ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
NORFOLK VETERAN LADIES' GOLF SOCIETY
held at Wensum Valley Golf Club
Monday, 26th February 2024

Present	Chair Person	Sue Hill
	Honorary Secretary	Felicity Leigh
	Honorary Membership Secretary	Annie Baker
	Honorary Treasurer	Sue Fage
	Competition Secretary	Angie Allsopp
	Match Captain	Chrissie Owens
	Committee Member	Deidre Cave

and 98 members

Chairperson Sue Hill welcomed all to the 2024 AGM, explaining she would be chairing the meeting today in the absence of our President, Helen Ayres, who for personal reasons was unable to attend. Sue took the opportunity at this point to thank Helen for her contribution to the Vets' Society over the years.

Sue informed the meeting that as far as the Society was aware there had been no deaths within the last year, but at this time she would still like us all to remember with a minutes silence those in the county golfing fraternity who had died since our last AGM.

1. **Apologies** received from H. Ayres, S. Clarke, M. Lelievre, S. Saunders A. Mackway, R. Sutterby, L. Wright, H. Sutton, E. Zandvoort, P. Frost, J. Beckett, A. Carey, J. Gibbs, A. Rackham, C. Jeffries, K. Joyce, S. Meadows, S. Drew, N. Howe and J. Wheeler.

2. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

   The Minutes of the AGM held on 27th February 2023 having already been circulated, they now need to be approved. As they are rather lengthy Sue proposed that they should be taken as read. If anyone present at that meeting had any comments to make this was now their opportunity. No comments being made, Sue asked for a proposer and seconder. Proposed by Jane Watson and seconded by Peggy Gower.

3. **Matters Arising** – there were no matters arising.

4. **Hon. Secretary's Report**

   Good morning, firstly dealing with all the thank yous necessary. To you all for attending today and entering the various competitions on offer last year, Wensum Valley Golf Club for again hosting our AGM and Spring Lunch and especially Liz Dann who has had the job of co-ordinating it all. To all our Club Reps throughout the county who pass on all the bits of information coming from the committee. Your help is very much appreciated and we couldn't function without you.

At this stage in the proceedings it seems appropriate to present our retiring reps with a small token of our appreciation and to Liz Dann for organising today.

Lynda Love, Dunston Hall

Glenda Winn, Gt. Yarmouth and Caister (possibly Dawn Futter to accept)

Pippa Holliday, Caldecott Hall (possibly Carol Schoenherr to accept)

Chris Rayfield, Links

Sabrina Williams, Royal West Norfolk

Liz Dann

You will see from the Agenda that we have managed to fill the 2 roles of Competition Secretary and General Committee Member. No mean feat. Thank you to both Jill Bullimore from Eaton G.C. and Bridget Andrews from Bawburgh G.C. for stepping up to the plate. As with everyone else in the county from heron in, each year, we will be looking for new committee members. We will be looking for a new Treasurer next year to take over from Sue Fage who has already added extra time to her tenure. If you have an interest please have a word with Sue and I am sure she will tell you it is not such an onerous task.

In 2023 we trialled getting in touch with all members via their reps asking if they had something they would like raised at the next committee meeting. This process will be carried on this year. During the course of the year 2 or 3 clubs took advantage of this. Points raised…...website issues and the cost of some of the competitions. The outcome from one of the points raised is the 9 hole stableford competition being organised this year at Ryston Park for higher handicappers in the WHI Group 28-54. Our next committee meeting is 5th April so I will be in touch with the reps in March if any of you have anything you would like brought up.

And on that note, that's all from me, so I will hand you back to Sue. Sue thanked Felicity for her report.

5. **Hon. Membership Secretary's Report**

The Society continues to have a solid membership of 399 members of which 13 are non-playing.

76 ladies did not renew their membership at the end of the year. Reasons given for leaving were ladies no longer playing golf; age and health problems; competitions clashing with other events; and family commitments. We had 49 new members join for 2024. 4 Ladies transferred to non-playing and 4 transferred between Clubs. Following the launch of the new system where ladies could join the society at any point during the year, 22 Ladies joined as they became eligible. Overall, we have 5 fewer members than in 2023.

Thank you to all the Club representatives who do a great job throughout the year promoting events and promoting the Society. 5 Reps have resigned this year after several years representing their clubs. Pippa Holliday from Caldecott Hall, Lynda Love from Dunston Hall, Sabrina Mitchell from Royal West Norfolk, Glenda Winn from Great Yarmouth and

Caister and Chris Rayfield from The Links. The Committee thank you for all your hard work. Good luck to all the new Reps. I have recently contacted you via email attaching the new Membership Form showing our new Bank Account details for on-line payments/BACS. Any queries do get in touch.

Sue thanked Annie for her report.

6. **Hon. Treasurer's Report**

Good morning everyone, lovely to see so many members here. My report is normally very boring, but this year I have some very exciting news, so those of you who glaze over when it comes to numbers STAY ALERT!!!

There are copies of the signed accounts on each table. I will take any questions at the end. This report covers the year's financial activity up to and including 31st October 2023. We took the decision to change the year end to 31st October this year, as our last event is in October. This enables us to make a clean cut off for the year, and representatives to pay the new year subscriptions before the 1st of January, when there is no other activity going on.

Subscriptions and Raffle

The annual membership fee for playing members increased to £5 this year, which gave us another £700 of revenue. We have held our fees at the same level for 2024.

We had 5 raffles during the year which were really well supported, and a cheque for £1063 was sent to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospitals Charity. A copy of the thank you letter from the N&N is on each table. They really appreciate our annual donation. A BIG thank you to Angie for organising the raffles and making the prizes look so attractive.

For the last few year's we have sent the money raised to the Neonatal fund as that was very dear to a number of our members hearts. This year the Hospital Charity are raising money to provide additional on-site accommodation for parents of children who are in hospital in the Jenny Lind Children's Hospital, this includes parents of babies in the Neonatal Intensive Unit. There is accommodation already, but not enough for every parent who needs it, so the Hospital Charity want to address this, and have suggested that our fund raising this year, could support this very worthy cause.

Can we have a show of hands if you are happy we support this fundraiser. Duly approved.

Events

All events were well supported, with income received of £13,703.50 which was up on the previous year, but costs have increased particularly green fees, which was reflected in the entry fees charged. The total costs of green fees, food and prizes was £14,223.05 leaving a cost of £519.55 to the society. We take a view on entry fees at the start of the year, with some events making a surplus and some making a loss.

Matches

The 1 match played at home with a total green fee of £700.00 which was against Lincolnshire, where we field a larger than normal team.

Expenses

We had no unexpected costs during the year. In general costs are increasing as you are all very aware of.

Net Income
The result for the year was a small loss of £53.93.

Bank Account and Balances
The current account balance stands at £1,977.72 as at 31/10/2023, and the NS&I account balance £1,427.44.

Important - We have banked at Barclays Bank for a very long time, but the account is extremely restricted and simply not fit for purpose in 2024. They also have given us a lot of hassle with verification of the account, and trying to change the mandate was impossible.

The good news - We have moved our account to NatWest who have given us free banking for 2 years and hopefully longer.

All the competition entry forms have the new bank details on them. If you have set up a payment for the society with your bank, please delete and set up a new payment with the correct new information. If you pay by cheque nothing changes. We have put a notice on the website home page letting members know of this important change. We will run both accounts for a period of time, before closing the Barclays account later this year.

Accounts Verification
The books have been verified and were signed off by Mr P Sturman on 23/11/2023. In summary I am pleased to report that the Society's finances are in a good position.

2024 Entries
All competitions will be on a 1st come 1st served basis. When the competition is full it will be posted on the website. When paying, please use as a reference the lead player name and the event i.e. S Jones Spring or AMAM. If your bank account name is different from your player name please put the correct lead player name as a reference, together with the event.

That concludes my report for 2023 are there any questions? No questions raised.

Can I have a show of hands for acceptance of the accounts please? Duly accepted.

I propose we ask Mr P Sturman to examine this year's accounts for 2024. Again can I ask the floor for their approval. Duly approved.

Sue thanked Sue for her report.

7. **Competition Secretary's Report**

Once again we have held 4 very successful events for the Society this year, beginning with the 4BBB the winners were Annie Baker and Heather Tuddenham from Dunston with 42 points.
In June we held our Championships at Wensum Valley, the entry was very disappointing, which hopefully we just put down to there being other golfing events going on, league matches and County Knockouts. I do remind you all that this is a Medal competition for Division 1 players and a Stableford for Division 2. Once again congratulations go to Sue Clarke from Kings Lynn with her 82 gross and to Carol Wilson who won Division 2 with 39 points.
Chrissie Owens will report on the AmAm which, as Match Captain, she runs on behalf of the Society.

Our final event was the Greensomes held in October at Heacham Manor Golf Club, this attracted a good entry and Teresa Layton and Jill Huggins from Hunstanton were worthy winners with 37 points.
You will all have received your booklets for this coming season, which show where our events are being run. There is one additional event , which we are trying out and this is for higher handicap members, ie 28 and above. This will take the form of a 9 holes stableford and is being held a Ryston Park Golf Club on the 31st May.
I would like to thank you all for supporting these events and also for your generosity in buying raffle tickets for the Society's Charity, which next year will be the Jenny Lind Children's Hospital in support of their families.
I would also like to thank all the clubs who have hosted our events, as always we do try and keep the cost down as much as we can, but I am sure you all appreciate this difficulty with rising costs.
Moving away from Golf, we are possibly going to run, for Charity, a Bridge Drive in the Autumn. Many golfers these days seem to have taken up this card game, and we hope that those of you that play, along with our non playing members will come along and support this. It is not just for ladies, so you will be able to bring along your husbands, partners and anyone who enjoys this game. We are hoping that this will be held at Norwich and Norfolk Bridge club in the town. Details will be sent out to you as soon as we know the details.
I have come to the end of my term as Competition Secretary, I have thoroughly enjoyed doing this job and meeting all the members and wish my successor, Jill Bullimore, much pleasure in continuing running theses events and meeting all you lovely members.

Sue thanked Angie for her report. The presentation of trophies then followed. A full list of winners is on the website and had also been sent out with the AGM Agenda.

8. **Match Captain's Report**

Matches
The first match of the season on May 18th at home against Bedfordshire was cancelled by them at the last minute, with no interest to re-arrange.
Match number two away to Cambs & Hunts at Ely on June 20th was postponed to later in the year due to bad weather.
Finally match number three was played away to Suffolk at Rookery Park on July 24th. This was always going to be a tough match as we were playing against Suffolk's senior ladies' team. Rookery Park was in fantastic condition; a long course which played to its full yardage. Sadly the result did not reflect the quality of the golf played by Norfolk.
NVLGS colours were presented to Debbie Pollard-Barns and Jo Barnard.

Match number four at home v Lincolnshire was played on August 3rd at King's Lynn. After a wet start to the day, the match was played in dry conditions ending in a glorious afternoon. A warm welcome was given to two new team players - Kath Malvern from Thetford and Sally Bettinson from King's Lynn. With three home players the team was in a good position. The traditionally larger squad of 10 was played for this Lincolnshire match. The match was played in good spirits and was followed by a two-course meal served outsideon the veranda. The teams enjoyed chicken, bacon and avocado salad followed by strawberries and cream with a 4½ v ½ to Norfolk
NVLGS colours were presented to Dawn Futter.

The rearranged Cambs & Hunts match at Ely was played on September 13th, however due to the time of year and availability we only fielded three pairs rather than the four.

Ely City's mature parkland course was a real pleasure to play but both accuracy and solid ball striking were the key to scoring well! Again we were playing against some senior county players so was a tough match or the result did not go our way with a two match win to Cambs & Hunts but again the ladies were very hospitable offering a delicious meal of pan-fried chicken with dauphinoise potatoes, carrot puree and crispy stuffing. As this was the last match, Chrissie would like to thank everyone who has played over the past couple of years and hands over the role to Sue Saunders of Thetford Golf Club.

AM-AM
September 21st at Swaffham, 104 ladies had a perfect autumn day for playing golf after a wet and windy week. 30 teams had entered the event but sadly the course could only accommodate 26 teams with a two-tee start. Everyone had a great day, it was good to see the majority staying for the prize giving.

Prizes were presented for 1st to 5th places and this year's winners of the Judith Mackinnon Salver went to a team from three different clubs, with a fabulous score of 86 points
Gini Hutton – Middleton Hall
Sophie de Winton - Heacham Manor
Helen Carroll & Bo Tyler from Hunstanton.

The Society is very grateful to everyone who entered the raffle which raised £361 for the Norfolk &Norwich Hospital

9. **Election of Officers and Committee for 2024/25**

The nominated officers and committee members would be as follows:-

President – Sue Hill
Chair Person – Angie Allsopp
Hon. Secretary – Felicity Leigh
Hon. Membership Secretary – Annie Baker
Hon. Treasurer – Sue Fage
Competition Secretary – Jill Bullimore
Match Captain – Sue Saunders
General Committee Member – Bridget Andrews

Sue Hill asked if everyone was in agreement could she have a show of hands to elect officers and committee en bloc? All duly elected.

Angie in her new role as Chair Person was happy to present Sue with her President's Badge.

Sue thanked the retiring committee members, with prior acknowledgement having been made to them on the Society's behalf – Helen Ayres, Chrissie Owens and Deidre Cave. She intimated again that in order for the society to work, we are always looking for new committee members and asked if the members could give some thought to this in the years to come and particularly a new treasurer for 2025.

10. Members were made aware that their Club Reps were now in possession of the Fixtures List for 2024 and that all competition entry forms were now on the Society's website.

11. **Constitution**

Sue asked the Society to vote for the addition of a sentence at the end of Clause 6; namely

"with the possibility of including co-opted members where appropriate". This was unanimously carried.

12. **To Ratify Honorary Membership being Bestowed on Pat Williamson**

Before going to a vote, Sue gave a very brief history of Pat's contribution to the Vets' Society over the years. Pat first came on the scene for the Vets in 1994 when she was Match Vice Captain then taking on the role of Match Captain in 1996. Finishing that post she moved on to become treasurer in 1998 and then in 2004 Chairman so just over a decade of service to the Society, for which we thank her.

Sue asked for a show of hands. Carried unanimously.

Pat then thanked the Society for bestowing this honour on her and inviting her to the lunch. It had given her the chance to meet up with old friends and do some catching up.

Before closing the meeting, Sue in her role as President thanked all for attending and being part of the society.

The meeting was declared closed at 12.15pm, with thanks to Angie for once again doing a very nice raffle. This time 3 very appealing Spring planters to show it is just around the corner! £200 was raised to kick off our charity drive for the year. Thank you to those who bought raffle tickets.

Signed ……Sue Hill…….

Dated ……24th February 2025……