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**Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Ladies Section of
Wheathill Golf Club held on Wednesday 15th March 2023 at
The Cross Keys Inn, East Lydford, Somerset, TA11 7HA**

Present	Jen Warmington (JW)	Ladies Captain
	Jan Street (JS)	Past Captain
	Sam Thorpe (ST)	Treasurer
	Becky Thompson (BT)	Secretary
	Fiona Cruse (FC)	Handicap Secretary
	Karen Forward (KF)	Competition Secretary
	Nic Boyd (NB)	County Delegate
	Sylvia Bates (SB)	New Members Delegate

1. Apologies for absence

Anne Scott (Vice Captain)
Karen Forward (Competition Secretary)

2. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th February 2023 were accepted as an accurate record. Proposed by Sam Thorpe, Seconded by Fi Cruse and signed by the Lady Captain.

3. Matters Arising

Virtually all matters needing action have been accomplished or will be dealt with in the appropriate reports. The only items needing an update here are:-

- KF will attend the Club V1 seminar with Alan Forscutt, as attendance is restricted to 2 people per club.
- Key Safe – Andrew is planning to employ outside cleaners, who will come in first thing in the morning. Therefore, the ladies locker room will remain open even if the Clubhouse is closed.
- New Padlock for Lavender Cottage. The padlock has been purchased. The code is to be 2023 and can be altered each year making it easier to remember. It was decided that the date for the new changeover will be on 1st April.

BT to contact KF to ask for an email to be sent out to all the ladies before this time.

BT emailed KF on 22.03.2023 and the first email has been sent.

4. Main Committee

- A new compressor for the shoe cleaning area has been installed and new guns, hoses and brushes will be added soon. Insulation for the unit is being looked at because the compressor cannot run at temperatures below 4 degrees.
- A quiz night is being planned probably in April.
- The Handicap Review Committee is up and running – more from FC to follow.
- Club V1 – We are back to just one person having access. Geoff Gilbert will deal with any mixed competitions. **This situation will be closely monitored by JW.**
- 30th Anniversary mementoes. It is proposed that we have a budget of £8 per memento. Half will be paid by the relevant section, half from central funds. Mementoes will be presented to all silverware winners meaning an estimated cost of £160 to the Ladies Section.
- Andrew asked that any circular notices be sent via the monthly newsletter to reduce email traffic.
- Winter tee positions. An objection had been received regarding the ladies forward tee on the 6th, stating that it now made the hole too easy. In order to put this matter to bed in an objective manner, I did a full survey and analysis of the winter tees for both men and ladies and presented this to the Committee (**See Appendix A**). The findings showed that in fact there were an extra 2 holes where the men should be playing a reduced par, so in effect they were receiving a 2 shot advantage. It was generally agreed in order not to over complicate the situation and create extra work for the green staff, for just one winter competition, tee positions were to be left as they were.

5. Lady Captain's Report

There's not much to report this month as I think this is the lull before the storm! We did, however, have a fun packed evening of skittles at The Quarry Inn, Keinton Mandeville, where our skills or rather, lack of, were tested when we had to try and roll a ball, without the aid of a putter. Twenty ladies participated and all seemed to enjoy the event.

We start our defence of the Rogers Cup against Wells at Taunton & Pickeridge on Tuesday 11th April so - fingers crossed we can repeat our run from last year!

6. Vice-Captain's Report

No report submitted.

7. Treasurer's Report

Bank balances: Current A/c £364.39
 Charity A/C £431.18
 Reserve A/C £488.74

The Charity Account had £90 paid in from the skittles night, which was a great success.

The Current account has received a couple of entries for the mixed and ladies open. Could I please perhaps have a monthly update on who has entered what competition as there are no references on the bank statement, it just shows a name. These are:-

C Wolfe	£24
CD Blackwell	£48
PM & SJ Hill	£60

Thank you, Karen, for the finance sheets for the Tuppy and Shire competitions.

8. Competition Secretary's Report

Not much to report this month as we have not really had any competitions that I have organised. The Tuppy and Shire have been completed and the results are as follows:-

Tuppy Trophy

1 st	Jill Byrne
2 nd	Samantha Thorpe

Shire Trophy

1 st	Sue Moon
2 nd	Karen Forward

I have notices up for the Margarita and the All Fools and hopefully we will get a good response. On Saturday we have the first of our competitions for the year which is the Celee Trophy.

JW raised the question of the eclectic competition figures.

ST will produce figures presently.

9. Handicap Secretary's Report

On Monday 20th February, the Handicap Committee met again, along with Janet Fear (JF) and Martin Olive (MO), (both from SGU) along with Mark Singleton and Martin Lilley. JF and MO went through the various uses of the WHS Platform and showed us examples of the different reports, some of which are useful for the Handicap Committee to use when doing handicap reviews. There also followed discussions of the 10 'qualifiers' with one valid argument that they could all be general play rounds without entering any competitions. Another discussion concerned NS and NR returns (the former for a when a hole is out of play, injury or other valid reason, an NR return should be entered as 0 when a score is entered). A decision was made to request 'read only' access to the reports for the time being. This was agreed a few days later and I now have that access.

We were also shown details of the Race to Woodhall Spa. All EG affiliated clubs can enter and if the scores are good enough, they can enter the area finals taking place in May and June with the national final in August. The competition is for the female and male players with the lowest aggregate of four net differentials as determined by the WHS Platform report. In our case, it was Sam Thorpe. I was later asked to enter both

Sam and a male member to this Race and we shall hear at the end of the month if our application has been successful.

On the 3rd March, I attended another meeting of the Handicap Committee, this time to conduct an annual review of members' handicaps as instructed by EGU. We consulted different reports on the WHS to help with the process.

Handicap Reductions:-

No lady members were identified as requiring a handicap reduction and although there were some male members who were identified, we all felt that a reduction was not justified, at this time.

Handicap Increases:-

There seemed to be quite considerable conflicting information in the Reports so finally this part of the review examined members who had not played to their handicap more than 20 times over the past 48 months. There were 6 male members who were identified, and they will be given the option of a 10% increase. Again, no ladies were identified.

Finally, at the moment, the Ladies section does not have the same access as the Men's section to Club V1 and Pete Dunford is going to discuss this with Andrew.

10. County Delegate's Report

Apart from discovering the notice board in our changing room for the Somerset Ladies Golf, and consequently putting up some of the future competitions, I have not had a busy month as county delegate! I think it is going to take a little while for me to fully understand the scope of the role however, at this early stage I will take any help or tips offered from BT and anyone who has some advice to give me!

I should just say that the most recent competition notice is the Junior Girls Spring Meeting (Sunday 23rd April) which I will let Jill know about.

JW suggested that the poster should be given to Andrew England / Martin for inclusion into the newsletter.

NB to process.

NB reported that she thought the county posters were a little bland.

BT will feed back tactfully to the SLCGA Committee.

11. New Members Report

No new Lady Members during February 2023.

Following on from the last Committee Meeting, Anne (Scott) forwarded the notes on the Buddy Scheme previously held at Farrington Golf Club. These notes provided some good information, some of which is already covered at Wheathill with the "Happy To Help" list in the changing room and the issues I cover with the new members. A notice has been placed in the ladies locker room regarding the Buddy Scheme.

I have placed the New Members Texas Scramble, 15th April 2023, sign-up sheet on the Mixed Competitions Board in the Clubhouse Foyer.

It was agreed by the Committee that the Pro Shop needs to send out the advertisement for this competition again as not many have signed up so far. The closing date is 26th March but this may be pushed back by a week.

Action SB to contact pro shop.

The meet and greet for this event will be done by SB as she is the New Members Delegate. JW will be first out on the tee so that she can welcome players back in.

We will need a starter for this event – action JW.

12. AOB

JS raised the question about what was happening to the amount of funds that SLCGA hold. BT was able to report that a portion of the funds are there as a legacy and cannot be used ordinarily. The County are spending a lot of the funds towards supporting the juniors and county teams, they are also increasing the prize money and gifts for competitions. New promotional items i.e. flags, banners and advertising are also being purchased to promote SLCGA.

They are also looking at supporting special projects at individual Somerset clubs. These projects are only to help promote ladies and girls golf, the money donated will have to be matched by the club and must not be used for maintenance purposes. The ladies were asked to put their thinking caps on as to ways we can raise our profile and promote the golf.

Discussion then went on to our profile in the media, on Facebook, Instagram and our website. It was unanimously agreed that our website is poor, and that our Facebook and Instagram accounts are not active enough. As BT has taken over the role of press officer / media liaison, she offered to take over Facebook and Instagram but obviously does not want to tread on anyone's toes in doing so.

JW agreed to investigate the control of the website.

JW asked any Committee Members attending the Get Together on 1st April to prepare a short introduction of their role and any news / notices they thought relevant. JW thought that this would be an ideal time to promote the eclectic competition as numbers could be much better than they currently are.

JS asked that we all promote the ladies open on 3rd August. She said that the poster had been sent to Jim for advertising on the website but it has only gone on the members section which is not helping to promote the open!

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Date of next meeting : 19th April 2023

Location : The Cross Keys, Lydford at 6.30 pm

Signed as correct Date 2023

Jen Warmington, Lady Captain