

# YORKSHIRE VETERAN LADIES' GOLF ASSOCIATION

## 90<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE YORKSHIRE VETERAN LADIES' GOLF ASSOCIATION HELD AT SAND MOOR GC ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022

The President, Gill Travis, was in the Chair & welcomed 66 members representing 35 clubs to Sand Moor GC for the 90<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Association. She was delighted to see everybody.

Before the meeting commenced, she asked members to stand for a minutes silence for those members who had passed away this year including 4 Past Captains - Eileen Tuer, Chris Withers, Sheila Hyde, Chris Bullock – and for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

As in past years and before the meeting started, she asked the Competition Secretary to read out the winners of our competitions and asked Lady Captain, Penny Holroyd, to present the trophies.

The Hon. Secretary read out the notice convening the meeting.

**APOLOGIES:** Elaine Pearson (Keighley), Diane Appleyard (Keighley), Alison Hughes (Fulford), Christine Thomas (Woolley Park), Vanessa Thomas (Richmond), Margaret Blakeley (Woodsome Hall), Veronica Waters (York), Sally Cottle (Rawdon), Julia Baker (Masham), Isobel Wright (Pike Hills), Maryla Gledhill (Scarcroft), Jane Wood (Waterton Park), Sue Verity (Lightcliffe), Linda Smith (Baildon), Jean Cawkwell (Queensbury), Christine Moseley (Forest Park), Sandra Daniels (Darrington), Sue Matthews (Woodhall Hills), Jules Wortley-Froggatt (Garforth), Angela Iversen (Cave Castle), Elizabeth Knox (Hallamshire), Karen Mitchell (Lees Hall), Sue Littlewood (Outlane), Sue Hickman (Rotherham), Julie Walker (Romanby), Vicky Tomlinson (Kirkbymoorside), Carole Cox (Bracken Ghyll), Chantelle Shaw (Pontefract), Ros Lumb (Meltham), Carol Walker (Meltham), Carole Fisher (Halifax Bradley Hall), Hilary Taylor (Crosland Heath), Jan Speight (Crosland Heath), Alison Kelly (Cleckheaton), Wendy Buckley (Cleckheaton), Jo Webb (Otley), Melanie Southwell (Easingwold), Nancy Lightowlers (Crosland Heath), Val Goggs (Crosland Heath), Ginette Evans (Hornsea), Pauline Kelly (Easingwold), Jan Metcalfe (Hunley Hall), Debbie Brown (Sand Moor), Jen Cusack (Sand Moor), Christine Hinchcliffe (Sand Moor), Anne-Marie Martin (Sand Moor), Jean Hall (Sand Moor), Ali Mowat (Howley Hall), Susan Michael (Dewsbury) Patsy Mannion (Moortown), Susan Mannion (Moortown), Christine Mannion (Moortown), Helen Pears (Calverley), Jan Barber (The Manor), Jackie Starkie (Keighley), Ruth Horsfall (Huddersfield), Dorothy Glass (Alwoodley), Karen Hogarth (Alwoodley), Jane Wainman (Alwoodley), Glad Cook (Alwoodley), Annabel Franklin (Alwoodley), Hilary Sewell (Alwoodley), Sally Johnson (Alwoodley), Sally Kinsey (Alwoodley), Vicky Downs (Ilkley), Vicky Matthers (Richmond), Rosie Cleave (Woodsome Hall), Mary Gomersall (Cleckheaton), Carole Taylor (Moorallerton), Kath Chivers (Ilkley), Melody Svenson (Ilkley), Joan Marchbank (Bradford), Barbara Judson (Bradford), Alison Clark (Hull), Joyce Slater (Oakdale), Margaret Liddle (Oakdale), Belinda Tempest (Northcliffe)

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** The minutes of the 89<sup>th</sup> meeting had been circulated with the agenda and were agreed unanimously and signed by the President, subject to changing the date of the 90<sup>th</sup> meeting to Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

**MATTERS ARISING:** there were no matters arising.

**HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT:** As there were no nominations for Hon Secretary last year, Karen Leake agreed to step in for her last year on Committee but this does mean that, once again, we are looking for a volunteer. She reported that membership stands at 1218 Annual Members (190 down on 2021) and 353 Life Members

(8 down on 2021). While this is a reduction, we still have a very healthy membership resulting in oversubscription for most of our competitions.

The 2024 competition venues are almost all finalised and I am pleased to report that most clubs are still very welcoming to the YVLGA. We will be continuing to use Club V1 as our competition software and will have to apply for Tournament Status again in 2023 which allows us to run qualifying competitions. Since we agreed a one-off price when we started using the software, this has proved a cost-effective method of safely maintaining our database as well as running our competitions.

**HON. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Due to the change of date of the AGM, our Treasurer Elaine Pearson was unfortunately not able to be here due to an existing commitment. In her absence, the President read the Treasurer's Report on her behalf.

Copies of the YVLGA Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 have been circulated and are filed with these minutes. 'You may recall from my report last year that I envisaged a £4,200 deficit this year due to rising accommodation costs for the Richardson Trophy matches (the Association had three away matches this year as compared to the two away matches last year), the necessity to replace the Association's failing laptop and the need to replenish our stock of brooches for Past Captains and Players.

Thankfully the envisaged deficit didn't materialise, largely due to players and officials keeping a tight rein on expenses at the Richardson Trophy matches and at the Jamboree. I would hasten to add, so that members are aware, that all players and officials make a £40 contribution towards overnight accommodation for Richardson Trophy away matches. As regards the brooches, the purchase of 'like for like' brooches did not go ahead as the quote was exorbitant and so it was decided to investigate an alternative design. As this took time, the brooches were not purchased in this financial year.

Looking at the income firstly, the Association generated £6,135 in members' subscriptions and donations, £20,740 in competition entry fees and £1,320 in players/officials contributions. These collectively were the Association's main sources of income (*1 on Income & Expenditure Account*). You will note from the accounts that raffle income also features but it does not generate a great income for the Association (this year £141) as whatever surplus we make on the raffles at competitions is donated to various charities. Specifically, at each competition, £50 is donated to the host club Lady Captain's chosen charity and up to £750 annually to the Alison Nicholas Fund.

As I have already alluded to, the Association's expenses (*2 on Income & Expenditure Account*) this year were increased mainly due to having one extra Richardson Trophy away match, the purchase of a new laptop and competition entry fee refunds due to two competitions being postponed. The first competition postponed was due to extreme heat and as the rearranged date could not accommodate the same number of tee times due to less daylight, this necessitated the Association refunding £915 of competition entry fees. As the date of the Waterton Park competition clashed with the date of the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II, it was deemed appropriate to postpone this competition. Regrettably, this also necessitated the refund of £780 of competition entry fees as 13 teams were not available to play on the re-arranged date. All remaining expenditure was in line with the Association's guidance notes for expenses for officials and players together with budgeted expenditure agreed last November.

The net result has been a £2669 deficit (*3 on Income & Expenditure Account*), but thankfully the Association has adequate reserves to cover this year's deficit. However, ever-increasing fixed costs of the Association do not make these budgeted annual deficits sustainable and therefore it has been decided to increase members' annual subscription. This has been at £5 for many years & it will go up to £8 next year. As this increase is just the price of a Costa coffee, I hope members will embrace this decision and continue to enjoy the many benefits of membership i.e. cheaper competition entry fees than at many Ladies Open Days and a generous prize fund at each competition. In addition, rather than having an individual competition at our Spring Meeting, we have decided to hold an extra Am-Am competition as these are always popular and should generate additional income.

I have tried not to go over the top with a too in-depth detailed analysis of the Association's financial status as I know most ladies do not get as excited about numbers as I do but please do ask if there is anything not quite as clear as it should be. If Gill is unable to answer your query, then your query will be sent to me and I'll happily give you a full written explanation.'

There were no questions.

President requested approval for this report. **Proposed** – Brenda Parker (Huddersfield). **Seconded** – Fiona Wood (Ilkley)

**HON. COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Patsy Rochester gave an overview of the entry process, competitions and changes during 2022 and plans for 2023. A big thank you to the club representatives, the YVLGA committee and the patience of all the members for enabling all the competitions to run smoothly albeit with a few hiccups along the way. The Association ran eleven competitions this year which included an additional President's Trophy event which is usually held every two years.

**Initial entries:** The majority of entries were submitted via email using the proforma Word document which made the process of undertaking draws and ballots for places much easier. All entries were received by the 1<sup>st</sup> March and draws were completed during the first two weeks of March and sent to club representatives and published on the YVLGA website. A total of 1425 entries were received from 752 ladies representing some 84/113 clubs. This compares to around 1900 entries in 2021. There may have been a couple of reasons for the reduced entry – The Spring Meeting was held on Easter Monday and some events clashed with YLCGA or District events. As usual, the AMAM's 4BBB & Foursomes competitions were oversubscribed. A small number of ladies (33 Ladies from 17 clubs) were unsuccessful in gaining entry to any competition as they had only entered one of the oversubscribed events and were not prioritized as the first entry from their clubs.

**Draws and tee sheets:** Draws were undertaken for the oversubscribed events based on the priority list from individual clubs. Apart from the Championships all tee times were allocated with reference to travel times to each venue. For the Championship the draw was made in handicap order. All the tee sheets were emailed to the club representatives and updated on the website. There have been many changes to the tee sheets this year and we have attempted to keep everyone informed of changes via email. Covid and other illness have also played a part this year! As the Spring meeting was undersubscribed it was opened up to lower handicaps - this generated an additional 10 competitors.

**Re-arranged events:** Two events were re-arranged at short notice. The 4BBB at Keighley was due to be held in July during the period of excessively high temperatures and this was moved to September. The original date for the AMAM at Waterton Park was the same day as the Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II, so was also moved to later in September. Given the exceptional circumstances refunds were offered to those who could not make the re-arranged dates.

All competitions have run smoothly and we have continued to include a two's club within the entry fee. We have added gross prizes for individual competitions. We continue to wait for a 'Hole in One' for a special prize – perhaps in 2023!

**Updated Transportation Policy:** The YVLGA Transportation policy has been updated in line with recommendations by England Golf. Full details will be updated on the YVLGA website. Members will be required to confirm annually that a buggy is still required and we will record this in their membership record.

#### **Planning for 2023:**

- As noted by the treasurer we will be holding an AMAM in place of the Spring meeting. This will be open to players of all handicaps. This will give three AMAM's which are very popular with members.
- We noted that in the Autumn meeting there was an uneven distribution for the two Divisions, so the exact number for each Division will be decided on entry.

- It would be helpful to ensure that the YVLGA has email contacts for all members in case we need to cancel or make last minute changes to the tee sheet.
- Posters and entry forms for 2023 events will be available by the beginning of November. The dates for all competitions are available – so please start to reserve the dates. Please submit using the summary form giving full name and HI
- A further plea to Club representatives to ensure that entries are submitted in priority order to try and ensure that all members have a chance of a place in at least one competition.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my four years as YVLGA competition Secretary and have enjoyed meeting members at the various events and have some representatives on speed dial for ease of access! It has been a very interesting time with Covid cancelling 2020, then the re-arranged comps in 2022. Thank you to everyone who has helped on the registration desk during the year.

**LADY CAPTAIN'S REPORT:** You have already listened to the reports of those who really do the hard work for the Association and I don't intend to go through what they have said again. There are a few points I do want to re-iterate though:

- Our registrar, Pat Sumner, collected the details of our 1218 annual members, additional to our life members, and along with our Treasurer, Elaine Pearson, balanced the books to ensure all had paid their dues and were eligible to play.
- On closing date, March 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, Patsy Rochester had received 1217 entries from 753 members for our 10 events. This was on day 1 - imagine the amount of work that goes in to sorting all these and then making the draw for the over-subscribed events, some 250% over-subscribed! - and trying to ensure as many members as possible get to play in at least 1 event during the year – a lot of times without the Club Rep having prioritised entries to ensure an even spread.
- Once this is done invoices have to be sent out to Clubs, and again Patsy Rochester and Elaine Pearson work quietly to make sure the monies all tie up.
- We then added an additional Presidents Trophy event and she received **over 120** entries for this Tri Am. The same process to be gone through again.

The amount of work that goes on behind the scenes for our events is enormous, and not necessarily appreciated by all. Karen Leake, our Past Captain, has not only acted as Hon. Sec. this year but has been invaluable in terms of being on the desk at events and becoming an expert on Club V1 – necessary with some of the issues we have experienced this year. She will be missed on Committee, but I have no doubt she will be seen at various events next year.

I am not going to mention all by name, but I do want to give my heartfelt thanks to the whole Committee, without them and the work they put in behind the scenes, the YVLGA would not exist.

Patsy Rochester has covered our competitions, but I do want to comment on our Championship this year - sadly it resulted in 11 ladies getting Covid following it!! But our **Champion** Emma Brown, also won **Best Gross** in her first Championship. She also became only the second lady to become Vets Champion and County Champion - Ethel Hartley being the other in 1960. **And** the first to become County Seniors Champion as well. Not only that but she then went on to win the English Senior Ladies Champion of Champions beating Sharon Eales of Lancashire into 2<sup>nd</sup> place by 8 shots. Can I just say how pleased I am that Emma has joined our ranks in the YVLGA and wish her continued success.

**OTHER HIGHLIGHTS for Yorkshire Players during the year:**

- **English Seniors, High Post** - Karen Jobling, Betty Sworowski and Sue Dye made it to the knock out stages - very many congratulations.

- **R&A Women's Senior Amateur Championship** - Emma Brown, Karen Jobling and Heather Staniforth went up to Royal Dornoch. Emma finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall and won the first British player Trophy.
- **English Senior Womens Stroke Play, Coventry GC** – 8 entries from Yorkshire. Cathy Riley, Heather Butcher, Heather Staniforth, Judy Butler, Hazel Fisher, Julie Wheeldon, Karen Jobling, and Sam Harben
- **Brenda King Foursomes, The Mere, 24-26 July :**
- Yorkshire did brilliantly. The Gross winners were Karen Jobling (Richmond (Yorks)) and Helen Lowe (Scraptoft) and the Nett winners were Sam Harben and Cathy Riley (both from Hallamshire)
- **Emma chosen to play for England in the Home Internationals.**

Ladies, again, I want to thank our President, Gill Travis, and the rest of the Committee for their tremendous hard work in keeping our Association alive and well. I do hope that you appreciate them as much as I do. However, we have been running without an official Honorary Secretary for a fair few years now and I am not sure why no-one has come forward. Each year we advertise the position and make a plea at the AGM, please ladies let's fill this position. Come and speak to our President, Karen Leake or myself about what it entails, we have all done the job and enjoyed it. Lastly, I want to thank you for allowing me to be your Captain for 2022, I have thoroughly enjoyed the honour and have many happy memories of my year.

**NORTHERN CHAMPIONSHIP:** There was a great turn out from Yorkshire at Penrith in May. Karen Jobling won the best gross and went through to the semi-finals. Also qualifying for the match-play section of the competition were: Julie Wheeldon (Wakefield), Bet Sworowski (Wakefield), Heather Staniforth (Hallamshire), Elaine Pearson (Keighley) and Pat Wrightson (Huddersfield). Qualifying for the second flight of the match-play were Carol Simpson (Malton & Norton), Jackie Starkie (Keighley) and Anne Flintoff (Bingley St Ives). Sadly this year, we did not provide the winner. Yorkshire also enjoyed success in the Tri-Am competition with Jackie Barraclough (Cleckheaton), Helen Duckett (Sand Moor) and Clare MacLeod taking second place behind the winning team of local players.

**JAMBOREE:** Well, the weather was certainly a feature of the Jamboree this year at Moor Park. The course was dry, brown and bounces were unpredictable. The Captain of the North was our own Sandra Paul and the team included 3 of our players (Karen Jobling, Bet Sworowski and Julie Wheeldon) as well as 4 from Cheshire and one from Lancashire.

On the first day The North met The South. The morning 4somes ended with The North being 2:1 down, then in the afternoon the team managed to beat the South 3.5 : 2.5 – so the result was a halved match. On day 2, we met The Midlands - the team to beat it was thought. The morning 4somes were halved, but sadly in the afternoon The Midlands came into their own and won 6:3. On day 3 due to the extreme weather conditions a decision was taken that there would be no foursomes matches and these will be replaced by 8 singles matches. An additional 0.5 would be added to each teams results to make up the required 9 points for the day. The North tee'd off against Scotland at 0730 and the girls played their socks off and won 6.5 – 2.5 in the growing heat of the day. It was hoped that this result would result in us managing to come second when The Midlands beat the South. However, The South team took on the challenge and won 5.5 – 3.5. A great achievement and it meant that they won overall and that sadly The North were moved down the results to 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **RICHARDSON TROPHY 2022:**

**Richardson Trophy match vs Northumberland at Richmond** On a sunny, but very windy morning in Richmond the YVLGA Richardson Trophy Team of the day took on Northumberland in the first match of the 2022 Season. I am pleased to report that we won the match 5.5 - 1.5 and I would like to thank all the players for the quality of the golf considering the very difficult conditions. **Won 5.5 – 1.5**

**Richardson Trophy match vs Cumbria at Furness** On a glorious day our Richardson Trophy Team took to the links of Furness Golf Club. The wind had been blowing strongly during our practice round, but on match

morning it was sunny and calm so a completely different course to that played the previous day. I am pleased to report that again we won. **Won 5.5-1.5**

**Richardson Trophy Match vs Durham at Richmond GC** After overnight rain the day dawned relatively sunny and with little wind - though as the day progressed the wind did begin to gust and the rain started to fall as the last match got to the 18th. All 7 matches were tightly contested and played in a really friendly spirit. I also had the pleasure of presenting Pat Smillie with her team colours having played in her 3rd Team Match. **Won 4.5 – 2.5**

**Richardson Trophy Match vs Lancashire at Hesketh GC** On a sunny, warm morning in Southport the teams started out thinking it was only going to get hotter, luckily it didn't do so. I think being quite near the coast was an advantage. I am pleased to say that Yorkshire won in a series of very closely fought matches, 5 of which went to the 18th green. **Won 5-2**

**Richardson Trophy Match vs Cheshire at Bromborough GC** We went over to Bromborough with a 0.5 point lead, knowing that all the games against Cheshire would be very tough. The weather was very kind for both our practice round and for the matches which kicked off at 0940 on Yorkshire Day. Very sadly, my magnificent players did not get that lucky bounce or putt that would have made all the difference to the result on the day and we ended up second best yet again. In the end we lost 5:2 and ended up 0.5 points adrift.

One of our first team players was missing this year and we hope that Angela Morris will be back to full fitness again for the 2023 season – we send her our very best wishes for her recovery. I cannot thank the players enough for their commitment, a truly magnificent squad totally supportive of each other at all times. I must also thank our President, Gill Travis, my Vice Captain, Pat Wrightson and our Past Captain, Karen Leake for their support and help during the year.

#### **PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

The following amendments to the Constitution were proposed by the Captain, Penny Holroyd, and seconded by the President, Gill Travis, and were agreed unanimously:

- Replace 'Handicap' with 'Handicap Index' in Sections 14a and 14d.
- Add to Section 3 – 'Committee members will be elected for a maximum of 3 years and may stand for a further 3 years following the end of the initial term. Having served 6 years, they will be ineligible for re-election the following year'.
- Amendment to Section 3 – Officials and 'up to 6' Committee members shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Association, Club or Committee.
- Add Section 15 – 'The YVLGA Past Captains' Group is a sub-committee of the YVLGA'.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** The Secretary read out the list of Officials & Committee Members for 2023 as follows; **President** Gill Travis [Crosland Heath], **Captain** Pat Wrightson [Huddersfield], **Vice-Captain** Patsy Rochester [Oakdale], **Past-Captain** Penny Holroyd [Richmond], **Treasurer** Elaine Pearson [Keighley], **Competition Secretary** Gina White [Garforth], proposed by Karen Leake, seconded by Patsy Rochester and elected unopposed. With no nominations for Secretary, Penny Holroyd [Richmond] agreed to be '**Acting**' **Honorary Secretary** for 2023. **Committee Members** Fiona Wood [Ilkley], proposed by Karen Jobling, seconded by Vicky Matthers [both Richmond], Carol Walker [Meltham], Pat Sumner [Scarcroft], Alison Hughes [Fulford], Julie Wheeldon [Wakefield] proposed by Penny Holroyd [Richmond], seconded by Gill Travis [Crosland Heath] and Liz Jones [Rudding Park] proposed by Patsy Rochester [Oakdale], seconded by Tracey Robinson [Rudding Park]. No vote required – all elected for 3 years.

The Lady Captain introduced Pat Wrightson as the 2023 YVLGA Captain. 'Pat has been a member at Huddersfield for over 50 years and is now also a Country Member at Ganton. She retired from her post as Professor of Physiotherapy at the University of Birmingham in 2008. Her golfing pedigree is second to none with 9 YVLGA Championship titles to her name, as well as England appearances, including captaining England Girls, Junior and Senior teams between 1983 and 2016. She has also been an England selector. Before

handing over the Captain's Badge, I want to thank her for all her support, advice and companionship over the last year, and for the pragmatic approach and common sense she adopts in Committee Meetings. I have absolutely no doubt she will be a great Captain in 2023.'

Having received the Captain's badge from Penny Holroyd, Pat Wrightson thanked everyone for their support and reported: 'I am honoured to be asked to be the next Captain of the Yorkshire Veteran Ladies' Golf Association, which I am delighted to accept. I look forward to meeting many members at the various competitions during the year. I have enjoyed representing the YVLGA in the Richardson Trophy matches between 2002 and 2019, leading out the team on a number of years, when I was champion. I look forward to Captaining the Team in 2023, I'm sure we will have a fun year and hopefully, we might manage to again be overall winners. I will endeavour to undertake the role of Captain to the best of my ability.' She then presented Penny Holroyd with a memento of her year.

The new Lady Captain then introduced her Vice Captain, Patsy Rochester [Oakdale], and presented her with the Vice-Captain's badge. 'It is with great pleasure that I introduce our Vice-Captain, Patsy Rochester. I'm sure she is well known to you all, having been our excellent Competition Secretary for several years. Patsy qualified as a Physiotherapist in 1977 and it is in her professional role that we first met. A highlight of Patsy's career was being part of the GB & I Team of Physiotherapists at the Barcelona Olympics. A keen sportswoman, having swum competitively, played County netball and other racquet sports, she finally found the ultimate sport of golf in 2003 and now plays off a single figure handicap. A committed dog owner, she is training her 3 year old Golden Retriever, Bailey, who this year has been a YVLGA mascot and hopefully he will aspire to being a Therapy Dog. I'm sure we will have a very enjoyable and hopefully successful year in our respective roles.'

The President, Gill Travis commented that she had thoroughly enjoyed her first year in office, supporting the teams and helping on the competition desks. She thanked her home club, Crosland Heath, for agreeing to hold an extra President's Day competition and hoped that this would continue for future Presidents.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** Lynn Wood [Oakdale] enquired whether any consideration could be given to requiring competitors to have recorded a minimum number of qualifying scores within the last year before entering competitions. The President replied that it would be discussed in Committee

Gill Travis then invited our 2022 Champion Emma Brown [Malton & Norton] to give the 'vote of thanks' to the retiring Captain & Officials. Emma thanked the Association for their generous welcome in her first year as a member of the Association and looked forward to contributing in the years to come. She thanked Penny Holroyd for all her work and support in 2022.

**DATE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023:** The date of the next meeting was booked for Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 11am at Sand Moor GC, Leeds.

President Gill thanked everybody for attending & the meeting closed at 12.00 p.m.

SIGNED: .....

DATED: .....