

Today's AGM marks the end of a year of a comprehensive programme of golf across the county. We have organised over 20 golf meetings both serious and fun, many knockout competitions, coffee mornings and even a lunch. We have players of all ages from 7 to well over 70.

Players and teams from over 80 of the 101 clubs affiliated to Surrey have entered one or more of our competitions. We have lost count of how many players Rosemary and I have met and chatted to whilst starting, as is Rosemary's prerogative as president she always gets the 1st tee whilst I have to find the 10th.

Our golfing calendar began with one of the biggest events we run; the County Championship. This year we held it at my club Burhill, where we saw some great golf resulting in a final between last year's champion Alice Spani Mollela and Nicola Taylor. With her mother on her bag (advantage or disadvantage? ) Nicola put in some great putts, but Alice prevailed with birdies on the 12th and 13th to clinch the match on the 14th green and to successfully defend her title. The other semi finalists were Pavani Kumar and Katie Fewster.

Our Seniors Championship hosted by Worplesdon saw Susie Dawes win to become both the scratch and handicap champion.

The other really big event we run is the Druce Trophy which we held at Bramley golf club this year. Amanda will cover this in her competitions report but I just wanted to thank all the ladies at Bramley who were such great hosts.

This year county match week took us at down to Littlestone golf club. We had strong squad comprising of both experience and youth. The "pinkies 2017" team had a very enjoyable week with some tremendous golf being played. We beat Kent on the Monday and then had a day off before coming back to try to beat Hampshire. Despite some really close matches this was not to be. On Thursday we beat Middlesex and went into the Friday with Hampshire in an insurmountable lead but we needed to beat Sussex for second place. Regrettably we only managed a draw against Sussex which pushed us down into 3rd place. I would like to thank the team, those ladies who came to trolley pull and all our supporters, and particularly Frances Macadam and her sister Virginia for hosting us.

In total contrast to 2016's rain and delayed play, the Surrey Cup /Pearson finals were played in over 30 degrees at Cuddington Golf Club. The final was between Coombe Hill and the Wisley , who had beaten Sutton Green and Burhill respectively in the morning. Coombe Hill went on to represent Surrey in the Pearson Trophy finals in Kent, but sadly lost in the final to Redlibbets of Kent.

Nationally some of our surrey girls have had great success. In particular Annabel Fuller is the English under 16 girls champion and was runner-up in the Anneka invitational European championship. Earlier this month she won the Telegraph Junior Championship at Quinta Do Lago, and she has represented England this year at both under 16 and under 18 level.

Together with sister Sammy and Martha Lewis they were part of the England girls team that won the girls home internationals in August. Martha, Annabel and Sammy finished fifth sixth and seventh respectively in the English girls order of merit this year. No doubt we will hear more of our girls' successes shortly from Ann.

I must also mention Lizzie Prior currently at University of Las Vegas who is taking the American College circuit by storm with 2 recent consecutive wins and having been runner-up in the English Matchplay championship held at Royal Mid-Surrey earlier this summer.

Our other national success is at the other end of the age range. Debbie Richards is currently Captain of the English Ladies Senior Team. This year she has brought home 2 silver medals from the European tournament in Slovakia, and the Home Internationals. I know she will be looking for golds next year!

Our second team with Lorna now as Captain have had a mixed season. It was a case of "nearly but not quite". They were all close matches but we just failed to clinch results in our favour. We welcomed some new players this season which was encouraging. Thank you also to everybody who played in the matches – thank you for your commitment, effort and giving up your time to play for the County. Congratulations to Fiona Horrocks who is awarded Second Team County Colours. We are always looking for players to strengthen our team, so if your handicap is 6 or less and you would be interested in playing do please get in touch with Lorna.

Those of us that are old enough to play in seniors matches have the opportunity to play in both friendly and more serious competitions. Sheila

Sterling runs the friendly matches and this year they have had just the one win with two matches halved. These matches are great fun and played in the great spirit thank you Sheila.

The seniors league matches captained by Scynthia Lawson has had a nailbiting end to the season but sadly losing out in the end to Sussex who won the trophy.

So, what else have we done this year.

A fair bit of my time along with our treasurer Jane has been taken in sorting out the change in affiliation fee payment process which England Golf introduced this time last year.

We have been looking at ways in which we can be more efficient in the office which mostly means doing things jointly with the men and this is now happening more and more. Since the introduction of the new affiliation fee collection process we are collecting these fees together. Course rating is a joint project and we are now looking to share and consolidate our referees. I would like to thank Val Howard for her leadership and commitment to the Course Rating team, and Sue Wild for the referring.

As you know, this year we changed the County Card scheme to include it as part of the affiliation fee, so I hope many of you have been able to make good use of the cards this year.

Looking ahead we continually review what we do and whether it is what you want; We have recently reviewed the knockouts we run as many of them are not that well supported particularly the individual ones and for next year we are going to make some changes. We will amalgamate the spring matchplay A and B and we will introduce a four ball better ball knockout.

This year we introduced 2 Delegates coffee mornings, replacing one of the more formal delegates' meetings, which enabled more of a 2 way discussion. We will do this again next year. We also re- introduced the Vice Captains' lunch; providing the opportunity for incoming Vice Captains to share ideas. And I intend to repeat this next year.

I have a great committee, and am enormously thankful for all their hard work. I would like to thank all of them, those retiring and those staying on, for everything they have done to support me, and you, in the running of all the

various events and knock outs during the year. I would also like to thank Libby, our photographer, for all her lovely photos from all the finals. And an especially big thank you must go to our President Rosemary, Vice Captain Lorna and secretary Amanda. To all of you your contribution is much appreciated by me and I hope to all lady golfers in Surrey.

I have enjoyed my first year as your captain, and I now look forward to 2018.

Thank you.