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**Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Ladies Section of  
Wheathill Golf Club held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2024, 6.30 pm  
at the Cross Keys, Lydford**

<b>Present</b>	Anne Scott (AS)	Ladies Captain
	Sylvia Bates (SB)	New Members Delegate
	Nic Boyd (NB)	Handicap Secretary
	Becky Thompson (BT)	Secretary
	Sam Thorpe (ST)	Treasurer
	Jen Warmington (JW)	Past Captain
	Nicky Wisniewski (NW)	County Delegate

**1. Apologies for absence**

Fiona Cruse (FC)	Vice Captain
Judith Rowsell (JR)	Competition Secretary

**2. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were accepted as an accurate record. Proposed by JW, Seconded by ST and signed by the Lady Captain AS.

**3. Matters Arising**

- Ladies Section are to pay for Lavender Cottage repairs - £30.00. Jim Palmer has stabilised the toilet building. **ST has bill from JP for £30. JW suggested that perhaps we should set up a savings scheme for the replacement of the loo which is sure to come within the next few years. The Committee agreed that in future, any costings to be borne by them should be agreed in advance of the work being carried out not afterwards.**
- "Crowning" on the Greens - we are advised that this is not a problem and have always been cut the way they are for 30 years.

**4. Main Committee**

- Fund Raising Day 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024 - have we any ideas for how to spend the proceeds? **(1) Seats in the starter hut? (2) New netting around driving practice area? (3) Liners for the bunkers so that sand doesn't disappear.** All ideas will be submitted to the Main Committee.

- Astro Turf to be replaced
- New scorecards are on order with a QR card. This will allow multiple enquiries such as handicaps, local rules etc to be accessed on the course.
- A new bridge over the fourth has been completed.
- A new tee for the ladies on the 16th is in progress as bequeathed by Val Boothman.
- Sand on greens - September will see the greens renovated and thatch removed.
- New sand for bunkers! Dave asked for liners for the bunkers so that the sand doesn't disappear.
- A new computer screen is now in operation.
- AE has engaged with the local EG rep.
- Membership continues to increase diary sponsorship payments are near completion.
- AE confirmed the levy which is returned for use by the committee will be £10 for full members.
- If going out to complete a card it **must** be completed, if a round is started it should be finished. This direction is from County via Pete Dunford and Janet Fear, County Handicap Rep.

## 5. **Lady Captain's Report (AS)**

- ICL Mendip at home 26.07.24 - we won all matches which put us in quite a strong position until we played at their course! \_At this point, I would just like to say a big thank you to BT, who stepped in at the last moment. Also, to Elizabeth who stepped in and played so well for our team to assist our win. However, Mendip had their revenge when we played away on 09.08.24, we lost all but one match - thanks to Linda, who got us one point. A very tough course - up hill, ball below and above feet to name but a few reasons!! We also had to give many shots.
- Wheathill Ladies Open/ Pairs Comp went very well on a lovely day! JW will no doubt report on this. I was able to support, due to a change in my personal plans!
- ICL Away v Cricket St Thomas 13.08.24 - we sadly lost 6 - 1 with Linda scoring a win again - it looks like CST has beaten us!
- Senior Ladies Challenge was won by JW, closely followed by Lynn O'Neill and NB!
- ICL Home v Oake Manor 19.08.24 - we won 4 ½ to 2 ½. A very pleasant game with lovely ladies. The result puts us in second place behind Cricket St Thomas. I will let everyone know the results as soon as I know what happens.

## 6. **Vice Captain's Report (FC)(Read by BT)**

On 23 July we had our final Tri-Match of the season at Cricket St Thomas. We had gone into the match with an 11 point lead. Unfortunately for us we were unable to withstand the performances of the Cricket St Thomas' team who did brilliantly ending the day with 216 points. We had 182 and Long Sutton had 178. So, overall Cricket St Thomas took the trophy with 567 points, we were second with 544 and Long

Sutton third with 527. It was just not our day although our ladies put in a valiant effort.

## 7. Treasurer's Report (ST)

Bank balances:	Current Account	£1,009.58
	Charity Account	£2,314.80
	Reserve Account	£1,173.17
	Women On Par Account	£ 0.00

Charity account has received funds from Mixed Open, Ladies Open and Seniors Open which is fantastic.

Away weekend, full balance paid.

I have spoken to Pete Dunford with reference to Karen Forward's entry to Race to Woodhall Spa, and he wasn't debited her entry fee so no refund is due back to him.

## 8. Competition Secretary's Report (JR)(Read by BT)

**The Paul Nicholls Greensome** - Played on Sunday 28 July 2024.

18 ladies entered. My thanks to Sue Ovland for marking Joan and Gaye's Card.

### Results

1 <sup>st</sup> Linda Johnson and Nicky Wisniewski	Nett 67.	£16
2 <sup>nd</sup> Kate Cleverly and Lynn O'Neill	Nett 68. On count back.	£11
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sam Thorpe and Ann Gates	Nett 68.	£5.50

**Senior Ladies Challenge Trophy** - Played on 15 August 2024.

This trophy was donated by Margaret Cross a founder lady member and it is all so a qualifying competition.

### Results

1 <sup>st</sup> Jen Warmington	38pts.	£20
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lynn O'Neill	35pts. On count back.	£15
3 <sup>rd</sup> Nic Boyd	35pts.	

**Ladies Open** - Played on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

A report will be given by JW as the organiser of this competition.

Our next competition will be the Lady Captain's Day Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

## 9. Handicap Secretary's Report (NB)

The turnout for our monthly Stableford and Medal Comps - July stableford had 20 entries with Lorna Elliot winning Div 1 and Fiona Cruse winning Div 2. The August medal had 26 entries and was won by Elizabeth England followed by Liberty Warman and Marion Hodgson. I haven't divided the medal comps into divisions as the award criteria only states divisions for stableford.

OOM lead is still JW!

FC has made contact with Gin (as Chair) to enquire about the status of the Handicap Committee as Pete has retired due to ill health and we are expected to meet as a club handicap committee prior to the end of the season. Thank you to FC for picking up on this but as far as I know there hasn't been any progress in the matter?

I found some emails from Janet Fear in my junk emails this week. I have forwarded these to JR, FC, AS and JW. I think in retrospect it might be useful to send to the whole committee if everyone agrees.

**Medals to be bought and engraved by AS. Item not decided upon yet.**

#### **10. County Delegate's Report (NW)**

Nothing to report.

#### **11. New Members Report (SB)**

One new Lady joined Wheathill during July – Natasha Margetts. I have been in touch with Natasha and met her during the August Club Night.

Two sessions of Women on Par have been held since the last Committee Meeting. Sunday 21st July was attended by 17 ladies and Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August saw 12 ladies attend. The session on 11<sup>th</sup> August was the last one but some of the new / newer ladies are continuing to have lessons and play on the Academy Course. I will continue to work with the ladies who have become members to obtain their handicap, enter monthly stableford and compete in fun Texas Scrambles; and will keep in contact with the ladies who did not join.

For the benefit of the minutes, below is a brief overview of the Women on Par Programme at Wheathill:

During Autumn 2023, our then Lady Captain (JW) applied to Somerset Ladies Golf Association for a Grant to fund our Women on Par sessions. The request was for £1200 (£100 to hold a session every month during 2024). A Grant of £600 was approved by SLGA, with the proviso that Wheathill Golf Club provide the remaining £600. Wheathill Management agreed to fund £600, which has been spent on advertising and refreshments for the Women on Par Sessions. It was decided to hold 6 monthly sessions, starting in March 2024.

I liaised with England Golf and the County Support Officer to ensure we met the criteria to hold Women on Par Sessions.

The response to the advertising was excellent. A total of 22 ladies expressed interest in taking part in Women on Par. Not everyone was able to make every session due to various personal commitments. The numbers attending are as follows:

24 <sup>th</sup> March	16
28 <sup>th</sup> April	14
12 <sup>th</sup> May	12
9 <sup>th</sup> June	10
21 <sup>st</sup> July	17
11 <sup>th</sup> August	12

Each session consists of one hour coaching from one (sometimes two, depending on numbers) Professionals (Martin Liley and Andrew England). All equipment was provided as well as tea / coffee and cake. The last session consisted of 3 teams of 4, playing a Texas Scramble on the Academy Course. The Women on Par sessions are free thanks to the Grant from Somerset Ladies Golf Association.

As well as attending the Women on Par sessions, 8 of the ladies have paid for a series of Group Lessons with Martin and 2 have had private individual lessons to further improve their game.

Ladies from surrounding golf clubs e.g. Kingweston GC, Wincanton GC and Wells GC have taken part in Women on Par, making Wheathill Golf Club the Hub for Women on Par.

Also, as a direct result of Women on Par, 4 ladies have become Full Members of the Ladies Section at Wheathill.

Friendships have been formed and 3 of the 4 new ladies have obtained their handicaps and are working towards improving their game by regularly playing with established members. This can only be good for the game of golf and Wheathill Golf Club.

A huge part of the success of Women on Par is due to the Grant received from SLGA; the support from Wheathill Management; the Professionals and Shop; and the staff in the Clubhouse. Also, and I cannot stress this strongly enough, the never-ending support of the 2023 Lady Captain and the current Lady Captain and fellow Committee Members. Thank you, Ladies.

I will draft an email so Lady Captain (Anne Scott) can apply to SLGA for a Grant to hold Women on Par sessions in 2025. Several 'lessons have been learned' during the 2024 Sessions and it is proposed that the 2025 sessions are held on a weekly / bi-weekly basis (avoiding Easter weekend), starting in March / April.

## **12. Junior Report (JB)**

The Somerset League Jamboree took place at Burnham and Berrow on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July with difficult playing conditions. Our team of Oscar, Jemima, George and Elliott represented us well on the day coming in 7<sup>th</sup> overall from their best 3 scores, Burnham were the winners on the day.

Our next event will be the Junior Open on 25<sup>th</sup> August and we already have over 20 entries.

The number of qualifying cards required for juniors by other clubs was surveyed and the average was 4 so I propose that we adopt that number going forward, this is a compromise from the discussion at the last meeting. I will circulate the junior members so that they are aware of this requirement to enter main club silverware competitions.

**The question of qualifying cards was discussed. The Committee considers that 4 is too few. Any juniors entering a ladies / mixed comp - if under age 13 is OK but 13 and over will be required to have 10 cards for silverware competitions. The men will need to make their own rules.**

### 13. Correspondence

None.

### 14. AOB

**Date and Time of AGM 2024 (FC)** The new date will be 5th December 2024 at 6.30 pm Main AGM afterwards. This is owing to Mark Singleton's final in Turkey.

**Next year's Committee Meeting Dates and Times (FC)** It was generally agreed that we will try out having the meetings on a Tuesday after roll up finish. A time will be stipulated to avoid the meetings starting too late and thereby making the day too long. FC will need to ensure that the Jubilee Room is booked.

**Report on Ladies Open (JW)** 32 ladies took part in the Ladies Pairs Open, held on 1<sup>st</sup> August. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day and fortunately the weather was kind.

The winners were Polly Andrews and Suzannah Angelo-Sparling, from Bath, with 44 pts on count back. Second were Kate Cleverley and Bridget Caddy, from Long Sutton, on 44 pts and 3<sup>rd</sup> were Linda Johnson and Lesley Moore, from Tickenham, on 43 pts, so all very close at the top. The best away team, not in the top 3, were Sam Needle and Lynda Sage, from Stockwood Vale. Longest drive was won by Suzannah Angelo-Sparling and nearest the pin by Gin Stewart. We had a 2's pot but no one actually achieved one so I split the prize between the best front and back 9's, not in the main prizes, and they were Nic Boyd and Christine Coates, from Long Sutton, and Nicky Wisniewski and Jacky Ford, from T & P, respectively.

Although I don't think it was quite as lucrative as a straightforward raffle - The "Hit it to Win It" putting competition was enjoyed by all especially Marion! My sincere thanks go to all those ladies who helped make the day run smoothly – Jude, Gaye, Molly, Sue R and Anne S.

I would suggest that next year, we make the competition a true "Open" and allow pairs or teams solely made up from home players, as we do with the Mixed Open. Hopefully that way we won't have the issue of sweating on numbers and the worry of having to cancel it due to low entries.

**Women on Par - plans for 2025 (AS)** The Committee agreed that we will apply to SLCGA for funding again as it was so successful. JW suggested that we could ask Mel to run some group coaching for the ladies including existing members. SB still has a bottle of gin so it will be raffled on Ladies day.

**NB - roll up** - NB is worried that the morning is not very well organised. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that NB will remedy the situation.

**NB - could a rules and etiquette session be organised to coincide with roll up?** Chat with FC.

**ST - two spot competition last year.** Pro Shop still hold the money. We think it was for the Gin & Tonic competition. **JW and ST to investigate.**

**Meeting concluded at 8.00 pm**

**Date of next meeting:-** Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024, 6.30pm at Cross Keys, Lydford.

**Signed as correct ..... Date ..... 2024**

Anne Scott, Lady Captain