

EASTHAMPSTEAD LADIES GOLF CLUB

Minutes of committee meeting – Thursday 24th July 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		

LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

Minutes of last meeting – 19th June 2025 having been previously circulated were agreed:

Matters Arising / Actions from previous meetings

- Treasurer's review – delayed until August meeting
- Club championship – review. Overall, it was a very successful day. Remembered, in time, to arrange for the tees to be off the stones. Only hiccup, did not remember to have prizes on the day – not that this mattered. Suggestion that it would be helpful to draw up a "to do list" for Club Champs which is then reviewed in the final committee meeting before the Club Champs,

Club championship- 2 days or 3 days?

Context:

Two committee members separately reported having had conversations with other members, who played in the club championship, about the potential unfairness of some players (the majority) having enjoyed better weather for their first round on Thursday than those who had played on Saturday. As this had been mentioned by different people it was felt that this was something that should be raised.

Discussion:

In a wide ranging discussion the following points were made:

Penny – Al
Suzanne

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historically the Club Champs were played as a 36 hole competition (<i>Having checked the Decision Book since the meeting it was at the AGM in November 2011 that it was decided to move away from one day to two days; Saturday and Sunday. With numbers continuing to drop at the 2014 AGM the decision was taken to offer alternate days for the first round. So the current format has been in operation for 11 years</i>). The point was made by several that the key objective of this Competition is to find the very best club golfer. It is our one Competition designed to very much celebrate absolute excellence and as such is very different from many other of our more inclusive competitions. As such the principles of integrity and fairness of play were very important. Equality of playing conditions (weather, tee placement, pin positions was very important) Alternative formats seen elsewhere for Club Champs were discussed (36 holes on one day was seen by some as the gold standard, the idea of a cut for Day 2 was not thought viable by the size of our field) The addition of other trophies in the Club championship was seen as a significant positive for our event - especially the Revival Trophy as it keeps Day 2 interesting for the rest of the field. The current two options for Day 1 is administratively more challenging to manage - although it was acknowledged that this was not an insurmountable difficulty A clear plus for keeping the current format is that it's more inclusive, especially for those who are physically unable to play 2 days in a row. Against this the view was expressed that this inclusive approach is adopted for all our other competitions - perhaps the exception should be the comp aiming to find our 'best' golfer. Were there any contenders who couldn't play two days in a row? It was considered if the weather variation across the Thurs/ Sat option this year had made any material difference to the result this year? The thought was probably not but all felt there could be circumstances when it might. It was noted that this year the vast majority of players did play Day 1 on Thursday, in a marked change from previous years reflecting the changing profile of ELGC membership. The thought of Day 1 just being on Thursday was considered . This was thought unreasonable as it would preclude working players. We also considered briefly spreading the competition over two weekends. It was felt the fixture list wouldn't allow this. <p>In conclusion the Committee agreed that a change to the format of the Club Championship for 2026 should be made. We discussed whether we had the authority as a committee to make the change or whether it was a decision that should go to the AGM. We felt that the Constitution empowered the Committee to make decisions about competitions.</p> <p>Action: Suzanne to update decision book; and make AI W aware in readiness for next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting of Competition reports at AGM. Need to ensure that Penny as captain and Mandy as comp sec. communicate and ensure that there 	<p>Penny Mandy</p>
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Classification: Internal

<p>is clarity with who reports what. Also do Bronze / Silver / Gold League Captains / Sandra as BWG Rep provide reports.</p> <p>Action: Penny and Mandy to liaise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constitution – on agenda below	
<p>Captain's Report</p> <p>Highlight of golf at ELGC this month has been the Club Championships played over the first weekend of July. Congratulations to all winners - great performances all round. Thanks also to Hazel for whom the weekend brings not only the joy of playing but pressure of persuading the software to behave and the victors to be announced in good time.</p> <p>Club Champion – Alex Cram Lee Gonzales – Gill Cain Deborah de Silva – Viv Lovell Net Eclectic- Charlotte Wood Revival Trophy- Chris Smith Best putting – Maureen Barnaville And, of course, Denice Lowen for a memorable Hole in One</p> <p>Other club competitions played this month were the July Stableford. The Thursday event was won by Charlotte Wood with a very impressive 47 points and a subsequent splendid handicap cut. The weekend winner was Debbie Wilson with a great score of 40 points.</p> <p>We've also played the 4 Sections competition in a slightly different guise this year. Thanks to AI for organising this, I'm sure she will report the details.</p> <p>Thursday 17th July saw 9 players go out in friendly. I'm sure they had a great time and worth highlighting as we have always said that our brief is to provide lots of different ways to play and enjoy our club golf.</p> <p>We then moved on to my Captain's Day. I was so pleased that so many members made it a priority to play – we had a field of 35. The format was Texas Scramble with a few other tweaks. Despite the unwanted heavy rain shower all seemed to have a good time and I'm very grateful for the donations to my Captains Charity – we raised £250 on the day.</p> <p>July medals still to come and the summer rolls on.</p>	<p>Penny</p>
<p>Vice-Captain's Report</p> <p>KO Comps: both comps remain on track, in fact are ahead of schedule (famous last words!) and have reached semi-final stages. Comps book has been updated to explicitly state that the mixed ko is EGC members only for men (thank you to those responsible).</p> <p>Our 50th: nothing new to update</p> <p>The 4-sections: the recent one-off team event was well received in terms of the format, which was mixed teams and 2 scores. Some food for thought here as there is an appetite for this type of fun, supportive, mixed sections comp. To be fair we have this on charity day, the recent memorial day, etc and there is no space in the calendar!</p>	<p>AI W</p>

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<p>The Ladies had representation in the nearest the pins by Neena, who won on the 7th. The team scores ranged from 83 to 108 - with the team of Viv, Mike Frawley, Dean Pullen and Maxime Chan coming out the winners.</p> <p>The new "Ryder Cup" style approach for 2026 will be followed in the forthcoming match v Men on August 9th.</p> <p>FORMAT: 2 x Greensomes 2 x 4BBB 4 x Singles All are matchplay. 12 players needed.</p>	
<p>Treasurer Report</p> <p>The account is still extremely healthy at £7173.65. I should soon receive the invoice for County and EG subs for new members who have joined since January. Still to come is the men's invoice, prizes for the AGM prize giving and some engraving. Offset by competition fees for July and August.</p>	Ish
<p>Competition Secretary Report:</p> <p>In the Duncan Trophy we lost to Castle Royle (away) 3/2. Sadly, Easthampstead lost in the 3rd round of the Hawtree competition by just one point against Richmond Park. A great performance this year despite the usual difficulties of finding dates which suit everyone and having to draft in last minute reserves.</p> <p>In the Whitewebbs, ELGC B team lost by 1 point away at Mitcham despite a terrific performance from our last-minute reserve, Gill Cain. Team C are playing their 3rd round match on 3rd August against Royal Epping.</p> <p>The JHB competition is on Sunday 28th July and the two teams are now: Sally, Suzanne & Edmee and Sandra C, Maureen & Charlotte. There has been a lack of availability for this competition and we have no reserves. Kate, Alex C, Gill C, Vickie M, Edmee and Maureen have qualified to play in the NAPGC Women's Championship of England at Cherwell Edge on Saturday 26th July.</p>	Mandy
<p>Membership Secretary Report</p> <p>Following the successful Texas Scramble evening we have a new member already joined, paid up, with an active handicap – Angela Jennings who is currently at West Byfleet but has moved to Yateley. I am meeting up with Angela next Saturday to go through our systems. She has advised she will probably play once / twice a month initially.</p> <p>This takes our numbers to 66.</p> <p>Additionally; I have had an enquiry from Libby & Janet and have sent them both some information. If they do join, Libby will need 3 cards marking but Janet has an active handicap of 40.</p> <p>Time has also been spent on website – trying to update with photos. Norma is seeking help from EGC.</p>	Norma

<p>Handicap Secretary Report</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> <p>In the meeting Hazel reported the importance of the 4BBB handicap situation – generally speaking if it is an away club they will send the information but if they don't then it is up to the player to get a card to handicap secretary so that any reduction can be made. This information was in this month's England Golf monthly newsletter.</p> <p>Action: Hazel to email members reminding them of the need to bring back a card if scoring at least half of a 42+ in a 4BBB comp.</p>	<p>Hazel</p>
<p>Social secretary report</p> <p>Saturday 21st June EGC held their annual Brian Stapley memorial comp, we were responsible for Hole 15 It was great fun with lots of challenges & different ways to play. We had 17 members playing with 100 golfers in total taking part. Sandra Hall manned our hole for the whole time- total star!</p> <p>Liz & I arranged a Texas Scramble this Tuesday particularly for those new to golf & those who were interested in playing The Downshire & possibly joining us & old friends. We had 32 ladies playing 18 non members & 14 members including Jenny Ferrar & Sue Shimmen who have recently joined us. Sue won the putting competition. Suzanne, Viv, Kelly & Libby won on countback -Libby is joining & Kelly seems interested. Norma's team with 3 from Rhys's academy lost on countback, sounds like they are all quite useful! Angela Jennings & Janet Galvin are also interested in joining us. I charged £18.65pp for the golf (if not a season ticket or PMG member) when I came to pay it was only £18pp I'll put the £11.05 towards the prizes that I donated if that's ok. ELGC committee agreed to fund a drink for everyone afterwards. Penny paid & will claim it back. We were delighted with the event & grateful to all members that helped.</p> <p>I have booked another 9 hole Away Day to Black water Valley on Monday 4th August first tee 2.30pm followed by sandwiches, cake & prizes. It is £20pp not including drinks. We have 23 signed up so far, hoping for a few more.</p> <p>Wayne Owers will also offer a group lesson beforehand for £8.50 I wondered about inviting some of the ladies from the Texas Scramble to it? Particularly those that are showing an interest in joining? Agreed that those who are planning to join could be invited.</p> <p>Dawn mentioned whether we should try and arrange a Monday friendly roll up which has been done in the past. Agreed that this may make a very good transition for new members who are nervous of playing in a competition. Suggestion that buddies could be part of this on a Monday evening. Sonoko has done this previously and it was queried whether a poll could be put out for the whats app for new members.</p> <p>Action: Dawn and Norma to discuss outside of the meeting.</p>	<p>Dawn</p> <p>Dawn Norma</p>
<p>Secretary report</p> <p>Two topics from England Golf:</p>	<p>Suzanne</p>

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<p>Changes to safeguarding policy - due to national legislation changes the "Child and young people safeguarding policies and procedures" this has been updated to say "that any adults coaching / helping 16/17yr olds in golf context must not have a sexual relationship with them. This has been shared with Millie.</p> <p>Vision statement - there is information from England Golf on how to draw up a 10 year Vision statement. As we are discussing Constitution it may be timely to discuss whether we should have a vision statement - essentially a wish list / plan to keep ELGC moving forward. Has been added to Constitution agenda item. Clearly the resources provided by England Golf is aimed at private members clubs but there are still some interesting things. Agreed that this would be timely given the 50th anniversary next year would be a good time to start looking to the future.</p> <p>Action: Penny and Al to discuss possible 10 year Vision Statement and bring ideas to committee</p>	
<p>Safeguarding update</p> <p>Nothing to report other than EGC asked if Millie would be prepared to act as their Welfare Officer. Millie chose not to take this on but it was nice to be asked.</p> <p>Millie will be attending August meeting to discuss changes to safeguarding policy.</p>	Millie
<p>AGENDA</p> <p>1. Constitution updates – after initial discussion at last committee Penny has worked on the document. The Constitution needs to be a living document and to that end a review date needs to be added to the document; suggested this happens every 3 years so November 2025 and next in November 2028. Talked through the document highlighting the changes. One clarification is that any past captain has to be a current member to be part of the Captain selection committee.</p> <p>Another clarification in the membership section was that prospective new member should play their first round with a current committee member to "check" that 135 is realistic. All agreed that there could be a small amount of flexibility with this score to take account for weather / playing conditions. "Conduct" section now makes reference to all the policy documents disciplinary etc.</p> <p>Potential donations of trophies should be removed from constitution and be decided at Committee and recorded in Decision Book.</p> <p>Agreed that there still needs to be 2/3rds majority of those present at AGM to approve constitution.</p> <p>Actions: Updated version to be sent out for AGM approval</p> <p>Suzanne to update Decision Book re trophies.</p> <p>2. New membership paperwork – Norma has updated the existing paperwork to provide more detailed information to give new members a better understanding of being a member at ELGC. Brief discussion re including competition entry fees, this can be part of planned discussion with Ish re finance.</p> <p>Team selection – this does not need further details.</p> <p>Suggestion that it should include club colours / uniform.</p>	Suzanne

<p>number one played in the competition. It played a mixed but only 9 played on the day so decision was taken to give winner and runner up despite being below 10 threshold.</p> <p>Action: Penny will write an email to remind all members.</p>	Penny
<p>5. Mixed competitions. Following an unfortunate situation arising with not enough space for one pair there needs to be a review of how committee manage the mixed competitions so this does not happen again.</p> <p>Action: Al W and Alex to discuss 2026 mixed fixtures to ensure that the process is agreed for signing up etc.</p>	Alex /Al W
<p>6. Reminder that Job descriptions / aide memoire for big events to be brought to September committee meeting.</p> <p>Action: Suzanne to share template for job descriptions and aide memoire for "big" events.</p>	Suzanne

Next Committee Meeting – Thursday 28th August 2025 at 6.15pm