

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING: MIDDLESEX GOLF



Location: Stanmore GC

Date: Thursday, 15th January 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

1. ATTENDANCE

- **David Niccol (DN)** – Chair
- **Di Rowlands (DR)** – President
- **Hasmukh Pattni (HP)** – Finance Director
- **Anne Koychev (AK)** Zoom
- **Ruth Holmes (RH)** Development
- **Robbie Martin (RM)** Chief Referee
- **Ketan Raja (KR)** Tournament Director
- **Lee Patterson (LP)** – Secretary
- **Des Cassidy (DC)** – Assistant Secretary
- **Apologies for Absence:** None.

2. MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

DN confirmed planning for the re-instatement of the annual awards dinner was underway on a biennial basis, guest speakers were being investigated.

AK reiterated the need for players to understand the role of referees at Middlesex tournaments. LP has this item marked for priority as we go into the playing season.

LP has submitted a player code of conduct for the tournament committee to review.

LP the Under 14 boys team management is in the process of being prepared for the coming season.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Awards dinner has already been discussed (above). Nothing further to add.

4. FINANCE REPORT

- **Financial Health:** HP offered draft accounts to the Board for discussion.
- **Affiliation Fees:** HP reported a variance in affiliation fees, an increase of which is due to the introduction of mid -year declaration affiliation declarations.
- **Variances:** HP reported a large variance exists under some nominal codes. These are to be investigated and a variance report is to be created.
- (Action LP & HP)
- Draft accounts for the year 2024/2025 were unanimously approved.
- RH requested that the Board remain mindful of the need for transparency at all times.

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Junior girls are still seeking a team manager. For the interim AK & RM offered to assist with junior girls training on the 8th March.
- The Secretary was authorised to discuss the creation of a county training base at a Middlesex Golf Club.
- Dukes Meadow Golf Centre is about to affiliate to Middlesex.
- A breakfast meeting has been organised with General Managers of Middlesex Golf Clubs.

6. TOURNAMENT & RULES

- RM indicated that the 12 competition card rule has been introduced with very little comment.
- RM confirmed that the men's & women's senior summer meeting were to be two separate competitions and not mixed.
- RH asked for confirmation that the use of buggies during pregnancy rule had been agreed. RH explained the intricacies of the proposed rule change and agreed to respond to Suzanne Buttner directly. (Action RM)

7. DEVELOPMENT

- RH indicated that the i-golf grant will be directed towards mental health and sustainability and other England Golf priority areas. RH expects that our grant application for the coming year will be the maximum available, circa £8,400. The development steering group will be meeting to allocate grants at a future meeting.

8. AOB

- Nothing raised.

Dates for diary

Board meetings – 13th April 11am, 14th July 7pm, 12th October 11am, 18th January 11am.
Venue Stanmore Golf Club.

Delegates Meeting – 29th October 7pm at Sudbury Golf Club TBC

5. TOURNAMENT & RULES

RM announced a change to entry conditions for handicap knockouts: Players must now have **twelve competition cards** recorded in the preceding twelve months, and this status must be maintained throughout the duration of the competition.

6. ENGLAND GOLF

DR noted there was no news to report ahead of the annual England Golf meeting scheduled for the following week.

7. DEVELOPMENT

RH reported that the development group is managing the grant application process. Current initiatives (including mental health programs, community instructors, and junior development) will be presented at the Women in Golf forum and upcoming delegate meetings.

8. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- **Staffing:** Two team managers have resigned. Recruitment is underway; however, the **Under 14 Boys' team** will be suspended for 2026 if a replacement manager is not found.
- **Sponsorship:** GX Golf Gloves has approached Middlesex regarding a partnership. The Secretary is currently exploring the terms of this association.

9. AOB & POLICY UPDATES

- **Coaching Policy:** KR presented England Golf's coaching credentials. The Board **unanimously agreed** to adopt and incorporate England Golf's coaching policy into Middlesex's internal recruitment processes.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- **Board Meeting:** Monday 13th, April 2026 (11:00 AM at Stanmore GC)