



Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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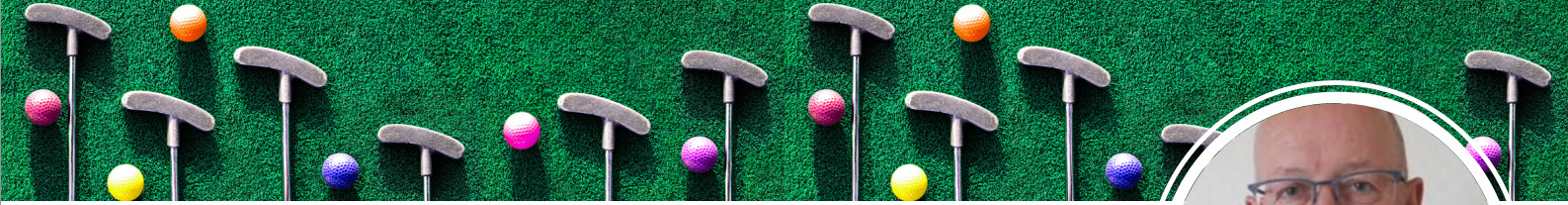
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Chairperson's Report

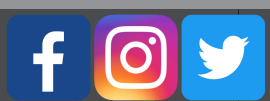
I would like to thank all those members who helped with the recent Juniors event that was hosted by the Club. Without the marshalls, ball spotters, car park attendants and bar staff, the event would not have been as successful as it was.

The event organisers praised the condition of the course notwithstanding the fact that the rough was severe in places. The standard of golf was excellent including the world under 7 champion and everyone enjoyed the day.

Having played at several away matches recently I can confirm that we are not the only course where you can lose your ball not far from the fairway.

Finally could I ask members to make a note in their diary for the Club's summer AGM which will be held on Thursday 20th July at 7pm in the clubhouse.

Peter





Captain's Report



May I start this month's newsletter with a few thank you's. Firstly to all the volunteers, who gave their time to assist in the smooth running of the British Junior Golf Tour. The organisers of the tour were very impressed, so much so that they have already enquired about holding a leg of it here again next year. Special thanks to Adam Butler who raked and weeded all of the bunkers on the morning and the green keepers who turned the course out in such good condition.

I'd also like to thank everyone who donated raffle prizes for my Captain's Charity Day, especially Chris Potter and the Proshop. The winners on the day were Andrew Sulston, Anthony Mackin, Steve Holmes and Charlie Underwood who scored a very respectable 102 points (AM-AM format)

We held the second round of the summer stablefords in May with Chris Hankins winning the first division on countback and Tony Wilkes taking the second division. I'm in the process of doing a spreadsheet of the standings and will put this up in the changing rooms when completed. I can tell you that Chris Jones is leading the way in the first division and Nigel Cox in the second. The third leg is being held on June 25th.

The President's Cup was also held in May with your's truly taking the honours, more on this later, Charlie Underwood won the second division.

Our Hollingsworth team has completed its fixtures for this season and were very unfortunate not to progress to the semi finals, after beating Silverstone and Northants County (away) they narrowly lost to Kettering in the last game, with our old professional Jordan winning one of the games. Hopefully we will go a bit further next year.

Captain's Report - Continued



The handicap league fixtures are well under way and we played two fixtures last month an 8 - 3 defeat away at Rushden and 7 - 7 draw at home to Peterborough Milton. All matches so far have been very close games and we have another two in June to try and improve. I have put the entry sheets for the last four matches on the board at the top of the stairs, so if anyone is interested in playing please put your name down.

The 100 club winners for May are Anthony Marriott first prize. Mark Nicholson second prize. Terry Tibbs third prize and the bar receipt winner is Richard Hankins. Well done all, Nes will be putting the money on your bar card in the next week.

Coming up in June we have quite a few "board competitions" namely the Poole Cup a medal, the Berridge Bowls a 4bbb and the Secretaries Sheild a 55 year and over stableford, please enter via BRS if you are eligible.

Onto my handicap, good news at last. I have had a slight reduction, due to winning the President's Cup I've gone to 10.8, still a way to go to single figures but I'm heading in the right direction. This was due mainly to my putting on the day, I think threatening to take a hatchet to my putter and have it regripped must have frightened it into behaving. It has been told it's on its last chance.

Happy golfing, see you out on the course.

Chris Dix

Club captain



Senior Captain's Report

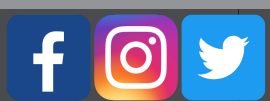
What a great month for seniors match wise, it started with a home win against Overstone 6 - 2, the a draw against Cold Ashby 4 - 4. Having won the away match against Spalding we were expecting a hard match in the return match. They certainly bought a strong team however the result was an astounding 8 nil win for Oundle.

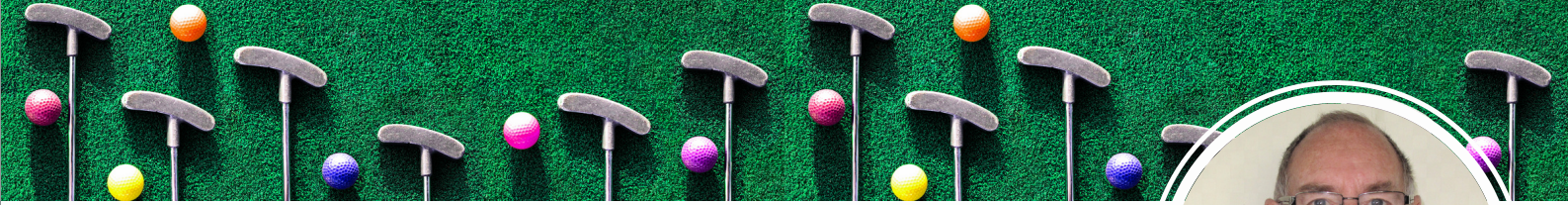
The away match against Lutterworth was interesting played off the white tees and ended with us winning 4.5 to 2.5. I didn't have great hopes for the Faith Brocklehurst match against the Oundle women especially as we were giving the 3 courtesy shots. I personally had a laugh playing with Karen (Women's Captain) and Debbie Verdino. Everyone else seemed to have enjoyed going by the atmosphere in the clubhouse. The best individual mens score (40 points) was produced by Colin Stanyon, the best womens score was produced by Debbie Verdino each received a bottle of wine. Deb's Scotland received a box of chocolates for having the most blobs. The match result was a convincing win for the seniors.

On the last day of the month we travelled to Cold Ashby (bit chilly) where we lost 6.6 to 1.5 however the match was closing than the score indicates as 5 matches went to the eighteenth.

The seniors pairs open was a great success thanks mainly to Rob Darby and his band of volunteers. The result for the members was:

- 1st Steve Holmes and Charlie Underwood (40 points) on count back.
- 2nd Barry and Trevor Watts (40 points)
- 3rd Rob Tansley and David Jack (39 points)





Senior Captain's Report - Continued

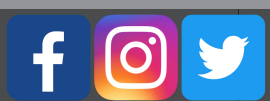
A special thank to Rob Darby's wife and friend for running the halfway house.

The Summer Stapleford held on 10th May result:

- 1st John Foster (38 points)
- 2nd Gerry Morgan (34 points) on count back
- 3rd Paul Wright (34 points)

Overall a very successful month, thank you team.

Ian Tucker
Seniors captain





Women's Captain's Report

Hi All,

And just like that May has come and gone! and we are still dealing with inclement weather, but as the end of May approached, we had some summer weather, and if it stays, we are going to have quite a Burner Summer hopefully. Please stay hydrated, and sunscreen at the ready.

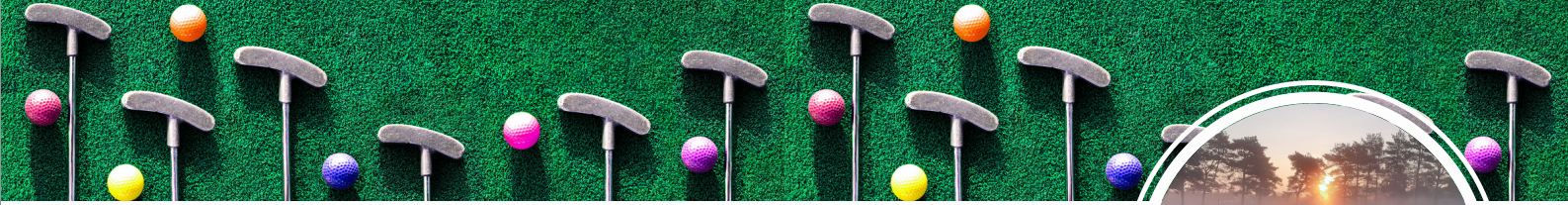
Our Golf Course is starting to play as a Summer Course, and the greens are getting quicker by the week, scores are starting to climb once again.

This month, we have seen the Challenge Cup and Wilkinson Trophy in full swing, and Teese Trophy being played, and today we had our annual Faithbrocklehurst against the men, as always was good fun and well supported, sadly though we had to give up the Trophy to the Seniors this year, but not by a large margin, we were 392 and the men were 427. Watch out for next year!

Our Festival of Golf is gathering momentum, we are still looking for many teams to enter the Women's Open on the 5th of September, even if you can't play, please encourage your friends to enter a team, this is Oundle's 130 years Anniversary, so it would be lovely to have as many teams as possible. It is on Golf Empire, but there are forms up all over the club and Nes has plenty in her office, let's make this one to remember. We are also still looking for volunteers on the day, although the men will help with the starting and halfway house and various other jobs, I will find for them!! We need Ladies to help, in the Club House, with Raffles, Two's and a few other bits and pieces.

I will not be playing golf for four weeks from next Tuesday, but I am around for all admin duties, otherwise my very established Committee will be covering my absence at the golf club.

Happy Golfing till next time.



Greenkeeper Report

The course

Hard to believe that in last months report we were talking about how wet the course was!

May has been unseasonably cold, dry and windy. The course has dried out dramatically although growth is still phenomenal, particularly the rough. We have also had to work around three bank holidays and several machinery problems resulting in it being a challenge to present the course as we would wish. Happily, towards the end of the month the course started to take shape nicely.

We are most grateful to our new machinery provider Earnest Doe and Sons, who loaned us a rough cutter free of charge for a week, dramatically helping to overcome the difficulties in keeping up with the rough.

Work completed

It's all mow, mow, mow! We have one person dedicated to cutting the rough every day of the week and are still struggling to keep up with the growth. Now the weather is drier this should get easier. You will have noticed a greater than usual amount of clippings lying on the rough. This is due to the unusual amount of growth and the amount of material being removed with each pass. This will dissipate over the coming month as growth starts to slow.

A granular wetting agent has been applied to all the greens to prevent dry patches. Greens are running true and have reasonable pace.

We offer a shout out to Adam Butler, who has been coming in on a voluntary basis (sometimes at 5am!) to power edge, weed and cultivate the bunkers. He is doing a fantastic job and you will have seen the improvement in the condition of the bunkers where he has been working.



Greenkeeper Report - Continued

Works scheduled

The majority of hours will be dedicated to mowing operations. The remainder will be spent on the greens spraying programme, fertiliser applications, and other general greenkeeping tasks. We will start to use the greens iron as soon as man hours become available.

I have arranged for a contractor to come in and treat the fairways with a herbicide and liquid feed sometime in June – date to be confirmed. This normally takes place first thing in the morning and is completed by mid-morning. The course will be closed for this brief period. As soon as we have a date, we will make this public.

Players will have noticed there is an extremely dry area to the back left of the 1st green. This is due to the large sycamore tree to the left of the green drawing moisture from the ground despite the regular watering. This tree is scheduled for removal next winter. In the meantime, we will be renovating this area of the green and overseeding with a drought tolerant seed mix, at the first opportunity.

The team

Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday 6th June for a new head greenkeeper. We welcome Jonathon Stevens to the team as a new seasonal worker who will be working one day a week. We wish good luck to Matt, our assistant greenkeeper, who will be taking his final practical assessments and written exams for his NVQ level 2 qualification in sports turf maintenance, some time in June.

Thanks go out to the Tuesday volunteer work party for their contribution and a special mention goes to Graham Drage, who has spent additional time raking the bunkers on other days.

Gary Nimmo, Caretaker Head Greenkeeper

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JUNE 2023



Catering Report



Good day to you all.

I would like to thank everyone who gave up their time to help with the Junior British Open. Your help was gratefully received. After speaking to the organiser, I can happily say the day was a success.

I'm sure by now you are aware June is also going to be a very busy month for our department. We have a lot of societies and match meals booked. A lot of the societies are having food as well which is great to see. Next month I will let you know how it went.

Best Wishes

The Catering Team



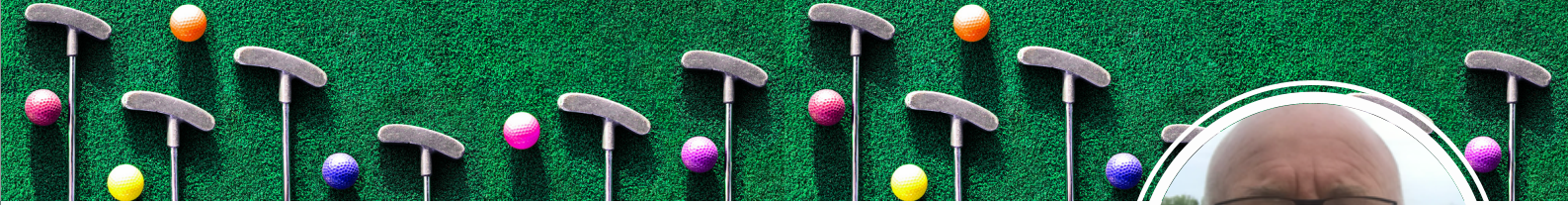
Operations Officer Report

The sun has finally got its hat on!

Having had little opportunity to draw breath after a demanding May, the Bar and Catering Team find themselves going head on into June for yet another busy month! The main event being Saturday 17th June when the 'Stamford Society' will be bringing 108 of their members to our club for a charity event. It will be a full day both on and off the course. The organisers have produced a detailed itinerary, however, we are once again determined that there will be no detrimental effect on our membership. The plan is for a shotgun start at 1300, with 8 tees being 'double loaded'. It should be interesting!

A big thank you to everyone who assisted with the British Juniors Golf Tour and the Seniors Pairs Open. Both events went very much to plan and speaking with the BJGT organisers, they had nothing but praise for the club as a whole and are keen to return next year.

I am sure that you are aware that John Homer and a group of Senior Members have formed a working party to supplement the good work of the Greenkeeping staff. The team can be seen out on the course on a regular basis carrying out strimming, the clearing of natural debris and other important tasks to enhance the appearance and quality of our course. I am thinking much along the same lines to tackle the upkeep of the Clubhouse. My 'things to do' list increases by the day and to tap into a working group of suitably skilled members would be a great way maintain the internal and external areas of the building without incurring extra costs.

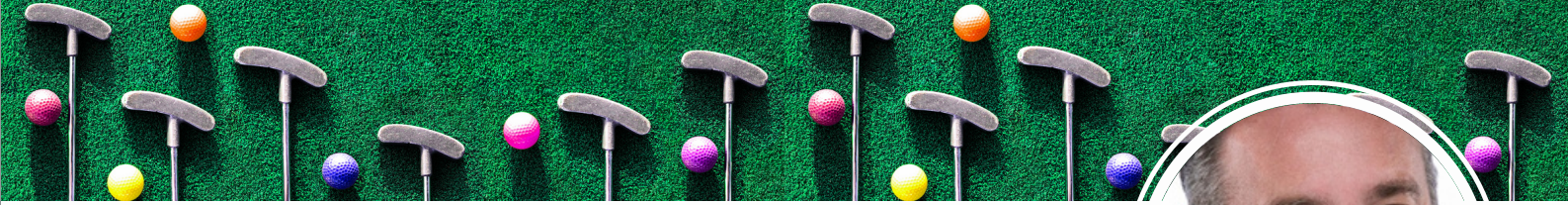


Operations Officer Report - Continued

As previously indicated, the specifics include some light carpentry, plumbing, electrics and any other general skills that would enhance the appearance of our Club. If you are willing and able to help in any way, please get in touch.

Play well.

Malc



Professional News

Pro shop

Summer is almost upon us and we will be celebrating the US Open and The Open with some fantastic discounts and offers throughout June & July. The Sale starts on the first day of the US Open at LA Country Club (June 15th) and finishes on the last day of The Open at Royal Liverpool Golf Club (July 23rd). We will also run a special equipment draw during those dates with fantastic prizes being awarded on 'Open Sunday'

Below are just a few examples of the discounts and offers

- Purchase a Motocaddy S1 one-click electric trolley with an 18 hole lithium battery at £649 and receive a free 4-in-1 Essential Accessory Pack worth £85 (includes device cradle, scorecard holder, drinks holder and umbrella holder).
- Buy a Cobra Driver and receive a 50% discount on a Cobra fairway wood. Gents and Ladies available.
- 15-20% discount on golf bags and clothing
- 10% discount on all lesson packages purchased during the sale period (can be redeemed at a later date)

Father's Day is also around the corner so take advantage of our sale for gift items including lesson vouchers, gift vouchers and other accessories

Lessons

Dave Moreland will be back at the start of July and available immediately for coaching. Take advantage of the 10% discount during the sale to pre-purchase a package and use the lessons any time for the remainder of the year.