



**Minutes of the second Annual General Meeting of Cheshire Golf Ltd held at Sandiway Golf Club on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026, starting at 2pm**

**TOP TABLE:**           2025 President (John Heggarty)  
                              2026 President (Marjorie Griffiths)  
                              2026 Deputy President (Stewart Neil)  
                              Chair (Cleveland McCurdy)  
                              Director of Finance (Dave Kimpton)  
                              County Secretary (Steve Doughty)

A total of 85 people attended the meeting with voting members/delegates representing 36 different affiliated Cheshire clubs.

**1. Welcome**

**Chair:** opened the Meeting with a welcome to those in attendance to the second Annual General Meeting of Cheshire Golf Ltd:

“Good afternoon, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Past Lady Captains, Past Lady Presidents, Board Members, Voting Members and members of Cheshire golf clubs. It is an honour to welcome you all to our second Cheshire Golf Ltd Annual General Meeting. I am privileged, to have this opportunity to address you, and to share in our achievements during 2025 and future strategies of Cheshire Golf Ltd, however more of that later from me.” Chair hands over to County Secretary.

**2. In Memoriam for deceased members over the past 12 months.**

**County Secretary:** A reflection on the passing of Alison Hunt.

“For those of you can, please stand as we remember those who have passed during the past year. Alison was a member of Sandiway Golf Club and was an exceptionally kind, thoughtful, and encouraging volunteer who devoted her time and energy to supporting Cathy Day, our Cheshire Girls Manager and our junior girls over many years.

Her commitment made a lasting difference to so many young players. She was also a much-loved and dedicated member of our Cheshire Senior Women’s team, representing the County with unwavering enthusiasm and pride every time she wore the county colours. Will you join me in a minutes silence.”

**3. Notice of the Meeting.**

**County Secretary:** Read Notice convening the Meeting.

“The **second ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of Cheshire Golf Ltd is being held today Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 starting at 2pm. The purpose is to receive the Report and Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025, to confirm the appointments of Directors and any other business which may be legally transacted at this Meeting.”

**4. Apologies.**

**County Secretary:** “A number of apologies were received from Cheshire volunteers, Vice Presidents, Past Lady Captains, Past Lady Presidents and from Cheshire Golf Clubs. Are there any more apologies from the floor?”

## **5. Minutes of the 2025 AGM.**

**Chair:** requests the meeting to accept the Minutes of the first Cheshire Golf Ltd Annual General Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 which have been posted on the website.

Chair to sign a copy of the Minutes.

## **6. Appointment of Directors over the past 12 months.**

**Chair:** requests that the meeting confirms the appointment of those Directors that have been appointed over the past 12 months. Specifically, they are: Bob Hamilton\* as Communications Director following the resignation of Tracy McGregor and Jerry Dixon as IT & Projects Director, a new appointment.

\*Chair commented to the meeting that Bob Hamilton's appointment was only a temporary one up until the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

## **7. Confirmation of appointment of Directors for 2026.**

**Chair:** requests that the meeting confirm the appointment of Geoff Linnell as Championship and Competitions Director, for reasons that will become clear later in the meeting.

**Chair** asks for a show of hands to confirm the appointment.

**Chair:** confirms that all other Directors will remain in office with the exception of Bob Hamilton and comments to the meeting that a replacement will be made in the near future.

## **8. Report on the accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.**

**Director of Finance:**

**The Finance Directors Report:**

"The 25 Budget deficit of £74,400 was bettered by 16k, the actual deficit being -£58,274.

Turnover £754k up from last year (£730k), Comp entries (from £50k to £61K), Cheshire collect only £266k in Affiliation fees from YOU, the 95 member Clubs.

Team costs for matches £110k when last year only £40k, more teams/matches since unification.

Coaching spend remained the same £57k for 2025 and 2024, even though budget was £80k.

Staff costs have increased, Gillian all year and adding Abby to the Secretarial function.

Team clothing and kit up from £14k to £35k (budget £30k) and Banners/Flags/Table Clothes etc cost £15k – due to unification and rebranding. Bought a nearly new Vauxhall Van for £20k too.

The Unified County has a healthy Balance Sheet worth of £358k, mainly cash £236k & trophies £93k.

Talking of trophies, our records are incomplete and on Unification it would appear some have not been valued as they were not handed over and stored securely with the others in Chester HQ.

Similarly, stock of kit is valued low, not including Calaway items, balls and bottles held in HQ.

We have exercised our right as a small company to submit unaudited accounts under the Companies Act however, we chose an Independent Accountant to review my submissions for circa £500, not £5k.

Hence the trophy issue arose, a few procedural issues too, which we were already changing with the additional time I now have and the new Secretarial staff.

I therefore commend to this meeting that the Accounts as issued for October 2025 be accepted."

Thank you.

David Kimpton

**Chair:** asks for a proposer and seconder and to have a show of hands for the adoption of the accounts. Proposed by David Durling and seconded by Stewart Neil.

## **9. Authorise Directors to appoint Accountants and fix remuneration.**

**Chair:** Explains the proposed changes to the way the Company accounts are now being monitored and the reasons for the change.

“There is going to be a new way of auditing our accounts. Phillip Bates will no longer be employed to do this. This will be done internally by qualified independent accountants. As we are only a very small company there is no legal requirement to have an external audit. The accounts going forward will be reviewed at a cost of approximately £500 as opposed to £5,000.”

**Chair:** asks for a proposer and seconder and to have a show of hands for the adoption of the proposal.  
Proposed by Andrew Henshall and seconded by Nigel Evans.

## **10. Election of 2026 Deputy President.**

**Chair:** confirms that **Stewart Neil** of Royal Liverpool Golf Club has been recommended by the Board of Directors to the office of Deputy President for 2026 and calls on the meeting to confirm his appointment by a show of hands.

Proposed by Bob Hamilton and seconded by Jerry Dixon.

## **11. President’s address.**

**President:** John Heggarty gives his address on his year in office.

“Chairman of Cheshire Golf

Vice Presidents, Past Presidents distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

During my year in office, I have enjoyed a huge array of golfing occasions.

I have witnessed some fantastic golf played at golfing venues throughout the county, region and indeed further afield.

Each one of those venues worked so hard to present their golf courses in the finest order. I was grateful to visit those courses and to meet so many enthusiastic club members.

The golfing calendar in Cheshire in 2025 was extremely busy and this upcoming season looks to be no different. With the support of Assistant Secretary Abby Baumber, our County Secretary Steve Doughty, will in 2026 oversee well over 100 different golfing events within our county.

To run this extensive range of competitions and golfing activities our secretariat and Cheshire Golf rely heavily on the support of our county volunteers.

Whether it be at board and committee level, rules officials, team managers, team support, parents, and coaches, your energy and dedication to the successful running of Cheshire Golf events and by association the success enjoyed by our teams cannot be overstated.

I have personally spoken to many volunteers during my year, but this afternoon I would like to take this opportunity to offer my sincere thanks to each and every one of you.

Equally, during my year I have been made to feel very welcome by both clubs and individuals from those clubs. I have tried to thank representatives from those clubs but suffice to say, we simply could not complete our extensive calendar of events without the consideration and support of so many golf clubs within the County.

We are so grateful for your continued support.

As you will have seen from the presentation slides shown prior this meeting Cheshire Golf is proud of its wide range of golf and supportive activities, but it would not be overstating the fact to say that at elite level 2025 was an outstanding year for Cheshire Golf.

At Annual General Meetings throughout the country, many counties would be delighted to recognise just one regional title or perhaps just one national title but during the 2025 season Cheshire Golf amassed not one but four regional titles and not one but four national titles.

A quite remarkable performance

At this time, it would be remiss of me to not recognise those teams and individuals.

### **Team Awards**

Sarah Naden and Cath Rawthore - Two key players who were part of the England Senior Women's team that won the European Women's Team Championship.

### **Regional Title Awards**

The Women's Senior team. Won the Northern League title, thus retaining The Richardson Trophy for an unprecedented 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive occasion.

Our Men's Senior team won Northern Counties Qualifying title and were runners up in the Senior Men's County Finals.

Our Boys Under 18, won the Four Counties team championship for second consecutive year.

Our Boys Under 18, Northern Region Qualifying.

### **National Title Awards**

Lucy Jamieson won the English Women's Amateur Championship. .

Sarah Naden won the English Senior Women's Amateur Championship.

Morgan Bolan became Welsh Girls Champion.

And last but not least the Boys Under 18 team became English National Champions for the first time since 1998. My heartfelt congratulations to each and every player.

As I have already said, my year as President has been very varied but always enjoyable.

For example, in early April last year we attended The England Golf awards at The Hilton Hotel in Manchester. Cheshire was nominated in several categories including County of the Year.

Sadly, we didn't win any of the National awards, but I'm delighted to say that once again this year Cheshire have been nominated for the prestigious County of the Year award.

AND

As I reflect on the achievements within our County, during 2025

- The carefully considered and now successful unification of Cheshire Golf,
- Our commitment to not only Elite Golf but also disability golf and golf for all.
- Our extensive male and female coaching programmes.
- And of course, our magnificent individual and team regional and national golfing titles.

Add to these achievements the fact that our forward thinking and proactive board led by Chair Cleveland McCurdy will continue in 2026 with the wide range of initiatives started in 2025.

It is therefore hardly surprising I feel very optimistic that as a county we have a very strong CV which deserves careful consideration by the panel from England Golf for the upcoming awards ceremony.

Chairman I wish you every success on that evening.

In conclusion, thank you for the honour you have bestowed on me. Thank you for the privilege of being the first PGA Professional to undertake the position of President of Cheshire Golf. Thank you to David Durling and his board for their faith to ask me to undertake this role in the first place. Thank you to Cleveland McCurdy and his board for their unflinching support not least which included allowing me to hold our annual dinner at Chester Racecourse.

Thank you to my wife Helen who as with several other roles I have been involved in, has not only been of great support and wise council to me, but particularly this year where her skill and expertise was invaluable as together we staged a successful County Dinner.

Thank you to the myriads of people I have met through my year in office for their support but most importantly thank you for the lifelong friendships I have been fortunate enough to develop all because of this great game of ours. Now as the curtain draws down on my year in office, another curtain raises as we welcome our incoming President Marjorie Griffiths.

Marjorie,

You have already undertaken key roles both on the golf course and within golf administration. In anticipation of your upcoming role, you have been diligent in your preparation during the 2025 season. These key factors along with the respect you are held in both at your home club and within the county make you more than qualified to undertake the position of President of Cheshire Golf. You take over a successfully unified county, and I feel confident that under your presidency our county will continue to flourish.

I wish you a very happy year. I hope that throughout your tenure you thoroughly enjoy the many and varied experiences. I'm sure there will be the odd challenge for you to navigate through but as is often said but is sometimes overlooked don't forget to smell the wild flowers along the way.

Ladies and gentlemen it has been an honour to have served as your President in 2025.

Now it is my pleasure to re-affirm Marjorie Griffiths from Ringway Golf Club as your 2026 President of Cheshire Golf and in doing so hand you your Badge of Office.

Thank you.

## **12. Appointment of 2026 President.**

**President** reaffirms **Mrs Marjorie Griffiths** of Ringway Golf Club to become the 2026 Cheshire Golf County President. Immediate Past President, John Heggarty invests the newly appointed President with her Badge of Office.

**Marjorie Griffiths** presents John Heggarty with his Vice Presidents badge and shield in recognising his service as County President for the last year. Majorie also presents the new Deputy President, Stewart Neil with his badge. Marjorie Griffiths speech below:

Deputy President, Vice Presidents, Past Presidents, Directors of the Board, county officials, ladies and gentlemen.

I am honoured to be the President of Cheshire Golf for 2026 and I would particularly like to thank the Past Presidents of the Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association for inviting me to take on this role. I am only too aware of those who have gone before me and I will do my very best to uphold the standards of previous Presidents'.

My first job is to thank and congratulate John on a very successful year, it's not easy wearing two hats, one as President and one as a Senior Coach for the men and boys' teams. John, your wealth of experience and your dedicated contribution to the county have played no small part in Cheshire's successes, the results of which we have all thoroughly enjoyed.

Congratulations to Helen, who has supported you throughout the year, and her contribution, along with that of several others, culminated in a very successful Cheshire Dinner in October. Thank you from all of us, but as you are only casting off one of those hats, I know that we will be seeing a lot of you.

Cheshire Golf's first year has been successful in many ways and not only on the golf course, but there is still a way to go, where we need to carefully select the best of our two previous organisations and take steps to move on in new ways. It is an opportunity to improve our processes and to make Cheshire Golf stronger, and I can assure you that all members of the Board are committed to making progress so that the 45,000 or so members' are aware that we are a strong supportive county organisation working on their behalf. I would particularly like to wish our coaches and team managers good luck for 2026 along with our female captains, Denise Burchell, Tiff Fielden and Naomi Willans and their male counterparts, Dom Barnes, Lee Turner and Matty Griffiths.

We are introducing several new events in 2026 as well as promoting the usual calendar of events for ladies' golf and the very popular Life Members programme which is now open to Cheshire Ladies. One of our intentions is to promote golf for a variety of disabilities, more of which you will hear in our Chairmans report.

To celebrate our unified status we are introducing a Mixed Pairs Foursomes Inter Club Knock out competition open to all golf clubs in Cheshire. Details of which will be sent out to all clubs very shortly. You are now aware that Stewart Neil of Royal Liverpool Golf Club has been appointed as our Deputy President for 2026. Stewart has been our Competitions and Championships Director for several years and has done a sterling job and I have to thank him particularly for the support that he has given to our Ladies Competition Secretaries. Stewart has also been the Chair of Competitions at his home club Royal Liverpool, which I am sure was a busy and challenging position. He is very qualified to take on the role as President of Cheshire Golf in 2027. I look forward to working with Stewart and Jane.

I anticipate a very busy but exciting year ahead and I am sure that I will meet many of you along the way, particularly our many volunteers, who are the heartbeat of Cheshire Golf.

I must mention the support that I have received from my own club Ringway and thank those who are here today. Ringway has a strong connection with Cheshire Golf and it has been represented by quite a number of senior officials, volunteers and players over the years. One interesting and quite amazing fact is that last year Ringway had at least one player in the teams for both junior boys and girls, men, ladies and senior men and ladies. I think that could be a record!

Finally thank you for your interest, your attention and your support and here's to an enjoyable and successful 2026.

**Deputy President's speech:**

Past President, President, Vice Presidents, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My thanks must obviously go to the Vice Presidents and the Board for having faith in my ability and asking me to become Deputy President. Although I have been fortunate to win a few golf competitions in the past and I have even had a handicap well into single figures - but not now - but this undoubtedly represents the pinnacle of my golfing career. I'll be eternally grateful for this opportunity.

And Marjorie, many congratulations on your appointment as well. As we have heard, there are well over 100 events in the Cheshire calendar now, so there is a lot of work to be done and I look forward to supporting you and working with you in the coming year. It will be hard work but I'm sure we will enjoy it.

So once again my thanks to everybody.

**13 Chair's report.**

Chair presented his report to the Company.

**Review of the Past Year**

"Chair's Report to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of Cheshire Golf Limited (CGL)

Good afternoon, it is my pleasure to present the Chair's Report to this the second Annual General Meeting of Cheshire Golf Limited. As we reflect on the past year, I would like to begin by expressing my thanks and appreciation on behalf of the Board, the volunteers, to all of you and your clubs for your ongoing support and commitment to Cheshire Golf.

**Review of the Year**

The past year has been one of both challenges and achievements for Cheshire Golf.

There has been a directorial resignation with the departure of Tracy McGregor as our Communications Director. Bob Hamilton, who is well known to many of you offered his considerable experience and talent to fill this role on a temporary basis. Bob will be stepping down as of today. You may have seen the role advertised on our website and it has also been circulated to all clubs. It is our intention going forward to circulate any directorial vacancies to the clubs to reach a potentially wider talent pool.

Cheshire Golf also saw the retirement of Gillian Thamason, Gillian was the secretary of the former Cheshire County Ladies Golf Association who had agreed to stay on to support the amalgamation of the two organisations. We have lost Gillian to her love for ballroom dancing. However, in October, we were delighted to welcome Abby Baumber as our assistant county secretary on a part time basis. Abby is a former club captain at Pryor Hayes and is a current member of the ladies' county team.

Cheshire Golf has celebrated unprecedented success during the year which has been widely covered by the appropriate colleagues and I do not intend to repeat in any detail. Reported membership numbers have remained steady, with a slight increase in new members, particularly among younger players, which bodes well for our future.

**Club Competitions and Events**

We enjoyed a full calendar of more than 100 events, with strong participation across all categories.

Congratulations go to all our winners and runners-up. It was a pleasure to see firsthand some of these achievements. Last season Cheshire Golf were represented across all categories by 165 players from 30 clubs and achieved remarkable successes, acknowledgement of some of these successes can be seen on the website here: [Championships 2025 – Roll of Honour – Cheshire Golf](#)

I would urge you to visit our website where you can enjoy more acknowledgements and successes of your fellow Cheshire Clubs.

Our County Dinner on 10<sup>th</sup> October at the Pavillion Suite, Chester Racecourse was by all accounts a resounding success, reflecting Cheshire Golf's rightful pride in its achievement. The gathering from all sections of our county reinforced the sense of community that Cheshire Golf is striving to achieve.

### **Financial Overview**

Financially, Cheshire Golf as you have heard from our Director of Finance remains in a healthy position. Prudent management, careful budgeting and improved affiliation fee collection process underlines these results. I would like to thank our Director of Finance Dave Kimpton and the Finance Committee for their stewardship.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we embark into 2026, we do so with renewed vigour to improve communications between county and clubs. As stated in my Christmas greeting letter to all clubs, our strategy has been to allocate clubs to directors and staff depending on their residence with the aim of getting closer to our clubs and improving communications and relationships. Some success can be reported but much has still to be done. More input is being received from you as evidenced on our website. However, we appeal for your assistance in letting us know what is happening within your clubs so that it can be promoted on the website for the benefit of the 95 affiliated clubs.

Our County Dinner in 2026 will be focussed on what clubs are doing to support disability groups and charities in their local areas. Here, it would be an opportune time to advise that, Cheshire and England Golf are in the early stages of discussions with the Club at High Legh Park to become the Hub for disability golf in the county.

### **Acknowledgement**

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all my fellow volunteer directors, their subcommittee members who are giving of their time and expertise freely for the benefit of golf in Cheshire. They are too many to mention individually and I would probably cause offence in missing out a deserving volunteer. Although Tracy McGregor left the board mid-year, I would like to acknowledge the foundational work that she did on our website and communication strategy. However, I must mention our County Secretariat of Steve Doughty and Abby Baumber who continue to support us all.

I must also say a huge thank you to Stewart Neil your Deputy President for 2026. Stewart has directed the Championships and Competitions committee for several years and will be severely missed. He however has left a solid structure in place to continue his legacy.

Finally, to my wife Victoria, despite her own challenges, she has been steadfast in her support during these past two and a half years. Vic, without you constantly being by my side this would be untenable. So, thank you.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, we are poised for an exciting future. Our strategic initiatives, our willingness to reach out and to listen, strong financial performance, and unwavering commitment to development from grassroots to elite players, will manifest itself in Cheshire continuing to achieve new heights and deliver exceptional outcomes. Our commitment, passion and drive to success is unquestionable, resulting in Cheshire Golf again being nominated for County of the Year once again.

I would like to give advance notice of our County Dinner on 9th October, at the Pavillion Suite, Chester Racecourse, and invite you all to support your County by attending.

Thank you for your attention and continued support.

Cleveland McCurdy  
Chair, Cheshire Golf Limited

**14. Any other business.**

**Chair:** requests the attendees for any other business.

**A question from Bob Hamilton from The Tytherington Club:**

Asked the Director of Finance could he give assurances that the Company would not make the same scale losses in 2026?

**Director of Finance:** "A lot of savings have been made already and we will continue to budget prudently during the year ahead and currently projected to make a small loss."

**15. Close of the Meeting.**

Chair closed the meeting at 2.42pm.

Signed:

Date: 3.2.2026

Steve Doughty

Company Secretary, Cheshire Golf Ltd.