

LINCOLNSHIRE UNION OF GOLF CLUBS

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on the
4th May 2016 at Market Rasen GC, commencing at 18.15hrs

PRESENT:

J.Lammin (President- in the chair), L.Toyne (President Elect),D.Brotherton (Imm Past President), H.Harrison (Hon Sec), C.Lloyd (HonTreasurer), N.Harris (Hon Comps Sec),K.Farrow (Lge Chairman),J.Flindall (Vice Capt), K.Moody (Junior Organiser), J.Hodge, R.Kedzlie (Asst Junior Organisers), T.Haggerty (Schools Rep)

Club Representatives:

A. Thompson (PAC Member) D.Culyer, P.Martin, H.Castell, P.Davis,
A.Drennan, K.Onyon,

(1) APOLOGIES:

J.Halmshaw,DFPrice,JTRPrice,T.Ireland,M.Mawson,R.Newns,S.Dickson,
R.Boot,L.Brumpton,D.Jackson,D.Leonard,B.Howard,S.Brattan,J.Barley,
M.Carr, R.Wardhaugh.

(2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: 2nd December 2015

Proposed by Neil Harris and seconded by Keith 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:

Report previously circulated. David Price had sent his apologies for the meeting.

“As usual the interests of Lincolnshire have been fully represented at England level. The annual conference, voting members general meeting and AGM took place recently and the President and myself represented the LUGC at the respective conference/meetings.

New CEO I met Nick Pink new CEO and am hopeful that he wants to work in partnership with us

Merger between R&A and LGU ... progress continues and the date of takeover/merger is set for 1st January 2017. It is anticipated that the LGFU ladies contribution will cease after 2017

SPF FundingIt was approved that a further £450,000 be taken from the Special Projects Fund to extend the talent pathway grants for under 14s for a further 2 years ie 2017 and 2018. A detailed report on the impact of existing under 14s funding was also presented and is available from EG

A closed meeting of the voting members also took place to determine a methodology for providing members for the appointments committee. Several other matters were discussed at length and some draft proposals from the

board were not particularly well received as it was felt these restricted the options of the Unions. It is proposed to have further discussions at a forum prior to the next general meeting.

Finances appeared in good order and Woodhall Spa golf club is performing well.

Mrs Marion Rae was elected as EG President and Mr John Williams as President elect

Property Company

As reported at the last meeting, a recent merger of ladies and gents into a new company in Northamptonshire has raised some concerns as the new company does not meet the terms of the Property Company incorporation. A legal opinion has been obtained. The views of the counties are currently being sought and a vote will be taken at the next property board meeting.”

(5) M. G. U. REPORT (H. Harrison):

The Midland Mid Amateur is to played at Belton Park GC on 18th May 2017.

Midland Youths in 2017 to be held at Stoke Rochford GC as normal.

As no junior organiser had been found it was confirmed that all junior events will now be managed within the current committee structure.

Also confirmed that juniors are not permitted to wear shorts in their events.

It has been agreed that the Senior 6 man qualifying would remain a 36 hole one day event.

Richard Sadler has been proposed as Midland Golf Union Captain commencing in October 2016.

(6) COUNTY CAPTAINS REPORT:

SB had sent his apologies for the meeting but had sent a brief written report as follows:

“Very good coaching weekend at Woodhall Spa in late February

Introduced a putting coach who has proved invaluable and the team has responded well.

Great start to the friendly season with a stunning win over Yorkshire at Waltham Windmill GC 11.5 to 6.5 brilliant fight back in singles to win for the first time in 25 years I am led to believe.

Friendlies against PGA and RAF used to blood a few fringe players and youngsters. Close defeats in both but we got to see some new players under match conditions and it proved very useful

With a strong team assembled for the match v Nottinghamshire at Market Rasen GC our team proved too strong and ran out winners only dropping 4.5 points all match.

With good momentum running into the new season and with commitment of elite players already confirmed for the season i am hoping for another strong year.

I would wish Nick Watson Billy Spooner and Jordan Wrisdale for their contributions to Lincolnshire Golf and to me personally and wish them well in their professional careers.”

(7) COMPETITION SECRETARY’S REPORT: (N.Harris)

We have set up online entries this season for the first time and there is a mix between online and postal entries. 18 out of the 30 have paid using the online system.

The Elsham Foursomes have commenced with the first round being completed on Friday 21st April and one match has gone into an extra day (which hopefully will have been decided on 29th April).

Entries for the remaining competitions are as follows:

Senior Amateur Championship - 15
The Amateur Championship - 5
The Sir Henry Lunn Shield - 2
Open Championship - 1
Hotchkin, Taylor & Butlin Cups - 1
Jubilee Challenge - 1
Rita Hurst Salver - 0

Unfortunately the Lincolnshire Poacher will not take place this year as we have been unable to secure a suitable venue given the heavy commitment of the clubs over the Open weekend. However Burghley Park have confirm acceptance of the event in 2017. I am also pleased to report all other venues for the 2017 season have been confirmed. I will be seeking venues for the 2018 season shortly.

I raised a point last season for the introduction of an Order of Merit to encourage players to participate in championships and county matches. To date there has been no further reaction to this suggestion and it therefore remains on the table for consideration.

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.”

The Mid Amateur has taken place at Burghley Park Gc with 31 entries and was won by the host clubs George Beadle.

Further discussions to take place regarding an OOM system for Lincolnshire.

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

“As you know clubs have their own player pathway. Similarly the county also has a player pathway between club activities and county activities which are supported by a county development group of the LUGC (and the ladies association), the PGA and county development officers.

This junior programme covers all ages, from under 7, the Little Imps and County Chicks, right through to 18 year old.

This season's programme has already started with the early season county junior squad meetings and coaching sessions. These have already taken place at the National Golf Centre, Woodhall Spa for all three groups. This season there is a focus on foursome play and course management. About 15 players were present on each day representing clubs from right across Lincolnshire.

It is from these squads that the junior teams will be selected to play for the county in several matches during the year.

The annual Boys vs Girls match was held at Laceby Manor Golf Club. The excellent contest was held in very good weather and produced some very good golf. The Boys gave full handicap difference to the Girls plus two extra shots in the four ball better ball match play format. On this occasion Pat Jones had fired up the Girls and for the first time ran out winners by 3 ½ to 2 ½.

The Little Imps have made an early start to their season with the first outing at Belton Woods early in April.

The individual competition season also started with a large entry of boys and a larger than usual entry of girls contesting the very popular Roger Jennings and Peggotty Cups at its traditional home of Lincoln Golf Club. Josh Payne of Boston claimed both the best gross and best net trophies. Ellie Haughton, of Greetham Valley, was the best gross girl's winner with sister Izzy Haughton taking the net trophy. The full result is on the web site.

We undertook a new venture on Bank Holiday Monday (May Day) with an Under 14's team travelling to Stapleford Park in Leicestershire for a friendly match against Leicestershire and Rutland under 14's. The result was a win 10½ to 4½.

The next competitive outing for the junior golfers of the county is the boys' and girls' championships which are being played at Spalding in May.

Entries should be made as soon as possible - tell your juniors.

This is quickly followed by the six 'man' team event at Kidderminster. The squad has been pencilled in but the final team won't be known until after the completion of the championships at Spalding.

May I thank all the clubs that I speak to for helping us out in whatever way possible. Communication is still a key area.

Finally - we still need more registered juniors! There is a simple free registration process which gives access to these regular individual competitions – which now have increased handicaps allowances.

(9) REPORT OF LEAGUE CHAIRMAN (K.Farrow)

“The annual Pre Season Meetings in both the North & South Areas were held respectively on 2.3.2016 & 21.3.2016

Reference to Player priority – Country / County / Club was in the usual manner reiterated to all present and included within my League Chair Report for both respective Area Meetings.

On behalf of Keith Moody (County Junior Organiser) the opportunity was - with a captive audience of Club Representatives - taken to request they encourage all Juniors at their respective Clubs - both Boys and Girls - to register and participate in the County Junior programme.

Matches have now commenced in both the North and South Leagues. With the heavy rainfall and in some area snow covering resulting in Course closures over the weekend of 16/17 April a number of matches were postponed – all of which have been rearranged.

Match Results are being kept up to date on the Website from details received.

In line with the recent CONGU introduced mandatory changes effective 1.3.2016 updates to take account of these were necessary to the League Rules – these were confirmed at the recent PAC.

This revised version (April 2016) has been circulated and additionally added to the Website.

Collection of League Subscriptions continues – with reminders sent where necessary. The LUGC element will be submitted to the Treasurer as soon as possible.”

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

CL gave an overview of our current financial situation with 5 clubs yet to pay their affiliation fees. Chris reiterated the fact that we would be collecting fees from 2017 two months after each clubs renewal date so hopefully that will ease any cash flow problems for the clubs as they should have collected affiliation fees prior to that date.

A discussion took place regarding the cost of our Auditors fees for this year (£1800.00) following which it was agreed Chris and the finance group should look at an alternative to Bulley Davey

(11) GOLF PARTNERSHIP UPDATE /COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

(K.Farrow &J.Lammin)

Business Growth Forum

This was an England Golf initiative to support Clubs to grow their Businesses. England Golf hosted a series of Business Growth Forums at various venues around the Country. The main speaker was Jane Carter from Golf Unlimited who took Clubs through a comprehensive discussion around recruiting and retaining Club members.

Locally Newark and Gainsborough Golf Clubs were the venues in November and December 2015.

14 Lincolnshire Clubs Belton Park, Burghley Park, Canwick Park, Carholme, Cleethorpes, Grimsby, Holme Hall, Lincoln, Louth, Millfield, Skegness Golf Centre, Sutton Bridge, Waltham Windmill and Woodhall Spa attended the Forums.

Both CDO's have contacted these Clubs and are working with them on the goals that those respective Club representatives at the Business Growth Forums identified as their priorities. These are centred on Stronger Clubs, More Members and More Players

Getintogolf Activity

Much time is spent visiting and re-visiting Clubs to encourage them to make full use of the GIG Website and to upload activities. Most Clubs have a positive approach although presently those golfers attending Clubs for coaching tend to book in person or by telephone rather than on line.

Unfortunately since September 2015 only 2 Clubs have been using on line booking system

Our challenge is to ensure Coaching Staff upload their data on to the site. It is evident Professionals do record data but often on their own PC's & Tablets etc. Increased work on educating and encouraging use of data collection to good effect prior to activity days is key.

Presently 10 Clubs are uploading GIG Activity data.

Since February four Taster Days have been held at Clubs with a further nine scheduled by Clubs to take place over the next couple of months

Clubhouse

We continue to visit Clubs and encourage them to make full use of Clubhouse. Particular emphasis on training on Get into golf and Irongate marketing.

England Golf Conference

Annual Conference was held at Hinckley Island Hotel April 14 /15 2016

County Action Plan

New plan being formalised for 2016 / 2017 - emphasis on More Players More Members Stronger Clubs. Increased participation by Ladies

Women & Girls

A number of Clubs have asked for assistance with recruitment of Women and Girls

Golfmark

Effort on this continues with Clubs working through the process. There are currently two Clubs close to finalising completion and submission of the necessary details to achieve the award.

We encourage Clubs to focus on the sections most relevant to them.

Junior Golf

A Junior Forum was held 8.4.16 attended by 17 Clubs. Good discussions around planning for the forthcoming season and some good networking was evident. Clubs were asked to list their current strengths and challenges and to focus on 3 main priorities going forward.

Stacey Mitchell from the Golf Foundation gave a presentation on their existing opportunities together with an overview of available funding including Satellite Clubs and Sportivate projects. Shona Dickson and Jim Lammin are currently feeding back to Clubs offering help and suggestions to their individual aims.

We have successfully bid for two teenage girls projects Skegness Golf Centre and Woodhall Spa – marketing and recruitment for these are currently underway.

There is a further programme – Golf Fit taking place in Lincoln to hopefully boost Girl's golf. A similar Sportivate funded Boys teenage project has been really successful at Woodhall Spa leading to 4 new Members out of a group of 7 starters.

A project at Branston Community College is also underway.

Disability

Funding application recently submitted for Under 25 Age Groups at Skegness and Woodhall Spa.

Alison Johns recently completed PGA Level one Disability Training - Woodhall Spa will now become a Disability Hub Centre.

The Dementia Golf project is nearing completion. The Pilot has concluded and Lincoln University are compiling a report to show how effective golf can be for dementia sufferers. It is hoped the report will prompt the NHS to fund similar projects.

Anthony Blackburn has done excellent work in obtaining media exposure for the project. Featured on Radio Lincolnshire "Melvyn in the Morning" 7.3.2016 and also Radio 4 "You and Yours" 25.4.16.

JL took the opportunity to bring us up to date in relation to where we were with regard to the County action plan.

(12) PAC RECOMMENDATIONS:

a) The mileage rate for official business is reduced to 35p per mile as per EG rate (principle agreed by the Executive Committee in April 2008). **Agreed.**

b) That the duties previously undertaken by the Hon Match Secretary be incorporated into the roles of the Captain, Vice Captain and Hon Secretary. Captain would receive £400.00 per annum, Vice Captain £300.00 per annum and Hon Sec an increase of £300.00 per annum. **Agreed**

c) There had been some discussion at the PAC and a recommendation put forward regarding the use of caddies in our events. John Hodge raised some concerns about the proposals (which would only have come into force next year) for junior events and following a full discussion it was agreed the PAC would revisit their original proposals and have another look at them.

(13) AOB

Hon Sec reported that Tetney GC have reaffiliated to the LUGC.

Hon Sec also brought the Executive up to date regarding County Cards and County Dinners.

A brief discussion took place regarding the starting times for the Bramley and Elsham Trophies and it was reiterated that with agreement from the two teams concerned a starting time could be arranged for earlier than 5.00pm.

(14) Date/Place/Time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on Wednesday 31st August 2016 commencing at 18.15hrs at Market Rasen GC.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.07hrs.

