

# EAST CHESHIRE INTER CLUB SHIELD



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Alsager Golf & Country Club on Monday 23rd October 2023 at 10.30am

### 1. Welcome

Mary Hobson, ECICS Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates.

Barbara Allen, ECICS Honorary Secretary, chaired the meeting.

Committee apologies were received from Denise Hammond, B team Co-ordinator.

### 2. Previous Meeting

Minutes of the 2022 AGM were proposed and agreed.

There were no matters arising.

### 3. Presentation to the 2023 Winners

Trophies were presented to this year's ECICS winners as follows:

A Team	Davenport Golf Club
B Team	Tytherington Golf Club
Plate Team	Congleton Golf Club
Business Ladies	Hazel Grove Golf Club

East Champion v West Champion trophies winners as follows:

A Team	Davenport Golf Club who beat Vale Royal Abbey
B Team	Tytherington Golf Club who beat Sandiway
Plate Team	Congleton who beat Royal Liverpool
Business Ladies	Hazel Grove who beat Sandiway

All Shields and Plates have been engraved with the 2023 winners and need to be returned to Barbara Allen at Heyrose Golf Club by 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

ECICS Treasurer, Fiona Liggett, presented her report to the meeting a copy of which is attached at appendix A.

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## 5. New ECIS Officers for 2023/24

The Honorary Secretary was pleased to announce that the new ECICS Chair for 2024 will be Jane Tyler from Astbury Golf Club and Astbury will host the 2024 finals and next year's AGM.

Liz Halstead, who has been the A Team co-ordinator and a valued member of the committee for some time is stepping down. She will be replaced by Gill Hodges from Astbury Golf Club who has kindly volunteered. The Honorary Secretary presented a small gift of thanks to Liz.

Pauline Walker, the Business Ladies co-ordinator and Ann McCormick, Plate Team co-ordinator, are also due to step down at the end of 2024, volunteers to replace them will then be required.

The position of Honorary Secretary is a two year post and Barbara stated that her service is now complete. However, at the recent Team Management Meeting it was proposed that this position be made into a 3 year post with the new incoming Secretary shadowing for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. She said that she is happy to continue for a further 12 months on the proviso that a new Secretary is appointed for 2025 who will be on the committee and her shadow for 2024.

Following further discussion a vote was taken and it was agreed that the Honorary Secretary post be extended to three years and the ECICS rule be amended accordingly.

All positions within the ECICS are voluntary however if no volunteer comes forward the officers are appointed in Club alphabetical order. Heyrose were told that if they did not provide a Secretary in 2021 they would not be able to play in the league. If a volunteer is not forthcoming High Legh will be obliged to provide a Secretary.

## 6. Proposed Rule Amendments for 2024

**Rule 5** - At the Team Management Meeting it was proposed that a new rule be brought in to state that all team players have six qualifying cards entered on the WHS Handicap Index List in the previous rolling 12 month period. The playing of qualifying competitions during the season will ensure team player handicaps are up to date.

During discussion concerns were raised regarding those players returning from injury not meeting that criterion. It was pointed out that such players would be able to enter 'general play' cards for handicap purposes in order to reach the necessary six cards.

A vote was taken and it was agreed that this rule be introduced. Rule 5 will now include this qualification; the match secretary will be responsible for checking that their players have entered six qualifying cards in the past 12 months when selecting their team.

**Rule 6** - To ensure teams are being entered in the correct division the wording of rule 6 (guidance regarding handicaps for each of the team divisions) will be amended to include the wording "should" instead of "may". This will help Clubs in assessing which teams to enter.

**Rule 15** - It was requested at the Team Management Meeting that this rule be amended to allow a player to arrive 30 minutes before their tee time, not 30 minutes before the first tee time.

This item has been discussed at previous meetings and following further discussion it was proposed that the whole team arrive 15 minutes before the first tee time instead of the current 30 minutes. A vote was taken and it was agreed that this amendment to the rule be made.

The East Cheshire Shield is a Golf Community run by a committee of volunteers for the competitive enjoyment of ladies golf

Chair: Jane Tyler Astbury Golf Club ☎ 7850 416982 ✉ janeityler@btinternet.com

Secretary: Barbara Allen ☎ 07850 584264 ✉ BAA607@sky.com

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**Rule 19** - At the Team Management Meeting clarification was sought on whether a match can be rescheduled or postponed due to very hot weather.

The Honorary Secretary stated that she had searched the R&A Rules and there is nothing about high temperatures. An American Army Doctor recommended that 100F, 38C is too hot to play golf and in temperatures approaching this he recommended the use of a buggy and keeping hydrated throughout a round.

Following discussion it was agreed that the ECICS are not experts in this field and as such are not in a position to state at what temperature a match should be rescheduled or postponed. If a Red 'Extreme Temperature' Warning issued by the Met. Office is in place teams should use common sense and consider rescheduling the match or perhaps playing earlier in the day. The times when such warning are likely, July and August, may mean it is difficult to rearrange and a halved match could be considered.

## 7. Match Draws

There will be 36 clubs participating in the ECICS matches in 2024. A number of clubs have withdrawn teams for 2024 season and there is a big reduction in the number of Business Ladies, down from 25 in 2023 to 20.

The matches were split into the groups shown below and the draw for each Team Category was made (see Appendix B.) by delegates attending the meeting.

Matches will start after Easter on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and will finish on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Business Ladies Matches will start on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and finish on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

Team Category	Number of Teams	Number of Groups	Group make up	Qualifiers for finals
A Team	15	3	3 x 5	Group winners and runners up go to semi-finals
B Team	33	8	7 x 4 1 x 5	Group winners go to quarter-finals
Plate Team	25	6	5 x 4 1 x 5	Group winners plus 2 runners up go to quarter-finals
Business Ladies Team	20	5	5 x 4	Group winners plus 3 runners up go to quarter-finals

## 8. 2024 East Cheshire – Dates for your diaries

Quarter Finals – Sunday/Monday 18/19 August 2024. To be played at Ashton on Mersey, Bramall Park, Hale and Stockport

Semi Finals – Sunday/Monday 8/9 September 2024. To be played at Macclesfield and Marple

Finals – Saturday/Monday 14/16 September 2024. To be played at Astbury

East/West Finals – Sunday/Tuesday 6/8 October 2024. To be played at Eastham Lodge (Business Ladies) and Delamere Forest

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Team Management Meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 at Heyrose Golf Club

AGM – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 at Astbury Golf Club

## 9. Any other business

In relation to the handicap reductions introduced for the 2023 season there was a request at the Team Management Meeting for statistical evidence to show whether low or high handicappers won or lost matches.

Ann McCormick – Plate Team Co-ordinator provided the following information:

We were requested by the ladies from Ashton on Mersey to find out how many ladies lost their matches after playing to the maximum handicap.

I've been through all of the match results sheets and I've only used the results from when a golf club has used a lady to fill in on the plate team and had to reduce her handicap to the limit of 33, mostly it is the 7th player. One club did field 3 in one match but that might have been because of having to find players for a B team?

So - out of the 26 clubs, 13 have entered players over 33.

37 matches have been played where a player has had to reduce her handicap, varying from 33.1 to the highest of 44.1 (this player received 13 shots and she lost the match 7/9).

There were 5 ladies over the handicap of 40, their matches resulted in 3 losses, 1 win and 1 half.

Generally, the handicaps of the 7th player were players off high 30's with the rest just over the 33 limit. The most shots being given was 15 and the match was halved!

One match only fielded 4 players, two matches only fielded 5 players and 3 matches fielded 6 players.

Out of the 37 matches that were played there were overall 15 wins, 13 losses and 4 halves. Which also means that the lower handicap ladies have had 13 wins, 15 losses and 4 halves.

Liz Halstead, A Team Co-ordinator, said that she had also reviewed the 2023 match results to see whether handicap limits had had any adverse effect.

There were 35 matches played in the A team with restricted shots.

Quite surprisingly 16 of those matches were won by the restricted handicapper. Even this is not a complete picture.

Some handicaps were only just over 16, so the playing handicap would be the same. In a number of matches 2 restricted players were playing each other. The size of the win was so great as to make no difference.

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I think on balance it made only a small difference to overall results but the total number of restrictions each Monday is more than I appreciated.

However, Hazelgrove, Davenport and Sale were frequently relying on including players above a 16 handicap, other clubs on a less frequent basis. Davenport and Hazelgrove both won their sections in the A group!

## 10. Dates for your diaries

Quarter Finals – Sunday/Monday 18/19 August 2024. To be played at Ashton on Mersey, Bramall Park, Hale and Stockport

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Finals – **Saturday**/Monday 14/16 September 2024. To be played at Astbury

East/West Finals – Sunday/**Tuesday** 6/8 October 2024. To be played at Eastham Lodge, BL and Delamere Forest

Team Management Meeting – Monday 23 September @ Heyrose Golf Club 10.30 am

AGM – Monday 21 October 2024 @ Astbury Golf Club 10.30 am

## 11. Meeting closed at 11.40am



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## Appendix A - Treasurer's Report 2023

### Profitability

I am pleased to report we have broken even with a small profit of £215.80 this year which has been added to reserves, which now total £924.48. Expenditure rose mainly due to us increasing the gifts we offer to clubs hosting the finals without a corresponding increase in fees collected for 2023.

We also hosted the East v West Finals this year which generated extra expenditure so we were very grateful when Heyrose & Alsager Golf Clubs declined their gift for hosting the semi-finals and finals.

We have also incurred extra expenditure this year as one trophy needed to be replaced.

### Income – Entry Fees

The entry fees collected at the end of the previous season are the only form of income we receive and we have kept them the same for 2024 as in previous years.

However, it has been appropriate to increase the Admin fee by £5 per club to cover the increase in fees offered to the clubs hosting the finals. This is now £10 per club.

Our income was £1,200 for 2023 from 38 clubs entering 100 teams, which compares with £1,290 for 2024 when 36 clubs have entered 93 teams. So we have to be able to maintain consistency in our income against a reduction in entrants for now.

### Teams 2023 v 2024

For 2024 we have lost one club that hasn't entered for next season. Thank you to all clubs who have entered again for next season.

We have seen a reduction in the number of Business Ladies teams entered by 5 clubs. Main reason is that some clubs have struggled to field a Business Ladies team as well.

Entries for A B and Plate remain similar to last year at 15, 33 and 25 teams.

### New Projects

This year we have adopted online payments for all Entry Fees and any payments which all worked smoothly. We will continue to do this as it creates a clear audit trail and is a more efficient way of operating.

Following feedback from various parties we are in the process of designing an ECICS website to improve our visibility and provide access to information to players and clubs. We are also hoping to post the results on a monthly basis and I am in the process of consulting on the best way to do that and the information that we include on the website. Will notify you when it is up and running!

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## Summary of Accounts for East Cheshire Shield 2022/23

Income	£	Expenditure	
Entry Fees	1,200.00	Honoraria for Officers	180.00
		Expenses for Officers	132.20
		Trophies & Engraving	167.00
		Hosting Finals:	475.00
		QF Disley	75.00
		QF Dunham Forest	75.00
		QF Marple	75.00
		QF Prestbury	75.00
		SF Ringway	75.00
		SF Heyrose (Declined £75)	
		Finals Alsager (Declined £100)	
		EvW Hazel Grove	100.00
		AGM (Alsager)	<u>30.00</u> 30.00
		Total Expenses	£ 984.20
		Net Profit	£ 215.80
Total	<b>£1,200.00</b>	Total	<b>£1,200.00</b>
Bank Bal b/f			708.68
Add Profit			<u>215.80</u>
Closing Bank c/f			924.48

Presented by Fiona Liggett

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## Appendix B - Team Draw

<b>A Team</b>			
<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>	
Davenport	Dunham Forest	Bramall Park	
Sale	Mere	Astbury	
Tytherington	Crewe	The Wilmslow	
Bramhall	Prestbury	Hazel Grove	
Lymm	Ringway	Warrington	

<b>B Team</b>			
<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>	<b>Group D</b>
Hazel Grove	Hale	Chorlton	Mellor & Townscliffe
Macclesfield	Birchwood	Dunham Forest	Alsager
Stockport	Crewe	Didsbury	Prestbury
Astbury	Ringway	Mere	Alderley Edge
<b>Group E</b>	<b>Group F</b>	<b>Group G</b>	<b>Group H</b>
Warrington	Lymm	Bramhall Park	Withington
Heyrose	Northenden	The Wilmslow	High Legh
Davenport	Bramhall	Heaton Moor	Marple
Sale	Tytherington	Disley	Romiley

<b>Plate Team</b>			
<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>	<b>Group D</b>
Heyrose	Didsbury	Halton Park	Knutsford
Romiley	Sale	Lymm	Ashton-on-Mersey
Disley	Warrington	Alderley Edge	Ringway
Astbury	Withington	Congleton	Prestbury
<b>Group E</b>	<b>Group F</b>		
The Wilmslow	Tytherington		
Marple	Bramhall Park		
Hale	Alsager		
Hazel Grove	Bramhall		
	Davenport		

<b>Business Ladies</b>				
<b>Group A</b>	<b>Group B</b>	<b>Group C</b>	<b>Group D</b>	<b>Group E</b>
Heaton Moor	Tytherington	Warrington	Bramhall Park	Alsager
The Wilmslow	Northenden	Knutsford	Hazel Grove	Hale
Marple	High Legh	Bramhall	Lymm	Dunham Forest
Stockport	Sale	Astbury	Ringway	Crewe

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