

Junior Report for SLCGA AGM 28th November 2016

Madam Captain, Madam President, Vice Presidents, Past Captains, Ladies

I am delighted to report today of our Surrey Girls' achievements over the past 12 months. The majority of these have been posted on our website and I hope many of you have had the opportunity to look at them. I have also reported at our delegates meetings, so for those of you who have heard me before, I ask for your patience now as I go through the major happenings of 2016.

Our Junior Champion is Jemma Milton (Hankley Common).

We had two goes at playing the championship this year! In May, 20 girls turned up at Kingswood GC only to go home after playing a maximum of 8 holes, in appalling conditions. The course closed itself as the greens were under water and there was no sign of any let up. Although the weather did improve as the day progressed the decision was made to abandon the championship and try to play it later in the year.

Cuddington GC was most helpful in accommodating us at the end of August and the 36 holes were played there in glorious weather. Some of the scores reflected the good golfing conditions. Jemma had rounds of 76 & 72 and finished 2 shots ahead of Pavani Kumar (Royal Mid Surrey). She also won the U15 championship. Hyun-Ji Kim (Wimbledon Park) won the U13 championship, with a gross 80, aged just 11 and she also won the best nett aggregate with a score of 136 (67/69), closely followed by Fiona Adaway (The Oaks) who was 2 shots behind. The best gross of the day was by Lauren Gooding (Roehampton) who had a wonderful 71 and in the morning Sasha Crockett (Burhill) had a nett 62 which she was particularly excited about as this would bring her handicap down to single figures and she would be lower than her father!

My thanks go to the members of Cuddington GC for allowing the girls to play on their beautiful course and to all the staff who were so helpful and supportive. Amanda did all the hard work on the day and Alison and Rosemary were excellent starters. Thank you.

Junior County Match Week was held at Sundridge Park GC in Kent in the middle of August. Surrey was represented by 9 girls from 9 different clubs.

They were :-

Sarah-Jane Dalgliesh (Captain, West Byfleet)

Jess Adams (Foxhills)

Bella Cordwell (Wentworth)

Eleanor Ioakimides (Burhill)

Jemma Milton (Hankley Common)

Canice Screene (Croham Hurst)

Sarah Wilmore (Worplesdon)

Emily Woolcott (Guildford)

Unfortunately, as usual, this event clashed with an England Golf fixture which meant that 2 of our experienced girls were missing. So some of our young, inexperienced players played matches against very tough opponents and whilst they didn't win they put up a tremendous fight and I know when we play next year it will be a very different story. In the end we came 3rd behind Kent and Sussex. Kent had a very strong team and were worthy winners.

I can honestly say that I enjoyed my 4 days at Sundridge as much as any of the weeks I have been away with the Surrey girls. They were all delightful, well organised and their attitude both on and off the course was excellent. Much of the organisation of the team was undertaken by Sarah-Jane our outstanding Captain. Thank you S-J, your help was immeasurable. My thanks also go to Alison and Rosemary. Their help and support was really appreciated, especially in the evenings at our wonderful 'hotel', Greenwich University. Sincere thanks also go to Julia Brook who came and supported as always and to our coach Greg Brodie who was there each day, on hand to give advice and guidance. I must also thank all the parents who ferried golf clubs, girls and suitcases back and forth. We could not have done it without you!

Sarah-Jane and Emily go onto pastures new next year as they will no longer be 'juniors' and we wish them well in their new endeavours. I know that we will have a good team next year at Royal Winchester and I am looking forward to next August enormously.

I would also like to mention some other winners of Surrey events.

Our Spring Meeting was held at Reigate Heath GC on a blustery and wet day in the Easter holidays. The staff and members made us feel very welcome and looked after us very well. The scratch winner was Sarah-Jane Dalgliesh with 29 points. The handicap winner was Fiona Adaway with 37 points closely followed by Imogen Courtney (Surbiton) with 36 points who won on a count back from Ellie Lace.

The Adult & Junior Competition was held at the Addington GC at the beginning of October. Sarah-Jane Dalgliesh and Amber Chana (Foxhills) won this greensomes competition with 41 points and the scratch winners were Damien and Ella Hammond-Baveystock (Wentworth) with 29 points. My thanks go to The Addington members for allowing us to play on their beautiful course at a weekend and to Alison for helping me on the day.

Jasmine Kandlekar (Hoebridge) is our U10 champion. This event was played over 9 holes and this year it was played at Hoebridge. 19 girls took part on a lovely day at the beginning of July.

Lauren Gooding won the Rigg Quaich, our junior scratch knockout, by beating Sarah Wilmore on the last hole in the final held at Effingham GC. She lost in the final of the Birley Trophy, the handicap knockout competition, to Sasha Crockett on the 20th, at Worplesdon GC. They were both very close matches, played to a high standard and I enjoyed watching them both.

Congratulations to all the winners.

I must also mention Annabell Fuller (Roehampton) and Martha Lewis (St George's Hill) who have represented England this year and both qualified for the Telegraph Finals in Portugal this autumn. Annabell at the tender age of 14 is now playing off a +2 handicap and was selected to play for England in the Girls' Home Internationals. She won the Henry Cooper tournament by 12 shots and was runner-up in both the Scottish Girls U18 championship and the Frilford Heath Salver. Martha and Annabell together with Annabell's older sister Sammy have been selected for the girls' national training squad, and 4 other girls from Surrey have been selected for the England U 16 regional coaching squad. They are Pavani Kumar and Rafiah Bandy, both from Royal Mid Surrey, Olivia Horsford (Wimbledon Park) and Lauren Gooding.

Over the past few years I have been fortunate enough to watch all of the girls mentioned above and have thoroughly enjoyed seeing their golf improve and their handicaps come tumbling down. Many of them started with us in our playing days which we still organise at Hoebridge. These are open to any girl with or without a handicap and in the past 12 months we have seen girls aged 6 and above taking part in these days. My thanks go to Alison Trinick for organising these competitions and providing the fun prizes.

The slightly more experienced girls have coaching from our enthusiastic and highly qualified coaches and I take this opportunity of thanking Greg, Ben, Simon, Laurence and Jo for all their hard work and for making the coaching sessions so much fun. It is important to develop the next group of girls who might play for their county or country but we must also try to ensure that they enjoy the game whilst socialising with their peers. Whilst talking of coaching I must thank our training officer Julia Brook, who as always works so hard. I know Julia enjoys working with the girls and she is key to the organisation and promotion of the training sessions. She also has the unenviable task of sorting out the coaches from time to time. Thanks so much Julia.

The junior committee have been very supportive and I thank them all for what they do. Our President Rosemary and our Captain Alison are great supporters of girls' golf, so thank you both for always being there. I wish Alison a very happy retirement and look forward to working with Sally next year. As usual I must thank the parents and chauffeurs. Thank you to all the clubs and societies who have contributed to our 'junior fund', your generosity is greatly appreciated. Lastly but by no means least thank you to all the clubs and their members who have allowed us to play on their beautiful golf courses. We are thoroughly spoilt in Surrey.

I am looking forward to another wonderful year in 2017, although it will be my last year as Junior Organiser. We are now looking for a replacement and I am in the process of putting a job description together which will be put on the website. If anybody is, or knows anyone who might be interested in undertaking this rewarding and enjoyable role please get in touch and I will be happy to go through the details with them.

Thank you for all your support.