

LADIES 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8th JANUARY 2024

MINUTES

INTRODUCTION

The 2023 annual General Meeting of the Elm Park Ladies Golf Club was held in the Clubhouse on Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.30pm. The meeting was attended by 71 people and 19 apologies were received.

Captain Clodagh opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. Four people were on the podium to conduct the meeting – Captain Clodagh O'Donnell , Vice Captain Simone Barry, Honorary Treasurer Ruth Skehan and Honorary Secretary Natalie Barrett.

A minute's silence was observed for Lady Members and ex-Lady Members, who died during the year.

Mary McCarthy
Maire Molony
Dolores Brown
Yvonne McAuliffe
Terry English
Yvonne Burke
Helen Rafter
Mary McMenamin

NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Honorary Secretary Natalie Barrett read the Notice convening the meeting.

MINUTES OF AGM 9.1.23

As copies of the Minutes of the AGM 2023 had been available on the website, they were taken as read.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes from last year.

The adoption of the Minutes of the A.G.M. 9.1.23 was proposed by Dervila Keane and seconded by Deirdre Gormley.

Captain Clodagh then signed two copies of the Minutes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS 2024

The Captain thanked those who had put their names forward for Committee.

The officers were proposed as follows:

OFFICERS	NAME OF MEMBER PROPOSED	PROPOSER	SECONDER
LADIES GOLF CAPTAIN	SIMONE BARRY	CLODAGH O'DONNELL	CELIA MORRISSEY
LADIES VICE CAPTAIN	NATALIE BARRETT	SIMONE BARRY	CLODAGH O'DONNELL
HON. SECRETARY	MARIE GOSS	NATALIE BARRETT	SIMONE BARRY
HON. TREASURER	MÁIRE O'CARROLL	RUTH SKEEHAN	BARBARA O'MARA

The above were declared elected.

There were five nominees for election to the Committee as ordinary members:

COMMITTEE	NAME OF MEMBER PROPOSED	PROPOSER	SECONDER
ORDINARY MEMBER	EMER O'REILLY-HYLAND	JUNE O'BRIEN	MARIE GOSS
ORDINARY MEMBER	JENNY GRIER	MARIE GOSS	MAUREEN COLLINS
ORDINARY MEMBER	BREIGE MCKENNA	NIVES COLLINS	LISA MATTHEWS
ORDINARY MEMBER	NATALIE O'SHAUGHNESSY	LISA MATTHEWS	MARY FRANCES MCKENNA
ORDINARY MEMBER	SHARON SMURFIT	MARY FRANCES MCKENNA	NIVES COLLINS

As there were no other nominees, the above were declared elected.

THE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The Annual Report 2023 had been available on the Club web-site and was taken as read.

The report was proposed by Natalie O'Shaughnessy and seconded by Marguerite Maher. It was signed by Clodagh.

THE HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

A copy of the Treasurer's report had been available on line and Ruth Skehan presented this report and summarised the income and expenditure figures of the Ladies Golf Club for the financial year to 30 th September 2023.

Ruth's report is set out below.

HON TREASURERS REPORT LGC AGM 08/01/24

Good evening, ladies and a happy new year to you all.

As is usual now, the end of year summary is available on the Elm Park website. To remind you the end of the financial year for Elm Park is the 30th of September.

By way of summary:

- We started the year with a strong surplus balance of €19,120.

- Our competition income amounted to €38,384 in 2023, which was slightly higher than the 2022 level.
- We managed to donate to several charities during the year which was fantastic.
- We raised €1,068 for the 3 Ts charity – Turn the tide of Suicide.
- We donated €500 for the National Council for the Blind and €1,250 was raised for The Breast Cancer Research Institute.
- We also sponsored a team on the Captains' charity day.
- We would like to thank those members who assisted with sponsorship this year.

On the spending front:

As our finances were strong this year, we increased spending in the following areas:

- Competition Prizes – we increased voucher prize amounts for the weekly competitions. The budgets for the major competitions were also increased – I am sure you will agree the prizes awarded for our majors this year were superb.
- Team Coaching – we increased the spend on team lessons to support our ladies' teams.
- We put a large emphasis on spend to support wellness initiatives for the ladies' club – this included the subsidised Pilates classes throughout the year and a nutrition talk earlier in the year.
- We had a few occasions that we recognised with presentations during the year including the retirements of our Caddy-master Martin Byrne and of course Brendan Harmon.

We finished up the accounting year to 30th September 2023 with a balance of €13,826.

As this is my final year as Treasurer, I wish to thank Therese, Michelle and to Peter and the team in the Pro Shop for their assistance throughout the year.

It has been a real pleasure to act as Treasurer for the Ladies' Club – I thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Thank you.

There were no comments on the report.

The adoption of the report was proposed by Simone Barry and seconded by Clodagh O'Donnell. It was signed by Clodagh.

CAPTAIN CLODAGH'S ADDRESS:

Captain Clodagh then gave an Address to the meeting:-

Captain Clodagh O'Donnell's Address AGM

Good evening and welcome.

Present Auveen, Vice Captain Simone, Officers, Ladies Committee, Chairperson Nano and fellow members, welcome to our Annual General meeting

Thank you for your attendance here this evening. This AGM marks the start of another year for Ladies Golf in Elm Park.

First of all, a very sincere thank you Celia Morrissey, for asking me to be your Vice Captain and in turn allow me the privilege and honour of being your Captain for 2023. Many thanks to you all for your support and encouragement throughout the year.

Vice Captain Simone has been a great support to me, and I wish her all the very best for her year. I know that you will be a fabulous Captain Simone. I also wish your Vice Captain Natalie the very best for the next couple of years.

The Annual General Meeting presents an opportunity to thank our members who give their time and energy tirelessly to ensure our golfing year runs smoothly.

I've learnt over the last few years that it requires a lot of work to ensure the smooth running of the golf club. I was very lucky, as was the Ladies Club, to have such a fabulous and hard-working Committee working with me.

Maureen Collins was our competition secretary, She put a huge effort into keeping our competitions running smoothly throughout the year. She liaised with both the sports admin team, and the pro shop to set up the competitions and do the cards, which was challenging given that she was new and the sports admin team were new. Thank you to Lisa Matthews who ably assisted Maureen throughout the year. Between you both, I knew the competitions were under control. Lisa leaves the committee this year after three years of dedication and a long injury which kept her off the course we wish you all the best as you retire from the Ladies Committee.

I was very lucky that both Barbara O'Mara and Ruth Skehan remained on committee and brought a wealth of knowledge as Handicap Secretary and Honorary Treasurer respectively. Many thanks to you both for doing such a terrific job.

Natalie Barrett took over the role as Hon Secretary, and she did a great job keeping both our meetings and correspondence in order. We wish you all the very best in your new role as Vice Captain Natalee.

June O'Brien joined the committee as the Girls Junior Liaison Officer. She did an outstanding job and worked so hard on their behalf. The results we are seeing are the fruits of your labour June, and for this we thank you.

Mary Frances McKenna looked after our internal club competitions, the winter and summer matchplay and

Marie Goss and Emer O'Reilly Hyland and Nives Collins. Well you three just kept the show on the road -- shoppers extraordinaire, volunteers for everything under the sun. ! Thank you very much for looking after all the prizes and also so much of the table decorations – which were fabulous.

In addition Marie Goss assisted me with running our visiting Captain's day, Emer organised all the trophies, did ad hoc posters and photography. Nives volunteered for everything and also assisted in running the Spring Lamb, Club Week and the Captain's away day.

Thank you all for your dedication and commitment this year. Each one of you worked tirelessly on behalf of the ladies of Elm Park. Personally, you all helped me so much and nothing was too much trouble!!

Many thanks to Mary Frances, Ruth and Lisa who are retiring from the Committee this year.

Others

There were many others who contributed significantly to the running of our club and I would particularly like to thank

Linda Clarke and Natalie O'Shaughnessy who did so much wonderful coordination around teams and our exercise classes

Helena Sheehan who represented the ladies club on the Course and courts committee with Jane Conan. Also Helena and Darina Meagher did wonderful work coordinating our student girls.

Geraldine Diamond who volunteered to assist in everything from Spring Lamb organisation to charities days.

Rachel McDonnell and Jane Conan who assisted Gavin O'Doherty run the Mixed Matchplay week

Jenny Bergin, Eimear Kenny, Jean Corrigan and Phil Byrne who did amazing work on the Captain's Charity Day. I want to especially mention Sandra Thornton and Emer O'Reilly Hyland who put together all the hampers for the charity draw.

Dervila Keane and Carmel Keenan together with a great bunch of volunteers did the cards for so many of the invitational and mixed events, which greatly assisted Maureen and the rest of the committee.

And to Breige Fanning and Grainne Hennessy who organised a wonderful away day and two nights in Greenore, assisted by Nives Collins. .

Niamh Klinkenberg who also volunteered for Club week and running the sisters competition.

Anne de Lacy who is a rules official with Golf Ireland and who volunteers on an ongoing basis to support our golfing activities when a referee is required and who keeps us all well informed on the Rules of Golf.

Golf Competitions

And now to the golf: what a great year we have had.

We got to play all our internal competitions and the interclub ones too. I was blessed with good weather for all the 'big' days, and I think we all had lots of fun along the way.

All of our teams played their hearts out in the inter club competitions, and we are very grateful to all the managers, players, subs and caddies who put in a huge effort to represent the Club.

Notable teams successes include:-

- The Senior Team reached the Ladies Leinster South Final on July 8th. They beat Castle in the semi finals in the morning but unfortunately were defeated by Woodbrook in the afternoon. We are so proud of their achievement and very appreciative of all the efforts put in by team managers Rory Butler and Bernie Grogan, players, subs and caddies
- Our Senior Foursomes Team reached the Leinster South Semi Finals in Druid's Heath and put up a wonderful fight but were defeated on the 20th hole. Huge thanks to managers Helena Sheehan and Lisa Matthews, together with their great team of players and subs

CLUB COMPETITIONS

Our newly appointed Competitions Secretary, Maureen Collins, worked hard to arrange a full range of Competitions throughout the golfing season. In addition to the weekly competitions, here are some of the highlights and winners, from the year:-

Captain Clodagh O'Donnell's Prize:- Anne Marie Allen

Captain Clodagh's Prize to 5 Day Ladies: Deirdre Howett

Vice-Captain Simone Barry's Prize: Sharon Smurfit

Professional Peter Morgan's Prize: Jean Bauress

President Aueven Campbell's Prize: Kathy White

Pauline Lee Perpetual Trophy: Mary Frances McKenna

Ita Butler Cup: Aisling Buckley

Ria Kenny Perpetual Trophy: Mary Poland

Club Championship: Jane Conan

Scratch Cup: Madelaine Canty

Golf Ireland Silver Medal: Madelaine Canty

Golf Ireland Bronze Medal: Jane Small.

Senior Ladies Trophy: Maria Butler

All were worthy winners and in particular congratulations to Jean Twohig - Golfer of the Year 2023:

We also had keenly contested **Matchplay** throughout the summer

Congratulations to

Senior Cup Matchplay: Louise Mernagh

Nutley Cup: Kathleen Biggar

4 Ball Matchplay: Clodagh O'Donnell and Sandra Thornton

Mother and Daughter Perpetual Trophy – Pat and Elaine Corcoran.

Junior Girls

This year, 24 new Junior Girls were elected to join the club. Our Junior Liaison Officer June O'Brien together with her fellow JGMC members, arranged Golf Sixes and casual golf evenings for beginners and they were a huge success.

It was a hugely successful year for Elm Park's Junior Club with lots of individual and team success. 19 junior teams in total were fielded this year, with 7 individual girls and boys teams each and 5 mixed teams.

We are the envy of many clubs for the vibrancy of our junior section . *Sarah O'Brien was our Junior Girls Captain and she was terrific. Sarah worked so well with her mum June to ensure that the junior section was well managed.* This year they improved participation levels across weekly competitions, casual play, teams, matchplays and other events including introductory sessions and ongoing coaching. It was wonderful to see so many younger players enjoying their golf, particularly during the Summer months.

Congratulations to Emma Fleming who was this year's Junior Golfer of the Year. We wish Emma every success as she takes on the junior girls captaincy for 2024.

Elite Golf.

Three of our golfers merit special mention. You can read all about them on the website, but some of the highlights are as follows

Emma Fleming topped the women's order of merit on the Bridgestone Tour and is thus the Irish Women's Golfer of the Year – a first for an Elm Park Player. We watched her in awe at the KPMG Ladies Irish Open. We were delighted to see her proudly wearing the Elm Park colours on Day 2!

Emma also represented Ireland on 4 occasions - playing for the girls international team in France and the women's international team in Spain, Wales and the USA. Emma has been included in Golf Ireland's High-Performance Squad for 2024.

Anna Foster qualified to play in The AIG Women's Open, also another amazing achievement and a first for an Irish Amateur. Anna also represented Ireland in the European Ladies Team Championship in Finland.. Anna has been included in Golf Ireland's High-Performance Squad for 2024.

Rachael McDonnell represented Leinster for the second year in a row in the Inter Provincial Championships in Moy Valley Golf Club.

*Our **Captains Charity Day** was in September. It was the worst day imaginable so a particularly big thank you to you, the members of Elm Park, for your very generous support. The funds we raised, over €43,000, will go a long way to help Down syndrome Ireland and the Alzheimer Society of Ireland continue their great work.*

President Auveen Campbell's support was greatly appreciated by all. She has been a wonderful President and very supportive of all the ladies and junior girls' activities in 2023. She attended our matches either home or away and always had an encouraging word or two to ease any 1st tee nerves.

I congratulate our Chairman Nano Brennan for the phenomenal work she has done over the past year. She has guided us safely through the second year of our new Board structure. Thank you to our Company Secretary Mary McDonnell and fellow board members Simone Barry and Lisa Cogan who put in an inordinate amount of work on behalf of all the members of Elm Park.

Congratulations also to Caroline O'Reilly who was our Tennis Captain 2023 and to Virginia Costello who takes over from Caroline as Ladies Tennis Captain in 2024.

Many thanks also to our Finance director Liam Kavanagh and to Denis Bergin who sat on the Board Golf Committee.

Thank you to Monday Captain Jacquqi Tripp and her Committee who looked after us so well this year with our weekly Monday Competitions. Best of luck to Cora Ryan who takes over in a couple of weeks.

Thank you to those who sponsored Invitationals: Home Instead with Frances Shiels, Rosalind Kilduff and Aisling Moore. This year we also had a new sponsor Newcastle Design.

Thank you to the Sports Administration Team led by Alex Byrne and to Professional Peter Morgan and his team.

Also a big thank you to our General Manager Tim O'Brien, Michelle Reynolds, Marisela Pritzke, Therese Aherne and the team in the Office; and also to Paul Dunlea who has been my personal therapist for the year and to Prithi and the team in the bar.

Their ongoing support is what makes us this wonderful vibrant place that we want spend time in.

Thank you to our Course Director Josh Keaveny, Mark Sheridan and their team for keeping the course in such magnificent condition.

A special mention to my co Captain Greg Moore. From the off we had a strong working relationship and we played to each others strengths. From the drive in where he played a strong Clyde to my Bonnie, we had a lot of laughs but still managed to get a lot of work done.

Thanks also to the Men's Committee, for all their help with competitions, results, and presentations / wish Stephen Gillmor and Tony O'Shea all the best for 2024.

This year would not have been possible without the support of my husband Conor Finegan who has been by my side tirelessly all year. A massive big thank you to him for his love and support.

On a personal level it was a great journey.

I am very proud of a few changes which we introduced this year.

- We have a new policy for our elite golfers to offer them some financial assistance to play in ranking competitions.
- We introduced a series of fitness classes including golf fit and pilates which have been a huge success across all ages and golfing abilities.
- We changed our constitution to allow our 5 day golf members, sit on committee, nominate others to serve on committee and to nominate members to the club.

Finally, to you the ladies of Elm Park. What can I say! Thank you for making this such a special year for me. The number of messages of support, gifts, cards, flowers, wine, smiles, texts and emails I received throughout the year amazed and delighted me, Your support and enthusiasm were just incredible. I have had a fabulous year and I hope you have enjoyed it as much as I have.

I am delighted to invite our Golf Captain for 2024, Simone Barry to put on her blazer and her badge of office and address us....

INTRODUCTION OF INCOMING GOLF CAPTAIN 2024, SIMONE BARRY

Captain Clodagh introduced the incoming Captain Simone Barry . Clodagh helped Simone to don her blazer, to which was pinned the Club badge.

Captain Clodagh invited Incoming Captain Simone Barry to address the meeting. Simone delivered an address setting out her hopes for the year, as follows:

INCOMING CAPTAIN'S ADDRESS

Captain Clodagh, President Aueven, Chairperson Nano, Ladies Golf Committee (2023 & 2024) and finally but definitely most importantly, fellow lady golf members, it is my complete pleasure to address you tonight as I take up my position as Captain of the Ladies Golf Club in Elm Park Golf & Sports Club.

For sure, it was some surprise when I got a call from Clodagh inviting me to be her Vice and to be very honest it was totally not on my radar and completely out of the blue, something I had to take my time about to think would I be able to do justice to such an important role within our club. For me it is a role which the holder needs to have the utmost level of integrity and honesty, someone who is open to ideas and other peoples' opinions, who can fight – although I'd rather use the "words" speak/negotiate/communicate the Ladies views and requests in a manner that is heard and actioned fairly within the club. Whilst they are doing all this they need to bring the members along with them, coax them and support them through change, listen to their issues/comments and whilst I know I'll not be able to make everyone happy all of the time, I promise definitely to listen to everyone without promising anything and in that way I believe we will together achieve the most action hopefully satisfaction of all. On top of all this, a Captains' role has another very important element and that is to represent our great club externally in an appropriate yet confident manner. For me to say yes I had to feel I could try to fulfil these aspects and with a little encouragement of

my family, especially my wonderful brother Dermot, and Clodagh I had the great privilege of saying “Yes”.

So, to make this all happen, I’ve two words for you – FUN & INCLUSIVITY!!- so hold on to your hats and off we go.....so in 2024

1. Team Panels

- a. Great response – all about Team Spirit – ways of getting to know new people, having fun whilst pretending!! to improve your golf
- b. About getting those that think their “team” days are past them and those that think their “team” days are way in the distant future, to hook up with each other within a panel and make new friendships etc
- c. About supporting, caddying, getting interested/being part of EP teams not necessarily playing/hitting the actual match balls but all part of it
- d. So come on sign up and thanks to those that have, more over the next few weeks.

2. Race to Dubai

- a. Replacing Spring Lamb so still very much a team event
- b. Singles, Foursomes and Fourball Thursdays
- c. Opportunity for team panels to get start to become a team spirit/get to know each other, however it’s also here for those who definitely don’t want to join team panel - inclusive
- d. Competitive, a lower handicapped team might find themselves having to play even better to catch up on the starting lead another higher team might get!! More to follow.
- e. Sign up by going to the timesheet on BRS for Wednesday 17th January under the 10th hole and put your name up

3. Team Managers

- a. Natalie O’Shaughnessy – Team Co-ordinator
- b. Joanne Cosgrave – her able assistant and not her runner as she thinks she is, don’t get off that easily!!
- c. Oonagh O’Reilly, Olwyn Ryan, Louise Boden, Patricia O’Connell Wall, Ann Armstrong, Jean Beaurass, Jacqui Tripp and Rory Butler
- d. GI changing teams so not all sorted yet

4. Supplementary weekend is changing to “Post” the Thursday competition rather than “Pre” to help bring closer the playing conditions of the competitions. However, the rule around those playing in the 9 hole competition on a Thursday will still remain – eg if you play 18th holes the weekend prior to playing 9 holes on the Thursday then you are not meant to book until 6:30pm on the Tuesday. System will allow you but I am asking you to respect this rule and also to be cognisant of your fellow players who only play 9 holes and therefore I am asking you to consider strongly playing in the afternoon rather than the morning. 9 hole competitions are becoming more and more popular and we need to be fair to all!

5. Some of you may have heard that Elm Park has had it’s course re-rated – this is true – the ladies now have a rating for White, Blue and Red teeboxes and whilst this is not coming into effect

until April you are going to notice the impact on your playing handicaps and quite a few of us will be getting less shots!! Anyway more to follow and we have requested the 4th and 7th loops to be re-rated also.

6. Continuing on the theme of “Inclusivity” I’m delighted to say
 - a. that I am bringing back the “Socials for non-active golf members” and in fact the first event will be on Tuesday, 14th May
 - b. Stephen, my fellow Captain, and I have worked great together whilst doing the diary and both of us want Fun and Inclusivity – including bringing the men and ladies clubs closer – introducing a “One Club Singles” competition on Saturday 5th October with supplementaries on Thursday, 3rd, Friday 4th and Sunday 6th October.
 - c. We both feel strongly that we are the Captains of all golfers, full, 5 day, associates, juniors etc and to that point, at our Drive-In on Saturday, 9th March we will welcome 5 Day and Associates to play in the Mixed competitions on that day but more on that later. Talking of which it is great to see so many of our fellow 5 day lady members attending the AGM tonight, thank you for coming along
 - d. We have lots of other fun events planned so watch out for notices, grab a diary etc.
7. Couple of Thank Yous I’d like to say
 - a. To my wonderful new committee who have been so enthusiastic already – you’re going to be brill and enjoy it!
 - b. To Annette Burke and Sandra Shaw who have agreed to organise my Away day on the 1st October – looking forward to trying out new venues!
 - c. To Yvonne Sheedy who has kindly agreed to be main co-organiser with the lads for our Charity Day on Friday, 20th September
8. Finally I want to wish every good wish and my support to our fabulous Vice-Captain, Natalie Barrett, to Emma Fleming our Junior Captain and to Monday Captain Cora Ryan and her committee. Lastly, thanks ladies and let’s make 2024 a year to look back on with laughter and great memories.

Thank you.

PRESENTATION OF BADGE TO 2023 CAPTAIN CLODAGH O’DONNELL

2024’s Captain Simone presented 2023 Outgoing Captain Clodagh with a replica badge and thanked her for her outstanding and highly successful year as Captain.

AOB

Captain Simone asked if there was any other business .

- Virginia Costelloe pointed out that the Diary was available to download from the Website.
- Karen Gunning asked if there was a way of getting an explanation of all the various Competitions in the Ladies Golfing Year. Captain Clodagh said that the New Members Pack, also on the Website, detailed what each Competition was about , and explained the rules.

- Pauline Burke asked about the standard scratch for the year ahead. Clodagh explained that the new course rating would not apply until April 2024. Until then, the existing standard scratch would apply. She said that the new course rating would impact on ratings for the red index but it was not yet published in keeping with GI requirements. It would be posted in the Club House. Inter Club matches pre 1/4/23 will use the current ratings, after which date the new slope would apply.
- Joanne Cosgrave asked what was the timeline for playing 18 holes. Clodagh replied that all going well, 18 holes could be played from St Patrick's weekend. 9 holes will be played for the remainder of January.
- Frances Shields asked about the Seniors Cup and whether it was possible to include a 9 hole competition within it. Clodagh said that ex-Lady Captain Celia Morrissey had presented this new Cup and specified the terms of the Competition: Aged 70 plus, 18 holes Stableford, on a stand alone day. Simone Barry said that maybe a 9 hole competition could be introduced separately for this age category but it would need to be considered.
- Geraldine Diamond suggested that it be ensured that the date for the Play in Pink Competition would not clash with Ladies Day in the Horse Show. Simone said that she would check this (Subsequently checked and it will not clash).
- Helena Sheehan thanked the outgoing Captain and LGC Committee for all their hard work during the year.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Captain Simone brought the meeting to a close.

NATALIE BARRETT, HONORARY SECRETARY.