

NORFOLK LADIES' COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION



MINUTES OF 97TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NORFOLK LADIES' COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION HELD AT WENSUM VALLEY GOLF CLUB ON MONDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2021

Present: Heather Keeble, President, in the chair; Sue Heeles, County Captain; Helen Ayres, Honorary Treasurer, Margo Horsburgh, Honorary Secretary and 80 members representing 26 affiliated clubs.

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked them for the support given to the County Association. She then asked the Secretary to formally open the meeting following which she took the chair asking all to stand for a minute's silence in memory of family, friends and colleagues who had passed away during the year. She then asked all the members of the top table to stand in order that she could introduce them to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence – Apologies were received from 44 members from 16 clubs.

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Norfolk Ladies' County Golf Association held on 23rd November 2020 had been circulated. It was proposed by Carol Delf (Gt Yarmouth & Caister), seconded by Helen Marsters (King's Lynn) and agreed by a show of hands that the Minutes be approved and signed by the President.

3. Matters arising other than those on the Agenda

There were no matters arising.

4. County Treasurer's Report – Helen Ayres

When I crawled out of bed at 5 o'clock this morning, I cursed those who, many years ago, voted to bring the time of this meeting forward from 11.00 to 10.00 o'clock.

I think I'm suffering from brain fog. By popular demand I've tried for weeks to write my report in rhyme again and gave up after several attempts. I've had to revert to a conventional report - I'll wake you up at the end.

At my first meeting as Treasurer, quaking in my shoes, I said that, being handed the microphone first, I felt as though I was the warm-up act to get the audience going before the stars of the show took the stage. Today we're not allowed the microphone, although we've been given two, and I haven't achieved stardom but I'm still here to warm you up and I think it will be a pretty daunting task as it is so cold. Anyway, without further ado, as they say, and being mindful of the fact that I'm on the stopwatch again, I'll begin.

At the end of last year Jan Knowler retired, having checked my accounting records on behalf of the members since 2015. I'm pleased to report that another member of the Association, and I'm sure well-known to everyone here, Annie Langstaff, has carried out this year's independent check. Thank you, Annie, for taking on this task on behalf of the members and I hope you'll continue for at least one more year.

You should all have found on your chair the Abridged Accounts which show the Income & Expenditure at a glance. The figures really speak for themselves so I suppose I could stop talking now and sit down but I'm afraid you'll have to put up with me for a little longer.

Detailed Accounts - the 8-page version - are available behind the curtain and if anyone would like a copy to take home for bedtime reading, please see me after the meeting. For the benefit of the newer ladies who may be wondering why we have two versions: In the olden days the 8 pages of detailed accounts were on your seat when you arrived at the meeting giving you little or no time to trawl through the figures. In 2013 we trialled the abridged, one sheet version which proved popular and ladies voted to have just the abridged version at future meetings.

Before talking about this year's figures, I'd like to say a few things about the effect of Covid last year. Prizes for our competitions had been bought before the first lockdown. Some were used as prizes for the Lockdown Stableford which seemed to be enjoyed by all and the remainder carried forward to this year. Spending was down by at least £12,000 due to the cancellation of the County 1st Team Match Days, County 2nd Team Competitions, the Seniors' Matches, the Junior Match Days and the Champion of Champions competitions. Our meeting and engraving costs were also down and we ended 2020 with a surplus of £8,795.

Turning now to 2021 and Income. Before we moved to the England Golf collection system, all the affiliation fees were collected by the end of March in the accounting year. Under the England Golf system, fees are collected every six months and the collection date for each club depends on when the club's subscription year starts or whether they have a rolling subscription year. The fees for any one year are now received over a minimum of 18 months and sometimes longer if clubs pay very late. Unfortunately, we have one or two of those in Norfolk. This is our main source of income and I have collected almost £33,500 this year for both England Golf and the County, of which over £17,500 has been paid to England Golf, with just under £16,000 going into our coffers. This equates to 1,849 ladies – that's 63 more than last year – and 115 juniors – 6 more than last year. You may think that numbers are on the up but, in fact, this year's are very similar to 2019. 94 ladies and 18 juniors are members of more than one Norfolk club but, of course, they pay an England Golf and County affiliation fee to their home club only.

Income from Competitions at £1,673 is down on 2019 but boosted by £900 from our generous sponsors, Swannington Windows and President Heather. We are extremely grateful to them for their sponsorship of the County Championship and it doesn't take an Einstein to work out the result of the Championship without their continued support (although you do need the Detailed Accounts to work it out). It would have lost £605. I have heard that Swannington Windows will continue to sponsor the County Championship in the future for as long as they are able. The company has premises in Lenwade and I understand provides superb windows and doors so if you're considering replacement windows why not pay them a visit.

The newly introduced Division 1 Handicap Championship this year was well supported and a great success. We have continued to benefit from very low facility fees thanks to Margo's negotiating skills. It doesn't seem so many years ago that we were paying green fees of between £10 and £20 per player per competition. Thank you to all the Competition Organisers for doing an excellent job and keeping costs to a minimum.

County Captain Sue organised our first competition since 2019 – the County AmAm – and it was a huge success. Royal Norwich was very generous and gave Sue courtesy of the course although we did give them a small donation as a token of our appreciation. The AmAm raised a whopping £1,903 for our funds.

Fewer teams entered the Waltz than in previous years. With the exception of the first year it was held, the Waltz has made a small loss but has broken even when taking its raffle proceeds into account. Unfortunately, with no raffle this year, a small loss was shown.

The Winter League at the start of this year was abandoned due to lockdown and the fees rolled over to 2021/22. The 2022 Inter Club Competition Fees of £1,170 include Winter League fees from three clubs who have joined the league for the first time making 11 teams for 2021/22.

It was Norfolk's turn to host the East Region Senior Ladies' Championship at Swaffham organised by Alex Mournian. Swaffham came up trumps and agreed with Margo a favourable facility fee and price for food which resulted in the competition contributing £535 to income.

The full Income & Expenditure Account of the Junior Section is in the Detailed Accounts. We supported the Juniors to the tune of £5,000 which is the total amount we budgeted this year and enabled the Section to produce a surplus of income over expenditure of £1,376. At this point, once again I must thank the ladies of Royal West Norfolk for their £1,200 donation and all those clubs who hold competitions to raise funds for the Juniors. And last, but by no means least, thank you to Shelagh Rump for looking after the Junior accounts which I think I'm right in saying she has done for well over 20 years.

On to Expenditure and I can hear that stopwatch ticking even more loudly..

Most of our annual expenditure is on our teams – County 1st, 2nd and Seniors – and, of course, our Junior Section which I've already mentioned. Spending on the three teams totalled just over £7,000 – down on previous years. This was partly due to the new format and reduced number of County Match Days and one of the Seniors' matches was cancelled. Thanks to all our Captains for keeping costs well within their budgets. With the £5,000 support for the Juniors mentioned earlier, the total spending on our teams and juniors was just over £12,000. This compares with over £14,000 in 2019 when our County 1st team reached the National Finals.

Other Expenses were down on last year and almost half those in 2019. Committee Meetings and AGM were £1,000 lower due to most of our meetings being held on Zoom. I have to say I prefer face-to-face meetings. I just don't like being muted (I did say muted!).

Insurance is up over 30% despite having received a small Covid-related refund from our insurer. On the advice of England Golf, we have taken out Cyber Crime Insurance. I had to complete a Statement of Fact that the Association does not provide services relating inter alia to gambling, family planning, substance abuse, abortion or pornography and that we do not operate as a dating site or service. I did give this some thought for a while before signing the Statement. Trophy Engraving and Repairs includes the cost of a new trophy and three years' engraving.

I'm delighted to say that we end the year with a surplus of just under £6,000 and our finances are in a healthy state which is comforting as costs are certainly on the increase and I envisage the next few years will be quite challenging.

Which leads me to the subject of succession. When I heard that Grace Rampling had been Treasurer for 37 years and I calculated that, having done 9 years already, I'd be 101 to beat her record, I thought it was really time to go. If anyone knows of someone who may be interested in the office of Treasurer, please form a queue after the meeting. I have to be honest and say it is time-consuming and leaves little time for golf but is most enjoyable and rewarding (but not financially).

Finally, and I can hear your sighs of relief, thank you all for your support and for listening and if anyone has any questions I'll be happy to try to answer them.

It was proposed by Sharon Black (Dunston Hall), seconded by Liz Dann (Wensum Valley) and agreed by a show of hands that the Accounts be adopted.

Heather thanked Helen for her report stating that it was excellent as usual. Our thanks for looking after and managing our accounts - your work is always first class and we are very lucky having you in charge of our funds.

5. To receive Reports of The Executive Committee and County Officials

a) County Captain – Sue Heeles

County President Heather, County Executive, Ladies.

I don't think anyone could have predicted the programme of events which transpired last year causing so much disruption to our lives and golf.

County training was arranged for Spring 2020 and then cancelled. Practice matches were cancelled and eventually County Match Week itself was cancelled. England Golf did try to organise a somewhat different National Finals with all counties invited to participate but this proved a step too far and also fell by the wayside.

So, fast forward to 2021 with the hope we were able to train and play our competitions and matches.

Training recommenced in April with Tony Varney at Mattishall and we were honoured to be one of the first to try out the new indoor academy which is a great addition to their set up and a huge asset to Norfolk.

The team had practice matches against the County Senior Men at Great Yarmouth & Caister and the Norfolk Senior Ladies at Eaton, the latter giving us the opportunity to try out the new County Match Days format of 2 foursomes and 3 single matches. Unfortunately, our annual match with Hunstanton Men was cancelled.

In May the Ladies' Championship at Royal Norwich was able to go ahead albeit with restrictions. Taking into account many ladies had not played much golf the standard was very high. The final itself, between Tracey Williamson and Eve Neild, produced a memorable match which Tracey won on the 2nd extra hole to become our Champion for the 9th time.

The team selected for County Match Days, which this year was being played in the new format over 3 days, was:

Gemma Batty (Thetford), Jo Herd (Royal Norwich), Imogen Leeder (Dereham), Tiffany Mills (Ryston Park), Eve and Hope Neild (Royal Norwich), Nellie Ong (Eaton), Chloe Tarbard (Heacham Manor), Amelia Williamson (Hunstanton) and Tracey Williamson (Sheringham).

The Match Days were played on the Gainsborough course at Stoke by Nayland in Essex. We travelled with great confidence and on the opening day had successes against Bedfordshire and Essex. Unfortunately, due to heavy rain on the afternoon of the first day some matches had to be completed on the morning of the second day which led to a tight playing schedule. On Day 2 we were not so fortunate and suffered defeats to Cambs & Hunts and Herts. We restored some pride with victory against Suffolk on the last day but this was not enough to see us through to the National Finals this year, finishing tied 2nd. Our congratulations to Herts who went through to the National Finals to represent the East Region. It was encouraging to see the confident performances of our two new juniors Nellie Ong and Chloe Tarbard and also Gemma Batty who integrated well into the team. Very positive signs for the future.

My sincere thanks to all the players who represented Norfolk and to the spectators who made the journey. It had a very different feel this year being a completely new format and also the decision was taken by the East Region not to have caddies. My thanks for all the good wishes and cards received from clubs and individuals. They really meant a lot to us. We know it is not always possible to come and support in person but knowing you are thinking of us is really inspiring. I hope the Twitter feed made you feel part of the action.

Away from the County, congratulations to all players who competed in National competitions. In particular to Tracey Williamson on becoming the English Seniors' Strokeplay Champion and Amelia for winning the Pleasington Putter. Tracey and Amelia also represented England in their respective teams in the Home Internationals in August.

Now a few thank you's and special mentions.

Thanks to Heather as always for her guidance and for always being there when I needed a wise head to turn to, to Sherrell for looking after our juniors and to Clare, our 2nd Team Captain, who herself had to manage a new format at 2nd Team matchdays this year. Thanks also to Helen and Margo and my Vice Captain Sharon. To Chrissie for the website, Facebook and Twitter feeds, keeping us updated with the latest news and to the rest of the Executive Committee for their support.

It has been a strange three years but even with the disruption I have enjoyed my time as your County Captain immensely. I hope I pass the reins to Sharon with the squad in great shape and I am sure with her drive and enthusiasm we will bring success back to Norfolk. Thank you.

I shall now update you on the Seniors' results on behalf of Nicky Wylie.

It was great to play seniors' golf again following the cancellation of the 2020 season. It was a successful year in which 16 ladies from 7 different clubs played over 4 matches. We continue to welcome new faces to our squad which numbers over 26 players. New faces this year included Jill Gooch and Phon Green Bawburgh, Sue Clarke King's Lynn and Jules Hutchinson Royal Norwich. We played 3 matches in 2021 all scratch singles: Herts at Bishop's Stortford Lost 6-1, Essex at Thetford won 6-1, Suffolk at Gt Yarmouth & Caister won 5.5-1.5, Cambs & Hunts cancelled the match due to insufficient players. The seniors fielded a foursomes' team against the County first team to give them some practice before county match days and sadly were only beaten by a slightly better team at Eaton GC. The match against the Junior squad was cancelled. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Norfolk clubs Thetford and Gt Yarmouth & Caister for their generous hospitality which was greatly appreciated by both home and away teams.

We are going to trial the East Region Senior Women's League in 2022. Three points for a win, 1 point for a draw. Suffolk will take on the administration in the first year which will increase our matches by one as Bedfordshire would like to take part. All county senior organisers have met to agree a way forward and I must stress 2022 is a trial to see if it would work. Finally, my thanks to all ladies who have played for the seniors I hope you have enjoyed yourselves. Special thanks go to those ladies who played for the team when we have had call offs at the final hour!

Heather thanked Sue for her report stating that she had been a great Captain leading and developing the First Team which delivered excellent results this season. She stated that it had been a pleasure to watch their performance and that she had made Norfolk the team to beat in the East. We are proud of you and your team. You not only had to contend with Covid restrictions but a new format and very challenging weather - it was more like a winter monsoon than June. You have also led the Executive through these difficult times, introducing us to Zoom Meetings to maintain contact and continue the work of the Executive. She also thanked Nicky Wylie for leading the Seniors over the 2021 season when the ladies had produced some good results.

b) Second Team Captain – Clare Anderson (read by Sue Heeles)

At the end of August, we took part in the Second Team Trophy Match Days held at St Ives Golf Club.

The team selected was:

Doris Thomas & Jill Gooch – Bawburgh
Maisie Farrelly & Beth Buckingham – Dereham
Julie Carpenter – Dunston Hall
Jules Hutchinson – Royal Norwich
Jess Rutherford – Gt Yarmouth & Caister
Poppy Beales – Hunstanton
Vanessa Mann – Barnham Broom

This was the first event with the new format which replicates the 1st team match days with 2 foursomes and 3 singles against each county at a 2-day competition.

All of our matches were exceptionally close with games being decided on the 18th holes in each! Unfortunately, we lost to Essex and Bedfordshire 3-2 but then won by the same margin against Cambs & Hunts. Essex was exceptionally strong and won the trophy convincingly but we did enough to secure 2nd (on countback to games won and then our result against C&H) which is a great result for the team.

The new format was certainly an experience, having never attended one like it before it was very different to a traditional 2nd team event. Suffolk are hopeful to enter a team for next year which will mean it will need to be over 3 days, so some consideration might need to be given to timings as there was a lot of waiting around, in unseasonably poor weather.

My thanks to Heather and Sue for their support and the spectators who came to watch.

Heather thanked Clare in her absence stating that the 2nd Team had performed well in the County Match Days in the new format. Once again, the weather was not at its summery best and we are proud of you and your team's achievements.

d) County Junior Organiser – Sherrell Chuter (read by Carol Delf)

I would first like to thank the Junior Committee for all their hard work this year. It has been a difficult time for all of us but we look forward in anticipation to golf in 2022 when, hopefully, we can get back to a more normal golfing life - whatever that is!!

On the coaching front, we only managed one Winter Training and a few visits to Paul Ashwell at St Ives. For those of you who don't know, Paul is a coach of the highest calibre. His coaching manner, knowledge and enthusiasm to improve the standard of our Norfolk girls, is second to none. Also, a number of our Junior players signed up for our Talent Programme which does an excellent job to improve individual skill levels.

In August, our top Juniors played at Bedford in what we call 'Junior County Match Days'. This pitched us against some of the Region's best players. Two teams there had players with handicaps no higher than 6! Our girls worked hard to produce some impressive performances and our runner up spot to Herts was well deserved. Next year we will be playing at Bar Hill in Cambridgeshire.

Our top Juniors continue to impress through their commitment and dedication to golf. Three Juniors played for the County 1st team and two played for the 2nd team. County squads watch out they are after your spot!

Eve Neild, Nellie Ong and Chloe Tarbard were again selected to attend East Coaching at Stoke-by-Nayland. We wish them every success. Eve, Chloe and Ruby Patterson represented Norfolk at the South East Schools and won the team trophy. Nellie represented Suffolk schools. Eve was further picked to represent South East Schools at the English Schools' National Championships where she finished in 4th place which led to her being selected for the international team which convincingly trounced Wales!

We entered a team in the East Trophy competition held in Hertfordshire. This included six players of different handicap ability. Our team came a respectable 3rd by 1 point, with a number of our players scoring over 33 points. This was the first opportunity for some of them to represent the County and they rose to the challenge admirably. Well done to Eve Neild our Junior Champion and Poppy Beales our Junior Captain - both players have a bright golfing future.

Lastly, can I thank all of the clubs who send in donations to support our work with the Juniors. Our girls are always very appreciative of the opportunities they are given. At Norfolk, we delight in the progress of our Juniors. As we all know, a good, solid foundation is at the heart of any strong programme in sport. Thank you.

Heather thanked Shez for her comprehensive report stating that it had been a great year for our Juniors as they seem to go from strength to strength with new ones joining each year. It's been a pleasure to watch their performances this year. We're proud of our juniors and their achievements - many congratulations.

e) Handicapping & Scratch Score Assessment – Sue Allen

The World Handicap System was launched on 2nd November 2020 which was a huge task. After the first three months England Golf had received some 20,000 email queries into their inboxes.

240 issues had already been sorted, and a new App was launched.

The system has slowly been settling down and during that first year, golfers have learned a lot about the way it works and are now familiar with the handicap index – course handicaps – playing handicaps - handicap allowances - score differentials and so on.

Four weeks ago was the first birthday of the WHS – one year on - I have some data for you.

16,000 sets of tees are registered – split 50/50 across 9/18 hole courses.

In 12 months 6.75 million scores have been returned (94% on 18 holes and 6% on 9 holes) that's 1 million more scores than in 2019 (before lockdown).

Of these scores 4.9 million were Competition rounds and 1.8 million were General play rounds (1.2 million up on the previous year)

Over 330,000 people used the App.

As of the 2nd November 2021 the

Average handicap index for men was 17

Average handicap index for ladies was 27.2

Here in Norfolk, in February 2019 we held a WHS seminar for Handicap Secretaries and Committee members to learn about the system. Luckily, we did manage to go ahead with this just before the Covid 19 lockdown in the March. We were locked down again when the system was launched so it was a bit of a bumpy ride to begin with. There was much to be done - clubs and indeed the County had to rewrite their "terms of competitions" to accommodate the changes in handicapping terminology and handicap limits etc. Much discussion took place and to make things even more difficult, this was mostly done via zoom meetings and not face to face. On top of which we had not had a chance to experience the effects of the transition from the old system to the new one.

Margo and the committee did a fantastic job sorting all our county competitions, it took many, many hours of work to finalize everything and I would like to thank them for their efforts.

It isn't just us at County level; it's also England Golf that is going through the learning curve of the transition. Gemma Hunter, Head of Handicapping for England Golf has said that it will take one or two years for the WHS to settle down properly.

There are still improvements being made to the handicapping platform. This week a new automation begins which will apply penalty scores where players have failed to fulfil their responsibility to satisfy score intents. England Golf has sent out information about this directly to members by email. Please do take the time to read it.

That brings us up to date, and concludes my report.

f) Scratch Score Assessor's Report – Julie Carpenter

All ratings in the County had been undertaken and going forward it is expected that ratings will be undertaken three or four times each year.

Heather thanked Sue and Julie for their reports. She also thanked Sue for supporting us all through the WHS changes – stating that her support, knowledge, as well as keeping us updated had been of great benefit to us all. She thanked Julie and her team for assessing our courses.

g) England Golf County Voting Member & East Region Committee Representative – Alex Mournian (read by Denise Whiting)

2021 was a busy year for everyone getting back to playing some long-awaited golf both social and competitively and finally getting to grips with WHS. Like any new system it has taken some getting used to and has had its ups and downs along the way; at its launch England Golf had to employ three additional temporary staff to deal with the volume of queries and questions. EG set up Train the Trainer courses so Clubs and Counties could answer the more localised questions leaving Gemma Hunter and her team to deal with the more difficult issues. If you check out the England Golf website on the Club Support Webinars page you can now watch and listen on demand to webinars and Q&A sessions, the latest being on Winter Golf and Handicap Reviews.

Another headline for this year has been the SafeGolf Accreditation process which was a vital piece of work and part of the Affiliation process ensuring the safety of all golfers, but particularly promoting a safe and positive environment for all those participating, working and volunteering in golf. Safeguarding the welfare of children, young people as well as adults at risk. I am pleased to say that as a County NLCGA have just been in receipt of their certificate for the next 12 months.

During the early part of this year a working group was set up to look at the 'Independent Golfer' a topic that has been talked about for in excess of 10 years to target non-club golfers. A working group of County Voting Members spent in excess of 400 hours in Zoom meetings and I hope you are all now familiar with iGolf, which was launched in July for non-club golfers. This allows them access to the EG App and the potential to have an approved handicap in a similar way to club golfers, although with subtle differences. The important elements are an official Handicap Index, Personal Liability Insurance and offers, news and opportunities. All of which may long term result in more casual golfers taking up membership of clubs.

I hope everyone is enjoying using the EG App to track their game statistics and submit casual cards and if anyone has any issues or feedback that they would like me to take back to England Golf I will be happy to help as your County England Golf Voting Member.

Finally, thank you to Margo for all her support as County Secretary. Over the time I have been involved she has been an incredible source of information and expertise in particular with the East Region events which I hope to see as many of you as possible at next year.

East Region events are as follows:

Foursomes - Thursday 28th April Ipswich GC.

Senior Ladies Wednesday 13th July at Hintlesham GC.

Ladies Championship - Thursday 15th September Bedford & County GC.

Heather thanked Alex for her report, and for keeping us informed of all matters pertaining to England Golf.

6. To Elect the County President, Carol Delf (Great Yarmouth & Caister). Proposed by the Executive Committee and seconded by Heather Keeble

Heather paid tribute to Carol for the number of years she had given not only to the Association but women's and junior golf. She recommended her appointment to the membership to which unanimous approval was given and she presented her with her badge of office and asked Carol to join the top table. Carol thanked Heather for her kind words and support and expressed her pleasure and honour of being appointed to the prestigious position in the County and will do her best to maintain the high standard of Heather who had preceded her.

Carol stated that it was a privilege to say thank you to Heather for her four years as President (the term being four years due to the bumping forward because of the Pandemic). She stated that Heather had been tireless in her support at County events at all levels travelling hundreds of miles in the process. She had supported by playing in County competitions when she was able and in true 'Strictly' fashion gave her a '10'. She thanked her for everything she had done for Norfolk and said it gave her great pleasure to present her with a gift of appreciation and a Past President's badge.

7. To Elect the County Captain, Sharon Black (Dunston Hall). Proposed by the Executive Committee and seconded by Sue Heeles

Sue introduced Sharon to the meeting stating that many of those present at the meeting would know Sharon as she had been involved with the County for a number of years being County 2nd Team Captain in 2011-2013, had represented the County at all levels, 1st, 2nd and Seniors and felt the County would be in a safe pair of hands, could think of nobody better to succeed her. The members gave unanimous approval for the appointment of Sharon as County Captain and Sue presented her with the County Captain's badge.

Sharon stated that it was a great honour to be appointed County Captain of the Association and it was her intention to build on the successes of previous years. She was looking forward to the challenge of being able to progress ladies' golf in Norfolk even further. She paid tribute to Sue who had worked tirelessly as both County Captain and Chair of the Executive Committee and presented her with a gift of appreciation and a Past Captain's badge.

8. To Elect the County Secretary, Denise Whiting (Thetford). Proposed by the Executive Committee and seconded by Margo Horsburgh

Margo paid tribute to Denise and recommended her appointment unreservedly as Ladies' County Secretary. The members gave unanimous approval for Denise's appointment and Margo presented Denise with her badge of office. Denise acknowledged Margo's service to the County and presented her with a gift of appreciation and a Past Secretary's badge.

9. To Confirm the Executive Committee Members

The Executive Committee Members of County Treasurer Helen Ayres, Immediate Past Captain Sue Heeles, County Junior Organiser Sherrell Chuter, County 2nd Team Captain Clare Anderson, England Golf Voting Member and East Region Representative Alex Mournian, Committee Member Chrissie Owens.

The members gave unanimous agreement to these appointments by a show of hands.

10. To Confirm the Handicap Adviser, Scratch Score Assessor and Senior Team Organiser

The Handicap Adviser Sue Allen, Scratch Score Assessor Julie Carpenter and Senior Team Organiser Nicky Wylie were re-elected and confirmed by a unanimous show of hands.

11. Chairman of Competitions' Report and Presentation of Trophies – Margo Horsburgh

President Carol, County Captain Sharon, Ladies of the Executive Committee and fellow members of the Association....

There has been a lot to contend with over the last two years as in 2020 a decision was made by the Executive that no competitions would be held. The introduction of the WHS has not been without its problems and it has been a steep learning curve for us all but I am hopeful that it will settle down as it is still in its infancy. It was a huge undertaking for England Golf and there were a few teething problems, however, with extra staff and a lot of hard work Gemma Hunter and her team are to be congratulated for the amount of effort they put in to make it a success.

After a year when no competitions were played it seemed strange to be holding our first event since 2019 in the County Championship at Royal Norwich Golf Club.

Thanks must go to all our Organisers as, without their careful preparation, no competition would run. Thanks also to all the hosting clubs, their members who help run our competitions, the referees, supporters and family members.

The Winter League did not take place in 2020/2021 but I am happy to say that it will be played in 2021/2022. Still in its infancy there are 11 clubs taking part and the final will be held in March 2022.

I'm afraid I cannot give you statistics for the Inter-club Handicap League as Sue did in previous years as I am not privy to the information. She has told me, however, that 424 women played in the leagues in 2021 with the largest squad being 19 and the smallest nine. Suffice to say that it has been a challenging year for clubs having to fit their matches into a very congested fixture list as golf did not recommence until March 2021. The Association did, however, extend the closing date for both the Handicap League and the Scratch League to October 2021 and I hope this was helpful.

My thanks to the many who have helped to make this year a success and perhaps we can show our appreciation of all those thanked here by a round of applause.

Winners 2021

Before we begin a reminder to all trophy winners to stay at the end for photographs.

Inter Club League Winners

Division 1 – Bawburgh 1
Division 2 – Dunston Hall 1
Division 3 – Sheringham 2
Division 4 – Hunstanton 2
Division 5 – Caldecott Hall
Division 6 – Mundesley
Division 7 – Bawburgh 2

Scratch League Winners

Division 1 – Eaton 1
Division 2 – Dunston Hall
Division 3 – Sheringham
Division 4 – Eaton 2

Congratulations to all the teams for their efforts this year.

Marion Scott Salver

Presented to the winner of the Division 3 or Division 4 Handicap Championship with the highest number of Stableford points. This year presented to Susan Tuck of Links Country Park with an amazing score of 46 points. Congratulations to Susan.

Seniors' Championship

Held at Eaton with Karen Young winning on her home course.
In her absence would like to give her our congratulations.

Carrick Cup

This year contested by Dunston Hall and Eaton at Royal West Norfolk with victory going to Dunston Hall 3 & 1 with the match played in the true spirit of the game on one of the most prestigious courses in Norfolk.

Congratulations to Sue Henderson and Sharon Black

Diamond Knockout

Another great year for this popular competition. The final between Bawburgh and Hunstanton played at Swaffham

Congratulations to Hunstanton winning by nine holes.

Gillieson

This year contested by Ryston Park and Thetford at Eaton with Ryston Park winning 2/1. A closely contested final with the deciding match going to the 18th hole and once again played in the true spirit of the game.

Congratulations to Ryston Park Golf Club.

The Sumpter Cup – Ladies' County Champion

The Sumpter Cup is presented to the Ladies' County Champion on the final day of competition and it is appropriate to make this the final presentation today. Winning the Sumpter Cup for the ninth time Tracey Williamson with the final going to the second extra hole.

Congratulations to Tracey Williamson.

This concludes the presentations to the winners for 2021 and it just remains for me to say thank you for all your help and support over the past year which has, at times, proved challenging.

Chrissie will take a photograph of all the winners.

Heather then undertook the Presentation of Gifts of Appreciation to the following.

Today, one Member of the Executive finishes her term of Office and one of our Competition Organisers retires.

Liz Dann. - Liz was seconded to the Executive in 2017 and elected in 2018. Heather thanked her for her contribution to the County and also for undertaking the role of organising, so successfully, the Diamond Knock-out. Please accept this gift in appreciation of everything you have contributed.

Annie Langstaff. Heather thanked Annie for undertaking the role of Seniors' Championship Organiser since 2014 and contributing to its success. Please accept this gift in appreciation of everything you have contributed.

Barbara Stevenson - Barbara was our Division 3 Organiser, we thank her for successfully organising this competition, well done. Belatedly, (due to Covid 19), please accept this gift in appreciation of everything you have contributed.

12. Any Other Business

There was nothing to discuss under Any Other Business.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 28th November 2022 at Wensum Valley Golf Club at 10.30 am.

The Ladies' President Heather Keeble closed the meeting at 11.40 am and thanked the members for attending.