

SOUTH REGION – ENGLISH WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Meeting of the South Region Committee held on Friday, 4th November 2011 at
The Oriental Club, Stratford Place, London at 11.00 am

Present: Mrs Catriona Tremlett – Chairman
Mrs Margaret Northcott – Regional Administrator
Mrs Gill Staley – Hampshire
Mrs Marilyn Brown – Kent
Mrs Debbie Edginton – Surrey
Mrs Susan Carey – Sussex
Mrs Sue Smith – Sussex (proposed Representative)

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting with a particular welcome to Mrs Sue Smith who is to be the new Sussex representative, stating she hoped Sue would enjoy her time on the committee.

The Chairman wished to place on record how the Solheim Cup was a wonderful advertisement for Women's Golf. The Committee were informed that EWGA had sent their hearty congratulations to Alison Nicholas and all the Solheim Cup Team.

The Chairman apologised but wished to add County Match Week to the Agenda at item 5.

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| 1 | <u>Apologies:</u> | There were no apologies for absence. | <u>Action</u> |
| 2 | <u>Minutes:</u> | The Minutes of July 4 th 2011, having been agreed were signed as a true record by the Chairman. | |
| 3 | <u>Matters Arising not on the Agenda:</u> | The Chairman reported that affiliation fees will be collected more aggressively in the future. Clubs who were de-registered during this current year had not objected to the £80 charge for re registration.
The committee expressed the view that the defaulters in this region tendered to be from the 'group owned' clubs.

The 'Queen of Clubs' tournament for Club Champions had been placed on hold to enable finalisation of the format of the competition. The committee were of the general opinion that a competition should begin at club level, then county, then region, culminating in a National Tournament.
There appeared to be variations within clubs in selecting club champions throughout our region. Generally the proposed new competition was thought to be a good idea for clubs. | |
| 4 | <u>Matters Arising from the Operational Board Meeting held on August 23rd & October 7th not on the Agenda:</u> | Sue Johnstone is to be the next President of the EWGA. Should the merger be agreed, she will be one of the Presidents of the newly merged organisation. | |

Due to mistakes made on 'count back' on some qualifying scores, there were too many players for the Grand Medal Final.

5 South Region Competitions

Women' Championship.

It was considered a success despite the low entry, possibly due to the loss of entries from Kent players who were at The Open.

The competition was extremely well run by Brenda Gilbey, from the host county, Sussex.

Girl's Championship.

Held at Stoneham GC Hants. Had an entry of 36 players. It was pleasing to note the presence of selectors from England.

Foursomes Championship.

Held at Bearsted GC in Kent, again a small entry field with 14 pairs from Surrey and 10 pairs from Kent. This competition requires better support. Thought will be given in the future as to the format for this competition in the light of the EWGA decision to relax the stipulation that each Region must run a 'Foursomes' Championship as well as a Women's and Girls Championship

Australian Spoons.

Despite of a very hot day, it was considered a success.

It was thought that counties could do more to encourage clubs to enter this competition, particularly as it is for players with higher handicaps. Clubs should be reminded that it could be played on one day or combined with another competition as long as the correct handicaps were held by the two eligible players.

The Chairman reminded representatives that regional competition entry forms should be made available at all Delegate meetings.

County Match Week.

EWGA will increase the allowance towards running costs from £1200 to £1500 in 2012.

This is separate and additional to the 'Facility Fee' granted to the host club from EWGA.

An under spend on the running cost allowance is shared between the participating counties, equally, covering an over spend is shared by the participating counties.

Some counties have express disquiet at not being able to field their best players during CMW.

CT advised that from 2013 some flexibility will be allowed in fixing a date for this competition but EWGA guidelines should be borne in mind.

Following the atrocious weather conditions during the final of the Women's Championship this year, it has been decided to

- revisit the wording on the procedure to follow if, there be reasonable grounds, if a Course becomes unplayable. New wording will be written into the conditions of play for the SR Championships.
- 6 **Questionnaires**
- The response to these had been disappointing. Those that had been received were mostly satisfied with the format of competitions.
It has been decided to give the regions more flexibility with the timings and format for the competitions. This promoted discussion particularly on the SR Foursome Championship. It was decided to leave change, if any, until 2013.
It was suggested this matter should be revisited annually
- 7 **Junior County Match Week**
- This was very successful and enjoyed enormously by all. The competition culminated with Hampshire becoming Champions.
DE pointed out the dates for this competition are in conflict with the British Girls for the next 3 years. Middlesex and Sussex were asked to consider the clashing of dates in 2013, 2014 respectively.
- 8 **The Merger**
- It was reported that members in some clubs appeared not to have had an opportunity to view the DVD.
The Chairman stated that all Counties in the South Region are in favour of the merger. The committee was reminded that a 75% vote in favour by both organisations was required for the merger to take place. **CT**
DE asked if EWGA could make sure sufficient food would be available at the voting meeting which is to be held at The Motor Cycle Museum Birmingham.
- 9 **The Rules Course**
- Candidates from Middlesex (1), Sussex (1) and Surrey (4), had submitted the Rules Questionnaire for consideration.
It appeared not to be generally known that previous successful candidates were allowed to complete the questionnaire and if successful, would be allowed a 2 year extension to their Rules Official status.
A code of conduct was to be introduced for all Referees.
An increase in the entry charge will be made for future courses as after recommendations it was agreed the present £5 fee was too low.
- 10 **Signing up for EWGA database**
- CT had had success with members filling in the EWGA sign up cards at the Regional Competitions this year. She recommended that counties should make this available at all their competitions in 2012 and at Delegate meetings.
Representatives could request a supply of these from head office for future use.
At this point the committee was reminded that from next year on the competition entry forms, there would be an 'opt out' box for those players who did not want their details registered on the database. It will then be up to the competition organisers to forward the email addresses to EWGA at the

conclusion of the tournament.

A suggestion was made that a box for a players CDH number should also be included.

The CDH number appears on most, though not all players Handicap certificates.

11 Succession

Mrs Sue Smith would be replacing Mrs Susan Carey for Sussex.

Mrs Gill Staley hoped to announce her successor shortly. If the merger is not agreed, a new Chairman will need to be chosen from the committee members.

At this point The Chairman expressed her thanks to Margaret Northcott, Administrator, who is retiring, for all her work on the committee.

DE stated that a recent meeting of this regions County Captains, it was asked whether County Captains should be organising the dates for regional competitions.

CT offered a view that should the merger go ahead, County Competition Organisers maybe asked to be their Regional Representatives, as that would be the main purpose of the Regional Committee.

CT also reiterated, yet again, DMDs were not allowed in EWGA competitions and Counties at the moment should follow the 'party line'

12 Future Dates

CT asked for contact details asap, for the following competitions; Girl's Championship Middlesex and the Foursomes Championship Hampshire. The information is required for the entry forms.

Dates for 2013.

CMW Hampshire 24th June Blackmoor GC

Women's Championship Kent TBA

Girl's Championship Sussex TBA

Women's Championship Middlesex TBA

JCMW Middlesex TBA

Australian Spoons Kent TBA

Medal Final Sussex TBA

13 AOB

Further discussion on competitions should wait until the results of the vote on the merger are known.

The cost of engraving of the Regional Trophies will be borne by EWGA. The accounting for this will show one year later, in a competitions accounts.

At the English Close Championship it was observed that players were not thanking the on course helpers. Please will counties remind their players of this common courtesy? It helps in maintaining standards.

MN informed the committee that the room hire charges would be due for review in 2012.

After a short discussion everyone agreed that the hire charge for the room was in line with charges at many golf clubs. The

Oriental Club was a central and convenient place for all members to meet and there was a wish that the meetings could continue to be held there.
CT expressed hers and the remaining committee members thanks to Sue Carey and Gill Staley for their input and valued ideas, shared whilst serving on this committee.

14 Date of the next Meeting

The Committee expressed their sincere thanks to Catriona the Chairman, for all her considerable input to the committee, making it a very happy and worthwhile experience for us all.

The next meeting is due to take place on Monday 27th February 2012.

The meeting closed at approximately 13.25.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....