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**Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Ladies Section of
Wheathill Golf Club held on Wednesday 20th September 2023 at
The Cross Keys Inn, East Lydford, Somerset, TA11 7HA**

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

1. Apologies for absence

Karen Forward (KF) Competition Secretary

2. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2023 were accepted as an accurate record. Proposed by ST, Seconded by AS and signed by the Lady Captain JW.

3. Matters Arising

- Lavender Cottage now has a new padlock and a new Porta Loo, so hopefully we will have no more problems.

It was noted that a few ladies are still having problems actually seeing the numbers on the padlock so JW agreed to provide a pair of glasses! JW has now implemented this.

4. Main Committee

- The shoe cleaning area has had a face lift.
- There is ongoing work on the Course to build a new men's tee box on the 16th and a bank in front of the 17th ditch.
- We have been asked to give consideration as to whether we feel we need to replace some of the benches which have deteriorated over the years or whether there are enough on the Course at the moment? *It was unanimously agreed that we think there are enough benches on the course.*

- The other matter for discussion is the future qualifying requirements, for silverware competitions – for the 24/25 season. We have been asked to consider whether we continue with 10 qualifying cards or whether we return to 5 Stableford and Medal scores. **It was agreed that we would return to 5 stableford and medal scores.**

5. Lady Captain's Report

As 2 months have passed since our last meeting quite a lot has happened. I managed to break my wrist the very next day, so my diary has been very different from the one I originally had planned but none the less it has been a busy time.

We've had the conclusion of the Tri Match series and the All Fools Greensomes, we've played the Paul Nichols Greensomes, the Senior Ladies Trophy and the Rose Bowl. We've also held our first Women on Par event, competed in the Team Captain's Challenge, had an Away Day and an Away Weekend.... and finished our League matches. I'm not going to talk about all those events as I'm sure they will be covered in the relevant reports.

Despite a great performance from all the Ladies in the Team Captain's Challenge, last Saturday, we came a close 3rd, behind 3 Counties B with the winners being Avalon C.

My Lady Captain's Away Day to Honiton on 9th August, was enjoyed by all the Ladies, who went. Sadly, due to my wrist injury I was unable to play the course but had a nice time walking round with everyone! Our Away Weekend, to The Vale Resort, was a great success and thankfully I was just about fit enough to play the fantastic courses on offer. Despite my rusty golf (and the 3am fire alarm) I, and everyone else, had a wonderful time and my thanks go to Anne for all her hard work in organising both events. I, for one am planning a return visit to The Vale.

Since our last meeting we have played our last 4 League matches – 2 away and 2 at home. Our Division was won by Stockwood Vale and they will be joined by Bath in returning to Division 1. It was a very tight finish at the bottom of the Division with Minehead, CST and us, all finishing with 30 points. Minehead will stay in Division 2 and CST and Wheathill will go down into Division 3 to join Enmore Park, Oake Manor and The Mendip. So, relegation but a nice group of courses to play next season and no trek to Minehead!

It looks set to remain busy for me as now that I'm back playing. Martin and I will be resuming the Pro Captains Challenge matches, squeezing in the games which unfortunately had to be postponed, when I was out of action. And of course, I have my Lady Captain's Day to look forward to which should be a fun day for us all.

6. Vice-Captain's Report

We had our last Tri Match at Long Sutton on 24th July. The results were: Long Sutton 582, Cricket St. Thomas 533 and we were 563 only 19 points in it. We had some healthy scores but not meant to be... next year!

We still have a Friendly @ home to Weymouth 10th October.

Away Day

We had a lovely away day at Honiton on Wednesday 9th August and the sun shone. Unfortunately, Jen wanted to play there had an injury, but she joined us for a pleasant stroll around with us, imparting knowledge, and encouragement!

The results were quite close 5 teams of 3. A Bowmaker with 2 best scores to count and a special prize for the best stableford score was won by Karen Forward. The meal was very delightful, as was the service and company.

Away Weekend (Days) 10th and 11th September

We spent two days at the Vale Resort in Glamorgan, chosen by Jen, who despite her recent injury, was able to play both courses.

The weather was very kind to us, especially on Sunday, when it got very hot!

We had a 4BBB on Sunday with Karen and Fiona coming first with 42 points. On Monday, after a long 5 hours on the National Course, the Individual Stableford was won by Nicky Wisnieski which was very well deserved on such difficult course, followed by Sue Ovland 2nd and Sue Moon 3rd.

The Blind Pairs were Gin and Ann with 50 pts, Sam and Jan 46 pts and Anne and Karen 44pts!

I think everyone will agree the venue, courses - although challenging, company (the lengths some people will go to get pictures taken!!) food and entertainment were fun! Despite the fire alarm going off at 5am and some people sleeping through it!

7. Treasurer's Report

Bank balances:	Current A/C	£ 389.11
	Charity A/C	£3,890.25
	Reserve A/C	£ 491.61

Current account balance has dropped due to the reasons below:-

Toilet for lavender cottage paid out.

I believe all expenses for away day and weekend are paid.

I have paid a holding fee of £150 for 2024 away weekend out of the current account.

Club championship day, income £110 plus £54 from supporters, prizes cost £248.88 - it ran at a loss!

8. Competition Secretary's Report

The following competitions have been held since the last report in July.

Paul Nicholls Greensomes

1 st	Lynn O'Neill/Kate Cleverley
2 nd	Karen Forward/Marion Hodgson

Senior Ladies Challenge Trophy

This was a very close competition with all first three places scoring equal points.

1 st	Karen Forward
2 nd	Lynn O'Neill
3 rd	Greta Hillier

The All-Fools Knockout Final

This was played on 30th August between Nic Boyd and Linda Johnson v Karen Forward and Marion Hodgson.

The winners were Karen Forward and Marion Hodgson

The next competition will be the Salwyn Trophy on 21st September and of course Lady Captain's Day on 1st October.

I will also be putting up the notices for the Shire and Tuppy Trophy competitions.

9. Handicap Secretary's Report

Results for the last 4 medal / stableford competitions are as follows: -

July Stableford – 9 competitors

1 st	Karen Forward 44 points
2 nd	Sue Rees 40 points
3 rd	Sylvia Bates 36 points

August Medal – 8 Competitors

1 st	Nic Boyd 66 points
2 nd	Gin Stewart 72 points
3 rd	Linda Johnson 75 points

August Stableford

As there were only 3 entries, the entry fee was returned to them. Their names were however entered onto the Order of Merit list.

September Medal – 11 competitors

1 st	Linda Johnson 69 points
2 nd	Marion Hodgson on countback 69 points
3 rd	Fiona Cruse 71 points

Linda Johnson is currently leading the Order of Merit table with 24 points, followed by Karen Forward, 18 points and Marion Hodgson, 16 points. There are only 3 competitions to go!

I attended a meeting of the Handicap committee on 3rd August following an email from Janet Fear who was concerned with the number of unsatisfied score intents. Some of the reasons given were rubbish so it was agreed that the name of those who had 5 or more deleted intents would be forwarded to the Playing Committee, hopefully with the intention of sending out letters via the Club Captain. I do not know the outcome of this. Some seem to be due to the My England Golf App whereas others could be put down to computer user problems.

At the same time we did a handicap review using the same criteria as before (i.e. 20 games since last played to handicap). We highlighted 14 men and 1 lady (Melanie

Brewin) and I emailed Melanie to suggest a handicap increase of 5% but she did not take up this offer.

I have also received an email from Janet Fear attaching a link for the Winter Checklist

<https://static.whsplatform.Englandgolf.org/clubs/1000-1/uploads/whs/winter-golf-checklist-2023-v2.pdf>

As we are not able to hold handicap competitions through the winter months this is of little use to us. However, it might be worth a read for information.

Also included in the email was her report from the County Delegates meeting, which I can forward if requested.

10. County Delegate's Report

We met on the Saturday 9th September at Isle of Wedmore Golf club. Almost the first question was about the finances (thankfully). We had quite a discussion and the committee had clearly been thinking about it too. So, they are happy to match proposals from clubs (but have not received any!).

They want to run events and support elite players / seniors etc.

Delegates suggested a strategic plan with a template to clubs to guide about applications.

Further discussion to be had when Louise Buxton (treasurer) is present.

Somerset ladies golf are setting up an online diary so that all county events, club opens and events can be found in one place. All information is to be emailed to Angela Frith, assistant competition secretary.

Junior (5-18yrs) selection day is on September 24th and delegates were asked to promote this within their clubs. Juniors of any ability are invited to attend.

The committee would like clubs to consider the county championship and if possible, give feedback about the suggestion to enter club champions. It is a fairly poorly attended competition and most players think it is only for low handicappers which it is not. The county is considering paying for individual club championship winners to enter the competition, but this is only a proposal at the current time.

The committee will approach SLCGA for funding for our Women in Par events. Now formalised and applied by JW. It is to be discussed at the forthcoming Executive Meeting on 16th October 2023.

11. New Members Report

There was one new Lady Member in July 2023 - Tracy Lethaby. I have spoken to Tracy on several occasions and invited her to join the Women On Par Group - unfortunately, family commitments have not made it possible this time. Hopefully we will see Tracy in the future.

The Women On Par Event, supported by England Golf, was held on 13th August. A big Thank You to Martin for holding a fun short game coaching session, assisted by Mel. Twelve Lady Members attended (7 newer members and 5 from the Ladies

Committee). Following the hour of coaching, tea / coffee and yummy cake was provided by Vicky in the Clubhouse. Several newer members took the opportunity to play a few holes with 'established' members on the Main Course. A fun time was had by all.

Following on from the success of the Women on Par Event in August, it was decided to hold another one in September. The Event will take place on Sunday 24th September at 2 p.m. This time the coaching will be on driving and fairway play. At the time of print, 13 Ladies have signed up (10 newer members and 3 Committee Ladies).

12. Junior Report

A fairly quiet month in terms of junior Competitions although junior members have been taking part in general Club competitions which has been pleasing to see.

The Junior Open took place on Sunday 27th with 18 players from a variety of clubs, the most entrants we have ever had. The day went exceedingly well with several handicap cuts. The most memorable round was played by Macklin Hawkins from Broome Manor Golf Club returning a gross score of 64, a new course record for the club beating the score of 65 that has stood for 10 years. He also has the chance to possibly compete in the Daily Telegraph competition taking place in a Portugal in October. In addition, three of our own players were in the prizes, Lucy placed 2nd best Nett, Tate placed 2nd best Gross and Jack 3rd best Gross.

6 juniors took part in the Texas Scramble on Monday 28th which was also very pleasing to see.

Our next fixture is the East Division League Event on 23rd September when we hope to score well with the home advantage.

Current number of registered juniors is at 46 with Oscar Martin, past junior Captain returning to us.

The Committee agreed that this is a fantastic number and wish to thank Jill for her continuing hard work and dedication to the junior section.

12. Correspondence

None.

13. AOB

Medals

Spare 30th Anniversary mementoes will be used as this year's Medal prize.

Accounts

ST and JW are to set budgets for next year.

Committee Meeting Dates for next year

AS is proposing to hold future committee meetings on a Tuesday after roll-up so perhaps at 2.00 pm - final discussions will be held. Gin will be asked to remove the dates from diary and future dates will be provided to her when set.

Competition Secretary for next year.

We need to advertise position prior to AGM. Kate Cleverley wants to do year 2025 and Judith Rowsell has kindly stepped forward to cover for this offered this coming year - 2024. Many thanks to Judith.

Glassware

For Championship, Mayfield – best gross and net and supporters trophy only best gross.

Ladies Get Together

The committee unanimously agreed that this is no longer required. We need to advise Gin to take it out of the diary.

Last supper is to be held on 8th November at The Cross Keys.

Meeting concluded at 8.15 pm.

Date of next meeting : 18th October 2023 (apologies from Jan Street), The Cross Keys, Lydford at 6.30 pm

Signed as correct Date 2023

Jen Warmington, Lady Captain