



Oakmere Park Golf Club

Club Newsletter

January 2012

Daryl St John-Jones Director of Golf

Golf Days out 2012

Following the success of the reciprocal golf days we organised last year I have been in negotiation with a number of courses for this year and I am pleased to be able to confirm 5 more for this year.

Kettering G.C Friday 18th May.
Ashby Decoy G.C Friday 1st June
Grimsby G.C Friday 13th July
Glen Gorse G.C Friday 17th August.
Birstall G.C Friday 14th September.

There are at least 30 places available for each event.

The format for each day out will be ;
Breakfast on arrival
18 Holes golf.
2 course meal.
£150 towards prize fund.

The cost for each day out will be £20 excluding Ashby Decoy & Birstall which will be 27 holes but will also incl. lunch and that will be £25.

If you would like to enter any or all of these days please put your name on the sheets in the corridor and pay on your card in the shop. Alternatively if you have funds on your card you can e mail back and I'll do it for you. If you do not have funds on your card you can phone the Proshop with a credit card and they will sort it out for you. We expect to be fully subscribed and places will be drawn and your card will be re-credited if unsuccessful.

Free Golf at Buxton & Gorsty Hill.

I have re-negotiated with Buxton & High Peak Golf Club and Gorsty Hill and any of our members will receive free golf when playing either of these courses. Contact them for a tee time and ask us to send a confirmation of your membership.

Birstall G.C.

I have also agreed with the Chairman of Birstall that any of our members can play Birstall G.C for only £5 per round max. 3 visits per year. Contact them for a tee time and ask us to send a confirmation of your membership and take proof of your valid membership card and i.d.

Golf Insurance

There was a recent case in Scotland where a golfer was hit and blinded in his eye and he won a landmark case and was awarded £397,000 damages.

We ask our members, as a condition of membership, that they take out golf insurance to protect themselves against third party claims.

If you do not already have insurance in place I have negotiated with our insurance company and we can offer our members cover for up to £5,000,000 for only £9.50 per annum and that also covers you for any golf course in the UK not just at Oakmere Park.

If you would like to take out this cover you can pay in the Pro shop using your members card and the rate charged will be pro-rata for your membership year i.e £7.15 to 1/11/2012. This service will be offered in future upon membership renewal each year.

Mike Snell Admirals Club Captain

Well another year is with us and what a great way to start off the golfing year with the annual Captain's Drive-In. Around 85 members made the trip to Oakmere to welcome the new year in bright dry weather, Spring cannot be far away with temperatures above 10 Degrees C in January. If you remember this time last year we had a 6-week vacation from golf because of the snow. What a difference this year? Lady Captain Julie Walkden and myself made a very nervous approach in the 10th Tee, accompanied by the piper and the rest of the drive-in party. I made a complete mess of my drive and finished on the mound on the left of the fairway. Julie then proceeded to hit a scorcher of a drive to fly pass my ball by a distance! The noise from the crowd was deafening. Daryl took great pleasure in ribbing me about the tee shot. And has suggested that the Captain's Charity hole for this year should be the 10th hole, with a penalty donation to the combined Captains charity of £1 if you land on Snell's Mound (as it is now to be referred to for all eternity) or a donation of 50p if you fail to pass the mound with your tee shot.

The combined Captain's Charity this year was decided upon by Julie and myself at the annual AGM last December and am pleased to announce that the British Heart Foundation will the recipient Charity this year. So come on everyone join in the fun and make the donations to the fund to the Captain's bottle located in the Spike Bar. Or if you wish, pass your donations directly to either Julie or myself; we will only be too pleased to receive them from you.

On Friday evening January 13th myself and 8 other members enjoyed a wonderful evening at the annual N.U.G.C. dinner held at the East Midlands Conference centre at the University of Nottingham. It was attended by 407 Notts golfers, to celebrate the fantastic achievements of the counties golfers last year, where the 1st and 2nd teams and the county juniors, all won their respective championships. The first time that this feat has been achieved by a single Midlands county. Notts golf is enjoying its best period of success ever in county golf.

On Saturday January 14th saw an experiment in the format of the Saturday competition. Where two shotgun starts at 8-00am and 12-00pm of, an any 2 from 4 Stableford was organised by the Pro shop instead of the normal Betterball competition. From the reaction of everyone who played it was a great success. I only heard 1 person say that he did not like an early start at the weekend. The morning shotgun was entered by 19 teams comprising of 76 players. The competition was won by a score of 104 points, and the afternoon was supported by 32 players in 8 teams and was won by a score of 103 points. This looks like it could become an established part of winter golf next year.

The next function is Burns night on Saturday January 28th in the club house where we will be celebrating Burns birthday with the annual Haggis, Tatties and Neeps supper with piper and the salute to the Haggis followed by John Cockell's famous fun quiz. Come along and support the Burns Night function and have a great evening with us. Tickets are £10 per head and are available from the Spike Bar

I would like to remind everyone that this years Captain's away day 2012 will be held on June 22nd at Gainsborough golf club (Ping Headquarters) and the Captain's Away Weekend will be held at Carden Park on July 1st and 2nd. Keep an eye on the notice board for details. I would like to see as many of our members as possible support these functions.

Finally I would like to personally thank Lady Captain Julie Walkden and all the Ladies for the magnificent buffet that they supplied and served up at the Drive-In. And, for organising the raffle which raised £140 for the Captain's charity fund.

Julie Walkden Admirals Club Lady Captain

It has been a great start to my year as Lady Captain with plenty of unexpected mild weather for playing golf over the past winter months. Our first mixed Competition of the Winter Season was the Bill Lowe Trophy on 15th December, which Angela Robinson and Jeff Brinklow won (pictured below receiving their trophy and prizes).



15 couples participated in the competition which was followed by an excellent Turkey dinner in the clubhouse.

The Drive In on New Year's Day was a really enjoyable experience, made even more so by the fact that I outdrove Mick, the new Captain, from the white tees. I'm sure he was just being a gentleman, but it means I have a lot to live up to for the rest of the year! It's ok ladies, we are not having to play from the white tees in future.

With many events scheduled over the coming year, we are hoping to have many mixed and ladies events & competitions that will suit everyone so please watch out on the ladies notice board for advance notices.

Ladies, please make a note in your diary to come to the Pre-Season Get Together on Friday 9th March at 7pm. It's a great night to get to know what we have planned for the coming year and have an enjoyable social evening with many of the ladies in the Admiral's Section.

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and look forward to meeting as many as you as possible either on the course or at any of the club away days.

Jeff Brinklow Admirals Secretary

The Holiday season is now over and I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year.

Our AGM was held on 12 December and our new Captain Mick Snell inducted. We also have a new Committee with Stan Spencer, Gary Oscroft, Robert White and Bill Sheffield on board. Full details of the Committee are posted on the notice board.

The weather is holding well at the moment and no days have been lost due to bad weather, with the course and club house remaining open. A big change from last year.

All the competition fixtures are as published with no cancellations.

As you will read we are holding a Burns Night at the Club on 28th January for a cost of only £10. Please try to attend and support the Club and the Social Secretary.

We have a full programme of days out, weekends away and another team tour this year so keep a lookout on the notice boards if you wish to take part.

Summer League and Knockout competition entries will be advertised shortly so please add your name if you wish to play.

Roger Allen Admirals Seniors Organizer

On the 19th December we held our annual Christmas competition and lunch with, despite the unpleasant conditions, 40 players eventually taking part. Again the event was a great success and was well organised by Ian Kirkham in Ernest Scott's absence. On the day the individual winner of the ¾ handicap stableford was John Osborne with a score of 34 points, with the team prize going to Mel Bower, Henry Klapkowski, Chris Whiting and Graham Hawke for 104 points. Various other prizes were awarded for minor placings. With the break for Christmas and New Year the number of regular weekly competitions were reduced during the period and winners were Alan Thompson, Rick Richardson, Henry Klapkowski and Terry Pennick in division 1, James Newton, Alistair McDonald, John Wilson, Frank Harris, Geoff Renshaw, Peter Kopyko and Les Smith in divisions 2 & 3. The arrival of 2012 has seen the end of Chris Wilson's tenure as Club Captain and we look forward to welcoming him back into his more familiar position as a stalwart of the Seniors section. We now have a relatively quiet period of activity until we start the new golf season proper in March when we start to play matches with other clubs.

John Cockell Admirals Social Secretary

Burns Night ~ Saturday 28th January



For a ticket price of only come along and have a great night celebrating Scotland's favourite son's birthday and enjoy our traditional Burns Supper, no doubt washed down with a few malts! Included will be a traditional three course meal, the customary procession of the Haggis through the lounge led by a Scottish piper. Should you not like Haggis, there will be an alternative English Haggis, (Shepherds Pie) on offer.

During and after the meal there will be a **fun charity quiz - Up to £100 team prize** kindly donated by prizesforgolfers.co.uk

There will also be a raffle in aid of the Clubs charity ~ The British Heart Foundation. Any donations to the raffle prize table would be most appreciated in aid of this worthy cause.

The event last year proved to be very popular old out. All who attend had a great time so purchase your tickets as soon as possible to avoid any disappointment.

All Oakmere Park (Admirals & Commanders) members and their guests will be most welcome. Full details will be displayed on posters around the club house.

Captains Away Day

This year we are going to the Gainsborough Golf Club. Come along and support your Captain, Mick Snell whilst having a great day out playing two excellent contrasting golf courses that will offer challenges to golfers of all abilities only 36 miles from Oakmere Park.

The day will include the following:

- Tea/Coffee and Bacon Roll on arrival.
- 9 hole Drawn Pairs Stableford Competition
- Lunch - Chips and Sandwiches
- 18 hole Singles Stableford Trophy Competition
- 3 Course Evening Meal and Prize Presentation

Prizes down to 4th place as well as nearest the pin prizes in both competitions.

The total cost for the day will be £53 which will include all 27 holes of golf, all 3 meals and prize fund. See posters around the club house further details.

All Admirals and Commanders Members, both male and female of all playing abilities, will be most welcome to attend, so come along and have a great day out. Anyone wishing to go should either enter their details on the entry sheet in the main corridor and pay their deposit in the Pro-Sho using their Club Card..

Gordon Taylor Commanders Club Captain

Well here I am again writing a report for the Newsletter but this time as Captain. When the Captaincy was passed to me by Geoff Steel at the Turkey Trot on 18th December, I was extremely appreciative of the good wishes that went along with it, both from Geoff, and from all members present. I said – and meant – that I will do everything I can to ensure that the success of the club continues.

Well the success continued during my Christmas break with a win for the club over the seniors by a very narrow margin of 13 points. Thanks to Jim, Geoff and others for organising that good start.

Then along came the Captain's drive off on 2nd January. Thirty members turned up to play after they had guessed (with their charity money backing them) how far I would drive the ball. The event raised £60 on the day with another £10 being cajoled from members who guessed later. A great start for my charity, which this year is, The Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance Service. Thank you all.

I wasn't going to mention that I only hit the ball 90 yards left and that Geoff Steel won the bottle of whisky. If I hadn't though I am sure there would have been some comment made.

I must also thank all those members who continue to bring me balls, which they do not want for themselves, which also go to charities. During 2011 I was able to let them have over 200 dozen (yes almost 2500) balls which they are most grateful for.

CAPTAINS AWAY DAY
GAINSBOROUGH GOLF CLUB
YOUR CAPTAIN, MICK SNELL INVITES YOU TO JOIN HIM
HAVE A GREAT DAY OUT
PLAYING TWO CONTRASTING QUALITY GOLF COURSES THAT WILL OFFER CHALLENGES TO GOLFERS OF ALL ABILITIES

Arrive 8.30 - Tea or Coffee with Bacon Roll & Cider of the Day
Tea Booked 9.30 - Thameck Park Course (9 Holes Stableford Quillets) (½ Handicap)
Lunch - Chips & Sandwiches
Tea Booked 12.30 - Karston Lakes Course (18 Hole Singles Stableford) (½ Handicap)
Evening Meal 7.30 - 3 Course Evening Meal

Prize Presentations -
Morning Competition - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Nearest the Pin on 2 Par 3 Holes
Afternoon Competition - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Trophy Presentation
Nearest the Pin on 2 Par 3 Holes

Entry is limited to the first 48 players.
Any member of Oakmere Park (Admirals or Commanders) wishing to go should enter their details on the entry sheet located in the main corridor & pay their £20 deposit in the Pro-Sho.
Total cost for the day £53 (includes 27 holes of golf, all meals & prize fund)

Friday 22nd June

Overall folks a good start to 2012. We have a good sociable club that anyone would be proud to be a member. I will do my best to keep it that way and I hope you will support me in my efforts.

Geoff Steel Commanders Seniors Captain

First and foremost Happy New Year to everyone from myself and Steve Cornish my Vice Captain and hope you all have a good golfing year most of all enjoy yourselves win, lose or draw.

A big thankyou to Jack Bust who had an excellent year as Captain last year and hope he gets his health problems sorted as soon as possible also to wish all incoming Captains and Vice Captains successful years in office.

The last few weeks have been very busy over the festive season with somewhat very windy playing conditions as well

Friday 16th Dec saw the Annual Turkey Trot take place once again a fantastic turnout of nearly 60 players with The team of Ken Corkish, Terry Smart and Jim Taylor taking the spoils in the Texas Scramble. Once again a 3ball wins this team event.

20th Dec Stableford Div 1 Bill Weir 37pts Div 2 Vic Lewin 35pts

23rd Dec Stableford Div1 O Tucker 33pts Div 2 K Morris 28pt

27th Dec some 18members turned out for the Stableford with C Davies Div 1 Winner 36pts and C.Smart Div 2 with a great 42pts

30th Club/Seniors Close match with the club winning by 13pts although a number of seniors played for the club a very enjoyable day and an exceptional score of 44pts from A Medley who was duly chopped R Clarke winning Div 2 39pts

6th January Stableford Div 1 K Harbord 37pts Div 2 M Thorpe 35pts

10th January Stableford Div 1 P. Riley 36pts Div 2 J. Ellis 38pts

There will of course be the usual number of matches home and away during the season so please, please put your names down on the sheets for these matches. You play different courses with a meal after the match at a very reasonable cost and you will thoroughly enjoy the day at the same time supporting your captain and vice captain and the Commanders Seniors. Look forward to seeing you on match days.

There will be a couple of fund raising events on the calendar and I intend to pass the proceeds on to Gordon Taylor your Club Captain whose charity this year is the Notts/Lincolnshire Air Ambulance.

Look forward to seeing you all throughout the year

Carol Buchan Commanders Lady Club Captain

CAPTAIN'S DRIVE IN

On a cold January morning we all met at 8.15 am -it was just getting light- whose idea was this !!! At least it didn't rain.

Gordon drove first, followed by myself. We were very consistent- almost identical drives. Say no more!!!! -that's it until Captain's Day in June.

Thanks to everyone who came to support us -it was very much appreciated.

Thanks to Joan and Margaret and the Committee for running the club in January while I am away.

Here's to an OLYMPIC YEAR

Richard Bond Course Manager

I would first of all like to thank all the members for their care on the golf course throughout and exceptionally busy Christmas period. The wet weather and the amount of traffic could have had a potentially devastating effect on the golf course. Of course there are specific areas that have become worn, but without all of your co-operation the damage would have been far worse.

Work on course improvements has continued with the installation of a sleeper face on the large fairway bunker on 6th. Fescue grasses have been planted in the surroundings and in between the sleepers, extra heather will also be introduced. The bunker should be back in play once these have established. In addition the small pot bunkers on the left of the 6th fairway have been filled with resident fescue grasses to match the grasses already in place on the mounds. These will also remain GUR until they have established.

A wash down bay for cleaning off all the machinery has also been completed in-house this has been located by the pump house.

The final sections of the dead gorse have been removed from the Admirals course with further tree planting in some of these locations. There are only a few isolated patches on the Commanders left to complete.

Pathway repairs are imminent we are waiting for a spell of dry weather to allow us to carry out the repairs and resurfacing required.

The compressor for the shoe cleaning hoses has a broken belt, a replacement has been ordered before Christmas we are simply awaiting its arrival. (an alternative source/make of belt was sourced but kept slipping)

Fairway aeration and brushing will continue throughout January due to the limited growth during this period.

Martyn Brown Proshop Manager

The winter months of January and February are always very exciting for us Golf Professionals. Many of the leading equipment manufacturers are releasing new equipment this month and we are first to get our hands on it. We are looking forward to Taylor Made releasing their new R11 S range. As members of Oakmere Park you are automatically entitled to try these amazing new woods and have a custom fit session.

Also with summer round the corner golfers are starting to think about sharpening up their golf games by taking a few lessons and having their equipment checked. If you would like to find out what we can do for your game and the services we offer at Oakmere Park please pop in to the shop and ask.

Free Golf Coaching
for adults and juniors

Oakmere Park Golf have been given sponsorship by the English Golf Union because of their Golf Mark award to give free golf lessons to juniors under the age of 18 and also separate lessons for adults to learn.

There will be five free two hour group classes offered but spaces are strictly limited. The classes are open to people of all ages, male or female and are for beginners.

The date and time of the sessions are:

Juniors in half term week

Monday 13th Feb 10am-12pm

Tuesday 14th Feb 10am-12pm

Wednesday 15th Feb 10am-12pm

Thursday 16th Feb 10am-12pm

Friday 17th 10am-12pm

Adults

Saturday 28th Jan 10am -12pm

Saturday 4th Feb 10am -12pm

Saturday 11th Feb 10am -12pm

Saturday 18th Feb 10am -12pm

Saturday 25th Feb 10am -12pm

All equipment and golf balls will be provided free of charge

To book please contact Oakmere Park on

0115 965 3545 or email proshop@oakmerepark.co.uk

Alan & Jackie Bar & Catering

Not very often we can say what a good winter we have had so far weather wise, but up to yet the weather has been kind to us.

We hope you had a good Christmas and Happy New year to you all.

There was a good turn out for the Turkey Trot, the course was a little tricky for most players.

The Rotary Club evening was very successful and Jeff Brinklow has booked again for next year, thank you.

It was nice to be serving lots of Christmas meals after so many cancellations last year due to the snow. The club house looked extremely festive.

Thank you to the Admirals and Commanders Mens and Ladies for their support during 2011 and thanks to Chaddy for his charity day in aid of Chernobyl.

The weather was good for the Captains Drive in on New Years day, good luck to Mick Snell and Julie Walkden in their Captaincy for 2012.

Thank you to my staff for all their help during 2011.