



Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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Chairperson's Report



Hello

Could I remind everyone of the AGM and presentation evening that will be held in the clubhouse at 7pm on Thursday 5th December. This meeting is for the election of the club's officers who are essential for the running of the club. There are still some vacancies that need to be filled and so if you are able to help please put your name forward by entering it onto the appropriate sheet which is outside the bar.

The election of officers will be followed by the presentation of trophies that have been won during the year. Please attend the meeting if you are able to do so.

As I have now completed my 3 year term as Chairman this will be my last newsletter report. I would like to thank all those who have served on the various committees during my term and for all the help and support that I have received.

Peter

Captain's Report



Welcome to the last newsletter of 2024.

Firstly, as usual the 100 club winners for last month.

1st Nick Riley

2nd Colin Stanyon

3rd Bob Svarups

The bar receipt winner and a bottle of wine goes to Ant Marriott.

Now the golfing winners for the last month.

The Autumn Texas Scramble began proceedings with Richard Glithero, Jamie Townsend, David Rogers and Jamie Haynes taking first place.

Next came the Autumn 4bbb, with 45 points Dale Abbott and Anthony Marriott won on the day.

The November stableford was won by Anthony Burrows with 39 points and in division one, Jacques Lourens on 37 points.

The Saturday version of the American Greensomes was won by Jeremy Nicholas and Mike Thompson, on countback, with 45 points.

The Sunday one was won by Tony Wilkes and Nigel Cox with 41 points.

Finally the November medal. David Rogers ended the month with how he began it, with a victory, taking the second division with a nett 69. Charlie Fowler won the first division with a nett 70, not bad off scratch.

A quick thank you for the helpers who assisted in putting the honours boards back up. There's a few left to do, I'll hopefully get them completed by the end of the year.

We are almost at the closing date, for entries into the Winter's pairs knock out. For any latecomers who wish to enter, the forms are in the Pro shop.

Captain's Report - Continued



The Christmas raffle numbers are now available for purchase. The board is in the bar, £1 a square, give the money to Roger and fill in the number of squares required.

On that subject, if anyone has any unwanted bottles or golf related gifts to donate it would be most welcome. Either leave them behind the bar or give them to Nes for my attention.

This month as we are coming into winter, I'm just going to touch on a few issues concerning this, among other things.

Now the frosty mornings are upon us you will notice that ice begins to build up on the cleats on your shoes. Please try to remove this off the green. There's nothing worse than hitting a long putt towards the hole and finding it being diverted by a lump of ice near the cup. Plus the indentations on the green can be quite severe.

My second point is regarding the hole inserts, please try to refrain from removing your ball from the hole by using your putter or the flag pole, this can raise the insert and effect the following players putts.

I've played at four different courses over the last month, all of which are considerably more expensive than Oundle, but none of them had greens in as good condition as ours. Let's try to help to keep it that way.



Captain's Report - Continued



Just a quick mention on my handicap. The 0.2 reduction I had last month I've got back this month. All things considering with the weather we've had recently I'm not too disappointed, I've just got to stop putting two or three bad holes in and get some consistency back. Hopefully the next month will produce that.

That just leaves me time to wish you all a happy Christmas and a good golfing year to come and if I don't see you out on the course I may see you at the presentation evening on the 5th December.

Chris Dix OundleGC Captain.



Senior Captain's Report

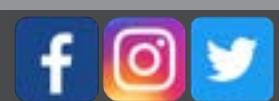
This is my first contribution to the monthly club newsletter as Seniors Captain. Firstly I would like to thank John Foster for his very successful year as Seniors Captain. During this time he introduced two new Seniors events, Seniors Club Championship and the Past Seniors Captains Day, both of which were very successful and will be included in this coming years Seniors diary.

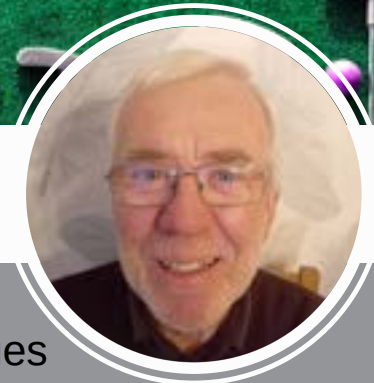
I would like to thank all those who attended this years AGM where we were able to hand over a cheque for £5263.40 to John's charity for 2024 - Prostate Cancer UK. We also presented the trophies for the board competitions along with prize vouchers. We now have three new members of the Seniors Committee, Paul Kime as Vice-Captain, John Lynch as Treasure and Doug Walker as Greens Representative. Something I did fail to mention at the AGM is that my charity for 2025 will be the Air Ambulance.

Again in this coming year we have 27 matches against the seniors sections of other golf clubs, we will be entering the Northants Seniors Knock Out and we will also be hosting our two seniors opens, Pairs Open in May and the Charity Open in September.



Just to recap on the competitions held in November the winners are as follows:-
Nov 4th Greensomes – Ian Hood & Peter Turner
Nov 11th Winter Stableford Round 2 – Tony Burrows
Nov 18th 4BBB – Ian Scotland & David Holroyd Doveton
Nov 25th Winter Stableford Round 3 – Anthony Marriott





Senior Captain's Report - continued

In December we have an American Greensomes on Mon 2nd, Christmas Competition with the Womens Section on Tues 3rd, Winter Stableford Round 4 on Mon 9th and a Christmas Comp (format TBA) on Mon 16th. There are also a number of “roll ups” organised, entry sheets for which will be on the seniors notice board.

I would like to encourage as many seniors as possible to enter and participate in these competitions no matter what level you feel your golf is at. We all have active handicaps and therefore able to compete on an equal basis. Hopefully the course will be set up to allow for some of these competitions to be qualifying events for handicap purposes, (all very weather dependent though).

Please enjoy your golf over the next month and hopefully with a bit of banter thrown in

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a successful golfing New Year.

Colin Stanyon



Women's Section Report

Hi all,

Here we are, end of November 2024. Our AGM has come and gone, and now we are approaching Christmas at a rapid rate.

I think we can all agree, that it has been a very mixed year of weather, and Summer came and went in a flash. But we managed to get all our competitions done and thanks to the Green Keepers hard work, our course is still looking good, and although temporary greens have been introduced, and the ninety degree rule over the whole course is in place, it is still looking amazing, and I personally have learnt over the years of being in the UK, that one's golf changes a lot in Winter!. And there are some real challenges that come into play, but I have also learnt the more you play, the better you become!!

November kicked off with:

5th November - Three Clubs and a Putter.

1st - Sally Anderson - 28pts

2nd - Ros Riley - 23 pts

12th November - 18 Hole Stableford

1st - Alison Page - 33pts

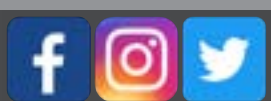
2nd - Megan Smedley - 32pts

Tuesday 19th November - AGM

Tuesday 26th November - Kisbee bowl 2

1st - Priya Salvi - 18pts

2nd - Pat Silburn - 18pts





Women's Section Report - Continued

Our AGM held on the 19th of November, this was our first year without a "Captain", the meeting went off without a hitch, and the New Jobs List was completed for 2025. We then had a lovely lunch thank you to Roger and his team. We then finished with the presentation, with Mary Panton handing out the Trophies. Well done to all our Winners. And a Big congratulations to Claire Izod, who is the New Club Champion for 2024.

Here is a photo kindly taken by Lyn Cater of all winners. Thank you, Lyn, for doing this.



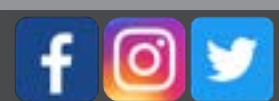
We will be ending off the year with the Seniors vs Women's Christmas comp on the 3rd December and then our own Christmas Comp on the 10th December ably put together by Sheila Homer. Thank you in advance Sheila.

So now I can close for 2024, with, a big Congratulations to all winners of 2024, if you didn't win a big thank you for all being there, and to all the Women in the Section that have stuck together to keep our Women's Section up and running and may 2025, be a good year for us all on the Golf Course and off.

Now is the time for me, to say "Ho Ho Ho" a very Merry Christmas to each and every one And may we all be Blessed with a wonderful 2025.

Happy Golfing Always. Travel Safe wherever you may be.

Karen





Greenkeeper Report



Hi everyone,

Last news letter for this year, time seems to fly so quick and hopefully it will do so again until the warmer better golfing conditions return.

Plenty going on at the moment on the course with leaves and grass growth still high so we plough on. Hopefully a few frosts and colder weather will knock all the leaves on the head and growth will slow down.

Some I am sure will be happy the tree on the 5th has been removed. This is to make the hole much fairer than it is currently. Good shots shouldn't be penalised by poorly planted trees. This now opens the hole, which I'm sure most would agree is much better. The pond has had time to settle and although it is holding some water it is not as much as we would like, so when time allows we will be doing a bit more work to the base to see if more water holds. If not then we will look to put in a liner to hold the water to the levels we are looking for.

The course has held up well considering the high disease pressures of late. These levels have been much higher than we would normally expect and at this time it's been a battle. We are doing everything we can to keep these pressures at bay.

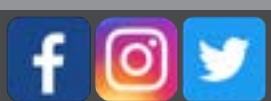


Greenkeeper Report

Thanks to every golfer for adhering to the 90-degree rule and keeping away from the approaches to the greens. These measures mean we can give you the very best course come the Spring. So please keep going and thank you for your understanding.

Finally, I and the rest of the greenkeeping team would like to wish you all a good Christmas and a great 2025, we look forward to giving you an even better course next year.

Ian Robins
Head Greenkeeper



Catering Report



Good day beautiful people,

I hope you've been enjoying the course even if you haven't been enjoying the weather. It's been a bit fresh.

So what has the bar got to report?

We are nearly into December and we still have a more societies to come in which is good.

Last week we had the Women's AGM. Unfortunately the weather didn't allow them to play but they were able to still have a 2 course meal.

I am in the process of working with one of the senior members on a little project. Watch this space.

Finally a little fun fact for you. So I am a little bit more flexible when I go out on the the course I have started yoga. Yes. You read that correctly. Anyway that's it for this month.

Best wishes

Bar Team

Ps During December mince pies will be available alongside a hot drink.



Professional News

It has been a tough November so far so I have extended the sale into December and there are still plenty of tickets available on the Christmas draw where for only £2.50 you can win a set of PING G430 irons worth £850!!!

If you are thinking of anything golf related for Christmas please speak to me first as I am sure we can price match and have it delivered in plenty of time. Whether it's new clubs, a bag or just accessories we can get pretty much anything in time.

CHRISTMAS VOUCHERS

Vouchers for lessons or equipment are a great (and easy) option for Christmas presents.

Buy a voucher for any value by December 8th and receive a 10% discount

PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE

Our sale will continue until all the way up until Dec 21st so there is plenty of time to buy some last minute presents at great discounts:

- 50% discount on all ladies apparel
- 25% discount on all men's non-logo apparel
- 15% discount on any pair of FJ shoes
- All SKECHERS shoes £75
- Ball & Glove deal - £32.50



Professional News

LESSON SALE

PURCHASE ANY SIMULATOR PACKAGE BEFORE THE END OF OCTOBER
AT 20% DISCOUNT

60 min session Was - £74 **Now - £59**

4 x 60 min sessions Was - £275 **Now - £220**

The simulator lessons include video analysis, ball flight analysis and can also be used to gap test all of your clubs to give you accurate carry distance stats



Operations Report



At the time writing, winter has well and truly taken hold. The cold weather will inevitably result in the club entering a quieter period as the festive period approaches. This is never good news in terms of the much needed revenue streams for the club, not to mention the frustration and challenges for those hardy members who are determined to brave the elements. You have my respect!

As this will be my final Newsletter article, I would like to focus on some general points rather than just Bar and Catering.

In the hope that you are able to attend the Club AGM on Thursday 5th December, the event will see Peter Izod completing his three-year tenure as Club Chairman. Having worked with Peter on the Management Committee over the past two years, I have experienced at first hand his tireless efforts to steer the Club through some challenging times. Unexpected adverse events and a tough economic climate are just two elements where some difficult decisions have had to be made.

I am certain that many of you will be aware that the future of golf is a fast-changing landscape and is the subject of much discussion.

The changing demographics of Club Membership – specifically imbalances, economic and environmental challenges, and how technology is changing the face of the game are just some factors that are being considered across the industry as a whole.

Operations Report - continued



Being aware of such challenges will help members understand what every committee across the country is up against and why the support and understanding of the membership is critical when some tough decisions have to be made.

That said, the incoming Chairman will be inheriting a Club that is going in the right direction in terms of the finances, quality and condition of the course and reputation.

I want to offer my personal thanks to Peter for his commitment and dedication during his tenure and knowing him as do, I am certain that he will resurface in one capacity or another and stay involved. Watch this space!

At the time of going to print, the role of Operations Officer still remains vacant. By way of an overview, the role is primarily focussed on the Bar and Catering function, which in essence requires little or no intervention for the day to day running. Visiting societies and other large events is where the role comes into play, a simple case of coordination and liaison with all parties concerned.

If you see yourself as part of the Management Committee and be integral to the decision making which will shape the future of the Club, then this is your opportunity. Give it a go!

Stay well and play well

Malc