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**Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Ladies Section of
Wheathill Golf Club held on Tuesday 19th March 2024, 2.30 pm
in the Jubilee Room, Wheathill Golf Club**

Present	Anne Scott (AS)	Ladies Captain
	Sylvia Bates (SB)	New Members Delegate
	Fiona Cruse (FC)	Vice Captain
	Becky Thompson (BT)	Secretary
	Sam Thorpe (ST)	Treasurer
	Jen Warmington (JW)	Past Captain
	Nicky Wisniewski (NW)	County Delegate

1. Apologies for absence

Nic Boyd (NB)_ Handicap Secretary

2. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th February 2024 were accepted as an accurate record. Proposed by JW, Seconded by FC and signed by the Lady Captain AS.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Main Committee

- Honour boards have been updated however there are still some spelling errors. Outstanding information has been provided. PD to update boards.
- Captains v Vice Captains – April 6th 2024. Format to be the same as last year. Potentially 80 entrants with prizes for top 2 pairs in each side. Monies to be split 50/50 between Men's and Ladies sections although this may change with proceeds going solely to the Ladies Charity. Entry fee £6 per player. *Poor numbers on sign-up sheet but this is mainly due to so many people not having been coming to the club. Hopefully numbers will pick up soon.*
- Easter Florida Scramble – April 1st 2024. Teams of 4 with controlled draw. This is the same day that new handicaps will come into effect so may prove

problematic for organisers. AF and PW are to meet asap to test run the software. There will be no adjustments for Ladies from this day onward.

- It was suggested that Astro turf is tried on the second tee. AE has this in hand.
- It was agreed that a card specific to winter temporary tees and green positions will be produced which will allow qualifiers to be played in the winter once the winter course has been ratified and approved by the SGU. This won't be anytime soon as the county course raters are fully booked for the foreseeable future.
- The Constitution is being updated by Mark Singleton. *AS will request at the next Main Committee that the ladies (and mens and seniors sections) are given the opportunity to review.*
- The diaries were produced in error without colour. AE and JSB are working to resolve this problem.
- Competition Book. The competition book needs updating. Greater clarity is required on the rules governing the Blades competition but as this is a men's competition it does not involve the ladies section. The committee agreed that the open competition sheets should be added to the website and this will be acted upon by the club captains. Information has already been sent to Mel regarding the Mixed Open / Charity etc. for inclusion on the website.
- DG proposed that an increase to the membership levy of £10 from next year was agreed. *The levy has not been increased for approximately 7 years so this was welcomed.*
- It was suggested by PD that instead of displaying the course rating / slope information on laminated A4 sheets we purchase a purpose-built display board. *This was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the ladies section would not contribute money towards this as they felt this was unnecessary expenditure.*

5. Lady Captain's Report (AS)

Skittles night was held on 7th March and was well attended by 22 ladies. The venue – The Quarry Inn, Keinton Mandeville, and the meal was excellent. Thanks go to Gaye for organising the evening and to Jude for expertly keeping us all in order on the score board!

We had a fun time, even if we had to put our own skittles up! Killer was won by Gaye!

Celee Trophy – It was really enjoyable despite the weather conditions. Again, my thanks go to Jude for her excellence in organising the competition. Congratulations to Jen, Sam, and Sue Adams on their triumph.

The practice round for the Rogers Cup is at Minehead on Tuesday 9th April at 11.00 am. Jill Byrne, Ann Gates, Linda Johnson and Becky Thompson are playing the course on Wednesday 17th April. The actual match will be on Monday 22nd April.

6. Vice Captain's Report (FC)

I have very little to say this month. So far we have 4 pairs of entries for the Mixed Open and names have been passed on to Sam to marry up the monies. Along with Nic, I attended the handicap review meeting last Wednesday (13th March) to agree the list of cuts for men and ladies mainly and increases for seniors. Nic's report should fill you in on more details.

We've had a request from Tall Pines for a friendly in September (week beginning 23rd) however Vicky in the clubhouse told me it would be the green renovation week so I've gone back to them to see if we can go there instead. I've yet to hear back.

7. Treasurer's Report (ST)

Bank balances:	Current Account	£538.42
	Charity Account	£297.31
	Reserve Account	£894.92
	Women On Par Account	£600.00

A quiet month for accounting since the last meeting.

There was £60.00 left over from the skittles night which was a welcome boost for the ladies section. A fun night with a good turnout.

Thank you to Jen and Fiona for providing me with a list of current entrants for the Ladies and Mixed Opens. There are 5 entries for each competition so far.

8. Competition Secretary's Report (JR)

The Celee Trophy was played on the 16th of March 2024. This is a 3 ball better ball Stableford played off full handicap, best 2 scores to count with a controlled and random draw.

18 Ladies entered with an entry fee of £4 each (£72 total).

The scoring was quite tight with 4 of the 6 teams all having 80 pts, the winners won on count back (9). First prize went to Jen Warmington, Sam Thorpe and Sue Adams, (£13.60 each). Second place went to Greta Hillier, Marion Hodgson and Lady Captain Anne Scott, (£8 each).

Although the competition was played on 18 holes the first hole was on the academy and there were some temporary greens.

There was an extra £4 entry fee that went to the Ladies section as a lady found that she couldn't play after the tee times were posted.

The finance sheet has been sent to ST.

9. Handicap Secretary's Report (NB) – Read by BT

The Handicap Committee have met and agreed the list of members to have their handicaps cut or raised. The changes were formulated by Pete Dunford who used a points system based on the silverware wins from last year. 3 points for a win, 2 for second and 1 point for 3rd. The Ladies average score was 6.72 and therefore Pete suggested a cut for anyone over 8 points.

Nicky W, Ann Gates, Karen Forward, Gin Stewart, Jude Rowsell, Marion Hodgson and Kate Cleverly had between 9 - 14 points and therefore were deducted 1 shot from their handicap. Lynn O'Neil had 23 points and therefore had a 3-shot cut.

We formed an email that went to both the men and ladies to inform them of the changes. The ladies' email was sent on Sunday night, and I had a response from Lynn O'Neil and Kate Cleverly questioning their reductions.

Unfortunately, Lynn was due to go on holiday the following day and expressed her feelings that the cut was harsh and that she felt she had been playing to her handicap throughout the season. She did acknowledge that she had won a lot in the last year, however. Kate stated surprise at her 1 one shot reduction and would like to see the reports that formed the basis of the changes made. She also said that she would like to make enquiries as to Lynn's cut as she is away.

The Handicap Committee are formulating a response to all the members who are questioning the deductions. We will reply at the end of the week as that is the time scale given to respond in the first instance. The actual changes may take some time as Mark needs to do retrospective alterations to each person's individual data and as Fiona says, he'll probably do the men's handicaps first!

It is the first Stableford week from March 18th - 24th but due to the conditions the entries will not be qualifying. Let's hope it stops raining soon and we have lots of ladies entering the competition!

10. County Delegate's Report (NW)

Nothing to report.

11. New Members Report (SB)

New Members - there was one new lady member during February 2024. Wendy Chant joined having played golf in Dorset. I have made contact with Wendy and invited her to the Women on Par event in March.

Women on Par / Get into Golf - at the time of writing there has been a good response from beginners. Intermediate players have been reminded of the event and I hope more will sign up over the weekend. *There are 12 new ladies signed up for the next event on 22nd April. SB will attend along with AS. It was agreed that BT will also be around but not take part to take photographs for inclusion in the media.*

New Members Texas Scramble – the sign-up sheet is now on the Mixed Board in the Clubhouse. Closing date is 1st April, hopefully we will get a good turnout.

12. Junior Report

Nothing to report.

13. Correspondence

None.

14. AOB

- We need volunteers to convene a working party to go through all the ladies competitions to review and check that all are up to date. (AS) *A spreadsheet is to be kept from 1st April where all scores from silverware competitions will be listed. JR will compile. Any competitions before this time will not need to be included.*
- Disabled toilet – it is currently in the mens toilets? Do we support trying to get it moved? (AS). *This was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that this really isn't solely a ladies section issue. This is an owner responsibility. It was agreed that AS will ask the Main Committee if they could look at options for making the toilet more accessible to disabled ladies.*
- Race Night - please promote and sell tickets. (AS) *JW suggested that perhaps an explanation of what the race night will entail be emailed out to the membership. Not everyone is aware of what happens at these events. AS will compose something and ask Mel to send out.*
- Captain v Vice Captain – we need more entries. (AS) *As has been mentioned before in these minutes, due to bad weather attendance at the club has been down, we are sure that numbers will improve once footfall has improved.*
- Padlock on Lavender Cottage - refresher of how it locks. (AS) *It was agreed that JW will purchase a new cheap padlock to replace the existing one which appears to have suffered due to weather conditions.*
- Duties of committee members - where do we keep information? (AS) *Each committee member to compose their own duties by the next meeting (16th April). AS will then ensure they are kept at the club for all to refer to.*
- Tuppy and Shire Trophy – still matches to be played. (JR) *JSB has notified JR that she has no time to play her matches so she concedes. AG and JB will be finalists and both will play off their existing handicaps. The cut off date can be extended so that they can play their match. The Shire Trophy can also be extended. JR asked ST to check who has paid their entry fees as it is not clear from the sheets. ST will check both Tuppy and Shire entries.*
- Points in the Order of Merit. (FC) *It was agreed that you only get one participation point per week otherwise this might be open to manipulation.*
- Timing of committee meetings. (BT) *It was agreed that the committee meetings would return to the Cross Keys, Lydford at 6.30 pm for the future as it was considered that running the meetings after roll up made the day very long and BT wouldn't be able to keep re-organising her work commitments on a monthly basis.*
- ST had a few questions which we will address at the next meeting as time ran out.

Meeting concluded at 4.00 pm.

Date of next meeting:- Tuesday 16th April 2024, 6.30pm at Cross Keys, Lydford.

Signed as correct Date 2024

Anne Scott, Lady Captain