



Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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Chairperson's Report

I wish everyone a happy New Year and hope that we will soon have some better weather so that we can enjoy our course without fighting excessive wind or rain. I would like to congratulate our greens staff on maintaining the course to such a high standard given the horrendous weather that they have had to endure.

Those members whose renewal is due in March will have received their renewal notices. Whilst the subscriptions are due by 31st March, it would be greatly appreciated if members could pay their subscription at their earliest opportunity. Those members who pay before the 29 February will receive 2 complimentary guest green fee vouchers. It substantially helps the Club's cash flow if you are able to pay early and so please do so if you are able.

There are also a very limited number of 10 year full membership packages available at the price of £10,000. If any member wishes to take advantage of this offer please contact either myself or Nes in the office.

Thanks

Peter Izod
Chairperson



Captain's Report

Welcome to January's newsletter. I'll start with some unfinished business from the end of last year. Firstly the 100 club draws for November and December.

First prize in November went to Christine Wright, second was Nes Reed and third Alan Grove.

December's winner was Paul Wright, Ros Riley was second and Barry Robson third.

Money is now due for 2024, still at the same price as last year, £60 which equates to just £5 a month. Please ring the office to renew on extension 1.

Onto the competition results for the last two months:

At the end of November we held the St. Andrews Sunningdale Foursomes (I hope you enjoyed the whiskey and shortbread) Cory James and Denis Price won on the day on countback from two other pairs, so it was a close run thing.

The Sunday Christmas 4bbb was cancelled with the course being closed, but the Saturday version went ahead with Richard Glithero and David Rogers winning by a full 5 points.

Prior to the Christmas raffle we held an Am - Am competition, with Marco Derosa, Bob Svarups, Cameron McKinnon and Lee Hodsdon taking the plaudits. More on the raffle later.

The December medal was held over 14 holes with Graeme Eadie winning the first division with a nett 55 and Anthony Curchin the second with the nett 56.



Captain's Report - Continued

The December stableford, also over 14 holes, was won by Guy Bolsover in the first division and Philip Twiselton in the second, both with 30 points.

We introduced a fun competition at the end of the year, namely a Waltz. Tony Burrows, Andrew Ireson and Peter Reed were the victors in this, with 64 points.

Onto January. The stableford was won by Callum Bowyer on countback from Marco Derosa with 37 points. The second division was won by Richard Runciman on 36 points.

The New Year 4bbb competition went the opposite way to the Christmas one, with the Saturday version cancelled, but the Sunday one went ahead. The winners were Adam Butler and Tony Shillcock with 46 points.

Finally the January medal, over 14 holes. Graeme Eadie won the first division and Tony Shillcock the second. Two players in very good form in this early part of the year.

You may have noticed that the Seniors now have their own area in the bar to display their honours boards. This has freed up a bit of space up the stairs to fit in the Mick Ives trophy boards. On this subject I'm in the process of updating the Oundle Putter board, which I have the names for. But I'm also interested in reinstating the hole in one board. At the moment it only goes up to 2012 so if there are any members out there that have had a hole in one since that date please let Nes in the office or myself know. Note, it only applies to official club competitions held at OundleGC.

Captain's Report - Continued



Thanks to all that attended the AGM and presentation evening in December. (Photo below of all the winners!)

Thanks also go to the members who donated prizes for the Christmas raffle, Chris Potter in particular for the fabulous hampers. £309 was raised, which will go to course improvements.

The diary for 2024 is now completed, I have had some copies printed off and they are in the bar area and Pro shop, for your use.



You may also notice that there are some entry sheets pinned up in the Pro shop for both the Handicap league and Hollingsworth league. If you are able to play in either of these competitions please put your name down and support the club. If you need any further details about the format and times please either contact me or the respective Captain's, Tony Burrows and Charlie Fowler.

Thanks to Tony Shillcock for putting these up.

The club holds various opens through out the year, namely the Oundle Putter (a men's 4bbb) a seniors charity open (am- am) a seniors pairs open (4bbb) mixed open (am- am) and a women's open. There are some entry sheets for all of these competitions in the bar, as you go in, on the left. If you know other players at different clubs please feel free to take some leaflets to give to them. I'm sure they'll enjoy our course in it's full glory in the summer.



Captain's Report - Continued

The club shirt colours will now be navy blue, with the seniors going for yellow. Dave Moreland is putting an order together and they will be available to buy in the Pro shop shortly.

There are some changes coming to the world handicap system in April, which I'm sure most of you are aware of. I'll have more details on this in next month's newsletter.

With me carrying on for another year I'll be able to renew my fight to get back to a single figure handicapper, which hasn't started very well I'm afraid. I've somehow managed to go from 10.3 to 11.0. Well at least I've got almost a whole year to get there.

Sorry it's been a long read this month, believe me it's taken a lot longer to write it.

Enjoy your golf, see you out on the course soon.

Chris Dix,
OundleGC Captain



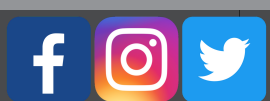
Senior Captain's Report

Like the other sections of the club, this last month has been dominated by the weather, with competitions cancelled.

Two new events in the senior calendar have been decided. Monday August 12th 2024 has been allocated for a new Senior Club Championship, and a Charity Poppy Day event for the Royal British Legion will be run in late October. More details will follow in future publications.

Winners of the competitions that were held are :
Winter Stableford Rd 5: Iain Scotland
4 BBB: Andrew Billing and Mike Thompson
Greensomes: Doug Walker and Merv Price

John Foster
Seniors Captain





Women's Section Report

Hi All,

I am not sure if you all feel like me, the Tasmanian Devil! We rushed through December, and the end of January is already here, and we are onto J in the storm alphabet! Due to the weather over the December period, sadly the course was closed more than it was open, and early January was not much better, so Women's Section Golf was a literal hit and miss! We did manage a game, Club members against the Club Staff, our match, Debbie Verdino and I against Claire Izod and Nes Reed, was a very tight match, which resulted in a draw. Such a fun game, and the members narrowly pulled a win. Result was 7 to the staff and 9 points to the members.

Our Winter knockout is well underway now, by Monday afternoon all second round matches should have been completed.

We had our first Women's Section meeting on the 6th of January, this went well, and I am sure as the year progresses, we will get stronger and more au fait with the new look.

After our Open in September last year, we have at long last been able to get our Sponsor number for Air Ambulance, and Nes managed to BACS the amount to Air Ambulance East Midlands. They were extremely grateful.



Women's Section Report

We are in full swing (Deb Scotland and I) with this year's Open, where we are hoping to have a bigger and better Open after all the Covid malarky, and the Festival of Golf last year, which pushed our date out, but nevertheless was a successful day. Everything this year is back on track, so please Women's Section round up your friends, acquaintances, and let them know about it. By the time we have our next Section Meeting, we will have got personalised invites out to the clubs and will have as many posters up as we can. We are hoping to have a full field, lots of fun and a couple of new comps.

As the warmer weather approaches, I'm hoping to see some more golf being played, and getting the handicaps already for a bumper year of golf on our wonderful course.

Here's to a wonderful 2024 to all.

Happy Golfing.

Karen T



Greenkeeper Report

Hello everyone and Happy New Year,

As we come into February, we can see spring just around the corner. After the winter we have had I'm sure you all as well as us can't wait. Even though we have had record rainfall the course has coped really well considering, I would like to thank all members that have adhered to restrictions that we have put in place over the winter protecting areas will have a massive impact going into the play season.

We have been busy over the last month making sure we are on top of project work with the 1st bunker filled in which many a member has said how happy they are to see that done, new paths and tree work also done which puts us in a good place coming into spring.

Our new tractor is already paying dividends with spraying done when normal conditions wouldn't allow, also more aeration to the greens which not only helps with drainage but helps break down thatch and encourage stronger and deeper rooting.

Big thanks to the Tuesday gang. Without them we wouldn't be able to do as much as we do so thanks guys.

Nearly there all just a few more weeks until its full ahead and we produce the course at its very best with greens running quick and true.

Enjoy your golf in 2024 everyone.

Ian Robins
Head Greenkeeper

Follow us @oundlegolfclub



JAN 2024



Catering Report



Hello Super Troopers

Now the course has dried somewhat and the rain has stopped it's good to see the course open again.

This month has been up and down due the weather but we had a successful Burns Night on Saturday.

By all accounts all the guests were very happy which is good to know. Now we have January out of the way I am looking forward to welcoming our 2024 societies.

Kind regards

The Bar Team



Professional News

Pro shop

- Up to 50% OFF! - Our sale will continue throughout February with huge savings on clothing, shoes and clubs
- OGC shirts & outerwear - We will soon be stocking the new club colours in polo shirts and various outerwear. If you would like to pre-order there will be a sign up sheet in the pro-shop and a 10% discount is available for those ordering any shirt & outerwear combo.

Lessons

As the short term weather forecast looks good and the course is drying up, why not book a 9 hole playing lesson. On-course lessons provide the perfect opportunity to identify the areas of your game that need the most work and also allow for a course management analysis which could save you shots without the hard work!

Tip of the month

This month's tip is one for those who struggle to 'compress' or strike the ball sweetly with their irons.

- Using a mid iron set up to the ball and then place a coin or marker 1-2 inches left of the ball.
- On the downswing really focus on striking through the ball and taking the coin/marker with the shot
- By using this simple drill you should start to extend through the impact area better, helping to avoid hitting those fat or thin shots.



Operations Report

Where did 2023 go!? Yet another reminder that life is not a rehearsal and to grasp the moment.

By the time this article goes out to print, I will be well and truly settled back into life in the UK once more. This obviously means that you will once again have my undivided attention on the operational matters at the Club and in particular, the Bar and Catering Service. A big thank you to Roger and the Team for maintaining normal service in my absence. Moreover, with the careful management of the rota and with the help of our volunteers, the Bar and Catering Team is still on target to make a modest profit for 2023/24. No mean achievement!

2024 will undoubtedly be another very busy year both on and off the course. Planning is well under way to hold a Training Day on the 8th February for the B&C Team. The overall aim of the session is to further develop the team into a 'leaner and meaner' working unit and to enhance current working practices. Any constructive feedback that you feel would improve the quality of the service currently provided would be gratefully received and will be fed into the discussions on the day.

As is customary at this time of the year, the annual 'Spring Clean' of the Kitchen/Bar/Cellar and Seating areas will commence on Thursday 25th January and will run each Thursday morning (except 8th February) up until 29th February. If you can spare any time for any of the relevant days, please get in touch. Your help will be very much appreciated by the team and the usual pool of volunteers. Thanks in advance.



Operations Report - continued

In my absence, Ted Jones conducted some much-needed analysis of beverage sales over the past 12 months and the findings were interesting to say the least. One of my priorities on my return will be to set up a meeting with Ted to discuss the detail and to identify where the potential of significant savings can be made. I will convey the outcome of that meeting in the February Newsletter. Thank you for your time and effort Ted.

Suffice to say, it's great to be home and I look forward to catching up with you out on the course or in the Bar over a beer. Stay safe.

Malcolm Taylor

It's all about...

The Big Golf Race

17 February 2024 | Oundle School Golf Suite

It's a marathon, not a sprint as
Oundle School Sports Centre
takes on the

**200 Hole Golf Challenge
for
Prostrate Cancer UK**

**AND WE NEED YOUR
HELP!**

Join our Team by donating £10 per person
to Prostrate Cancer UK (or more if you
can!) and help us reach our collective
target of 200 holes in one day! Golf Suite
slots can be booked individually, or in
groups of up to 4, by contacting our Sports
and Courses Manager.

jstevens2@oundleschool.org.uk



**SUPPORTING
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