

BERKSHIRE COUNTY LADIES VETERANS' GOLF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting held at Sand Martins Golf Club on Wednesday 24th February 2010 at 11.15 a.m.

Mrs Jo Russ, Captain, was in the chair and opened the meeting by welcoming Sue Robson, The County President and members. Sixty seven members signed the Attendance Register. Fifty four members had lunch.

Apologies for Absence. 17

1. **The Minutes of 2009 AGM** having been circulated were taken as read. Adoption of the Minutes was proposed by Mrs. Anthea Winn, seconded by Mrs. Eloise Jones and accepted by the members. Mrs Jo Russ signed the Minutes as a correct record.

2. **Matters Arising from the Minutes.** At last year's AGM the proposal that "For Vets Singles Stroke Play competitions competitors playing on the course of which they are a member will have a 1 shot handicap reduction" was passed with a 1 year trial period. A summary sheet of the past 5 years winners – singles competitions was circulated to the meeting. The Captain gave a brief explanation and requested comments from the floor.

Doffi Parkinson was opposed to the proposal on several grounds and presented a comprehensive case against acceptance of such handicap reductions. Doffi had not been able to attend the 2009 AGM and was therefore unable to state her case at that time.

She was strongly of the opinion there was no reason to deduct shots from any players whose handicaps were based mainly on rounds at home clubs and questioned the depth of statistical analysis as a basis for the proposal. In addition, she felt such a ruling was not within the spirit of the game.

Olive Tomlinson also felt that the summary, although correct, gave a misleading result as the number of prizes won by members of other clubs was not identified and varied in the different competitions.

The Captain then put the proposal to the meeting. A vote was taken and there was an overwhelming vote against with 4 abstentions. The proposal was therefore rescinded.

3. Captain's Report.

The Captain commenced her report by thanking Sand Martins for making us welcome today and offering to host our events this year. BCLVGA was extremely grateful.

We have 243 members this year and she had received applications from over 50 members wishing to play in matches. All were offered at least one game. The match results were as follows:

v. Bucks Seniors at Lambourne: lost 2 -5; v. Oxfordshire Seniors at Henley: lost 3 – 4; v. Wiltshire Vets at Newbury & Crookham: won 4½ - 1½; v. Reading & District Men at Newbury & Crookham: lost 3 – 5; v. Hants Vets at Newbury & Crookham: won 4 – 3. and v. BCLCGA at Newbury & Crookham: lost 3 - 4. Although only two matches were won, two were only lost by one game, and the good news is everyone wants to play us again! So well done to all who battled hard and thank you to those who played as late substitutes.

The Open Meetings were well supported. In the Spring Meeting at Sunningdale Ladies 38 pairs played 36 holes of Foursomes, this year without the storm. The Olive Tomlinson Trophies were won by Jill Edwardes and Barbara Hamblin. At the first Summer Meeting at Royal Ascot Golf Club, 28 pairs played Fourball, with Sylvia Woolford and Rosalie Tucker coming out on top. In the second Summer meeting at Mapledurham 100 entrants played a Stableford Competition, where the Summer Bowl and Over 60's trophy was won by Margaret Finlay, the Over 70's Trophy Sylvia Woolford and the Past Captain's Trophy by Kath Lambert. Finally at the Autumn Meeting at Newbury & Crookham, 36 ladies played for both Scratch and Handicap prizes, and here Anne Hornby won the top scratch prize, while Liz Draper won the Grandmother's Trophy.

The Gittins Knock out Trophy was won by Eloise Jones of Mapledurham, who triumphed on the 17th at Calcot Park over Di Raeside of Sand Martins. All in all the prize winners came from a wide variety of clubs, from Winter Hill to Calcot and as far as Abu Dhabi! which is always good for business and she congratulated everyone who played.

Unfortunately the Bridge Drive had to be cancelled due to lack of support. This she felt was due to the fact that many ladies found it difficult to actually get to Newbury for the AGM when the council seemed to be digging up all of the local roads and she hoped it would be reinstated in 2010.

The Captain extended her thanks to the Newbury & Crookham Club for their help and hospitality throughout the year and to her committee for all their hard work. Firstly the Past Captain Margaret Taylor who kept her pointing in the right direction; the Treasurer Maureen Rogers for ensuring that the Association remained solvent; Pat Price for her planning for next year and the "Two Alisons" Phillips and Goudge who undertake a huge amount of work to cope with our large numbers – both are extremely efficient and Alison and her coloured stickers will be missed next year! Thank you all. Finally she said how much she had enjoyed her year as Captain, working with, and for, such a friendly group of ladies and wished Pat all the best for 2010.

The Captain then presented Eloise Jones - Mapledurham with the Gittins Knock Out Trophy and voucher and a voucher to the runner up Di Raeside- Sand Martins.

4. Hon. Secretary's Report.

The Secretary reported that membership remained steady at around 245, which included twenty new members. 49 members had not yet renewed their membership. 43 ladies had entered the Gittins Knockout Competition. She thanked the members for informing her of address and email changes and stated it was so important that the members data base was kept up to date.

There was one point following on last year's AGM re insurance of trophies. She now reported that after discussion with the County it was found not to be possible or practical to be included in their policy. Taking out our own policy also proved to be extremely expensive and difficult to administer and it was therefore felt that trophies should continue to be covered, as had been the practice in the past, under individuals household policies.

5. Competition Secretary's Report.

The Competition Secretary stated that just as she was getting to grips with the job her two year stint was up and unfortunately, or may be fortunately, depending on your point of view, she was moving on to be Lady Captain at East Berks for 2010.

Fixtures this year had run smoothly with the weather being kind to us. For the first time on record, the Spring Meeting at Sunningdale Ladies was not oversubscribed but this did cause us to end up with a financial loss due to the lack of reserves for last minute changes.

The Gittins Trophy started with 50 competitors with the semi-finals played at Reading and Sand Martins and the final at Calcot Park – all neutral courses. She thanked the Clubs for giving us courtesy rounds. The Summer Meetings at Mapledurham attracted 104 players and had become the favourite venue for this competition. The enormous help from Tim Gilpin and the coloured labels to identify relevant categories, again ensured a quick turn round of results, which is always a good thing when trying to get away from the traffic in Caversham and Reading.

The new 4BBB competition was held this year at Royal Ascot when again we received wonderful hospitality and halfway refreshments from the lady members. 28 pairs took part and this should now become a regular fixture to be played at different courses.

For the second year running, the Autumn Meeting, this time at Newbury & Crookham was low in numbers with only 36 players. Perhaps this was due to location at the extreme west of the County.

She continued by giving her best wishes to Jane Adamson, who is taking over as Competition Secretary and said she would be happy to hand over the sackful of files which go with the job. She needed the space!!

Finally, and she knew everyone says this, she really had enjoyed the experience and it will now be nice to actually play again in the competitions. By the way her mother is looking forward to her retirement as my clerk, stuffing envelopes and keeping all the cheques and entries in alphabetical order, and she did ask me to thank you for not sending very small stamped addressed envelopes this year!

The Captain thanked Alison for her hard work and presented her with an orchid.

6. Hon. Treasurer's Report.

Maureen hoped that everyone had had time to study a copy of the accounts. The aim of the Association was to enable members to meet and play golf. Members will note that we are in the red by £317.16. This is partly due to the purchase of a number of polo shirts and sleeveless sweaters that are on display. This incurred an outlay of £396 including the cost of having the logo made up. To date we have received £90 from sales which means we only have a deficit of £11.16 taking into account the value of the stock we hold.

The deposit account is very healthy and £1,000 was transferred in November to give us some working capital for 2010.

The sheet is self-explanatory. It shows the income and expenses for the year and compares it with the previous year. There is one difference to note when comparing the competitions. The Summer Meeting 1 in 2009 is the one that was Summer Meeting 2 in 2008 and Summer Meeting 2 in 2009 was the Summer Meeting 1 in 2008. This was due to the change in the timings of the meetings in 2009.

While considering the competitions, she mentioned the loss of revenue of approximately £170 for the Spring Meeting due to several members pulling out after the draw had been made and we were committed to tee times and numbers for catering. Those members had entry fees returned. The Summer Meeting 2 at Royal Ascot also ran at a loss of about £100 due mainly to a smaller number of competitors than anticipated. Due to the losses incurred by late withdrawals, members should note that this year we have stated on the entry forms that no money will be returned after the draw has been made. On the subject of entry fees she asked that if you send a cheque for more than one person you put the names of the other member or members on the back of the cheque. This will help her with the accounting system. The zero amount shown on the Bridge Drive is because the event was cancelled due to lack of support.

She thanked Mrs Anna Rogers for auditing the accounts this year.

One question was raised re one item under Expenses: Sundry £536.90. The Treasurer stated this was high as it included the £396.00 cost of polo shirts etc. Regarding the no refund policy once a draw is made - Celia Geater- Reading asked if you were unable to play would it be in order to find a substitute. Maureen stated that this would be fine.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Doffi Parkinson, seconded by Barbara Hamblin and accepted by the members.

7. Proposals. None.

8. Election of Officers.

Captain	Pat Price	Proposed by Jo Russ Seconded by Margaret Taylor
Vice-Captain	Chris Carter	Proposed by Pat Price Seconded by Maureen Rogers
Competition Secretary	Jane Adamson	Proposed by Alison Goudge Seconded by Alison Phillips

Hon. Treasurer Maureen Rogers and Hon. Secretary Alison Phillips continue in post for a further year. Jo Russ is prepared to continue on Committee as IPC. Margaret Taylor will be retiring. The Captain passed the Captain's badge to the new Captain – Pat Price and wished her every success.

9. New Captain's Report.

Pat welcomed everyone to Sand Martins Golf Club and said it was nice to see so many ladies present. She felt very honoured to have been asked by Jo and her Committee to be Captain for 2010, especially as it is the first time that Sand Martins have provided a Captain for the Berkshire Ladies Veterans. She hoped that she would be able to live up to the high standards set by Jo and previous Captains.

She thanked all the ladies who had applied to play in the matches this year. She has managed to include all ladies in at least one of the matches, either as a player or reserve, and letters have been given out (or will be posted). She asked if all ladies could confirm that they are still available for the matches including reserves.

Pat expressed her delight that Chris Carter of Goring & Streatley had agreed to take on the role of Vice Captain and Jane Adamson as Competition Secretary. She looked forward to working with them both and, of course, Alison as Secretary and Maureen as Treasurer. She then mentioned that both Alison and Maureen would be retiring from the Committee at the end of the year and therefore a new Secretary & Treasurer would be required, and she would be delighted to hear from any lady interested in joining the Committee in either of these positions.

She continued by thanking Andrew Hall and Sand Martins Golf Club for agreeing to host the matches, Autumn Meeting, AGM and Bridge Drive in 2010. This is a major commitment as Sand Martins are also providing the venue for the Berkshire Lady Captains' Society matches and functions this year. She wished Beth Eccles Good Luck as Captain.

Finally on behalf of the Association she thanked Jo for all her hard work as Captain in 2009 which had been another successful for the Berkshire Ladies Vets and asked her to accept this gift as a token of their appreciation.

10. **AOB.** There was none.

11. **The Captain closed the meeting at 11.55 a.m.**