



Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

Chairperson's Report

Captain's Report

Senior Captain's Report

Women's Section Report

Greenkeeper Report

Catering Report

Professional News

Operations Report



Chairperson's Report

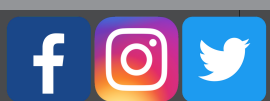
I would like to give credit to our green staff who have been able to keep the course playable at times when most other local courses are closed. Hopefully the atrocious weather that we have had over the past few weeks is fading and we can look forward to some better weather shortly.

At this time of the year the Club's finances are stretched to the limit and it helps considerably if members are able to pay their subs early. If you have received your renewal notice and are able to pay your subs now then please do so. It would be greatly appreciated and would benefit the Club.

The priority of the Club must be to recruit new members. Subscriptions are the main source of income for the Club and only with an increase in that income, can we maintain and improve the course and its facilities. So if you know anyone who you think may be interested in joining, please encourage them and bring them along to enjoy our wonderful course. This is particularly important at this time of the year, when other Clubs may have their subscription renewals.

Thanks

Peter Izod
Chairperson





Captain's Report

Welcome to February's newsletter, somewhat shorter than last month's offering, due to the course being closed for some of the month. When will this rain stop?

We had the grand total of one competition held in February, this was the winter Texas scramble, held over 14 holes. Won by Tony Shillcock (again), Chris Hankins, Adam Butler and Jacques Lourens.

Thanks to everyone who has entered the 100 club, we have had an increase in numbers from last year, which is good to see. Due to the course being closed some members haven't been able to settle up, so I will delay the draw for another week to give them a bit more time. Results will follow in next month's newsletter.

The bottle of wine winner for last month was Ricky Horn, congratulations.

As mentioned in last month's offering, there are some changes coming in April to the World Handicap System.

Tony Shillcock has kindly printed some plasticised copies off which details the changes. These will be displayed in the Pro shop for all to view.

He has also put the entry forms up for this seasons knock out competitions, namely the Saxby Cup which is a singles knock out and the J and B Trophy a 4bbb knock out. The entry fee needs to be put in the envelopes provided and given to Dave Moreland.



Captain's Report - Continued

Weather permitting, we have a few things coming up next month. A pairs bogey competition on the 2nd, a medal on the 9th and a stableford on the 16th.

The Northants Juniors have a three county match at Oundle on the 17th and the mixed section begin their matches for the season, with a game away to Ramsey.

My Captain's Drive in is on the 10th March, please enter on BRS and pairs will be drawn two days prior on the Friday.

As you can gather there have been no qualifying competitions held this month so no changes in my handicap. There is a possibility of playing in six in March, but it needs to stop raining first. Fingers crossed.

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

Chris Dix,
OundleGC Captain



Senior Captain's Report

Important dates for your diary in the next couple of months:

- Wednesday 3rd April - Poole Cup
- Thursday 4th April - First fixture of season against Cambridge G C Away
- Monday 15th April - Millennium Quaich
- Thursday 9th May - Senior Pairs Open

Other dates for later in the year:

- Monday 12th August - Senior Club Championship
- Thursday 5th September - Senior Charity Open
- Friday 11th October - British Legion Poppy Day Comp

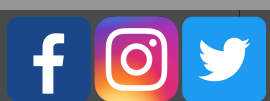
For the second month in a row the weather has had a devastating effect on our competitions, and praise must go to Rob Darby who has had to deal with all the cancellations and postponements.

Winners of the comps completed were:

- 4 BBB - Trevor Brant /Peter Curnow
- Winter Stableford Rd 2 - Colin Stanyon
- Winter Stableford Rd 7 - Phil Houghton

Praise also has to go to John Homer and his team of senior helpers who turn up on a Tuesday morning and help keep the course in pristine condition. The Seniors pairs open is on 9th May. We will be able to pair Oundle member singletons with other singletons if required, so please feel free to enter by yourselves.

John Foster
Seniors Captain





Women's Section Report

Hi All,

What can I say about February!! When I first came to the Country five years ago, people kept saying welcome to “Mud Island”, well I didn’t believe them, but now I do! I was chatting to Dave Moreland, and he said course has been more closed than open. Hopefully, in the ensuing weeks, we will get back to reasonable weather and some good golf.

On behalf of the Women’s Section, I would like to say a big thank you to Ian, staff and Volunteers, who despite some challenging weather, have kept the course looking stunning, we must now heed the rules repair pitch marks and divots, as it will take some time to dry out the course, so TLC, from all, will help us to have a course that is 1st class.

On the admin front, the Women’s section has now had two successful meetings, with a major decision being made, to help with funding for the Halfway House Toilets, this is an integral portion of the course, to all, members, visitors etc, hopefully this will be ready for our Summer Golf.

Early March sees our return to Friendlies, with Kibworth at home. Here’s to a good season of Friendlies and Cecil Leitch.

We have had a good meeting with Peter Reed this week, regarding Marketing, there is lots we need to do, but of course finances are always the headache, but with time and patience, I know we can achieve small projects which will finance bigger ones. We are hoping to get the social side of Oundle Golf Club up and going again, of course a lot of this is weather dependant, for golf and socialising.



Women's Section Report

Deb S and I are working on the Open, Deb has been very proactive in doing mail drops and we are starting to tick boxes, our Charity this year will be Oundle Community First Responders, we are hoping to keep most things local this year, hoping the Business Community will help us to achieve this. Remember, all Women Golfers, please get your teams together, but if not possible, then make a fourball of members. We are hoping for a bumper Open, with lots of fun and laughter.

Hopefully March will see some more settled weather, and some good golf.

Happy Golfing

Karen T.



Greenkeeper Report

Hello everyone,

As we are coming into spring just a quick update of things on the course, the weather has been atrocious with record rainfalls for January and February already exceeding last year's amounts. This has made jobs very hard to complete, but saying that we have managed to get the bunker filled in on the first and as you have probably seen in last couple of days the grass seed has started to germinate which will mean that come springtime we should have a full growth in that area and it should look really good. The pathway we did on the 10th has been completed and grass is germinating on the banks again that should facilitate a bit more health and safety for that area which would be good.

In the last two weeks of March we'll be looking to do our spring maintenance. This will evolve scarifying the greens down to a depth of 20 mm, we would then be looking at introducing sand and seed and then finishing off with the drag matting and a roll, then a final prill feed to instigate recovery. This is part of a process that we need to do to create better, firmer greens. Our thatch levels are very high and this is something that we are going to look to improve over the next few years so that we can have firmer, faster and better greens that can handle winter golf. With rain levels increasing this is a very important to do.

Hopefully the drier weather will be here soon so we can start to present the course as we wish to until then enjoy your golf.

Ian Robins
Head Greenkeeper

Catering Report



Good day to you all.

Well after a very soggy week's holiday it's nice to be back and see the course open. How much more rain can we get? It will be great when the long hot summer nights return as I wasn't made for this sort of weather.

So then. What's been happening in the bar? If the truth be known quite a lot has happened this month. At the start of the month we had a very good meeting to see where we are as a department and where we should be looking to be. We came up with some good ideas that we feel will benefit everyone.

In a week's time a few of us will be having a meeting with Pilgrim who supply our food. We are looking at how we can move our menu forward.

With regards to the beverage side, Malcom and Ted had a productive meeting with a possible extra supplier. Exciting times. When we know what is happening you will all be informed.

Until then,

Take care and keep golfing.

The Bar Team



Professional News

The less said about January & February the better!
However, that is all in the past so we have decided to
kickstart the year with some incredible March offerings!

Pro shop

PRICE MATCH & MORE

With the size of our shop we do not always carry a full range of equipment,
however we can order almost anything and receive it within 10 days.

During March not only are we price matching with major online store Clubhouse
Golf, we are offering additional discounts and deals.

Offer 1

Buy any Callaway Paradym, Ping G430, Titleist TSR or Cobra Darkspeed Driver
and we will:

- Price match with Clubhouse Golf
- Give you the option to purchase any fairway wood at 50% discount

Offer 2

Buy any set of Callaway Paradym, Ping G430, Titleist T-series or Cobra
Darkspeed irons (minimum 6 clubs) and we will:

- Price match with Clubhouse Golf
- Give you a FREE matching hybrid

AMAZING SHOE DEALS

- Buy any pair of Footjoy shoes and receive a £40 voucher to spend on any
item in the Pro Shop
- Buy any pair of Skechers shoes for £75



Professional News - Continued

Lessons

Offer 1*

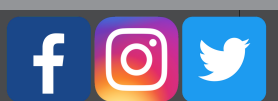
- Book an introductory 30 min lesson during March at 50% discount! Normally £33 now only £16.50!

Offer 2

- Pay for a 5 x 30 min lesson package during March and receive a FREE on-course lesson worth £90!

This is the perfect way to kickstart your season and as long as the lessons are purchased by March 31st you will receive 3 months validity.

*Offer available for new customers only





Operations Report

I am guessing that rain will be a prominent feature in most of this month's articles, so I will be a little different and open with the subject of soft furnishings!

You may recall from the January Newsletter that the Bar and Catering Team held a long overdue 'Brainstorming' Day on the 8th Feb. One of the discussion points was the current décor of the seating area of the bar. It was agreed that the area needs a 'refresh', nothing radical or expensive, but anything that would enhance the appearance and ambience of the area. The current condition of the tables and chairs comes to mind.

Primarily I am seeking to improve the 'customer experience' for you as members, but also for our regular visitors and societies. By my own admission, I am not the best person to ask when it comes to ideas around colour schemes/materials etc. I have spoken to several members on this subject and the ideas are already coming in. If you have any further thoughts or could offer any assistance for this mini project, please get in touch.

The good word is obviously spreading as the society bookings are coming in thick and fast for this year. This is great news! Bovis Homes are the latest company who have provisionally agreed to hold their corporate golf day at our club in early September. Suffice to say, such events are very important in terms of income revenue and the opportunity to showcase the Club.



Operations Report - continued

As promised, a quick update on the 'bar refresh'; We have been in communication with several drinks suppliers and brewers with a view to negotiating the best deal possible for the Club. The negotiations remain ongoing. I will obviously report back once any decision has been made. What I can tell you is that exercise will produce savings for the Club and the introduction of a couple of different choices of beer at the bar.

Finally, I am pleased to report that the TV in the lounge area is finally up and running. We are currently able to receive all the usual terrestrial channels via a Sky Box which was kindly donated by Chris Swann. The next move is to contact Sky to negotiate some of the available deals for new customers. However, as a members club, I certain that we will be very limited to any 'low price' deals. We can only but try.

Malcolm

