

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOR THE COTSWOLD AND DISTRICT LADIES GOLF ALLIANCE
Held at Lilley Brook GC at 10.00am
on Monday 6th October 2025**

Executive Council Present: Katie Stooke, Chairman, Lilley Brook; Jane Barrett, Secretary; Tracey Millington, League Manager; Sue Trewin, Treasurer

Executive Representatives: Lesley Kirk, Brickhampton Court; Vicky Watkins, Broadway; Fiona Smith, Cotswold Hills; Lynn Broadbent, Lilley Brook; Kerry Welding, Ross-on-Wye; Lindsay Hilton, Stinchcombe Hill; Sara Viall, Tewksbury Park; Ali Baylis & Jennie Dwight, Minchinhampton; Brenda Taylor, Cirencester; Lin Andrew, Broadway

- 1) The Chairman convened the meeting at 10.00 am** and thanked Lilley Brook GC for providing the venue, she also thanked Sue for providing the biscuits
- 2) Apologies for absence:** Clare Southwell (Puckrup), Mary Griffiths (Cotswold Edge), Tess Dick (Cotswold Hills) represented by Fiona Smith and Anne Crawley (Stinchcombe) represented by Lindsay Hilton, Ros Fenney (Puckrup) and Mary Mayes (Website Manager)
- 3) Minutes of Interim Meeting on 10th February 2025:** The minutes were circulated and taken as correct – proposed Katie Stooke, seconded Vicky Watkins
- 4) Matters arising from Interim Meeting:**
 - a) Club access to WhatsApp Groups and posting of results
Tracey thanked all the Reps as the WhatsApp Groups were well used during the year by Captains to post their results and mostly done on a very timely basis.
 - b) Aqua Bowl Rules posted on the Website
This was actioned by Mary
 - c) Course Ratings provided by Handicap League Captains
These are now on the website under the appropriate club under the Teams & Matches tab
 - d) Opens publicized on Website
Mary has publicized all the Opens details she received and is happy to continue to do this going forward
- 5) Secretary's Report (Jane):**

Good morning ladies

I would like to thank Lilley Brook GC for allowing us to use this venue for our meeting & thank Lynn Broadbent for organising this.

Welcome new Reps Lynn from Lilley Brook and Ali Baylis from Minchinhampton

Thanks to all of you reps and the Committee for your communications which makes my work easier!

Mary the website is amazing

A reminder to Clubs holding trophies to bring them to the AGM on Monday 27 October at 10.30 am at Ross on Wye

Please let me know how many members your Club is bringing to the AGM so that we have enough chairs!

6) League Manager's Report (Tracey)

My 8th of 9 reports and the last one for this meeting.

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Lin Andrews who will be taking on this role after the AGM.

Away Day

The Away Day at the Vale went ahead on 9th September, with 19 ladies participating and 7 of our Alliance Clubs represented. Many thanks to everyone who came along and made it a very enjoyable day.

Aqua bowl

Minchinhampton went to Bristol and Clifton on 13th April 2025 to play the Aqua Bowl.

Bristol and Clifton fielded an extremely strong side, including two players who are off scratch. In the end, it was a very narrow 4-3 victory in singles match-play to Bristol and Clifton, with 2 of the matches decided on the 18th.

Well played Minchinhampton, you certainly put up a fantastic fight and did our Alliance proud.

Scratch & Handicap Leagues

It has been a relatively quiet season in terms of issues and queries.

In the Scratch League one key matter arose regarding the suspension of play, which we'll get to later in the meeting, so I won't dwell on that now.

In the Handicap League there was one instance of an ineligible player which meant a result was changed.

All Clubs are reminded of their responsibility to ensure the players they field in the Scratch and Handicap Leagues are eligible. It would be too onerous for the League Manager to check this, but eligibility can be checked if questions are raised.

All 80 matches in the Scratch League and 55 matches in the Handicap League have been played. I think the change we made to penalise teams if they did not fulfil a fixture may have had a positive impact.

Website

Mary can't be here today and has asked me to pass on a few comments on her behalf.

The WhatsApp system of getting results has worked well for her but it would be helpful if a comment was added with the result e.g., win for Cirencester 2 v Minchinhampton 3 at home 4-2.

Reps are asked to remind Captains to please ensure any images are clear.

Mary will do a bit of streamlining of the website over the winter to reduce the number of places that she has to maintain the results information.

Reps are asked to encourage your players to visit the website for results and standings. If errors are spotted, please let Mary know.

Mary is happy to include the details of Opens on the website (with links to more information if you want). Let her have any details.

If there is anything else that you would like to see on the website please let Mary know.

I'd like to close my final report to this meeting by recording a few thanks to:

Ros for all her work and support for the Handicap League over the last few years.

Mary for the work that she has put into the new website and for maintaining the results during the year.

The various members of the Management Committee that I've worked with – your guidance and support have been much appreciated.

All of you, the Alliance Reps, along with your Captains for your work during the season as, quite simply, this Alliance doesn't exist without you.

7) Treasurer's Report (Sue): Year Ended 30th September 2025

The balance at start of the year £461

Expenditure - £203. 99

As 2 teams have withdrawn from the league and it is our year to support financially the Aqua Bowl, also Soft Data Internet price has gone up, we will be running short on funds at the end of 2026. Do we need a team price rise?

Following a discussion it was agreed that the fees should be put up to £10 per team per year – proposed by Sue Trewin and seconded by Sara Viall – passed unanimously.

The TSB bank account is not fit for purpose, no one will now accept cheques, as it's a Business Account, if we go to on line banking with a card it will incur fees. As Broadway will be taking on the Treasurers post at the AGM, it feels it is the right time to explore an alternative banking arrangement for the society.

8) Changes to the constitution (Tracey)

A proposal from Ross on Wye regarding suspension of play during bad weather conditions was discussed.

5.9.3 The Captain's can agree to conclude the match. Individual match completed results will stand. A Captain can concede any matches that are not yet completed or they can be abandoned and replayed with both Captain's agreement.

5.9.4 should read "must" not "should" confirm when the course re-opens

Action: to be discussed at the February Interim Meeting and the Constitution amended as appropriate

9) Joiners/Leavers and Changes to Alliance Membership & proposed divisions for 2026 (Tracey)

We have not received any requests to join the Alliance

Sadly, Puckrup Hall have notified us that they intend to leave the Alliance at the end of the 2025 season. We thank them for their participation over the years, and I hope that they may rejoin at some point in the future.

Prior to this meeting, we have been advised of the following changes that Clubs wish to make:

- a. Minchinhampton will reduce from 4 teams to 3, dropping Minchinhampton 4
- b. Cirencester will leave the Handicap League

That means for 2026 we will have:

- c. 19 teams in the Scratch League (down from 20)
- d. 9 teams in the Handicap League (down from 11).

On 17th September 2025 I sent the Alliance Reps a short document setting out options for the structure of the Scratch League and Handicap League for 2026 noting that a decision was required as Clubs want to get on with arranging fixtures. So, in summary:

- e. For the Scratch League 2 options were outlined – retain 4 Divisions (with Division 4 having 4 teams) or reduce to 3 Divisions (with a suggestion of 6 teams in Division 1 and 3 and 7 teams in Division 2)
- f. A reset of the fixtures for the Handicap League with the grid drawn up on an alphabetical basis. This provides all teams with a balance of home and away fixtures, but the rotation of fixtures may not follow on as it has done in previous years (e.g., a team could play a fixture away in 2026 as they did in 2025)

I was contacted on 4th October by Stinchcombe who advise that they had been considering entering a 2nd team into the Scratch League (whilst retaining their team in the Handicap League) but had missed the 1st September deadline. Pursuant to Clause 6.3.6 of the Constitution, the team would be required to join the lowest Division if the meeting accepts this late entry.

Following a discussion it was agreed that 4 Divisions should be retained with Stinchcombe entering a 2nd team in Division 4

10) Alliance Results 2025 (Tracey):

On 12th August 2025, Reps were asked to request Captains to review the results posted on the Website for accuracy. A few errors were identified and actioned.

The Results for the Scratch and the Handicap Leagues were circulated to all Alliance Reps on 29th September 2025, providing a final opportunity to check the basis we are using to determine the Divisional placings.

Prior to this meeting, I have not been notified of any errors.

Based on the results that have been circulated, the Divisional winners are as follows:

Scratch League

Division 1 – Minchinhampton 1

Division 2 – Broadway 1

Division 3 – Tewkesbury Park

Division 4 – Broadway 2

Minchinhampton will represent us in the Aqua Bowl in 2026, hosting the winner of the Bristol and District Ladies Golf Alliance.

Handicap League

The winners are Cotswold Edge

11) Any Other Business:

a) Handicap League Support

With Puckrup Hall leaving the Alliance, we need a discussion on whether you wish to continue to have someone supporting the Handicap League or not, and if you do on what basis this should be undertaken.

As a reminder, this is not a formal Management Committee position and there is no rota for it. The role came about when the Handicap League wasn't really integrated into the Alliance, and we should bear in mind the considerable change that has happened in this regard over the last few years.

A summary of the role that Ros has so ably performed for us:

Determine the fixture list for the Handicap League, setting out who is home and away maintaining the rotation of this across years as fairly as possible as the number of teams changes.

A Pre-season meeting of the Handicap League Captains is held, primarily focused on ensuring they know how to use the forms that Ros has developed, how to calculate playing handicaps correctly and the protocols for sharing team information before fixtures.

Respond to any queries regarding the Handicap League during the season and she has kept them informed about results, though more of this is now available on the website.

An end of season meeting of the Handicap League Captains is held, focused on identifying any changes that the captains may feel necessary so that these can be brought forward to this meeting for consideration.

Note from Meeting: Following discussion it was felt that we are one Alliance and the Executive Council Representative from each club is responsible for all of their Scratch and Handicap teams with the League Manager in overall charge. Any queries can be sent to the Secretary or League Manager. We will review this new way of working at the end of the 2026 season. The Constitution applies to all teams.

b) Spectators at Matches

A club had an instance where a spectator turned up unannounced onto the course with the players. This is covered in the Constitution under 5.7.7 and 5.7.8 which states players should be unaccompanied unless agreed in advance. The Captain on the day is encouraged to deal with the situation and advise the spectator of the need to keep to the side of the fairways and not communicate with the players.

c) **Dates of future meetings:**

Interim Meeting:	Monday 9 th February 2026, Lilley Brook at 10.30 am
Executive Meeting:	Monday 5 th October 2026, time and place to be confirmed
AGM	Monday 26 th October 2026, time and place to be confirmed

d) **Collection of subscriptions for 2026:** It was agreed that Subscriptions per team would be payable by 27th October 2025. The BACS payment details are as follows:

Sort Code: 77-69-50 **Account:** 00620460
Name: Cotswold & District Ladies Golf Alliance

The meeting closed at 12:14 pm with Katie thanking everyone for coming and their participation.