

Harwood Golf Club Women's Section

Minutes of the Women's Committee Meeting held on 7th April 2026

Present:	Captain	Gillian Crofts
	President	Dawn Eastland
	President Elect	Lorna Hart
	IP Captain	Kate Knox
	Secretary	Lesley Hardman
	Treasurer	Anne Oakes
	Competition Sec	Helen Radcliffe

Janet Ayres, Kathy Hardman, Elaine Henderson

The meeting started at 7:00p.m.

		Action
1. Welcome	Captain GC welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	Carol Brooking	
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting	Proposed as a correct record by EH and seconded by Lorna.	
4. Matters Arising:		
(a) Skyline Feature	There will now be a slightly different, simplified design: a circular brass plaque with lines from the centre pointing to distant structures and landmarks. It will be made by a company in Liverpool and GC is waiting for a quote and news about potential sponsorship. Photos of the landscape are no longer required.	GC
(b) Centenary Pairs Trophy	GC has procured a trophy, shown at last week's Welcome Evening.	
(c) New Kit	The kit is on its way and will hopefully arrive this week	
(d) Catering Update	Catering for our events has not been confirmed yet. There will be an Invitation Day planning meeting next week where different options might be discussed as a Plan B.	GC
(e) Course Set-up for competitions	HR has given the fixtures list to Dale, Martin Durham and Andy Nixon but will also send out a reminder to them to make sure that the course set up is the same for the Saturday and corresponding Wednesday comps.	HR
(f) Pre-season Comp Rules Memo	The comp rules were covered in the Welcome Evening, but it was agreed that a memo will still go out to everyone (committee to see it first) as not everyone was able to attend.	HR
(g) Course Toilet Cleaning Rota	There has been a disappointing response to the rota sign-up sheet so far, but EH has sent out another message via WhatsApp. Hopefully there will be more volunteers shortly. KK has done a pre-season clean of the hut and kindly offered to look after the re-stocking of cleaning materials which the Women's Section will pay for. It was suggested that we ask Dale if a buggy can be borrowed to make it quicker and easier for volunteers to get to and from the hut.	EH
(h) Admin	Committee distribution lists for emails and WhatsApp group have been updated. Lesley now has sole access to the women's secretary emails.	

5. Treasurer's Report	The opening bank balance for March was £2,777.64 with the cash in hand amounting to £1,260.66 making the total monies £4,038.30. There was no income for March and the only expenditure was £15 for flowers. Total assets amounted to £4,023.30 with the Net Assets amounting to £3,172.30 after taking into account the ringfenced money of £5 deposit for the 2026 picnic, income from the Children`s Christmas party and deposits for the Away Day in May. Anne was thanked for her report.	
6. Competition Secretary's Report	Winter competitions have now concluded. Attached accounts show £626 fees that will be paid out for the Order of Merit. Next opportunity to do this will be the May presentation. The Winter 2's competition fees were £130 with £122 to be paid at the May presentation. The Easter Egg competition took place as normal on Good Friday. The 2 competitions we had originally planned to be acceptable for handicap purposes, were changed to non-acceptable due to the bad weather and the course conditions. The first competition that will be acceptable for handicap purposes will be 04 & 08 April. The Archie Preston Team managed an exceptional win on Good Friday against Warrington GC in brutal conditions. Lorraine Chamberlin has qualified for the Race to Woodhall Spa at Hazel Grove GC. Helen was thanked for her report.	
7. Developing Women's Golf	<u>Driving Girls Golf Programme: Summer 2026</u> 1. Monday 11th May 4-5pm Canon Slade 2. Monday 18th May 4-5pm Canon Slade 3. Monday 1st June 4-5pm Canon Slade 4. Monday 8th June 1:30 – 3pm Primary's St Brendans & Harwood Meadows 4-5pm Canon Slade 1. Monday 15th June 1:30 – 3pm Primary's St Brendans & Harwood Meadows 4-5pm Canon Slade 2. Monday 22nd June Cent Week – Comp 1:30 – 3pm Primary's St Brendans & Harwood Meadows 4-5pm Canon Slade 3. Monday 29th June 1:30 – 3pm New Mixed Primary Group 4. Monday 6th July 1:30 – 3pm SEN Primary 3-4pm SEN Canon Slade 5. Monday 13th July 1:30 – 3pm SEN Thornleigh 3-4pm SEN Canon Slade September SEN TBA	

	<u>Taster Day Outcome</u> : 7 new women started their 1 st group lesson with Dale this evening. After discussion, it was agreed that these sessions will be evaluated, possibly being overseen by CB in the future.	GC CB
8. Forthcoming Events	(a) <u>May Open update</u>. We have 11 teams signed up but need 18 ideally. GC has promoted it in her Lady Captains WhatsApp group. JA will send out another message, asking people to book directly via Harwood GC website rather than Golf Empire, and will also message everyone re catering and arrangements beforehand. Golf Birdie Boutique will be bringing their stall. (b) <u>Catering for team matches</u>. KH agreed to speak to Sue Manning to see how refreshments can be organised. (c) <u>Exchange Opportunity</u>. Silverdale GC women would like to do an exchange with Harwood women. It was agreed in principle that we could explore this for 2027. GC to chat with CB.	JA KH GC
9. Report from Management	There wasn't anything to report. GC suggested that there is a need for clear governance structure with effective reporting and accountability. This is a work in progress.	GC
10. A.O.B.	(a) <u>Helping improve our course</u>. Marion Anderson asked that we consider two ideas: that all golfers carry a bag of soil/seeds to fill divots, and that, once a year, we have as many people as possible out on the course to tackle the Himalayan Balsom. GC is going to pass these ideas on to Ged Murphy. (b) <u>Website Blog</u>. JA asked if we still want to do a Blog for the women's section of the website. The answer was 'Yes', and JA is kindly going to continue to do this. (c) <u>Locker Room Door</u>. There are currently three keys: one in the pro shop, one behind the bar, and one with GC. A new code lock will be fitted this week, and the code will be changed once a year at the start of the golfing season. (d) <u>Communication</u>. It was suggested that we need to be more careful with communication, especially with people not on WhatsApp, and that ClubV1 messages need to go out at times when people are more likely to see them. We need to have a more visible 'What's Going On' section for posters on the notice board. It was agreed that the notice boards are overcrowded with information and that Lorna and GC will look at this together. It was noted that the TV displays are not always effective as they are not compatible with newer phones when it comes to uploading photos. (e) <u>Fire Door Notice</u>. To help with the ongoing issue of the locker room door being left open, Toni Sweeney had put forward an idea at the Women's AGM about having a notice on it to discourage visitors from using the door apart from in an emergency. GC will check if this is appropriate with regards health and safety and fire procedure. (f) <u>Wooden Surfaces on the Course</u>. The chevron tape on slippery wooden surfaces is eye-catching and seems to be an effective solution. GC will feed this back to Ged, asking that the length of tape on the 9th hole be extended and that other areas of wood be treated in the same way on the course.	GC JA GC Lorna GC GC GC
11. Date of Next Meeting	Monday 4 th May at 7pm	

The meeting ended at 8.35 p.m.