

## NCLGA COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.30 am Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
at Sherwood Forest Golf Club

**Present:** NCLGA Council members and 32 ladies secretaries/club representatives from Nottinghamshire affiliated clubs, 42 attendees in total

The Captain, Carol Houghton welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance

### 1. Apologies for absence

There were 2 apologies from NCLGA Council members and 14 from club representatives

### 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

These were accepted and as a true record and signed by the President Maureen Clarke

### 3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

### 4. Captain's Report – Carol Houghton

(i) The golfing season begins at Radcliffe with a mixed AM-AM on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April and raises funds to support the junior girls. There are still places available for this event, forms are available for collection and are also available on the County website. 3 days later we have our traditional friendly match with the Sheffield Union at Coxmoor on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April Thank you to Coxmoor to agreeing to host this event for the second year running after last year's match being cancelled due to fog.

(ii) The first ladies comp is the County Waltz on the Signature Course at The Nottinghamshire on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April. This Comp is now full so thank you to everyone who has entered and thank you to Helen for helping to organise the day. This event raises funds for the Notts teams along with my Captain's Day which is on the Championship Course at The Nottinghamshire on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Places are still available for this one so please grab an entry form. The County appreciates all your support and is very grateful to The Nottinghamshire for allowing us to host these events.

(iii) This year's County Champs are being held at Worksop, from Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May and the Coronation Cups, a betterball, is at Rushcliffe on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

(iv) We have changed the Summer meeting, held at Wollaton, and the Autumn meeting at Ruddington, to Stablefords. We hope this change in format will encourage more entries into these Comps. There will still be gross competitions however at these meetings so if you want to go for the gross comp you will need to putt out. The summer meeting will again include the vets' trophy competition the winner of this going on to compete in the England Golf final. All these comps are great value for money. They are aimed at a wide range of playing abilities and a great way of meeting golfers from other Clubs.

(v) County week is to be played at The Shropshire this year, with a new format. It will be played over 3 days, with teams of 2 foursomes and 3 single players playing twice a day on Monday and Tuesday and once on Wednesday against the other 5 Counties in the MNR. We have at least three junior players who will be competing for squad places this year which is great.

(vi) The final comp of the year will be Maureen's President day at Wollaton on 7<sup>th</sup> October. The entry form will be added to the website shortly.

(vii) There are links on the website to lots of competitions, MNR and National events, Notts Veterans, Notts Past Captains, all well worth playing in.

I hope you all have a very enjoyable golfing season.

Thank you.

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### 5. Vice Captain's Report – Helen Haycox

(i) All 2<sup>nd</sup> County team matches for 2019 have been organised

(ii) Clubs are requested to make sure that we are aware of any lady golfers with handicaps of 8 and below. This can be done by forwarding an email to Lynne Williams, our honorary secretary. We would welcome the opportunity to widen the range of players that we have to select from for the county 2<sup>nd</sup> team.

(iii) The County Waltz is now full and the draw is available on the website. Thanks to Gillian for uploading

### 6. Handicap Adviser's report – Val Dowthwaite

#### (i) World Handicapping System:

➤ The WHS is scheduled for introduction in 2020 so with this in mind, clubs are asked to encourage members to submit as many qualifying scores as possible. Transition from the CONGU Handicapping System to the WHS will use scores returned in 2019 (and even earlier for some players). The best 8 out of the last 20 calculated gross differentials will be used in the process so it is important that these scores are as accurate as possible. The more qualifying scores submitted, the more accurate a WHS handicap will be.

#### (ii) Supplementary Scores:

➤ Supplementary scores may be encouraged as a way of increasing the number of qualifying scores played. A player should register their intent prior to commencement of play and submit the card for handicap purposes afterwards. There is no limit to the number of scores a player may return at any club they are a member of. Category 1 players however may only return supplementary scores in order to retain or maintain a competition handicap.

#### (iii) Nine-hole Competitions:

➤ It is accepted that as a result of time or physical constraints, there may be members who are unable to play in 18-hole competitions. In the interest of inclusion, there is an expectancy that clubs will continue to offer nine-hole medal or stableford qualifying competitions to their members.

#### (iv) Recording of No Returns:

➤ CONGU has issued advice on the recording of no returns in Qualifying Competitions and Supplementary Scores. When the scores are entered into the computer the actual gross score for all the **completed** holes should be input and in no circumstance should a 'no score' be entered for every hole. While the practice of entering a zero for a bad score has no impact on the CONGU handicap calculation, under the averaging approach of the WHS such a practice may have an adverse impact on the calculation of the new Handicap Index. It is important that clubs take action now, to eradicate this practice and educate players on the significance of ensuring that scores are entered accurately into the computer.

#### (v) Maximum Score Competitions:

➤ A new, additional format of scoring for stroke play was introduced on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Maximum Score Competition is an alternative to the main traditional Medal, Stableford and Par/Bogey scoring systems. It is not expected that clubs will replace their traditional Medals with the Maximum Score Competition but hopefully some may be added to their calendar.

➤ The maximum score system may be useful at club level for beginners or less experienced players or where pace of play is of particular concern.

➤ The player's score for each hole is capped at a maximum set by the committee. The score may be 'fixed' against par such as +5, +6 etc or related to par such as 2 x par or triple bogey. It is worth

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noting however that the CONGU approach, which is supported by ISV Software, is to define the number of strokes above par e.g. +5, +6.

- CONGU has also directed that Competitions capped at less than par +5 per hole will not be eligible for handicap alterations and will be deemed as non-qualifying. This means that if clubs adopt a double par cap, they will not meet the criteria of par +5 and the competitions will be non-qualifying.
- So, to clarify, if clubs choose a cap of +5 which my own club has elected to do, players will pick up after a maximum of 8 shots on a par 3, 9 shots on a par 4 and 10 shots on a par 5. The appropriate score will be entered on the card.
- England Golf have stated that these scores will count for the England Golf Medal Qualification. The handicap limit for qualification for the England Golf Medal Regional Finals has been raised from 36 to 40.

Feel free to contact Val with any queries you may have.

Val wished everyone an enjoyable 2019 golfing season.

### 7. Financial Report – Jenny Smith treasurer

**(i)** Since my last report at the AGM there has been very little financial activity save to say that the affiliation fees are up to date and the income from donations has soared to £1616.00. This money has come from the Taskers Trophy, a golf day organised by Margaret Thorpe, a Ruddington member, and Maureen Clarke who has given any money she has received from clubs for her rules talks to the junior section. Thank you to everyone for this. Looking at the figures, there is an increase of 6 lady members over last year and a decrease of 1 of junior girl although it is not certain how accurate the numbers are as the girls do not pay affiliation fees.

**(ii)** We continue to receive money from the Notts Golf Partnership which goes towards the coaching for the junior girls. We still have just over £2000 to spend this year and next and this funding has meant we in the county can allocate more money to support junior events and ensure they have smart kit and are well presented for matches.

**(iii)** If you were at the AGM, you will have seen how stunning the county trophies looked. We have spent just over £6000 having them repaired, updated, cleaned and valued so that now we have a more accurate figure for insurance purposes. We are ensuring that our records are up to date and not only do we have hard copies of the valuation, but they are on memory sticks for computer use. We are at the moment talking to the insurers re the valuation. One of the main problems is that we do not have anywhere to store or display these cups, so we rely heavily upon the winners of the trophies for safe keeping. We are also considering self-insurance where we put aside a designated figure each year to cover any losses incurred.

**(iv)** At the AGM in November 2017 it was agreed to bring the affiliation fees in line with the NUGC by 2020. Therefore, the executive committee have agreed that the fees for November 2019 - November 2020 will be £9.50, an increase of £1.50.

**(v)** So, in conclusion I think we can safely say that our accounts are in a healthy position having had a very busy year last year with a total of £33,830 in the bank.

### 8. Midland North Report – from Clare Jones

**(i)** We are speedily approaching the start of the Midlands North competition season and all entry forms and details are now available on the Midlands North section of the England Golf website. The quickest way to access these forms is through the County website using the “Competitions” menu and County Fixtures listing.

**(ii)** Our first event is the Regional Foursomes and, although not our most popular competition, is supported by a dedicated group of foursomes teams. Please do send your entries in whether you are a

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regular entrant or a new convert to this format. The Bridgestone competition is now the England Golf Medal as Bridgestone have ended their sponsorship. Clubs should have received their competition entry pack in February. If you have not received it do contact England Golf directly today as the closing date for entries is 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**(iii)** I would also like to remind you of the entry conditions for the Queen of Clubs competition. It is principally for Club Champions however if your Champion is unable to play then you can nominate a representative to play in the event. There are no conditions specified on the designation of a club champion as we recognise that not all clubs have a specific competition, some, for example, may have an "order of merit" or "player of the year" so do consider whether you could nominate a representative from your ladies' section.

**(iv)** England Golf have held a series of Regional Meetings with Voting Members one of which I attended earlier this month. England Golf have made budgetary savings of £456,000 in 2018. The other main items on the agenda were:

**(v) An update on the Worldwide Handicapping System** – the full launch is scheduled for November 2020 with a transition period where both the existing and new system will be running.

**(vi) Insurance** – agreement has been reached with Bluefin sports meaning that insurance cover will become a member benefit through your EG affiliation fee, currently the sum involved is 29p per golfer for a £10 million personal liability cover.

**(vii) Club Support and Participation Programmes** – there has been a review of the club support delivery and at the time of the meeting the outcomes from this review could not be shared as consultations with the England Golf staff involved were taking place.

**(viii) The Participation Programmes** have been rationalised into three main programmes – Get Into Golf, Girls Golf Rocks and Express Golf

**(ix) Sport England Funding post 2021** – further discussions cannot take place until after the government has undertaken the Strategic Spending Review.

**(x) Affiliation Fee 2020** – the proposal is for a 50p increase to £9.50p. This proposal will be brought to the England Golf AGM on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Clare looks forward to being with you at the next Council Meeting in July.

### 9. Junior Report – Suzanne Taylor

**(i)** We sadly said goodbye to John Vaughan and Dan Parkes at the end of last season. John had coached the girls for a brilliant 20 years and Dan for 5 years.

**(ii)** Fortunately, we have been able to secure the services of Richard Strange the Head Coach at Norwood Park where we have been made extremely welcome.

**(iii)** Also new this year is the kit. We are going to have red shirts and black tops

**(iv)** This year we are going to have coaching on the second Wednesday of the month from 6-8 at Norwood Park. The first 2 sessions have been extremely successful having 24 girls each time.

**(v)** Suzanne thanked Maureen for her rules talks and Carol, Helen and Di Payne for coming over to support

**(iv)** Please encourage any juniors you have at your club. We have an amazing 'buzz' on the Wednesday evenings and any girl is most welcome. More details are available on the website. Part of our work with the girls is the Nippers Tour. Please encourage your girls to join in. It's great fun and they will be well looked after. Flyers were available for collection

### 10. Webmaster's Report – Gillian Stump

**(i)** Information about county competitions, matches etc can be found on the NCLGA website, see item 4(vii)

**(ii)** Clubs may send entry forms about their open competitions for inclusion on the website

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### 11. Course Rating Update – from Helen Maber

(i) Courses only rated during the playing season (typically May - October), so no change since the AGM.

(ii) There is a busy year ahead and the aim is to try to rate the remaining Nottinghamshire courses in preparation for the introduction of the World Handicapping System in 2020. There are 32 courses in the county with 10 left to do. These will be rated this year if possible.

### 12. County Development Group. Presentation by our club support officer Emily Rowbottom

Following the presentation at the NCLGA Council Meeting please see below the links relating to the resources mentioned and handed out.

Any queries please get in touch, Emily would welcome a meeting at your club.

Get into golf Printable templates

<https://www.englandgolf.org/club-support/membership-growth-retention/get-into-golf-clubs/printable-templates/>

Get into golf Digital assets

<https://www.englandgolf.org/club-support/membership-growth-retention/get-into-golf-clubs/digital-templates/>

Challenge Scorecard for newbies

<https://www.englandgolf.org/article/do/>

Other resources

<https://www.englandgolf.org/club-support/membership-growth-retention/get-into-golf-clubs/guidance-resources-tools/>

### 13. Increasing participation of women in golf – Carol Houghton

**Access to County Comps for Working Woman has been raised by various ladies over the past few months.**

(i) NCLGA exec would like to put forward the following proposals for discussion at the next Council meeting in July, where we will welcome all views and further ideas.

(ii) Moving certain County Comps from their traditional Monday dates to a Sunday afternoon.

(iii) Moving certain County Comps to a Monday within the school holidays, aiming specifically at women

(iv) working in the education sector and of course juniors.

(v) Moving the Ladies inter-club times from early afternoon tee-times to be in line with the mixed inter-club times of 4/4.30pm.

(vi) Moving the Ladies inter-club final from a Monday to the same Sunday as the Men's and mixed finals.

(vii) Encouraging Clubs to arrange afternoon League matches.

### 14. Secretary's notes

(i) **Reminder:** Deadline 31<sup>st</sup> March: Will club secretaries please inform Lynn Williams of ladies who are members of clubs in more than one county and of which counties they are full and associate members and also remind those ladies who wish to use a buggy in county matches to request permission from Lynn Williams. Thanks to those clubs/individuals who have already responded

(ii) **Updates:** Thank you to all clubs for sending updates of their lady officials

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### 15. Any other business

**(i) Course assessment:** 10 courses still to be assessed see item 11(ii). Concerns raised that some clubs may not be assessed in 2019. D Whittaker will send query to Helen Maber

**(ii) Maximum score competitions:** See item 6(v). Question was asked why could clubs not have the same system. Clubs can make their own decisions. Maximum score, not a zero, is entered on the score card

**(iii) PING:** Several clubs had received information about the PING competition. For those that hadn't received it they were advised to contact Woodhall Spa.

### 16. Date of next meeting

15<sup>th</sup> July, 10.30am at Beeston Fields Golf Club

Meeting closed at 11.24am