



Oakmere Park Golf Club

Newsletter Admirals Club

July 2010

Bob Ward Admirals Club Captain

I thoroughly enjoyed my Captain's Day and hope you did too. 137 Players took part in the betterball allowing us to put on a really good prize table. There was also nearest the pins on all the par 3's and a nearest the line. The overall winners were Phil and Trevor Noon. I'd like to thank Roy Griffin of Friargate Consultancy for providing soft drinks, and Daryl for arranging beer from the brewery, which went down well on the 11th tee.

Jeff Brinklow and Steven Dean did a fantastic job twisting your arms to buy raffle tickets. The majority of the raffle prizes were donated so we were able to raise £427 for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

A further £40 was raised on the crazy golf thanks to the course designers Tony Crabtree and Keith Hallam.

During the Evening an auction of 4-ball tee times at various clubs took place, boosting the total fundraising to in excess of £700.

I thought the roast meats buffet was a great improvement on the barbeque we had last year, Craig and his staff doing an excellent job. I would also like to thank Craig for providing the Disco.

This month we have the re-arranged Waterloo Open, and at the start of next month, the Club Championship.

The problems with the Central Database of Handicaps (CDH) have now been resolved and your handicaps are now accessible to all the other clubs.

Angela Robinson Amirals Club Lady Captain

So far so good, this Summer is proving to be a good one for golfers with the fine weather, handicaps are still falling (including mine!).

The ladies enjoyed a friendly away to College Pines in June, and our League results are looking quite respectable, thanks to the ladies who keep supporting the Club.

I would like to thank you all for the excellent response to my forthcoming Ladies Captain's Day on the 15th July – although some of you are on holiday and send apologies, over 30 ladies will be present at some time during the day. It promises to be a lovely event and I'm so looking forward to it. – fingers crossed for more sunshine!

We are always looking for raffle prizes, and with the Mixed Open in August plus other events, it would be appreciated if you could help with any unwanted items. Please check the Notice Board for details of deposits, etc for the Away Weekend at Hollins Hall, and balance payment for those us who are off to Portugal in September.

Jeff Brinklow Admirals Secretary

Since our last New's letter there have been a couple of changes in the rules re divisions and prize pay out.

All betterball competition from 1st August will be split into 2 divisions the split being at a point where the aggregate handicap of the two players exceeds 32 shots before the 3/4 deduction.

Also from the 1st August all midweek competition divisions will be split after 6 entries in each division and not has before 10 entries.

At the last executive meeting dress code was discussed and players wearing tailored shorts may wear socks of any colour and they can be of any length.

Trainers may be worn in the spike bar and lounge bar but not on the course this includes the putting green.

Blue denim jeans can only be worn casually in the bar area and are not allowed on the course.

Shirts must have a collar and should be tucked into your trousers/shorts.

As you can see we have relaxed the dress code greatly to suit the modern trend. However you are asked to dress smartly and the pro shop will still have the final say should you not meet the required/expected standard.

On a personal note I have now been given the permission to start playing golf again and I look forward to seeing you on the course in the near future.

John Cockell Admirals Social Secretary

Charity, Fun, Poker Night

Following on from the success of the last Poker Night held in March we are proposing to hold a further fun, beginners Poker Night on Friday 16th July in aid of Marie Curie



Cancer Support. If you have ever wanted to learn to play poker without it costing your savings now is your chance.

Everyone is invited, absolute beginners, novices, whatever your knowledge you will be most welcome. The aim is to have fun learning to play

whilst socialising with your golfing buddies. Instructions will be given on how to play, along with rules, types of hands, poker chips and even poker tables. The amount of money involved will be strictly controlled, the aim is to learn the game, have fun and raise money for the charity with the result that everyone's eager to come back to the next poker night. Full details are on the posters around the club house and if interested put your name down on the entry sheet in the main corridor.

Club Weekend Away to Forest Pines



Twenty three members of the Admirals Club spent a very enjoyable 2 days at one of the top golfing venues in the country on the 11th & 12 July. The Forest Pines Golf Club is a stunning 27 hole course twisting and turning through majestic pine trees. With lush fairways and excellent undulating greens the three loops of 9 offered a very stiff challenge to all of the attendees. Pairs and Singles Stableford competitions were played over the 2 days as well as nearest the pins. The weather over the 2 days was mixed being sunny and breezy on the first day and with rain for about the first 6 holes on the second. The evening meal was enjoyed whilst watching the World Cup Final with the prize presentations taking place at half time. The second day presentation took place in the Pines Bar just before departure home. £52 was raised for the Captains' charity, Marie Curie Cancer Support. Keep up to date with all club activities and upcoming events by viewing the **Admirals Club Web Site**.

Richard Bond Course Manager

This newsletter is the beginning in a series of articles that will hopefully explain the reasons why I have been

developing the Course maintenance and practices to ensure the future sustainability of Oakmere Park Golf Club.

Environmental concerns have come to the fore with regards golf course management. **Sustainability** is essentially being able to continue without medium or long term problems. The R&A have defined sustainable golf course management as;

“Optimising the playing quality of the golf course in harmony with the conservation of its natural environment under economically sound and socially responsible management”

Significant changes with regards climate, water usage, and EU legislation are all going to play an important role in changing methodology of golf course management. It is essential that changes of this nature are done gradually, ensuring minimal stress imposed on the grasses.

The R&A refer to benchmarking this helps the golf course manager establish how far along the sustainability ladder he has travelled. For some courses the route to become “sustainable” is particularly long and arduous (eg in land Parkland courses with clay sub soils), were as a seaside links course will have been run on a sustainable methodology throughout its whole existence. This highlights the fact that all courses are different and require unique management techniques. Some Course managers even refute the issues to be addressed and refuse to prepare for changes.

In my opinion preparation and planning are the key to the future success of a Oakmere I am permanently working for at least 6 months in advance. With the sustainable work programme the fruits will be witnessed in 5-10 years time. The next issue will establish how far along the sustainability ladder we have come

Martyn Brown Proshop Manager

With the British Open just about to start please keep checking the professional shop for latest offers which are changing on a daily basis. A massive sale on all Galvin Green items and summer collection shirts coming soon.

Steve has experienced great success with his summer lesson promotion and he has decided to continue the offer of 3 half hour golf lessons for £20 until the end of July. Contact Steve at the pro-shop for further information.

Craig Bar & Catering

I am continually working to improve the bar and catering facilities at Oakmere Park . The Captains Day buffet was a success and well received by all who attended.

Orders for the Sunday Carvery are being taken throughout the week, please speak to one of the bar staff if you wish to book.