



Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association

Delegates meeting at Warrington GC October 14th 2013

County Secretary introduced Warrington's Lady Captain, who welcomed all the Delegates to Warrington GC and then introduced 2013 County Captain Mrs Luci Foster

County Captain Mrs Luci Foster introduced the top table to everyone:

President Mrs Lis Wilson, County Vice Captain Mrs Pauline Clegg, IPC Mrs Hilary McNeil, County hon Sec Mrs Ann Mc Cormick, and also in attendance Mr Sean Hammill the CGP County Development Officer,

And again thanked the delegates for attending and introduced:

Mr Sean Hammill - Regional Development Officer for England Golf.

Sean explained his role as he looks after 4 counties and is responsible for supporting the CGP's in the Whole Sport Plan. England Golf is in the process of developing a strategy plan and a series of consultation presentation meetings are taking place, the next step is at the County level and all your clubs have been invited the first letters went out to your clubs in July and again more recently – please check with your club manager/secretary that he/she has seen the letter from England Golf and that your club is being represented there. They want feedback from golf clubs and this is your chance to have your say about what you want to see happen.

The dates for Cheshire are at Sandiway GC on the 22nd October and Ringway GC on the 23rd both starting at 7pm. Ann will email the original invitation out to you all so that you can all attend if you want to. David Joy the new CEO will be at Sandiway and Richard Flint will attend Ringway GC. The Whole sport plan has been given 13million and our operational plan has a part of the funding to increase participation in golf with junior development for 14 -18.

We work along with the golf foundation who link in with school and local golf clubs.

For the age group of 14 -25 Craig Thomas our county development officer is working with universities with freshers week recently delivering taster sessions and also we have Adult beginner coaching taster sessions running across the county "Get into Golf" campaign which all charge £25 for 5 beginner lessons.

Part of the operational plan has targets to achieve and we have one off events where we take our inflatable net out to get golf out there, recently we were at the Cheshire Show and Bolesworth Horse Trials, Manchester 10k run, Media City etc.

In addition to this we have targets to meet with developing golf through disability groups with Craig's expertise on delivering specific coaching to specific needs e.g. disability can be healthcare groups, groups with diabetes, mental healthcare etc. England golf has now a specific disability officer.

We have the talent player pathway through our County Academy to grow the talent and feed into the elite golfing teams with the association and the union. There are 79 currently on the academy all over 14 years old. England golf has recognized that through Sport England there was a lack of funding for the under 14 so we can now still develop our youngsters but it will be self funding and not through Sport England.

There will be a new marketing structure soon with the new addition of a marketing person which you should see very soon.

targets as it is laid out in our development plan for Cheshire.

Sean thanked the delegates for the opportunity to speak and asked if any questions before leaving.

Mrs Jackie Hesketh - Competiton Secretary West Division.

Jackie explained that the county have been taking a look at the England Golf Buggy Policy as it seems more and more ladies are using buggies to play their competitions and matches. Jackie asked the clubs to ask their club what their policy is and whether it complies with the England Golf Policy. It is all to do with the equality act which came in a couple of years ago and we have put into practice this year to comply with this act and the England golf recommendations.

Jackie suggested that delegates should visit the England Golf website and take it to the clubs council if no policy is in place.

Mrs Luci Foster - County Captain 2013

County Fixture Books

County Captain explained that the executive committee were looking at an alternative to the fixture books as we know as we visit many clubs there are many books not being used and although we reduce the amount we print every year we wondered whether we could have your thoughts on approaching a company like "intelligent golf" so that you would be able to apply and pay on line for any county competitions.

The view from the floor was an approval of this move as County Captain explained the costs of setting this up were similar to that of the printing – we would make sure that every golf club had a book which could sit on a notice board but an online system would seem the way to move the County forward from possibly 2015.

Mrs Barbara Baird – Junior Organiser

Barbara thanked the clubs for their support over the time that she has been the junior organiser and the exec's for the help along with her junior committee.

Barbara gave a brief report of the success of our girls and explained that even the little ones have competitions to play and start over 6 holes there are 3 girls will be taking up coaching with England Golf and Barbara has enjoyed being part of the progression with the juniors and enjoyed her position with the county, Maria Hudson from Delamere Forest GC will be taking over from me in November and Barbara wished her every success.

Mrs Luci Foster – County Captain

Working Ladies:

We recognize in the County that our fixtures don't accommodate working ladies as all the competitions are played in the day, so for a trial next year we have added a singles Stableford competition at Warrington GC on Monday 23rd June with tee times from 4.30 -6.30pm, although this is not listed on your fixture list in your envelope it will be in the fixture book and also online too, we hope that this will be well supported and we can look at it again for 2015.

Mrs Lis Wilson – County President 2013/14

President explained when visiting the smaller clubs in the County it is apparent that many members are not playing for their handicap as often as they would like, but the opportunities to play in bigger fields would be there if the smaller local clubs joined up and held a competition at each others clubs in

There has been a reduction in all categories—a worrying trend—how can we stop it?

Is golf a game or a business???

What is causing this trend? Money? Image of the game, GCs? Value for money/Are golfers treated like valued customers? Pace of play?

Should we encourage more family membership as in some European countries?

There are over 1,000,000 unattached golfers? How do we encourage them to be members of GCs?

April/May 2014 there will be a National Golf Month—there will be unique Media coverage. Maybe your GC would like to be involving for 5 lowest h/caps from your club.

County Delegates Questions from the floor:

1. One club has a hole in one fund and wondered whether it would be appropriate for a junior to win the money – answer: it would have to be in the form of a voucher not cash.
2. The England golf memento goes out in August/September and one club is worried that as it is now October and their presentation evening fast approaching what should they do – answer from one lady delegate who phoned England Golf and one was in the post immediately.
3. Heaton Moor club asked if in the shields matches one of their ladies has a buggy, can she play in the matches – answer: as long as she has a doctors note and approval from the Shield organizers or the County

Wendy Taylor The County Handicap Advisor stated that CONGU are making some possible changes and there will be a h/cap, delegates meeting in January which will cover this item.

As we did not have Any Other Business the Captain closed the meeting at 8.30pm and thanked everyone for their input and for attending the Meeting.

Ann McCormick
Hon. Secretary

**THE NEXT DELEGATES MEETING HAS BEEN BOOKED AT
WARRINGTON GC MONDAY 20TH JANUARY**