

SWANSTON GOLF CLUB - LADIES SECTION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held in the Templar Room at Swanston
on Friday 3rd November 2017 at 6.30pm

Attendees: (21) Elizabeth Anderson; Louise Angus; Nancy Arnott; Margery Collin; Kay Cuthbertson; Sandra Dickson; Carole Downie; Joan Edgar; Irene Falla; Nan Gilhooly; Muriel Gilligan; Patsy Glynn; Andrea Johnstone; Margaret MacConnachie; Zoe Norton; Fiona Shepherd; Janice Sutherland; Linda Tse; Sue Walker; Annette Wilson. Anne Renshaw joined the meeting later, before AOCB.

Apologies: (7) Rebecca Bell; Margaret Burns; Norma Coleman; Lisa Laird; Anne McDonald; Anna McBryne; Susie Williamson.

MINUTES:

1. The Lady Captain, Fiona Shepherd, opened the 2017 Swanston Ladies' Annual General Meeting at 6.35pm and welcomed those present. The Lady Captain welcomed new Templar member, Margery Collin, to Swanston.

2. Minutes of 2016 AGMs held on 4th November and 14th December 2016 for approval:

Minutes of AGM 4th November 2016, item 3a: Kay Cuthbertson asked that the word 'major' be inserted in the final paragraph of item 3a, which will now read "..... explained that when the Constitution was re-written in 2012, para 6 of that document was not intended to mean that the Committee could take a **major** decision without consulting members".

Approval of the Minutes of both 2016 AGMs were proposed by Kay Cuthbertson and seconded by Janice Sutherland.

3. Matters Arising:

3.1: Ladies SI

a) Andrea Johnstone (Handicap/Match Secretary) and Fiona Shepherd had met with Bob Mackay who produced a printed analysis of Ladies' scoring at each hole during 2017. This was examined and discussed. It was agreed to use this information to amend the Ladies' Stroke Index for 2018. New score cards with the new SI will be printed in time for April.

b) Muriel Gilligan asked why the opportunity had not been taken to move the ladies' 10th tee to the gent's yellow tee position (2016 AGM minutes, item 6c). It was noted that the proposed move was being requested for safety reasons. A change to the location of the 10th tee had been turned down by Mike Robson last year. The Lady Captain agreed to raise this matter with him again.

3.2: Date for Janice Sutherland Trophy 2018

After feedback from the ladies it has been agreed with the Seniors to move the date of the Janice Sutherland Trophy to April. In 2018 this competition will be held on Tuesday 17th April. Also the autumn version, The Jim MacKay Memorial Trophy, will be brought forward to the end of August (date to be confirmed).

4. Constitution:

Adoption of new Constitution:

The new Constitution was drafted by a Working Group - Elizabeth Anderson, Kay Cuthbertson, Muriel Gilligan, Fiona Shepherd and Janice Sutherland (see Newsletter March 2017). The draft version of the Constitution, which was agreed by a majority of the Working Group, was sent out to all lady members in March 2017 and again on 5th October with the AGM documents. Conditions of Competition for the Ladies' Section were prepared by the Committee and this document was circulated to the membership in March 2017.

The Lady Captain reported that no points referencing the Draft Constitution had been forwarded to the Committee prior to the AGM.

At the AGM, concerns were raised by a few members that the Committee could make major decisions regarding competitions without the approval of the membership. Kay Cuthbertson read out a paragraph regarding Conditions of Competition and suggested it should be added to the Constitution as para 8.2. Elizabeth Anderson pointed out that the suggested paragraph had been discussed by the Working Group who had agreed by a majority not to include it in the Constitution.

The Lady Captain stated that it would be difficult for the Committee to have the opportunity to discuss the Conditions of Competition (relevant for the subsequent year) in time to circulate any proposed amendments prior to the AGM.

The Lady Captain asked for a vote on the new Constitution, with the inclusion of the following paragraph **"The Ladies Committee will prepare and issue a document entitled Conditions of Competition providing details of the ladies' competitions. This document and any subsequent amendments will be subject to ratification at the next AGM"**.

Approval was sought for the 2017 Draft Constitution with additional paragraph 8.2 as above:

For: 20

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

The Constitution was adopted (with additional paragraph).

Kay Cuthbertson noted that she was unhappy that the Constitution did not include the number of competitions (medals) to be held in a year.

5. Lady Captain's Report: Fiona Shepherd (please see attached)

5.1 The monthly Newsletter is a time consuming task for the Lady Captain and it was agreed that from now on the Newsletter will be issued bi-monthly.

6. Treasurer's Report and Accounts: Nancy Arnott (please see attached)

7. Match Secretary's Report: Andrea Johnstone (please see attached)

7.1 Muriel reported that her away scores were not appearing on How Did I Do, meaning she could be disqualified in competitions for playing with the wrong handicap. Andrea Johnstone agreed to follow this up with Bob Mackay.

8. MCLGA report: (please see attached)

8.1 The Lady Captain thanked Muriel Gilligan for all her work and support for the MCLGA ladies team over the last eight years, six as Captain.

9. Election of Office Bearers:

Standing down from the Committee are Louise Angus and Carole Downie as they are leaving the Club. Andrea Johnstone will stand down as Handicap Secretary after serving 2 years in this post; she will remain as a Committee Member. Fiona Shepherd continues as Lady Captain for a second year. Elizabeth Anderson will stand for the post of Handicap Secretary; and she has been proposed as Vice Captain. Nancy Arnott has served 2 years as Treasurer and is willing to be re-elected to that post. Nan Gilhooly will continue as a Committee member. The post of Secretary is vacant.

Role	Name	Proposer	Secunder
Vice-Captain:	Elizabeth Anderson	Fiona Shepherd	Nan Gilhooly
Secretary:	Vacant	-	-
Handicap Sec'y:	Elizabeth Anderson	Andrea Johnstone	Carole Downie
Treasurer:	Nancy Arnott	Margaret MacConnachie	Sandra Dickson

10. Nominations for Committee Members:

	Proposer	Secunder
Margaret MacConnachie	Louise Angus	Irene Falla

Nan Gilhooly agreed to be Friendlies organiser.

11. A.O.C.B:

11.1. Friendlies: Margaret MacConnachie suggested that friendly matches could be reduced to 12 holes noting that playing 18 holes in the evening meant we were often struggling to finish in daylight and were too late for a meal. It was suggested that matches could be played in the afternoon with tea/coffee and scones later rather than a meal. The new Friendlies Organiser, Nan Gilhooly, said that she would negotiate with each club individually and go with what suited everyone best, be it 12 holes in the evening or an afternoon game.

11.2. Friendly Matches with Edinburgh University: Margaret MacConnachie noted that when Edinburgh University had been invited to take part in friendly matches at Swanston they were given special offers by Mike Robson, such as students golf rates, use of driving range etc. None had taken up these options. Swanston has paid for their post-match meals but has gained nothing from the arrangement. None had attended Swanston Ladies' Opens. Elizabeth Anderson noted that the girls loved coming to play and had no problems getting players. It was intended to have one match with Edinburgh University next year. The Committee will consider this further.

11.3. Fun Competitions: Margaret MacConnachie suggested moving fun competitions such as Captain v Vice Captain to a daytime slot during the week in the hope of getting more attending. Margaret suggested a Wednesday which is roll-up day. The Committee will consider this.

11.4. Five over 12 Questionnaire: Nan Gilhooly and Joan Edgar will collate responses to the recent questionnaire about the format of the Five over 12 competition and will ask Fiona to email to members.

11.5. Muriel Gilligan asked if Swanston would be entering a team in the Morison Millar Competition. Andrea Johnstone replied that Swanston would be entering one team. We are allowed to enter two teams but do not have sufficient lower handicap players. Muriel requested new outfits for the Swanston team and it was agreed that the Committee will organise this.

11.6. Fiona Shepherd confirmed to Margaret MacConnachie that as stated in her report there will be no winter medals from January to March 2018. There will be competitions, format tba on Saturdays throughout the winter, weather permitting. Medals will take place in November and December 2017.

Kay Cuthbertson made the point that by giving up winter medals, the ladies were losing any "rights" hard won in the past. Also, that in her opinion the ladies tee positions would become damaged by over-use by all sections of the Club during the winter.

Vote of Thanks

Muriel Gilligan gave a vote of thanks to the Committee for all their work during the year.

CLOSING

As there was no other competent business the Lady Captain closed the Annual General Meeting at 7.50pm and thanked everyone for attending.