**Minutes of the Ladies Committee Meeting held on 2nd September 2024**

 Present Lady Captain Helen Radcliffe

 Competition Secretary Gillian Crofts

Lady President Eileen Beeney

LCE Kate Knox, Janet Ayres, Clare Macleod, Dianne Cooper, Sue Manning

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| **Welcome:** Lady Captain welcomed everyone to the meeting.**Apologies:** Kay Brannigan, Elaine Henderson, Anne OakesMinutes of previous meeting: Agreed**Matters Arising:** * Website update: Minutes of Committee of previous meetings are now loaded to the website. Ongoing minutes to be published on the website each month.
* Folders for Opens: in order to inform members of Opens next season, a folder will be placed on top of the central block of lockers at the start of next season
* Team Uniform: Informal chats regarding a possible change of uniform for the team players resulted in Sue Docherty feeling very upset. Sue wrote to Kay (secretary) to express her feelings. As well as feeling upset, she also felt the action was disrespectful as her husband, Bob, had made a significant contribution to the purchase of the present uniform.

When the committee became aware of the distress this had unintentionally caused, Sue was contacted by HR and EB to apologise for the distress caused.Sue wanted her views to be minuted and the committee apologise for any upset caused.No decision has been made to change the uniform but, as some players have had very good use out of their uniform, it will be addressed in the future.**Treasurer’s Report** The opening bank balance for August was £2,760.31 with the cash in hand amounting to £306.70, making the total monies £3,067.01.The income for August was £52.50, which was from the Cake sale held at the ELLGA event held on 4th August.The expenditure amounted to £1,068.80 for Bank charges and payment for lunch and evening buffet for the Lady Captain`s Invitation Day.Total assets amounted to £2,050.71 with the Net Assets amounting to 1,800.71 after taking into account the ringfenced money of £250 for Canopy hire.**Competition Report**Club Competitions Our ladies have played in the Ladies Singles Knockout, and in The Final Amelia Taylor beat Kathy Hardman in a closely fought competition. Well done, Amelia. In the Ladies Pairs Foursomes Knockout, Clare MacLeod and Gillian Crofts beat Janet Ayres and Elaine Smith in a very closely fought match going to the 18th hole. Well done CM and GC. * External Competitions
	+ Challenge Bowl: Janet Ayres, Eileen Beeney, Kay Brannigan, Kathryn Knox, Anne Oakes and Gill Rogers, got through to the second round. It was once again a great effort from Harwood Ladies.
	+ Eileen Beeney, Lady President, played in the Lancashire Golf Women’s Frances Smith Trophy at Heysham GC representing Harwood. With a very respectable nett score of 76 came in 7th place. Well done, Eileen.
	+ LLCGA Scott Leggatt Final was abandoned due to rain and has been rescheduled for Monday 9th September. Sue and Janet are available and will represent Harwood.
	+ Amelia Taylor and Clare MacLeod were both playing in The Strathtyrum Tournament at the home of golf, St Andrews. They both shot the same score over two rounds and just missed out on qualifying by one shot. Amelia made it into the Handicap Trophy but unfortunately lost in the first round.
	+ ELLGA held their Autumn Senior Competition at Harwood GC this year. Harwood fielded 3 teams with J Ayres, M Shurrock, K Knox, and J Southern placing 4th with 84 points.
	+ Elaine Henderson and husband Steve won a mixed pairs open at Nelson, very well done Team Henderson.
* Handicap
	+ Linzi Casey and Toni Sweeney have both got their HC of 54.0.
* Weekly Competitions Saturday and Wednesday competitions are now being aggregated as the evenings are drawing in.

I would like to collect £3 from each Committee member to pay for the winner’s prize in the Committee Competition on 7th and 11th September. There will be an early evening Presentation after this competition. The final qualifying competitions will be Stablefords and Medals to enable players to submit sufficient cards to meet Competition requirements going forwards. End of Season Presentation Evening will be held on Wednesday 16th October. At this stage the trophies need taking for engraving. Elaine Smith has been responsible for this in the past, I may be looking for a volunteer to carry out this task.* Agreed GC and DC to meet and label trophies
* GC to contact Club Treasurer regarding payment of invoice
* DC to take trophies to Reeds for engraving
* CM to arrange for Bolton Championship Shield to be available for engraving

Saturday 19th October is the Men’s and Juniors’ Presentation and Club event. Last year it was proposed that these events should be combined. Due to a number of factors, there has not been any progress to a more integrated approach to presentations. HR to discuss with DJ about future plans for a more integrated approach. GC to contact Men’s comp sec (once appointed)GC has a plan for the Ladies’ Presentation evening and is not available on Saturday 19th October. It was therefore decided to keep to the present format and encourage ladies to also attend the club event on Saturday.Bell Cup: MDLGA have changed the handicap limit for this prestigious competition. Discussion on this change focussed on:* Number of players available who have a handicap of 22.6 or slightly above in the smaller clubs
* Move away from a more inclusive approach to golf participation

Amelia Taylor has been consulting members of the Bell Cup Team to gauge their feelings. Possible new team members to be approached regarding availability.Subs need to be paid before the end of September.SM felt very strongly that a response should be sent to MDLGA whatever the outcome of the decision.**Report from Management Committee:**Following discussions on how to improve publicity and information sharing for club members and visitors, HR, SM and Emma have completed work on a loop presentation connected to the screens in the club.**Dates for 2025 Diary**Following a meeting with GC and KK and discussion with the committee, these are the proposed dates for 2025\* which will require access to the club and catering:

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| \*Saturday 5th April | Taster Day |
| Sunday 11th May | Away Day |
| \*Friday 16th May | Ladies’ Open Texas Scramble |
| \*Wednesday 16th July | Lady Captain’s Invitation Day |
| Sunday – Monday 10th-11th August | Picnic - One night overnight Stay |
| \*Monday 22nd September | Open Shotgun |
| \*  | Final Presentation Evening |
| \*Monday 3rd November | Coffee Morning |
| \*Friday 12th December | Ladies Annual Dinner |
| \*Wednesday 17th December | Ladies lunch |
| \*Sunday 20th December | Children’s Christmas Party |

**Taster Update*** Only 2 of the participants on £85 deal, both seem likely to join next year.
* SM reported that CB felt the participants were very positive about their experience on the course and recommends that this should be incorporated into package.
* A few other participants are likely to return.

It was noted that the interruptions caused by bad weather has had a negative impact this year. JA suggested that close contact is continued during the closed season with this group to keep interested in 2025 season.**Coffee Morning*** JA has organised this year’s event and has 9 outside stall holders booked at a cost of £12 per table.
* £2 bags to be organised
* EH has suggested a tombola and this was agreed
* Dawn Eastland has agreed to organise cake stall
* Sue Docherty to be asked if she would like to do “Guess the Name of the Bear”
* “Guess the weight of the cake” suggested
* Set up for coffee morning on Sunday evening prior to the event after party. Volunteers to be asked.
* Ticket price £3, available soon.

**Secretary**Kay Brannigan has decided that she will resign as secretary at the next AGM.The committee wish to record their thanks to Kay for all her hard work this year and, in particular, Helen recognised the invaluable support that she has been to her.The role of secretary is very onerous, and it was recognised that it was time to re-evaluate the role and perhaps share some of the responsibilities for the organisation of key events with other members.**AOB**1. GC has received items of golf equipment from Harold Howard. Following discussion, it has been decided that these will be raffled, and money raised will be used to buy a tree or other suitable tribute in Wendy’s memory.
2. Silent Auction: CW and GR to be asked to organise on Presentation Evening.
3. Last Presentation Evening: 7pm Supper followed by presentation of cups and trophies. Sign-up sheet to be posted in locker room.
4. Course toilet: the toilet is no longer functioning very well. JA suggested that a new toilet with a larger capacity be bought to replace existing one.
5. LGU (Lancashire Golf Union) has approached club to provide a delegate. GC has agreed to take on this role representing the whole of the club.
6. Induction: EB suggested that we have an induction programme that has a more comprehensive/staged approach to enable new members feel confident and competent on the course.
7. HR reported that at present there are only 14 teams registered for the Shotgun Event on 23rd September.

Discussion followed as to when to make the decision if a competition is viable. It was suggested that 14/15 teams would make it a viable competition. Plan B arrangements should be considered for this and future competitions given the problems that clubs have encountered with weather disrupting play as money for prizes is committed in advance.**Date of Next Meeting: Note change of date – Wednesday 9th October** | InfoHRKKGC/DC/CMHR/GCSM/CMKBGC once decision madeKB to send dates to DA to put in diaryHR to ask JF re bagsHR to ask SD re bearJAKB/EB to look at roleHR to ask for volunteers at appropriate timeHR to askSM to organise catering.HR to take to managementCM to provide example of T&C. GC to also review. Once agreed – email to all team leads |
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