**The Ladies’ Section Newsletter – April / May 2022**

**Ladies’ General Meeting March 29th –** Prior to the meeting many of us were able to enjoy the traditional Captain versus Vice Captain match -fittingly won by the Vice captain’s team. The meeting was attended by 30 ladies, which enabled us to go ahead as we were just quorate. The lower number than usual was understandable given the Covid situation at the time. At the meeting I was thanked for my year as Lady Captain by Lady President, Ruth Belcher and by our new Lady Captain, Helena Price and presented with a beautiful hydrangea. The Captain, Vice-Captain and the Committee were voted in unanimously. Helena announced her charity for the year – funds to be collected for a vehicle to enable the fast delivery of a defibrillator on the golf course and any surplus to be sent to support The British Red Cross Ukraine Appeal. Helena also announced her plans for an away stay in August with details and sign-up sheet displayed in the changing room. I’m sure we all wish Helena and her team a very successful year.

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Lady Captain, Helena Price Captain, Roger Bates Captains’ Drive-In -The Winning Team

Vice-Captain, Debbie Nicholson Junior Captain, Katelyn Wilkie Terry Evans, Paul Totty, David Martin,

Karen Martin

**Captains’ Drive-In, April 2nd**

This was the first drive-in for three years and it was well supported by the members. Teams could be single sex or mixed and all enjoyed the Texas Scramble format. There was food available afterwards and it was great to have the clubhouse buzzing again after the Covid years.

**Captains’ Winning Streaks**

The Lady Captain and Junior Captain had a very early success to their year when they won the Hill Valley Greensomes event organised by the county. This is an annual event with young players ranging from 6-17 pairing up with County ladies. Katelyn retained the trophy for the second year with Helena as her new partner. Congratulations to them both.

Katelyn’s success has not stopped there – she has been part of the county Junior Scratch team who won 3-2 against Leicester and drew with Debyshire at Chesterfield Golf Club and she has just won the Junior Wales Open, played off scratch. Well done indeed Katelyn and we hope your success continues.

A person and person standing in a room

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**Ladies & Seniors**

We did not have enough interest to warrant the preferred shot-gun start but nevertheless a good number of us enjoyed this bi-annual event. Mixed teams played an alliance format which got increasingly pressured as the number of scores to count on each hole increased from 2 to 3 to 4 on the final six holes!! What pressure???? Prizes were awarded to the first three teams and once again there was a good buzz and a fair bit of banter in the clubhouse afterwards. The winners and runners up are shown below. Thanks go to Anthony Blyth for the organisation of this event and to the members who took part in this traditional fixture in our golfing calendar. The autumn event takes place on Tuesday, October 11th and we are hoping that as many ladies as possible will feel able to take part.

A group of people holding bottles

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Most of the winning team! All the runners-up with Lady Captain and Anthony Blyth

**Congratulations**

As ever the new season has started with a rush of medals stablefords and majors having already been played. Congratulations to all the winners and runners up and to all who have qualified to reach the knock out rounds in the Pelham Cup, The Championship Cup and the Ruth Lee Salver. Well done Ladies, what a great start to your season.

**Competition Results**

Medal One Winner– Chris Fletcher. Medal One Runner Up – Erica Tozer.

April Stableford Winner – Jo Wlazlo with 33 points, Runner-up -Chris Fletcher -33points.

Medal Two Winner – Bernadette Micklewright, Runner Up – Erica Tozer.

Medal Three Winners – Meg Jones (Div 1), Elizabeth Kenyon (Div 2), Jo Wlazlo (Div 3).

Medal Three Runners Up – Denise Morton (Div1), Joan Lawson (Div 2), Jane Moore (Div 3).

The Coronation Foursomes was won on countback by Alice Drewnicki and Bernadette Micklewright with 32 points. We wish them all the best in the next round. Runners up were Helen Darkes and June Symcox also with 32 points.

The Margery Sykes Brooch was won by Elizabeth Kenyon with net 71. The runner up was Meg Jones with net 72.

The Noni Taylor Salver was won by Denise Morton with net 71. The runner up was Vicky Northern with net 73.

Top seeds from the Pelham Cup qualifier are Erica Tozer and Christine Fletcher.

Top seeds for the Ruth Lee Salver Knock Out are Jenny Seager and Alison Totty.

The Ladies May Stableford was won by Jo Wlazlo with 36 points.

**Mixed Events**

The Ambler Rose Bowl was won by Terry and Becky Beech with net 66. The runners up were Andrew and Bernadette Micklewright with net 68. Great scores in a difficult format – well done to both couples.

30 of us stayed in the clubhouse to enjoy the food and banter after the golf – another very enjoyable occasion. Thank you to the kitchen staff who came in to feed us all and to David Martin for organising the food.

New this season are the mixed gender medals and stablefords being played at some weekends.

The first of the year was played on April 30th. Congratulations to Mel Read who came in second overall with 41 points and who won Division 2. Great job Mel!

The qualifying round of the Walker Trophy was played on April 23rd. Thanks go to Lynne Stone who came to the club specially to resolve the competition on the day which added to the anticipation and suspense in the clubhouse!! The top seeds are Chris Downing and Roger Seager with a score of net 70. Second seeds are John and Ronnie Simpson also with a net 70 (by some miracle!). Good luck to all the players in the next stages of the competition.

Overall, the entry to competitions has been on the low side and we could do with more entries. The comps team of Vicky Northern, Ann Pratley, Jan Burton, Debbie Nicholson, and Lynne Stone are more than happy to help with IG entry whether for entering competitions or entering scores after play. Alternatively, you can email to the ladies’ email address or contact Vicky directly.

**Matches –**

We enter teams into 3 leagues – the Mini League, Handicap League, and Scratch League. In addition, we have friendly matches against other ladies’ teams and mixed, friendly matches. Details of all the leagues are displayed in the changing room corridor as there are some handicap limits. All ladies are welcome to sign up for the friendly matches and it’s a great opportunity to meet others and play other local courses. Please speak to Jo Cole for more information about friendly matches, to Sue Everatt for more information about the Mini League and to Elizabeth Kenyon about the Handicap League. Thanks must go to all three organisers for all their hard work behind the scenes.

**Mini League Results –** April 6th,Market Drayton Away 4-0 loss (2 results were very close).

April 28th Market Drayton Home 3-1 loss

Next matches – 25th May, Arscott at Home, 6th June, Arscott Away.

**Handicap League Results –** Hawkstone Away 4.5 – 0.5 loss, Hawkstone Home 3.5 – 1.5 win

**Ladies Friendly Match Results -** Enville Away 4.5 -0.5 loss, Bridgnorth Home 1-3 loss,

Stafford Castle Home 1.5 -3.5 loss, Perton Away 0-4 win.

**Mixed Friendly Match Results-** Tri-match played at Wrekin, Shifnal - 8, Wrekin – 7, LHGC – 3.

Some mixed results so far but thank you to, all who have represented LHGC in the matches to date. Keep going Ladies!

**Charity Fund Raising 2021-22**

Due to the impact of Covid fund raising since March 2020 has been extremely difficult. Any funds raised in 2020/21 were amalgamated with the funds raised in 2021/22 which amounted to £4000 overall. £2000 was donated to Little Hearts Matter, Mr Captain, Terry Beech’s chosen charity and £2000 was donated to Severn Hospice, the charity chosen by Past Captain, Joan Lawson and me, Ronnie Simpson. In April, Joan and I had the pleasure of taking a cheque from the club to Severn Hospice where it was gratefully received. Thank you to all of you who contributed to the charity fund raising in those years.

A couple of women holding a sign

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**Section Membership**

At the General Meeting we were given up to date figures of female membership at LHGC. Currently the section has 48 – 7day members, 19 – 5day members, 3- 2nd club members, 4–9-hole members, 5- Life members, and 2 Intermediate members. This is a total of 81.

**Women in Golf Initiative –** to promote LHGC and to attract more women to our club as part of the club’s commitment as a signatory to the Women in Golf Charter.

We have worked with Studio4 to update the club’s website to give women a higher profile. You will have also seen the publicity in the local press and around the clubhouse promoting golf packages for women at LHGC. We have had some encouraging success so far with 5 ladies engaged with the basic starter package and four more ladies starting with their trial membership. These ladies met with their LHGC “buddies” on Tuesday, May 10th and the first group lesson is scheduled for this coming Saturday. Thank you to all those ladies who have agreed to act as “buddies” – hopefully we will be calling on you as and when we attract more participants. The next event is our Open Afternoon on Saturday, May 21st from 2- 4pm. If you can give any time to help with this event please contact Gill Preece, Sue Everatt or myself.

**Other news**

From April 1st, 2023, competition fees will increase to £3 per entry to bring us into line with the men.

Yours truly was amazed to unexpectedly have a “hole in one” on the 6th hole in our match against Stafford Castle. Hopefully all the match ladies enjoyed the celebratory wine with the meal after the match. Did any of you catch a dram of the whiskey I left on the bar?

A person holding a flag and a golf club

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Handicap League players enjoyed a delightful afternoon tea after their game. Thanks to Elizabeth Kenyon for organising it and to the kitchen staff. Sue Parker and the team are keen to receive specific feedback with regards to food and catering at the club. A book for your written comments is located behind the bar.

**Dates for your diary**

26th July, 2022 – Lady Captain’s Day, An individual stableford competition (6 prizes & junior prize), a 9 hole competition for women and men, a putting competition -£1 entry for charity. Lunch will have a Scottish theme and ladies will be invited to wear and design their own Scottish hats.

6th October, 2022 – Lady Captain’s Charity Lunch with an outside speaker.

10th November, 2022 – Christmas Fayre

**Newsletter written by Ronnie Simpson and agreed by Helena Price.**