

# BEDFORDSHIRE LADIES COUNTY GOLF ASSOCIATION

## JUNIORS COMMITTEE

[www.blcga.co.uk](http://www.blcga.co.uk)

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct 2010

### **Those Present**

Maureen Dawson, Sharon Allen, Victoria Walley, Mike Birdsey, Steve Hillier, Gill Westgate and Gill Ladd. Dave Sweetnam attended as a guest.

### **1 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Heather Nolan and Kathy Harris.

### **2 Matters Arising: From minutes of 01/07/10**

Update on item 4. SH suggested that an error in scoring was probable, however, measures are now in place to prevent this happening again.

### **3 Finance**

Sharon circulated the current balance sheet. £1000 had been received from EWGA as final payment of Birdies. This was expected and was accrued for in the accounts. Heather had prepared a statement of monies received from donations from clubs. Total £619.50 with some to come from Beadlow. Costs for trophies given to clubs were £52.75. The balance is to be used for training. Latest donation was from Aspley Guise from fundraising done by Victoria Walley and Julia Wilkie. Thanks were expressed to Victoria and a thank you letter will be sent to Aspley Guise as well as a thank you to clubs in the Juniors report at the AGM.

#### **ACTION MD**

The committee were in favour of asking clubs to do this every year.

### **4 Correspondence**

None

### **5 Competitions**

Sue Paterson Trophy competition was very successful. Thanks were expressed to Gill Ladd for organising this event. GL has provisionally booked the event to be held at Leighton Buzzard in 2011, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 11.30-12.45. As this is beginning of half term, it may be worth looking at a possible alternative date. 2011 Schools Championships was run early and was won by Sophie Hillier with Kirsty Kennedy second. Louise Eddy was overall Nett champion. There was good local news coverage and details are all on the BLCGA website. The committee were delighted with the achievements of the girls. Sophie was 7<sup>th</sup> overall in Champion of Champions competition.

The seasonal final match results showed Essex as overall winner. We believe we have a very promising team for the 2011 season with all girls having improved over 2010.

## **6 Training**

GW gave a summary of the County Academy Programme. It is open to all junior golfers age 9-15 and they do not need to be a member of a club. 3 pairs of coaches now appointed to 3 venues for training (BGC (Geraint Dixon and Richard Banks), Biggleswade (Rob Cheney and Steve Vinicombe) and Stockwood Park (Maurice Campbell and Alex White). Assistant and volunteer coaches are also being recruited.

Talent Assessment days now fixed for 28<sup>th</sup> Oct and 7<sup>th</sup> November at both Bedfordshire GC and Stockwood Park GC. All clubs and schools have been sent application forms and we have sent details to girls involved in coaching programmes in 2010. Details are also available on the partnership website. 100 places are available, 22 places for girls.

A discussion about girls who do not qualify for CAP led to suggestions of

1. Continued passport for younger girls, run at BGC.
2. Girls who have lower handicaps/2010 birdies who are too old for CAP have been promoted to County Captain, Elaine Bruce for inclusion on squad coaching. Maureen will confirm who has been included.

**ACTION MD**

3. Girls who have played in teams but are not in CAP or 1) above will be asked to take part in junior squad training matches early in the 2011 season and we will ask Paul Simpson to help prepare the squad for match play and provide some coaching on the course. GW will discuss with Paul.

**ACTION GW**

Once we see who is in CAP we can see if any further provision for girls is needed.

[NB Fiona Brown has indicated via CAP committee that Regional Birdies may still continue run by EWGA. Details to come].

## **7 Grants**

Steven Peet has confirmed that the BCGP Grant has been awarded for girls and women. Mike will chase Pippa to ensure the money due to girls comes into our account.

**ACTION MB**

Next year it was considered that the BCGP should administer this grant in consultation with our committee.

There was some question as to whether the group coaching grant will continue. Maureen will advise if she hears anything.

## **8 Any other Business**

Dave Sweetnam attended the meeting as a guest and to give us an update on activities towards attracting children into golf through his taking an active role in Beds Schools Golf. Promotion of this 'task force' in schools was needed to ensure enlightenment and engagement of teaching staff and where this was present, great success had been achieved. The hope is that the Schools partnership development manager, competition manager and schools sports coordinators will help facilitate an increase in participation in golf and the events run by Beds Schools Golf.

Dave provided a summary of the schools activities for the 2010 year. Events had been run in the South of the county. In 2011 the events will be run in the North of the county and local Pro's (and the CAP coaches?) will be involved. We agreed to send Dave the Fun day Poster for circulation to schools too.

**ACTION VW**

GW mentioned a grant 'semi-sporty' that had included golf a couple of years ago in North Beds schools and will provide information to Dave.

**ACTION GW**

A clear need is to build a link between the Beds Schools Golf activities and Clubs. Dave mentioned Tilsworth's experiment of twilight golf which had brought children to Tilsworth with their parents and the 'deal' had included some golf for both children and parents. This has seemed very successful with conversion to club membership.

Schools Championships need some funding support. Dave has asked the BGU for support and we agreed that the BLCGA Juniors would also provide some financial support, maybe in the form of entry fees/travel etc.

Schools completion calendar dates have changed and will be included in the yellow booklet.

**ACTION HN**

Maureen thanked Dave on behalf of the committee for giving us an update and the opportunity to coordinate all activities between schools and County.

Sharon advised she is attending PGA Level 1 training at the Belfry in November.

Maureen also expressed our grateful thanks to Mike Birdsey for his commitment to junior girls golf this being his last meeting.

## **9 Date, Time and Place of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2010 at Bedfordshire Golf Club starting at 7.00pm. Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

### Dates for 2011 Events

The following arrangements have been agreed for 2011

Match against Hertfordshire 17<sup>th</sup> April at Dunstable Downs

Past Captains 8<sup>th</sup> May at John O'Gaunt

Schools Championships 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011, Suffolk

Fun Competition Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup> at Bedfordshire GC

Junior Championship 10 July at Beadlow Manor

Sue Paterson Salver 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2011, Leighton Buzzard

Junior Girls Championship, 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011, East Herts GC