

Annual General Meeting Devon Ladies Golf League

Held at Exminster Golf Centre

Monday 7th October 2024 at 11am

Minutes

Present: Bigbury, Borringdon, Bovey Tracey, Churston Crediton, Dainton, Exminster, Holsworthy, Honiton, Libbaton, Saunton, Staddon Heights, Stover, The Warren, Thurlestone, Tiverton

Apologies Barbara Allin (Treasurer) Great Torrington (Family illness)

Diane Sweeney, League Captain and Organiser, welcomed everyone and opened the Meeting.

Reminder that the Presentation of the Runners Up Cup to Dainton and the Winners Salver to Saunton, was made on Finals Day in the presence of both teams.

Report by Diane Sweeney on 2024 from Exminster Ladies

2024 has been a memorable year, the main memory certainly is one of very bad weather having caused a record number of cancellations and the re-booking of fixtures. Canceling and re-booking sounds simple but when the year has marched on, it can be very trying, even stressful, squeezing important fixtures into the main Club schedules that have rapidly taken over all the spare dates. But somehow we managed it, even if some of the fixtures were uncharacteristically late. I managed to miss only one fixture at Torrington through Covid. It was too late to replace me so we manned a 5-a-side team and another at Ilfracombe. Other than that I think all our fixtures went well and I hope all of yours did too. We had some strange requests along the way as you would expect and I hope we dealt with them fairly and to your satisfaction.

We had an exciting encounter at our match at Woodbury when my opponent and I were joined by a flock of 20/30 very bouncy sheep. They strolled through the hedge and stopped on the green we were about to putt on. As we approached, they departed, extremely luckily not having moved our balls but leaving behind lots of their usual evidence. I thought it might be just Maureen and I who were highly entertained but we saw the Woodbury ground staff several times at different parts of the course trying to round them up on buggies. I wonder how long it took them in the end. Over the course of a golfing summer we all encounter tales of strange and quirky situations but, to date, that flock of sheep was by far the most amusing.

As usual we enjoyed all of our teas at your Clubs but this year Exminster adopted Bacon Butty first and home made cake after. Without much feedback thus far, it would be nice to know your thoughts on that and whether it might be worth doing it again next year, or serve a more traditional meal.

The four of us administering the League this year have found it quite a learning curve. Most of us retired from this sort of thing years ago and it definitely stretches your mind again. Louise is taking the Minutes today apart from which she has organized the finer details for the events. Barbara has been looking after the Accounts and has kindly prepared a brief report for Maggie to read out. Luckily, the League accounts are very simple. Maggie has also kept up the results on the website and it she who has suggested the improvements in Proposal 2 for your consideration. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all sincerely for the shared help and support they have given me and we worked together to get to the final stage here today. So, I will now say a very big hearty thank you to them.

The League has only lost one club, Woodbury Park from next year's fixtures, a casualty to Shelagh Creasey . However, we have three new teams in Bovey Tracey, Downs Crediton and Libbaton. Welcome ladies and I hope next year you all enjoy playing in the League as much as we all do.

On a final note, I would like to say a big welcome to the ladies of Great Torrington (absence noted) who will be taking over from us. We hope that they have a smooth and enjoyable year. We are praying for the skies to be kind.

1. Proposed by Ilfracombe Further clarification of Devon Rule 4.2. It was agreed that "over WHS 21.4hcp" should be updated to "over WHS 35.0" while other requirements remain the same.

Suggested new wording: "4.2 Teams for semi-finals and finals shall be selected from players all of whom must have played in at least two matches in the Group stages, plus an additional seventh player who must have played in at least one Group stage match. All players must be within the maximum handicap limit of WHS 35.0." Seconded by Honiton Vote - Motion carried

2. Proposed by Exminster With regard to our experiences this year of co-ordinating and fulfilling duties in compliance with the Devon League 'Handbook', we have noted that emailing match results with photo attachment has its shortcomings in quality. We propose that all clubs adopt a two-fold method of recording their victories/losses for the benefit of future administrators of the League. Team organizers can continue exactly as before, with the standard start sheets requiring signatures from both sides. However, relaying this information to the administrator in charge of the website could be standardized and simplified. To transcribe the information accurately the following simple table is proposed for adoption by all team captains in the main email body:

Home Club	Away Club
Won	Won
Lost	Lost
Halved	Halved
Points	Points

The emails can then be printed and filed by the Organiser. This is a condensed version of the start sheets, originals of which can be held on file by the individual clubs. Should a dispute arise, the original start sheets can be forwarded to the League Organisers for that year.

Seconded by Ilfracombe Vote - Motion carried.

Statement of Accounts

Due to the generosity of Luci Lacey, who runs Exminster Golf Centre, we have had no venue hire or hospitality costs to pay for the Semi-Finals, Finals or AGM for this year.

2023/2024 Balance Sheet

Opening Balance received from Dainton	£20
<u>Income</u>	
Draw for Hamper at Exminster	£185
Subscriptions x 17	£680
<u>Total Income</u>	£865
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Website Hosting & Maintenance	£160
Closing Balance	£724.14
Amendment signed by Organisers	

1. All subs now paid
2. Adjustment made for Saunton paying twice

Notice of Withdrawal Woodbury Park Golf Club

AOB

Churston raised the subject of the need for medical certificates for buggy users or could they be open to all players. Point made that some Clubs have limited number of buggies. After some discussion it was decided that while the League requires a certificate, this does not have to be renewed each year for permanent users and trust that temporary users will monitor themselves. A formal proposal will be made next year.

Saunton asked if the Semi Finals, Finals and the AGM dates could be more flexible to allow more time between them and to avoid clashing with other Devon events. This was noted for future discussion.

Dainton an additional observation regarding the semi final/final paragraph 4.2. queried the requirement to have to have played two matches as some smaller clubs struggle to find a team. As well as updating the hcp requirement it was suggested reducing the qualifying no. of games from two to one for both (semis and final) to ease the pressure on recruitment/availability. This seemed to find favour with most of the ladies. Suggest a proposal is submitted for implementation next year.

As Great Torrington were unable to attend the meeting Exminster made the Draw for 2025

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Bigbury	Churston	Dainton	Thurlestone
The Warren	Borrington	Staddon Heights	Stover
Crediton	Honiton	Tiverton	Bovey Tracey
Libbaton	Saunton	Holsworthy	Gt Torrington
Ilfracombe		Exminster	
Draw for the Semi Finals	Group A v Group B		Group C v Group D

Date of next AGM to be arranged

Meeting Closed at 11.45.