

EASTHAMPSTEAD LADIES GOLF CLUB

Minutes of committee meeting – Thursday 28th August 2025

VENUE: in person Downshire 6.15pm



PRESENT/ APOLOGIES:

Captain	Penny Gillham	Membership secretary	Norma Moran
Vice Captain	Al Woolley Apologies	Competition secretary	Mandy Creed
Treasurer	Ish Thomson Apologies	Committee member	Alex Cram
Secretary	Suzanne Richards	Committee member	Liz Clarke
Handicap secretary	Hazel Rogers	Social secretary	Dawn Ledgard
Observer	Vice Captain Elect	Welfare Officer	Millie Millar

LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

Minutes of last meeting – 24th July 2025 having been previously circulated were agreed following the Club Championship discussion being reported more fully.

Matters Arising / Actions from previous meetings

- :
- **Club championship format** – following feedback from absent committee members. Penny asked if there are any other points that were not raised that should be considered:
 - Norma raised the issue of cost in relation to Play More Golf Members and whether two weekend dates are more expensive – not necessarily the case, with some weekday before 10am more expensive than weekend afternoon. The weekend rounds would be after 1pm so would come at no extra cost for 5 Day and Complex members – felt that this is not a significant issue. Concern was also expressed that those who currently do not have a season ticket or PMG could pay significantly more by playing at the weekend. in this competition – although there is not currently anyone in this situation who play in the Club Championships should there be in the future a request for “dynamic pricing” be sought to reflect the importance of this competition in our fixture list.
 - Mandy raised the issue of whether this will reduce the number of players because it is the whole weekend and two days of golf – this may be the case, but defence was that Club Championship is the only two day competition in the year and having 3 days has “diluted it” as a golf competition.

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<p>Penny confirmed that the committee does have the power to make this decision as we were and are quorate and that it does not require a vote at AGM.</p> <p>However, it was agreed that it may be helpful for the committee to vote. A vote was taken of the 8 present – 7 agreed to the change from 3 days to 2 days and 1 abstained. AI had asked that it be recorded that if they had been here she would have voted against the change.</p> <p>Agreed that we would change the format and then review after 2/3 years to see what impact the change had on entries etc.for 2026</p> <p>-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision statement; Penny /AI – to follow up. 	
<p>Captain's Report</p> <p>And so the sun has by and large continued to shine – lovely to be out in but becoming a bit tricky to control the golf ball and stop it rolling off some where far more unfortunate than it deserves- (or most of us anyway!)</p> <p>Which takes us nicely onto the first Club competition of the month – the McIvean Trophy which was won with a stunning round of golf by Fi Hobbs with a gross 75 and net 69 . Congratulations and also applause to Sally Cushing who also played beautifully for her second place with a gross 81 and net 71. No trouble with unwanted roll from these two.</p> <p>Our next fixture was the annual match v Easthampstead Men. On this occasion the Men won (which will give them a chance to sort out the missing engraving!) – but most importantly it was played in a great spirit and was another enjoyable fixture.</p> <p>This year the Angela Uzielli qualifier and the August Stableford were combined. Thursday winner was me and weekend Stableford winner was Kathryn Price. Gwen (highest placed Division 2 player) and I will go forward to the Foursomes competition.</p> <p>The other fixture so far this month was the Thursday friendly waltz. Yet another large field of 17 showing that these friendly fixtures are a popular part of our club offering at the moment. The winning team was Ritva, Viv, Kate and Sandra Norris.</p> <p>Continuing thanks go to all those who put in the effort to ensure that ELGC golf runs smoothly and think of the things that often escape me – you know who you are!</p> <p>I'm looking forward enormously to our Captain v Vice captain's fixture at the end of the month. Long may the good weather stay with us.</p> <p>Sandy Kinch has won the singles knock out beating Gwen on the 18th. The mixed pairs has reached the final stage.</p>	<p>Penny</p>
<p>Vice-Captain's Report</p> <p>Le Touquet: this trip was being planned for early September 2026, but difficulties with dates (around our calendar and NAPGC finals), hotel availability and cost means we have shelved this plan for now.</p>	<p>AI W</p>

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Treasurer Report The accounts stands at £7287.45. Still very healthy.	Ish
Competition Secretary Report: In the NAPGC Whitewebbs , ELGC team C lost by 1 point in their 3 rd round match on 3 rd August against Royal Epping. In the JHB competition on Sunday 28 th July our two teams put in great performances. Team A: Suzanne, Sally & Edmee came 2 nd in the gross and nett, and team B: Sandra C, Charlotte and Maureen came 5 th in the nett. Sally won the individual gross. In the NAPGC Women's Championship of England at Cherwell Edge on Saturday 26 th July, Edmee won the individual nett, Gill was 4 th in Division 1 & Kate G was 3 rd in Division 2. (The individual gross was won by Easthampstead Junior Katy Lansley.). In the Race to Woodhall Spa regional final our qualifying player, Liz came in middle of the field and enjoyed the whole experience. In the NAPGC Seniors , Sandy K was 3 rd in the individual nett and 4 th in the gross. Maureen won the Super Seniors (over 70s) with Anne B coming 3 rd . Not surprisingly, Sandy K and Maureen won the Pairs (by 1 point). Sadly, Chris and Gwen were knocked out of the NAPGC Toprock in the semi-final against Haste Hill, 2-1 on a very hot day and had the trauma of having to call an ambulance for the one of opposition players. (Thankfully she was fine after a trip to A&E.) Gill and Julie also made it to the semi-finals of the NAPGC Match Play KO competition but were also knocked out at this stage by Hoebridge. Al W, Vickie M and Edmee are representing the club in the UKPCC Final at The Shropshire on Monday 6 th October.	Mandy
Membership Secretary Report Our membership currently stands at 66. Last week, Millie introduced me to two potential new members. Both have my mobile number, and I'm waiting for them to get in touch. I've already messaged Katy as I have her number, but Barbara only took mine, so I'll need to wait for her to contact me. From the enquiries at the New Members' Evening, I've just heard back from Janet and she has expressed an interest in joining sometime in September, she is just about to go away for a week. I also haven't heard anything from Libby, she did indicate wanting to play w/c 11 th August so I have sent her another email to see if we can get that game in for her. Norma will contact an offer of a round next Thursday at the back of the field – there is space in the field. Norma said that Millie has directed a number of ladies who she has seen on the course to Norma with the hope of them joining ELGC.	Norma
Handicap Secretary Report Julie Rumsby has now officially left HW and ELGC is their home club.	Hazel

<p>Hazel has created some exemplar score cards that will be shared with the members. Hazel has also created a Handicap Secretary job description. Thanks to Hazel.</p>	
<p>Social secretary report</p> <p>On the 4th August we held another 9 hole Away Day at Blackwater which was followed by sandwiches, cake and a prize giving. The cost was £20pp, not including drinks. In total we had 28 ELGC members playing, including Angela Jennings who joined after the Newcomers Texas scramble and Janet Galvin who will join us in September .</p> <p>The Club professional, Wayne Owers, offered a group lesson beforehand for £8.50 and 10 of us, some regulars took advantage of it.</p> <p>The competition itself was won by my team led by Al Wooley (totally in form), Janet Galvin & myself. It definitely helped having warmed up beforehand with Wayne and I amazingly got NTP on Hole 2 so definitely worth my £8.50! Kathryn managed the much harder task on Hole 8, such a tricky hole. We made a small profit after the tip of £17.60, which I will pay into Penny's Thames Hospice Just Giving page.</p> <p>This was a fun and successful day again and incredible value. I think it would be good to do again next year but maybe at Billingsbear? The catering afterwards won't be the same or as such good value but it is something to think about, your thoughts please.</p> <p>I have been investigating initiating a pre-booked roll up, casual friendly golf, organised through a WhatsApp group. As we have a few new members with higher handicaps the chance to play on the course and to practice with others. I think would be helpful and appealing.</p> <p>It could be run in a similar way to Sonoko's pre-covid Monday group, Tari's men, the Gimmes group and our Wednesday Mixed Greensomes but not having a set time initially. We could find out when the members have free time.</p> <p>As a way to start just having one person say on WA that they are playing and would anyone like to join them? I know in friend's groups this already happens but this would be more inclusive and encouraging to all, especially new members. The What's App group would be open to all and if members of the committee & more experienced players started the ball rolling that would be helpful. I look forward to hearing your thoughts. The WA group could be started soon but thinking it would really get going next Springtime.</p> <p>What do you all think about a pre-Christmas get together maybe at the club with another rules quiz & maybe a few games?</p> <p>My role on the committee</p> <p>I am really just a committee member & as such see my role as supporting & helping where I can.</p> <p>I have chosen to be an unofficial Social Secretary organising events such as quiz nights, music nights, Christmas parties, Away Days & possibly another newcomers Texas Scramble.</p> <p>Going forward I think these extra events are important for the camaraderie & fun aspect of ELGC but hard to make it an official role. It will depend on the personalities of the additional committee members.</p> <p>Dawn talked through a possible process for setting up an extra "friendly" day using Whats App has as a method of communication with someone just</p>	<p>Dawn</p>

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<p>going on and asking if anyone wanted to play on a specific day. Dawn clarified that this would be for everyone not just the newest members. Alex explained that the admin side – the booking of tees – could be problematic and that it won't always be possible to play on a specific day because of societies. Discussed how often – after originally suggesting weekly moved to fortnightly and then monthly because there are lots of opportunities already on the calendar.</p> <p>Action: Agreed that Dawn will "give it go" and was advised to make sure that someone helps but to be aware that it could be problematic.</p>	
<p>Secretary report</p> <p>It was a very "thin" July newsletter (we have not received August yet). The two main messages:</p> <p>"Golf continues to boom" – with all the online recording of scores / handicaps etc it has never been easier to track the number of golfers / rounds of golf. "England Golf can confirm that in the first six months of 2025, over 5.75 million scores have been entered through the World Handicap System™, meaning it has grown by a massive 29% compared to the same period in 2024."</p> <p>If you are interested in finding out more: https://www.englandgolf.org/news-detail?newsarticleid=1236</p> <p>Public liability insurance – reminder that "golf club members continue to have access to insurance from Marsh. This insurance is part of the affiliation fee every golfer pays to England Golf and provides £10m personal liability insurance."</p> <p>If you want to know more: https://www.englandgolf.org/member-public-liability-insurance</p>	Suzanne
<p>Safeguarding update</p> <p>See agenda item.</p>	Millie
<p>AGENDA</p> <p>1. Safeguarding updates : Millie kindly attended the meeting to confirm that the policies have been updated in line with England Golf recommendations regarding virtual sessions and professional relationships between coaches / golfers and young people (under 17) – there is no grey area anymore and should an adult engage in a relationship with a young person they will be dealt with very seriously.</p> <p>Millie reported that EGC had asked if she would take over their role as their Welfare Officer – it was a compliment to be asked but Millie declined. It appears that EGC has now found someone else.</p> <p>The updated policies need to be shared with the members; a copy to be put on the notice board and a copy on the website.</p> <p>Action: Suzanne to print off a copy for the board and to share with Norma for the website.</p> <p>Emergency contacts; following BWG's decision to collect emergency contacts for all their competitions discussed whether this is something that we should consider. Although agreed that it would be helpful the concern about GDP etc decided that this is not a route we should take; rather we encourage all members to take responsibility for their own safety etc by making use of the personal information facility that can be found on mobile phones.</p> <p>Action: Mention emergency contacts / mobile phone facility at AGM</p>	

<p>2. Treasurer's Review - agreed to have a general discussion in Ish's absence but that we would have further agenda item when Ish is here.</p> <p>Penny encouraged committee to look at the spread sheets that Ish sent. Observation that not everyone has access to excel spreadsheets so some have not been able to see the sheets. It gives a very clear overview of income / expenditure.</p> <p>General discussion about the large surplus budget and how this has been accrued: agreed that it was not one thing but lots of little things; the loss of friendly matches, the reduction in the cost of prize money / mementos, the increased number of competitors that there are etc Alex warned that the ELGC account had been very positive in the past but over the course of 3 years started losing money so we need to make sure that any changes are properly modelled.</p> <p>Recognition that there will be funds used for the 50th anniversary. Discussed the possibility of having "dynamic prizes" for all competitions reflecting the number of competitors which already happens when the numbers drop below 10 eg 20-30 competitors prize increases from £15 to £20 / £25 etc</p> <p>Brief discussion about friendly matches and whether they were valued, different opinions around the table.</p> <p>A useful discussion to which we will return.</p> <p>Action: to discuss with Ish at next meeting.</p> <p>3. Changing rooms – this issue came up following a visit from Bracknell to check the quality of the centre. It was acknowledged just how poor the changing rooms and the toilets are, concern about lack of cleanliness etc. Some money has been made available to do some work but that it is not enough. Suggestion was made that we , ELGC, take action; Alex recognised that we need to be careful about how we go about expressing concerns – we do not want to make an enemy of Simon. Rather than complaining far better to offer our help to Simon about what we can do to help improve the facilities.</p> <p>Action: Penny to consider best way to approach situation.</p>	
<p>AOB</p> <p>1. Dawn asked about a pre Christmas get together to be held at the club. Concern that the function room is very busy in the lead up to Christmas , also we will be having the Christmas lunch "do" so it was suggested that this could be something that we do in Jan / Feb when there is not very much on.</p> <p>2. Norma - is asking for info for website and how the information needs to be displayed</p> <p>Action: Penny to update with Norma</p> <p>3. Bronze league – a club has now withdrawn from the league which means that we have fewer tee times needed and so lower costs to be incurred by the club. Some concern about this happening but it is a county issue.</p> <p>4. Liz asked about a job description for their role -Liz advised that general committee members do not need to write a job description.</p> <p>5. Angela Uzielli entry fee – Hazel has asked for help with the entry form as it cannot be found.</p>	

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<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Alex would like to explore doing additional rules training – at level 2 – and whether the club would support. Alex encouraged to find out more with a view to the club supporting any additional training.7. Engraving on the boards – Penny will explore the “engraving” of the new boards with Anne Butcher8. Penny confirmed that drinks after Captains vs V Captain will be provided and Pat Bayle has once again kindly donated a bottle for the nearest the pin – which will be on the 3rd.	
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Penny thanked the committee for their contributions and closed the meeting at 7.52pm

Next Committee Meeting – Thursday 25th September 2025 at 6.15pm