

BRISTOL & DISTRICT LADY GOLFERS' ALLIANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD BY TELECONFERENCE
On Wednesday 18th March 2020 at 5.00pm

Present:

Lis Henniker-Heaton - Chair	LHH	Gill Prophet	GP
Angie Frith	AF	Ruth Hughes	RH
Rachael Paul	RP	Alison Rushgrove	AR
Zena Balcombe	ZB		

ACTION

1. Apologies – Carol Kirkwood

2. Coronavirus Impact

The main purpose for bringing the meeting forward and holding a teleconference was to discuss the impact on the Alliance of the current global threat from coronavirus. Usual reports were circulated prior to the call and are therefore added to these minutes but to some extent have been superseded by the main topic of the call.

The committee discussed postponing the early matches due to be played before the end of May but agreed that this would affect 60+ matches that would be difficult to reschedule. Added to this, there would be catching up of other life issues and those who work might have to put in extra time so the teams could be compromised and the integrity of the league adversely affected. Other organisations have cancelled their events; SLCGA - the Rogers Cup & Centenary Plate; Cotswold League - all matches this season; many clubs in our alliance provided feedback regarding their restrictions. Taking all of this into account the committee decided to cancel all matches and the Foursomes competitions for 2020. The fixtures could remain in the diaries and each club can decide whether these might be friendly matches, depending on current circumstances.

There will be little or no expenditure this year as there will be no trophy engraving. The committee agreed to waive their usual honoraria.

The viability of holding the Harper Salver will be reviewed at the end of April. Angie will update the BDGLA and BGC websites. Alison will alert EG to add to their website.

AF/AR

A communication from Lis will be sent tonight to all clubs informing them of the cancellation, requesting that we hold over the subscriptions for next season.

AF/LS

3. Minutes of Meeting of 16th December agreed and signed for Lis by Angie

4. Matters arising – None

5. Chairman's Report – Lis Henniker -Heaton

This year's Aqua Blue Glass Challenge has been cancelled. I did contact the Chair of CDLGA to check whether they contribute towards teas for this event or are thinking of doing so. They don't currently help with the cost and their next committee meeting is not

until September. She thought it would be unlikely that they would contribute as only a few of their teams would ever play in this and it would not be fair on the other teams. However, she will gauge opinion of other committee members and let me know.

LHH

6. Secretary's Report – Angie Frith

The information for the packs to the Ladies' Captains and Team Captains was e-mailed in early January.

The sub-committee to discuss having more than one team in the same division was formed and due to meet on 19th March but has now been postponed to avoid unnecessary social contact. It will be rescheduled for later this year as appropriate.

AF

The Website annual fee has been paid.

GDPR - Some teams have set up generic e-mail addresses and some haven't but all are aware that these are circulated to other Ladies Captains or Team Captains and have given consent by providing their data.

7. Treasurer's Report – Gill Prophet

Bank accounts now stand at £1,746.60 in current account, which includes three Harper Salver entries and £18.96 owed to Lis. There is £3,441.21 in Santander account and £176.30 in petty cash. The Santander account is still not closed as Gill is awaiting a letter from the bank but will now be chased as a matter of urgency.

GP

8. Results Co-ordinator's Report – Carol Kirkwood

I was raring to go with my new BDLGA folder set up and spreadsheets at the ready - thank you Angie! The first 7 matches were due to take place shortly.

9. Championship Secretary's Report – Alison Rushgrove

Scratch & Handicap Foursomes Draw – I have spoken to Janet Fear about her comments made at the 2019 AGM. Outcome is:-

- Draw always used to be carried out by Competition Secretary and there is no reason why we can't reinstate this as job of Comp. Sec.

The 'byes' should be drawn out first, not second. If you think of a 'bye' as a win – which in effect it is – then all clubs should have a chance of that 'win'. Once those 'byes' have been drawn, then all other clubs know that they have to play a match and, so draw is then done to establish opponents. Does a bye count as a Home game? In my view, a bye is worth more than a home game as you don't have to play to win. We could lay the draw out so that, where possible, there is a match followed by a bye, match, bye etc. This may not prevent the situation but I feel it is worth trying next year.

AF/AR

- Issue of number of Home and Away games in succession during the foursomes competitions; it was felt that one club in particular had 3 home games giving them an unfair advantage. In the event of two clubs coming together who have had the same number of home games, the secretary tosses a coin to determine who has the home

advantage. I spoke to Janet Fear and Fay Galley - no guidelines are known to exist. When you look at how the competitions progress through the season, there is no way to prevent situations like this arising, but equally it may not arise.

Harper Salver

- Poster and entry form on England Golf, BDLGA, and Bath GC, Somerset LGA and Gloucester LGA.
- Booked in with Bath GC including practice round tee times.
- Janet Fear contacted re referees for the event.
- Eight entries to date! (Had 13 entries by this time last year). Early days as far as the competitors are concerned and I am sure that the current situation re Covid 19 is affecting entries.
- Due to rising cost of holding Harper Salver at Bath GC, I contacted Bristol & Clifton GC about holding 2021 Harper Salver at their Club. They quoted me £1,000. This year we are paying £1300 to Bath GC so we will ask Bath to reduce their fee in future or we could move the championship. Before making that decision, Ellie Harper should be consulted.

AR

10. AOB – None

11. Date of next meetings –

- 29th May at 10.30 at The Bristol (tbc)
- 16th September – time and venue tbc

The meeting closed at 5.45pm