

NCLGA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 am Monday 7th March 2022
at Sherwood Forest Golf Club

Present: NCLGA Council members and ladies secretaries/club representatives from Nottinghamshire affiliated clubs, 31 attendees in total

The Captain, Audrey MacMillan welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending

1. Apologies for absence

There were 3 apologies from NCLGA Council members and 4 from club representative

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2019

Due to cancellation of several meetings as a result of Covid restrictions it was two years since a similar meeting had been held

Minutes had been sent to all club secretaries in 2019 and are on the NCLGA website

Approval of the minutes, proposed by Christine Muse, seconded by Helen Haycox

These were accepted as a true record and signed by the County President Eva Glasby

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

4. Captain's Report – Audrey MacMillan

- i. Our first event is the Mixed AmAm at Ruddington Park on Sunday 3rd April. This is run by our Juniors to raise funds for their teams, and is a really nice day. There are still spaces left (the closing date can be extended) - entries on the website.
- ii. The County Waltz is on Mon 11th April at Wollaton, and is full. This has been organised by Vice Captain Caron with a lot of help from Rosemary Lockwood and the Wollaton Ladies' section. We are extremely grateful to all the clubs who host our events and make them so special.
- iii. Our opening match is the annual friendly against Sheffield Union. This year's match is away at Renishaw Park on Friday 22nd April. It's a good chance for our team players to blow off the cobwebs in a relatively relaxed format, but we will no doubt be given a stern test as they will be wanting to make amends for losing rather comprehensively to us last year!
- iv. Sherwood Forest - here, what a tempting view! - is hosting our County Championships and Spring Meeting on Friday 13th May, with the knockouts over the weekend. We've revised the prize structure after feedback from you, the clubs, to redress the balance which was felt to favour the championship players. This means there will be more prizes available for the Spring Meeting component, so do encourage your members to enter. It's such a good value opportunity to play a great course, now with more prizes!
- v. Later in the year we will be holding the Coronation Pairs at Springwater, the Summer & Vets' Meeting at Norwood and the Autumn Meeting at Rushcliffe. Our other Fundraisers, along with the Waltz, are my Captain's Day, an AmAm at Hollinwell and the President's Day AmAm at Newark. These raise money to support the running of our county teams.
- vi. Entry to all of these events can be done now via the NCLGA website which also has useful and interesting information about other local, regional and national golfing events as well as news and results from our county. Please encourage your members to have a look and get involved.
- vii. Speaking of county teams, this year MNR County Week - which is now over 3 days - is taking place at Trentham GC from 20th-22nd June. These are intense days with matches against different counties morning and afternoon, each match comprising 2 foursomes and 3 singles. The fixture unfortunately clashes with the R&A's Women's Amateur Championships in which our very best, most ambitious, players will hope to be competing. Obviously that will affect all the other Counties too, and

NCLGA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 am Monday 7th March 2022
at Sherwood Forest Golf Club

it does create an opportunity for other players to step up and make the team.....go for it! The team will be selected after the County Championships.

- viii. Caron will tell you the Second Team news shortly.
- ix. Leagues.
 - You will have seen that the leagues for 2022 are on the website, and I'm sure most of you will have arranged your matches, and I hope you have been able to negotiate mutually satisfactory catering arrangements.
 - The Scratch League is now in three divisions of three teams. It continues to be played between teams of three.
 - Both Silver and Bronze have 5 Divisions of 4 teams, with 7 players per team except in division E which has teams of 5 players. This was agreed after consultation with the clubs.
 - The revised handicap limits, again decided after listening to feedback from the clubs, will be up to and including 19.5 for Silver, and 16.0 – 36.0 for Bronze. Hopefully everyone is more used to the new WHS system, and handicaps are perhaps less volatile than when first introduced, which may make your match secretaries' jobs a bit easier this season. I'm a very optimistic person!
- x. I hope we all have good, fairly 'normal' season. Given what is happening elsewhere right now, we must be thankful we can get out and enjoy a game of golf. Thank you.

5. Vice Captain's Report – Caron Harrison

- i. The 2nd Team matches for 2022 season have been organised:
- ii. We will play:
 - a. Leics away at The Leicestershire and at home at Radcliffe-on-Trent
 - b. Lincs away at Elsham and at home at Retford Golf ClubAll matches are in July & August - dates on website
- iii. We are always on the lookout for new blood in our County Teams. Second team fixtures, although very competitive, are played in a great, friendly, sociable atmosphere. If any clubs who have members with handicaps around 10 or below who may be interested in playing in County Teams, particularly second team, can you please make us aware by emailing either myself or Di Whittaker our secretary. We don't want any stars slipping through the net!
- iv. The County Waltz is now full and the draw is on the website....thank you Gillian. Also, a big thank you to Rosemary Lockwood for making all the arrangements and to Wollaton Park golf club for agreeing to host the event. All profits from the day go towards Notts teams' funds. We will be holding a bottle raffle on the day and would be very grateful for any prize donations.

6. Handicap Adviser's report – Val Dowthwaite

- i. The role of CONGU has now changed and although still there as a jurisdiction it no longer has an active role in handicapping.
- ii. All information regarding handicapping can now be found on the EG website including the Mixed Tee Calculator which is an extremely useful tool.
- iii. Annual Reviews will have been completed but we should be mindful that reviews are ongoing processes and are not necessarily confined to end of year. If a Handicap Committee considers that an adjustment greater than 2 shots is required to a player's Handicap Index, this should only be applied under exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances could include a player who has a long-term illness, injury or incapacity, preventing them from playing golf at the Handicap Index level previously attained. Temporary loss of form should never be considered as a reason for increase.
- iv. Adjustments greater than 5 shots can only be sanctioned by the County Association.

NCLGA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 am Monday 7th March 2022
at Sherwood Forest Golf Club

- v. Players must be informed should any adjustment be made by the committee; this should be done in writing and players given the right to appeal the decision made by the committee.
- vi. Appeals sit on 3 levels –
 - Club Review – Should a player question the decision; the club should offer the player the opportunity to discuss the decision with the committee.
 - County Appeal – Should the player wish to appeal the decision following discussions with the club, this must be done via the County Association.
 - England Golf Appeal – Appeals to England Golf will only be considered once the Club and County have made their decision. The outcome of this appeal is final.
- vii. General Play Score Intents created before 1st November 2021 should all now have been removed from players' records.
- viii. In future, Golfers and attesters should receive email reminders to submit scores and if ignored the system will apply an automatic penalty score to handicap records.
- ix. Event organisers can set specific criteria for their events such as handicap limits or the requirement that a minimum number of scores be submitted for handicap purposes, over a period of time. This could be a combination of Competition and General Play scores. There is a useful report in the Reports Section of the Club Platform which shows a breakdown of Competition v General Play scores. Any such criteria however must be clearly stated in your Terms of Competition.
- x. The closing date for entry into the Regional Finals of the 2021 Women's Medal is fast approaching – the 16th March. Each club's results can be found in the Reports section of the Club Platform.
- xi. If the winner is unable to play in the Regional Finals, a memento will be forwarded after all rounds have been played. You should contact Championships@englandgolf.org with the winner's details.
- xii. Can I remind clubs that any queries regarding Handicapping or Rules of Golf should be addressed to the relevant County Advisors and not Regional Advisors or England Golf?
- xiii. Finally, my assistant Maureen Clarke, will be retiring from office at the AGM in November 2022.
- xiv. Anyone interested in the position of Assistant County Handicap Advisor can apply in writing to myself and applications should be received no later than May 31st.
- xv. Maureen's replacement will be announced at the Council Meeting to be held at Beeston Fields Golf Club on July 11th 2022.
- xvi. Please contact me if you require further details about the position.
- xvii. I wish everyone an enjoyable 2022 golfing season and thank you for your attention.
- xviii. Val Douthwaite (County Handicap Advisor)

0798 397 9646 douthwaiteval@gmail.com

7. Financial Report – Carol Houghton treasurer

- i. I would like to thank Jenny for all the help she has given me in taking over the role of treasurer. The books and records were all very clear and precise. I hope I can continue in the same vein.
- ii. On 28th February there was a total of £66,724 in the account compared to £51,012 at the year-end September 2021. To date this year, we have received £8,020 for County competitions and £3558 in affiliation fees. Costs for competitions are still to be made.
- iii. The move to payment by BACS has been very smooth and I hope this makes things easier for golfers entering competitions.

8. Competitions Secretary's report - Rosemary Lockwood

Due to personal circumstances, Rosemary was unable to attend and provide a report for the meeting

NCLGA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 am Monday 7th March 2022
at Sherwood Forest Golf Club

9. Midland North Report - Clare Jones MNR rep and EG voting member

i. Competition Information and entry forms are now available on the England Golf website and can be accessed by clicking the Competitions button on the main menu on the home page, followed by the Women's Region button the subsequent drop down list. The url is also included in this report:
<https://www.EnglandGolf.org/competitions/womens-regional-events/midlands-north-region-competitions/>

The Australian Spoons, Girls Championships and Queen of Clubs entry forms can also be accessed from the NCLGA website. The link on the fixtures list also takes you to the England Golf

ii. Midland North region page.

I am aware that not all clubs in the county enter the Australian Spoons but it does offer those in the 15 - 54 handicap range an opportunity to represent their club at a regional competition and of course the further possibility of getting to the National Final. It would also be good to encourage more junior girls to play in the Girls Championships especially those who might be ready to gain further experience whether that be in the 18-hole or 36-hole competition.

iii. England Golf Updates:

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the last "on-line" county update but received notes from my MNR colleagues. Many of the main points have already been communicated to you via our County Handicap Adviser but counties were asked specifically to point clubs towards all the resources and toolkits that are available to help with such things as club governance, policies and handicaps.

I will be attending a Regional update meeting at Woodall Spa in three weeks' time and in April the AGM and Voting Members General meeting. I will send an update from these meetings in May.

10. Junior Report – Suzanne Taylor

- i. All the 1st and 2nd team Junior Matches are on the website. We have a couple in Notts this year so if you would like to watch our juniors you are most welcome to come along.
- ii. Our Squad Training has started again on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Norwood Park. If you have any juniors at your club who are interested in joining us whether they have a handicap or not please get in touch.
- iii. Our fund raiser AM-AM is on April 3rd at Ruddington Grange. We would very much appreciate your support. Entry forms available at the meeting.

11. County Development – England Golf support officer Emily Rowbottom

Due to recent bereavement Emily was unable to attend the Council Meeting. Clare Jones gave some topics that would be included in the July Council Meeting when Emily will be present, such as social media & communications, development, volunteering & governance & women in golf charter

12. Secretary's notes – Dianne Whittaker

- i. **Reminder of information required:**
 - Deadline 31st March: Will club secretaries please inform me of ladies who are members of clubs in more than one county and of which counties they are full and associate members. Nil returns useful.
 - Updates of lady officials needed ASAP. This helps communication and information sharing
 - Ladies who need to use a buggy in county matches
- ii. **Thanks:** to the clubs/individuals who have already responded, very much appreciated
- iii. **Trophy return:** Thanks to Norwood for returning trophies ready for the Spring Meeting

NCLGA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 am Monday 7th March 2022
at Sherwood Forest Golf Club

- iv. **Interclub:** Competing teams should check with each other and with host club to make sure everything is in order
- v. **Assistant NCLGA Secretary:** Babs Banfield was introduced as assistant and will be formally appointed at the 2022 AGM

13. Any other business

- i. **Finances:** The total of circa £66k was queried. It reflects a healthy sum but can be misleading as competition and affiliation fees are accumulating but prizes and other costs such as for travel and accommodation still to be deducted.
- ii. **Number of qualifying competitions pa:** There is no specified number but clubs may set their own for certain occasions
- iii. **Winter qualifying competitions:** Questions and discussion followed around this topic. It seems that each club will have a different approach partly depending on course conditions, number of winter tees and greens in play, whether or not there is a slope rating when playing off winter tees, preferences etc.

After the meeting Val Dowthwaite provided the following information.

I received responses from 12 clubs in total with the last one received quite recently.

Of the 12, 6 played Qualifying Competitions on a regular basis depending on course conditions/availability.

6 played no Qualifying Competitions for a variety of reasons (see below):

- tees permanently in a forward position
- holes out of play as a result of drainage problems
- long term course maintenance
- no rated course for the winter period
- team games played during the winter months

As you can see clubs have very different approaches to winter golf and opportunities for playing Qualifying Competitions vary greatly.

The question about non-qualifying competitions, when there are more than 2 temporary greens in play, was raised at the Council Meeting this morning.

I explained that in the event of there being 3 temporary greens, 2 holes with temporary greens would be in play as long as the course wasn't adjusted by more than 100 yards and the 3rd hole would be classed as 'out of play'.

The 'out of play' hole would be shown on a player's card by the relevant symbol for Hole not started (HandicapMaster uses a /) and the appropriate score would be entered by the computer (net par).

Similarly, if there are 5 temporary greens, 3 would be classed as 'out of play'.

See the attached file: Winter Golf Checklist

Another point raised this morning but after the meeting was closed, related to Handicap Limits in Competitions.

See the attached file: Defining Handicap Limits.



Winter Golf Checklist
- Branded v2.1 (1).pdf



Defining-Handicap-Limits-in-Competitions

14. Date of next meeting Monday 11th July, 10.30am at Beeston Fields Golf Club, workshop format
Meeting closed at 11.24