

BRISTOL & DISTRICT LADY GOLFERS' ALLIANCE
91st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7th 2020 AT 11.00am
BY PAPER, COMMITTEE MEETING BY ZOOM

This year's AGM could not be held in person due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting restrictions imposed upon the country. All relevant reports and documents were published to the BDLGA website over three weeks prior to the planned meeting date, for inspection and comment by all clubs.

The full committee met by Zoom to discuss any feedback and agree officially the actions required.

1 In Memory

We remembered the following Alliance players who sadly died during the past year –

Su Worthington from Bristol & Clifton

Pat Harding & Ann Marsh from Clevedon

Sarah Champion, past captain from Burnham & Berrow

Diane Barwell from Lansdown

Hilary Allen, past captain 2005 and Joan Sidgreaves from Long Ashton

Claudia Blanchard from Bath

2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2019

These have been on the website for a year. Acceptance was proposed by Sonia Probert (Orchardleigh), seconded by Andrea Jenkins (Chipping Sodbury) and were taken as read. Lis Henniker-Heaton signed them as a correct record of the proceedings.

3 Matters Arising

a. Last year we were going to look into the issue of how to deal with two teams from the same club in the same division skewing the points awarded for all teams in that division. A working party was identified but this was put on hold at the start of the pandemic. It will be resurrected in the new year, in hope that we will play matches in 2021 and therefore this could be an issue to resolve for the following year's matches. **Action:** Angela Frith & Rachael Paul

b. The committee were asked to look into whether matches should be rescheduled in the event of excessive heat. The committee did consider this at their meeting on 16th December 2019 and felt that we should not need to stipulate a rule, but the home team captain should take a view as to all playing conditions. If the club itself deems the conditions to be unsafe, then obviously the match would have to be rescheduled. Other than that, the secretary will send a reminder to all Team Captains to ensure that their players are fully equipped with protective clothing, sunscreen, water and isotonic drinks.

Action: Angela Frith

c. Regarding foursomes draws, there was concern that the way in which the draws are structured can produce an anomaly of any one team having up to three home matches in succession. The committee discussed this, again at their meeting on 16th December 2019, and suggested that by having the byes bunched together at the top and bottom of the draws, there was a higher likelihood of this happening whereas by alternating byes with matches it would reduce the likelihood of byes being a relevant factor.

4 Reports

Chairman – Lis Henniker-Heaton

I originally wrote 'How lucky we are to be back on the golf course during these difficult days'. That was before Lockdown 2! However, during the summer I am sure that many of you, like me, felt that the fresh air, exercise and seeing our golfing friends made the 'Covid-affected 2020' much easier. It also made me realise how much I miss playing competitive team matches and visiting other clubs and courses.

At the beginning of the season the committee made the difficult decision to cancel the Alliance league matches, Foursomes matches and the West of England Amateur Open Ladies Championship. At the time we wondered if we were acting prematurely but with hindsight we know that we made the right choice. Unfortunately the Aqua Blue Glass Challenge was also cancelled, but we look forward to Bristol & Clifton defending the title against Cotswold Hills in early 2021.

This year's AGM is obviously different as there are no matches or championship on which to report. So thank you to my committee and the club captains for organising these events, which then had to be cancelled. As the divisions for the League remain the same for 2021, hopefully, some of these dates have been able to be recycled for next year's matches.

There will be no match fees or subscriptions due next year as those from 2020 will be carried over. Next year we hope that all the golf matches will be played in the usual format, but the arrangements for refreshments will have to be finalised nearer the time so that we remain Covid-compliant (as necessary).

Honorary Treasurer – Gill Prophet

What a peculiar year, which is reflected in the attached accounts.

We had no Harper Salver with any entry fees received prior to March being refunded. There were no Scratch or Handicap Foursomes and therefore the only costs shown are for the hole-in-one cheques handed out at last year's AGM.

We received your membership subscriptions at last year's AGM as usual and this will now be utilised over a two-year period, with no fees being collected this year.

I would anticipate that over this two-year period our overall expenditure will be similar to that in the 2019 accounts, as these accounts include our website costs for a two-year period, with none of the costs included in these accounts being incurred again in the 2021 accounting year.

We are in the process of closing the account at Santander and this will be reflected in the 2021 accounts, with all the money then being held at Lloyds bank.

Adoption of accounts which were posted on the website prior to the AGM –

Proposer - Ali Vyas (Bristol & Clifton)

Secunder – Carolyn Stait (Burnham & Berrow)

Championship Secretary – Alison Rushgrove

Sadly the 2020 Harper Salver (West of England Amateur Open Ladies Championship) had to be cancelled. We are planning to hold the event in 2021 at Bath Golf Club on Sunday 13th June. We are pleased that

our sponsor, Diney Costeloe continues to support the event and that Gloucestershire Ladies' County Golf Association Somerset Ladies' County Golf Association will help with additional funding. I am awaiting input from England Golf regarding the Handicap Index limit prior to publicising the event on the various websites.

6 Election of committee members

Disappointingly, no-one has come forward to take the place of those due to retire. We posted on the website and circulated by e-mail that if this was still the case by 12th November, the committee will put forward the proposal that

'This unusual year is discounted from the total years that members are allowed to serve under Rule 2ii, which currently stands at 5 years maximum'.

As no-one did come forward, this was formally proposed by the committee and seconded by Alison Hooper (Henbury).

We must have succession planning for this committee and therefore it is vital that volunteers step forward to offer their skills & time next year.

The committee therefore still comprises of -

Chair	Lis Henniker-Heaton	Henbury	Elected 2018
Honorary Secretary	Angie Frith	Bath	Elected 2015
Honorary Treasurer	Gill Prophet	Mendip Spring	Elected 2015
Results Co-ordinator	Carol Kirkwood	Clevedon	Elected 2016
Honorary Championship Sec	Alison Rushgrove	Bath	Elected 2018
Member	Rachael Paul	The Bristol	Elected 2018
Somerset County Liaison	Zena Balcombe	(Weston-s-Mare)	Elected 2017
Gloucester County Liaison	Ruth Hughes	(Thornbury)	Elected 2017

7 Draw for the Scratch & Handicap Foursomes

The draws for the scratch and handicap foursomes were made by Zoom prior to the meeting , using the new structure as described above, and already posted on the website.

The date of the final for 2020 is Sunday 12th September; the 19th September will be used in case of inclement weather. The venue will be announced at a later date.

The usual annual reminder please, to arrange the first rounds of the foursomes by 1st March, as per the Rules.

8 Date of next AGM – Thursday 4th November 2021 at 11am, venue TBD

The AGM was formally closed at 11:40am