

County President, County Captain, County Vice Captain, Past Captains and Presidents, Life Members, Vice Presidents, Ladies.

Here is the report for the Northern Region of the English Women's Golf Association.

Congratulations to EWGA President Ann Irvin who was appointed an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honors List for her services to women's golf, we are truly honored to have you in our County.

The Northern Foursomes this year was held at Eaton Golf Club. The Cheshire pairing of Rachael Goodall and Gemma Clewes won a tight final to become Foursome's Champions. They had to go to the 19th before they beat Lancashire's Amanda and Heather Bromilow from Haydock Park.

Next year, the Northern Foursomes will be held from the 17th – 19th April at Hesketh Golf Club. Entry forms can be downloaded from the Ewga website and the LLCGA website. Entries will be accepted from the 9th January and will close on the 9th March.

A fantastic County Match week was held at St Anne's Old Links Golf Club. Lancashire were the victors and went on to play in the County Finals where they were runners up to Lincolnshire. On behalf of the Northern Region I must thank St Anne's Old Links, all the volunteers from the Club, the Secretary Jane Donohue and the Head Green Keeper Stuart Hogg for a wonderful week.

County Match Week in 2012 will be held at Ganton Golf Club from the 10th – 15th June.

The Peugeot LGU Coronation Foursomes area final was held at Clitheroe Golf Club with Elaine Clark and Barbara Whiting, Manchester GC, winning a place in the Grand Final at St Andrews. My thanks to Clitheroe for hosting this prestigious competition, to Hilary Green, the LGU representative, Mike Walls, General Manager, Lady Captain Jan Burrows and Handicap Secretary Kath Townley for running the event and to all the volunteers who helped on the day.

The Grand Final was won by Leicestershire golfers Cath Arter and Alison Mason who won a place to play in the pro-am at next year's Women's British Open.

Laura Johnson - Bolton Old Links Golf Club, Joan Hughes Haydock Park Golf Club and Grainne Pendlebury, Bolton GC qualified for the Ewga Medal Grand Final at Droitwich Golf Club.

The new North Regional administrator is Northumberland's Heather Stonebank who is currently the County Captain of Northumberland. She replaces Ann McMullen from Leeds Golf Club.

With reference to the Merger - as you see this is an Agenda item for today's meeting.

On matters of Finance the Facility Fees given by Ewga to Golf Clubs will no longer accrue VAT. A letter will be available for all counties to use when requesting golf courses on behalf of Ewga.

This year there was still a lot of concern re subscriptions not being paid. If Golf Clubs do not pay they will have their

standard scratch withdrawn and therefore will not be able to run competitions.

Women golfers who would like to become EWGA rules officials have been invited to join the latest training course. Questionnaires had to be completed by the 10 October. The candidates who achieve the highest marks will be invited to one of four seminars which will take place in Spring 2012.

Counties and Regions will receive a list of the 2012 Rules Officials and may call on them to assist at their events.

Sadly this year we said good bye to Eileen Winders, who was a past Chairman of the English Ladies' Golf Association and of the Ladies' Golf Union, she was 93.

And now to tell you about our International, England Ladies and Girls

Brogan Townend, Pleasington and Royal Lytham & St Annes Golf Club made a quick start to the 2011 season with a five-shot win at the Leveret held at Formby Ladies Golf Club.

Brogan was selected for the mixed England team competing for the Nations Cup at Fairhaven Golf Club.

She was in the England team for the Girls' Home Internationals at Gullane, Scotland and was reserve in the European Girls Championship at the Molas Golf Club in Sardinia

The finale to her year was being crowned the Faldo Series Girls' Champion at Loch Erne Golf Club when she finished with a final round of 71 to win the European Grand Final by 5 shots. She wins a start in a Professional tournament and will go to Mission Hills Golf Club in China next March for the Asia Grand Final.

England International Kelly Tidy, Royal Birkdale Golf Club was selected by the LGU for the Great Britain & Ireland team for the Astor Trophy Tournament at Fairhaven Golf Club. Kelly was in the winning team and contributed maximum points.

Kelly was selected to play in the Vagliano Trophy against the Continent of Europe held at Royal Porthcawl.

She was also selected to play in the European ladies team championship in Austria

She played in the Home Internationals at Hillside where England were champions.

Kelly and Emily Taylor, Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club represented England in the Nations Cup event at the St Rule Trophy event held at St Andrews

Emily was selected to play in the French Lady Junior Championship at St Cloud, the European Girls Championship at the Molas Golf Club in Sardinia and The Girls Home

International match at Gullane.

England international Nikki Foster, Pleasington GC played her way into the field for the Ricoh Women's British Open with a superb two-under par 69 in final qualifying at Panmure.

Emma Harris, Peel Golf Club was selected to represent Ewga at the Scottish U16 open strokeplay Championship at Strathmore.

In the Northern Girls Championship at Durham City Golf Club Emma Harris won the best morning gross. Sophie Lamb, Clitheroe Golf Club won the Liverpool Society under 14 Trophy and Hollie Vizard, Pleasington, won the Chairman's Trophy for over 15 – under 18 group.

Megan Cullen, Heysham Golf Club won the 12 - 14 Age Group title in the EGU/EWGA 2011 National Skills Finals at the EGU Woodhall Spa. Two other Lancashire girls won through to the Finals. Thiari Naing, West Lancashire Golf Club was in the Rookie Class for 9 -11 year olds and Courtney Milburn – Heysham Golf Club, who was a winner in 2010, was in the 15-17 Age Group. Thank you to all the Club volunteers for helping these youngsters get a start into golf.

Congratulations to all what super stars we have in our County.

Finally I would like to thank all Clubs, Club members and anyone else for helping and supporting Ewga events. Without your help we would not be able to run any of these competitions and for this I, on behalf of the English Womens Golf Association, are most grateful.

Christine Stokes
Northern Ewga Representative Lancashire