

BRISTOL & DISTRICT LADY GOLFERS' ALLIANCE
87th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT
KNOWLE GOLF CLUB ON
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8th 2016 AT 11am

Sue Johns, the chair, welcomed the Ladies to Knowle Golf Club and thanked Ryan Coles, Club Manager, for the club's hospitality and his assistance in setting up for our AGM. Sue then introduced the members of the Alliance committee to the delegates.

1 Notice convening the meeting

The secretary then declared the 87th Annual General Meeting of the Bristol & District Lady Golfers Alliance open.

2 Minute's Silence

There was then a minute's silence in memory of Stephanie Hodges who has died at age 94. Stephanie was a longstanding member of Henbury Golf Club and was Ladies' Captain in 1986. She was in the army during the war and at one stage worked at Bletchley Park as a decoder.

3 Apologies

Apologies were received from Pao Poole & Lyn Vowles (Bristol & Clifton), Jan Fukuyama (The Mendip), Jill Sewley (Thornbury), Lena Warren (Farrington Park), Claire Wiltshire (Henbury), Claire Bayliss & Sue Kinch (Worlebury) and Aileen Robertson (Isle of Wedmore)

4 Minutes for the Annual General Meeting 2014

These were taken as read. Acceptance was proposed by Helen Treasure (Knowle) and seconded by Jan Pitcher (Long Ashton). Sue Johns signed them as a correct record of the proceedings.

5 Matters Arising

- I. The committee had listened to last year's feedback about having too much surplus in the account and therefore decided that annual engraving costs could be met by the BDLGA funds providing trophies are returned to us in good time before the next AGM. We negotiated a discount for bulk. Also, a previous tradition of awarding silver ball markers to the winners of the Scratch and Handicap Fours has been reinstated.
- II. Two policies to cover players with dementia and those requiring a buggy have been created and are published on our website.

6 Reports

a) Treasurer – Gill Prophet

The Alliance has financially had a very steady year to 30 September 2016 making a small surplus overall of £248.52.

As a Committee we have taken on board the comments made over the past few years expressing your dislike to the Alliance accumulating funds each year. As you will be aware we now get the perpetual trophies engraved rather than getting the winners to do this. We also got the trophies valued and this one off cost is shown in the accounts.

The 2015 AGM refreshments were provided for those attending and this cost is included in the accounts for this year. We are again doing this for this AGM.

Last year we purchased golf towels to hand out to entrants for the Harper Salver and this was done for the 2016 championships and will again be done in for the 2017 championships from stocks which we hold.

Although not shown in these accounts we have also agreed to acquire, and have done so, a stock of the silver ball markers. It was felt that we should back date these to the last time these were handed out to the winners of the scratch and handicap foursomes winners and now have ball markers for the winners of the 2012 to 2015 winners to present to them and have stocks to carry this on until at least 2021.

You will note that there is a surplus for the Harper Salver Championship this year however we have been advised there will be an increase for the cost of green fees for the 2017 championship.

The charge for the holes-in-one in these accounts cover both the 2015 and 2016 seasons and there have been 3 in each season.

Sue thanked Gill for her report.

The accounts were then adopted by the meeting – proposed by Carole Brooke (Long Ashton) and seconded by Louise Buxton (Bath).

b) Secretary – Angie Frith

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as secretary and everyone has been most helpful and patient while I was finding my feet. I was very grateful to Claire Biggs for such a comprehensive handover.

Firstly, many thanks to all Captains for their prompt returns of league and foursomes results. One plea please – in the title of the e-mail that you send it would be very helpful to have the **club name** and **division number** or **Fours type** - when it comes to looking back & trying to find previous e-mails it is so much easier for us.

Most of you returned your halfway and full match results promptly, which helps enormously. Others had some issues with columns not adding up or not being able to add extra names to the list. I will recheck the template on the website to ensure that the formulae are correct but I am very happy to reformat spreadsheets if anyone is having difficulties, so please just e-mail me.

Also, most of you will have already booked and confirmed your matches for 2017. Another plea - please could as many as possible be played by the end of September, barring of course those which have to be rescheduled due to inclement weather. This year, the last match was on 10th October and it does make rejigging the league for the following year's divisions very late.

Lansdown has decided to field just one team next year, so the divisions were amended in line with the Rules so that the vacancy is in Division 5. If anyone knows of clubs who would like to join, or field a second team, please could they let me know in good time to include them next year.

We do keep a careful eye on the matches that we anticipate being played and wonder what happened if the results don't come in, so please keep us posted of any rescheduled matches so we can update the match dates spreadsheet on the website.

Congratulations to all the division winners –Bristol & Clifton A, The Mendip A, Wells, The Kendleshire and Clevedon B. There were some very close leagues with some results both promotions and relegations resting on final matches.

Also congratulations to the individual winners – Su Worthington & Pao Poole from Bristol & Clifton and Alice Robinson from Burnham & Berrow, all with 16 points, Jan Fukuyama from The Mendip with 18 points, Glynis Slater from Wells with an impressive 20 points, Helen Cole from the Kendleshire with 19 points and Sue Tasker from Clevedon, also with 19 points.

The finals of the Scratch and Handicap Foursomes at Bath saw Long Ashton comfortably beat The Mendip in the scratch match and Bristol & Clifton just pip Lansdown on the 18th, in the handicap fours, making for a very exciting match. Thanks to Bath Golf Club for letting us use their course for the finals and providing a very good tea afterwards.

The Bath Aqua Glass Challenge Bowl (competed for between the Division 1 Champions from our Alliance and the Cotswold Alliance), was played between Minchinhampton and Henbury, at Henbury. A very good day was had by all those attending and the result was an honourable draw. Thank you to Henbury for their hospitality. Next year Bristol & Clifton as Division 1 winners will play Cirencester on 19th March and we wish them every success to bring the trophy back to Bristol & District.

Thank you to all Team Captains of clubs with two teams, who, during the season e-mailed me if the top seven players changed. We did have one club this year who inadvertently played an A team player in a B team match and alerted us that they had done this, with subsequent loss of points for that match. So thank you to them for their honesty and please all check your team players carefully so that they play in the right teams and in the correct handicap order. Remember that players can go out in a different order when playing as long as each player plays the correct opposite player, thus if a player is delayed by traffic they can slot in at the end.

We were delighted to hear news of three Holes in One scored during league matches and thanks to the team captains who remembered to send us the relevant information.

The 2017 Pack with all the details of new Captains etc., will be sent out in December, posted FAO The Lady Captain to your clubs.

As ever, if you do have any queries, comments or feedback, please e-mail or phone me.

Sue Johns then thanked Angie for her report.

c) Championship Secretary - Karen Beaumont-Wraith

Firstly I would like to say what a pleasure it has been to organise the championship for the past three years. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting all the competitors and their caddies.

This year's West of England Amateur Ladies Championship was once again held at Bath Golf Club on Sunday 12th June. Again we had a very high standard of players ranging in handicap from +3 to 6. The winner of the Harper Salver was Katherine O'Connor from West Byfleet with a combined score of 146. We also have a new trophy, namely the Costeloe Trophy which we award for the best nett score. This was won by Charlie Hiatt from The Kendleshire with a combined nett score of 144. I would like to say a very special thank you to our sponsors, Diney Costeloe and Gloucester County Ladies Golf Association. Thanks also go to the committee and also to the staff and members of Bath Golf Club who are always willing to help.

Next year we will be holding the championship again at Bath Golf Club on Sunday 11th June.

Lastly, I would like to wish my successor all the very best and I am sure that she will enjoy it as much as I have.

The Chairman thanked Karen for her hard work this year and presented her with a silver ball marker.

d) Website Organiser - Debbie Dardis

Working with Sue John our Chair, we have tidied up and added pages to the Website. It has become more and more apparent that we are restricted in what we have been able to achieve. We cannot work on the site off line, we would like more flexibility, ease of access, better service provision and more functionality. It is for this reason that we are going to work together to create a new site in the months ahead. The new site will be up and running before the start of the new golfing season.

The current website and email address will remain open and accessible and if, at any point, this needs to change we will let you know immediately.

The reporting of results has been so much better this year. Thank you very much. Please continue to put your Division in the subject every time you send a result in and this includes your 6 match and 12 match detailed team results. This helps us greatly with the filing. For your information we keep every email you send in which helps us to check back if we see a discrepancy between the on line results we put up and your 6 game and 12 game analysis. I am delighted to report that we have had very few discrepancies this year.

As you may remember I gave notice at the AGM in 2015. I have just become Lady Captain of Saltford, my husband is Club Captain so we have a rock 'n' roll year ahead. My role has been advertised for a few months now in the hope that we would find a new Web Organiser to take over at this AGM. Sadly no one has come forward. It is an enjoyable role and I would encourage you to come forward and work alongside me this year with a view to taking over next year. Please come and talk to me after this meeting I have copies of the job description. I will stay on the Committee in the role in the hope that someone will shadow me especially when the results start coming in so don't be shy.

The Chairman then thanked Debbie for all her hard work and presented her with a silver ball marker in thanks of all her hard work over the years.

7 Election of committee members

The following members are standing for re-election –

Chairman	Sue Johns	Honorary Treasurer	Gill Prophet
Honorary Secretary	Angie Frith	Committee Member	Marian Crewe
Somerset County Liaison	Di Yates	Gloucester County Liaison	Mary Groves

The election was proposed en bloc by Su Worthington (B&C) and seconded by Jen Jones (Wells)
The appointed Somerset and Gloucestershire Liaison Officers remain on the committee.

Nomination of the vacant position of Honorary Championship Secretary

There was one nomination, Rosemary Fife from Clevedon who was proposed by Karen Beaumont-Wraith and seconded by Sue Johns

The Chairman asked for a show of hands and Rosemary was unanimously accepted by those present.

Nomination of the vacant position of Website Coordinator

There were no nominations, so Debbie Dardis kindly agreed to continue to do the preparatory work over the winter with a view to someone being found who will shadow her and be co-opted onto committee to take over.

8 Draw for the Scratch & Handicap Foursomes

The draw for the scratch and handicap foursome was made and will be posted on the website.

The date of the final for 2016 is Sunday 10th September; the 17th September will be used in case of inclement weather. The venue will be announced at a later date.

Members were reminded that any individual player may only play in one event, either the scratch or the handicap matches, during the year.

9 Proposed Rules Changes

Various rules changes were proposed and the highlighted changes were available for all to see on the BDLGA website prior to the AGM. Most were to tidy up the documents, such as replacing 'Active' with 'Competition' handicap, clarification of wordings and some typographical errors.

Two new policies were created last year with input from England Golf, clarifying the use of a buggy for a disability and allowing assistance for players with dementia. The use of a double buggy should have been removed from the draft document as per the discussion at the last AGM, so was included at this time.

The committee created a local rule for the use of Distance Measuring Devices in line with the R&A guidance.

The committee also wish to adopt England Golf's policy on Pace of Play for the Scratch & Handicap Foursomes.

These policies are now referred to in the Rules.

Sue Johns guided the meeting through these proposals and the asked for a show of hands to adopt the changes, which were unanimously carried.

10 Date of next AGM – Thursday 9th November 2017 at 11am, at Knowle Golf Club

11 Presentation of trophies

The Chairman presented the Division Trophies and the Trophies to the individual members for top scores in each division, plus the Scratch and Handicap Foursomes trophies and Hole-in-One vouchers. The Bath Aqua Challenge Bowl had been presented earlier in the year and was shared between Henbury and Minchinhampton.

12 The Chair formally closed the AGM at 12:10pm

Time for Open discussion of any points that arose during 2016

There was none

Chair's closing remarks