

THE LADY GOLF CAPTAINS' SOCIETY

(DURHAM COUNTY)

Minutes of the 62nd AGM held at Birtley Golf Club on Saturday 25th October 2025 at 2.00 p.m.

The Captain, Mrs. Ann Corbett, asked members to observe one minute's silence in memory all past members who are no longer with us.

1. The Secretary read out the notice convening the meeting at which 30 members were present.
2. Apologies were received from Mrs. L. Still, DCLGA President, and 14 others.
3. **MINUTES OF THE 2024 AGM:** Having already been circulated, the minutes were approved and signed as a true record. Proposer: Mrs D Ripley. Seconder: Mrs P Johnson.
4. **MATTERS ARISING:** None
5. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Our Annual Luncheon was again held at Bowburn Hall in March. Ann will give details in her report.

Whitburn Golf Club hosted our first competition, the Spring Meeting on May 14th. The weather gods blessed us with a dry day, although it was rather cool and breezy, as always at Whitburn! We were given a very warm welcome by the Staff and Committee. The Competition Secretary, Chris Dickinson, provided a lot of practical and technical support and stayed with us all day. In both divisions, the winners had the best nett and best gross scores. As it was a nett competition, the gross prizes were awarded to the runners-up. In the Silver Division, Ruth Lindley of Seaton Carew won the Jean Wood Trophy for the Best Nett. The Wendy Mitchell Trophy for Best Gross Score went to Serina Turnbull of South Shields. Irene Austin of South Shields, won the Rita Gibson Trophy for the Best Nett Score in the Bronze Division. Our Vice-Captain, Jean Aiston, of George Washington, took the Hudspeth-Edwards Trophy for Best Gross.

The top sixteen players were eligible to play in the match against Northumberland Lady Captains' Society at Garesfield on July 16th. Ann will give details of the match.

We played the Captain v Vice-Captain Match at Crook Golf Club on June 11th. The Vice-Captain's Team enjoyed a convincing win.

Our bi-ennial match against Harrogate & District Lady Captains was played at Sharpley Springs on July 30th. It was a very friendly occasion, despite our narrow defeat. Once again, the Captain will give details in her report.

After last year's abandoned Autumn Meeting, we had hoped to end the year with a bang and we did, literally. The wind at Darlington suddenly strengthened and what looked, and sounded like, half a tree, fell on to Pam Johnson's car. It took three men to lift it off! Fortunately, nobody was injured, and Pam was able to drive the car home. There was also a heavy downpour just before the end of the competition. Our members were undeterred, however, and everyone completed the course. The winners of the Autumn Salvagers were Lynne Franklin and Sue l'Anson of Seaton Carew, followed by Jan Cockroft and Margaret Winter of Crook.

Once again, we held a Coffee Morning at Whitburn Golf Club in October. Attendance was disappointing, especially for those who had worked so hard to produce baked goods, crafts, etc. Despite the low numbers, we still managed to raise some funds for the Society, thanks to the generosity of those members who were there and of several Whitburn members.

We are grateful to all those clubs who granted us courtesy during 2025 and to their staff and members who gave us such a warm welcome.

This year, our Captain, Ann, and three Committee members are retiring. Good luck and thank you to all of them, especially Ann. We have received one nomination, Mrs Lynne Glendinning, of Hobson, who is duly elected. Two more Committee members are required for 2026. Please let me know if you are willing to be co-opted.

Thank you all for your support during 2025 – I hope to see you again in 2026, with even more of your club members. Best wishes for the festive season and for a happy, healthy 2026.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT:

"I have prepared the income and expenditure statement for 2024/2025. Last year, our total funds were in a much healthier position than in the previous year and, once again, we have improved our finances by over £1200, which is an outstanding amount. Our current total balance is £3,334-54, which is especially positive considering that we had two home County Matches with the associated costs.

However, the current positive balance cannot give rise to complacency as our membership has fallen once again, with our subscription numbers halving since 2017, from 357 to 179.

Apart from subscriptions, raffles and donations from our wonderful members make a big difference to our funds, as does the Coffee Morning. Although the weather was not conducive to encouraging people to leave the house, we still managed to raise the wonderful net amount of £567 at the Coffee Morning, which was held just a few weeks ago.

Our major outgoings are the County Matches and Howden's Insurance, which increased by circa 5% (or £20) to £404-26.

We had another successful Annual Luncheon at Bowburn Hall and a donation of £175 was made to the County Charity. Due to the lovely meal and setting, it was agreed to go back to Bowburn Hall, which has been reserved for our Luncheon again next year, with a £250 deposit already paid.

I am pleased that I have such positive news for you all with regard to our finances. However, I hope that you will continue to promote the benefits of joining our Society to all past and present captains, with the hope that we are able to build on the foundations we have put in place to ensure a strong and healthy future for the Lady Golf Captains' Society in Durham.

I am happy to take any questions you may have on the accounts.

I move for the adoption of my report."

7. CAPTAINS REPORT:

"Another year has passed so quickly and here we are once again at Birtley for the 2025 AGM.

As has become the custom with The Lady Golf Captains' Society, the year kicked off with the luncheon at Bowburn Hall. The lunch again proved to be a popular and successful event.

It is planned to host the event next year again at Bowburn Hall on Wednesday 18th March 2026. Please give the Society your support once again.

Unfortunately, I could not play in the Spring Meeting, at Whitburn, or the Captain v Vice Captain Match at Crook, but I thank the other members of the committee, especially Marion Jean, Anne and Karen for covering both competitions on my behalf.

I was, however, able to play in both matches against Northumberland and Harrogate and District. With both matches taking place this year, we needed the commitment from our members to travel to Garesfield and Sharpley Springs, and commitment was received. We retained the shield against Northumberland and very nearly won the match against Harrogate and District who just beat us by one point. We were fortunate that on both days the weather was good.

The Society is on a firm footing financially possibly due to the rise in subs and last year's coffee morning. Karen will report in more depth on finance. After the success last year, a coffee morning was held at Whitburn on the 1st October. The turnout was not great, possibly due to the rain that day, but from the few members who did attend, the sum of £564 was raised. My grateful thanks must go to the officers and committee for their generous contributions to make the coffee morning a success.

Our numbers are reducing, year on year, probably due to us all getting a little older but also because ladies' sections do not have a Captain anymore. It is such a shame as it was always such an honour to be Captain of the club ladies' section. If your club is lucky enough to have a new Captain, please talk to her about joining The Lady Golf Captains' Society.

Please also remember to enter the competitions next year. We have the cheapest entry fees, and the Society is the friendliest of those available.

I am sad to say this is my final year, and I will be stepping down and handing over the reins into the very capable hands of Jean Aiston.

To be Captain of The Lady Golf Captains' Society has been a real honour, one I will never forget and one I thought I would never experience.

My very grateful thanks must go to Marion, for her encouragement when we played together in the matches, to Anne, for keeping me abreast of everything, Karen, for her amazing financial know how and lastly to Jean, who has helped me out enormously this year.

May I wish you all the very best for 2026.

I beg the adoption of my report."

Mrs. Margaret Jefferson, DCLGA Vice-President, seconded the reports and thanked the officials on behalf of the membership for their hard work and dedication. She wished the Society continued success.

8. **ANY OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:** None

9. **PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES:**

SPRING MEETING

SILVER

Best Nett	Jean Wood Trophy	Ruth Lindley	(Seaton Carew)
Best Gross	Wendy Mitchell Trophy	Serina Turnbull	(South Shields)

BRONZE

Best Nett	Rita Gibson Trophy	Irene Austin	(South Shields)
Best Gross	Hudspeth Edwards Trophy	Jean Aiston	(George Washington)

CAPTAIN v VICE-CAPTAIN TEAM

Vice-Captain

DURHAM v NORTHUMBERLAND

Durham

DURHAM v HARROGATE

Harrogate

AUTUMN MEETING

Silver Salvors	Lynne Franklin & Sue l'Anson (Seaton Carew)
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Mrs. Marion Griffiths presented Mrs. Corbett with the shield for the win against Northumberland and the President's Cup, for the win against the Captain's Team, was presented to Mrs. Aiston. Mrs. Corbett received the wooden spoon.

10. **HANDING OVER OF OFFICE:** Mrs. Corbett presented the Captain's Badge to Mrs Jean Aiston and wished her a a happy and successful term of office. After presenting flowers and a gift to her predecessor, the new Captain then presented Mrs Lynne Glendinning with her Committee Badge.

Officers and Committee for the year 2026

President	Mrs. M. Griffiths	(Seaton Carew)	
Past Presidents	Mrs M. Scott	(Whickham)	
	Mrs D. Halliday-Kenny	(Eaglescliffe)	
	Mrs. S. Dunn	(Garesfield)	
	Mrs V. Atkinson	(Whitburn)	
Captain	Mrs. J. Aiston	(George Washington)	
Vice-Captain	Mrs. L. Redman	(Chester-le-Street)	
Secretary	Miss A. Dunn	(Whitburn)	
Treasurer	Mrs. K. Vasey	(Crook)	
Committee:			
Past Captain	Mrs A Corbett	(Sharpley Springs)	One year to serve
	Mrs. D Ripley	(Hobson)	One year to serve
	Mrs. L. Sainsbury	(George Washington)	One year to serve
	Mrs. L. Glendinning	(Hobson)	Two years to serve

Two additional members required to serve for two years.

Members are invited to offer themselves for co-option to serve on the Committee in 2026