



Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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Chairperson's Report



Dear Members,

After the grey August, September was rather pleasant – for us golfers at least. I think Dan would have liked a bit more rain for the course! I was happy to see some sun for a change – I was beginning to get a deficiency of Vitamin D!! .

Fog Policy

It is that time of year when the weather begins to turn autumnal – the evenings are already drawing in alarmingly and in a month's time we will change the clocks and then winter will be here. Often this is the time for foggy mornings, and I would like to remind you again of our fog policy:

If you cannot see the red and white marker from the first tee you MUST NOT tee off under any circumstances.

We have had an email from Ground2Control which is the Health and Safety system we all use at OGC. This is a system devised especially for golf clubs. They have pointed out that if we, as a Club, do not enforce the Fog policy we are in breach of the "Health and Safety at Work Act". We would be failing to protect our valuable employees from potential injury. So it is really important that you do adhere to this rule. We could be prosecuted if someone does not adhere to this rule and a green keeper gets hurt! On most occasions the greens staff will make a judgement about the severity of the fog, or any other adverse weather conditions and inform the Proshop, but it actually falls to each member to take responsibility to do the right thing and keep everyone safe. Our guys will still be out there working in foggy conditions and they must be kept safe!

01832 273 267

office@oundlegolfclub.com

Chairperson's Report continued...



Club Management

You will by now have seen the most recent email from me to you all underlining the situation we find ourselves regarding the running of the Club from next year onwards. We have already had one member come forward to offer help, and we are going to be publishing job descriptions for each available post quite soon to help him, and hopefully others, to decide which post to put themselves forward for. This should provide some clarity for you all.

I do hope to see as many as possible at the **EGM on 28th October** and the **GM on 9th December – both at 7.30pm at the Club.**

I personally will be very sorry in many ways to step down from the role of Chairman at the General Meeting coming up in December. I have very mixed feelings, but I believe 5 years in this role of Chairman has been enough. If you would like more details of my decision to step down, please see my report in the minutes of the recent AGM. These minutes are now on the website and I urge you to read all the reports please.

AGM and GM

We have had a query regarding why we have 2 meetings in the year.

The **Annual General Meeting** is the meeting to present the accounts to members which under normal circumstances is within 3 months of the end of the financial year – therefore in July. Unfortunately we cannot have a change of Captains in the middle of the season so – **The General Meeting** is held in December to appoint the new Officers and Captains in readiness for the new golfing season.

Use Of Social Media

I know we are encouraging members and visitors to use social media more to spread the word about the Club and help to promote our memberships and visitor and society offers. We would also like you to take some good pictures on the course and send them to our new marketing company – alex@eldadc.com so he can use them on social media and the website.

Members must however be wary of making comments such as RIP – please think about whether the family have had time to be informed before making such public comments.

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Chairperson's Report continued...



Reciprocal Golf

This is a reminder that we have Reciprocal deals for Full members with Smart Golfer (a network of golf clubs to the east and south of us) and 1893 Club (clubs formed in 1893 like us). Details are in the Proshop and on the website.

In addition to these you have access to a County card which you can obtain from Northamptonshire Golf Limited – www.northantsgolf.co.uk

This enables you to play at any course in the country for a slightly reduced green fee. Please note these arrangements are only available to Full Albatross members and this is a huge benefit to being a Full member.

However, we also have an arrangement to use Rutland Water GC on Tuesdays and Thursdays for £15 per round and this is available to all members.

Birdie & Eagle Members

This is a reminder to all Birdie and Eagle members that they must not play the course either before the Proshop opens in the morning or after the Proshop closes at night. This is because you must swipe your card before you play and if the Proshop is not open you will not be able to do this. The only way you could possibly play under these circumstances is to ring the Proshop the day before and arrange to have the appropriate number of points taken off your account, but this must be done BEFORE you play and not afterwards.

Veronica Lyon

Oundle Golf Club Chairperson

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Captain's Report

The competition season is now coming to an end and with our Men's Champions of Champions day upcoming it is good to reflect that we have managed to get all the competitions played this year. My thanks to Competitions Secretary Richard Cole, with the help of Garry Asbery, in organising this.

On a golfing front it is great to still see so many golfers on the course, both members, guests and visitors. The guests and visitors are valuable at a time our financial income flow becomes dramatically reduced. At this time we have to seek additional areas for income and as such we have relaunched the Sunday Lunches upstairs and hopefully a new menu will be launched to encourage more use of the facility upstairs. Jemma and her team have done a fantastic job since reopening and are ready and waiting to welcome you upstairs.

Coming up soon we will have our AGM where we will be voting for our new Captain & Vice-Captains for the coming year. It is important that we move forward as a club and get volunteers to fill these positions, and the other vacancies for the coming year. I am happy to talk to anyone who may be interested in either of these roles and explain the duties and expectations, as I firmly believe there may be some misconception of what is expected.

As previously reported our competitive teams have had a mixed bag of results this year but I am happy to report our newly formed Men's Scratch team' led by Michael Davidson, are still in the hunt for the 1st place position in this year's competition, despite a 4-2 reverse at Prior's Hall last weekend. This week they play their final match of the year at home against Rushden.

In the NGL County 4BBB competition, father & son duo, Guy & Charlie Fowler have made it to this year's final, to be played at Delapre this coming Sunday. Best of luck this weekend to you all.

Competition Update

Congratulations to our winners through the last month with some very good scoring, attracting the handicap secretary into action, no doubt.

It was great to see a large field enter the Men's Open, The Oundle Putter with a 'home' pairing winning the event Tony Wilkes & Chris Treweeks (47pts) secured a 1 point advantage over Jason Hodgson & Chris Hankins to win the trophy.

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Captain's Report cont...

The NGL Izzard Trophy was held at Rushden Golf club. The club were represented by Chris Hankins, Tony Shillcock & Andrew Sulston. Played in appalling conditions the team did not manage a top three place but at least we had a complete team on the day – many clubs did not!!

Competition Results

Fenwick Day

Debbie Verdino & Andy King 46pts

Oundle Putter

Tony Wilkes & Chris Treweeks 47pts

Elaine Leach Charity Cup

Peter McNally, Dale Abbott, Denis Price & Tony Wilkes 107pts

September Medal

Div 1: Martin Camp 65
Div 2: Phil Twiselton 60

September Stableford

Div 1: Sean Turner 39pts
Div 2: Dale Abbott 46pts

Fletton Cup

Div 1: Graham Drage 3uo
Div 2: Greg Southwell 5up

Congratulations to all our winners!

I wish to thank all members for their support to me as Captain. I look forward to speaking to you all soon.

Enjoy your golf, play well and stay safe.

Oundle Golf Club Captain 2019, 2020 & 2021

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Senior Captain's Report

The Seniors team matches are almost complete for this year with one match remaining in October, our record so far is played 27, won 16, drawn three and lost eight.

September's match results were :-

Away to Burghley - Lost 2 1/2 v 5 1/2

Home to Thorney Lakes - Drew 3 v 3

Home to Bourn - Won 4 1/2 v 3 1/2

Home to Collingtree - Won 3 1/2 v 2 1/2

In the Seniors competitions

- The Summer Stableford rnd. 7 was won by **Trevor Brant with 42 points**

- The Summer Stableford rnd. 8 was won by **Barry Robson with 38pts** on countback from John Foster and Greg Southwell.

- The overall winner of the whole series was **Peter Curnow averaging over 39pts** for his five best rounds but only winning by one point.

In second place was the recently departed Barry Seal, a Seniors member for much of his time at Oundle, he was a regular in all of our competitions and had played in many of our matches in the past, he was an accomplished player and a friend to all that played with him, he will be greatly missed by us all.

The Seniors September Medal was won by Ian Tucker with a net 73 in extremely difficult conditions.

The Summer matchplay competitions were concluded during this month, in the Secretary's Cup pairs competition Chris Dix and Nick Johns were the winning team.

In the singles Chris Dix was once again successful, winning the Boon Cup

The trophies will be presented at the Seniors AGM on Wednesday 10th November.

The Seniors Open held on the 6th September attracted a field of 136 players from far and wide, the overall winners were an Oundle team of Tony Shillcock, Chris Hankins, Dave Reardon and Terry Tibbs.

Great credit goes to the organiser Peter Rice and the countless other seniors members and their partners who assisted in the raising of over £3,400 for our charities, Cransley Hospice and Lakelands Hospice, a presentation will be made to them later in the year when we will be adding to this amount the money raised from Seniors matches and other donations which should see us exceed £4,000 in total.

Philip Churchward

Oundle Golf Club Senior Captain

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Womens Captain's Report



Congratulations to Pat Silburn for winning The Challenge Cup and to **Pat Bishton and Megan Smedley for winning the Wilkinson Trophy;** both knock-out competitions. And well done **Christine Rowell for winning the Past Captain's Women's Trophy with Pat Bishton a very close second.**

The Women's Section is holding their **AGM on the 16th November, starting at 2 pm.** In past times, this event was held in the evening with the presentation of prizes followed by a dinner. This change is intended to make it easier for those living a distance from OGC to attend. **Debbie Verdino will take over from Sue Brown as Women's Captain** and Debbie will be announcing the name of her Vice Captain.

Details of **winter competitions will be issued shortly.** We will be playing qualifying Stablefords this winter season - an England Golf recommendation - which will help us in friendly and Cecil Leitch matches as our handicaps will be a truer reflection of playing ability.

Thanks to the committee and all who have ensured that our matches and competitions have run smoothly this season.

Sue Brown

Oundle Golf Club Women's Captain



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Greenkeeper's Report

As we move into October and towards the end of the summer golfing season it is hard not to look back and think where has the year gone. With such a late start due to lock down it feels like the year has flown by. At the end of September, our casual staff will stop helping us and have a well-deserved break during the winter. I would like to thank Andy, Denis, Charlie and Mick for their hard work throughout the season.

The days have been getting shorter and the temperature has begun to drop. This has slowed the growth of the grass taking pressure off getting all the mowing done every week. Towards the end of the month we have been able to cut the fairways just once a week and selectively cut rough. This has freed up some time to do some other jobs that are time consuming but make the course look neater. These jobs include flailing of the ditches, trimming round sprinkler heads and spraying with a total herbicide the car park and all the path edges round the course.

Towards the end of the month you will probably will have noticed all the Crane Flies coming to the surface and flying about. They will be breeding then laying their eggs back in the ground. In about a month the eggs will hatch and they will start eating the grass roots as leather jackets in the soil. At this point when they are at their smallest we will spray them to try and remove a high percentage. As they move through the soil and across the surface when they get older it is impossible to eradicate them from the greens entirely. This will mean in the spring of next year we will need to use the black sheeting on the problem greens again to remove the mature leather jackets that have made their way back.

From Monday the 25th we will be doing autumn renovations on the greens if the weather allows. This will involve all the greens being verti-drained with solid half inch tines down to a depth of ten inches. They will then be over seeded using a pure bent seed mix and top dressed with a sand dressing. This will cause some short-term unevenness but will settle down in a week or so. This work will get the greens in the best possible condition going into the winter golfing season.

Daniel James

Oundle Golf Club Greenkeeper

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Professional News



Hello Golfers,

With the weather gradually changing as we edge closer to winter, golf will soon become a very different sport. Fear not as the Winter stock is arriving with fashionable clothes that keep you warm. Last winter we didn't really get to play much golf with the lockdowns so it could be time to refresh the winter wardrobe! In the shop, we have a good choice of beanie hats, snoods, mittens and winter clothing.

We have already been warned due to global supply challenges that products for Christmas could be limited. With only 12 weeks until Christmas (sorry!) it is worth planning ahead.

Electric trolleys are always popular ideas and we currently have good stock and choice from both Motocaddy & Powakaddy. Currently, any new orders with Powakaddy are around 4 weeks delivery time - so don't get caught out. Motocaddy predicts new orders to be delivered between the end of October to early December (model dependant).

With the lead-up to Christmas, you will see some familiar offers from manufacturers so keep an eye out!

This months Pro shop offer:



Motocaddy S1
(while stock lasts)

WAS £549

NOW £499



Bobble Hat
£19.95 each

**NEW
ARRIVALS**



Towel
£19.95 each

Hope you enjoyed the newsletter and have a great weekend.

Michael Farr
The Professional Team

GOLF LESSON OFFER
ONE OFF 30 MINUTE LESSON £15

Contact Michael and this team **01832273267** or via email **professional@oundlegolfclub.com**



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Catering Report

September has been a **very busy and successful month** for the catering team.

Paula has settled back into her role in the kitchen brilliantly and her **Sunday Roasts are proving to be very popular**, we are seeing more people booking in for each one. If you have not booked in yet, then why not?

Past Captains dinner on the 19th September **was a success and an absolute pleasure to work**. It is also nice to meet the husbands/wives/partners of the members at events such as this.

Our Christmas lunch menu can now be found in the Bar. Don't forget to book in for your work or social parties, available throughout December!



Charmaine Smith, who has been with us just over a year has decided to move on and has left to do an apprenticeship in child care. **We are sad to see her go but wish her all the best with her new career.**

With the clocks going back at the end of October and the seasons changing, event and society bookings are starting to be less frequent over the upcoming months. A slight welcome break for the catering team, a chance to recharge the batteries before the madness that is Christmas begins.

As always, thank you for your support,

Jemma and the Team

Oundle Golf Club Catering

In this photo is our Club Captain Tony Shillcock and Women's Captain Sue Brown with this years Past Captains winners.



**NEW HOT
FOOD
CABINET**

We have a selection of delicious hot items for you to enjoy pre or post round.
Perfect as those winter days are rolling in

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SEPTEMBER 2021