

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SVLGA WEST DIVISION
COWGLEN GOLF CLUB 14TH NOVEMBER, 2013

Captain Anna Telfer gave a warm welcome to 56 members at the 45th Annual General Meeting of the West Vets at Cowglen Golf Club.

MINUTES OF 2012 AGM

The adoption was proposed by Cathy Morton and seconded by Anne Dunn.

MATTERS ARISING - None.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sheila Shaw reported that the income for 2013 was up due mainly to the following:

- (a) There were more new members (19) this year than in previous years resulting in £228 in joining fees.
- (b) We received £65 from the East Division as their share of the insurance costs for the Elise Duncan Trophy.
- (c) Sweater sales were up this year by £73.
- (d) As we covered ourselves with the green fees for Buchanan Castle, they agreed to forego the £100 we normally pay to the host Club. The raffle of the fourball at Buchanan Castle raised the sum of £74.

On the expenditure side, we had less expenses this year due to the fact that we only had one home match. Also, there were no sweaters purchased this year as we still had a good stock.

Sundry expenses were also down due to the fact that we had purchased a large supply of postage stamps the previous year before the price increase. Our main expense this year was the upgrade of the computer.

I wish to thank Jan Macnab of Ranfurly Castle Golf Club for auditing the Books and also Helen Burnet for taking such meticulous care of the sweaters and stock-taking.

The adoption of the Financial Report was proposed by Janette Stewart and seconded by Helen Faulds.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary reported that the membership currently stood at 178, there having been 2 resignations prior to the AGM. There are 41 ladies on the waiting list.

The Fixtures for 2014 are as follows:-

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| Spring Meeting | - | Tuesday, 15 th April 2014 at Kilmacolm Golf Club |
| Summer Meeting | - | Monday, 12 th May 2014 at Milngavie Golf Club |
| Autumn Meeting | - | Tuesday, 2 nd September 2014 at Erskine Golf Club |

Matches

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| West –v- Midlands | - | Monday, 2nd June 2014 at Ralston Golf Club |
| West –v- East (Singles) | - | Thursday, 5 th June 2014 at West Kilbride Golf Club |
| East –v- West (F'somes)- | | To be confirmed |

Championship

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Renfrew Golf Club | - | Thursday, 29 th May 2014 - 9.30am and 2pm |
| | - | Friday, 30 th May 2014 - 9.30am and 2pm |

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Before commencing her report, Anna announced the death of Elise Duncan earlier this year. Elise was

West Vets Captain in 1995/96 and presented the Elise Duncan trophy which is competed for annually between the Scratch teams of the West and East.

After two pretty dreadful summers, 2013 was warm, sunny and perfect for golf most of the time.

What a difference that golden ball in the sky makes!

We have held three very successful meetings this year, two of which we entered on-line for the first time. In these days of ever-increasing postage costs this is of benefit to all our members.

The Spring and Autumn Meetings were particularly well supported, especially Buchanan Castle despite the £5 entry fee. Buchanan Castle very kindly donated a Fourball and this was raffled and raised £74 for our funds. Many thanks to all who entered, played and supported our competitions.

Matches – Singles –v- Midlands was played in lovely sunny conditions at Dunblane G.C. This is a match for players of handicaps of 10 and over. Unfortunately Midlands emerged the winners by 4.5 to 2.5.

The Foursomes –v- East is another match for handicaps of 10 and over and this was played at Troon Portland this year on yet another fine day. However, I'm afraid we lost the Friendship Trophy by 1.5 to 3.5.

However, I'm saving the best till last as I am delighted to report that the Scratch Singles Match against the East for the Elise Duncan Trophy was won by the West by a convincing 6.5 to 2.5. This year the match was played at Longniddry rather than Gullane.

Anna thanked all the members who played in these three matches which are played in a very friendly albeit competitive spirit.

Championship – There were 16 qualifiers for the first time this year and this was well received. Renfrew G.C. was the venue once again. The 1st round and quarter finals were played on the Wednesday and Lorraine Campbell, Anna Telfer, Alex Glennie and Pat Hutton returned on the Thursday to play in the Semis. The Final was between Alex and Anna and Alex emerged a worthy winner in a very competitive match to be the winner of the West Divisional Championship.

Anna congratulated all the players – winners and losers.

This year four Bronze qualifiers arranged and played their first round matches on their own courses.

Next year we will revert to all matches being played at Renfrew. Ann Colthart, competing in her first championship, and travelling all the way down from Dalmally, defeated Pat Robertson at the 18th hole in the Final.

Blairgowrie – this was enjoyed by everyone who participated, despite the freezing weather. West Vets were not nearly so successful as last year, with Carol Fell being our only prize winner.

The SVLGA made a decision earlier this season to play the Scottish Vets Championship a week later than normal to avoid a clash with the British Seniors. In 2015, the Championship will once again revert to the Blairgowrie Meeting as it will not clash with the British Seniors.

Alex Glennie did really well in reaching the Final of the Scottish Vets Championship where unfortunately she lost to Alison Bartlett from Highlands. However, her performance was good enough to win her a place on the Scottish Seniors Team for the Home Internationals where she was joined by another West Vet, May Hughes.

Helen Faulds has completed her term as Captain of Scottish Vets and will now be able to concentrate on her own golf. However, Sally Coster is now into her second year as President of the Scottish Vets so the West is still well represented.

West Vets continue to feature in competitions in Spain, Portugal and Ireland.

Dates for next year's SVLGA fixtures:

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Mary McKenna Trophy | - | Donabate G.C., April 12 th -14 th |
| Jamboree | - | Wallasey G.C., August 5 th -7 th |
| Blairgowrie | - | September 15 th /16 th |

The Scottish Seniors was played at West Linton G.C. and the West Vets were well represented. It is with a little embarrassment that I have to announce that the winner was ME! To become a Scottish Champion was a dream come true and something I never dared hope to achieve. It is a memory that will live with me forever. May Hughes, Sheena McDonald and I all qualified for the match-play competition and in horrendous conditions, I went out in the 1st round at the 19th hole. Sheena and May did rather better and both won their 1st round matches but unfortunately went out in the next.

We had more success in the Handicap Section of the knock-out competition where Lorraine Campbell and Fiona Cameron both qualified and reached the Final. Lorraine finally won on the 18th so congratulations to you both.

Can I end my report by thanking ALL those members of the West Vets who have taken the time to write, or phone or text me during the past two months. Your care and concern were a real strength to me as we went through that nightmare in Switzerland. It is with huge relief that I can tell you that my son is now home and staying with us while he recovers and recuperates.

SCOTTISH VETS MATCH REPORTS

Jamboree: North Hants was the venue for the 2013 Jamboree. This is a very fine golf club situated just outside Aldershot and home to US Open Winner Justin Rose. The Scots Team consisted of Alison Bartlett, Lorna Bennett, Fiona De Vries, May Hughes, Mary Smith, Kathleen Sutherland, Anna Telfer and Sheena Wood. Unfortunately our Captain, Helen Faulds, was unable to make the trip but we were left in the very capable hands of Vice Captain, Noreen Fenton.

Battle commenced on Day 1 against the South with morning foursomes followed by afternoon singles. Although all tight matches, the South emerged the winners. Not too disheartened the Scots were ready to make amends on Day 2 with a win against the North. However, it was not to be and the overall result for the day was an 8-1 defeat. And so on to Day 3. By this time the Scots were not in a happy mood with the possibility of picking up the wooden spoon. However, as is the Scottish mentality at times, the fighting spirit reared its head. We won all three foursomes in the morning against Midlands and added a further 4.5 points in the singles.

Third place out of four was the final result – not great- but could have been worse. We look forward to visiting the Wirral in 2014 when we must do better. - May Hughes

Irish Match: Scotland hosted the annual two day match at a cold and windy but dry West Kilbride G.C. in the middle of April. The Mary McKenna Perpetual Trophy is a competition that, although fiercely contested is always played in great spirit and sportsmanship – just like Mary herself played her golf. The team consisted of Alison Bartlett, Lorna Bennett, Fiona de Vries, Jane Finnie, Alex Glennie, May Hughes, Mary Smith and Kathleen Sutherland.

Ireland had a very successful first day with a score of 3.5 to .5, Lorna and Fiona getting the half point. Day 2, in rather better weather conditions, and the Scots produced some great golf to nearly pull off a dramatic “Ryder Cup” style win. They won 5 of the 8 singles to narrowly lose the match 5.5 to 6.5. It was very exciting to watch. However, Ireland retained the Mary McKenna Trophy. My thanks to West Kilbride Golf Club for the courtesy of the course and for all the help both on and off the Course. My thanks to Sally Coster, our President and Vice Captain Noreen Fenton for all their help.

Next year’s match will be in Ireland at Mary McKenna’s home club – Donabate. I wish Noreen and her team every success in trying to bring the Trophy back to Scotland. - Helen Faulds

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Fiona Roger has completed her year as Past Captain, and in her absence I would like to thank her most sincerely for all that she has done on behalf of West Vets.

Both myself and Marion Stewart, our Vice Captain, have a further year in office as does Dorothy Horsfield

who remains on Committee.

Morag Key has agreed to remain in office for another year. I propose we accept this offer and Marion Stewart has seconded the proposal.

Sheila Shaw is retiring as Treasurer after 5 years in office. Sheila has been quietly efficient and capable, dealing with all things monetary with great skill. You will be missed.

Mo Neilson was proposed as Treasurer by Sheila Shaw and seconded by Morag Key.

Helen Burnet retires at this time. She has been a valued member and hard worker on our Committee and did a grand job selling our sweaters.

I now propose Julie Will as our new Committee Member and this has been seconded by Morag Key.

We did consider co-opting another member for Committee as we are sometimes short of ballot officials.

However, two ladies who have opted to become non-playing Life Members, have offered their services.

They wish to retain contact with the Vets and by volunteering their services on competition days, they are also doing us all a favour. If anyone else would be willing to help out on ballot duty, please let Morag or Anna know.

AOCB

- (a) It was proposed that the subs for 2015 be raised to £20. This would cover the rising cost of postage and general expenses which are always on the increase. Also, the subs to the SVLGA have been increased again this year. Match expenses are increasing and it will be necessary to reassess the donations to Clubs where we hold our competitions. The Meeting agreed.
- (b) The Committee proposes purchasing wooden plinths for the Super Vet Trophies on which a plaque will be mounted to record the names of the winners.
- (c) The Captain had been asked by Maureen Mitchell (Old Ranfurly) to inquire if anyone would be willing to offer their services as a Course Rater. More volunteers are urgently required.
- (d) May Hughes raised the possibility of doing away with Fixture Cards as everything is on the Website. However, as there are still some members without computers, it was felt that we would continue with the Fixture Cards in the meantime. However, to avoid excess postage, the Cards will be delivered to each Club as far as possible and members will be able to collect them there. This would be from mid to end February.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES

Before the presentation of prizes, the Captain presented Carol Fell with a gift voucher in appreciation of her amazing skills with all things computing and to do with our website, not to mention her photography skills. Carol's work is appreciated so much by everyone.

The President, Sally Coster, presented the prizes to all the various prize winners.

VOTE OF THANKS

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks from Alex Glennie. She congratulated Anna on her Captaincy and gave thanks to her and the Committee for all their time and hard work in arranging fixtures and support to the teams. She wished Anna another successful year as Captain and looked forward to good golf in 2014.

DATE OF 2014 AGM – 13TH November, 2014 at Cowglen Golf Club.