

KENT COUNTY LADIES' GOLF ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held on
Thursday 8 March 2018
at Ditton Community Centre, Kilnbarne Road, Ditton, Aylesford ME20 6AH

Present:	The President/Vice President	Mrs Elaine Tappin
	Vice President	Mrs Sylvia Barnshaw
	Vice President	Mrs Marilyn Brown
	Vice President	Mrs Sue Coombes
	Vice President	Mrs Chris Lohan
	Vice President	Mrs Sarah Miller
	Captain	Mrs Anne Billings
	Vice Captain	Mrs Cheryl Power
	Hon. Secretary	Mrs Sue Barnes
	Hon. Competition Secretary	Mrs Mandy Mole
	County Training Officer	Mrs Sandy Catford
	County Junior Organiser	Mrs Nikki Brown

Committee: Mrs Marilyn Brown, Mrs Chris Corke,
Ms Felicity Dunderdale, Mrs Janet Green, Mrs Margaret Jeffs,
Mrs Lucie Moxham, Mrs Sue Siddle, Mrs Jackie Taylor (Pearson
Representative)

There were 95 members in attendance. 34 Clubs represented

- 1. Apologies:** Sally McAlister & Hazel Bristow (Vice Presidents), Mrs Nicki Mc Gee, (Hon. Treasurer), Tita McCart, Jan Sayle & Karen Pickering (Committee Members), Pat Davoodbhoj, Roz Galley, Jo Beslee, Pam Bentley, Ailsa Garrard, Gill Palin, Shirley Taylor, Aileen Johnson.

Apologies for absence had been received from 12 clubs

The President opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking members for attending. She introduced the top table.

The President then called upon the Captain Mrs Anne Billings to chair the meeting. Anne called upon Mrs Sue Barnes Hon. Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting.

- 2. Minutes:** Anne Billings Captain, asked if the Minutes of the last meeting could be taken as read. This was agreed and the Minutes were signed as a true record.
- 3. Matters Arising:** Anne Billings Captain, asked if there were any Matters Arising. There were none
- 4. To receive the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts:** Anne Billings Captain advised that the Hon. Treasurer Mrs Nicki McGee, was unable to attend the AGM and asked Cheryl Power, Vice Captain, to read the Treasurer's report in her absence.

"Madam President, Captain, Vice Captain and ladies.

I hope you have all seen a copy of this year's full accounts. A big thank you to Lynn Haxell at Haxell Giddings Limited for her help with preparing the accounts for 2017. Just a few things that I'd like to point out:

On the Income & Expenditure for main account you will see that the membership for County Cards figure is lower than last year, this is due to us reverting back to a 12 month period rather than last year with a 17 month period and as the AGM is now March not all payments have been paid into the account by the end of our financial year, these will be included in 2018. We have received an amount of £4,500 this has come through from England Golf for Talent Pathway funding. The majority of expenses have decreased, again this is not a true reflection against last year's figures due to the differing time periods. All committee members are entitled to claim mileage and any other expense (within reason) relevant to their role. As we mentioned last year, we are in a strong financial position and we will not be increasing entry fees for our members meetings this year so that we can give something back to you, the members who support the Association.

Anne Billings Captain asked if there were any questions.

There were none.

Anne asked for a Proposer for the adoption of the accounts. Judith Smith, The Wildernesse Club, proposed and Sarah Miller, Vice President, Langley Park, seconded the adoption. This was carried unanimously.

Anne publicly thanked Nicki for her report and looking after the KCLGA finances.

- 5 To authorise** the Executive Committee to appoint Haxell Giddings Ltd as Auditors for the coming year, proposed by Mrs Nicki McGee seconded by Mrs Elaine Tappin.

6 Captain's Report.

“Madam President, Vice Presidents, Past Captain's and ladies.

Good morning and thank you for attending our 2018 AGM. I would like to begin my report on last years' achievements and then inform you of our plans for the coming year.

2017 was a developing year for the elite teams. The Championship was held at Littlestone G.C. in April. Miss Sharna Dutrieux from Wrotham Heath became our County champion.

In June we hosted County week also at Littlestone G.C. The whole week ran very smoothly with Mandy Mole and her team in charge. The weather was kind and everyone seemed to enjoy the week. The Kent team was not successful this year but the team learnt a lot and showed great promise for the future. Hampshire were the eventual winners.

We have continued to encourage the younger players to progress in all levels of their game.

Our Junior Championship was held at Wildernesse in early June. Our Junior Champion this year was Darcie Smith from Charthills. Junior County week was hosted by Hampshire at Royal Winchester golf club in August. Our junior team worked well together and show great promise for the future.

Please if you have any junior girls at your club, please let us know. We run lots of events and training for girls, it is important for them to meet and mix with girls from other clubs, we feel this gives them encouragement to continue with their golf.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has given very generous donations towards the juniors last year, which includes the Society of Lady captains of Kent golf clubs, it is very much appreciated.

Our 2nd team was led by Cheryl Power, my Vice Captain. They competed again for the Stovold Trophy. Just missing out by 1 point to Sussex.

Our senior team again did well coming 2nd in the 10 counties tournament, hosted by Hertfordshire at Knebworth golf club in September.

As always there are many events and competitions for you all to enter last year. All were well attended.

The Random Waltz at Ashford G.C., Team Rumble at Hever G.C., Golfing Allsorts at Pedham Golf centre and The Doxfords at Rochester & Cobham G.C.
Competition results last year were –

Winter 4 Ball won by Sundridge Park
Three feathers = Gold was won by – Sundridge Park
Silver by Nizels
Bronze by Shortlands
Holland Trophy won by Royal Cinque Ports.
Lohan Trophy won by Sittingbourne
Coombe Cup won by Eltham Warren
Tappin Trophy won by Princes
Captain's Cup won by Silver – Faversham. Bronze – North Foreland
Bradley Cook won by Royal Cinque ports
Parallel Plate by Wrotham Heath
Milstede Trophy by Elena Slater of Tudor Park
Champion of Champion won by Ainee O'Connor of Sundridge Park.

Away from the playing of golf.

For the past few years, we have been having meetings with the KGU to discuss a possible merger. These meetings have been both interesting and constructive and a lot of groundwork has been established.

In recent months the KGU have made changes to their board and administration structure and these will need time to settle.

We, as an Association, have made great strides forward with our training programme and golf development for all ages and abilities. Financially we are now in a good place, receiving very good support from England golf and other funding sources, who are all very keen to support and promote girls and ladies golf.

We are making good progress in improving communication with you, our members. Our inter club and individual competitions are going well and proving to be popular with a good level of participation.

So, due to our healthy and positive situation and because we see there is no need to rush into anything, we have decided to put these merger talks on hold for the time being, until such time we as certain, as we possibly can be, that this is the right way forward for us.

We have to bear in mind that once we go down this road there will be no way back. It will be a real game changer. It is very early days and no one is yet in a position to know, with any real certainty, what the short and long term outcome and implications will be for us and other Counties.

In our region, Surrey and Hampshire have recently begun talks with their men's unions and they too are proceeding with caution.

Sussex, Yorkshire and some other larger counties have not even started talks and seem unlikely to do so in the foreseeable future.

Six of the smaller counties including Middlesex, who are in our region, have already merged. This made sense for their ladies as they have fewer in number and have consequently found the need for financial and administrative support from their Men's' Unions. Things appear to be going well for them all so far and we will be watching their progress with interest.

England golf have been most helpful in all this and are happy with how we stand at this present time.

We continue to work with the KGU, with venues, sharing of referees, junior golf etc. We have a good relationship with them and greatly appreciate any support they give to us.

Our junior girls were invited to play with the boys for the Ken Statham Trophy held at Royal St George's in February. They have also been included in "The Race to St George's". This is where points will be awarded to our girls who attend training, play in matches and other junior events including the Junior Championship. The top six girls will be invited to play with the boys in the final at Royal St George's at the end of the summer.

All is looking very positive for us as an Association and we very much look forward to continuing to work closely with the KGU wherever and whenever possible. For the time being however we are intending to retain our independence whilst keeping a close eye on developments and the progress of other merged Counties, gaining knowledge along the way of any potential pitfalls also any particular positive aspects that have been experienced, which we can learn from and bear in mind in any future merger talks. We firmly believe, we have nothing to lose by taking this wait and see, watch and learn approach and we will keep you up dated with any developments.

Onto this year - In January, under the supervision of our training officer, Sandy Catford, we held our squad training day at Pedham golf centre, inviting our first, second and senior squad players, we also invited our junior players and their parents, to meet and be with lower handicap players, hopefully encouraging them to progress in all aspects of their game. Sandy, with coaches Steve Mitchell and Tim Milton, has put together an extensive training programme for all county players, from first team players to the young beginners. Training will take place at various locations throughout the county so there is something for everyone. For the second year running, we have been invited by England golf and the golf foundation to take part in the Golf rocks programme, this is to encourage young girls to get into golf throughout the county. Many of our junior girls have volunteered to be Ambassadors for this scheme. Charles Molony from England golf has kindly accepted to come along today and will be telling you more about this programme later. The 2018 Kent Championship will be held at Langley Park G.C. in April and the County week will be hosted by Hampshire this year held at Hockley G.C. at the end of June. Junior Championship will be at Canterbury G.C. in early June and Junior County week will be hosted by Middlesex at Highgate golf club in August. Our Junior captain for this year is Darcie Smith from Charthills, who is at present our junior Champion.

I will be in charge of the 2nd team this year. They will be competing again for the Stovold Trophy. After just missing out last year on winning the trophy, hopefully this year we will be successful.

We do hope you will consider supporting our teams this summer.

For you, there are always many events and competitions to enter this year. All details and dates are on the website and I am sure Cheryl and her team, look forward to meeting as many of you as possible, over the coming months.

Which leads me on to my hard working committee. Thank you for all you do for the county. We have three ladies leaving the committee today after three long years, Margaret Jeffs from Redlibbets G.C., Felicity Dunderdale from Tudor Park G.C. and Karen Pickering from Ashford G.C. I hope you have all enjoyed your time on the committee and here is a small thank you for all your time and commitment to the county.

Also leaving us today is Mrs Mandy Mole who has been our Competition secretary for the last five years. On behalf of the committee and myself, thank you for all that you have done for the county. Organising all those championships, competitions and last year, County week at Littlestone. A good friend. Enjoy the rest and here is a little something to remember your time on committee.

Last but not least, I also have to thank and say goodbye to our President Elaine Tappin. Elaine has become a very good friend over the last 3 years.

We have had a lot of fun, travelling to many events and meetings together. We have walked around many a golf course, some of them in lovely hot weather, but also some, in terribly cold, wet and windy weather.

Elaine has been a wealth of knowledge for me and a very calming influence, especially at county week. She has been a great support to all the players and to all the committee. She has always been on the end of the phone or email with helpful advice.

I wish you a very well deserved rest and on behalf of everyone involved in the county, I would like to thank you for all your support, time and friendship over the past 3 years.

Finally, my time is done, it has been a great journey. I have learnt a lot, not just about county golf but also about myself. I have met a lot of people over the two years and have made new friends.

I have been fortunate to have around me some amazing ladies; whose dedication to the county has been incredible. People forget we are all volunteers, giving up a huge amount of time and energy to bring golf to you all.

The most enjoyable time for me has been working with the elite girls and juniors, watching them practise and play to such a great standard but most of all, come together as friends. Both county weeks, first team and junior weeks have been such a highlight for me. To spend time with such a special group of young women. Developing their talents and most of all enjoying each other's company. Hopefully we now have a group of players who can take the county forward in the coming years.

I would like to thank you all for being so kind and supportive to me over the last two years. I have enjoyed my time as captain. Hopefully what we have achieved as a committee, can lead to many successes in the future.

I will be around for another year, leading the 2nd team and supporting Cheryl and her committee, as best I can. I know I leave the county in good hands.

Thank you for listening and I hope you have a very happy golfing year."

7 To confirm the election of Captain:

Mrs Cheryl Power, Langley Park, proposed by Mrs Anne Billings and seconded by Mrs Sandy Catford.

Anne spoke in support of her nomination: "I have great pleasure in nominating Cheryl to be County Captain for the KCLGA. Cheryl has been a member of Langley Park Golf Club for 31 years. She was Lady Captain 2002/2003 She has served 5 separate, 3 year terms on the Club's Ladies Committee. 4 of which were as Handicap Sec and/or Competition Sec. She has served on the main Club Committee as Chairman of the Social Committee. She also ran the Pearson Trophy team for Langley Park on 4 separate occasions.

She served on the KCLGA Committee for 5 years, 4 years of which were as Membership Secretary.

She is married with two sons and last December she became a Granny, She has been a very supportive Vice Captain. We have had a lot of fun, working together and I have no doubt she will do an amazing job over the next two years as Captain, to help the County progress."

Sandy also spoke in support of her nomination "I am very happy to second the nomination of Cheryl as County Captain."

Anne presented Cheryl with her Captain's badge.

Cheryl Power responded as follows: "Thank you Anne for those kind words.

Lady President, Lady Vice Presidents, Current and Past Lady Captains, Ladies, I am of course extremely honoured and delighted to be taking on the role of Kent County Ladies Captain and will do my very best along with my Committee to serve the County in all its aspects. I very much look forward to working with the Committee and all the County players and of course meeting lots of you ladies at the various events around the County and so hopefully making lots of new friends as well as catching up with old ones.

I have a hard act to follow and if I can be even half as successful, popular and effective a Captain as you have been Anne, I will be extremely happy.

I have very much enjoyed being your Vice Captain over the past 16 months. I have learnt a lot from you and been especially admiring of your fortitude, having had quite serious back issues but being determined to carry on and be totally supportive of all activities and events in the County and always in a calm manner with a cheery smile. I very much look forward to continuing to work with you this coming year. We have much to look forward to with some

very promising and enthusiastic young juniors coming through, where of course lies our future.

On a personal note I would like to thank my friends at Langley Park for their support and for coming along today."

8 Election of County President,

Mrs Chris Lohan, proposed by Mrs Elaine Tappin and seconded by Mrs Cheryl Power. Elaine spoke in support of her nomination: "Chris was Kent County Junior Organizer for 7 years from 1985 to 1992. She won a South East Sports Council award in that time for raising standards in Junior Girls Golf. Chris was made a Vice President of Kent on her retirement as CJO. She was elected Junior South East Manager in 1994, a post which she held for a further 4 years. Chris became Kent County Captain in 2004. I am truly delighted to be able to propose my friend, Chris Lohan, to be our new Kent Ladies County President. She brings with her a wealth of experience and a true love of the game."

Cheryl also spoke in support of her nomination "I am very happy to second the nomination of Chris Lohan as County President.

Elaine presented Chris with her President's badge

Chris Lohan gave her words of thanks

9 Election of County Junior Officer:

Mrs Nikki Brown, Sittingbourne & Milton Regis, proposed by Mrs Anne Billings and seconded by Mrs Marilyn Brown. Nikki was co-opted since the last AGM and is now formally nominated.

Anne spoke in support of her nomination: "I have great pleasure in proposing Nikki Brown as Junior County Organizer. Nikki has competed at County level in hockey, swimming and athletics. She was a PE teacher for over 20 years and then went on to teach children with specific learning difficulties, specializing in dyslexia. She has worked in secondary schools in the Medway towns and retired from teaching 8 years ago when the middle schools on Sheppey were closed. She ran the Kent Schools Swimming Championships and officiated in the Kent Schools Athletics Championships. Nikki took up golf 30 years ago and plays off a handicap of 15 at Sittingbourne and Milton Regis Golf Club. She has worked with young people in sport for many years and is particularly interested in promoting girls golf. She strongly believes, with encouragement and motivation, we have an excellent opportunity to pursue this in Kent. I know Nikki will be a huge asset to both, the Committee and County."

Marilyn also spoke in support of her nomination "I am very happy to second the nomination of Nikki as County Junior Organiser.

Anne then presented Nikki with her CJO Badge.

Nikki then gave her words of thanks

10 Election of Competition Secretary:

Mrs Jan Sayle, Faversham, proposed by Mrs Mandy Mole and seconded by Mrs Chris Corke

Mandy spoke in support of her nomination: "I have great pleasure in nominating Jan as Competition Secretary. Jan is a member of Faversham Golf Club where she has been Lady Captain. Jan is very keen to take on this role and has spent the past year learning the ropes by attending most of the competitions with me and assisting at these events. I am positive that I am leaving competitions in very competent hands. She sends her apologies that she is unable to attend today but she is on holiday which has been planned for a long time."

Chris also spoke in support of her nomination "I am very happy to second the nomination of Jan as Competition Secretary.

11-13 Election of Officers:

*** Election of Honorary Treasurer** Mrs Nicki McGee, Weald of Kent, Proposed by Mrs Cheryl Power and seconded by Mrs Sandy Catford.

***Election of Honorary Secretary**, Mrs Sue Barnes, Mid Kent, proposed by Mrs Lucie Moxham and seconded by Mrs Janet Green.

***Election of County Training Organiser** Mrs Sandy Catford, Chart Hills, proposed by Mrs Tita McCart and seconded by Mrs Sue Siddle.

Anne asked for a show of hands to approve the elections (items 11– 13) 'en bloc'. These were all approved and carried unanimously

14 Election of New Committee Members:

Anne announced the election of the new Committee Members; Under Rule 2 of the Association the following ladies retire Mrs Felicity Dunderdale, Mrs Margaret Jeffs and Mrs Karen Pickering. Anne asked that the nominated ladies stand up as Anne called out their names.

The following members have been nominated:

Mrs Pippa Lark, Royal Cinque Ports proposed by Mrs Stephanie Healy, Royal Cinque Ports and seconded by Mrs Patricia Harman, Royal Cinque Ports

Mrs Pauline Burrows, The Wildernesse Club proposed by Mrs Carol Lawrence, The Wildernesse Club and seconded by Mrs Anne Billings, The Wildernesse Club

Ms Karen White Sundridge Park proposed by Ms Rose Yazdani, Sundridge Park and seconded by Mrs Tita McCart, Sundridge Park

Ms Carol Sears Mid Kent proposed by Mrs Sandy Catford, Princes and seconded by Mrs Helen Lejot, Wrotham Heath.

Anne asked for a show of hands to accept the nominations. 'All in favour', and as these were the only candidates nominated for the 4 vacancies, all ladies were duly elected.

15 Anne called upon Committee Members to give their reports:

Competition Report –Mandy Mole, Hon. Competition Secretary

President Elaine, Vice Presidents, Captains and Members, I am pleased to give my Report which you will be relieved to know, is very brief.

As we are at the beginning of the golfing year, there is very little to mention. Our introduction of on-line payments for club competitions has generally worked well and I hope that those of you, who have taken advantage of it, have found it more convenient. As with all change, there are 'teething' problems but these have been easily solved. In order to help us keep track of payments, please could I emphasise that it is very important that we have the name of the payee, whether it be an individual or club competition and the name of the competition that is being entered. As I am sure you can appreciate, now that payments are being done in this way, there is a lot of 'traffic' in the account and it is important that we match the correct payment with the entry.

We have some different venues this year covering every corner of the County, and as always we are so grateful to those of you who always support us and hope that many more

of you will come along. We have held our prices for a third year and these events offer good value, with a meal, prizes and a chance to meet new people. We would not be able to run these events without the goodwill and support of the clubs who willingly provide the venues – again many grateful thanks from the County for making this possible.

We start the year with the Championships at Langley Park on the 10th – 12th April and even if you are not competing, come along to see some of our best players in the County competing for honours. Soon after, the Champion of Champions will be held at Sundridge Park and entries for this close on 31st March. All the competitions are on the website and in the Competitions and County Card book which are available for collection today.

I finish my term of Office today and Jan Sayle will be taking over my position. I have received tremendous support from so many of you and I hope that you will continue to do this in the future. I am handing the reins on to a tremendously organised person and I know the Competitions will be in safe hands. I wish Jan every success in the post. It just remains for me to thank all of you – I have made a lot of friends, learnt so much and loved every minute of it. I must offer my personal thanks to Elaine, Anne and all the committee for all their hard work and efforts in assisting me. Hopefully I will see many of you in the future now I am free to compete.

Pearson Trophy – Jackie Taylor

President Elaine, Vice Presidents, Captains and Members,

Juli and I had a busy year with both the Kent and Intercounty finals in Kent but what a result! Firstly thank you to Rochester and Cobham Golf Club and Hever Golf Club for hosting the Finals, and also to all the staff, members who marshal and ball spot, and our Kent Committee ladies who supported and acted as referees for the day. A special thank you to Cheryl Power, Anne Billings and Elaine Tappin. I am sure all the teams concerned would agree the Finals are very special days. Thank you also to all those Pearson Captains and players who come out in all weathers to play our great competition. Certainly it keeps the golf and competitive spirit going all year for those involved.

The Kent Final this year at Rochester and Cobham. The first semi final was between Mid Kent and Royal Blackheath. Mid Kent were very strong in their first three matches, but eventually Blackheath won 4-3.

The second semi final was between Redlibbets and Shortlands. Redlibbets were successful in this match and so the afternoon final was between Blackheath and Redlibbets. Redlibbets were up in 6 matches after 9 holes and managed to hold on to secure the win. It was big Congratulations to Redlibbets as they managed to win their first Championship final.

On to Hever in July. The weather promised rain but what we had was a mini monsoon. Shows how hardy ladies can be because the 4 teams and their caddies headed to the first tee with full waterproofs and umbrellas. Thank goodness the rain was short lived and we went on to have a very pleasant day.

The first semi final was between Arkley (Herts) and Coombe Hill (Surrey). The second between Hampstead (Middlesex) and Relibbets (Kent). The matches were started by Paula Stack, Hever's Lady Captain.

Surrey proved too strong for Herts winning their first 4 matches. The second semi final was much closer. A hole in one on the 14th for Middlesex sealed one match. This tussle came down to the last few matches, Kent drawing back to 3 all, then the last player winning on the 17th. Fantastic for Redlibbets and Kent but they now had the mighty Surrey Club, Coombe Hill to conquer.

We set out in sunshine to watch the final. This was very close with Surrey being up in 4 matches after 9 holes. Some of our girls managed to turn matches round in the front matches, one going to the 19th hole and sealing the win. A very tricky pin position on the 18th proved a disaster for one of the Surrey players. How nerves can affect us! Just as we were

counting that score a win came in on the 17th for Kent and Kent had won 5 -2 ... a few finger nails gone for the supporters.

Thanking again all the officials and photographer Chris Corke, ball spotters, marshalls and catering staff, as well as the clubs and green staff for giving us such lovely venues for our finals. We had a great day and Redlibbets can be very proud of themselves indeed for a very successful season. The trophy was presented by Margaret Northcote Chairman of the Pearson Management Committee.

This year the Kent Finals is at Nizels and the 4 Counties Final in Middlesex. Good luck to all the players still battling it out for their places in the finals and let's hope we can have another win for Kent.

World Handicap Systems – Marilyn Brown, County Representative to England Golf

WHS Handicap Seminar

The information provided at the Seminar we attended is not 100% nailed down and there is a lot of fine tuning to be done. R and A made an official press release on 20 February.

This is a brief overview but at this stage I am not really able to answer questions confidently. The presentation will be circulated with the Minutes and will give your representatives a preview prior to the meeting at West Malling on 3rd May.

4 year cycle for review of the system
33 key elements
12 flexible menu options

Each Club is entitled to send two representatives to an England Golf workshop being held at West Malling on 3rd May. There are two sessions so please check that your club will be represented.

Some key points:

No limit to Supplementary Scores - with the exception of CAT 1 players
Facility to run 9 hole Open Competitions
Mixed tee competitions - one CSS
Current players not changed
Best 8 from 20 scores
System mandatory

Options for competitions:

1 No handicap limit
2 Set entry limits - County, National, Elite
3 Competition set up no handicap limit, but a Criteria for prize can be set and this must be stated in the competition conditions. A Competition can be set as medal with a Stableford for the higher handicaps.

As currently the maximum score for a hole is a net double bogey for handicap purposes. Abnormal weather and course conditions not as extreme as currently, will be more stable but still flexible.

ANY score on the course will be taken into account, not just competition scores for CSS. Example Supplementary Scores will contribute to CSS if returned on competition day. However some competitions can be ring fenced such as Championships.

Terminology

Exact handicap will now be Handicap Index, but in the complicated formula to ascertain your handicap on an away course, or even a competition on a different set of tees at your Home course there is a course handicap and a playing handicap. This is calculated - your handicap index divided by 113 (deemed to be the perfect figure) times the slope rating. A chart will be available at each Club and you will need to have this displayed prominently in order for your handicap to be checked.

Qualifying score will now be called Acceptable Score.

It is hoped, but unlikely, that all courses will have been rated by 2020. Where a Course has not been rated a provisional rating can be issued. Clubs will need to have a valid Certificate of Measurement before the course can be rated. I do know that this is proving to be a hold up for the Course Rating Team as many clubs do not have these.

Acceptable scores

Players will need to post their scores at the venue where round played
All singles stroke play and pre registered Supplementary Scores and it is the players responsibility to post pre registered scores as soon as round is completed.

I will now read through some FAQ s (these are attached at the end of the minutes).

England Golf – Mr Charles Molony

Good Morning Ladies. My name is Charles Molony and I work for England Golf in Kent & the South East as a Club Support Officer.

As of April 2017, there is now a team of around 35 club support officers based remotely around the country providing a face to face point of contact for clubs and key decision makers at clubs. We are supported by a team that are based at our Head Office in Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire. In the past six months alone I have done over 80 club visits and 10,000 miles in Kent and the South East. Topics of discussion at these visits have been everything from a simple introduction over a cup of coffee to more serious discussions around Safeguarding and presentations to Board Members around Business Planning and Club Vision & Strategy.

I tend to meet everyone from parents of juniors, Junior Organisers and club volunteers to PGA Professionals and General Managers. It all depends on the topic of the discussion and who we collectively feel needs to be involved.

A key area of work England Golf's work nationally is to improve the perception of golf. We are really trying to highlight the inclusivity of Golf with specific projects that we hope will get good press coverage. Just last week we have started some work with Medway Stroke Association in Gillingham offering their group members the chance to play Golf and hopefully get them out on the course within a couple of weeks.

We have a number of initiatives, tools and resources that can help clubs achieve their goals. These are all highlighted in this Club Support Guide. Every affiliated club will have received one of these at some point in the past year. If you'd like to look through a copy I'll be at the back of the room at the end of the meeting.

And if we can't provide the required support we have an ever growing preferred partner list that we can signpost clubs to. If you need any more information about this please let me know.

Girls Golf Rocks in 2017 & 2018

I spoke in November at the Captains and Delegates Meeting about our plans to run the Girls Golf Rock Initiative in 2018 and this, I'm pleased to say is going ahead.

In 2017, the initiative, which uses some of the county girls as ambassadors in coaching sessions to answer questions and do demonstrations, introduced 63 girls to the game across a 7 week course.

In 2018, we are hoping to achieve similar if not better numbers. The facilities we have chosen are Stonelees Golf Centre, Boughton, Kings Hill and Birchwood Park G&CC. We chose these facilities because of a number of factors including location, the PGA Professional on site, the facilities but ultimately it was where we thought we'd have the most impact and see the greatest number of girls start and continue playing the game beyond the 7 week Girls Golf Rocks course.

A recap of the programme; Girls Golf Rocks is a national initiative by England Golf, supported by the Golf Foundation and County Associations and will be run in 21 counties in 2018. The programme lasts 7 weeks with an initial taster session that is free to the participant. It is then followed by a 5 week structured course and then the final week is a chance for the girls to get together, we give out certificates and goody bags.

The hardest bit from last year is ensuring we keep in contact with these girls and their parents and making sure they maintain interest in playing golf.

For many of the girls involved in the programme last year, this programme was their first ever experience of playing golf in a structured way in a club environment and we know we need to nurture this in the hope that in the months and years to they decide to further their interest and become the female golf club members of tomorrow.

If anyone is on Facebook or Twitter please look up 'Girls Golf Rocks' and feel free to follow and share their posts and spread the message!

Contact me

Finally please feel free to contact me. I have some business cards for you to take away so please come and have a chat at the end. If you'd like me to come and have a chat at your club with you, your Professional and General Manager or anyone else, please put me in touch with them. Sometimes it's better coming from you rather than if I were to get in touch with them.

Anne thanked Charles Molony for coming to the AGM and his report. She then thanked Officers, Committee Members and all Competition Organisers for the time they give to the Association and for their reports all of which are available to view on the website.

Anne continued by publicly thanking the Clubs that hosted County Matchplay Finals:

- Kings Hill for the Tappin Trophy and Coombe Cup
- Littlestone for the Championship and County Week
- Mid Kent for the Captains' Cup, Three Feathers, Holland Trophy, Lohan Trophy and Milstede Trophy
- Royal Cinque Ports for the Bradley Cook and Plate
- Redlibbets for the Winter Fourball
- Rochester & Cobham for the Pearson Trophy Final
- The Wildernesse Club for the Junior Championship

Before moving on to item 16 Anne handed over to President Elaine.

Elaine then says:

On behalf of the KCLGA I should like to say a very big Thank you to Anne Billings, our County Captain for the past two years.

Anne has worked tirelessly for all of us throughout her Captaincy and she has travelled the length and breadth of the County on our behalf. Thank you for giving us your time, energy and experience.

Anne has brought a tremendous team spirit into our County teams. Thanks to her, we now have a warm cohesive team of brilliant golfers, whose ages span quite a few decades, but

who all pull together, spurring one another on, and who are really enjoying their County golf experience. They are a team ready to take on all the challenges put before them. Of course, being County Captain involves all aspects of golf not just for the most talented but also for those junior girls who are just beginning and our senior ladies who are delighted to be asked to join in our training sessions and maybe even to play and represent the County. Anne has been there for everyone.

Lastly, Anne, I would like to say on a more personal level, a very big Thank You from me. Thanks to you I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as County President and I shall look back on many happy days, spent in your company.

Elaine then presented Anne with her Past Captain's Badge.

Elaine then went on to say "before I hand back to Anne it is the time when I make the presentation of the President's Trophy

My predecessor, Audrey Disbury, donated this Award and it was her wish that it should be presented to an Officer or Committee member of the KCLGA who had made an exceptional contribution to the work of the County.

Before presenting the President's Trophy this year, I would like, if I may, to give you a short synopsis of what the Officers and Committee do for us during the year.

We have a County First and Second team, together with Junior and Senior teams, all of whom play matches against other Counties throughout the South East of England.

We run 9 Stroke play and 8 Matchplay Competitions every year for all Lady golfers in Kent from the very young through to the senior not so young, giving them the opportunity to meet and play with ladies from other Kent Clubs all around our beautiful County. We have a thriving Junior Section, managed and cared for by our Junior County Organiser and her sub-Committee.

We have a Seniors Section which is immensely popular and we have a very professional Training programme for All ages.

All of this and I haven't even mentioned our Treasurer who keeps us on track with our money and our England Representative who travels up to England HQ at Woodhall Spa on our behalf. Lastly, but by no means least, our very clever Committee Members who keep us up to date with our I.T. Needs and our Website.

All of these competitions, events, matches, etc, need organising and we have a superb team of Officers and Committee who do all the work for the benefit of ALL of us who play golf in Kent.

There is one person whose job it is to oversee all of this, who makes sure the wheels keep turning. On behalf of all of us here today and all Ladies who play golf in Kent, I would like to award the President's Trophy this year to Sue Barnes our Honorary Secretary.

Elaine then presented Sue with the President's Prize Trophy and Sue said a few words of thanks.

16 Any Other Business:

Anne Billings:

- a) England Golf AGM –Wednesday 19 April 2018 (NB; The AGM will be attended by Marilyn Brown as the County Representative to England Golf)

- b) Delegates Golf Day – Monday 11 June 2018 Redlibbets Golf Club. This popular event will be extended to include Lady Captain or Vice Captain as well as Club Delegates.
- c) Captains & Delegates Meeting on Monday 29 October at Bearsted Golf Club.
- d) The date of the next AGM will be confirmed at a later date.

Anne invited questions from the floor, asking members to use the microphone provided for them and state their name and club as well as their question.

- i. Trish Harman (Royal Cinque Ports) Are there any promotions to try and encourage more mature ladies to take up the game of golf and join Clubs? Anne replied that it is something that Clubs usually do either by having special rates or taster days. Charles Molony also volunteered to come to the Club and help to give some ideas on how encourage new members but emphasized that Clubs have to make potential members feel welcome and try new ideas. Linda Sutherland of Corinthians also replied by saying when they run taster days for girls they invite the mums to come as well to try the game. This has proved popular.
- ii. Karen White (Sundridge Park) Thought that maybe as England Golf promote Girls Golf Rocks they could do something similar for Women to get them into golf? Charles Molony suggested that maybe Lauren Spray England Golf 'Women & Girls Participation Manager' maybe the person to contact.
- iii. Helen Flint (Dartford) Also said that it is very hard to keep young girls playing gold when there are only one or two girls at a Club. She also suggested that maybe promoting 9 hole golf could be a way for working ladies to get into golf as it doesn't take so long and could be more appealing to the ladies.
- iv. Geraldine Dyer (Chart Hills) With reference to the WHS she found hard to follow all what was involved. Marilyn Brown replied and said that the WHS presentation would be put on the website after the meeting and there were workshop seminars being held in counties during the coming Spring. West Malling is holding the seminar in Kent and each Club is entitled to send two representatives.

Anne said if there were no more questions she would hand over to Cheryl who wanted to say a few words.

"I'd now like to thank Anne very much on behalf of all the Committee members who have served during your term of office, all the ladies and girls in the various County Squads and Teams which you have managed so well, the up and coming juniors and the whole of our membership. I know they have all thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed your leadership, encouragement and friendship. You will now have a little more time on your hands to spend with your family and I'm sure that they and you are very much looking forward to that.

So, I'm delighted to first of all present you with your Vice Captains badge.....I now have great pleasure in presenting you with this gift and some flowers as a token of all our appreciation and hope you enjoy them and that the gift will be a fond memory of a time in your life of which you should be very proud."

17 Date of the next meeting: TBC at a later date.

There being no more business Anne declared the meeting closed at 11:28am

Sue Coombe Vice President thanked Anne Billings County Captain on behalf of all the members for chairing the meeting and praised the commitment of the County Officers and Committee.

Signed Date