

Nottinghamshire County Ladies Golf Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2016

10.30am Monday 21st November 2016 at Beeston Fields Golf Club

All members of the Association are invited to attend.

The President Mrs J Underwood in the Chair.

Agenda

1. Apologies.
Received from Flick Britten (Beeston Fields) Terri Armitage (Springwater) Sheila Freeman (Springwater) Wendy Roebuck (Notts Ladies) Joan Brook (Notts Ladies)
75 members attended the meeting.
2. To take as read and approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the AGM held on 23rd November 2015 (as previously circulated).
Proposed Joan Hopkins
Seconder Ali Boultyby
Passed unanimously
3. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.

4. Captain's report Pamela Loch

Madam President, County Officials, Club Officials and Ladies, it gives me great pleasure to present my report for the year.

My year began on a real high for the County with the celebration dinner on December 9th for our national county team winners. Coxmoor, very kindly, allowed us to host the dinner there and a wonderful evening was enjoyed by all.

We were very honoured to have the then, President-Elect of England Golf, Mrs Marion Rae, as our guest speaker and presenter of England Golf trophies to the successful winning team.

Sadly, I move on to report the death last March, of one of our great County supporters, Joyce Crosby, who was so often to be found as starter for all those competing on big County Days. Our President, Joan and I attended Joyce's funeral.

April arrived and the golfing season was underway, starting with the traditional 4 ball match against the Sheffield Union ladies. This year we were the hosts and played at Notts golf Club. In mixed weather conditions, hailstones and all, we fought hard against a very competent opposition with 2 of their team playing off +1 handicaps. In a competitive and friendly match we witnessed some amazing golf but sadly lost 4-1. Thank you to those who played : Cathy Burnside, Vicki Forecast, Jane Fowler, Chris Hargreaves, Jan Hooley, Carol Houghton, Helen Maber, Glenys Priestley, Carol Wild and me

A week later was the start of our County 1st team training when we had a Zen Putting coaching session with Nick Middleton, at Rufford who kindly gave us the use of their putting green. It was an informative and interesting session trying to understand both the mental and physical approach to putting.

On April 11th we held the **County Waltz** at Beeston Fields with a full field of 31 teams, representing 18 clubs. In first place with 70 points was the team of Glenys Priestley, Rita Munks and Chris Hargreaves. In second place, on count back, with 67 points was the team of Eva Glasby, Kath Sharman and Jane Tucker and in third place Helen Maber, Carol Bancroft and Cathy Burnside. We received a warm welcome from the ladies' captain, Carol Bancroft. Thank you to her and the members of Beeston, for giving us courtesy of their course and to those that played and supported the raffle; an amazing £1,253 was raised. All this money goes to support the 1st and 2nd teams.

At the end of April a very successful **Mixed AM-AM** at Rufford Park was organised and run by our juniors. Emma will report further on this event.

Next came the **County Championship and Spring Meeting** in May. This year it was held at Sherwood Forest and the course was presented beautifully. Some 18 players took part in the Championship playing 36 holes with the top 8 going through to the knock out stages over Saturday

and Sunday. 21 additional players took part in the 18 hole Spring meeting medal played alongside the morning round of the Championship qualifying stage.

The results of the Spring Meeting and 36 holes stroke play were:

36 Holes Scratch	Esme Hamilton (Notts Ladies)	79+73= 152
36 Holes Handicap	Esme Hamilton	76+70= 146
Stacia Scrimshire Salver	Esme Hamilton	79+73= 152
18 Holes Scratch pm	Esme Hamilton	73
18 Holes Handicap pm	Esme Hamilton	73-3 = 70
18 Holes Scratch Spring Meeting	Lauren Spray (Notts L)	76
18 Holes Handicap Spring Meeting	Kristina Lazarevic (N.L)	80-9 = 71
Runner Up	Julia Warrener (Sherwood Forest)	89-16 = 73
3 rd Place	Carol Houghton (The Nottinghamshire)	81-6=75
4 th Place	Emma Anderson (Sherwood)	86-10 = 76
Spencer Watson Shield	Notts Ladies	632

Esme did not go through to the match play because of upcoming exams.

In the quarter finals Lauren Spray was 1 up to Emily Lyle; Caron Harrison won 3&1 against Laura Morris; Emily Cheshire won 3&2 against Rachel Boulton and Carol Houghton won on the 20th to Kristina Lazarevic.

In the semi-finals Caron Harrison had an exceptional match against Lauren Spray to come back from 2 down after 16 with 3 birdies in the next 4 holes to eventually gain her place in the final on the twentieth hole. In the other semi-final Emily Cheshire won her match against Carol Houghton.

In the final we were treated to some great golf between Emily and Caron, with Caron coming back from 2 down after 7 to win on the 16th hole and become our new and well deserved County Champion.

In late May we had a County Foursomes Training Day at Notts Golf Club for 8 of the first team in preparation for County Week.

This year **County Week** was hosted by Lincolnshire, at Holme Hall Golf Club, Scunthorpe from June 6-10th. It was a happy, friendly, sunny and very competitive week! The pressure was on after the success of last year!

I had a great team of players who never gave up despite the fact that on both Monday against Derbys and Wednesday against Staffordshire we lost 5&4, on both days losing crucial matches on the 18th. Along with a halved match on the Tuesday against Leics we were bottom of the table on Wednesday evening, having not played badly. We achieved great wins against both Shropshire 7&2 and Lincolnshire 6&3 on Thursday and Friday and to our delight managed to win the salver and come home as runners up.

Staffordshire were worthy winners having won all 5 days.

My thanks to all the team: Rachel Boulton, Emily Cheshire, Caron Harrison, Carol Houghton, Emma Howie, Emily Lyle, Laura Morris, Glenys Priestley and Lauren Spray. Also to Esme Hamilton and Sophie Newlove who were only available for part of the week and to Kristina Lazarevic, who was a non-travelling reserve.

As a County we should be proud of them all, I certainly am, they are a great squad of players and equally encouraging we have some good younger players coming through.

Special thanks to Helen, Glenys and Joan who were a terrific support all week. It is both an exhausting and a rewarding week with everyone playing their part.

Thank **you** also for all the cards and messages, to Vicki Forecast who was such a help and to all those who were able to come to Holme Hall, your support was welcomed by all.

Unfortunately, this year the dates of County week and **the Coronation Foursomes** clashed. Coronation Foursomes were played at Chilwell on Monday 6th June. Many thanks to our competition secretary, Colette Newton and her assistant, Jane Fowler for running the day, which was a great success with 29 teams playing and everyone enjoying a beautiful day.

The winners with an excellent score of 35 points were Judy Wheatley and Zandra Alexander from Coxmoor.

Runners Up on count back with 34 points were Carol Webber and Dot Oldham from Stanton.

3rd were Julie Griffiths and Sue Cobb from Chilwell Manor.

Thank you to all those who played and to the Chilwell ladies who helped on the day.

The County **Summer Meeting and Veteran's Medal** were held at Stanton Golf Club on Monday 11th July. Thank you to over 60 competitors who played on what we could hardly call a "Summer's day"; play being hampered by frequent heavy showers. The course played long but was in excellent condition with fast, challenging greens and consequently the CSS score for the day increased by 3 to 76

There were some excellent scores and congratulations to all the winners :

SUMMER MEETING results

Scratch Cup Winner	Miss E Howie (Stanton)	82	
Handicap Cup Winner	Mrs J Richards (Stanton)		93 – 21 = 72
Division 1	1 st	Mrs L Wilding (Coxmoor)	87 – 11 = 76
	2 nd	Mrs J Stones (Trent Lock)	90 – 13 = 77
Division 2	1 st	Ms A Chambers (The Nottinghamshire)	103 – 27 = 76
	2 nd	Mrs H Haycox (The Nottinghamshire)	97 – 21 = 76

VETERANS TROPHY results

Gill Shawcross Scratch cup	Ms S Penfold (Sherwood)	84	
Challenge Cup	Mrs J Richards (Stanton)		93 – 21 = 72
Dorothy Payne Cup	Mrs M Clarke (Sherwood)		99 – 18 = 81

A raffle was held on the day and £160 was raised for Pancreatic Cancer Research. Thank you for your generous contributions and donations.

Due to a burst water main Stanton was without water all day. A special note of thanks must be recorded to the club for the use of their course and for hosting us on what turned out to be a testing day all round.

On Monday 25th July my **County Captain's Day AM-AM** was held at Notts Golf Club. It was a lovely day, any grey clouds were blown away and a field of 160 played on a beautiful course. A huge thank you to Notts and their members for giving us the courtesy of the course which has enabled us, along with your support, to really boost our County funds. A wonderful sum of £3000 was raised.

We had a total of 40 teams with 16 clubs represented. The rough was testing but despite it there was some excellent golf including two holes in one achieved by Louise Wilding on the 9th and Carol Wild on the 13th. Many congratulations to them both and also to the winners, Anne Whitchurch, Captain of Notts Ladies and her team, Heather Blunt also Notts Ladies and Barbara Upton and Jean Bingham both from Mickleover, who came in with a terrific 83 points. In second place was the team of Pauline Tillcock, Sharon Coyne, Jo Hopkins and Carol Wild, all Notts Ladies, with 80 points. They were closely followed by three teams on 79, so on count back the team of Jane Fowler, Colette Newton, and Ann Harris from Notts and Fran Tunnicliffe from Stanton came in third, followed by the Coxmoor team of Louise Wilding, Lynn Harris, Judy Hill and Lou Beaumont in fourth place. Closest to the pin on the 5th was Emma Anderson.

Thank you for your kind donations and incredible support of the raffle. I'm delighted to say that we raised over £500 on the raffle alone. A special thank you to all my willing band of helpers, both on and off the course, for the gorgeous selection of cakes at the halfway house and for the generous

sponsorship of all the par three holes by our President, Mrs Joan Underwood, Colin Maber and Sandy Loch,. Thank you to all who played and helped to make this big day so successful and special.

Speaking of sponsorship, we are indebted once again to both Mr Andy Tyler for supplying the County with a further 12 dozen Pro V1 golf balls and to James Hibbert at Acorn windows for our new County umbrellas and increasing our stock of red sweaters, including one for each of our County referees.

Many of the county committee helped out with the scoring at the England Golf English Girls Open Amateur plus Under 14/16's Championship at the Nottinghamshire in July. Thank you to those members of The Nottinghamshire who assisted England Golf in the running of this successful championship.

The **County Autumn Meeting** was held at Wollaton Park on Monday 12th September. There was a great entry, with 57 players enjoying the opportunity of playing a course in excellent condition on a lovely day.

Our congratulations must go to all of the winners and especially to Belinda Briggs from Retford who scored an excellent 86 nett 71 to win the Handicap Challenge Bowl and to Sue Penfold who won the Scratch Challenge Bowl, on count back from Rosemary Lockwood and Janet Doleman, with a very creditable 81.

The remaining winners were:

			Division 1	1 st	Prize
Mrs L Carruthers (Beeston)	89-16=73		2 nd		Mrs R Lockwood
(Beeston)	81-8=73	Division 2			(Stanton)
96-23=73		2 nd			Mrs Z Scott
					(Stanton)
					Mrs A Jackson (Mapperley)
					100-29=79

The Cavendish Bentinck Aggregate Scratch Cup (Summer&Autumn Meetings) Ms S Penfold
84+81=165

The Challenge Aggregate Handicap Cup Mrs J Hooley 78+74 = 152 (nett)

Jubilee Shield: Club whose members return 4 lowest nett scores : Stanton , total = 295 (Mrs. Z Scott , J Hooley , J Harby & P Musson)

Special thanks must go to the Wollaton Park Golf Club for allowing us the use of their course and for their kindness and hospitality on the day. Thank you to all who played and supported our final open competition of the year.

At this point I must put on record how grateful we are to Colette Newton and Jane Fowler for accepting entries, organizing, starting and running the competitions. They are a great team and give up so much time to the competitions and running the league. Thank you both.

The **Mixed Interclub Final** took place at Radcliffe Golf Club over 36 holes between Retford and Chilwell. Retford were represented by Kim Vardey, Anthony Inman, Keran Hutchinson and Martin Buzzeo with Chilwell being represented by Maggie Elliott, Mick Gannon, Julie Griffiths and Ian Colledge. Chilwell being eventual winners, well done to them.

The **Ladies Interclub Final** was held at Sherwood Golf Club on Monday 26th September between Retford and Stanton. Our County President, Joan Underwood, started the final on a wet and rather cold day. Despite this there was welcome support for both teams, who fought hard in difficult conditions.

The course was in beautiful condition and thank you to Sherwood Golf Club and their members for their hospitality and giving us courtesy of the course. Well played and congratulations to both teams for getting to the final. Commiserations to the Stanton team of Emma Howie, Karen Raynor, Cathy Burnside and Jane Harby

Our Interclub Winners for 2016 are Retford, the winning team were: Keran Huthchinson (Lady Captain), Debbie Rose, Pat Fox and Belinda Briggs

Thank you to Maureen Clarke and Lindsay Carruthers who refereed both matches and to all of Maureen's team who have turned out on so many occasions this year: Val Peat, Joanna Smith, Julie Lindsay, Ali Boulby, Clare Jones and Lindsay Carruthers. Thank you also to Maureen for her ongoing work as handicap adviser to the County

Many congratulations to our mother and daughter pairing of Helen and Rachel Boulton from Springwater for winning the Ping Plate final at Gainsborough.

Congratulations, also, to the Midland Vets 1st Team of Sue Penfold, Caron Harrison, Carol Wild and Carol Houghton for winning the nett team prize at Wellingborough County team championships and to Andrea Stockdale and Sue Penfold for coming second in the Brenda King Foursomes at Clevedon Golf Club.

While I have the opportunity I would like to compliment Emma Howie, our County Junior Organiser and say what a real asset she is to the County. As well as being a first team player Emma gives so much time to organizing the juniors. Sadly she cannot be with us today but her report will be read out by Lynn. Suffice to say, this year she has inaugurated a new format for the Midlands North Girl's League. This climaxed at a Girl's Golf Festival at Trent Lock, which was a huge feat of organizational skills and a massive success. Well done and thank you to Emma, she did the County proud. Thank you also to her assistants, Helen Boulton, Elaine Mitchell, Carol Houghton and Emma Anderson.

Nottinghamshire Golf Development. Jane Fowler, Lynn Buttery and Gillian Stump have continued to attend meetings on Golf Development and Communication in Nottinghamshire. I feel very positive about this having attended and seen both 5 year olds with enviable swings in the Nippers' events and been to some meetings where more integration is being encouraged with the County Golf partnership, Nott's Union and the PGA.

I hope that many of you will have now decided and come today with the details of whom your County/Club Rep is going to be. We are compiling a list and have had some very positive responses to this. There is a FAQ page on the web site about the position but in a nutshell we want to promote the County, in particular the competitions, to all players as well as being reassured that members are up to date with County information.

Nottinghamshire will be hosting County Week in June 2018. Planning is already ongoing. Unfortunately this year our publicized President's Day competition at Radcliffe, to raise funds for 2018, had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. However please note that we have scheduled a President's Day AM-AM at Sherwood in October next year.

You'll be pleased to hear that I'm nearly finished but cannot possibly do so without thanking my team who have been a monumental support. I lost my sister to pancreatic cancer last October and could not have got through the past 3 years without knowing I had such unconditional backing.

Lynn Buttery, our secretary, has had an emotional rollercoaster this year. We congratulate her and wish her well on her forthcoming marriage to Tony. By this time next week she will be known as Mrs. Lynn Williams. We are delighted that Lynn will be assisted next year by Mrs Dianne Whitaker from Chilwell Manor Golf Club.

Thank you to Jenny Smith, our treasurer, who has slotted into her new position with great efficiency and enthusiasm.

Gillian Stump, our clever webmaster, has also been junior secretary for the past 9 years. This role has now been taken on by Elaine Mitchell. Thank you Gillian for all those years as secretary and the continuing marvellous work you do keeping the website up to date.

Likewise, we would like to thank Sandra Beckett for her 3 years as our Midland North Representative. She has had a busy time organizing and running competitions on behalf of England Golf, attending meetings and reporting back, always willing and helpful. We are delighted to say that Sandra will be replaced by Clare Jones from Beeston. (Token of appreciation for Sandra and Gillian).

Thank you to my County week official 'buddies', my Vice and assistant Vice, Helen and Glenys, - who have been wonderful and last but by no means least, our amazing President, Joan, we made a good team.

Thank you to all the committee for listening, reading my emails and being there to help when needed. Thank you to Kathryn for inviting me to be her Vice Captain, what wonderful memories to treasure.

It has been a great honour to serve you as County Captain.

I now wish Helen, Glenys and Carol every success with their County team both on and off the course.

Thank you all.

5. Presentation of trophies for 2016 competitions by the Captain and President.

6. Senior Vice Captain's report Helen Maber

It has been a great pleasure for me this year to captain the Second Team in its matches against Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. Notts plays home and away against both the other counties and the winner then goes on to play in the Regional Final against the winners of Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire.

Our first match this year was against Leicestershire away at Scraftoft and unfortunately the heavens opened and the course rapidly became unplayable so the match was called off and a half recorded for the day.

Our away match at Canwick Park against Lincolnshire started very promisingly with wins in all three foursomes matches, but sadly the opposition triumphed in the afternoon and we ended the day with a half.

Our first home match was played against Leicestershire at Chilwell with a very convincing win 5-4, leaving us in the position of needing a draw in our final match against Lincolnshire at Stanton in order to qualify for the regional Finals. On a blistering hot day, our team recovered from a 2-1 loss in the morning foursomes to go on to win in the afternoon, halve the day and obtain a place for the second year running against Staffordshire in the Final.

This was held again at Stanton against a very strong Staffordshire team. The morning foursomes were all extremely close with all matches decided on the 18th green but unfortunately leaving us 2-1 down to go into the afternoon singles. Once again the matches were closely fought with some excellent golf on both sides but sadly Staffordshire prevailed and retained the title from last year. We are very hopeful to wrest it from them next year.

I would like to thank all who represented the County 2nd Team this year:

Laura Abbott
Emma Anderson

Cathy Burnside
Vicki Forecast
Esme Hamilton
Carol Houghton
Kristina Lazarevic
Rosemary Lockwood
Charlotte Parker
Jacey Peacock
Glenys Priestley

I would like to thank Chilwell and Stanton for hosting our home matches and also Pam and Glenys for their help during the year. Also a big thank you to President Joan who did not miss a match throughout the season and always offers such amazing support for all our teams.

7. Treasurer's report. Jenny Smith

This year has proved to be busy both on and off the golf course. One of the most pleasing jobs as treasurer is to receive donations from different organisations, clubs and individuals. These donations come with a request as to which section is to benefit from the donation. Thank you to all who have donated money whether it be a gift in the form of a cheque, Acorn windows who have supplied the county team with jumpers and shirts, raffles organised by clubs and organisations or the Tasker Trophy who as you may be aware organise a competition between clubs which runs throughout the year. We are immensely grateful and I can assure you your donation is put to very good use.

- Now to look at the accounts. Can you please look at page 1? You will see we started the year with £23,049 and have ended the year with £24,523 which represents a small profit of £1474. As I guide you through the accounts you will be aware that we have not had such large items of expenditure as last year. So, to look at page 2
- Now to page 2 - Affiliation fees: You will see that the amount raised is less than last year but this is because Junior Members no longer pay fees to the Association. The total reflects an increase in Lady Members in Notts of 10 ladies and also 5 junior members although I would

suspect that the figures given to us at the beginning of the year are not representative of the numbers participating in junior days. As you may be aware the collection of affiliation fees is to change this coming year and all clubs have filled in a form to state when their subscriptions are due and then they have a 2-month period in which to pay these fees to the county. There will be a 'mop up' 8 months after the subscription date is due to pick up new members who have joined during the year. I do not anticipate any problems with this. We are working closely with NUGC to make it easier for the clubs and to prevent duplicate information being sent out.

- Team fees: At the present time each club is charged £5 per team to enter for the Ladies interclub, silver and bronze leagues. I have reviewed this amount and am proposing to increase it to £10 per team for the coming year. More information later.
- County Meetings: there has been a slight increase in the numbers participating in these meetings overall. Not all of the competitions fund themselves as we would like and it would be encouraging to see more entries for the Championship, Spring Meeting and Coronation Foursomes so they are not reliant upon other meetings to bail them out. Nevertheless, overall we did make a slight profit and fulfil our policy that they should be self-funding.
- Captain's Day and the County Waltz entries were full this year and the amount raised £4428 helps to fund the team for County Week and 2nd team matches. A very valuable source of income.
- Compared with last year it would appear that we spent much more on County week and matches. However, the accommodation for this year was paid earlier in the year whereas the accommodation for 2015 had been paid in the previous year so reflecting a lower total.
- The Junior Section has had a busy year. We opened the year with a balance of £3913.56 and have ended with a balance of £3100.10. The reintroduction of the Mixed AM AM made a profit of £1100 fully justifying its inclusion into the calendar. This year more has been spent on coaching and the team has now invested in new polo shirts. There was a new item on the calendar for the Junior Section, The Festival of Golf organised for Juniors from six counties of all ages and abilities. For this Notts paid £301.84. Money very well spent.
- Other income and expenses: The income column represents the money taken in for the various events including Junior Competitions. So, I would like to explain briefly how this money has been spent. To celebrate winning the county finals last year it was decided to have a celebratory meal, the cost of this to the county was £548.90. The Midland Foursome's was held this year at ROT Golf Club and financed itself, any profit going to that organisation for the following year. Also included in this group are expenses incurred by the Junior Section for the running of their competitions. Other expenses include stationary, travel, website, Club Systems Training and Software, refereeing travel expenses, cup insurance and engraving and fixture cards as well as the usual stationary items.
- USGA rating (this is the system adopted by England golf to rate all courses for SSS and Slope rating values): This is part of a 10-year plan. England Golf allocate £100 per course and this year 6 courses have been rated. The money goes towards travelling expenses, food for the raters, and stationary which is needed in great abundance. Goodness knows how much in debt we would be if we charged for the raters' time both on the course and off it. You will see we have managed to keep within budget thanks to Helen's careful housekeeping.
- Now for a few points of interest. I earlier mentioned The Tasker Trophy. The funding from this provides a large contribution to the junior section but this coming year the funding has been reduced to £840, whereas in 2015 it was £1020 and in 2014 it was £910 and reflects a drop in the number of teams entering from 21 to 17. Can I urge you to support this trophy at club level by entering teams into the competition as our funding depends upon the number of club entries in the county?
- May I remind you that 2018 sees Nottinghamshire host County Week at Notts Golf Club. Whilst we receive some funding from England Golf we will incur many expenses to ensure the week is run positively and professionally and we will be looking at ways this year of covering the costs required.
- Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has supported me through my first year as Treasurer, The Executive Committee especially Helen, who had organised the accounts spreadsheets in such an easy way to understand and Sue Northridge for her help and advice

with the auditing of the accounts.

May I propose Sue Northridge as the auditor for the accounts.

Proposed Jenny Smith

Seconder Di Whittaker

The Executive Committee proposes a change to the regulations and rules of Nottinghamshire County Ladies Golf Association from November 2016 with regard to

a) Affiliation and b) Team Fees and c) Interclub and League – general rules.

This document was circulated prior to the meeting.

Proposal for changes to the Regulations and Rules from November 2016

a) Rule 2

The County shall have control of its finances & constitution providing there is no conflict with the England Golf Rules & Regulations. Finance to be raised by a mandatory per capita levy from every playing member of a golf club affiliated to England Golf. Payment of a per capita levy will entitle members to be Full or Associate members of the County as defined by England Golf Regulations, effective November 2016. All subscriptions payable by member clubs shall become due and payable 2 months following the club's annual membership renewal date. A member club that has not paid the subscription 3 months after the due date will cease to be a member of The Association. A mid-year payment will be due eight months after the membership renewal date to account for any new members who have joined part way through the year. 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.

b) Team fees c) Interclub and League - General Rules

Rule 3

The entry fees for The Ladies Interclub, Silver and Bronze Leagues be increased from £5 to £10.

The entry fee shall be determined at an Annual General Meeting, the money so received being used to contribute towards the expenses incurred by the running of the leagues and to provide prizes for the Inter-Club finalists.

a) Affiliation Fees Proposer Jenny Smith Seconder Pippa Handley. Passed unanimously

b) Team fees Proposer Jenny Smith Seconder Helen Maber. Passed unanimously

c) Interclub and League – General rules Proposer Jenny Smith Seconder Andrea Stockdale. Passed unanimously

8. County Junior co-ordinator's report Emma Howie

Junior Report to the NCLGA AGM November 21st 2016

Firstly my apologies for not being in attendance but I hope this report will cover everything you might need to know about junior girls golf this year. If not please feel free to ask any questions and I will answer them on my return.

Matches

The league matches this year saw a change in format with the scratch team playing 36 holes a day for the first two rounds. The first round matches were against Shropshire and Staffordshire on a challenging wet day at Birstall golf club. The girls made a winning start in the morning against Shropshire but lost on the very last putt of the last match against Staffordshire in the afternoon. The girls followed that up with two convincing wins against Lincolnshire and Leicestershire at Chevin before another win on finals day against Derbyshire. Unfortunately they narrowly missed out on the league title which went to Staffordshire.

The second team played handicap matches against Lincolnshire and Leicestershire, both on challenging away courses. They lost to Lincolnshire and drew against Leicestershire. They went on to play their last match on the league finals day when they beat Staffordshire which meant they finished tied third overall.

Finals day this year for the leagues saw all the scratch and handicap teams in the 6 Midland North Region counties come together to play their last match in a new event called the "Girls Festival of Golf". This was a chance for the girls to celebrate the golf season with all the other counties and was hosted by Nottinghamshire at Trent Lock. In addition each county invited a team of young players to take part in a 9 hole competition and skills challenges, as well as watching the scratch and handicap teams in action. At the end of the day all the girls had the opportunity for a bit of fun with a trick shot show and some pirate golf, before a meal and presentation. The event was a huge success and the Midlands junior organisers are aiming to build on this for next year.

We also had two friendly matches this year, our usual fixtures with Mapperley Ladies and the Yorkshire Girls, resulting in 5 rookies making their debut: Lucy Holbrough (Norwood), Rebecca Oates (Worksop), Chloe Steele (Serlby Park), Safi Durrant (Sherwood) and Leonie Muir (Wollaton).

Competitions

The girls' championships were held at The Nottinghamshire this year with 24 entrants. Sharna Betteridge (Sherwood Forest) was the U18 Nottinghamshire Champion; she also won the U16 Scratch Championship and the U18 Handicap Cup. Charlotte Hazelwood (Notts Ladies) won the U14 Scratch Championship and Lucy Holbrough (Norwood) won the Bronze Division Scratch Cup. The inaugural 9 hole Championship was won by Heather McCrorie (Norwood).

The Junior Order of Merit and Rookies tour aimed at girls aged 13-18 has continued to grow. Over the 6 events this year there were 17 girls taking part in the series. The winners were:

Gross Leonie Muir (Wollaton)

Nett Amelia Wan (Rufford Park) and Lucy Holbrough (Norwood) tied

Rookies Annie Bowman (Coxmoor)

For the second year we have been involved in the Nippers Tour for girls and boys under 12, run by the Notts Union. There were 17 girls playing on the tour and we provided a separate Order of Merit for the girls in two age groups. Rebecca Oates (Worksop) won the U12 trophy and Amelia Wan (Rufford Park) won the U10 trophy.

The Mixed AMAM fundraiser returned in 2016 and is a key event for the girls to raise money for junior funds. It was held at Rufford Park and we sincerely thank them for hosting it. The day raised an impressive £1147, so a huge thanks to the Junior Captain Esme Hamilton for organising everything on the day and those girls who volunteered to ensure the day was a success. Thank you also to those clubs who entered teams. Next year it will be at Springwater and we have entry forms ready today for you to take away!

The Junior Jubilee competition and junior presentation evening was held at Stanton this year. The trophy was won by Charlotte Hazelwood, Charlie Inger, Madeleine Smith and Leonie Muir. In addition we ran 9 and 5 hole competitions for the younger girls to join in too, and we were pleased to see 5 girls attend their first NCLGA event as a result.

Overall there were 20 girls who attended the golf and the presentation evening with their families. Our junior captain Esme presented all the trophies and certificates the girls had achieved over the year. Laura Abbott (Oakmere) was announced as Junior Captain for 2016-17, supported by Charlie Inger (Ramsdale) as Junior Vice-Captain.

A few other successes

- The Four Counties Girls Championships was hosted by Northamptonshire this year and Esme Hamilton (Notts Ladies) retained the scratch trophy for a second year.
- Charlotte Hazelwood (Notts Ladies) has been selected for the England Golf U16 regional squad.
- Esme Hamilton had a top 10 finish in the English Girls' Championships and a top 15 finish in the English Women's Championships.
- The Wee Wonders tour, which is a national competition open to those up to age 12, saw 3 girls from Nottinghamshire participate in the finals at St Andrews. Molly Cambell (Beeston), Amelia Wan (Rufford Park) and Charlotte Maiden (Norwood). Charlotte has qualified in her age group to attend the US Kids World Championship in 2017 and Amelia won third place in the 9-10 age group and is reserve to qualify for the US in her age group. Amazing!
- Several of our juniors were selected to play in the county ladies first and second teams this year. Laura Abbott (Oakmere), Kristina Lazarevic (Notts Ladies), Charlotte Parker (Ruddington) and Jacey Peacock (Rufford Park) all played for the county second teams, while Esme Hamilton played in the first team.

Participation

This year our intention was to increase girls participation in golf and provide opportunities for them to get together across all age groups and abilities. You have already heard me explain about the new festival of golf event, and we also increased the number of 9 hole girls-only events we ran by adding them on to all our main events. However, a new project for us this year was "Girls Golf Rocks".

This was a new initiative within Nottinghamshire to try to increase the number of girls playing golf. The idea was to use the county girls' squad to act as ambassadors to recruit girls from schools, brownies, and other sports club etc, to come along and try golf. The ambassadors also received leadership training as part of their participation.

The project involved taster sessions followed by coaching at Norwood Park, The Nottinghamshire, Rufford Park and Trent Lock, and we saw nearly 50 girls try golf, with most of them continuing to

participate in coaching. They were then invited to Norwood Park in June where 18 girls played alongside our junior ambassadors for a par 3 Texas Scramble.

The new girls who started golf under this scheme have been invited to continue with further coaching at their local club and we are now introducing them to the opportunities available within the county, such as our 9 hole competitions and the Nippers tour.

Coaching

The "Athlete Development Programme" continued this year with girls-only sessions at Rufford and The Nottinghamshire, lead by our coaches John Vaughan and Dan Parkes. This coaching programme over the winter focused on technical skills development across the game, e.g. swing, short game and putting and was attended by 12 girls. We are continuing the programme this winter, with the same coaches, at Rufford and Stanton.

To complement the group coaching we continued with coaching bursaries for girls in 2016, to allow them to continue with 1 to 1 coaching from their established swing coach. 7 girls benefitted from these bursaries in 2016 and we hope to continue that in 2017.

This year we have also built on the girls' squad coaching days, to now include the younger/less experienced players as part of a "girls get together day". A chance for everyone to meet but also for some tailored coaching based on ability and some fun challenges on the course. We hope to expand this even further in 2017 and possibly even have a social get together day for the girls.

Farewell

As we now draw to the end of the season unfortunately we say our goodbyes to some of our juniors who have been with us for a long time: Caitlin Arnold, Eliza Davison, Emily-Jane Goulder, Charlotte Parker and Georgia Viggers. We will miss their experience and input to junior golf but I know they will still be playing golf going forward so we hope to see them back playing in the intermediate championships next year!

Looking forward to 2017...

Overall this year we have seen participation of junior girls increasing numbers from 40 to around 60. I expect the continuation of the Girls Golf Rocks initiative in 2017 will recruit even more girls which is great news for the county, however, it does pose some challenges for us to overcome.

Increased participation undoubtedly leads to increased costs for running the juniors. Some of this will be covered by funding from England Golf but donations, sponsorship and participation in our fundraisers is even more important, so I urge you to support these.

Secondly with more girls, we need more resource to help organise and run events for the girls. To this end we are looking for one or more ladies who would like to help on a regular basis, either with attending events like the Nippers tour, being able to help organise a junior competition or even keep our database up to date. I appreciate many of you in this room probably already have many golfing commitments, but please do ask the ladies at your clubs if anyone is interested in sparing a few hours to help out and I would be happy to discuss it with them further.

Thank you

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 provide future golfers for our county.

I would also like to thank is the large number of clubs which have supported the Spondon Trophies "Taskers" Inter Club Competition. They presented NCLGA a donation of £840 for the juniors in Oct 2016 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 2017!

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

- Carol Houghton has helped with the Nippers events
- Helen Boulton has helped organise some of the competitions and attend matches
- Emma Anderson has taken a lead on the Girls Golf Rocks initiative
- Jenny Smith keeps us on track with the junior finances
- Elaine Mitchell provides great administrative support to the committee and helps at our big events. She has taken on this role from Gillian Stump, who has retired from the Junior committee this year after many years of hard work and for that we sincerely thank her.
- Lynn Buttery, Helen Maber and Pam Loch have been great advisors to keep me going in the right direction - and they help out with the competitions.
- Our President Joan Underwood, who continues to show great support and commitment to junior golf.

9. Report of the Associations Midland North Representative. Sandra Beckett

Lady President, Captain, Ladies, Good morning everyone.

They say that time passes more quickly when you get older, but I really cannot believe that 3 years have passed since I accepted the position as your Midlands North Rep.

This is my last report to you, from what has been a very interesting and rewarding 3 years. In these years we have seen a lot of changes, amongst which, there has been a change in CEO of England Golf. When I first took over, England Golf were working on the Raising Our Game Strategy, with 7 key aspects including trying to make stronger clubs, increase membership, improving image etc.

One of these was improving governance, which led to a governance and affiliation review recommending changes in the composition of the England Golf Board. With all these aspects now in place, and England Golf working with clubs to help them increase and retain their membership, work is being done to try and widen the range of people that golf appeals to. Justin Rose and Charlie Hull have become ambassadors, to help improve golfs image to younger people.

There have also been initiatives such as 'Girls Golf Rocks' and the 'Get into Golf ' campaign. More clubs have taken up the baton of running 9 hole competitions and even some offering 9 hole membership for the people who are time poor, or who are physically unable to play 18 holes.

There seems to be a lot going on to promote the game of golf at the moment. I was fortunate enough to attend the England Golf Conference in April, to hear about these initiatives first hand, as well as other topics such as Gender Free tees, and the I M P (improving membership participation) pilot scheme, this scheme was started in 3 counties, and is now being rolled out countrywide and also the Golf for U projects which have been running throughout the summer in local parks.

I also attended a General Meeting at Woodhall Spa in August. Nick Pink, the new CEO took this meeting, and spoke of the importance of communication - not only the communication between voting members and the Board, but also communication between England Golf, counties and clubs. We were updated on the digital strategy, governance, and participation.

Talks between the R&A and LGU are still ongoing, hopefully producing a merger by January 2017.

Now to the competitions connected to my role as MNR rep.

We kicked off with the 36 hole foursomes competition at Radcliffe in April, organised by Nottinghamshire. The day ran smoothly, mainly due to contributions from the staff and the ladies section at Radcliffe, and the input of my fellow council members especially with checking cards and working out results. My thanks go to all of them. Glenys Priestly from Notts Ladies and Vikki Forcast from Springwater won the 36 hole nett challenge cup with a score of 153, and Pam Loch and Cathy Burnside from Notts Ladies taking the best nett prize for the afternoon round. The best Gross for the 36 holes went to Helen Lowe of Scraftoft and Lindsey Shaw of Chevin with a gross score of 158. Shropshire held the Queen of Clubs competition at Worfield, this time as an 18 hole event instead of the usual 36. This was won by Lauren Spray of Notts Ladies, with Emma Howie of Stanton also receiving a prize.

Leicestershire hosted the regional final of the Australian Spoons at Whetstone in August, and Derbyshire the Girls Championships at Keddlestone. Lincolnshire was the host of County Match Week at Holme Hall

As you have heard in Emma's report, she organised an extremely successful day for the girls in the 6 Midland North counties. It was enjoyed by everyone who took part.

I am now passing over this role to Clare Jones, and I do hope that she will enjoy the experience.

Pippa did tell me when I started that I would enjoy it, and I have. Thank You

10. Report on the progress of the USGA Rating for 2016

I would like to report that during 2016 five courses were rated under the new USGA system in Nottinghamshire by our mixed team which rated both men's and women's courses at:

Notts (Hollinwell)

Retford

Stanton

The Nottinghamshire Championship

Worksop

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

England Golf are advising clubs to consider rating some tees where appropriate, for both genders, and it is interesting that Notts (Hollinwell) requested us to rate their red tees for men and Stanton asked for their red and blue (junior) tees to be rated for both men and women and also for their yellow tees to be rated for ladies.

While this does create extra work for us as raters, and there are certain restrictions within which we have to operate, it does mean that in some cases older members can continue to play a course off shorter tees and will hopefully prolong their membership.

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.

Finally, I would like to thank Jenny Smith, Cathy Burnside and Tricia Lacey for their help with the rating over the year. The process does take up a lot of time and I am really grateful for their assistance.

11. Election of Officers for 2017

President Maureen Clarke Proposed Joan Underwood Seconded Gillian Stump
Captain Helen Maber Proposed Pamela Loch Seconded Jenny Smith
Senior Vice Captain Glenys Priestley Proposed Helen Maber Seconded Di Whittaker
Assistant Vice Captain Carol Houghton Proposed Glenys Priestley Seconded Berni Barton
Treasurer Jenny Smith Proposed Helen Maber Seconded Ali Boulby
Competitions Secretary Colette Newton Proposed Bridget Jackson Seconded Jenny Smith
Assistant Competition Secretary Jane Fowler Proposed Jo Hopkins Seconded Colette Newton
General Secretary Lynn Buttery
(These officers together form the County Executive and were elected unanimously)

To note the following appointment of Advisors to the Association

County Handicap Adviser Maureen Clarke
Midland North Representative Clare Jones
County Junior Co-ordinator Emma Howie
Assistant Secretary Di Whittaker
WebMaster Gillian Stump

12. County Handicap Adviser's report.

Madam President, Madam Captain, Ladies - I am pleased to present my report for 2016.

Changes within the CONGU Unified Handicapping System were reported at the beginning of the year, and Club Officials were invited to attend one of the England Golf Road Shows, so these changes could be explained. As County Handicap Adviser, I have been available to help Handicap Secretaries, Committees, and players deal with these changes.

My role is to ensure that the CONGU UHS is being correctly applied at Clubs, and, to this end, I recommend the Quick Guides to be found via the England Golf Website, Handicaps & Rules and CONGU. These Guides are there to assist understanding of the CONGU UHS; one is for the Handicap Committee, and one is for the Player – all players may find them interesting. Every club must have a Handicap Committee, with a minimum of three people, of which the majority must be members as opposed to employees. This ensures the Handicap Secretary cannot be accused of bias. The Handicap Committee has the responsibility to record, maintain and update handicaps of their members, and notify members of handicap changes. The Handicap Committee must meet once each year for the Annual Review, between 31 October and 31 December, and may also find it necessary to meet more regularly.

Assigning handicaps to new members is one of the most important functions of a Handicap Committee. Following the inputting of the new player's scores the computer program calculates a handicap. This should be regarded as a 'recommendation only' that should be reviewed in the light of all other factors, such as prevailing weather conditions, previous playing history, and other sporting achievements.

One of the additions to CONGU UHS this year has been the option for Clubs to allot CONGU Club Handicaps up to 54. It is for each Affiliated Club and any recognised Section (e.g. Men's, Ladies', seniors, juniors') within the Club to decide whether or not to allocate a CONGU Club Handicap and to determine the eligibility criteria for its competitions.

The Survey on CONGU Club Handicaps revealed that many Clubs had decided against the Club Handicaps because of the 'slow play' issues and the need to alter the Conditions of their Competitions.

Some Clubs have allocated Club Handicaps to new members and have organised special competitions for these players, which was Option One. Other Clubs have changed their Competition Conditions to allow players with Club Handicaps to compete in some or all of their Club Competitions

and Social events, which was Option Two. CONGU Club Handicaps are working under both of these options.

For example, Jim, age 85, a member of South Moor Golf Club, Co Durham, had difficulty walking after an accident but he continued to play in competitions even though he had no chance of winning. His club Handicap Committee allocated him a more realistic handicap of 45, allowed him to compete, and he won the Alan Scott Cup with 41 points. On that happy note, I wish you a Merry Christmas and good Golfing in 2017.

13. Webmaster Report and Nottinghamshire Golf communications Gillian Stump

I hope you are all now very familiar with the website and are using it as your main source of news and information about golf in our county.

I will be updating the site, as soon as possible after this meeting, with all of the relevant information, dates and forms for your golf in 2017.

If you would like me to add your club opens to the diary on the site then please email the entry forms to me and I will happily add them.

Many of you will already be aware of the new spirit of cooperation that has been developed over the past couple of years between the NCLGA, The NUGC the Notts PGA and the County Golf Partnership, under the banner of Nottinghamshire Golf.

The aim is to promote golfing activities in general throughout the county to anyone who might be interested in the game, at all levels and all abilities and to actively recruit new players into the game. Over the past 6 months I have been asked to give my input to the Communications Group, which has two new initiatives to try to improve the communication of news and information to all of those involved in, or hoping to get involved in, golf in Nottinghamshire.

The first initiative is the development and production of a quarterly newsletter which will contain news and information from all of the golf governing bodies within the county. We have recruited an enthusiastic volunteer to collate the relevant information and put together the newsletters which will hopefully be distributed both online and directly to our club members via the new Club Representatives. Hopefully this will increase awareness and interest among club golfers of what is going on in the county.

The second initiative is the development of a new website to act as a portal, a first point of call, for anyone searching for information on golf in Nottinghamshire.

The site will have the address nottinghamshiregolf.com and will hopefully appear high in the search results of the internet search engines.

We are aiming for a modern, attractive site which is very easy to navigate and will help those looking to access the information they require quickly and easily, whether they be looking to get into golf, are moving into the county, or are existing players in Nottinghamshire wanting to access news and see what's on.

The site will have relevant and prominent links to the websites of all of the involved partners and will hopefully direct people to the most appropriate site for their needs.

The site is now under construction and it is hoped to launch it early in the New Year, so please do test out your search engines and look out for the site from around February 2017.

14. Interclub and League results & presentation of trophies.

By the President and the Captain announced by Colette Newton

The Interclub for Ladies for 2016 was won by Retford

Silver League Winners

Division A Ruddington

Division B Stanton

Division C Sherwood Forest

Division D Norwood Park

Division E Newark

Bronze League Winners

Division A Retford

Division B Ramsdale

Division C The Nottinghamshire

Division D Brierley Forest

Division E Chilwell Manor

Division F Springwater

2017 competitions and leagues

15. Competitions for 2017

You will see from the sheet on your chairs that we have introduced a combined entry form for the county competitions this year. We have decided to do this because we feel that we might be missing out on some entries because the competition date and entry card are not usually available until the February council meeting. I know a lot of ladies get together after Christmas and start entering competitions for the year whilst their diaries are clear, this entry form which is also available to download from the county website means our competitions can be the first ones you enter and put in those diaries!! The usual cards that we produce are very difficult to fill in and not easily read by me!! All the information that you may require and was on the old cards such as telephone numbers, email addresses and dates of other county events will be on the website. We hope that our county club reps will download this information and put it on to the county board at your club for those that do not use the website.

We have a few new competitions this year and a couple of changes to our usual ones. We have organised a joint competition with the mens union and this will be a mixed 4ball better ball. The entry fee will be £20.00 per pair and there will be some very good prizes to be won.

Again in conjunction with the union there will be a new competition where your club will nominate any one of the medal competitions you play as a qualifier and the nett winners of this competition in both bronze and silver will go through to a final where there will be excellent prizes for the best nett score. There will be no entry fee for this and all details have been sent to your club secretaries. The final of this event will be held at Worksop G.C. on Sunday 17th September.

We will also be holding a County Presidents day this year, this will take the form of an amam and all monies raised from this event will go towards Nottinghamshires hosting of the 2018 county week which is being held at Notts Golf Club in June of that year. This is a very big event for Nottinghamshire and we will be trying to raise as much money as we can and needing as much help as we can get from all the clubs in the county for this very special event.

The two changes to our usual county events for 2017 are;

The Spring Meeting and Championship

The Spring meeting 18 hole competition has at the moment a handicap limit of 20, we have decided to raise this limit to 24 to encourage more ladies to play in this event. We have in recent years made the Spring meeting an 18 hole instead of a 36 hole competition as we knew a lot of ladies did not feel they wanted to play 36 holes and by raising the handicap limit to include more lady golfers we are really trying to get as many ladies involved in this event so do please try and support your county by coming along and playing.

Coronation Foursomes

Over the years the number of ladies entering this event has been slowly but surely going down. After a lot of discussion we have decided to change the format to a 4ball better ball. We appreciate that foursomes is not as popular a format as it was in the days of the coronation and if you are travelling a distance to play you would prefer to play the whole course and not half of it. It will now be known as the Coronation Cups which is the name of the lovely trophies that the winners receive. We hope this will be a popular change and that many more of you will want to enter this event.

So diaries at the ready as these are the dates for all the competitions for 2017.

Junior amam Sunday 23rd April at Springwater G.C,

County Waltz Wednesday 26th April at Stanton G.C.

Championship and Spring Meeting Friday 12th May to Sunday 14th May at Wollaton Park G.C.

Coronation Cups Monday 5th June at Rufford G.C.

Mixed Pairs 4ball on 22nd June at Sherwood Forest G.C.

Summer Meeting Monday 10th July at Radcliffe G.C.

County Captains Day am am Monday 24th July at Beeston Fields G.C.

Autumn Meeting and Veterans Trophy Monday 4th September at Chilwell Manor G.C.

County President am am Monday 9th October at Sherwood Forest G.C.

Every year we have such great support from lots of lovely ladies but this year it would be great to see some new faces playing in these competitions. It is a really nice way to meet other lady golfers and to play on different courses in the county at a very reasonable price. So if you haven't played in anything before please come along and join us, we would love to see you.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who helps with the competitions. My assistant Jane Fowler who gives her time so generously to the county, who is really the boss but I've got the badge and am much better at giving orders and being bossy. Joan our president who has been on the desk at every competition. Also, Helen our new captain who is lovely but became so much lovelier when I found out she had an A3 printer that I could use for my leader boards!!
Thank you.

16. Interclub for 2017

This year there are 24 teams in the interclub draw (1 less than in 2016) After many long discussions it has sadly been decided by your executive to stop asking host clubs to supply meals to the visiting teams and captains.

Over the last few years there have been, as you all know from previous meetings, many problems around this matter and your executive felt that enough time, effort and discussion had been spent on the subject.

It is hoped that clubs will, perhaps, make their own arrangements to socialise and take refreshments after a match but current trends would seem to make this less and less likely.

During the last 2 years we have attempted to assign host clubs after each round in an attempt to cut down on travel time and costs. This seems to have caused more problems than it solved with courses and tee times not being reserved so we will be returning to the previous method where host clubs are assigned, where possible, after the draw.

The draw was done by the Captain Helen Maber and recorded by the Assistant General Secretary Di Whittaker and Secretary Lynn Buttery, The draw with host teams will be published on the website and sent out to the secretaries.

17. Secretary's notes.

The next council meeting will be on Monday 13th March 2017 at Coxmoor Golf Club
Di Whittaker will be organising this meeting and taking the minutes so please send any items for the agenda to Di.

There will be a meeting on Monday 17th July 2017 here at Beeston Fields

The AGM will Monday 20th November at Beeston Fields.

I've already received 15 nominations for club county rep – thank you for those and for those I have received today.

We have now redesigned the entry form for the county competitions and this has given us the opportunity to think about the county information card.

This year the card will be completed in the next few weeks and will contain details of all contacts, competitions and meetings and will be available on the internet for all members to view and print as required. Although we are now in a situation where the vast majority of members have access to the website we realise that this is not so for a few of our members – who should not be forgotten.

All of the club county representatives will be asked to print the information sheet and make it available to any member of their club who requires one.

Of course if there is a problem with doing this please contact any member of the executive who will print out the sheet for you.

The advantage of this is that you will have all the information before Christmas, it can be updated as things change and can be accessed quickly and easily by all Association members – it also saves

the Association the production costs.

I will continue to send a paper copy to our Honorary members through the post.

To close I would like to thank you all for your patience over the last 6 months. I have had amazing support from all of the executive members who have stepped in when I have been unavailable.

As promised by the Consultant back in early June – I have been treated and discharged and although I am not quite back to playing golf I will be skipping up the aisle this Saturday when I become Lynn Williams. I have been very lucky – thank you for all your encouragement, I really have appreciated all your kind words and thoughts.

18. Any other business – matters for discussion

The representative from Southwell thanked Collette Newton and Jane Fowler for their work on the league. Southwell had been dismayed by the decision to reduce the number of players in the teams in the lower leagues from 7 to 5 and asked that the decision be discussed and reviewed during 2017. Representatives from Wollaton, Radcliffe on Trent and Nottingham City voiced their concerns.

The executive had taken this decision after much discussion and after several matches had to be abandoned due to insufficient number of players during this season. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed and reviewed again during the coming season and as always all members would be invited to join in the discussion.

Meg Mallon (Norwood Park) confirmed that the lower age limit for Veterans events would be 50.

The Nottingham City representative on behalf of the meeting gave very best wishes to Lynn for her wedding on Saturday.

19. Vote of thanks to retiring President

Pamela Loch thanked the retiring president Mrs Joan Underwood for her hard work and support during her term of office and presented her with a gift and flowers from the Association. In reply the President mentioned the county winning the England county championships in 2016 and wished Helen and her team very best wishes for 2017.

Helen presented Pamela Loch with a thank you gift and flowers and thanked her for the kind and generous support during the year.

Flowers and gifts were also presented to Gillian Stump and Sandra Beckett.

20. Close of meeting

The President closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending, Beeston Fields for hosting us and wished everyone a safe journey home and good golf in 2017.

The meeting closed at 1pm