



Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association

Delegates meeting at Warrington GC October 8th 2012

County Secretary introduced Warrington's Lady Captain, who welcomed all the Delegates to Warrington and then County Secretary introduced 2012 County Captain Mrs Hilary McNeil

County Captain Mrs Hilary McNeil introduced the top table to everyone:

President Mrs Sue Gravely, County Vice Captain Mrs Luci Foster, County hon Sec Mrs Ann Mc Cormick, IPC Ms Win Heath, County hon Treasurer Mrs Rhona Bowler, NEWGA Representative Mrs Marjorie Griffiths, Handicap Advisers Mrs Wendy Taylor and Mrs Wendy Simm and also in attendance Mr Craig Thomas the CGP County Development Officer, Barbara Baird the County Junior Organiser, Marian Scowcroft Junior Competition Secretary and members of the county executive.

And again thanked the delegates for attending and introduced Mrs Marjorie Griffiths from NEWGA.

Marjorie Report from NEWA: 1) Almost one year since the merger of EGU & EWGA was passed & England Golf became the National Organisation. As the Cheshire delegate for England Golf North Region I have attended two meetings at Woodhall Spa. These meetings are attended by 1 delegate from the Asscn & Union of each County. To most of us the merger has been seamless & very little has changed, but there has obviously been great upheaval to many people who have worked for both EWGA & EGU. The Edgbaston office has now closed & positions have been filled for the various sections of EG.

2013 will see the true merger of several areas such as Championships, Elite Coaching etc & contact details will be in the 2013 Year book & on the EG website.

The latest item of news from W.Spa is that John Petrie the newly appointed CEO for EG has very recently handed in his resignation.

2) EG Website—please visit this website along with the CCLGA website. EG website is good & contains most of the information that you may require—at the Northern meeting most of the Northern Counties found that it wasn't the easiest to negotiate—this has been reported---Northern results are poorly reported for example. If you have any comments, ideas, suggestions—please E mail me. The complete calendar for National & Regional Champs can be found, certainly for the next year & often for the next year.

3) At the last meeting I mentioned the Members Benefit Card—I understand that there has been a good response, although this still needs to be promoted in your clubs.

Some good news is that we have had 2 winners;

Romiley-- McDonald Hotel Break

Mellor & Townscliffe-- McDonald Hotel vouchers

Also Didsbury male member –Powacaddy

There a considerable number of discounts re Golf equipment to be had.

Keep your eye on the website.

4) At the June meeting at W. Spa the proposal for the National Affiliation Fees was passed. The merger document stated that these fees should come in line for the 2014 season.

This will be achieved in this way: before the merger(2011) the members of the EGU decided to

increase their fees by £1 in each of the next 2 years—therefore: 2012 £6.25 & 2013:£7.25.

This year :2012—we paid £8.90 + £2.50 & next year we will pay £8.25 + £2.50 & in the following year 2014 we will pay £ 7.25(Same as the men)

It was v interesting to see the breakdown of affiln fees paid to Counties by their members—varied from £2.30---£10.00!!!!!! Great disparity! We pay £4.00.Food for thought??????

5)Northern Counties Results---2012

Northern Foursomes Champs----17-19th April—Lancs hosted this at Hesketh GC—won by Chris Stokes & Sophie Lamb(Clitheroe GC).

Northern Medal Final—23rd May—Yorks hosted this event at York GC.Won by Louisa Brunt.

CMW—10-15 June hosted by Yorks at Ganton GC.

Lancs were eventual winners & they went on to represent the North in the English Champs, hosted by Devon at East Devon GC. They finished a very close second to Essex with the same points losing by ½ point on countback of games won!!!!The North always give a very good account & Lancs were v unlucky to lose out.

Australian Spoons---hosted by Yorks at Garforth GC & the winners were Janet Ions & Jean Halligan from Tytherington GC who went to represent the North at the East Devon GC(part of the National Finals) & Janet & Jean won—the first time a Cheshire pair have won this National Champs—Well done to them both.

This is a comp for club players with h'cap 21-36 & is a stableford foursomes; all the details can be found on the website.

Northern Ladies Close Champs---this was hosted by Northumberland at Hexham GC.Yorks Charlotte Austwick won the Slazenger Trophy.

Northern Girls' Champs—this was hosted by Cheshire at Bromborough GC & 60 of the best girl golfers in the North played. The overall winner was Ellie Goodall from Selby GC & the runner up was our very own Poppy Finlay, Vicars Cross. Also Ella McClintock, Delamere GC,won best nett Over16/U18 category & Sana Ahmed, Didsbury had the best nett in the U 16 category. Poppy, Ella & Sana also won the Best Nett Team trophy for Cheshire. Apart from the diabolical storm which closed the course & caused the competition to be reduced to an 18 hole comp, it was a good day & my sincere thanks go to Bromborough GC, who were excellent & to the team of Cheshire officials who did a superb job.

Northern Comps for 2013.

N'thern Foursomes—Alwoodley GC,Yorks---9-11 April

N'thern Medal final----Eaton GC,Cheshire—May 23rd

CMW---Bishop Auckland,Durham---17-21 June

N'thern Ladies Close Champs-Tytherington GC,9-11July

Australian Spoons-Boldon GC,Durham-10 July

N'thern Girls'—Haydock Pk,Lancs—14 -August

All details & entry forms can be found on EG & CCLGA websites.

Next year the English County finals will be played at Wilmslow GC 16-20 September & in conjunction with this the Australian Spoons final will be played on 20th.

As your clubs delegate please pass on this information in order to keep your members informed of golf outside their GC. Also communication is a two way thing—please feel free to send comments/ideas to me.

Wendy Taylor Handicap Adviser:

Wendy Taylor thanked clubs for responding to the questionnaire asking for information on the new CSS calculation and Small Field Table and Supplementary Scores for Category 1 players, which will be passed on to the Handicap Committee of England Golf. One club stated that they were dissatisfied that a competition with an entry of 32 players, only 2 scores under par, the computer made the competition reduction only. It was pointed out that the CSS is calculated on the number of players playing to SSS + Buffer Zone. If the CSS calculation deems a competition to be R/O players returning a nett differential below zero shall have their Exact Handicap reduced. Scores returned. The comment was noted.

A question was asked whether Scotland were on the CDH as one of the clubs had a player at University there. Wendy Taylor replied that Scotland had this year adopted their own CDH but so far it was not obligatory. The player must return all away scores to her Home Club, the card to be signed and the CSS verified. Under the CONGU UHS it is the player's responsibility to return away scores to her Home Club.

Wendy Simm asked Delegates to ensure that Handicap Secretaries return information on Single Figure Handicap players, as requested annually, by 1st March following AHR.

Rhona Bowler Hon Treasurer:

Rhona apologised that the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2012 were not ready to circulate at this meeting as they are currently being audited. She advised Delegates that they will be circulated as part of the AGM Agenda papers before the AGM on 12 November 2012.

The Treasurer spoke about the financial security of the Association having made losses in year ended July 2011 and year ended July 2012 and looking at a forecast loss for the year ahead. Whilst costs are being reviewed to ensure they are minimised, the income via the levy also needs to increase to have sufficient impact. There has not been an increase in the levy of £4 per player for at least the last six years. Also the number of playing members has been steadily falling by 11% since 2008 to 2012 which has reduced the annual income by approximately £3,000 per annum. Also recent information gathered at Northern Region indicates the Counties are charging from £4 to £10 levy.

Under her recommendations, the Executive Committee has proposed a proposal to increase the CCLGU (County) levy from January 2014 to £5 per player per annum. The CCLGU levy payable at January 2013 will remain unchanged at £4 per player per annum. Mindful of the financial impact on clubs, clubs may wish to note that this increase of £1 is more than offset by the reduction of £1.65 in EG affiliation fee per player over the next two years from 2012 £8.90, £8.25 in 2013, £7.25 2014. Note also need to pay an LGU levy per player currently at £2.50 per annum. She will mention this proposed change at the AGM.

Barbara Baird County Junior Organiser:

Barbara asked if the Delegates would ensure that they return the list of junior members, duly updated so that our records are correct, this can be done by e-mail or post.

Barbara also stated that Marian Scowcroft, Junior Competition Secretary, and herself were looking for ladies to replace them. Barbara will be relinquishing the role as Junior Organiser next year and Marian is very keen to find a replacement as soon as possible. Marian organises all the competitions for the girls and also takes the Minutes at the Junior Committee Meetings. If anyone is interested in joining the Junior Committee or taking on these roles then please could they contact anyone on the County Executive Committee. They are very rewarding positions and support is given by the Executives on the main

Committee and it is very satisfying to see the girls' progress in the game.

Craig Thomas County Golf Partnership Development Officer:

Craig explained his role within the partnership of the County Union/Association and the PGA was to help increase development. To date there are 24 golf clubs who are Golfmarked with 7 working towards this. There are 15 who are signed up but not active which is disappointing. There is also an accreditation for the golf ranges to be rangemarked and we have a couple that have been through this process.

Various projects ongoing at the moment have been to pilot 'women only' schemes thereby introducing women to golf with various adverts at bus stops/ Cheshire Life and local advertising boards.

Now have a new brand nationally "Get into Golf" - all the same promotional material will be seen around all the counties which is helping to maximize participation and help us to reach our target in Cheshire for 700 ladies to play golf. We need more clubs and professionals to work with us on these sessions and help feed into local golf clubs for developing them into the game and become members. We are working with many social media networks. "Mums in the know" is a project and in October one day at Styal has been arranged with hopefully sessions of 5 for £25 and we have 30 ladies coming to that one and they are all complete beginners.

We recently contacted the WI' groups around the County with no come back as yet but Ann McCormick will keep us posted on any news there.

We are constantly running +16 projects with 26 sessions taking place and trying to obtain 10 on each session and we are currently working with 10 clubs.

We are linking into Universities and have two county ambassadors helping us work with these "Bronte Law" and "James McCormick" who helped out at the National Skills challenge that we held at Mottram in August. For those clubs who have juniors this passport is a great way for the youngsters to develop skills and learn challenges. This competition then competes nationally and the results are posted on the England Website.

County Captain Mrs Hilary McNeil:

County Captain thanked the above for their input into the evening and Hilary went on to say that the lack of support for the County Competitions had been disappointing this year. It was felt that ladies may not understand that, unlike open competitions, the County has to pay a green fee to the club. It is not the intention to make a profit – just cover the cost of the prizes.

In 2013 we will be combining the Westminster Shield Silver with the Westminster Bronze; both to be played at the same golf club on the same day.

Dilys Peake from Warrington made an observation that ladies liked to play more team competitions. County Captain appreciated this but pointed out that the County has two medal Competitions for the Silver Division and Silver and Bronze Team events throughout the year. Perhaps ladies in the past have assumed that the competitions in the County book are only for low handicap golfers.....so a request was made to the Delegates to look at the fixture book and put it on their notice boards and promote the competitions and we would be most grateful for their efforts on our behalf.

As we did not have Any Other Business the Captain closed the meeting at 8.45pm and thanked everyone for their input and for attending the Meeting.

Ann McCormick
Hon. Secretary