



SOCIETY OF LONDON LADY GOLF CAPTAINS

Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting held on Friday 24th November 2016 at 11.15 am. at Le Meridien Hotel, Piccadilly, London.

The Secretary announced that the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Society of London Lady Golf Captains would now convene.

33 apologies for absence were received.

The Secretary invited the President to open the meeting, who welcomed everyone and hoped they had an enjoyable day at Le Meridien. The President then invited the Captain to Chair the meeting.

The Captain read the names of those Members who had sadly passed away during 2017 :-

Gay Hawkes, from Grim's Dyke Golf Club, who had just accepted the invitation to be Vice Captain of the Society in 2018.

Margaret Petterson, from Sudbury Golf Club, Captain in 1989 and President of the Society in 2002-2003.

Beryl Waghorn, from North Middlesex Golf Club, Captain in 1989 and President of the Society in 1998-1999

We observed a minute's silence in their memory.

1. The Minutes of the 59th AGM were approved and signed by the Captain, Mrs Heather Olliffe.

2. Matters arising from the Minutes

None

3. Captain's Report

Madam President Davina, President Elect Doreen, Past Captains, all our long standing and new members welcome to the 60th AGM of our Society.

I do hope you have an enjoyable day here, I know Tamsin has organized a superb luncheon following this meeting. On your behalf I would like to thank Tamsin for all her hard work.

My Year as your Captain has nearly ended and what a year it has been.

We played three matches in the year, all at my home club of Chigwell. The first was with the Essex Ladies, the second with the London Golf Captains. The Essex men were unable to field a team on the agreed date but the Hertfordshire Lady Captains kindly stepped in at the last minute. The format for all matches was a team of four, (two from each Society) with one score counting from each Society, which hopefully brings everyone into the game. If you have never played in one of these matches I do urge you to as they really are great fun and an opportunity to meet other Captains.

Thank you to all who supported us this year.

All the meetings were held in lovely weather apart from my Captain's Day which was showery and more akin to April than July. Unfortunately, not all the meetings were as well supported as we would like but those who took part did so with much enthusiasm.

Our first Spring Meeting was hosted by Harleyford Golf Club in Buckinghamshire. A beautiful course with stunning views over the countryside.

The second Spring Meeting which followed soon after was at Westerham Golf Club in Kent, again a superb course.

At the Summer Meeting and Captain's Day we celebrated our 60th anniversary. The clubhouse was decorated with pendants and balloons in our Society colours of blue and yellow. Each participant was given a special ball marker to mark the occasion.

This was a very special day for me and I would like to thank all who came to help and support me.

Our final meeting was our President's day at Malden Golf Club. Although the course was shrouded in fog in the early morning, the sun broke through and we all had a very enjoyable day. Thank you Davina for your generosity and hard work.

Each club has made us very welcome, the courses have been in superb condition, the food delicious and all the staff most helpful. I must make special mention of Chigwell who were particularly generous to us.

The winners of the meetings were as follows:-

The Malden Cup at Harleyford, Pam Giordano and Sue Witney from Silvermere, 40 pts.

The Fulwell Cup at Westerham, Bassy Dunbar and Ingrid Long from Sundridge Park, 41 pts.

The Findlay Cup at Chigwell, Sue Drummond, Sue Millar, Sue Litch and Louise Morse from Highgate, 116 pts.

The Founders Cup, also at Chigwell, Clare Robson from Chigwell with 35 pts.

The Finchley Bowl at Malden, Andrea Sims, Maria Brown, Joan Somerville and Di Davies from Burnham Beeches with 117 pts.

As you all know every Captain needs the help of her committee and I am no exception. My committee has worked tirelessly to ensure all the meetings have run smoothly.

Thank you Val for your work as our Secretary. Now you have completed your first year in office it should get easier. Jean for our Finances, Sue, Denise and Lesley new members of the committee, who have done all I have asked of them. And Dorte for looking after the stock.

Now to my raffle queen, our President. Davina has attended all the meetings and sold many raffle tickets. The clubs all donated 4BBB vouchers and thanks to your generosity we raised £2,250 for my charity, The London Air Ambulance. Thank you Davina. Please accept this small gift as a token of our appreciation.

Those retiring from the committee this year are:- Diana who has been my right hand lady not only organizing the meetings but driving me there even if it meant leaving home at 5.30 am as it did on one occasion. Thank you Di. Please accept this small gift as a token of our appreciation.

Thank you Andrea for collating all the applications to play in the matches and finding extras when needed. Please accept this small gift with our thanks.

Our Past Captain has been there for help and advice whenever I have needed her. You have been a great support Marion, Please accept this small gift with our thanks.

It has been a pleasure to work with you all.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Captain and I wish you all and the Society great success in 2018.

I have been asked many times recently if I have had an enjoyable and successful year. Well enjoyable it has certainly been. I have met so many lovely ladies, played some nice courses and had lots of fun. Has my year been successful, only you can say.

Lastly I would like to wish Tamsin a very happy and enjoyable year.

A Vote of Thanks was proposed by Clare Robson of Chigwell Golf Club.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the Accounts as follows:-

Good morning ladies.

Hopefully all of you have seen the accounts which were emailed to all members earlier this month. A copy is available on the table.

Broadly, the Society is healthy financially. This year we have a surplus of income over expenditure. In part this can be attributed to the increased use of emails in distributing documents, saving on post and printing costs and the profit made on the meetings as our captain was able to negotiate a good deal with her home club, Chigwell. We did use some of these savings to purchase commemorative ball markers to mark the 60th anniversary of the Society.

Whilst membership is down, we did attract 31 new members in the year, which helped offset the losses.

The bank balance of £7,677.38 is slightly deceptive as the invoice from Malden of £3,821.00 for our Autumn meeting was not received until after the year end, so in reality the funds available were £3,856.38.

Any questions?

As there were no questions, the Accounts were proposed for adoption by the Captain and seconded by Gill Spragg of Whipnade Park Golf Club.

A Vote for all in favour : Carried.

5. Election of President for 2018

The President for 2017, Davina Hodson, said it had been a great honour to be President and to meet new people and get reacquainted with old friends.

The Committee nominated and proposed Mrs Doreen Belcher of Grim's Dyke Golf Club to be President of the Society for 2018.

Nomination seconded by Marylyn Reed on behalf of Gerry Archer both of Grim's Dyke Golf Club

A vote for all in favour : Carried

The new President, Doreen said she was delighted to be the new President and will do her best to uphold the traditions of the Society

6. Election of Captain for 2018

The Committee nominated and proposed Ms Tamsin Loke of Malden Golf Club to be the Society's Captain for 2018.

Nomination seconded by Amanda Blackburne of Malden Golf Club.

Amanda then said a few warm words about Tamsin. They had met in 2002 and Tamsin had taken on many roles at Malden Golf Club including on the General Committee there. She has a wide knowledge and passion for golf and Amanda recommended her for the post of Captain.

The Vote was carried unanimously.

Heather, outgoing Captain, then presented Tamsin with her Badge of Office, the Captain's gold brooch.

Tamsin thanked Heather and presented her with her Past Captain's brooch. Tamsin then took the chair and said "Quickly before we proceed with the formalities of the AGM, may I take this opportunity to thank Heather? Heather's year has gone seemingly effortlessly, and that's the skill of a great captain. Heather we thank you for your continuing dedication and hard work to the society.

I'd like to also thank Davina for her wonderful year as our president which peaked in a show stopper at Malden GC at her president's day.

I'd like to extend my congratulations to Doreen our new president, wishing you an equally great year and I look forward to working with you on the committee and will value your experience and support greatly.

I shall work hard to deserve this honour which I have been given and hopefully follow in the footsteps of the Past Captains, especially those from Malden Golf Club. So I thank you all for this opportunity and finally I'd like to thank Amanda Blackburne for her kind words as my seconder.

I will speak more about how I see the next year panning out, and the issues the committee will be concentrating on after the remaining formalities so let's proceed"

7. Election of Vice-Captain for 2018

The Captain proposed Mrs Sue Miller of Highgate Golf Club to be her Vice-Captain for 2018. Seconded by Sue Drummond of Highgate Golf Club who gave a short history of Sue's activities at Highgate Golf Club and wished her well in her future role.

A show of hands indicated all those in favour. Carried.

Sue said a few words of thanks. She was honoured to be Vice Captain of the Society and was looking forward to serving on committee over the next 3 years.

8. Election of Committee Members

Two members of the committee having completed their three years of service now retire.

They are Diana Funnell of Chigwell Golf Club, Essex and Andrea Sims of Burnham Beeches Golf Club, Berks/Bucks.

Also retiring are Miss Davina Hodson of Malden Golf Club, President 2017 and Mrs Marion Sellar of Chislehurst Golf Club, Immediate Past Captain.

The two new Nominees proposed by the Committee are :-

Gillian Stallard of Weald Park Golf Club (now known as Brentwood), Essex, seconded by Sharon Glover of Brentwood Golf Club, Essex, who said a few words in support of Gillian.

Caroline Cope of Maidenhead Golf Club, Berks/Bucks, seconded by Carole Hewitt, Maidenhead Golf Club, As Carole could not be present Val Stickley, Knebworth Golf Club said a few words in support of Caroline.

A show of hands indicated all in favour..

9. The Captain began with her plans for the year as follows “Ladies I hope you will indulge me to speak first about some of the things the committee would like to bring forward for this coming year. You will have heard during the treasury report that the membership numbers are down in the society, so I feel that this coming year it is important for the committee to concentrate on replenishing numbers.

So to press the refresh button, you will have seen the proposed new colour shirts hanging outside, with the society logo either on the sleeve or on the chest. Now we see these shirts phased in so no need to panic if you've just bought one, or indeed you like the gold shirt, but we have reached a perfect time to re-order and make this decision. So while we have a large number of us here I'd like to see a show of hands for the logo either on the sleeve or the chest.

Also concentrating on membership numbers, you will have seen the meeting and match dates for 2018, and in the middle of the dates you will see what I have called 'A Fun Away Day'... so we've added this into the schedule as an added extra and I would urge you to attend and bring along a possible new member to the society. We will showcase the society with a day of golf and then a high tea at Walton Heath followed by a prize presentation.

You may have spotted as you came in a big blue book, which will come to every meeting. I'd like you to write in this anything you wish the committee to deal with, or suggestions for the committee to consider:

- Suitable course for a meeting
- Food to eat after golf
- Are you wanting to sit on the committee
- Do you have Hon Sec skills
- Treasurer skills
- Where would you like to go on an away trip

Anything at all and if you'd like a reply, please pop your email address after your comment. But as I say it will come to every meeting, so comments good or bad and these will be discussed at the following committee meeting.

Thank you ladies, well I think we're almost there. Just a couple of things, I would like to mention, we have a Captain's charity raffle 'Born Too Soon' and there will be a ladies selling tickets up to lunch.... The numbers will be drawn during lunch so please check whether you have won a prize after that. There is also a star prize which I will ask the representative Pauline Woods of the charity to draw after her speech, so hold onto your tickets.

And finally please don't think that black Friday has swallowed up a table of ladies, the committee and I will be joining the party this year rather than sitting up here. And, as the Hon Sec alluded to on the email sent out to you all, things would be a little different this year.....so I asked the committee if I may host a cocktail party after the AGM. Please don't think that this is how things will be moving forward for the future, every Captain does things differently, but I hope you will enjoy the pink fizz and canapés, and most importantly catching up with old and new friends from the society. And a point of admin there is no need to purchase any wine for the lunch as the numbers attending fell short of the 100 mark, so the wine has been provided by the hotel.

Finally, please note that the next AGM will be 23rd November, 2018.

10. A.O.B

Val Stickley, Knebworth Golf Club asked if we should ask how the Members of the Society felt about the possible change of shirt colour from yellow to white, not just the positioning of the logo on the shirts. We are known for our yellow shirts and navy jumpers and trousers. It is our identity and how we are recognised.

Diane Brown from Pinner Hill Golf Club said "Those of you who knew me when I was Captain will remember that I am not adverse to change and that I implemented a number myself with the intention of moving the Society forward. Having seen the proposed new shirts before the meeting I said that I did not like them. Personally I see no reason to change the colour after 60 years. This is our signature colour scheme, navy bottoms and gold top. A major change like this should have been on the agenda under AOB for all to vote on. A lot of clubs have navy with white shirts and our golf dress is not only unusual but our trademark."

A show of hands indicated that a large majority of the membership wished to retain the yellow shirts (20 - 21 people voted for change while the remainder, 62 plus voted to maintain the status quo, i.e 75% want to keep the yellow shirts, across the board.).

11. Date of next Annual General Meeting -- **23rd November 2018** at Le Meridien Hotel, Piccadilly

12. The vote of thanks from the floor was given by Alison Trinick of Malden Golf Club

The Captain/Chairman closed the Meeting at 12.02 pm.

CHAIRMAN----- Date-----