

**MINUTES OF THE LADIES' DEVON LEAGUE 2007**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting held at Fingle Glen Golf Club**  
**Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2006 – 11am**

The meeting was chaired by Issie MacFarlane, Vice Captain of Hele Park Golf Club, host club for 2006.

46 ladies were present representing 19 clubs taking part in the Ladies' Devon League 2006/07.

Issie MacFarlane welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the ladies from Hele Park Golf Club – Lady Captain Sylvia Caunter, Irene Berry, Sue Hall, Ann Pitman and Gina Royffe. She then introduced Ann Fensom, one of the original founders of the Ladies' Devon League, and invited her to say a few words.

Ann Fensom thanked Issie for inviting her to the meeting and said that it was an honour and a great pleasure to attend. Ann explained to the meeting how the Ladies' Devon League was originally formed. She said that she had an idea, a seed, and although she was not a good gardener she had a very keen committee to help her get it up and running. Contact was made with all the Devon Ladies' Sections and six clubs played the first year in 1987. At that time, Okehampton had a very small Ladies' Section and often did not have enough players to play in both the Still Cup and the Sheelah Creasy and either silver players or bronze players were deprived of inter-club match play. The Ladies' Devon League was conceived to give members of clubs in a similar position, those without enough players for the Still Cup and Sheelah Creasy competitions, to play inter club matches other than just friendly matches. This could also have assisted larger clubs who had too many players for all members to have the opportunity of competitive matchplay. Originally, Still Cup and Sheelah Creasy players were barred from playing in this League to avoid it being "taken over" and returning to square one with smaller clubs again out in the cold and, at that time, the President's Trophy did not exist. Ann went on to congratulate and thank all for keeping the spirit of golf and the Ladies' Devon League alive and well.

The Runners Up Cup for 2006 was presented by Ann Fensom to Mary Shepherd representing Wrangaton Golf Club.

Ann Fensom presented Okehampton Golf Club, winners for 2006, with the Kay Sharp Salver. On behalf of Okehampton Golf Club, their Lady Captain thanked Issie MacFarlane and Sylvia Caunter of Hele Park Golf Club for the excellent organisation of the Ladies' Devon League in 2006.

Issie MacFarlane thanked Ann Fensom for addressing the meeting and Sylvia Caunter presented her with a basket of flowers on behalf of all lady players in the Ladies' Devon League 2006.

**1. Apologies**

Jean Halliday – Warren Golf Club

Wendy Stanbury – Hele Park Golf Club

Yelverton Golf Club who will not be joining the League in 2007 as they are entering the President's Trophy.

**2. New Attendees**

Issie MacFarlane welcomed Thurlestone Golf Club who are joining the Ladies' Devon League in 2007. Issie stated that Churston Golf Club had requested a very late entry for 2007 and asked if any ladies had any objections to its acceptance. There were none. The membership fee will be paid directly to Ilfracombe Golf Club, which meant that the final figures in the accounts for 2006 provided by Hele Park Golf Club did not include the entry fee from Churston Golf Club.

### **3. Adoption of the Minutes of the AGM 2005**

The minutes for the Annual General Meeting 2005 were agreed and adoption was proposed by Mary Shepherd of Wrangaton Golf Club and seconded by Val Kimberley of Ilfracombe Golf Club.

### **4. Report from Hele Park Golf Club Organisers of the Devon League for 2006**

Issie MacFarlane reported as follows:

'You have received the match report from the Finals Day at Hele Park. All I can add is that the weather was horrendous and everyone at Hele Park admired the way all the players, caddies and supporters managed to keep their spirits up. The final was exceptionally exciting and made more so by the fact that it went down to the seventh player before the outcome of the final was decided.

We hope you have enjoyed having the results from all the matches on the Hele Park Golf Centre website and I am pleased to say that Ilfracombe Golf Club, host club for the Ladies' Devon League for 2007, have also agreed to run the results on their website.

I would like to thank Debbie Harris and the ladies at Fingle Glen Golf Club for providing the Ladies' Devon League with a golf competition, afternoon tea and stalls. This facility is organised by the Fingle Glen Golf Club Ladies' Section and makes our AGM an excellent day out.

We have enjoyed our year hosting the Ladies' Devon League and wish Ilfracombe Golf Club a very successful year.'

### **5. Proposal**

Sheelah Travers of Teign Valley Golf Club, seconded by Sally Balchin of Teign Valley Golf Club, made the following proposal:

'A League player should not include any player who has played in more than two County matches for her home club in the current season.'

Carol Isaac, Great Torrington Golf Club, stated that a proposal cannot be put forward and seconded by the same club as the Ladies' Devon League only allows one vote per club.

Issie MacFarlane asked ladies to vote whether this proposal should be discussed under those circumstances. With no votes in favour of discussion the Teign Valley Golf Club proposal was dismissed.

Considerable discussion took place regarding Rule 9 and its disappearance from the rules. It was pointed out that the Teign Valley Golf Club present proposal, which had been dismissed, included *any* County Matches, not just the Still Cup or President's Trophy. If the Sheelah Creasy Bowl was also included it would mean that many clubs would not be able to enter the Ladies' Devon League.

### **6. Draw for the Devon League 2007**

Ann Fensom was asked to make the draw.

#### **Division A**

Great Torrington, Teign Valley, Tiverton, Saunton, Holsworthy.

## **Division B**

Downes Crediton, Staddon Heights, Portmore, Churston, Thurlestone.

## **Division C**

Fingle Glen, Ilfracombe, Hele Park, Wrangaton and Tavistock.

## **Division D**

Dartmouth, Okehampton, Warren and Bigbury.

## **Semi-Finals and Finals Day**

Division A v Division D

Division C v Division B

## **7. Introduction of the Host Club for 2007**

Issie MacFarlane introduced Val Kimberley of Ilfracombe Golf Club, hosts of the Ladies' Devon League for 2007. Issie stated that Hele Park Golf Club would be happy to continue running the Ladies' Devon League ongoing results on their website should Ilfracombe Golf Club experience any problems.

Issie finished by wishing Ilfracombe Golf Club a very good year and Val Kimberley said she hoped Ilfracombe Golf Club could do as good a job as Hele Park Golf Club had done.

## **8. Any Other Business**

### **a) Current Rules**

Alison Hilton, Downes Crediton Golf Club, said she thought the current rules would benefit from clarification as they had grown and been added to over the years and were becoming quite difficult to follow. Issie MacFarlane, Hele Park Golf Club, suggested Alison should rewrite the rules into a clearer form to be published on the newly hosted Ilfracombe Golf Club website section for the Ladies' Devon League 2007. This would give each club an opportunity to consider the potential revised format and make suggestions or proposals for the 2007 Annual General Meeting before any final decisions are made. As play progressed between clubs in 2007 the opportunity to discuss the revised rules could also be taken.

### **b) Contact Details**

Issie MacFarlane, Hele Park Golf Club, asked if all other clubs were happy to have their contact details circulated to each other. All agreed that this was desirable. Ilfracombe Golf Club will circulate list of contact details for all Ladies' Devon League clubs in 2007.

### **c) Rule 9**

Debbie Harris, Fingle Glen Golf Club, asked that the dismissed proposal from Teign Valley Golf Club for Rule 9 be changed so Sheelah Creasy Bowl players would not be excluded from the Ladies' Devon League.

Sam Rogers, Teign Valley Golf Club, explained the history of this proposal to the meeting. Teign Valley Golf Club's original proposal was adopted at the Annual General Meeting in 2000 and included the wording *President's/Still Cup* rather than *County* matches as in their 2006 proposal. In the 2003 version of the rules circulated to Ladies' Devon League clubs the wording had changed. The original proposal from Teign Valley, accepted in 2000, had disappeared. Teign Valley Golf Club felt that their original proposal should be immediately reinstated into the rules without discussion. Sam Rogers went on to say

that she felt that Teign Valley Golf Club had not received appropriate consideration for their proposal put forward at this meeting.

Issie MacFarlane, in the Chair, replied that the Teign Valley Golf Club request for reinstatement of the 2000 wording of their proposal had been made earlier in the year but after the playing season had started. She said Hele Park Golf Club gave careful consideration to the matter and felt they should not change the rules after matches had commenced for the year. They had also taken into account the fact that 2003, 2004 and 2005 Ladies' Devon League matches had also been played under the same rules - which did not include the Teign Valley rule change accepted at the Annual General Meeting in 2000.

Christine Wilson, Bigbury Golf Club, agreed that the rules should not be altered during a playing year. Alison Hilton, Downes Crediton Golf Club, suggested that the interpretation from the minutes to the rules had become confused in translation.

Issie MacFarlane said that the club running the Ladies' Devon League has to rely on the previous club's organisation, minutes and rules. Historically, it would seem a mistake may have been made but as each club endeavours to run the Ladies' Devon League to the best of their ability no blame should be attached to any club for the current position. Issie said she felt the meeting should look to finding a solution for the future.

It was agreed by the meeting that Rule 9 will remain in its current form for 2007.

"A League team should not include any player who has played in more than two County Still Cup and/or County Presidents Trophy matches in the current season. This includes a player's second club.

**d) Rule 11 - Caddies**

Debbie Harris, Fingle Glen Golf Club, requested clarification regarding Rule 11 – Caddies – whether a caddy can give advice to a player and assist on the green. There was a discussion regarding whether a Ladies' Devon League rule could override the rules of golf and it was agreed not. Debbie Harris agreed to make a proposal at the next AGM regarding this rule, to be seconded by Muriel Hayworth from Holsworthy Golf Club.

**9. Date of Ladies' Devon League Semi-Finals and Finals 2007**

The Semi-Finals and Finals Day will be held on Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at Ilfracombe Golf Club (providing Ilfracombe are not involved in playing on the day).

**10. Date of the Next Meeting**

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Ladies' Devon League will be held on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at Fingle Glen Golf Club at 11am.

There was a vote of thanks to the Chair, Issie MacFarlane, from Alison Hilton of Downes Crediton Golf Club.

The meeting closed at 11.40am.