

LINCOLNSHIRE UNION OF GOLF CLUBS

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on the
3rd May 2017 at Market Rasen GC, commencing at 18.15hrs

PRESENT:

L.Toyne (President- in the chair), J.Lammin (Immediate Past President),
H.Harrison (Hon Sec & President Elect), C.Lloyd (HonTreasurer), N.Harris
(Hon Comps Sec),J.Flindall (Vice Capt), K.Farrow (Lge Chairman), K.Moody
(Junior Organiser), J.Barley, (Asst Junior Organiser),
Club Representatives:
D.Culyer, AJ Thompson, G.Baines, H.Castell, R.Wardhaugh, P.Cottam,
R.Burnsnel, D.Leonard & A. Sweeney.

Prior to the first agenda item **LT** welcomed everyone to his first meeting as
President and gave a brief overview of how he saw the Executive Committee
working under his leadership. He hoped to make everything more inclusive &
encouraged everyone to ask whatever questions they thought pertinent.
There followed a minutes silence in respect of C.E Woodcock (President
1995-96) who had sadly passed away.

(1) APOLOGIES:

J.Halmshaw,JTRPrice, DFPrice,D.Brotherton,P.Rogers,T.Ireland, T.Haggerty,
S.Brattan,M.Davis, M.Hyde, S.Dickson, S.Catlow, A.Keogh, P.Hull, D.Jackson,
P.Martin, R.Newns, M.Carr, B.Howard, A.Drennan

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

Proposed by J.Lammin 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: (DF Price)

Report previously circulated as below:

- Mr. John Williams was confirmed as the President for the ensuing year and Desmond Duffey as President elect.
- Mr. Nick Coward has now been appointed as Chairman. This followed a process involving 44 applications short listing to 15 then to 6 for interview. It was confirmed that a payment of £10K would be made to Mr. Coward as part of the package.
- Mr. Simon Wilson has been as appointed as Finance Director after the retirement of Craig Wagstaff.
- A vote for board members has taken place and it is pleasing to confirm that Mr. Doug Poole, who was proposed by Cambridgeshire and seconded by Lincolnshire, was elected for 2 years. This means that The Midland Counties group now has a representative on the EG Board.
- It was confirmed that EG will be carrying out 35 audits of clubs from 10 counties during 2017-18. The authority to do this was given at a previous meeting and the focus of the audits will be on affiliation fees but there may well be other aspects included and it is hoped these audits will be viewed as

helpful and positive by clubs. Further correspondence from EG is expected and Lincolnshire has been identified as one of the 10 counties.

- EG confirmed that they are now threatening clubs with CDH etc. Suspension if affiliation fees are not received.
- Processes around disciplinary and handicapping appeals are moving forward and further updates are expected towards the ends of 2017. It was confirmed that decisions will be placed on the EG website and names will be attached. Clubs are advised to consider adopting the model club disciplinary regulations, as are counties. Rod Findlay at EG can advise.
- The updated strategic plan has been published and hard copies are available
- The new academy building project at Woodhall Spa should be completed this spring. This project includes a new indoor putting complex.
- EG finances appear sound, as do Woodhall Spa GC, which has had a good trading year. Cash flow for EG is robust enough to cope with variances brought about by recent affiliation fee collection arrangements. There is some concern however that HMRC may withdraw a concession relating to commercial clubs being able to charge affiliation fees as if they were exempt from disbursements. If this happens another review of the affiliation fee process may be necessitated!

HH gave more information re the Audit mentioned in David's Report: As in the report Hon Sec confirmed Lincolnshire had been selected as one of the ten counties involved in the national audit. We have been asked to nominate one club and EG will select two other clubs to be audited. Further information awaited from EG re time scales etc.

A general discussion ensued re the future use of CDH to aid regarding the number of affiliated members, Hon Sec said that this had been considered as an option but until the system was used correctly it was highly improbable. (One club had less than 500 male members but were showing nearly 1300 on CDH)

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

For the sake of new delegates **LT** gave an overview of the workings of the MGU and talked through how they fitted into golf's pyramid. He also mentioned, if people were unaware, that David Price was the Chairman and Neil Harris Secretary of the MGU.

Lincolnshire are hosting two events this year, the Midland Youths at Stoke Rochford GC and the Midland Mid Amateur at Belton Park GC.

(6) COUNTY CAPTAINS REPORT (S.Brattan)

Report previously circulated as below:

“After realising that the county squad was looking a bit thin after county coaching at Woodhall Spa 4/5 March 2017 due to players turning professional and some not playing golf due to jobs etc - preseason has been used to find new and capable players suitable to play county golf for Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire v Yorkshire – lost but excellent golf was played and some great results especially for Will Hopkins who remained undefeated over the day

Lincolnshire v PGA – a very young and inexperienced team were soundly beaten by the PGA or should I say Ex -Lincolnshire past – lessons learned by the team and will only grow from the experience

Lincolnshire v RAF – fresh faces given a try out to see how they coped with county golf – Lincolnshire won very comfortably against a strong RAF team – new faces Jack Diment Jamie Kinnaird performed extremely well

Lincolnshire v Notts – a mix of first and second team players produced an outstanding winning result and once again Will Hopkins continued to impress along with Jamie Kinnaird

We now move onto the first league match of the year v Leicestershire at Waltham Windmill and with regret has clashed with a major national EG event and our team while not at its strongest will do all it can to try and secure a winning start to this year's league campaign.

So the season begins

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

Report previously circulated as below:

“All entry forms have been issued to clubs for all competitions at the start of the season.

The draw for the Elsham Trophy and the J F Bramley Trophy was carried out by the President on 7th March 2017. 31 clubs entered the Elsham Trophy and 30 entered the Bramley Trophy. First round of the Elsham Trophy was completed on 21st April 2017. The draw and the results are posted on the LUGC website.

The 2017 Mid-Amateur Championship will be played at Sleaford on Sunday 30th April with a field of 31 players and whilst this is considered low it is a slight improvement on last season.

Entries for the other championships are trickling in and the confirmed entries for each championship is published on the website and updated on a regular basis.

Summary of entries:

The Seniors Championship (Gainsborough 14 th June 2017)	17
The Amateur Championship (Lincoln 11 th June 2017)	3
The Lincolnshire Poacher (Burghley Park 16 th July 2017)	2
The Open Championship (Holme Hall 7 th September 2017)	1
The Sir Henry Lunn Shield (Blankney 9 th July 2017)	3
Hotchkin, Taylor & Butlin Cups (Grimsby 10 th September 2017)	3
Jubilee Trophy (Stoke Rochford 8 th October 2017)	5
Rita Hurst Salver (Kirton Holme 17 th September 2017)	2

Whilst some of the competitions have a low entry level there is plenty of time before closing dates and, as always, I expect a rush as the closing date approaches.

Online payments are being employed again this season and the level of entries via this method is approximately 50%

We have introduced a new competition this season and first round matches for the Senior Match Play Championship have been completed. All first-round losers are entered into a consolation competition and the final of both will be played as part of the Presidents day competitions.””

NH asked the delegates present to encourage as many members from their clubs to enter our events and reminded everyone that they could now enter online.

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

Report previously circulated as below

“As usual the season’s programme has already started with the early season county junior squad meetings and coaching sessions. These took place at the National Golf Centre, Woodhall Spa, Gainsborough and a clinic at Boston. Again the focus is on foursome play and course management and plans are already being made to review this programme for next year.

Mr John Barley spends a lot of time inviting juniors to take part in the coaching programme and due to clashes of school holiday dates and other reasons the two sessions in December and two in February were changed into single day sessions. We fully understand that it is a huge commitment of time for them to attend but we feel that it is a vital part of our team building process for the forthcoming summer’s matches. By attending these sessions and by monitoring scores the team managers have an indication of players that should be selected for the teams.

The annual Boys v Girls match was held at Boston Golf Club. Adam Keogh managed the Boys’ team for the first time in what proved to be an excellent contest. It 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. Once again Pat Jones fired up the Girls and for the second year in succession the girls ran out winners 7 up.

The Little Imps, under the guidance of Trevor Ireland and Peter Rogers, have made their usual early start to their season with the first outing at Belton Park early in April.

New assistant junior organiser Peter Hull hosted the first individual competition of the season and attracted a large entry of boys and a larger than usual entry of girls for the very popular Roger Jennings and Peggotty Cups at its traditional home of Lincoln Golf Club. Will Saville and Jake Lilley were the best gross and best net trophy winners. The full result is on the web site.

On Bank Holiday Monday (1st May) Adam Keogh and the mixed Under 16s and Under 14’s team entertained their counterparts from Leicestershire and Rutland at Sleaford Golf Club in a friendly match. The result was a 11-4 victory.

The next competitive outing for the junior golfers of the county is the boys' and girls' championships which are being played at Waltham Windmill in May. Entries should be made as soon as possible, to Peter Hull. Please tell your juniors. This is quickly followed by the six 'man' team event at St Ives (Cambs). Team manager Rob Kedzlie won't decide on the squad until after the completion of the Boys Championships.

As always communication is still a key area and I'd like to thank all the clubs that I speak to for helping us out in whatever way possible it really is appreciated and it's nice that clubs have started to contact me offering to host events. The fixture list for 2018 is virtually complete but if any club wishes to host a county junior event in the future please get in touch. Also, we still need more registered juniors! There is a simple free registration process which gives access to these regular individual competitions – which have increased handicaps allowances.”

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

Report previously circulated as below:

“The usual Pre Season Meeting in both the South & North Areas were held respectively on 20.3.2017 & 22.3.2017

Andrew Thompson had in addition to collating the North Handicap League results kindly agreed to take on the duties of North League Secretary. This was very welcome and much appreciated.

We are - with just a few outstanding - currently collecting League Subscriptions in both North & South and will submit the LUGC element to the Treasurer as soon as possible.

Scratch Players

A short presentation was given at both the South & North Meetings asking Team Captains and Club Representatives to encourage their golfers with low handicaps to take advantage of the many County Midland and National Strokeplay events which were available through the Season.

Additionally to ensure no low handicap golfers slipped under the radar those present were asked to promote to these particular players the opportunity where appropriate for them to be considered for selection to represent Lincolnshire. The contact details of the respective County Officers were given.

Player Priority

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.

Junior Registration

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.

League Rule 9.6.6

There had been a South League Proposal at their October 2016 Meeting to amend the above Rule

After a full debate that particular proposal had been defeated, However it had been decided to refer the proposal to the League Management for further thought and discussion.

KF had raised this issue as promised at the December 2016 League Management meeting and a lively thoughtful debate had ensued. Several ideas were suggested – e.g. to play off handicap in the lower divisions.

However it was ultimately agreed to take the following proposal to the South League meeting in March 2017

“That rule (9.6.6) to be amended to playing 4 times in the first team before a player becomes unavailable for the second team”.

The proposal was presented and after some discussion with one strong dissenting voice the meeting voted to support the proposal by a majority of 11 to 3.

At the spring 2017 North League Meeting a couple of days later KF explained these South League discussions and asked the Meeting whether they might wish to vote on this proposal too.

After a short discussion ultimately it was decided a vote should be taken on the proposal.

The outcome being it was carried by a majority of 13 votes to 1

This Rule amendment – as above – had been confirmed at the recent PAC Meeting and will be introduced commencing in 2018. “”

LT and HH talked through a question that had been raised recently re eligibility to represent clubs in League Matches etc. It was clarified that if any member of a Lincolnshire club whose home club was in another county they **could** represent their second club within Lincolnshire. It was reiterated however that they must, whether they represent the club or not, pay an affiliation fee to the LUGC as well as the one they pay at their home club to their home county. They only pay one fee however to EG via their home club.

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

CL talked through our current financial situation as he had previously circulated the Income/Expenditure account. Ten clubs have paid their affiliation fees and that due to the fact 50 % of our clubs had their renewal date in April we were expecting a plethora of payments in June.

(11) GOLF PARTNERSHIP UPDATE /COUNTY DEVELOPMENT REPORT:
(J.Lammin/K.Farrow)

Report Circulated Previously:

“” The Lincolnshire Golf Partnership is dedicated to creating opportunities for everyone to experience golf. The aim is to develop links between community groups and our open and accessible Golf Courses and Ranges.

We continue to work closely and receive support from our three partners - PGA, Association and Union.

Following the recent reduction of allocation of funds to England Golf by Sport England a Staffing Review had taken place particularly in respect of County Golf Partnership workforce organisation. Generally there had been many changes nationally although the impact on Lincolnshire is fortunately minimal – and ensures continuity.

Shona Dickson and Jim Lammin - the existing County Development officers - have been appointed for Lincolnshire on a job share basis of approx 17.5 hrs per week each representing a slight reduction in their previously allocated hours.

They would be known as Club Support Officers.

Get into golf:

2 Clubs have held taster /open days in April. 2017

Getintogolf activities and offers uploaded for Sandilands, Stoke Rochford, Kirton Holme, Boston West, Louth, Horncastle, Spalding, Belton Park and Burghley Park.

Further GetintoGolf days have so far been arranged by the following:

Ashby Decoy, Holme Hall, Carholme and Lincoln Golf Club.

New Get into golf promotional booklet is now ready and being given out to Clubs on visits - this includes the yearly promotional calendar to assist with better planning. We continue to receive enquiries regarding starting golf through the GIG website which are matched with relevant Professionals and Clubs.

Golfmark:

16 Clubs registered for Golfmark

Market Rasen already accredited

Ashby Decoy and Elsham still waiting final outcome for accreditation.

Lincoln GC and Stoke Rochford both working towards

Kenwick Park have recently registered for the award.

Clubs generally are utilising the option of working through the award in sections.

Golf Express:

4 Clubs initially took up the offer - Sutton Bridge, Greetham Valley, Thorney Lakes, and Laceby Manor with excellent participation results feedback so far from Clubs

Additionally the following Clubs - South Kyme, Kirton Holme, Louth and Sandilands currently have Golf Express offers on at present.

Clubhouse:

All 51 Clubs have registered

Ongoing Club centric approach with Golf Clubs.

Club Support Officers continuously checking and updating - as they visit Clubs - new personnel appointments at Clubs to ensure access to the system. .

Women & Girls:

Club Support Officers gave a presentation to the Ladies' Association representatives at their AGM to outline England Golf initiatives.

Lincoln GC and Carholme GC have both shown an interest in promoting women and girls.

Active Lincolnshire now have a dedicated facebook page for women and girls' activities Clubs have been given details of how to send in their own activities to the page. In addition Active Lincolnshire has an activity finder where Clubs can register and promote their activities.

Again Clubs have been made aware of this opportunity and given the link to the sign up page.

Young People:

Notable outstanding successes with 3 centres offering Academy Coaching continuing on from the summer into winter, Belton Park GC, Woodhall Spa GC and Belton Woods GC.

6 other clubs have delivered Junior GetintoGolf activity throughout the winter. Millfield Golf Club have from early 2017 embraced a Junior Academy section "New Millfield Imps" and are developing Juniors 6-12 years through the Golf Foundation's Junior Golf Passport Supported by the Golf Club's PGA Professional they will progress through the pathway to the Junior section and onto Adult membership.

Junior Development plans being put in place for Ashby Decoy, Carholme, Holme Hall, Laceby Manor, Market Rasen, Waltham Windmill, Sleaford, North Shore.

Lincolnshire Club Support Officers together with representatives from the LUGC, the LLCGA, Lincolnshire PGA, Chairman Lincolnshire Golf Development Group, England Golf Senior Regional Development Officer, Golf Foundation Regional and National Officers attended a presentation on the Junior Pilot Project by England Golf Young People Manager Lee Dolby. We have expressed an interest to participate in this programme and are still waiting to hear if Lincolnshire has been chosen to be one of the pilot counties. We understand decisions will be made over the next couple of weeks

Club Support Officers are supporting the second year of the Golf Foundation Box of Tricks at Lincoln and Belton Park Golf Clubs.

If Clubs are interested or would like further details they should contact Stacey Mitchell Lincolnshire's Regional Golf Foundation Officer.

Disability:

Darren Game (Bourne) has funding from County Golf Partnership disability monies for a variety of groups

Sophie Hunter (Boston West) has received funding from County Golf Partnership funds for Inspire Lincs and a small group of young players with Cerebral Palsy.

Alison Johns (Woodhall Spa) has completed 6 hours of coaching at St Lawrence School; she has funding for another 6 hours of coaching where she hopes to encourage the older pupils to visit the Performance Centre at Woodhall Spa GC.

Club Support Officers continue to support Golf in Society group work at Lincoln Golf Centre. The Society had a Charity Golf Day on 4th April this was supported by England Golf Disability Officer Jamie Blair and ourselves.

Business Growth Hubs and Associated Work:

3 clubs attended the Business Growth Hub: Lincoln, Grimsby and Stoke Rochford. Culture Change and Business Planning Workshop at Park Hill Golf Club attended by Belton Park and Carholme.

Club Support Officers following up with Clubs and also reviewing Knowing Your Club document.

They are to produce a document to outline work achieved and planned with all clubs. 12 Lincolnshire Clubs signed up for the Recruitment and Retention workshop in December 2016; unfortunately it had to be postponed. - awaiting a new date to be announced.

Increasing Revenue Workshop held at Gainsborough Golf Club was

attended by representatives from Belton Park, Cleethorpes, Lincoln and Market Rasen, Belton Park, Sutton Bridge and Lincoln Golf Clubs attended the Marketing and Social Media workshops held at Erewash Valley and Howley Hall respectively in March.

Additional Information:

Shona Dickson (CSO) attended a Higher Education /Further Education networking meeting held at Active Lincolnshire's Head Offices. This offered National Governing Bodies an opportunity to discuss ways of connecting with the students and staff at these institutions.

Shona /Jim Lammin to follow up with a link made with Lincoln University.

Junior County Talent Pathway continues with assisted funding through England Golf

Forthcoming priorities

Continued Club Support Officer Training / Role awareness

Club centric approach to identify needs analysis for Clubs in Lincolnshire for 2017 / 2018. Business Growth forum / Hub follow up

Create Education Centre for County

Continued Club Support Officer Training / Role awareness

Update of County Action Plan following publication of new strategy .”

KF reiterated the fact that we are expecting a decision shortly regarding our application to become one of the four counties selected to take part in the EG Junior Pilot Project.

(12) PAC RECOMMENDATIONS:

That we donate, as in previous years, £1250.00 to the Lincolnshire Schools Golf Association. Proposed by Jim Lammin & Seconded by Keith Farrow Agreed Unanimously.

(13) AOB.

County Cards - It was brought to our attention that members from a non affiliated club had downloaded cards from our website and used them to get reduced green fees within the county. **HH** to look into. Howard Castell (Woodthorpe Hall Gc) suggested we consider taking them off the website and continue to send them to the clubs, as we do now, as a PDF, for the clubs to distribute to their members. **To be reviewed.**

Andrew Thompson (Cleethorpes GC) raised the issue of the process for a club to affiliate to EG and said he had not seen any guidelines/criteria regarding the rules. **HH** to liaise with EG and then forward the guidelines to all clubs/ reps.

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

Wednesday 13th September 2017 at Market Rasen GC commencing at 18.15hrs There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.10hrs.

