



Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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Chairperson's Report

I would like to thank all the Club's staff and the volunteers that helped to run the large golf society event that was held on 17 June. The 94 players had a fantastic day and gave the club a glowing report on social media. The event raised in the region of £5,000 revenue for the club.

I am also pleased to report that we have appointed a new head greenkeeper. Ian Robins will be joining us from Cambridge Golf and Country Club and will be starting on 10th July. Gary, Dan and Matt will continue to work with Ian as part of the greenkeeping team.

Could I also remind everyone that the Club's summer AGM to approve last years accounts, will be held at the Club on Thursday 20th July at 7pm. Please make an effort to attend if you are able to do so.

Peter



Captain's Report

Welcome to this month's newsletter. I will begin as usual with last month's winners. We began the month with the secretaries shield an over 55 Stableford competition, which was won by Dale Abbott who I believe won this event last year. The Poole cup a medal competition was won by Ian Hood with a very good nett 66. Division one was won by Michael Jursa. Another board competition held in June was the Beridge Bowls where Paul Pateman and Tony Burrows were victorious.

The next round of the monthly Stablefords took place at the end of the month with Callum Bowyer winning the first division on countback from Steve Griffin and Richard Bamford winning the second division. I have put the updated league tables on the noticeboard in the changing rooms. I can inform you that Callum Bowyer is now leading the first division and Tony Shillcock the second.

Congratulations go to Keith and Karen Johnson, who won the mixed Ping competition on count back from Sheila and John Homer.

We had to cancel the Fairgrieve trophy due to the lack of entrants, but have pencilled in for Sunday, October 15th. Please try to support this event.

The handicap league team had another two matches in June, losing narrowly to Kettering and Corby both away. A home match against Rushton is next on the agenda. The club also had a home game against Gedney Hill winning 4-2, well done team.

There has been some confusion over the clubs 'major' competitions. These competitions are drawn ones with either an early start 7:30-9:00 or a late start 9:10-10:30. Please take note when booking on BRS. The next one to be held is the Watts Russell/Lascelles on Sunday August 6th. I will give a reminder in my next newsletter.

Captain's Report



The 100 club winners for June are:

First prize, Jonathan Court

Second prize, Peter Gunning

Third prize, Rob Stead

And the bottle of wine winner is Ian Tucker.

There has been lots of good feedback about the condition of the course from visitors and societies over the last month which is very good to hear. I'm sure all members will argue the course is looking in tiptop condition at the moment and playing well.

I'm busy organising my Captains Day at the moment which is being held on Saturday, July 29th. It will be a pair is better ball format with the first tee at 7:30 - all are welcome.

Onto my handicap: another reduction, only 0.2 but down to 10.6. Single figures is a step closer. I'm down to play in quite a few qualifiers in July, so I expect some movement, hopefully in the right direction.

That's all for now, see you out on the course.

Chris Dix

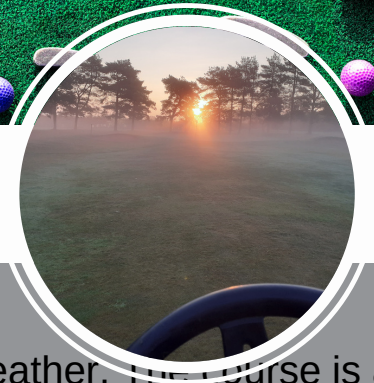
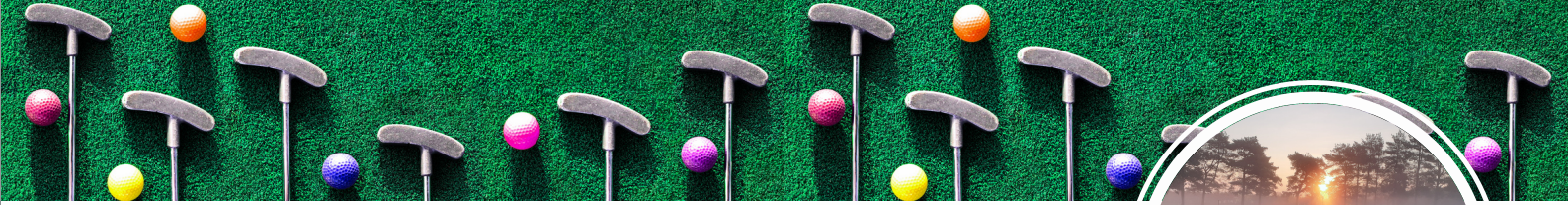
Club Captain



Senior Captain's Report

What a month, both divisions of this month's medal competition were won convincingly. Division one was won by Michael Davidson with a net 67, three ahead of the club captain Chris Dix. However, division two was won by Chris Swan with the best score of the day a net 65, 6 ahead of Dave Doveton. The roll over two jackpot was shared by Chris Swan, Alex Iving and Tony Murdoch. June saw a run of four home matches, these were against Kingsthorpe, Market Harborough, Burghley and Thorney Lakes. The results were four wins which carries on our undefeated run. The only problem at the moment is the fight between myself and the club captain for players for senior matches and the handicap league.

Ian Tucker
Seniors captain



Greenkeeper Report

The course

Summer is in full swing and this is reflected in some glorious weather. The course is at its best with fast and true greens, running fairways and demanding -but fair- rough. A real treat and a real challenge.

We understand we have had an increase in membership. The greens staff extend a warm welcome to new members – please feel free to approach us with any questions about the course.

Work completed

Greens are being mown daily at 4mm and ironed at least twice a week. Greens have been deep scarified. The badly eroded area on the 1st green has been renovated and overseeded. The 11th green has had early stage work commenced to enlarge the green. This work will be ongoing for the next few weeks.

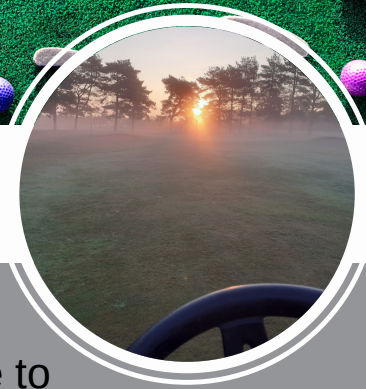
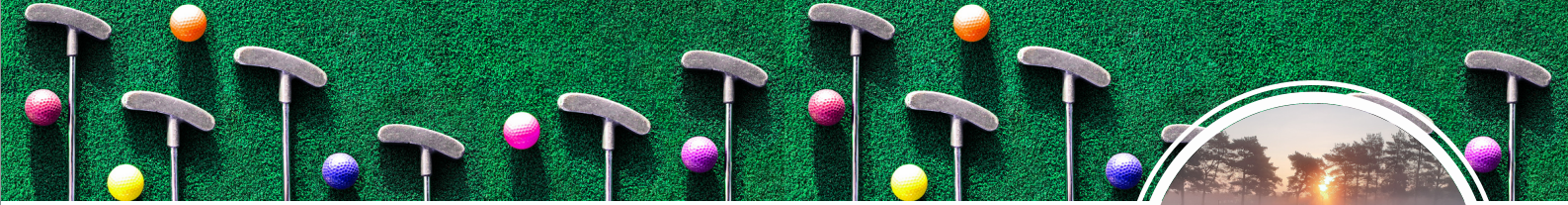
Semi rough is being cut twice weekly and the outfield rough at least once a week. The rough in the copses is tackled when necessary. You may have noticed some of the areas of copse in the new land are being left as eco rough where play is not affected. This benefits nature and reduces expenditure at the same time.

Liquid fertiliser, soil stimulants, wetting agents and growth suppressants are being applied to the greens monthly. A slow release fertiliser has been applied to the tees and winter temps.

The hole adjacent to the 7th tee was to allow the repair of a burst irrigation pipe. All is back to normal.

Works scheduled

Work will continue at the 11th green to enlarge this into the apron. This will include top dressing and overseeding.



Greenkeeper Report - Continued

Contractors will be on site on Tuesday 4th July (weather permitting) to spray all the fairways and rough from tree line to tree line with a selective herbicide and liquid feed. The course will be closed from first light until approximately 9am to allow for this.

Routine greenkeeping will continue to present the course in the best possible condition.

The team

We are pleased to announce that Ian Robins will be joining the team as our new Head Greenkeeper on Monday 10th July 2023. Ian is an experienced Head Greenkeeper and has much to offer the club and the team. We wish him every success in his new role.

As a result, the substantive team will now look as follows -

Ian Robins - Head Greenkeeper

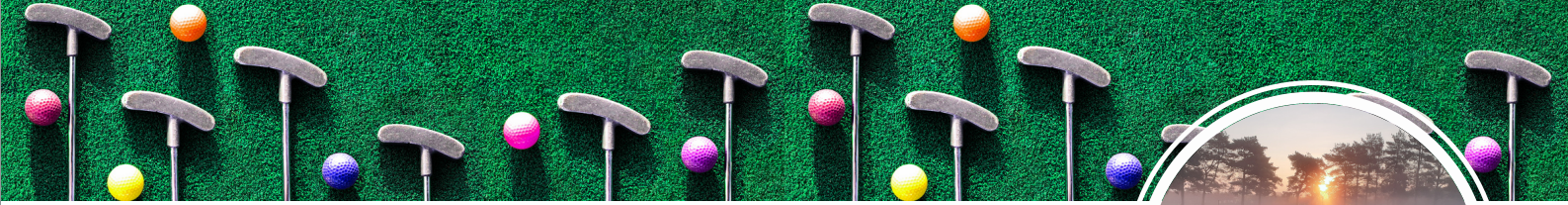
Daniel James - Deputy Head Greenkeeper

Matt Tabram – Assistant Greenkeeper

Gary Nimmo – Assistant Greenkeeper (part time)

All seasonal staff will be stood down from 10th July apart from Charlie Underwood who will stay on for one month, to allow Ian time for induction and orientation, and to provide holiday cover for substantive staff. We say goodbye for now and thank you to Mick, Denis and Jonathon for their work this year, particularly in keeping the crazy rough in order during the spring.

We extend congratulations to Matt, our assistant greenkeeper, who has passed his NVQ level 2 examinations in sports turf maintenance with a distinction. Well done Matt! He takes his practical skills assessments on the 6th and 7th of July. We wish him luck.



Greenkeeper Report - Continued

Thanks go out to all our volunteers who make a real difference to the presentation of the course. Your contribution helps to present the course in the best possible condition.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the team, the volunteers and members for their support and positive feedback during my time as caretaker Head Greenkeeper. I look forward to supporting Ian in his new role as Head Greenkeeper.

Gary Nimmo
Caretaker Head Greenkeeper

Catering Report



Good day to you all.

Well it's the time of the month where everyone gets to find out what each department has been doing.

Here is the contribution from the bar and catering department. May and June were a very busy month for us. We had a lot of societies who had bacon baps in the morning and came back in for both 1 course and 2 course meals. The highlight of the month for us was the society for 94 on the 17th of June. It was an astounding success. It was so successful they have booked to return on the 15th of June 2024. I can only say a massive thank you for all those who gave up their time to help us make the day run smoothly.

It has been great to see the bar so busy and taking such good money. It looks like we could just be turning the corner. Finally. I said I wouldn't rest until we did.

Here is a little curveball from leftfield. I just want to say thank you once again to ADAM BUTLER for all the hard work he has done with the bunkers. A couple of times I arrived at 6am to find he'd already been here for an hour. That's dedication. I do know the greenkeepers were grateful. Adam is a humble but unsung hero.

Well that's it for now. Until we meet again.

Kindest regards
Roger



Operations Officer Report

Vires ad vires!

As each month goes by, it is becoming evident that the Bar and Catering Team is going from strength to strength! Whilst the Stamford Society Charity event was a long and exhausting day for all concerned, it also proved to be an extremely rewarding and gratifying experience, proving once again that we as club are capable of hosting such a large event. The feedback from the organisers and several of the participants was extremely positive. No surprise then that they have booked to return for 2024. Thank you once again to Paul Kime, Debbie Verdino, Rob Darby, John and Sheila Homer and Chris Swan for your support and valuable assistance on the day. Thank you also to you, the members, for your understanding in allowing the Society to temporarily take over your course!

Next up on Friday 30th we will be hosting Thrapston Cricket Club for their annual golf day. Whilst this event will not be of the scale of the Stamford event, we will be treating it with no lesser importance to ensure that they are made most welcome and that they are catered for at the usual high standard.

On the subject recurring events, Allen Betts has once again booked the club for a Burns Night in January 2024 and a Race Night in October. With all the current activity being centred around external events, our focus is now switching to social activities for members. Dave Moreland's 'Curry & 9' event was very well received by all of those who attended, and I know that he will have other similar events planned on his return.



Operations Officer Report - continued

In the meantime, the Bar and Catering Team are having regular discussions on what can be done to reignite the OGC social programme. How lucky are we to have Roger, Sarah, Iryna and John as our B&C Team! I know that their dedication and can-do attitude is very much appreciated by all. Thanks Team!

A quick update on the recommissioning of the TV in the bar. Ian Coleman has kindly donated a Freeview Box and we have also acquired a used Satellite Dish. All that remains is for Charlie Underwood to work his magic. Thank you to the both of you. A basic TV Licence will be purchased once we have confirmation that we are able to receive terrestrial channels.

A reminder that if you have any suggestions that you feel would improve the service, quality or appearance of our club, please get in touch. I will always welcome all feedback.

‘Golf is not a game of perfect’ – Bob Rotella

Mac



Professional News

Pro shop

I am pleased to say that my final move from Qatar to England is pretty much complete and by the time you read this I will be back at the club and fully at your disposal for lessons, equipment advice and to give Jamie a well earned break!

Our sale is running until British Open Sunday so come and ask me for anything you need before then to receive a special discount. The below offers are still running:

- 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)

Lessons

I have opened the diary from July 5th in the lessonpro app so you can start booking now. If there isn't a time to suit you then please email me at davemorelandgolf@gmail.com or pop in to the shop and we can schedule you in.

Many of you are interested in the long awaited Junior academy and I will send out an announcement about this during the second week of July with lessons starting in August.