



Aboyne Golf Club
Formaston Park
Aboyne
Aberdeenshire
AB34 5HP

Press Release

30th April 2018

HIGHEST AMATEUR ACCOLADE AS SHANNON SELECTED FOR CURTIS CUP

Aboyne Golf Club is celebrating after one of its leading lady golfers achieved the highest amateur accolade by being selected for the Great Britain & Ireland Curtis Cup team to play against the USA in New York in June.

Shannon McWilliam, an 18-year old former pupil at Aboyne Academy who lives in Torphins, is the only Scottish girl selected for the 8-strong GB&I team which is captained for the second time by Elaine Farquharson-Black of Deeside.

The 40th Curtis Cup Match will be contested 8-10th June at Quaker Ridge Golf Club, in Scarsdale, New York. GB&I will defend the historic trophy after securing a win at Dun Laoghaire in Ireland two years ago.

Shannon said "I am absolutely honoured and over the moon to have been selected for the 2018 Curtis Cup. This has been my dream since I started playing golf at the age of 4. I could not have got to where I am today without the support of my family and friends, my coach Andrew Locke, Scottish Golf, Paul Lawrie Foundation, and of course Aboyne Golf Club and its members who have shown me such fantastic support and encouragement. I am so excited".

Lady Captain at Aboyne Liz Taylor said "The Ladies section, which incorporates our juniors through to our senior lady members, are thrilled with Shannon's selection. This is the culmination of many years of dedication to her sport traveling the length and breadth of the UK to establish her credentials and compete in top ranking competitions. We hope to use Shannon's fantastic success to further develop all our juniors especially the girls at Aboyne."

Liz added, "Shannon follows in the prestigious footsteps of honorary member Jeanette Wright who represented the club four times in the Curtis Cup and daughter Pamela Wright who turned professional and went on to play in three Solheim Cups holding Vice-Captaincy in 2000 and 2002.

Club President Justin Grant said "Aboyne has a long history of producing excellent young players who go on to represent the Club at the highest national and indeed international level. As a club we are incredibly proud of Shannon, she has worked so hard over the last few years, supported by her parents Steve and Julie and elder brother Lewis, and richly deserves this call up. She is a fantastic ambassador for the game and her success has no doubt encouraged many other youngsters in the area to try out the game of golf. Everyone associated with the club are absolutely thrilled for her. I am sure she will do us proud".

ENDS

Contact

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PHOTO

Shannon McWilliam



Notes to Editors

The oldest club on Royal Deeside, Aboyne is an immaculately maintained, challenging golf course with spectacular views of the surrounding hills & countryside. 6000 yards of impeccable fairways and faultless greens - a golfer's haven. Aboyne embraces every golfer, from beginner to Scottish International.

Our welcoming, family friendly clubhouse allows you to soothe away your cares on our sunny balconies, where you may catch a glimpse of ospreys, otters or the swans on the Loch. Aboyne is the understated jewel in Aberdeenshire's golfing crown.

Our long-established course has won many plaudits as one of the most memorable tests of inland golf in Scotland. Designed by Archie Simpson and updated by renowned architect Martin Hawtree, such is Aboyne's unique terrain and growing reputation it has been selected in recent years by our governing body to host the Scottish Golf Women's County Finals and the Men's NE Open – the flagship event in the North East District calendar and a world amateur ranking event. We have also been honoured to be chosen by The R&A to host the LGU Coronation Foursomes Regional Finals in 2018.



Come and play our unique topography and enjoy one of the most varied and respected courses in 'The Home of Golf'.

Visitors are delighted with the contrast found between the front and back nine. The course presents a rich variety of memorable holes making the most of the natural variations in the terrain, which is a mix of rolling parkland with inviting fairways and elevated links-like heathland with tighter targets. Mature trees and water also come in to play on many holes.

Aboyne Loch is a notable feature lending character and scenic beauty to the course, as well as providing a hazard to be avoided on the last hole of the relatively flat parkland front nine. Thereafter,

the course changes character to rugged heathland and climbs gently, providing magnificent panoramic views over the Aberdeenshire countryside.

Golfers are tested by one of the course's distinctive feature, which sees a few holes with undulating fairways formed around the historic geography of medieval farming. This adds a unique terrain challenge requiring more brains than brawn to play. Lying on free-draining soil, the course enjoys a surprisingly dry micro-climate.

Visitors, society outings and new members are most welcome with favourable rates and tee times to meet all golfing budgets.

Mens White Tees: 6,003 yards. Par 68. SS 69

Ladies Red Tees: 5,362 yards. Par 72. SS 71