Howie (Stanton)	80 - 5 = 75
6th Place	Angela Picker (Ruddington)	95 - 20 = 75
Spencer Watson Shield	Notts Ladies	653

Again thank you to everyone who helped in running the competition before and during the event.

JUNE

County Coronation Foursomes

The County Coronation Foursomes Stableford took place at Oakmere Admirals Golf Club on Monday the 8th June. The weather was fine with occasional sunshine – the showers held off for the competition but there was a testing wind. 28 pairs took part, representing 14 clubs. Foursomes are always a good test of golf and the course proved to be a tough challenge.

Congratulations to Alison Harrold and Bernie Barton of the Nottinghamshire golf club who were successful in defending their title with 34 points.

One point behind on 33 were the runners-up J. Rowe and Lesley Morris also of the Nottinghamshire winning on the back 9 from myself representing Coxmoor and Maureen Clarke of Sherwood Forest. It was a memorable day for me as I had a hole in one on the 8th and Maureen was playing with borrowed clubs!

Thanks must be recorded to the Oakmere Admirals Golf Club for hosting the event and to Mr Aslam last year's club captain for welcoming us and starting us off. Also thank you to our President Joan Underwood, Competitions Secretary Colette Newton and Treasurer Helen Maber for their work on the day and beforehand.

County Match Week

A special time for any county captain is the week of the Midlands North inter-county first team matches. This year it was played at the Enville golf club Highgate course in Staffordshire from June 28th to 3rd of July. I had a great team of players, our champion Rachel Boulton (Springwater), Emily Cheshire (Notts Ladies), Esme Hamilton (Notts Ladies), Emma Howie (Stanton), Emily Lyle (Worksop), Emma Newlove (Beeston Fields), Sophie Newlove (Beeston Fields), Jodie Peacock (Sherwood Forest), and Lauren Spray (Notts Ladies). They were backed up with the support of non travelling reserves Caron Harrison (Sherwood Forest), Laura Morris (Notts Ladies).

I was accompanied by our President Joan Underwood and my vice captains Pam Loch and Helen Maber who were able to assist with many tasks.

The event started with a practice round on the first day and the players enjoyed learning about the course. Our rookie Esme Hamilton started her golfing career with the Notts first team by opening with an eagle on the par 5 first hole!

Later in the day there was the team photograph session - the Notts team looked smart in their red cardigans! This was followed by the welcome party and a delicious meal.

For the main event over the next 5 days, Nottinghamshire was to play against each of the counties of Staffordshire, Leicestershire and Rutland, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Shropshire. The format of each match being 3 foursomes games in the morning and 6 singles in the afternoon played off scratch.

It was very hot weather and Pam and Helen were kept busy driving me round in the buggy and keeping the players cool with regular supplies of iced water as well as taking turns at caddying. Joan with the other presidents had the honour of being a starter for a group of games each day.

On the first day Nottinghamshire put up a good fight but just failed to beat Staffordshire losing by 3.5 to 5.5 but the games were very close with many going to the last 2 holes.

It is always hard to play against the home team so early in the tournament.

However there was still everything to play for as the results were close between the other counties.

Shropshire beat Leicestershire & Rutland 5-4 and Lincolnshire beat Derbyshire 5-4.

On the second day Notts boosted their confidence with a great win over Leicestershire and Rutland beating them by 6 games to 3 in extremely hot weather. They narrowly lost the foursomes by 2 games to 1 but came back strongly in the singles to win 5 games out of 6.

Lincolnshire beat Staffordshire by 5 games to 4 and Derbyshire beat Shropshire by 7.5 games to 1.5. This meant that Lincolnshire were the only county with 100 percent record.

On the third day Notts added to their wins beating Derbyshire by 5 games to 4 in very humid weather. Again they narrowly lost the foursomes by 2 games to 1 but came back strongly in the singles to win 4 games out of 6.

Lincolnshire beat Shropshire by 7 games to 2 to maintain their 100 percent record and Staffordshire beat Leicestershire by 6 games to 3.

At this stage Lincolnshire were still the only county with a 100 percent record and had 3 wins. We had 2 wins along with Staffordshire who had been beaten earlier by Lincolnshire.

On the fourth day Notts faced their rivals Lincolnshire in the crucial match which Notts must win to increase their match points to 3 and keep Lincolnshire on 3 match points.

Notts finally got off to a great start winning all three foursomes and then continued with four wins and a half in the six singles to achieve the dream result of beating Lincolnshire by 7.5 games to 1.5.

In the other matches Staffordshire beat Shropshire by 5 games to 4 and Leicestershire beat Derbyshire by 6 games to 3.

This meant that Notts finished the day tied with Staffordshire and Lincolnshire on 3 match points each. But Notts were top of the table based on the number of games won - having won 22 against Staffordshire 20.5 and Lincolnshire 18.5.

The final day proved to be one of the most exciting for many years.

Notts were playing Shropshire, Staffordshire were playing Derbyshire and Lincolnshire were playing Leicestershire and Rutland.

It was really tense in the afternoon as all the 3 teams in contention had 2 -1 foursomes wins so Notts still maintained their game point advantage of 1.5 points over their rivals.

After Notts had won the top 3 singles games we knew that we had reached our target of beating 4 counties and therefore the outcome would depend on the number of game points won.

We didn't know whether to trust the feedback that our nearest rivals Staffordshire had won their match by 6 games to 3 and so their total points were 26.5 whereas we now had 27.

Eventually Pam came back with the confirmation and we had taken the trophy for the first time since the year 2000! We even took another singles point to win the match 6 - 3.

The runners-up were Staffordshire with 26.5 game points and Lincolnshire beat Derbyshire by 6 games to 3 to finish third with 24.5 game points - all having won 4 matches.

The remaining positions were Derbyshire 4th, Leicestershire and Rutland 5th and Shropshire 6th based on game points after all were tied with one match win.

There were great celebrations after the presentation with Joan and I getting doused with champagne!

As winners Notts qualified for another week of matches at the county finals to play against the other 5 regional winners at Frilford Heath golf club in September.

Special mention must be made that Emily Lyle won all of her 5 singles matches and was presented with her county first team colours along with Rachel Boulton, Jodie Peacock and Sophie Newlove.

Thank you to everyone who sent their good wishes and cards and to those who came to support and caddy. I am indebted to the support received from Joan, and Pam and Helen over the week and from the players who got on so well together.

A truly memorable week for us all.

JULY

Mixed AM-AM

This fund raising competition run by the girls to raise funds for their own section was due to be held at Beeston Fields on Sunday 12th July but unfortunately it had to be cancelled due to insufficient entries. The Notts union were also due to run a foursomes competition on that date but this also received insufficient entries.

We hope to rearrange the fixture for next April as that time of the year has proved popular in the past. Thank you to Beeston Fields members and the original entrants for your cooperation with this cancellation.

County Summer and Veterans Meeting

The County Summer and Veterans Meeting took place on Monday 13th July at Sherwood Forest Golf Club. It was rather disappointing weather with spells of rain throughout the day. This was reflected in the competition scratch score for the day increasing to 75 from the norm of 73. However, the players enjoyed the excellent condition of the course and were refreshed by the bar and catering staff after their round.

59 competitors took part representing 14 clubs.

The details of the prize winners:-

SUMMER MEETING			
Scratch Cup Winner		Emma Howie (Stanton on the Wolds)	79
Handicap Cup Winner		Wendy Kerry (Ruddington Grange)	82 - 11 = 71
Division 1	1st	Jan Hooley (Stanton on the Wolds)	84 - 10 = 74
	2nd	Sue Penfold (Sherwood Forest)	80 - 6 = 74
	3rd	Maureen Clarke (Sherwood Forest)	91 - 16 = 75
Division 2	1st	Charlie Hall (Southwell)	94 - 21 = 73
	2nd	Sue Hill (College Pines)	106 - 28 = 78
VETERANS TROPHY			
Gill Shawcross Scratch Cup		Sue Penfold (Sherwood Forest)	80
Challenge Handicap Cup		Jan Hooley (Stanton on the Wolds)	84 - 10 = 74
Dorothy Payne Seniors Cup		Maureen Clarke (Sherwood Forest)	91 - 16 = 75

A raffle was held in aid of the Cancer Research charity and raised a creditable £153. Thank you ladies for supporting the raffle and donating the raffle prizes.

Many thanks to Sherwood Forest Golf Club for hosting the event and to Lynn Buttery their lady captain who acted as starter in the bleak weather. Thank you to our committee especially Jane Fowler and Joan Underwood

for manning the desk all day, Colette Newton and Helen Maber for accepting the entries beforehand and adding the scores to the computer on the day.

County Captain's Day

I had a wonderful County Captain's Day at Coxmoor Golf Club on 27th July with many special memories to treasure. We were fortunate with the weather as the rain that was forecast held off - unlike the previous day which saw heavy rain. The course was in excellent condition and had recovered from that bad weather. The format was an am-am teams of 4 Stableford with 2 scores to count on each hole. 40 teams took part with players from 17 clubs.

The first tee-off time was 8.30 and it proved to be the early starters who set the pace for the prize winners. The winners with a fine score of 82 points were Aileen Kynoch, Bernie Barton, Steph O' Connell and Alison Harrold all from The Nottinghamshire.

The runners-up with a score of 81 points were Tina Gillott, Chris Hodges and Helen Lister all from Rushcliffe together with Janet Doleman from Trent Lock.

In 3rd place with a score of 79 points was Helen Maber, Linda Alliott, Clare Jones, and Karen Palmer all from Beeston Fields.

4th place went to the team of Joyce Hayward, Marion Beeston and Angela Robinson all from Coxmoor and Gaynor Tunney from Sherwood Forest. They also returned a score of 79 and beat 3 more teams on that score by having the better back 9.

Nearest the pins on all the par 3s were generously sponsored by Sandy Loch, Jane Fowler and John Fowler and these prizes were won by Anne Whitchurch of Notts Ladies on the 2nd, Jo White of Trent Lock on the 7th, Rosemary Skill of Beeston Fields on the 10th and Gill Mottershaw of Coxmoor on the 17th.

There were many complements from the players of how enjoyable the day had been. This was especially due to the condition of the course, the gorgeous selection of cakes at the halfway house and the delicious meal afterwards.

So many people were generous with their time covering the tasks such as issuing the cards, selling the raffle tickets, starting, checking the cards, baking cakes, manning the halfway house, providing the flowers and setting up the prize table. Thank you so much to all these people and the staff for providing all this help towards the success of this event. Special thanks to Jane Fowler who contributed so much prior to the day by accepting the entries and ensuring various tasks were carried out.

We have raised a fantastic amount of nearly £2600 which will be used towards covering the expenses of the county 1st and 2nd teams.

£576 of this was due to the raffle which raised £406 plus donations amounting to £170 from several individuals and clubs. Thank you so much for your generous contributions here and with donations of raffle prizes and buying tickets.

I should also like to thank Andy Tyler the captain of Coxmoor who generously contributed towards our team expenses by donating 12 dozen balls at the start of the season. We have certainly put them to good use.

Also it must be acknowledged that we could not have raised so much money without the support of the Coxmoor members who gave us the courtesy of the course.

A great day to look back on thank you so much.

Match against Midland Veterans Ladies Golf Association

Our Nottinghamshire ladies played a 4 ball scratch match against a team from the Midland Vets Ladies Golf Association at Sherwood Forest Golf Club on the 30th July. This was primarily to give the vets team some sharp match practice before the jamboree there the following week.

The weather was rather overcast with a light shower but this did not dampen the players' spirits. The course was in excellent condition and enjoyed by everyone.

Our team consisted of Emma Newlove (Beeston Fields) and Maria Betts (Sherwood Forest); Jodie Peacock (Sherwood Forest) and Carol Houghton (The Nottinghamshire); Vicki Forecast (Springwater) and Glenys

Priestley (Chilwell Manor); Julia Hatcher (Newark) and myself (Coxmoor). Several of the Midland Vets ladies had won national seniors titles and represented their country so we were quite pleased with the friendly result of a half. Thanks go to Sherwood Forest for hosting the event and to Andrea Stockdale for organising the event.

In the top game Emma Newlove and Maria Betts played a close fought game and came out top for Notts winning by 1 hole against the tough opposition of former professional and last year's England Vets Match Play Champion, and runner-up this year, Julie Brown and her partner Lindsey Shaw. Julie has since gone on to win the British seniors title.

In the second game Jodie Peacock and Carol Houghton were beaten by this year's England Vets Match Play Champion, Helen Lowe and her partner Mary MacLaren. This levelled the match.

Then Caron Harrison and Sue Spencer put the vets team ahead by beating Vicki Forecast and Glenys Priestley. This meant that the result of the match depended on the outcome of the final game between myself and Julia Hatcher against Sue Penfold and Carol Wild. Julia, a former player for Cambridgeshire and Huntingdon was making her début for Notts and has recently returned to golf after a long break. Through Julia's impressive striking of the ball we took the point for Notts and so the overall result was a friendly half.

The team from the Midland Vets went on to finish runners up to the Northern team in their series of matches against teams from the North, the South and Scotland played the following week at Sherwood Forest. Several Nottinghamshire ladies represented the Midland vets at this event Andrea Stockdale the Captain, Carol Wild, Caron Harrison and Sue Penfold. Congratulations to them on winning the Tony Moffatt Quaiche. Andrea would like to thank everyone who came to support and help with running the event. I am sure the Midlands team will win this annual event before too long.

Whilst on the topic of our senior players I should like to congratulate Andrea Stockdale and Sue Penfold on winning the handicap trophy at the England Golf Brenda King foursomes competition for seniors played at Coxmoor at the end of September. They also finished 3rd on gross.

Andrea and Sue then combined with Carol Wild and Caron Harrison to represent a team from Nottinghamshire at the Midland vets society county team championships. This was played at Beau Desert Golf Club in October and I am pleased to report that they took the team nett prize.

Andrea would like to encourage our senior ladies (50+ years) to join the Midland Vets Ladies Golf Association as there are some excellent courses for the competitions. The fixtures for 2016 include the local courses of Sherwood Forest and Erewash.

AUGUST

Peugeot ladies foursomes

On August 5th Beeston Fields were host to an area final of the Peugeot ladies foursomes. I was called upon to represent the LGU at the prize presentation and to assist with any queries which may have arisen throughout the day. Fortunately due to the excellent running of the event by the lady captain of Beeston Fields Margaret Cobb and her committee of helpers, everything ran smoothly.

I am pleased to report that the winners were the mother and daughter team of Yvonne and Rachel Woodcock from Blankney and they went on to win the grand finals at the Eden course at St. Andrews. I should also like to congratulate Mary Ryan and Amanda Mellors from Sherwood Forest who won the area finals at Great Barr and then they brought in the winners at the grand finals at St. Andrews.

County 2nd team finals

I attended the 2nd team county finals between the winners of the leagues of the two areas of the Midland North Region. This saw Nottinghamshire playing against Staffordshire and the event took place at the Cavendish Golf Club, Buxton on 28th August. The course is renowned for its beautiful views of the surrounding countryside.

The weather could have been kinder as there was a strong blustery wind and several heavy showers, but it was sunnier towards the end of the afternoon.

Staffordshire were able to master these conditions earlier than Notts and took all 3 of the foursomes points from our pairings of Laura Morris and Glenys Priestley, Sarah Riddell and Kristina Lazarevic, and Andrea Stockdale and Sue Penfold.

However Notts produced some excellent results in the afternoon singles and those 6 points were halved with 3 wins to each team.

Credit goes to Laura playing top and winning by 1 up against their team captain Rachel Bishop. Further wins came from Kristina against one of her regular rivals Emily Sutton, and Andrea against Lauren Birch.

There was great excitement for Sarah playing against Gina Wilkie when Sarah had her 1st hole in one. This was achieved with an 8 iron at the 113 yard 15th. This helped her to fight back and only lose by 2 and 1 to Gina who was a losing finalist in their championship.

Staffordshire took the trophy winning by 6 games to 3, but our team are to be congratulated for reaching this final and showing that we have great promise for the future.

SEPTEMBER

County Autumn Meeting

The County Autumn Meeting took place on Thursday 10th September at Norwood Park Golf Club. The weather was perfect, with warm sunshine throughout the day and the beautiful trees laden with fruit reminded us that it was the autumn season. 35 competitors took part representing 12 clubs. The course was in excellent condition and the tricky borrows on the greens were a challenge to the players. This was reflected in the competition scratch score for the day increasing to 73 from the norm of 72.

The best golf of the day and winner of the Scratch Challenge Bowl came from Bernie Barton of The Nottinghamshire with the lowest gross score of 83. Playing off a handicap of 14 this also enabled her to produce the lowest nett score of 69 and take the Handicap Challenge Bowl. Bernie was also awarded the Coronation Silver Medal for the lowest nett score in the silver division. Perhaps we need to alter a well known saying to "a little of what you don't know does you good!" as this was Bernie's first visit to the course.

The next best nett score of the day was an excellent nett 70 by Angela Picker of Ruddington Grange playing off a handicap of 17 to take the 2nd nett in the silver division. The leading nett score in the bronze division and winner of the Coronation Bronze Medal came from Rachel Bryan of the Nottinghamshire with a nett 73 playing off a handicap of 24. These scores by Bernie (nett 69) and Rachel (nett 73), combined with those of fellow club members Helen Haycox (nett 75) and Julie Rose (nett 77) meant that, with a total nett of 294, The Nottinghamshire retained the Jubilee Shield for the leading club.

Additional winners were Audrey MacMillan of Norwood Park with nett 73 playing off 16 handicap to take 3rd nett in the silver division and Helen Haycox of The Nottinghamshire to take 2nd nett in the bronze division.

Trophies are also awarded at this meeting for the aggregate of scores from this meeting and those from the summer meeting which this year was held at Sherwood Forest Golf Club in July.

The Cavendish Bentinck Aggregate Scratch Cup was won by myself of Coxmoor with gross $82 + 87 = 169$.

The Challenge Aggregate Handicap Cup was won by Angela Picker of Ruddington Grange with nett $80 + 70 = 150$.

Many thanks to Norwood Park for hosting the event and thank you to our committee especially Colette Newton and Jane Fowler for all their hard work in accepting the entries. Then on the day, Jane was the starter and they both worked hard manning the desk and processing the scores. Also thank you to our President Joan Underwood for supporting us on the day.

County Finals Week

Now for the highlight of my report. As already mentioned Nottinghamshire County Ladies first team golfers qualified in July at the Enville Golf Club to represent the Midlands North Region of counties at the national finals.

These finals were played at the Frilford Heath Golf Club Oxfordshire on the green course from September 14th to 18th.

Here Nottinghamshire competed against each of the counties of Lancashire (North), Buckinghamshire (Midlands South), Sussex (South), Gloucestershire (South West) and Essex (East) in scratch match play. Each match was to consist of 3 foursomes games in the morning and 6 singles in the afternoon.

Planning for the availability of sufficient players to cover each day was not straightforward this time. Of the original 9 players from county week Sophie Newlove and Jodie Peacock had left to study in America. Fortunately Rachel Boulton, Emma Newlove, Esme Hamilton and Lauren Spray were available all week. Due to work commitments Emily Cheshire was only available until Tuesday. Emma Howie was on holiday in America but agreed to come back early and be available to play from Tuesday afternoon onwards but may be jet lagged on Wednesday morning. Emily Lyle had the honour of representing the English schools in Scotland and would not be available until Wednesday (incidentally whilst there she was on the winning team and won her foursomes game and narrowly lost her singles on the 18th). That left me needing at least one more player to fill the slot for Monday and Tuesday. I was able to call on Laura Morris for at least those days as she was preparing to go back to university the following week and was not sure about sparing the time for a full week. Later on in the week I managed to persuade her to stay on - although I don't think she needed much persuading!

However I was concerned about only having the minimum number of players available for each day as 10 rounds of golf is a big ask of everyone's stamina. Fortunately of our experienced second team players Vicki Forecast and Glenys Priestley had already booked to come and support on the Monday so I asked them to change their hotel and be part of the team and cover for the Tuesday as well. Another of our second team players Carol Houghton was able to be available for the latter part of the week.

The players representing Nottinghamshire were our champion Rachel Boulton (Springwater), Emily Cheshire (Notts Ladies), Vicki Forecast (Springwater), Esme Hamilton (Notts Ladies), Carol Houghton (The Nottinghamshire), Emma Howie (Stanton), Emily Lyle (Worksop), Laura Morris (Notts Ladies), Emma Newlove (Beeston Fields), Glenys Priestley (Chilwell Manor) and Lauren Spray (Notts Ladies). They were accompanied by myself as captain, county president Joan Underwood and my vice captains Pam Loch and Helen Maber. There was a practice round on the Sunday which gave the players chance to study the course which had been modified by using the men's tees on the majority of holes.

On the first day of the matches Nottinghamshire came up against Lancashire who were a strong team which included 3 international players. Notts got off to a good start by winning 2 of the 3 foursomes games. Then Lancashire overtook by taking the first 3 singles games, but Notts came back strongly to win the last 3 singles games and the match by 5-4. This caused the headline from England Golf that "Notts had caused the first upset" as Notts was one of 4 finalists who were looking to take the title for the first time and Lancashire had beaten 2 counties 9-0 in their qualifying county week.

On the second day the Nottinghamshire match against Buckinghamshire followed a similar pattern to that of the previous day by taking the foursomes 2-1 and the last 3 singles to win the match by 5-4. This win left Nottinghamshire at the top of the championship table as no other team had won both their matches.

In view of the very stormy weather which had been forecast, the committee decided to change the format for day 3 with each match to consist of one foursomes game immediately followed by 4 singles. Nottinghamshire were playing Sussex. Notts narrowly lost the foursomes game but they came back to take 3 of the 4 singles and the match by 3-2. There were tense moments when 2 of the singles went to the 18th hole. This win shows that Notts have a strong team all round as the format for that day does not cater for teams to play their top players in both the foursomes and singles. Having beaten all 3 counties Notts remained in top position in the table and were followed in joint second place by Gloucestershire and Lancashire who had only won 2 matches.

On the fourth day Notts faced Gloucestershire, one of these second placed teams. This time the foursomes points were shared with 1.5 games each. Then Gloucestershire took the first 2 singles games but Nottinghamshire came good in the last 4 games to win the match 5.5 to 3.5. Then when it emerged that the other second placed team Lancashire had been beaten by Buckinghamshire the great celebrations for Nottinghamshire began with a day to spare as they could not be caught in the league table because of having 4 match wins to their nearest rival's 2.

On the final day Nottinghamshire were determined to keep up their unbeaten run and finished in style by losing only 1 foursomes game and winning all the 6 singles to beat Essex 8-1. I am pleased to report that Carol Houghton made her début for the first team partnered by Emma Howie in the foursomes and they won their game.

Special mention must be made that Lauren Spray had the great achievement of winning all of her 9 games and had been partnered by Esme Hamilton in her 4 foursomes games. Congratulations to Esme Hamilton, Emily Cheshire and Laura Morris who were presented with their County first team colours.

There were great celebrations and Emily Cheshire managed to leave work in time to come down and savour the moment.

Everyone is so proud of our team that has won the title for the first time for Nottinghamshire in over 60 years of trying. Two of our players from Enville, Sophie Newlove and Jodie Peacock were not available for the finals as they have gone to America to study but they played an important part in getting us through to the finals. I have received many messages of congratulation since this fantastic achievement but we owe this success to so many people.

Thank you to our President Joan and my vice captains Pam and Helen for all their assistance and support towards the players during the match weeks. Thank you to the many supporters who sent cards and messages to spur us on and to those who made the long journey down to come and see the matches and caddy. It was a great atmosphere to have you there.

Also we owe a lot to the past county captains and junior committees who have nurtured many of the team players through the junior ranks to the skilful heights they are at now.

The players are looking forward to defending their title

Interclub mixed foursomes final

The final of the mixed interclub foursomes match play was between Rushcliffe and The Nottinghamshire and was played over 36 holes at Newark golf club on the 20th September.

The teams were:

Rushcliffe:

Matt Hogg (+3) and Jayne Barrs (13), Will Dobson (0) and Kim Robertson (12)

The Nottinghamshire:

Dean Boule (3) and Carol Houghton (5), Chris Kearney (3) and Sue Reynolds (9)

After the first 18 holes The Nottinghamshire pairs were both narrowly in the lead -

Dean and Carol by 2up over Matt and Jayne, and Chris and Sue by 1up over Will and Kim.

Over the next 18 holes Dean and Carol increased their lead to finish 4 holes up, but the Rushcliffe pair of Will and Kim fought back to finish all square.

The accumulation of the results awarded the 2015 title to The Nottinghamshire by 4 holes.

A special thank you to the referees Maureen Clarke and Val Peat, and to Newark Golf Club for hosting the event on their excellent course.

Interclub ladies foursomes final

The final of the ladies interclub foursomes match play 2015 was between Chilwell Manor and Newark and was played over 18 holes at Coxmoor golf club on the 21st September.

The weather was rather disappointing as the rain did not clear until well into the second half.

The teams were:

Chilwell Manor:

Glenys Priestley (7) and Rita Munks (15), Maggie Elliott (12) and Julie Griffiths (12)

Newark:

Julia Hatcher (5) and Sandie Pearson (13), Eva Glasby (8) and Jane Tucker (10)

The Chilwell Manor pairings both took early leads of 2 up after 6 holes.

However in the first match the Newark pair Julia Hatcher and Sandie Pearson fought back to finish all square against Glenys Priestley and Rita Munks.

But in the second match the Chilwell Manor pair Maggie Elliott and Julie Griffiths increased their lead over Eva Glasby and Jane Tucker to finish 6 holes up.

The accumulation of the results of the matches awarded the 2015 title to the Chilwell Manor ladies.

Congratulations to them, they have much to celebrate as this is the first time Chilwell Manor have taken the trophy.

Commiserations to the Newark ladies but they can take pride in reaching the final.

Thank you to the referees Joanna Smith and Val Peat, and to Coxmoor Golf Club for hosting the event on their excellent course.

Thanks also to our President Joan Underwood for being the starter and presenting the prizes.

At this point I should like to thank Maureen Clarke and her team of referees Val Peat, Joanna Smith and Julie Lindsey for the support they have provided this year. Several more ladies have taken the Notts intermediate exam and are interested in joining Maureen's team: Ali Boulton, Lindsay Carruthers, Clare Jones, Karen Raynor - congratulations to them. Maureen has kindly agreed to continue to train our referees and organise them for our Notts and Midland North events.

OCTOBER

Daily Mail Foursomes

Lorraine Howd and Wendy Kerry, members of Ruddington Grange Golf Club, won the Daily Mail Foursomes Final held at the Forest of Arden golf club in October.

They have been playing foursomes together for 3 years. Lorraine plays off a handicap of 12, and Wendy plays off 9.

There were 1625 ladies teams competing in this national competition, and the Ruddington Grange pair won all seven of their regional matches, highlighted by Wendy's first-ever hole in one at Chilwell Manor Golf Club, Nottinghamshire.

At the finals they first beat Dumbarton 5&4, Ellesborough 4&3 and then in the semi final Leigh 3&2.

This set up a local derby final against Mickleover, a Derbyshire team, which they won 4&3. Many congratulations to Lorraine and Wendy on winning this national event.

THANK YOUs

At the conclusion of my report I would like to thank my committee for all their hard work and support throughout my year. I could not have achieved any of this without you.

Our President Joan has had many roles such as helping at the competition desk, acting as starter especially during county week, representing the county at prize presentations. She has played a great role attending both county weeks and supporting the players by walking round the course checking on their progress. Thank you Joan.

My Vice-Captains Pam and Helen have supported me throughout the year especially at both county weeks. They were wonderful with dealing with all the background tasks such as loading the buggy with iced water bottles, plasters, insect bite cream and dealing with the food orders to leave me free to concentrate on the players before play commenced. Then when they were not driving me round in the buggy they were caddying. They must have taught me well at Enville as I managed to drive the buggy myself at Frilford Heath - never having driven one before.

They have had a busy year managing the county 2nd team matches - congratulations on a successful result. Also they have been most supportive in assisting with some of the tasks required by the competitions.

Helen is also to be thanked for her role as Treasurer, being kept busy collecting the affiliation fees and dealing with competition fees and expenses, buying the prize vouchers and making the envelopes look delightful.

Colette and Jane have done sterling work dealing with the competitions. They have dealt with accepting the entries beforehand and producing the time sheets and liaising with the clubs. Then they have spent long hours on the desk issuing the cards and then checking the scores on their completion.

Jane has also represented us at meetings improving golf development within the county. She has also been there for advice on the tasks required of a captain as she was a hard act to follow. Thank you Jane.

Our secretary Lynn has performed her role admirably having to deal with all the correspondence and direct it to the appropriate people. She has organised setting up our council meetings and producing the minutes afterwards. She also attends the meetings along with the Notts Union to improve the county golf development.

She is our press officer and sends reports of our successes to the Evening Post.

Recently she has had the onerous task of recalling all the trophies and getting them engraved ready for our presentation today. Now she is preparing the fixture cards for next year after having the task of booking the courses for our competitions. All of this has been undertaken alongside being a great lady captain at Sherwood Forest. Thank you Lynn.

We are fortunate to have the talents of our county handicap adviser Maureen who is on hand to advise our handicap secretaries with their queries and keep them updated with the latest handicap rules. She is supported by her assistant Val Dowthwaite - thank you ladies.

We are also grateful for Maureen's knowledge of the rules of golf and she is encouraging more people to train to be referees. Thank you Maureen and your team of referees Val Peat, Joanna Smith and Julie Lindsey for your assistance at our competitions.

Thank you to Sandra our Midland North representative. You are responsible for organising the Midland North Regional competition that is held within our county. This year it was the Queen of Clubs held at Chilwell Manor and you ran it most efficiently. You have attended several meetings with England Golf and have reported back to us with their latest proposals. Thank you for your time taken up with the travelling and attendance.

Gillian has kept the website up to date with reports of all of our magnificent successes and she organises the pages so well with the accompanying photographs. It is a delight to access it and find out the latest news of the various sections and to obtain details of competition entry forms and start times.

Gillian has also continued with her role of secretary of our junior committee. Thank you for this and to the other ladies who assist with the organisation of the junior golf.

We are indebted to Emma Howie the junior coordinator. She has worked hard organising the junior coaching sessions and the matches and competitions for the juniors and the nippers tour. She has been assisted by Helen Boulton, Carol Houghton and Elaine Mitchell and some of our committee have also supported at several events. Thank you ladies you are helping to develop some talented youngsters for our future teams.

It is overwhelming to have received so much support at the county weeks. I really appreciate the level of commitment shown by the players in taking time off from their studies or using precious holiday allowance from work to play for us. Emma Howie even cut short her holiday in America to play in the finals.

Thank you for your good wishes and cards to encourage the teams and it was great to have so many of you making the long journeys to the matches to watch the play or assist with caddying. But we have all been rewarded with this amazing victory to savour.

I have every confidence that we have a team strong enough to successfully defend their title and keep Nottinghamshire on the map.

I should like to thank everyone who has supported our competitions by playing in them. It makes the efforts of the organisers and that of the clubs who host the venues so much more worthwhile.

I would encourage those of you who are overwhelmed by the term 'county golf' to give it a try. The competitions are open to everyone not just our county team players and you may be contributing towards your club winning a trophy at a couple of our meetings. Come and enjoy playing the courses without the tensions of match play!

Finally it has been a great honour to serve you as county captain. Thank you Jane for inviting me to be your vice-captain and persuading me that I could handle the pressures. I would have missed out on such a fantastic experience otherwise.

I now wish Pam and Helen and Glenys every success in their terms of office together with their committee members.

May you all enjoy your time as much as I have.

5. Presentation of trophies for 2015 competitions.
Trophies were presented by the President Mrs Joan Underwood.
6. Vice Captains report Pamela Loch

The County second team has had a successful year starting with 2 home matches, one v Leicestershire at Rushcliffe on Sunday 19th July where the result was a half and the second was against Lincolnshire at Radcliffe on the 29th July where we had a good 51/2 – 31/2 win.

Our first away match v Lincolnshire on 11th August at Stoke Rochford proved more testing, losing 8 of our 9 matches. However, the team fought hard in their second away match v Leicestershire on 16th August at Lingdale and triumphed 51/2 – 31/2. Thereby getting us through to the MNR final against Staffordshire at Cavendish on 28th August.

Unfortunately, due to confusion over the date of the County Second team final, I could not attend but our Captain, Kathryn Horberry, very kindly, went and captained the team.

The greens proved tricky and the course was too tough a test in the morning foursomes where we went 3 – 0 down. However the team fought back gallantly, sharing the afternoon singles. Staffordshire took the trophy winning by 6 games to 3, but our team are to be congratulated for reaching the final and showing that we have great promise for the future.

My thanks to all those who represented the County 2nd team this year:

Carron Harrison

Carol Houghton

Sue Penfold

Andrea Stockdale

Carol Wild

Laura Morris and Glenys Priestley were both awarded their County 2nd team colours

Laura Abbott, Katrina Lazarevic and Sarah Riddell, all made valuable contributions to their debut season in County golf.

Thank you to Rushcliffe and Radcliffe golf clubs for hosting our home matches and also to Helen Maber, my Vice-captain for being so supportive throughout.

7. Treasurers report Helen Maber
Proposal from Executive Committee
'The affiliation fee for juniors to be nil from January 2016'.
The detailed changes to the constitution had been sent to every club prior to the AGM for

consideration. (Appendix I)
Proposer Helen Maber
Seconder Lynn Buttery
Passed unanimously

This has been an eventful year for the County and this is reflected in the activity within our accounts for the year to 30th September 2015

Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

You will see that we started the year with £24,843 in the bank accounts and have ended the year with £23,049, which reflects a loss for the year of £1,794 compared with a small profit last year of £273.

2015 Accounts Profit and Loss

The accounts this year have shown a loss.

Let's look first at Affiliation Fees:

At the AGM last year it was agreed that we would increase the County Affiliation Fee from £3 to £5. Although at the time of the AGM last year we had a healthy balance in our accounts, we were concerned that we should make provision for the possibility that our County team would make the County Finals. What an excellent decision this proved to be!

Affiliation Fees were collected from 32 Nottinghamshire clubs over the year. This reflects a total membership of 1,685 adult ladies and a further 78 girls under 18 and the total figure has actually reduced by 54 from the previous year.

Even with this reduced membership, the fees received at £5 per head generated an additional £3,253 of income.

There has been a drop in entries for the County Meetings during this year compared with 2014 and this is reflected in the reduced income for the year. The Competitions are managed very carefully to ensure that they should be self-funding, and you can see that the corresponding expenses for County Meetings have also reduced in line.

Once again this year the County Captains Day and the County Waltz proved to be very popular competitions which between them raised a total of just over £4,000 towards the cost of running our teams.

With regards to the Junior Section, although we no longer run a separate bank account for this, I have continued to monitor its income and expenses separately. We started the year with an opening balance of £4,369 in the Junior Funds account and have ended with £3,914 – a loss for the year of £455. The Junior Section benefits hugely from income from the Tasker Trophy. This year we received £910 and next year the figure will be £1,020 – so the more teams that enter, the more the Junior Section benefits. The Junior Girls normally run a very successful fund raising competition each year with the proceeds directly boosting their funds, but this year, due to a change in timing of the event, there were very few entries and it was cancelled, leaving a hole in the income stream. The other change with regard to the running of this section is that coaching is now being organised by the Golf Partnership so that our coaching expenses this year related mainly to the provision of bursaries for our promising young girls.

If we consider our General Expenses, this year was the first that we no longer paid honoraria to our officers. Instead we have reimbursed for travel expenses and other expenses incurred by the officers in carrying out their duties for the Executive. During the year, we have also replaced the county laptop and printer so that the competitions team can effectively run their competitions, Lynn has been busy

organising the inspection and repair of our trophies, and of course there have been the normal expenses for insurance, website management and kit.

County Week is always an expensive exercise. This year we took our team to Enville in Staffordshire. Accommodation for this week was actually paid for out of last year's accounts so if we add this back in the total cost of the week was just over £4,000. Kathryn had managed to arrange an excellent deal for our accommodation for the week so typically I would expect this figure to be somewhat higher.

But by far and away the biggest cost for this year was the very pleasing task of taking our County First Team to County Finals at Frilford Heath. For this we received a contribution of £2,900 from England Golf but hotel accommodation in Oxfordshire was significantly higher than in Staffordshire and the cost of our week there amounted to nearly £8,000 and a net cost to the Association of £4,875.

This loss has been largely offset by the increased receipts of £3,253 in Affiliation Fees for the year.

We have argued over the years that we need to have a reasonable sum in reserve to fund exactly this situation and I am very happy that we have, this year, managed to fund this without jeopardising the accounts. Now of course we have to carry on planning for further success at National level and the hope that we will make the Finals again.

We do not however propose a further increase in Affiliation Fees again this year. We are happy that we can continue to balance the books and afford to pay for more success for our team without taking further immediate action. However we will of course be monitoring exactly what we need to do to ensure we remain safely in credit and able to cope with future success. We already know that the hotel accommodation for County Week 2016 in Scunthorpe will be significantly higher than Enville this year so there will be a need to budget for this.

Finally 2018 sees Nottinghamshire hosting County Week and we will incur significant expense in running the competition here. Although we will receive a contribution from England Golf, we will have to organise and pay for a facility fee for the golf club and a myriad of additional expenses to ensure that the week is run professionally and that Nottinghamshire is showcased effectively. We will be considering further fundraising events to raise money for this over the next few years.

And I am delighted to announce that Acorn Windows, a local company which has for some years sponsored the Notts Union, has offered to sponsor the Association also and we are discussing with them exactly what form this will be. I would like to thank James Hibbert from Acorn Windows for his support which will be invaluable.

As you know, I have been Assistant vice captain this year and have continued in my role as Treasurer also during 2015. Now, as I move on to the Vice Captain's role, I really do need someone to volunteer to take over as Treasurer and I would once again appeal to all of you here to ask at your clubs if there is a willing person to take over this role. We need someone who is interested in joining the team, who can run an Excel spreadsheet and take over the running of the finances of the Association. It does not take up huge amounts of time, it's a great way of being part of County Golf and I would highly recommend it. So please can you encourage any likely members of your own clubs or indeed anyone here today to contact me for more information.

Lastly I would like to record my thanks to Sue Northridge who has once again audited our accounts so efficiently. Can I now propose Sue as the auditor for the accounts and can I have a seconder?

Proposed Helen Maber
Seconded Gillian Stump
Passed unanimously.

8. Junior report Emma Howie

As usual the year seems to have flown by with plenty of learning for me, in my first year in the new junior coordinator role.

I will start my report with a round-up of the matches and competitions:

Matches

With the league matches this year we had a great start winning our first two against Leics and Derbyshire, but then lost to Staffs and Shrops and finally beat Lincs. The final league positions have not been published but I think we came second behind Staffs.

This year has seen a transition in our first team as we have lost some more experienced players but this has opened up the opportunity for other improving girls to take their place as their handicaps tumble, evidenced by the county colours that were awarded this season. They went to: Laura Abbott (Oakmere), Sharna Betteridge (Sherwood), Kristina Lazarevic (Ramsdale) and Jacey Peacock (Rufford).

The second team didn't have many outings again this year because of other counties not fielding teams – something that I will talk about later as we have resolved this issue for next year - but when they did play, they performed well!

In addition we had two friendly matches to give additional practice for some of the newer and higher handicap girls. We halved with both Mapperley ladies and the Yorkshire girls resulting in 3 rookies making their debut: Charlie Inger (Rufford), Stephanie Firth (Beeston) and Emma Hammond (Ramsdale).

Competitions

The Girls Championship was held at Hollinwell in April when Emily Lyle (Worksop) became our Girls' Champion 2015. She also won the Open Scratch Salver. Esme Hamilton (Notts Ladies) won the Under 16 Scratch Cup. Eliza Davidson (Wollaton) won the Handicap Cup and Georgia Viggers (Stanton) the Bronze Division Scratch Cup.

This was the second year for the Junior Order of Merit and Rookies tour aimed at girls aged 13-18. 6 events were held and 13 girls took part in the series. The gross winner was Katie Robertson (Southwell) and nett winner her sister Charly. The Rookies tour which is combined boys and girls was won overall this year by Rowan Arnold (The Nottinghamshire).

For the first time this year the Association were involved in the Nippers Tour, run by the Notts Union, for girls and boys under 12, and our aim was to increase girls' participation. There were 11 girls playing on the tour and we introduced a separate Order of Merit for the girls in two age groups under 10 and under 12. Rebecca Oates (Worksop) won the Under 12 trophy and Amelia Wan (Norwood) won the U10 trophy.

The Midland North Region Championships saw success for Nottinghamshire with Emma Anderson (Sherwood) winning the 36 hole handicap trophy.

The Four Counties Championships was hosted by Nottinghamshire this year and we had a very successful day. Esme Hamilton won the scratch trophy and Eliza Davidson won the Handicap cup. These two along with Emily-Jane Golder (Rufford), Jacey Peacock and Georgia Viggers made it a clean sweep with gross and nett team trophies.

The Junior Jubilee completion was reinstated in the diary this year and run prior to the presentation evening on 1st November by kind permission of Sherwood. The trophy was changed to an AmAm event in teams of three, with Emily Lyle, Stephanie Firth and Georgia Viggers the overall winners. This allowed for girls to be mixed up, the older experienced players to play with the newer girls. In addition we added an 8 hole competition for the younger girls to join in too.

The new format proved popular with over 20 girls both playing and attend the presentation evening with their families afterwards. Our current junior captain Emma Anderson presented all the trophies and certificates the girls had achieved over the year. Esme Hamilton was announced as Junior Captain for 2015-16, supported by

Laura Abbott as Junior Vice-Captain.

A few other successes

Charlotte Hazelwood (Notts Ladies) qualified to play in the Abraham Trophy National Finals but unfortunately she has been injured this season so was unable to play in the event. We look forward to having her back playing next year.

Emily Lyle was selected to represent the English Schools team in their match vs. Scotland.

Esme Hamilton won the Under 16 North of England Girl's Championship and has been selected for the England Golf U16 regional squad.

Laura Abbott and Kristina Lazarevic both played for the county second teams. While Esme Hamilton, Emily Lyle and Sophie Newlove all contributed to the county first team's historic win.

Moving on to coaching

The umbrella of "Nottinghamshire Golf" continues to allow us to take a more joined up approach with junior golf in the county, allowing us to share resources and make joint bids. Last winter we accessed a special project grant which we put towards a coaching programme for boys and girls under 18 who were either in the county squads or had participated in the CGP coaching. 12 girls benefitted from this programme each receiving three different coaching sessions on non-swing aspects of their game, such as strength and conditioning, nutrition, putting etc. We have been granted funding to continue it again this winter.

Last winter the Athlete Development Programme run by the CGP with girls-only sessions at Rufford and The Nottinghamshire, was lead by our coaches John Vaughan and Dan Parkes. This programme focused on technical skills development and was attended by 13 girls. We are continuing with the programme this winter and there is also an option for girls to attend mixed coaching sessions at other locations around the county to provide more flexibility with locations and dates.

To compliment the group coaching, in the summer of 2015 we trialled coaching bursaries for girls, to allow them to continue with 1 to 1 coaching from their established swing coach, rather than group work with a county coach. 4 girls benefited from these bursaries in 2015 and the scheme is being evaluated with the hope to continue them in 2016.

In the May half-term we ran a full day squad training session with short game and on-course skills being the focus with 12 girls attending.

With the support of the CGP we also introduced a structured coaching scheme for those on the Nippers tour over the summer months. This was subsidised by the NCLGA and we had 5 girls take part. This is currently being reviewed and revised ready for next year.

Looking forward to 2016...

The Girls Golf Rocks project will be launched in the spring. This is a new initiative between the Golf Foundation, CGP and England Golf to use current experienced girl golfers to act as ambassadors for the game and encourage other girls to come and try it.

The Midland North Junior Leagues for the 1st and 2nd teams are to be revamped for 2016 as they were getting stale and at risk of becoming less important. They will be now be played in rounds and will culminate in a regional grand final day in August for both 1st and 2nd teams so that the trophies can be presented to the winners. In addition on the finals day there will be an event for the all the young girls across the whole region to come and participate and see what they will be playing in years to come!

The Mixed AmAm had to be cancelled this year because we had a low level of entries. This is the competition where the girls do not play, but instead organise and raise funds for their section, so we lost some revenue. However, we will aim to run it again in 2016, moving the date back to its usually slot in April - entry forms will be circulated soon so you can plan the date in your diaries ladies!

Farewell

Unfortunately at the end of this year we say our goodbyes to some of our juniors who have been with us for a long time: Emma Anderson, Emily Lyle, Rhiannon Linacre and Sophie Newlove all turned 18 this year. We will miss their experience and input to junior golf but I know they will still be around for our county ladies team! Sophie is already making her mark in her university golf team in America. Rhiannon has started her PGA training as Assistant Pro at Coxmoor; Emily is continuing to play golf while starting her Uni course.

Emma Anderson, our outgoing junior captain, is going to be helping us out over the next year by join the junior committee before starting University in Autumn 2016. Emma has completed her Level 1 coaching qualification and joined the England Golf Youth Panel, so she will add a younger perspective to what we are doing, and ensure it is right for the girls.

On to my thanks....

A big thank you to the clubs who have hosted junior events, made contributions to our funds and to individuals who have made donations... without your support we cannot continue to develop the girls (and continue to create the future stars of our county ladies team!)

I would also like to thank is the large number of clubs which have supported the Spondon Trophies Inter Club Competition. They presented NCLGA a donation of £1020 for the juniors in Oct 2015 from this year's competition. Please can I encourage as many clubs as possible to enter next year...if you already enter, see if you can enter two teams in 2016!

In addition I'm encouraged to see more clubs engaging directly with juniors girls – currently I know of girls with handicaps at the following clubs:

Beeston, Chilwell, Coxmoor, Norwood, Notts Ladies, Oakmere, Ramsdale, Ruddington, Rufford, Serlby Park, Sherwood, Stanton, The Nottinghamshire, Wollaton and Worksop.

I also know that Radcliffe, Rushcliffe and Trent Lock also have several girls in regular coaching.

If you play at these clubs can I ask you to continue to encourage the girls and invite them to participate with the ladies section.

If your club is was not listed but you know of a junior girl at your club who plays on the course then let me know, so I can send them the junior newsletter. It outlines what we can offer as a county and the opportunities available to meet up with other girls.

Finally none of this would happen without the junior committee, my thanks to all who contribute:

- Elaine Mitchell, Carol Houghton and Helen Boulton who continue to attend many of the junior events.
- Helen Maber who continues to ensure our junior finances are well managed
- Gillian Stump who provides great administrative support to the committee
- Lynn Buttery, Kathryn Horberry and Pam Loch who have been great advisors and keep me going in the right direction; and our President Joan Underwood who continues to show great support and commitment to junior golf.

Seeing the girls develop in their ability and their confidence makes this role very rewarding and I'm proud to be part of their golfing journey.

Thank you for listening ladies. Emma Howie Junior Co-ordinator

9. Midand North Report Sandra Beckett

Madam President, Captain, Ladies. Good Morning

As I explained last year there are 2 aspects to my role as your Midlands North Representative. The first of these is to organise and run competitions for the members of our 6 counties, on behalf of England Golf.

This year it was Nottinghamshire's turn to host the Queen of Clubs Competition, which was for club champions, and held at Chilwell Manor Golf Club. We had 34 players with handicaps ranging from scratch to 24. The winner was Helen Lowe from Scraftoft with a gross score of 148 for the 36 holes. I cannot thank the staff and ladies of Chilwell enough, as they made my job of organising the event very easy. And of course, my thanks go to Maureen and Jo, our referees, and to my county officials for their help on the day. In 2016, The Queen of Clubs competition is at Worfield on Thurs 21st July, and for the first time we are going to try it as an 18 hole competition. It is of course, as before, open to all club champions.

The Midland North group, also organised the 36 hole foursomes competition, held at Burton on Trent. The Challenge Cup for the best 36 hole aggregate nett score was won by Andrea Stockdale and Sue Penfold from Sherwood Forest with a nett 162.

Nottinghamshire also provided the winners of the Australian Spoons, with Aileen Kynoch and Abbie Chambers from the Nottinghamshire, winning with 37 points, when they played at Patsull Park.

The foursomes in 2016 is to be held at Radcliffe on Trent on Mon 25th April, and the Australian Spoons at Whetstone on August 9th. The entry forms will soon be available on the England Golf website, and I shall be sending a copy of the foursomes entry form to each club in the near future.

I would like to encourage as many of you as possible to support these events, as without your support, they will not survive.

Now to the 2nd aspect of my job as your Midlands North Rep, and that is to represent Nottinghamshire, as a voting member, at the England Golf meetings. To this end I have attended the England Golf Conference, a meeting at Woodhall Spa, 2 regional meetings, local meetings with the other 5 MNR reps, and along with Martin Hathaway and the 2 Derbyshire reps, an invitation to coffee with David Joy at the Brabazon.

The England Golf Conference was very upbeat and positive. It was celebrating the achievements across the country, of getting more people interested in playing golf. Nottinghamshire played a part in this session, with an interview and a film about Norwood Park's 'pink lady' initiative to encourage more ladies to start to play golf. There was plenty to learn, and as well as the voting members AGM, there were workshops on a variety of topics to attend.

The main theme running through the meetings this year, was that of the Governance and Affiliation Review. The Portas Consultancy group, consulted with people from all aspects of the golfing world and gave their recommendations to the Board. These recommendations have been discussed by the counties, clubs, and other golfing bodies, to fine tune it 9 proposals which will be voted on at our meeting next week. In essence, these are.....

1. To introduce a new category of facility membership for driving ranges, and pitch and putt courses, and to affiliate clubs playing on short courses.
2. To collect affiliation fees from clubs in 'real time', 60 days after the start of their subscription year.
3. To change the composition of the Board of Directors to include 6 elected directors (3 male and 3 female), and 3 appointed directors (at least 1 male and 1 female). Currently all the directors are elected, which may leave some gaps in expertise, these could be filled by appointing some of the directors.
4. The chair of England Golf is to be appointed, and 5. a nominations committee of the Board to be established.
6. To replace the current committees with advisory groups, to be created when necessary.

7. The Board of England Golf to be given the power to set the England Golf affiliation fee.
8. To reduce the number of General Meetings from 3 to 2 a year, with a regional consultation meeting held instead of the 3rd meeting.

I do not know how the voting will go next week, but I will act on the wishes of your council.

Just one last thing that is worth watching, are the talks about a merger between the LGU and the R&A. The LGU run the Rioch Women's Open, the Breakthrough Breast Cancer event and the Coronation Foursomes. They also represent ladies on committees such as Congu and the R&A Rules Committee. It is hoping to preserve the history and traditions of the LGU within the agreement.

10. Election of Officers.

Pamela Loch proposed as Captain

Proposed Kathryn Horberry

It gives me great pleasure to propose the promotion of Pam into the honourable position of Lady Captain of the Notts County Ladies Golf Association.

You may be assured that I am leaving my position in safe hands.

Pam has contributed so much towards the successful organisation of our events this year that I can see she will keep everything running smoothly in her term of office.

Pam, may you have a happy and successful year as Captain.

Seconded Colette Newton

Helen Maber proposed as Vice Captain

Proposed Pamela Loch

Seconded Emma Howie

Glenys Priestley proposed as Assistant vice captain

Proposed Helen Maber

Seconded Jane Fowler

The President announced that the Competition Secretary, Assistant Competition Secretary, Handicap Advisor, Midlands North Representative, Webmaster, Junior Organiser And General Secretary will continue In office.

This was proposed by Jo Hopkin and seconded by Gill Shawcross.

Agreed by the meeting and passed unanimously.

11. County Handicap Advisers report. Maureen Clarke

Madam President, Madam Captain, ladies

I am pleased to report on the CONGU changes to take effect from 1st January 2016. These will be printed in a small booklet as an addendum to the existing CONGU Handbook.

- The Calendar year is to return to 1 January to 31 December.
- The suggestion that the higher CONGU Handicap Limits should be increased, for men and women, has been rescinded, which will be a huge relief to Club Committees, and Match Secretaries.

However, a new `Club Handicap` will be introduced for clubs who wish to allocate a handicap higher than 28 for men and 36 for women, to use in club run events. This handicap will only be valid at the player's home club and cannot be used in Qualifying and Open Competitions.

- England Golf will retain the preferred lie period from 1st October to 30th April. Preferred lies outside that period must be authorised by your County Union or Association.
- The Competition Standard Scratch Calculation for men is to include Category 4 players in the same manner as the Ladies.

- Nine-Hole Qualifying Competitions have been a very popular innovation to the Handicapping System, and have been a great benefit to aging players, and to those players with injuries or without time to play a full round.
- From 2016, a 9-hole score returned better than, or within the Buffer Zone, will have 18 points added, as now, to create an 18-hole score. Any score returned outside the Buffer Zone will be doubled. To hold 9-hole Qualifying Competitions a special Standard Scratch must be obtained from England Golf for the chosen 9-holes.
- There is to be a Continuous Handicap Review, so players with 7 consecutive 0.1 increases can receive an immediate handicap increase.
- The mandatory Four Ball Better Ball Handicap allowance is to be increased from ¾ (75%) to 9/10 (90%) for both Match Play and Stroke Play. Four Ball is when you have a team of 2 players and one score to count, playing with another team of 2 players – it is not an Am Am.
- Supplementary Scores may be returned at all GB&I clubs of which a player is a member. They will also be acceptable over 9-holes for Categories 2 and above, and unlimited for handicaps 28 for men and 36 for women, up to 54 handicap. 9-hole Supplementary Score may only be played on a Club's 9-hole Qualifying Course with its own special Standard Scratch allocated by England Golf.
- Exceptional Scoring Reductions will only be applied based on a pair of exceptional scores which will reduce the severity of the reductions.

This is just a broad outline of the changes for 2016. I will be reporting the changes more fully at the NCLGA Council Meeting on 22 February, to be held here, at Beeston Fields. All Club Handicap Secretaries will be invited and will have the opportunity to ask questions, if they have any.

Thank you and Best wishes for good golfing in 2016.

Maureen Clarke County Handicap Adviser

12. Interclub and League results.

The results were announced by Colette Newton and the trophies presented by Lady President, Joan Underwood.

13. 2016 competitions

County Championship at Sherwood Forest Fri 13th – Sun 15th May

County Waltz at Beeston Monday 11th April

Coronation Foursome at Chilwell Monday 6th June

Summer Meeting at Stanton Monday 11th July

Autumn Meeting and Veterans Trophy at Wollaton Monday 12th September

County Presidents day at Radcliffe on Trent Wednesday 5th October

14. Interclub draw for 2016.

The draw was done and, when host clubs have been assigned, sent to all clubs and published on the web site.

15. County Golf Development Plan. Jane Fowler

I've submitted reports to Council meetings updating Members on the progress of preparing and completing the Nottinghamshire County Golf Development Plan. The work on this document has now been concluded. It has been prepared in consultation with Notts. Union, the PGA, England Golf and the County Golf Partnership Officers. It sets out our common goals, strategic aims and ambitions and identifies avenues of communication. It is hoped that by working within the framework of this document we will be able to offer better value for money with England Golf being able to deal with one body i.e. "Nottinghamshire Golf". The document will be published in its final form in due course on the website.

16. Course Rating

I would like to report that during 2015 four courses were rated under the new USGA system in Nottinghamshire by our mixed team which rated both men's and women's courses at:

Bulwell Forest

Serlby Park
The Nottinghamshire Masters Course
Trent Lock

These courses have been awarded new Standard Scratch Scores for both Men and Women, together with a Slope Index under the USGA System.

Next year, it is our plan to rate a further 5 courses. We are working to a list drawn up by England Golf which gives priority to the courses to be rated, but of course if there are major changes to a course, we will consider moving it up the list to be rated earlier if need be.

17. Secretary's notes.

The executive recommended that the NCLGA Council meetings would be in February and July and the AGM in November i.e. reducing the no. of annual meetings to 3 from 4. The July meeting would be held in the North of the county – possibly at Ramsdale and the other meeting and the AGM would continue to be held at Beeston.

The meeting agreed to this. Secretary to arrange.

The county cards (allowing holders to reduced green fees) will this year be distributed with the Men's card to the clubs. Secretary to liaise with Notts union.

A discussion document on the matter of meals after inter club and league matches had been circulated to all club secretaries. This will be discussed at the February meeting and consensus reached for 2016.

The General Secretary will be unavailable from January 10th to May 10th and asked that all queries on competitions during this time should go to the competition secretaries.

18. Close of meeting

The President gave congratulations to 2015 Captain Kathryn, Vice Captain Pam and Assistant vice captain Helen for such a marvellous season and all their hard work and commitment and presented them with gifts of flowers in the county colours.

On behalf of all members the President wished Pam a successful and happy season in 2016 – it will be a hard act to follow.

The President thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 1.05pm

Appendix I

Proposed changes to regulations and rules. Rules 2 and 8a

2 Currently reads:

.... no conflict with the EWGA Rules and Regulations.

Change to **no conflict with the England Golf Rules and Regulations.**

Also currently reads:

..... Payment of a per capita levy will entitle members to be Full or Associate members of the county as defined by EWGA County Golf Regulations effective January 2009.

Change to

.....**Payment of a per capita levy will entitle adult members to be Full or Associate members of the county as defined by England Golf County Golf Regulations.**

Junior members do not pay a levy and will be entitled to be Full or Associate members of the county as defined by England Golf County Golf Regulations if they are members of a Nottinghamshire affiliated club.