

SOCIETY OF LADY CAPTAINS OF KENT GOLF CLUBS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

The 56th Annual General Meeting was held at the Weald of Kent Golf Club, Headcorn on Monday
6th March 2017

The President, Mrs. Mary Robinson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Ms Joan Harris, Honorary Secretary, read the notice convening the meeting.

PRESENT: President Mrs. Mary Robinson, Lady Captain Mrs Pat Whitty, Lady Vice Captain Mrs Ann Idle,
Past Lady Captain, Mrs Valerie Harrison Hon. Secretary Ms Joan Harris, Hon. Treasurer Mrs Susan Jones,
Committee Members: Mrs Kathie Maberley, Mrs Linda Barnett, Mrs Joan Hopley, Mrs Valerie Makin, Mrs
Ros Whalley, Mrs Betty Fish. Kent County Captain, Mrs Anne Billings and 125 members.

APOLOGIES: A list of apologies was held by the Hon: Secretary. There were 63

Mrs Pat Whitty read out the names of three past Society members who had passed away and asked for a minute's silence. Ms Emily Bennett from Shooters Hill, Mrs Margaret Gilham from Cranbrook and Mrs Audrey Didsbury from Ashford.

1. MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON MONDAY 7th MARCH 2016
These were agreed.

Proposed:	Mrs Christine Armitage	Chislehurst
Seconded:	Mrs Jean Pickin	Redlibbets

2. MATTERS ARISING
There were no matters arising

3. TREASURER'S REPORT - Mrs Susan Jones

This is my first year as Treasurer so my first report. The Society's funds continue to be in a healthy position.

The Society continues to attract new members, at the same time members choose to leave for various reasons. So our year membership remains healthy.

We have **387** Members which includes **34** New Members for this year
66 Life Members including 6 Honorary Life Members

We also have **28** members who I am waiting to hear from for this year.

Postage and Printing costs were still high for last year due to AGM papers being printed and posted. Next year you will see this decrease.

Society clothes sales continue to be good at £766, total stock holding stands at £2822

I would like to extend a big thank you to Colin Reid from Burgess Hodgson in Canterbury for all his help with auditing the societies report. The Society is making a small donation to his company's charity.

If anyone has any questions I will do my very best to answer them. No questions were raised from the floor.

Sue advised that one question was raised before the meeting by Diane Fotheringham of Tenterden Golf Club “Why is it necessary to have a large sum of money in the funds and what is it for”?

Answer:

The committee have continued to discuss our funds and how best for the members to benefit. One is we have a speaker at the AGM this year, also the society matches will now be subsidised to keep the price down for everyone. The society also has purchased a camera to be able to keep the website updated. If there is any Lady member who has any suggestions on how members can benefit can they please contact the Captain via email.

ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS

Proposer:	Mrs Jean Walker	Chislehurst
Secunder:	Mrs Sylvia Warboys	Chestfield

4. CAPTAIN’S REPORT - Mrs Pat Whitty

It’s wonderful to see so many lady members here today and confirms that our Society is well supported, welcome to you all. Welcome also to Anne Billings KCLGA Lady Captain and Graham Dear MBE, Queens Yeomans of the Guards our Speaker for today.

Being captain of the Society is a wonderful honour, and once you have all your matches and meetings organised for your year, you would think well now its’ plane sailing from here, but no not in my year. We played 5 matches and the results were, 1 abandoned due to heavy rain, 1 Draw, 1 Loss and 2 Wins. Details are on the website. All matches are played in a friendly but competitive manor.

One match I wanted to mention was against Essex, to be played at Chelsfield Lakes. I was unable to attend as I was away, and therefore my Vice Captain Annie Idle was Captaining the day. Our team arrived, for a 9.30am meet and a 10am tee off.

Well they waited and waited, where were the Essex players? Annie had text me which I didn’t pick up until the afternoon. Had I got the date wrong!!! By 11am Annie had re-organised the club for our ladies to play, and just at that time some Essex ladies turned up. They were told by their Captain it was an 11.30am meet for 12 o’clock tee off. Fortunately the club were kind enough to re-organise tee times and the meal, and the match was played in good spirit. So no matter how many emails confirming dates and times, things can go wrong.

The main meetings I feel were all a success with excellent support from lady members.

The Spring Meeting was held at Chestfield GC, and was one for the second year running by Christine Farley and Helen Johnson from Sidcup GC with 42 points. Can they make it 3 in a row!

The Cobnuts Meeting was held at Cobtree Manor GC, and the winners were Pippa Lusby and Val Collett from Royal Blackheath with 38 points.

The Autumn Meeting was held at Hever Castle GC, and the winners were Ingrid Long and Elaine Lopategui with 44 points.

My thanks go to all the ladies from the Committee who organised these days, your commitment is much appreciated.

We also played our annual match with mens’ Kent Captains and this was won by the men. A huge thanks goes to Ian Dunlop for him organising the day, which is always great fun.

The match against the Juniors did not take place this year as we could not arrive at a mutually convenient date.

I wanted to mention Data Protection, as you are aware we hold details of members addresses, email, phone numbers, and I want to confirm to all members that we abide by the Act and follow the principles on personal data use. If any lady member does not want their information given to another member of the Society please let any committee member know. We will be posting the data protection policy on our website.

I would like to give special thanks to Gill Poulter. Gill has decided to step down from running the incoming Captains meetings for the past 8 years, which are held at Redlibbets and represents the West of the County. You have run these meetings with great efficiency.

And now the time is here for me to step down. I have really enjoyed my year and cannot thank you all enough for supporting me, I never had any difficulty in ladies volunteering for the matches and meetings, and do hope you give the same support to Annie.

Thanks to all the committee and I wish Valerie Harrison, Kathie Maberley and Joan Hopley a happy retirement, and give grateful thanks for all their help and advice.

As you are aware Mary Robinson our Lady President is now retiring after her 3 years in office. Mary was Captain of the Society in 2002, Mary has been my rock and fountain of knowledge. I personally have enjoyed working with Mary immensely and she will be missed on the committee. I know Mary will be there for the committee's future reference, and I wish you well Mary.

Now to my Vice Captain Annie Idle and committee. You have been amazing support to me and refreshing with your ideas. I wish you every success for your coming year.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President:	Mrs Pat Noble (The Ridge)	Proposed by Mrs Mary Robinson Seconded by Mrs Sally Cornelius
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Mrs Mary Robinson presented Mrs Pat Noble with the badge of office and wished her luck for her forthcoming three years term. She also thanked Bernard Connellan for setting up the Society website and Amanda Rose for taking over and keeping it up to date.

Captain:	Mrs Ann Idle (Redlibbets)	Proposed by Mrs Pat Whitty Seconded by Ms Joan Harris
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Mrs Whitty presented Mrs Idle with the badge of office. Mrs Idle thanked Mrs Whitty for her hard work during the year.

Vice Captain:	Mrs Judie Smith (Wilderness)	Proposed by Mrs Jean Sterling Seconded by Mrs Pat Whitty
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Committee Members:

With the retirement of Mrs K Maberley and Mrs J Hopley there were two vacancies for the committee. One nomination had been received prior to the AGM.

Mrs Christine Farley (Birchwood Park)	Proposed by Mrs Helen Johnson Seconded by Mrs Ann Idle
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Vacant position	Mrs Whitty asked for volunteers from the floor, however none were forthcoming.
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Hon. Treasurer: Mrs Susan Jones and **Hon. Secretary:** Ms Joan Harris were prepared to stand again.

All in favour from the floor: All agreed.

6. INCOMING CAPTAINS REPORT - Mrs Ann Idle

Good Morning Madam President and Ladies.

One lunchtime, in October 2015, whilst in France enjoying a glass of Rose and about to conquer level 350 of Candy Crush Saga, which, I had been trying to do for the previous 2 weeks, my mobile rang.

I was in a poor reception area. I was torn, answer the mobile or conquer level 350. I took the call. I was surprised to hear Valerie Harrison who asked if I would like to be Vice Captain of the Society.

Then the line went dead! The reception was better in the vineyard opposite so with Rose and mobile in hand I made my way there to return her call. The rest is history as is Candy Crush Saga.

In truth, I am amazed that our Presidents and Past Captains thought I had the qualities for this position and am truly honored to accept.

I started my golf career with group lessons at Birchwood Park GC. Then in 1997 became a founder member of Redlibbets GC which was almost up and running and I became their Millenium Captain. I eventually joined this Society and after a couple of years became a Committee member organising a Cobnuts and Spring Meeting. However, my first match as a Society member was a disaster. I was partnered with Pat here, we played a course in Essex and I played like a drain. I was very embarrassed but Pat was patient and helpful, full of encouragement. From there we have become good friends and played together many times outside of the Society. She has taught me so much and I wish her and Bob all the very best as they venture on a new chapter in their lives in Spain. I will also miss Mary. Such a fountain of knowledge. Thank you Mary for your help and advice this past year. Also to Jo, Sue and Committee for their help.

Already mistakes have been made. Don't let them deter you from entering our fixtures. Things can only get better! Apologies to Pat Noble, Captain of The Ridge and not Bearsted. Chris Farley, Birchwood Park Captain and not Sidcup. To Wildernesse, an e has been left off. One shot will be deducted for anyone playing in a meeting at their home Club. Not full handicap as advertised. On a positive note, all Matches will be subsidized over £30.00 apart from the match against Kent Men and we have just purchased a camera so we can make a record all our events, subsequently putting them on the website.

I won't go through the list of fixtures for this year as you already have them but we have some great venues. I do hope you will join me and encourage other Past Captains that may not have joined yet to join and enter. Its a fantastic Society but we are only as good as our members.

The only problem I have with all this golf is that my husband and I have had to visit a marriage guidance councillor. My husband spent 10 minutes telling her of our problems when suddenly, she got up and kissed him passionately. She then turned to me and said' " he should be kissed like that 3 times each week". To which I replied, ' I can bring him here Mondays and Fridays but I play golf on a Wednesday".

Seriously, I am honored to be representing you if not a little humbled and I look forward to this year immensely and wish you all great golf.

Lastly, I would like to thank Pat Whitty for her year as Captain, and now present her with her Past Captains badge.

7. COUNTY CAPTAIN'S REPORT - Mrs Anne Billings, Kent County Captain 2017

Madam President, Vice Presidents, Ladies.

Thank you for inviting me here today, I would like to give you a brief account of the counties activities over the past year and our plans and aspirations for the coming year.

Last year and this year we started the year with a squad training day at Pedham golf centre. inviting our elite players from all our various squads. The day was run under the guidance of CTO Sandy Catford, we laid out our plans and fixtures for the coming year and answered any questions they may have. It was very well received by both players and parents. Sandy has developed a training plan for all our squads, which will run

at various venues throughout the coming year and will cater for all our players and their different needs. This year Nicole Stewart of Charthills was announced as Junior Captain.

In 2016 The first major event was our County Championship which was held at my home club, The Wildernesse. The event ran very smoothly. The competition was as fiercely contended as usual, with some great golf played over the 3 days. On the 3rd day, 17 year old. Nicole Stewart from Charthills became our County Champion. The County team was announced at the prize giving of the championship.

County Week was held at Walton Heath in June, we took a very young team but all were in high spirits and with a good team atmosphere. We had managed to get the team together on various occasions prior to county week which meant they all knew each other well. 8 out of 9 players were under 23 years of age, so some valuable experience was gained. This squad has huge talent and we hope for great success at Littlestone this year in June, when we are hosting the event.

At Walton Heath, we gained a very good half against Hampshire on the first day and had a good win against Middlesex, but losses against Sussex and Surrey, placed us in fourth place. Surrey went on to represent our region at the national finals in Hampshire in September. Our **2nd team** – Playing again for the Stovold Trophy, under Ingrid's guidance, they put on a very good fight. Our **Juniors** had a wonderful year under the guidance of Amanda, Sandy and Marilyn.

Last year we have managed to run a Junior training programme throughout the year at Pedham and Etchinghill. The junior championship was held at Redlibbets in June and Nicole Stewart was again the successful winner. A great achievement, winning both the ladies and junior championship in the same year.

The Juniors have had some notable individual successes, Sharna Dutrieux from Wrotham Heath gained international honours playing for England under 18's in the European Team Championships in Norway and also representing England in u18's home international at Conway in Wales. Chloe Frankish from Charthills won the English girls U18 championship and Chloe has now turned professional.

The junior team of Sharna Dutrieux and Nicola Smith won the South East region team event at The Army GC in August. with Sharna recording a ladies course record over both 18 and 36 holes.

This year, Nicole Amos (Charthills) and Megan Simmons (West Kent) have been chosen for England U16's regional squad. We also have some girls currently studying in America on golf scholarships. Nicola Smith from Sittingbourne, last year's junior captain, is about to join them on a golf scholarship this coming August.

Last August, Junior County week was held at Sundridge Park. We hosted the event, organized with great efficiency by Amanda Spooner and Ingrid Long. The event ran very smoothly, the sun shone and the course was in great condition. Our young team, ably captained by Nicola Smith, did us all proud by becoming county champions. It was a wonderful team effort with great team spirit. Every girl played so well, fighting to the end, giving them memories they will treasure for a long time.

In September Marilyn Brown and I took a junior team of six players, captained by Nicola Smith to Alresford in Hampshire, to compete in the Alresford Trophy against six other junior county teams. We were successful beating Wiltshire by one point to take the Trophy for the second year running. Once again the **Seniors** were not to be outdone. Our Senior team won the Ten Counties Senior Championship title at Royal Mid Surrey in September.

Sadly, as you may all know, Audrey Disbury (Dis, to her friends) passed away last summer, a past captain, vice president, recent president and great supporter of Kent county golf especially Senior golf and a member of your society. She is and will be sorely missed but she will have been very proud of all the county teams last year.

Clubs around the county had a busy year, with all the Kent Club competitions being fiercely contested. Congratulations must go to all the winners. Broke Hill won the Kent Pearson Trophy at Bearsted this year they went on to represent Kent in five counties final at Leatherhead Golf Club in Surrey.

Our Kent competitions were all well supported again last year and hopefully will continue to be this year. We have various fun team events again this year, all details are on our website, so please have a look and come along. As I mentioned before we are hosting county week at Littlestone this year in June so we are holding our County Championship at Littlestone in April, giving every player a chance to demonstrate their skills for links golf, so allowing us to pick hopefully, a strong county team this year..

Cheryl Power from Langley Park is my new Vice Captain and I am looking forward to working with her over the coming two years. Our AGM has now moved from November to March due to the change in our financial year end, so our delegates meeting will now be held this coming November.

This spring we are launching Kent Girls Rocks programme, this is part of an England golf and Golf foundation incentive. Five professionals around the county will be holding coaching for girl beginners, contacting schools, brownie groups etc. We, the county has got involved with some of our junior county squad players volunteering to be ambassadors for the scheme. They will be helping at these sessions, to encourage girls to get into golf. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Society and all its members for their kind donation to our junior girls, this is very much appreciated and we thank you for your continued support. The Kent committee are hoping to arrange a match against the society later this year.

Thank you for listening and I look forward to seeing you at county events during the coming year.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12:16 p.m.

After the meeting had officially finished, a Society member approached Joan Harris and advised that after the Treasurer's Report, it was not requested to ask the members if all were in Favour. The Captain advised of this to the members who had stayed for the meal. This was agreed in favour.