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Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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JUNE 2024



A big thank you to Malc and his team and all the volunteers who helped with the big society day held last month. The day brought in much needed revenue for the club and the society have already booked again for 2025.

Thankfully summer appears to have arrived at last and shorts and T shirts are the order of the day.

This years accounts AGM is to be held at the clubhouse at 7pm on Thursday 8th August. This is an important meeting when the members are asked to approve the accounts for last year. Please make a note of the date in your diaries and attend the meeting if you are able to do so.

Peter Izod Chairperson





Captain's Report

Welcome to June's newsletter and the arrival of summer, hopefully it will last.

We'll start with this month's 100 club winners :-1st prize Phil Houghton 2nd prize Samuel Woolley 3rd prize Terry Tibbs.

I'm not sure if I've kept everyone up to date with the bottle of wine winners in the receipt draw, so here is a full list for the year so far :-January :- Ricky Horn February :- Iain Scotland March :- Diane Crosskell April :- Michael Donagher May :- Steve Griffin

Now the golfing winners, the first one to catch up on was the May stableford. David Reardon won the first division with 39 points and Steve Incles took the second, on countback from Terry Tibbs on 35 points.

Just played this weekend, June's version was won by Callum Bowyer with 40 points on countback from Ryan Collins. In division two Ian Coleman won with 39 points.

I have just completed the up to date league tables and will place them on the changing room notice board this week. For your information Tony Wilkes is leading the second division and David Reardon the first, but with four rounds still to play, plenty could change.





Captain's Report - Continued

Earlier in the month the Secretaries Sheild took place, one of three board competitions held in June. George Montgomery was the victor with 38 points. There was only one two scored on the day, so Bob Svarups had a good injection of cash placed on his bar card.

The second board competition to be held was the Poole Cup. Ryan Collins won with a nett 72 and Jamie Mayes took the second division on countback with a nett 77.

The final board competition was the 4bbb Berridge Bowls, where Anthony Burrows and Paul Pateman finished on top. This led to a cut in Anthony's handicap, the second occasion the new WHS rules have come into play. The first one to my knowledge was a cut for Denis Price as he took the Mixed Ping 4bbb competition with his partner Christine Rowell, with 44 points.

The handicap league team had an upturn in form with a 10 - 0 victory at home to Peterborough Milton. Looking at the results so far all the teams have won their home games and lost their away ones, so if we can pick up a win on our travels there's every chance of progressing.

The club had an away fixture at Overstone in June, losing 4 - 2. But with the home leg to come in a couple of weeks time I'm quietly confident of overturning this score.

July brings another busy month on the golfing calendar. The club have two friendly fixtures, at home to Gedney Hill and the aforementioned Overstone match. These and the remaining fixtures, are on the notice board in the Pro shop, if you fancy playing in them.





Captain's Report - Continued

On the mixed front, the Fairgrieve trophy takes place, which was moved from it's original spot on Father's Day.

The mixed section also have their away day in July at Lutterworth GC. The handicap league games come in a rush with their remaining 5 matches taking place on 5 consecutive Thursdays.

On Friday 5th July the club is holding its biannual match against the greenkeepers and staff. The format will be pairs Texas scramble and a BBQ will be served after the golf. Further details are on the entry sheet in the Pro shop.

Also taking place in July, is a medal, the next round of the summer stablefords and the Mark Kirk invitational.

I have been asked to mention the upcoming Women's Day, on July 9th, this competition is to replace the Women's Captain's day which is normally held around this time of year. As in previous year's a 9 hole competition for Men is to be held alongside the main competition. To enter please email Sheila on sheilahomer@icloud.com

To end the month we have the Fletton cup, the summer Texas scramble and finally my Captain's day on the 27th. So as you see quite a lot to be going on with.

The club still has three Opens left to play for this year, namely the Oundle Putter (a men's 4bbb competition) on 31st August.





Captain's Report - Continued

The Mixed Open (an Am - Am) held on the 30th August, and finally the Seniors Open (Am - Am) on the 5th of September. Entry forms are in the bar area, or just ring the office direct, to book in. The earlier you enter the more likely you are to get the tee time you require.

We now have a reciprocal arrangement with Bedford and County GC, where they are offering two tee times a day Monday to Friday for £15. Having played this course a couple of times I can say it's well worth a visit. To book ring the office on 01234 352617 ext 1 and then contact Nes in our office for an introductory letter to take with you.

I would also like to remind all members of our other reciprocal arrangements via the smart golf network and the 1893 club, which we are members of. The details for these are on the club website.

This month's rules offering is regarding the 10th hole.

Once teeing off, particularly off the white tees, if you are not sure that your ball has carried the ditch, please play a provisional ball. You can not just assume that it's finished in the water and drop one the tee side of the hazard. Obviously if you find your ball in the stream, or one of your playing partners has seen where the ball has entered, you may take back - on - the - line relief, keeping the point of entry in line and going back as far as required, with a one shot penalty.





Now finally onto my handicap. Not a very good month, I've played in four qualifiers of varying degrees of success. But as I've mentioned before, it's as much as what comes off the other end as what you score on the day. To that end I've gone from 11.9 to 12.7 and left myself with a monumental task of getting back to single figures. There is a bit of a silver lining, with all these extra shots it's giving me a better chance of progressing in all the knock outs I'm entered in. We will see what next month brings.

I almost forgot to mention the Ellis Family Salvers. The bookings open on Sunday for the competition on July 21st.

It's played as a 4 BBB and both couples and family members can play in it. You don't both have to be a member of OundleGC, visitors are welcome they just need an official handicap and must be a family member of the person playing. It would be great to get this long standing competition up and running again and remember it is a board competition, so you have a chance of getting your name in lights for all eternity.

That's all for now, see you out on the course soon and enjoy your golf.

Chris Dix, OundleGC Captain.





Senior Captain's Report

Some important dates for your diaries: Seniors Club Championship - Monday 12th August Charity Open - Thursday 5th September Poppy Day competition - Friday 11th October

Senior Club Championship - Monday 12th August



There are three new trophies to be competed for on the day. Who wants to be the first names engraved on these awards?

There is one for the best handicap score, one for the best gross score and a fun one for the best Chipping and Putting champ.

Details will come out through the senior section closer to the time but it is to be a Medal competition off yellows, with additional money prizes for nearest the pin on two different holes, and also for two's on the day.

This competition will be open to all full and five day Oundle members over 55, but will cost £5.00 extra if you are not already a member of the senior section. Entry will be via BRS.

Woodford & Co have agreed to sponsor this event to bolster the prize fund.





Senior Captain's Report

Seniors Charity Open - Thursday 5th September

My Charity this year is Prostate Cancer Research.

This is an AM - AM for teams of 4, so please team up with some friends and get your entries in . There have been quite a few entries already from visitors,

Poppy day fundraiser - Friday 11th October

This will be open to all Oundle golf club members and their guests. It will be run to raise money for The British Legion, and details will come out as we get closer to the date.

Fixtures

On the senior fixture front we have had a very successful June with five matches and five wins. The teams that have succumbed to us Kingsthorpe, Mkt Harborough, Burghley, Cambridge C C , and Thorney lakes.

The winners of the competitions held in June are: Summer stableford Rd 1st Jim Clarke, 2nd Ian Hood Poole cup 1st John Lynch, 2nd Tony Murdoch Senior Medal 1st Tony Murdoch, 2nd Chris Dix, 3rd Rob Darby

John Foster, Senior Captain



Women's Section Report

Hi All,

What a wonderful busy month June has been. The weather has improved dramatically, especially this week, we are now receiving "heatwave" warnings, so please keep well hydrated out there.

We have had our Open, what a wonderfully successful day it was. The feedback from the guests was wonderful and all very positive, our heartfelt thanks to Ian and his crew, for preparing the course, and making us proud to be a part of Oundle Women's Section.

June competition results.

June 4th Stableford:	
1st Ros Riley	29pts
2nd Kim Pateman	29pts
June 11th Ping Fourball Stableford:	
1st Gerry Robson/Karen Johnson	38pts
2nd Barbara Jenkison/Lyn Cater	37pts
June 13th Oundle Women's Open:	
1st Priya Salvi/Stephanie Crook	
Jennifer Wood/Anne Edwards	80pts Home Team combined
1st Gill Snelson/Denise James	
Liz Rees Linda Sherry	80pts Guests
2nd Karen Taylor/Sarah Parsell	
Rosie Cullis/Ionie Robinson	77pts





Women's Section Report - continued

June 18th Stableford: 1st Elizabeth Swan 34pts 2nd Karen Taylor 34pts

Cecil Leitch: Friday 7th June

Peterborough Milton Home : Match was drawn

Friendlies: Priors Hall 18th June Oundle won

Well done to everyone, some very close results.

As Summer truly kicks in, wishing everyone, sun blessed days, whether golfing or holidaying.

Ending off with a big "please", repair Divots with our Sandbags and don't forget to refill them after use. Don't forget the pitch Marks. Many thanks.

Happy Golfing,

Karen T.



Greenkeeper Report

Hello everyone



Well summer looks like it's finally here, we go from soft greens to greens that we now have to monitor for moisture content to keep them in great condition.

Grass growth has started to slow and as you may have seen we have been trying out a few different rough mowers, our old mower is starting struggle a bit so we are looking into what's the best machine to replace it, the height of the rough is now at our required height which is 2 inches and overall I'm very happy where the course is at the minute.

One area we still get a few comments about is our long rough which is mainly in the tree lines, we are working with England Golf to see ways of making the course more sustainable for the future and improve the ecological and Environment within it, the long rough is part of this although atm it is quite dense and we are looking to create a more wispy effect which will help with finding your golf balls, not a process that happens overnight it can take a few years to get right and where we feel we need to tweak areas we will do for whatever that reason may be.

Having dusted my clubs down and gone out and played a bit one thing that is apparent is the need for tree management to be introduced. The canopies, growth and groupings of the trees have got to a state where work is needed on them not only to make golfers round more enjoyable but for the trees life and longevity going forward.





Greenkeeper Report

It's nice to see a lot of visitors to the course. All the hard work that is done by everyone at the club is worth it and paying off.

Finally the club v staff match is coming up after a close winter match.... just won by the club, it should be close again but hoping the staff get the better of the club this time.

Enjoy the sun and your golf,

lan Robins. Head Greenkeeper



Catering Report

Good day everybody. I hope this newsletter finds you all well. Have we finally turned the corner with regards to the weather? I hope so!

So then. What's been happening?

We've had quite a lot of things going on culminating with the big society for 102. This went extremely well. We received an email from the organiser saying how much they enjoyed the day. Our next events coming up are a birthday party and the Women's Day Golf. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us so we can get more visitors out on the course and then drinking in the bar. Time will tell.

Until then take care and have fun,

Best wishes The Bar Team.



Professional News

It's great to have such a buzz around the club now that summer is finally here and more and more people are hearing how great the course is. I am pleased to be injury free and have more help in the shop over the summer, so look forward to joining some of you for a game soon.

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The Open Championship starts on July 18th meaning this month's nine & dine will be on Friday July 19th. Please email professional@oundlegolfclub.com if you would like to join us, and as usual playing guests and/or dinner guests are more than welcome. I had considered having Haggis on the menu as the tournament is in Scotland, but it seems that too many people want to see a return of the Buttered Chicken Curry so will be going with that instead!

Pro shop

SUMMER CLOTHING - MEN'S AND WOMENS

We now have a fantastic new selection of men's and womens summer clothing for you to try:

MOTOCADDY MADNESS

- Brand New SE Electric trolley Starting at only £499!
 - PLUS Purchase any Motocaddy electric trolley and receive a free accessory pack worth £84.95
- P1 push trolley Only £139
 - Sturdy, lightweight, one-click folding mechanism, foot brake, built in drinks holder
 - PLUS Free umbrella holder with any push trolley worth £33 AMAZING

SHOE DEALS

 \bullet Buy any pair of Skechers shoes for £75



Professional News

Lessons

I will be starting a new short game series program from 5-6pm on Monday evenings from July 15th so please email davemorelandgolf@gmail.com to book. As mentioned I will also have more help in the shop allowing greater flexibility for individual coaching over the summer. Book a 5 x 30 min package before July 31st for only £135.

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Tip of the month

With the improvement in the weather I decided to try something a little different this month so please head to the following link for some short game advice <u>https://youtu.be/FzQ4jcNW6j4</u>





Operations Report

At the time of writing, the sun has finally got its hat on! Long may it continue!

The month of June has seen the Bar and Catering Team at full stretch. Thursday 13th saw us entertain 56 participants who played in the Women's Open (well played Priya). An excellent day and thank you to those women who worked hard (You know who you are) to ensure that all dietary needs were factored in for all concerned.

The US Open Nine and Dine that was planned for the following day was quickly changed due to the weather to the US Open Dine! Well done to Dave Moreland for adapting to circumstances in quick time. Was I the only one who felt for Rory? Proof of the pudding that nerves can affect the very best of players.

Saturday 15th saw the arrival of the Stamford Society. In excess of 100 participants were once again given a warm welcome from both the staff and members and despite the changeable weather, a great day was had by all. In addition to the financial benefits to the club, the society raised in excess of \pounds 6,000 for their chosen charities. Thank you to the usual cohort of volunteers who made the day such a success and to the members for your patience and understanding.

Over the coming months, Thrapston Cricket Club, Oundle Rugby Club, Koni Construction and the Cransley Hospice to name but a few will all be holding events at our wonderful course.





Operations Report - continued

In the meantime, the catering team are going about their everyday routine tasks of looking after the matches and competitions across all the membership categories, not to mention the regular Mens and Ladies Probus events. All in all, a very busy period for the team which they have taken in their stride. Well done to all.

The repairs to the Halfway House are now complete. The extent of the work was cut back following the discovery of a leak in the water main underneath the main structure. Unfortunately, the water ingress has caused significant rotting of the bottom frame and is beyond economical repair. That said, it is estimated that the structure is still good for another 10 years. Fingers crossed!

Stay well and play well.

Malc



