

**BRISTOL & DISTRICT LADY GOLFERS' ALLIANCE**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING HELD BY ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE**  
**On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 10.00**

**Present:**

Lis Henniker-Heaton	LHH	Carol Kirkwood	CK
Angie Frith	AF	Ruth Hughes	RH
Rachael Paul	RP	Alison Rushgrove	AR

**ACTION**

**1. Apologies** – Zena Balcombe

**2. Minutes of Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021** agreed and signed by Lis

**3. Matters arising** –

4. We were pleased that the immediate post-COVID idea that B&C would play matches in four-balls was dropped following communication with their Ladies' Captain.

12. c/f Ruth to find out about Gloucester referees for next year's championship

**RH**

**4. Chairman's Report – Lis Henniker-Heaton**

We were all very saddened at Gill's passing following her short illness. I attended her funeral and was struck by the huge support for her, many dressed in team colours. It was such a warm, friendly occasion and a fitting send-off for a very popular member of our golfing community.

A big thank you to Ruth for taking over the treasurer duties at very short notice.

I will attend the Bath Aqua Glass Challenge Bowl on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

**5. Secretary's Report – Angie Frith**

The league seems to be running smoothly. The temporary rule allowing B and C Team Captains to 'set' their team up to a week in advance so even if a player becomes ineligible during that week they can still play, has worked well. The committee agreed to propose this as a rule change at the AGM.

**AF**

It is with huge relief that COVID-19 has had no impact on the matches played or the refreshments provided. Everyone has worked around the restrictions well.

Lansdown were unable to join in this year but see no reason why they shouldn't rejoin next year as the vaccination centre at Bath racecourse should not be running after Spring 2022.

## **6. Results Co-ordinator's Report – Carol Kirkwood**

There are 23 matches still to be played, Div 1 – 1, Div 2 – 8, Div 3 – 5, Div 4 – 4, Div 5 – 5

The trophy winner in division 1 is already decided but there is still excitement in store!

Happily Lansdown is returning and will be in division 2. This means that only one team from division 1 will go down. The rest will be as in previous years.

I have received 5 final results spreadsheets. I will use these to cross check with the master spreadsheet and will continue to do this as the remaining 29 come in.

## **7. Championship Secretary's Report – Alison Rushgrove**

This was one of the most successful events in recent years in terms of numbers - 66 entries in total, 58 on the start sheet, 1 competitor withdrew before R1 due to COVID another competitor withdrew during R2 with illness.

Bath Golf Club hosted the event extremely well. It was a gorgeous day weatherwise which helps, but the course and the clubhouse were very well presented, the staff were attentive, and food and drink served efficiently. The course was praised highly by both the competitors and their caddies. They definitely do want to carry on hosting this event. Diney Costeloe and Ellie Harper both came to the Club for the day and Lis Henniker-Heaton and Diney presented the prizes.

Thank you to Janet Fear, Alison Lee and Pam Jarvis for doing an excellent job of refereeing, Lis Henniker-Heaton, Angie Frith and Rachael Paul from the BDLGA committee for helping out on the desk and for marking a card. Thank you to Sam Robinson from Bath GC for helping me to produce the start sheet, inputting the cards and producing the results. Also, to Andy Robinson and Deborah McArdle for standing in at the last minute and being prepared to mark a card. We also had ball spotters, starters and Clubhouse hosts – all members of Bath GC helping on the day.

Entries came in very late, many well after the closing date. I suggest moving the closing date to 2 weeks before the competition. The committee agreed. England Golf was very poor early in the year at getting the poster and entry form onto their website. They were operating a skeleton staff during lockdown and I could only access a central point of contact, who was very helpful and passed on the information to the relevant department, but it was not acted upon. This has not been a problem in the past. I believe that the late rush of entries was due to social media amongst the girls themselves and word of mouth at other competitions. I do always contact all the competitors from the previous year. However, I think we should consider a way of using social media & will discuss with my successor.

**AR**

There were issues with handicaps from Wales or Scotland. WHS not necessarily updated if competitors come from Wales or Scotland. Also, there is an issue with uploading their scores to WHS, solved by Bath GC Chair of C&H inputting scores directly onto WHS platform. I checked with competitors and that worked. Hopefully by next year this may be sorted.

Issues with IG not calculating countback correctly. Hence on the day we awarded 5<sup>th</sup> gross prize to the wrong person. I changed the results to reflect the correct winner and gave prizes to both the winner who we initially placed 5<sup>th</sup> and the correct winner. Countback in multi-round competitions should be on R2 but IG calculated it on back 9, back 6, back 3, back 1. I reported this to IG via Chair of C&H at Bath GC. On the day we assumed that IG knew the rules!

We input one score on one hole wrongly. It was easily put right but not very professional. I suggest that in future we publish a 'draft' set of results, wait for any comments/disputes and then we can make any changes and publish the final results.

Re prizes, there is a security risk sending the gift cards by post if prize winners do not stay for prize-giving. It would be safer and easier to give an electronic gift card eg an Amazon card. The committee agreed.

Gifts for entrants on the day - this year we used up some 'leftovers'. We had some towels and some ball markers. The towels were the most popular amongst those who had a choice. We have no towels left, 17 small ball markers left, 1 large ball marker, 10 very old card sachets of tees and a pencil. I suggest we decide to buy gifts in plenty of time for next year. The committee suggested more modern logo'd magnetic ball markers or pitch repairers to be researched. Ruth to look back in accounts at cost of towels & ball markers in previous years.

AR/RP/RH

I sent out a press release to same publications as previous year but haven't heard whether it has appeared anywhere.

The committee agreed to keep the championship at Bath for the foreseeable future so I will meet with the new club manager to explain the deal. We agreed to leave the entry fee and prize amounts the same as last year having only recently changed them.

AR

## 8. Treasurer's Report – Ruth Hughes

Currently there is £6,173.85 in the bank account, £3,520.85 from Santander. Petty cash remains at £139.48.

£100 has been received from Somerset but not from Gloucester so Ruth will chase this.

RH

Lis and Ruth will liaise re banking now that they have all the paperwork, cards and card reader.

RH/LHH

Ruth will transfer the accounts onto Excel, to be uploaded to a central place such as Dropbox. Angie to look into this for central storage of all BDLGA documents.

RH/AF

Ruth will also create a budget template so that we can reassess the subs paid by teams.

RH

## 9. Treatment of two teams from the same club in the same division

The working party meeting was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July and minutes were circulated to the attendees and committee. There were no decisions but two action points before putting forward any proposals for change, to gather further information –

- *AF will ask all clubs with more than one team to audit their players and see how many matches each one actually plays. If it is an issue that some players are involved in a significantly high number of A and B (or C) team matches, then we may look at limiting this in the future. This will be gathered at the end of the season when the final spreadsheets have been submitted*
- *Also, those clubs should check that all of their nominated A-Team players (or B-Team for Henbury) have played in at least one match during the season, so as not to advantage the lower team by nominating a non-player. This was done and Team Captains are aware. Again, this will be obtained from final spreadsheets.*

AF

One issue brought up by the attendees was that of Knowle only giving 4.30 tee times for their matches, which many players consider to be too late, especially when the light is fading. This has been brought up many times in the past too. It was agreed that they need to offer weekend dates as well, to accommodate their juniors and working women. It was also suggested that all TCs be mindful of traffic conditions and Bank Holidays when setting their match dates next year. Travelling for many hours, there or / and back, to play a match should be avoided. Angie will add this to the letter to be circulated when the new divisions are known.

**AF**

## **10. AGM Planning**

a. Paperwork & Letters to captains – Angie will work out dates when resolutions etc need to be submitted and draft letters to all LCs & TCs

**AF**

b. Angie will draft the agenda ready to be circulated. Proposed date for 2022 AGM is Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November and finals for the foursomes is 18<sup>th</sup> September, with 25<sup>th</sup> September as reserve in case of bad weather.

c. Most of the trophies have now been collected and Carol will take them to the engravers. One is missing and Angie will follow up on this.

**AF**

Also the Foursomes trophies will not be required until next year so Carol will liaise with Zena about storing these in a Trophy cabinet so that they are on insured premises.

**CK**

d. Potential committee members – we have nominations for Treasurer and Championship Secretary but not Secretary despite repeated requests. Angie will contact another couple of possibilities but all committee members to continue the search.

**ALL**

## **11. AOB**

Ruth will pay honoraria by BACS

**RH**

Angie to send a thank you to The Bristol for hosting our committee meeting

**AF**

## **12. Dates of 2021 meetings –**

- AGM - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00 at Knowle Golf Club as restrictions allow

The meeting closed at 12.00pm