



# Middlesex Golf

## Minutes of Board Meeting

Held at Sudbury GC

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**In attendance:** Tom Powell – Chair (President), Di Rowlands (DR), David Taylor (DT), Irvine Walker (IW), Anne Koychev (AK), Ruth Holmes (RH), Ketan Raja (KR), Robbie Martin (RM), David Niccol (DN), Lee Patterson (LP).

### 1) Apologies for absence

None.

### 2) Matters Arising

None.

### 3) President's Report

TP reported that the Centenary dinner went and was a fun night out for all. A nett scoring issue was highlighted, it was unclear whether this was a user issue or a system glitch.

AK - A nett prize is still to be awarded, but will not appear on live scoring.

KR requested a thank you note be sent to Sudbury GC.

### 4) Centenary Report

IW - Seventeen clubs attended with event costs totalling less than the allotted budget. IW confirmed the event was a great success, lots of positive feedback was forthcoming. Ideas for an alternative breakfast and golf awards day will be looked in to.

### 5) Finance

Affiliations are stable, with just one club showing a worrying decline in membership.

Affiliations to England Golf will be made in the very near future.

Cash in hand held by LP to be passed to DT.

All Centenary Dinner invoices are now paid.

DT - Increases in costs are now evident and impacting on predicted budgets.

#### **ACTION**

LP to investigate

LP to send note

IW to investigate further

LP to make discreet enquiry

DT to action

A situation that should be addressed when planning for 2025 budgets. Affiliation fees should also be reviewed at that point in time.

AK requested that the business plan is consulted to assist with the above process and that the business plan should always be kept up to date and used to facilitate any future planning.

DT – all budgeting should be tailored to prevailing circumstances. DT questioned what actions were taken to replace him as Finance Director.

DN stated he has a potential candidate and will share the role description in due course, and will set up an introduction to DT.

DN action

**6) Tournament and Rules**

IW asked if referees walk the courses in advance of Championships. RM replied we do not have resources or time to walk every golf course. All are familiar and pose no surprises. He further stated that Course Managers are the knowledgeable experts and are guided by rules officials before every Championship.

KR reported that six rules evenings had been held at various Golf Clubs. This exercise will be repeated next year. Eight new referees have been identified and a new level three referee has joined Middlesex refereeing ranks.

Stephanie Beer was congratulated on her performance when refereeing the Men’s County Championship Final.

**7) England Golf**

DR noted that she had shared slides and notes from last weeks England Golf County update and invited questions. She further reported that WSLH had issued advice on changes of articles and voting rights. These to be voted on the 15<sup>th</sup> July.

**8) Development.**

RH reported an increase in the iGolf rebate which bolstered the existing monies allocated to development. Criteria was laid out for development bids and distributed to all affiliated Clubs. Six bids met the stated criteria (junior and women’s development). One bid requires addition of further details.

RH & LP  
action

RH reported that the Family Fun Day is suffering from a slow take up despite being widely publicised. It is hoped that all involved will participate in promoting our long term aspiration in attracting a wide variety of people to our affiliated Clubs and wider Middlesex events.



**9) County Secretary Report**

LP reported that since the last Board Meeting an Assistant Secretary had been recruited. Des Cassidy and LP are now engaged in clearing a large backlog of outstanding work. Des has proven to be a knowledgeable and enthusiastic addition to the County Office. LP reported that the Inspiration Club was now affiliated, with Airlinks GC close to affiliation completion.

LP reported that the future of both Haste Hill and Harefield Place are both in question as Hillingdon Council are reviewing the sale of both Golf Courses.

Junior County week planning is well under way and we look forward to a successful event.

LP reports we are still devoid of a Women’s First Team Manager. A situation that cannot continue and must be addressed.

Training and coaching contracts must be reviewed and plans put in place for autumn 2025.

LP reported puzzlement from some quarters regarding the allocation of annual awards and requests that this process is made much more transparent.

KR enquired if Des Cassidy is available to offer more paid hours. LP confirmed that this is the case and certainly knows that Darragh and the previous Chairman were actively planning to expand the hours of the previous Assistant Secretary prior to her departure. LP – Des must not be overly imposed on as a volunteer.

Board action

Board action

Board action

**10) Helen Tartellin England Golf**

Helen Tartellin offered a report on various initiatives from sustainability to inclusivity and invited questions from the Board.

TP asked Helen what she thought of our new website. Helen replied that she was a fan and found it clean and easy to navigate, compared to other County websites that are over populated and difficult to use or find anything of real interest.

**11) AOB**

AK stated the urgency for the recruitment of a Director of Teams & Coaching. Team Managers need a Director who is their primary point of contact on the Board of Directors. There are other implications, not least of which are safeguarding and codes of conduct, that require the attention of this important Directorship.

AK stated that despite distribution of Codes of Conduct and Safeguarding documentation not one reply was forthcoming from any Team Manager.

TP invited DN to assume the role of Chair to the Middlesex Golf Board. The Board were unanimous in their agreement, DN graciously accepted TP’S invitation. (round of applause) . AK voiced her thanks to TP for his efforts in Chairing in the absence of an elected Chair.

Board action

**12) Date of next meetings**

Board meeting at Sudbury GC 11am, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

