

LINCOLNSHIRE UNION OF GOLF CLUBS

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on the
7th December 2016 at Market Rasen GC, commencing at 18.15hrs

PRESENT:

J.Lammin (President- in the chair), L.Toyne (President Elect), D.Brotherton (Immediate Past President), T.Ireland (Past President), P. Rogers (Past President), H.Harrison (Hon Sec), C.Lloyd (Hon Treasurer), N.Harris (Hon Comps Sec), J.Flindall (Vice Capt), K.Farrow (Lge Chairman), K.Moody (Junior Organiser), J.Barley, (Asst Junior Organiser), T.Haggerty (Schools Representative),
Club Representatives:
D.Culyer, AJ Thompson, A.Drennan, K.Onyon, P.Martin, R, Bursnell, S.Carr, M.Davis

(1) APOLOGIES:

J.Halmshaw, DFPrice, JTRPrice, P.Morrison, D.Leonard, S.Brattan, M.Mawson, S.Dickson, B.Howard, P.Martin, D.Jackson, P.Davis, H.Castell, R.Newns, R.Kedzlie, R.Wardhaugh, S.Shaw

(2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 7th September 2016

Proposed by D.Culyer and seconded by K.Farrow that they were a true record.
Agreed.

(3) MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising that were not agenda items.

(4) ENGLAND GOLF REPORT: (D.F Price)

Report previously circulated as below:

- New CE Nick Pink has continued touring the country and making himself familiar with the new role, and he recently attended the MGU meeting at Kilworth Springs. He is available for attendance at a future LUGC executive meeting.
- The need to ensure safeguarding within golf was stressed and recent developments in football reinforce this. Clubs need to remain vigilant.
- The CEO placed great emphasis on the importance of volunteers and their contribution is a matter he is well aware of.
- The CEO has also confirmed that EG are trying to look at what is right for counties and clubs and NOT what EG think is right for them. This does appear a subtle but significant shift
- IMP Pilot (3 Counties recruitment trials)interim report has been produced and appears promising. The final report is due in the next few months and any data will be subject to external scrutiny and audit to ensure conclusions on approaches to improve membership are accurate.
- Further on going consultation to refresh 7 strategic areas has just about been concluded and will be discussed by the board next week and March 2017 is the launch date
- Affiliation fees reduction is 1.8% nationally but with some counties showing positive signs of growth.
- Small surplus for year is predicted
- Redevelopment of Academy at Woodhall Spa (WSGM) work has started
- WSGM finances continue to be better than pre tax target and proposed works to the course (works of redesign etc) will mitigate tax.
- Digital project ... This continues
- Finance and Affiliation Fees collection process changes for 2017.... Meeting for interested parties and Kings Norton GC in December

- Insurance There has been a rethink on this from my previous report and a partnership with Towergate Insurance is looking to provide some cover for affiliated members for certain things but this is in very early stages.
- Any proposed increase in affiliation fees for 2018 onwards will be determined by Sport England funding outcomes and membership take up. Further details awaited.
- Several amendments to the articles of the company were recently agreed by special resolution and with all votes being in favour. These were mainly aimed at tidying up and clarifying elections and similar. It should be noted however that one of these resolutions does enable the new Chairman to be paid a payment.
- Apparently Chairs of similar organisations that are National Governing Bodies do receive such a payment and although it will not be included in any advertisement it could be between £10-15k per annum.
- The process for identifying a suitable Chairman has commenced and the Nominations committee under the chairmanship of an experienced HR expert are progressing this.

Property Board

Amendments to the articles of the property board as per my previous reports and taking into account several counties now merging with the ladies were recently agreed at an EGM. These do not prejudice any county wishing to merge and their share in the assets of the company will remain as at present The LUGC share is 2.73%. However it must be recognized it is extremely unlikely there will ever be a need in our lifetimes to disperse these!

(5) M. G. U. REPORT (L.Toyne):

LT gave an overview of what was happening at the MGU:

David Price was continuing as Chairman and Neil Harris as Secretary and this had been confirmed at the AGM held at Hinckley Gc on 26/10/16.

He reiterated that there would be a 20% reduction in subscription fees from each county for 2017 and this may need to continue for 3 to 4 years in a bid to reduce the reserves from the current amount of 55k to approx 25/30k.

It was also noted that there had still been no interest in the roles of Junior Chairman or Chairman of Championships.

It was also noted that although some counties had wanted to change some of the conditions for the 6 man Senior Qualifying event our PAC had voted to retain the status quo.

(6) COUNTY CAPTAINS REPORT: (S.Brattan)

“” With the season fully over attention turns to next year with coaching planned for the weekend of 12 & 13 February 2017

Coaching will be backed up with individual lessons with each player's respective coach.

Once again our primary focus will be the short game and putting. It is hoped and in planning that the squad will get together at various venues around the county to play a bit of winter golf together.

I will be looking at our younger players to fill the big voids left by Ashton Turner, Sam Whitaker and Joe Knox who have now joined the professional ranks

I will give every chance to those youngsters who are dedicated and committed to represent our County. The door will also be open to more senior players who show desire and form plus commitment.

Hopefully you all know me by now and I will do everything in my power to win everything possible that we play in. (all trophies lost this year are only out on loan and must return to Lincolnshire). I look forward to working with Les our incoming President and wish you all a merry Christmas and healthy new year.

PS: Congratulations to ex county player Nathan Kimsey on winning the European Tour School and to the great start on the Tour currently in South Africa – One of our own. Also to Billy Spooner / Ashton Turner / Jordan Wrisdale / Dave Coupland have narrowly missed out on the last stages – we wish them a successful 2017 “”

(7) COMPETITIONS SECRETARIES REPORT: (N.HARRIS)

“”With the season completed we are now looking towards 2017. I have arranged to visit all clubs hosting events in the 2017 season and I should have all the previews completed before Christmas.

I have updated all the entry forms for next season and completed the fixture list which is published on the LUGC website. I have completed the 2018 fixtures and will be writing to all proposed hosts in the next few weeks in the hope we can secure all the venues early in the New Year. The 2018 fixtures will be published in draft form as soon as this is completed.

All competitions will be available to enter online again and these should hopefully be live very early in January.

Unfortunately, it was necessary to cancel the Jubilee Challenge competition last season due to insufficient entries; hopefully we will not see a repeat of this in 2017. We changed the format to try and make the event more enticing but this didn't seem to generate the interest we were hoping for.

We have also instigated a change to the Rita Hurst Salver competition in 2017 allowing each club to enter two teams to try and make the event more viable.

I would like to thank all the clubs who hosted events for us in 2016, everyone was very welcoming and looked after us and all the competitors to make the events very enjoyable and successful.

Once again, I would like to thank all the officers of the LUGC for their help and assistance throughout last year and I look forward to a successful season ahead and wish everyone good luck in their endeavours in the various championships and competitions.””

NH has completed a number of pre visits to clubs hosting 2017 events.

Entry forms were ready to be uploaded on the website and on line entries would again be an option.

Neil also talked through how the Seniors Match Play event would be organised with the final being held on Presidents Day.

(8) JUNIOR ORGANISER'S REPORT (K.Moody):

“” Mr President and Gentlemen

The juniors have, as usual, completed an extensive fixture list this year; all results were posted on the web site and can still be seen on there. The fixture list for next season is also almost complete with just a few fixture dates and venues outstanding, mainly the clinics. The fixtures have also been published on the website and the missing details will be included as and when they are known.

A few weeks ago we held our annual coaching meeting, chaired by John Barley, and the various squad players were identified and will be invited to the respective squad coaching days in due course. We are to continue with the new format of coaching – a short range session and a course practice session, probably in the morning rather than after lunch.

Once more we will see a progression of some of our juniors into the ‘adult’ ranks. This, obviously, means that we need to ensure as many clubs as possible register their juniors and encourage them to participate in next season’s county programme. Registration forms will be sent out by myself, they will also be available on the website under the juniors’ tab. Or please get in touch with me and I’ll make sure that you will get one.

We also need to make sure that the juniors respond to correspondence. Particularly invites to the coaching sessions. John Barley cancelled the session that was due to be held on 4th December due to a lack of response. Those that did respond were included in the next session the following week.

On the positive side we have seen three of our juniors progress through the junior ranks. Hugo Kedzlie (Spalding) has represented England and is involved in their development scheme. Whilst Ben Allen (Woodhall Spa) and Will Saville (Holme Hall) have also progressed to regional coaching squads.

As usual I must thank the team that have worked so hard for the benefit of junior golf, including the Little Imps, during 2016. They are John Hodge, John Barley, Peter Rogers, Trevor Ireland, Rob Kedzlie, Steve Cooper, Stephen Bennett, Paul Spence, Nick Hiom and Tim Hutton.

Sadly, for personal reasons, John Hodge and Tim Hutton have decided to stand down from their respective roles. So a special vote of thanks must go to these two gentlemen for their hard work during their time in post. We have found a replacement for Tim Hutton in Iain Fulton of Belton Woods but as yet we haven’t found a replacement for John Hodge. If anyone would like to take on this role please get in touch. Steve Bennett has also indicated that due to work commitments that he can no longer continue as the team manager for the Under 16s and Under 14s. We are hopeful that a replacement can be found for this role.”

NB Following the meeting it was agreed that Peter Hull (Competitions) and Adam Keogh (U14/16 Team Manager) would take on the roles.

(9) League Chairman’s Report (K.Farrow)

” 2016 Final Winners

Scratch League - Sleaford GC

Handicap League – Burghley Park GC

Junior League - Gainsborough GC

2017 Finals

League County Finals – Waltham Windmill GC Sunday - 1.10.2017
Junior County Final – Kenwick Park GC Sunday - 15.10.2017 (Please note rearranged date)

Both these events have been confirmed with the respective host Clubs.

North League

Sandilands have resigned from the Handicap League for the 2017 season
In the Junior Leagues Market Rasen withdrew their team part way through the 2016 season

Lacey Manor have applied and been accepted for the 2017 Season.

Fixture dates between respective teams in all Leagues & Divisions should by now have been finalised

South League

In the Junior League Gedney Hill and Boston both withdrew their Junior Teams
Complete Fixture dates for all Leagues & Divisions have already been circulated

Both the North League and South League have over the past few weeks held their respective Annual General Meetings.

Player priority

Country: County: Club: this had in the usual manner been reinforced at both League Meetings

Junior Golf

A request from Keith Moody had also been presented at both League Meetings to all Club League Representatives in attendance to encourage their juniors both Boys and Girls to register and participate in the County Junior programmes - In 2016 there were 164 Boys and 73 Girls (237) registered

Reference had also been made at both the North & South League Meetings to the Little Imps Tour. During 2016 this had introduced 41 players to competitive golf.

These events are 9 hole strokeplay competitions which are aimed at youngsters who are just entering the game of golf. Boys and Girls between the ages of 6 and 14 are welcome whether they have a handicap or not.

Further details of the 2017 Tour (5 events) are available on the LUGC Website.

The League Management Committee

Both the South and North League Committees have once more been asked to answer a few queries on various rules. Furthermore we have again this season been tested to make rulings and adjudicate – circumstances I am sure you will appreciate none of us relish or take any delight in

The South League have already considered some changes particular to their respective rules. These were presented at their recent AGM and carried unanimously. These will be introduced for the 2017 season

The League Chairman together with the League Management Committee continues to review on an annual basis all rules decisions where we have been asked to pass judgment in 2016. This practice enables us to identify and consider how we might develop processes within our league systems to avoid recurrences of a similar nature.

The respective Annual League Management Committee Meeting was held 6.12.16.
Minutes of the Meeting will in the usual manner be circulated in due course

I would like to thank all the Clubs who have given up Members Tee times to accommodate the Area and County Finals for all the Teams and Divisions.

Many Thanks too to Market Rasen and Spalding Golf Clubs for continuing to host the respective North and South League Meetings.

To the Team Captains / Team Managers and Junior Organisers of all the Clubs –well done and thank You.

On behalf of all - Thanks must also go to all the Members of the respective League Management Committees for their continued good work – often behind the scenes - running the Lincolnshire Golf Leagues.””

(10) REPORT OF THE HON TREASURER (C.Lloyd)

CL talked through our current financial situation. End of financial year (31st October) balance of £62,000. (Surplus of £14,000) Chris went on to explain how the new affiliation process would work and that he had attended an EG meeting at Kings Norton Gc regarding the changes.

The seniors had requested funding from the LUGC as in previous years and it was proposed by David Brotherton and seconded by Jeff Flindall that they receive £1750.00 as per last year. Agreed Unanimously.

(11) GOLF PARTNERSHIP UPDATE /COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REPORT:

(J.Lammin/K.Farrow)

“” GIG

Collection of data from Clubs which offered GIG activity has been reasonably good A couple submitted information late – their data will be collated at the next Bi Annual review.

Again very few bookings on line were made and we continue to reinforce the message that to obtain maximum benefit Clubs really do need to advertise their activities within their own Clubs and their local area.

An area of concern - this is where Clubs have been provided with banners to help promote the scheme. These have been mostly placed directly outside the Range or Club which minimised their impact. A few Clubs were afraid of displaying banners on adjacent roadsides etc. given local Council regulations on this matter.

It was felt some guidance from England Golf regarding this might be helpful.

Most clubs continue to collect information about new beginners in their own often unique way – consequently very few registration cards are completed making the collection of data more difficult.

Golf Express

This is an interesting new scheme / initiative with Skegness, Sutton Bridge, Sleaford, Sandilands and Greetham Valley showing interest and uploading activity. The impact of this initiative is however difficult to measure as very few participants are filling in the Golf Express registration cards - so it's hard to define how many green fees are attributed to the GE marketing.

Golfmark

16 Clubs registered :

1 Achieved - Market Rasen GC :

2 submitted in process of being checked - Elsham & Ashby Decoy :

2 working towards - Lincoln & Stoke Rochford

North Shore are interested in renewing their Golfmark on the new scheme. An initial meeting with the Head Professional and new Manager will be followed up in November.

Disability

Sophie Hunter has been funded for two new groups. She has continued to coach young adults with SEN at Inspire Links - taking some to Boston West for on course activity and has a further new group of youngsters who suffer from Cerebral Palsy. We are looking to find a group for Alison Johns to coach in the Woodhall Spa area.

St Lawrence School have been offered free coaching but they are unsure and haven't yet come back with a positive reply.

LSP have kindly allowed us to put the coaching back into the October to March Sportivate bracket to give us more time to find a suitable group.

Darren Game at Bourne Golf Centre / Toft GC continues to coach a large number of children with disabilities and recently has been recognised as a Deaf Golf Coach by the Deaf Society – a fantastic achievement.

The Dementia project being run at Lincoln Golf Centre has just celebrated its 1st anniversary. We are looking to expand this project to other Centres. Skegness Golf centre is very interested and Anthony Blackburn is going to visit Nikki Chantry the Head Professional and Manager to discuss this further.

Schools

Much good work continues to be carried out through the Golf Foundation by Lincolnshire Professionals in their respective local areas

There will be a Lincolnshire Super Sixes Secondary School event taking place next year, open to any Secondary School within Lincolnshire for beginner and learner golfers (non CONGU handicap). This is taking place at Canwick Park GC on 20.6.16. - 11 Secondary School have expressed interest. Growth Forums

A new round of workshops and forums has been on offer this Autumn - there had however been poor attendance by Lincolnshire Clubs at these – possibly due in some instances to being held some distance away.

Holme Hall & Grimsby attended Business Growth presentations. Lincoln attended F& B workshop. A number of clubs were encouraged to consider taking up this offer but the response was poor. Consideration is now being given to hosting a Lincolnshire specific event – this would need to be demand led.

Clubs need to recognize the benefits of these events and how the changing culture of Business Planning can assist them as they progress their development.

Efforts are being concentrated on achieving a better understanding of the needs and priorities together with resources of respective Clubs. This would better identify how they might take advantage of our offerings .

A Recruitment / Retention workshop is being held at Gainsborough GC.

Details regarding additional EG workshops are available through our County Development Officers

Development

The work with our more enlightened Clubs continues to progress.

The library of Best Practice Ideas and Case Studies continues to be developed from actions views and prospects being utilised by Clubs.

Many Clubs continue to maintain a strong relationship with us and engage embrace and benefit from our input assistance and opportunities. However notwithstanding our best efforts there remains regrettably just a handful of Clubs who continue to be reluctant to engage with us regardless of their declining Membership and participation numbers. We maintain our challenge to ensure these Clubs understand and realise the opportunities which can be created through our and England Golf's contribution

Bi Annual Review

We had in the usual manner submitted our October 2016 Bi Annual Review to England Golf

We await response from England Golf

Junior Talent Pathway

“To strengthen the talent pathway from club to county, leading to even more county success at a local, regional and national level”.

Our liaison with both LUGC and LLCGA continues to develop the planned programme

We had a meeting with Gareth Jenkins in early August to discuss progress through 2016. The 2017 Application including continued financing was also successfully finalised at this meeting.

County Action Plan

We continue to work closely with our LLCGA partners to develop a more consistent although separate County approach. A meeting to progress this and update the present document was held on 14.11.16. The revised version is in the course of completion.

Dragons Den

County Development Officers had recently presented an idea to the England Golf CEO and a group of England Golf Board Members regarding an aspect of their work. SD & JL worked together on this along with their colleagues from Nottingham, Yorkshire Durham and Cumbria.

This was an excellent opportunity to team build, reinforce new methods of working, club centric approach. Their presentation was received well.

England Golf Updates

England Golf looking to allow non traditional Golf Clubs to affiliate
Membership Survey – results recently published ""

(12) SCHOOLS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: (T.HAGGERTY)

""Championship Results:

0-14 handicap held at Sleaford GC 18/04/2016

Boys:

Tied 1 st	Jake Craddock	73	Carres Grammar School
	William Hopkins	73	Carres Grammar School
3 rd	Hugo Kedzlie	77	Stamford School
Girls:	Tilly Kedzlie	83	Spalding Girls Grammar

Team to represent LSGA at National Schools Team Championships:

Winners: Carres Grammar School Sleaford

Runners up: Kings School Grantham

15-36 handicap held at South Kyme GC 25/04/2016

Boys:

1 st	Thomas Langford (27)	42pts	Spalding Boys
2 nd	Daniel Trow (17)	42pts	Carres Grammar
3 rd	Jack Patrick (26)	42pts	Spalding Boys
Team Winners: Spalding Boys Grammar school			

North of England Schools Championships held at Ponteland GC

Northumberland

2nd/3rd June 2016

Will Hopkins, Jake Craddock, Alex Wright, Josh Payne, Tom Cooper, Callum Thompson, Reece Goodyear, Ben Allen.

*3 rd	Will Hopkins	74/73	147	+3
*8 th	Jake Craddock	78/75	153	+9
*18 th	Alex Wright	80/79	159	+15
*21 st	Reece Goodyear	77/84	161	+17
24 th	Tom Cooper	83/81	164	+20
25 th	Josh Payne	82/82	164	+20

* = team who came third.

Will Hopkins and Jake Craddock qualified for ESGA National championships at Belton Park Golf Club.

ESGA National Championships held at Belton Park Golf Club 26th/27th June

4 th Will Hopkins	67/74	-1	qualified to play against Scotland
14 th Jake Craddock	74/74	+6	qualified to play against Wales

ESGA Schools Team Championship held at Woodhall Spa GC 6/07/2016

31 st Carres Grammar School Sleaford	60 pts
32 nd Kings School Grantham	60 pts

U16's Championships held at John O' Gaunt GC 17th /18th July

37th Jake Craddock 77/85 162 +20

ESGA v Wales held at Clyne G C 28th /29th August 2016

Result: ESGA 11 ½. Wales 6 ½.

Playing in the top game Jake Craddock performed extremely well in winning this foursome match 3/2

Jake again in the top match birdied 4 out of the last five holes to gain a half in his singles game. Based on this performance he was selected to play against Scotland as a result of a late withdrawal.

ESGA v Scotland held at Fairhaven G C 11th /12th September 2016

Result: ESGA 9 Scotland 9

William Hopkins captained ESGA against Scotland.

Will halved am foursomes and won his singles 3/2

Jake won am foursomes 2/1 and lost his singles 7/5

2017 fixtures

0-14 Championships: 25/04.2017 Stoke Rochford Golf Club

15-36 Championships: 03/05/2017 South Kyme Golf Club

(13) PAC RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the previously circulated list of Officers /Officials be nominated for election at the Annual Meeting of Council in January 2017. Proposed by David Brotherton & Seconded by Andrew Thompson Agreed Unanimously.

(14) AOB

The question regarding future course rating was raised and Hon Sec & President worked through how the new system was being implemented and that new male course raters were being brought on board.

(15) DATE/TIME/PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 3rd May 2017 at Market Rasen GC commencing at 18.15hrs There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.50hrs.