

Minutes of the Ferndown Forest Golf Club Ladies Committee
20th February 2025

1	Attendees: Gail Leyland (GL), Carol Guest (CG), Caroline Sard (CS), Carol Thornton (CT), Martha Tucker (MT), Tina McMillan (TM), Penny Hamilton (PH) and Steve Pockneall (SP).
2	Apologies: None
3	Minutes of the previous meeting on 29 th January were approved.
4	Matters arising from minutes: None that aren't on the agenda
5	<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>Cash in hand (including prize money yet to be paid) £262.25</p> <p>Last year's accounts appear to show that expenditure exceeded income by £186.29.</p> <p>It is not known how many entry fees were paid during any specific periods of the year or how many birdies were paid out for.</p> <p>Prize money needs to be reviewed. Different percentages were considered but it was agreed that this coming year the weekly income should be divided 60%:40% with the larger portion being retained by the committee to be used for putting on social events etc aimed at increasing ladies' participation.</p> <p>It was also agreed that there should be a separate prize for any 2s scored during a match and 50p per person will be placed into a kitty before the 60:40 division is made. If any 2s are scored the kitty will be paid out but, if not, it will carry forward to the next week.</p> <p>For those playing 9 holes the entry fee will remain at £1.50 and, as for the 18 hole players, 50p per person will be put into a kitty. The remainder will form the prize money. If there are fewer than 10 entrants the winner will take it all. If there are 10+ the winnings will be paid to those in 1st and 2nd place.</p> <p>Entry fees and prize arrangements will be reviewed next year.</p> <p>The previous committee had a Lloyd Treasurer's Bank account but that was closed and would not now be suitable as charges have been introduced. Nat West offers a similar account which is free of charge and CS will see whether it is possible to open such an account. It was agreed that the signatories would be CS, GL and Jon Shimmons from the club. Including Jon will be good backup if either of the other signatories is unavailable.</p>
6	<p>Charter: The proposed amendments were outlined and agreed by all present.</p> <p>It was agreed that to be quorate 4 members need to be present. If agreement is needed outside a formal meeting a vote can be taken by electronic means and SP recommended the use of a WhatsApp poll.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the practicality of an evening roll up but SP said that could easily be set up by the club, for example, 2 tee slots could be set aside at 5pm on Tuesday evenings. Attendance by committee members wouldn't be necessary but it was agreed that an effort should be made for someone to be there.</p> <p>SP recommended that a list of buddies to link with ladies interested in joining in should be included on the website together with contact email addresses.</p>
7	Recognition of the contribution made by previous committee members: It was agreed that following the ladies' competition on 5 th March a tea should be held to thank Anne Somerville and the other former committee members for all the work they have done over the years. GL will buy flowers for Anne with an agreed contribution from current

	committee members. CG to organise and fund cake and hot drinks from the Forest Inn for all participating ladies. Anne is continuing as Ex-Captains Link.
8	<p>Coffee morning/Cheese and Wine:</p> <p>The proposal is that there should be a coffee morning, drink and cake, to try to encourage ladies to come and find out more about what FFGC ladies' section. SP suggested that a 6pm start or a Saturday morning would be more inclusive otherwise a lot of ladies will be ruled out of attending. It could take the form of a meet and greet with some tee times booked for afterwards. There would be no charge for members and SP said he would extend that to friends.</p> <p>SP recommended that there should be two events per year, one in the morning and one in the evening. A cheese and wine event was being considered but would be expensive at £15-£20 per head. SP suggested another option of a glass of prosecco and the opportunity to hit some balls in the range. The balls would be free and SP said that the trade price for prosecco would be £9. An area in the garden room could be set aside</p> <p>All present agreed that is a good idea and a date will need to be set. SP said that only needs to be done 4 weeks in advance and he would join a meeting to discuss the options. MT is meeting with Jane Miles' teaching group on 6th March</p>
9	Diary: The revised diary was reviewed and agreed. SP confirmed that those playing 9 hole rounds can count towards the Order of Merit
i)	OoM: all qualifying matches across the summer will count towards the Order of Merit and SP confirmed that it is possible to include those playing 9 holes in that.
ii)	9 hole competitions – CG will see John Mitchell to discuss setting up 9 hole results to count towards the Order of Merit although it was pointed out by SP that once set up it does not have to be used.
iii)	Birdie Tree: CG has taken the decision to bring the ladies into line with the seniors and stop paying out for birdies but just to pay out on 2s. That is because birdies have to be identified manually, causing extra work, whereas the 2s are picked up automatically by the computer system.
iv)	Summer Knockout: following a discussion about the merit of including different types of matches, and here specifically matchplay, it was agreed that the summer knockout and summer bowl should both take place this summer. PH volunteered to organise both events. The problem of participants being slow to organise or respond to requests to fix dates for the summer knockout was highlighted. The committee agreed that in future, if the dates by which matches are to be played are not adhered to without good reason, the committee should have the option of putting one of the players through to the next round.
v)	<p>Captain's Charity Day:</p> <p>The Captain's Day is the captain's opportunity to thank the ladies at the club for supporting her, as well as raising money for her chosen Charity (Guide Dogs for the Blind), whereas the coffee morning will be designed to raise funds for the ladies' section and/or a charity. The Captain's Charity Day, although primarily organised by the Ladies section, can be advertised to all club members inviting them to participate. SP said that, using the club's database, he has access to 20,000 people so promoting the events will be easy. SP suggested hosting a coffee morning during September or October when the course is at its best. This could be organised with two weeks' notice to the Club.</p>

	<p>It was agreed that there should be two separate events and a working party will need to be set up to organise them and think about sponsorship, donations for prizes or requests for donations to the charity. GL helped with last year's charity event and has ideas about raising money linked to the holes around the course. SP said that the committee can provide their own cakes for the event, rather than buying from the Forest Inn. Raising £500 would be a good outcome.</p> <p>SP suggested that thought should also be given to arranging a Presidents team v Captains team competition playing the first 9 holes as foursomes and the second as matchplay or greensomes and singles.</p>
vi)	Reduction in number of trophies: it was agreed that the number should be reduced but that, if there is a named individual attached to the trophy, such as Sylvia Hart, the name should continue to be used linked to an existing competition to honour their memory. The Patience prize will be put in Leigh Clark's garden.
vii)	Prize money – see Treasurer's report above.
viii)	Friendly menu choices and prices – TM has found out prices. 3 types of filled jacket potatoes would cost £7pp but the preferred option is to return to a choice of Lasagne, fish and chips or gammon, egg and chips at £12pp, including lime and soda. This was agreed.
ix)	Leigh Clark Memorial Day – Leigh's sisters will come over for this year's memorial day but PH gave it as her view, from having spoken to them, that it is anticipated that this year will be the last year they will attend but it was agreed that a memorial day will continue in a format to be decided. This year's event will be a team game yet to be decided and an on-line sign up will be set up. Lawrie Ball has generously offered a donation of £100 towards the day and the Club has also offered a donation towards the event.
10	Future communication with the ladies – should be through the website and the regular newsletters. The WhatsApp groups can continue as at present with important information shared through the 'matches' WhatsApp.
11	Website: CG and CS will look at what needs to be done to bring this up to date.
12	Unification Consultation: a vote in favour has been submitted.
13	Schedule of meetings including the AGM: initially meetings will be held monthly. The AGM will take place on 3rd November.
14	<p>AOB: SP flagged up the Captains' Awayday which he would like to see include the Ladies' Captain this year and about 12-16 ladies signing up. The date and venue have not yet been fixed.</p> <p>An Easter raffle is planned.</p>
15	Next Meeting: 9.30am on 20 th March.
	<p>Items for the next meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Summer evening roll up 2) Coffee morning/Prosecco and the range 3) Order of Merit 4) Captain's Charity Day

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5) Coffee morning6) Fun games7) President's team v Captain's team8) Leigh Clark's Memorial Day9) Communication10) Easter raffle.11) Assign Sylvia Hart Trophy to a major12) Set up working party for social events
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