

Minutes of NCLGA Council Meeting
Held at 10.30 am Monday 16th July 2018 at Beeston Fields Golf Club

The Captain opened the meeting and welcomed 36 representatives from Nottinghamshire clubs affiliated to the NCLGA plus officers of the Association.

1. Apologies.

Received from Mapperley, Notts Ladies, Worksop, College Pines, Serlby, Rufford, Rushcliffe, Newark, Kilton Forest, Radcliffe on Trent.

2. Matters arising from previous meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated and were agreed as a true record and signed thus by the Captain. There were no matters arising.

3. Captain's Report

The golfing season should have started at Coxmoor on 17 April with our pre season friendly against Sheffield Union, unfortunately the weather was against us and the match was called off due to fog!! Despite our best attempts we were unable to arrange an alternative date. So the season kicked off with the County Waltz which was held at Chilwell, 40 teams took part. Conditions were quite challenging with the winter and early spring rain leaving the course very lush in parts, however the day was dry and produced some good scores nevertheless. Sue Taylor, Joanna Smith and Kath Else winning with 72 points. Thanks to Chilwell for allowing courtesy of the course and to those that played and supported the raffle, a total of £1,690 was raised from the day for our County teams.

Next came the County Championship 11-13th May, played at Stanton, where the course was in excellent condition with the greens proving to be very tricky not only in speed but also with some strategically placed pin positions.

We had 18 players taking part the the Championship playing 36 holes, with 8 going through to the knockout stage, with a further 34 ladies in the 18 hole Spring Meeting played alongside the morning round of the championship.

There is a detailed report and list of all the winners on the website. In the final of the County Championship Libby Kilbride played Emily Rowbottom, with both playing some really good golf, Libby taking an early lead and holding on to become our County Champion for 2018.

The Coronation Foursomes followed the championship, played at Newark 4th June, the weather for the day was overcast, nothing like the recent sunny weather we had been having, with many ladies, pulling on waterproofs and jumpers to keep out the chill breeze. Nevertheless some excellent golf was played with great scoring, the winners being Lynne Inman & Clare Wilson from Norwood Park with 46 points on count back. Again full details of the results can be found on the website.

Many thanks to both Stanton and Newark for supporting our County competitions.

This year as everyone is aware County Week was hosted by Nottinghamshire, held at Notts Golf Club, from June 25- 29th and the pressure was on after last year's success, The course was in excellent condition with very hot sunny weather continuing through the week changing conditions, making club selection difficult.

We had a really good team who gave us a great start on day one, beating Leicestershire 6-3, despite losing the morning foursomes, unfortunately we couldn't repeat the result on Tuesday losing a closely fought match to Staffordshire 5-4.

This was followed by defeat to Lincolnshire on Wednesday, leaving us feeling a little down, however a good result on Thursday v Shropshire lifted our spirits as together with 3 other Counties, we were all in with a chance of winning overall if results went the right way. It was a great try from our girls with an eagle from Rachel Boulton on the last to To cap it all there was even a fly past by the Red Arrows during afte halve our match with Derbyshire preventing Derbyshire from winning outright.

rnoon play.

The result was 3.5 each to Lincolnshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire, so it came down to games won, which knocked out Derbyshire. Lincs and Staffs had won the same number of games so it went down to the result of their match earlier in the week, which was halved, according to the rules this meant that lots had to be drawn to decide the winner, which seemed unfair given all the excellent golf we had seen through the week.

Staffordshire were declared the winners and go forward from our Region to County Finals in September and we wish them good luck.

As a result of this we have asked our MNR rep Clare to discuss this rule at their next meeting with James Crampton of England Golf with regarding a change of rules in these circumstance to be considered for the future.

Nevertheless It was a an excellent week and I must thank everyone from clubs around the County who came along to support and help with ball spotting, to Sherwood, Ruddington, Chilwell, The Nottinghamshire & Beeston Ladies who provided and served cakes in the half way house daily.

To Notts Golf Club and the members for giving up their course for a week, the groundstaff, caterers and everyone else who all did a marvelous job.

Thanks also to all Notts Ladies GC members who provided help and support throughout the week. Our County Week Organizing Committee did a fantastic job over the last 2 years pulling things all together continuing during the week to ensure such a successful outcome, many complimentary comments were received from other County Officials and Players.

There was no time to relax as The Summer Meeting followed on Monday, 2nd July, just after County Week which was held at Beeston Fields GC.

53 ladies took part, the course was in good condition considering the long hot dry spell we had had, as always the greens at Beeston were quite tricky, with a breeze, which was very welcome in the hot scorching sunshine, also making conditions testing. Despite this there were some good scores, again full results can be found on the website, Louise Wilding, Coxmoor, won the Jubilee Bowl Scratch Trophy with a gross 81, with Wendy Kerry, Ruddington, taking the Jubilee Bowl Handicap Trophy with a nett 71 on countback.

Thanks to Beeston Fields GC and members for their support in hosting our summer meeting.

Congratulations to all the Trophy and Prize winners in all of these competitions, trophies will be presented to the winners at our AGM in November.

Next up is my County Captains Day which is being held at Notts Golf Club next Monday 23rd July where a total of 40 teams are taking part in an AM AM and again your support of the raffle, raising funds for our first and second teams is much appreciated. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Our final competition this year is the Autumn Meeting at Norwood on Monday 3rd September and I understand that entries are lower than usual, so can I ask that you mention this to ladies at your clubs encouraging them to play if free.

Finally I would just like to thank our sponsors, Andy Tyler from Coxmoor Golf Club who has very kindly sponsored the County again providing 12 doz. Pro V1 golf balls for our County Teams and Acorn Windows for their continued sponsorship for which we are very grateful and has enabled us to buy some lightweight summer sweaters for our teams.(not that we have needed them this year)!

I would also just like to mention our new competition secretaries Julia and Sue for organizing all of our events so well in their first year,

thanks also to Maureen, Carol & Helen together along with other members of our executive for their support and guidance this year. Thank you ladies for your time today and all that you do to support the County it is much appreciated and I wish you well for the rest of season.

4. Vice Captains' Report

On the 15th July we played our first Second team match v Leicestershire at Rothley Park. Unfortunately we lost 7-2. However we got good value from the course with all the foursomes going to the 18th and all the singles to the 17th. Special mention goes to Lou Beaumont who won a point and a half for the team on her debut.

Tomorrow we host Lincolnshire at The Nottinghamshire with the final two matches away to Lincs at Ashby Decoy on 25th July and home to Leicestershire at Radcliffe on 30th July.

Thanks to Helen Haycox for all her help with the team of Carol Houghton, Audrey MacMillian, Louise Widing, Lou Beaumont, Jacey Peacock and Emma Anderson.

5. Handicap Advisers Report

I attended the England Golf World Wide Handicapping Seminar on Thursday 3 May, along with many Club Handicap Secretaries from Clubs within Nottinghamshire and nearby Counties. We were told about the progress with regard to the World Wide Handicapping System which will come into force some time in 2020. It is not decided exactly when because all Seasons vary but most likely later in the year. The Workshop reiterated what I had reported in March. All changes are aimed at encouraging players to submit more scores, and obtain a more realistic handicap.

THE WORLD WIDE HANDICAPPING SYSTEM FOR GOLF

There will be a review and re-design of the CDH which will incorporate the other Home Unions. All courses will use the Course/Slope Rating and there will be a chart at each golf club, hopefully displayed in a prominent position, so players can check their handicap at that golf club. All singles stroke play scores will go onto a player's record. It will still be the player's responsibility to post scores **as soon as possible** so the handicap can be updated before the next day's play. Players playing socially will be able to register for Supplementary Scores (now to be called Social or Recreational Scores) but must still do so before they play. The maximum score for a hole will continue to be a nett double bogey. There will be no buffer zone and no point one increases once we return to an average-based system. The formula for the Competition Standard Scratch will be changed and will be more stable and any score played during a particular day will go into it. Our Handicap will be called - Handicap Index, we will have a Course Handicap when we use the Slope to adjust our handicap, and our Playing Handicap will be our stroke allowance for competition purposes (say, for example 95%). England are NOT going to ask players to enter scores every time they play.

CDH AND CLEANSING OF THE CDH

It is important to make sure your CDH is up-to-date before the Handicapping System changes. All Clubs should check their own CDH information and ensure they do not have players on the CDH that are no longer members. Each club has a password from England Golf which enables them to access their Club's CDH and if this is not known then England Golf should be contacted. Explain that you are intending to cleanse the CDH for your golf club and re-obtain your password.

HANDICAP LIMITS

England Golf have recommended the following Options with regard to Handicap Limits

Option 1 – Have no handicap entry limits: Allow all players to play off their actual handicap and have the possibility to win in any competition format.

Option 2 – Set Handicap Entry Limits: This option should be limited to National/County/Elite Competitions and must be clearly stated in the Conditions of Competition upon entry. It is not expected that Clubs will use this option for their internal Medals/Stablefords/Match Play Competitions.

Option 3 – A competition is set up without a handicap entry limit allowing ALL players to enter, but Prizes and Trophies may be limited to a maximum or minimum handicap. Prizes may be given in Divisions and Divisions may be adjusted to reflect the demographic of the individual club. If a Committee uses this option for Match Play the players must be allowed to play off their full CONGU Handicap and receive the Full Difference in handicap.

Players MUST NOT be asked to compete off a handicap lower than that to which they are entitled.

Because of the above recommendations the County Executive have decided that they need to remove the following words from the League Rules for 2019 – **"Players with higher handicaps may take part but must play down to the handicap limit."** NCLGA will be registering their concerns with Gemma Hunter of England Golf about the necessity for this change. As County Handicap Adviser I have already done so but a letter will be sent from our General Secretary Lynn to back it up. The Silver League Limits are 0-20, and the Bronze League Limits are 19-32.

Handicap Allowances

Handicap Allowances as shown in the CONGU Manual are mandatory. Do not confuse Allowances with Limits e.g. The allowance is 90% in Four Ball Better Ball and it is mandatory.

MIXED TEE COMPETITIONS

A single Competition Standard Scratch should be calculated for Mixed Tee Competitions. Mixed Tee competitions can include any group, men, women and juniors, and any tees. Having a single CSS for two or more competitions will provide a more equitable result, especially if one of the competitions has a very low number of players. All scores will be entered into a single competition and the software will allow the results to be separated for each group. It is **very** strongly recommended that the single Competition Standard Scratch Adjustment is adopted. The updated CONGU Handbook, which can be downloaded, now states that Handicap Adjustments must be made **before** applying the Allowance.

COUNTY HANDICAP ADVISER

Any change in County Handicap Adviser has to be agreed with England Golf but England Golf has requested that County Handicap Advisers stay in position until the World Wide Handicapping System is in place. The term of office is 10 years which I will have completed at the end of the year. Because of my other commitments, I have asked England Golf, with the agreement of our Executive Committee, that I become the Assistant County Handicap Adviser and my Assistant Val becomes County Handicap Adviser at the end of this year, and this has been agreed. Once the World Wide Handicapping System is in place NCLGA will be looking for a new Assistant to take my place. If anyone is keen to be considered for this position will they please let me know? Maureen Clarke County Handicap Adviser

Questions from the floor for clarification

Question - Can players be asked to play off a lower handicap than the handicap assigned to them. Answer – No.

Question – Who can mark a card. Answer – Anyone the committee deems suitable.

Question – Will the setting of handicap limits change when entering a competition. For example If someone enters a competition with a

suitable handicap which then goes up and over the limit by the time they play in the competition, will they still be able to play? Answer – Further discussion is required on this matter with England golf and will be reported back on at the AGM. The Association is keen to encourage players not to stop people from taking part.

6. Financial Report

Last year at this time the balance sheet read £34,600, this year it reads £33,388 after a very busy June. The organisation and running of the MNR county week showed a net profit of £108.70 thanks to the efficient running of the tournament and of course the generosity of the county members through donations from clubs, county president's day, individuals, non-members and the Smartie tube collection which raised £605.54. Of course the England Golf grant amount of £5000 also played a big part.

The cost to Notts to fund the team for County Week stands currently stands at £5536.00 compared to last year £6430. Home advantage and careful budgeting has contributed to lower costs.

The collection of affiliation fees has now settled down with fewer clubs needing 2nd or 3rd reminders. The 'mop up' collection has realised an extra £265. However at the moment (some clubs are yet to pay their fees) there is a clear indication that numbers of ladies playing golf in Notts has fallen but the good news is the junior numbers have risen slightly. Sadly, the Orchards Golf Club is now no longer affiliated as the new owners have deemed it 'pay and play'. May I remind you that affiliation fees for next year will be £8. I will be informing club managers of this later this month.

Income from the county meetings has dropped this year by just over £800 equating to around 60 ladies. However, the good news is that figures for the County Waltz and County Captain's Day show an increase of somewhere in the region of £600.

Currently we are looking at the funding for Juniors. We are given a grant for the development of Junior Golf and this is held by the NUGC. We are hoping to claim back some of the money we have given out in junior bursaries and coaching. This will now mean we can further extend the coaching to later in the year.

Lastly we are looking to have all our trophies revalued later this year so that we can submit a more accurate valuation for insurance purposes when the county Insurance becomes due in November. Jenny Smith Treasurer

7. Midland North Report

I have a short report covering competitions and England Golf meetings.

Our competition seasons is underway starting with the Regional Foursomes at Glen Gorse. We had 30 entries which we were very encouraged by for a 36 hole foursome competition. I will give the full results in my report to the AGM but thank you to all those from Nottinghamshire who entered. In August we have three competitions The Australian Spoons, Girls Championships and Queen of Clubs. At present the focus of England Golf meetings is on financial matters particularly a proposed rise in affiliation fees for next year. This has proved a contentious issue and is still being consulted on. We have another meeting in September at which this will be a major item and I will report on the outcome at the AGM. Clare Jones MNR

8. Junior Report

At the end of last season both established junior golfers and junior committee members moved on and it became clear we needed a new strategy and after discussion with knowledgeable and involved parties we formulated our pathway for 2018. Monthly squad sessions are now running and we have already had a full day on course development. These focus on our priorities of course management, shot selection, rules and team bonding. The girls as you are aware mostly have their own technical training with club professionals.

To see as many girls in the county as possible, over the Easter holiday we attended 3 days of

- the 4 counties junior tournament at Sherwood
- the Notts schools golf at Norwood
- the Nippers tour at a freezing Kilton Forest.

We were also invited for a match v Mapperley ladies. Thank you very much Ladies - we very much appreciated our first get together and enjoyed the afternoon.

Our next coaching session is on Saturday 11th August. 9-10.30 low handicappers and 10.30-12 higher handicappers, nippers and girls about to get their handicap.

I do hope to be in touch with all clubs in Nottinghamshire to ensure that we do not miss any girl who would like to join our merry band.

The Amam at Radcliffe was very well supported this year we thank you for entering the competition and hope, to see you there again next year.

Matches

On a very wet day at a Ramsdale the handicap team narrowly lost to Lincolnshire - thank you to Lynn for looking after this fixture.

The scratch team at Telford last weekend had an impressive win over Staffordshire 3-2 but in the heat of the afternoon we unfortunately lost to Shropshire 3-2 - 2 of those matches going to the 17th.

I can't begin to say how pleased I was with the girls, this determination and team spirit was wonderful.

The interaction now with the girls is good and this was evident in the Junior championships at Wollaton.

The event was extremely well organised by Emma Anderson. The intermediate championship was won by Sophie Newlove with a gross/net score of 67 - a new course record.

The Junior Championship was won by Amelia Wan.

Yesterday we attended the Nippers tour and it was so exciting to see so many young girls there.

I also had the honour of being asked to present the prizes by 'gentlemen'

That hopefully sums up a very enjoyable and successful start to the season but please, everyone, let me know of your junior golfers and encourage them to come and join and us on Saturday August 11th. We do have fun.

Finally a huge thank you to all the junior committee, the county executive especially president Maureen, County captain Glenys and Vice captain Carol and treasurer Jenny for supporting me so admirably during these last few months.

If any of you ladies or if you know any ladies at your club who would like to join the junior committee they would be more than welcome. Su Taylor Junior Officer

9. Webmaster's report

There were no matters to discuss

10. Course Rating update

So far this year we have rated Rufford Park and Newark. Later this month we will be rating Rushcliffe and Mapperley and we will try to fit in at least two more courses before the end of the playing season.

In each case, new Standard Scratch scores have been allocated, and slope indices for all the courses have been calculated ready for their introduction in the future.

Thanks to Allan Slater and Janet Slater for their help this year and to Jenny Smith for agreeing to help at Mapperley and Rushcliffe. I am very grateful for their help. If anyone else is interested in helping with the course rating please do let me know – I am always very happy to have additional volunteers on board.

Helen Maber Lead Course rating officer.

11. Golf Development Group

Emily Rowbottom had sent a communication for all the clubs which had been forwarded by our Secretary. It contained information national Women's Golf week upcoming on 30th July and support available regarding recruitment and retention of ladies e.g. A free face to face meeting is available to discuss your ladies section with myself and following this we can create a way of working together with my support.

To give you an idea of recent support at a club in Nottinghamshire, it was identified that no ladies members group coaching was taking place. After implementing a coaching block with the pro, 23 lady members have now begun coaching at the club.

12. Feedback from Executive meeting (Not covered elsewhere) All dealt with elsewhere.

13. Secretary's notes

The draft 2019 schedule had been circulated to all the clubs.

At the Golf development group meeting a discussion had taken place with regard to other counties who had merged the Union and Association. The secretary reported that Nottinghamshire representatives feel we should work together but remain as separate entities. This seems to have worked very well over the last 5 years.

The secretary reported that County week had been featured in the local press and radio and on a local TV Station – TV Notts on a program call Aye Up Notts.

14. Any Other Business

The President advised that there were a few places left available on her Presidents day and had entry forms with her.

15. Close of meeting

The captain thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 11.15