



Minehead and West Somerset Golf Club Newsletter

Newsletter July 2016.

Stephen Kaye Club Chairman.



Welcome to our clubs newsletter no 22. I can't believe it has been 2 years since I started producing this newsletter.

Whilst the Management Committee deal with current issues. Forward planning with limited funds is always a problem, particularly when we are aware of continuing issues like our sadly troubled plumbing and also the very poor state of the male changing rooms. I am happy to report that plans are being put in place to resolve these issues. More on this and the process will be communicated to the members soon.

We have received many suggestions, in the suggestion box on the bar. Some complimentary comments, which is always nice to hear. Some paradoxes, like "The pool table is a great addition" and "Why have we got a pool table?" Just goes to show you can't please everyone. But thanks for your comments, keep them coming, not just about the bar and food but include any ideas you might have for improvements.

Working with the club to raise standards



Dorrien Bickerstaff Club Captain.

With the first two weeks in June being constantly sunny with temperatures soaring well above average it reminded us all what playing on the continent is like! Just a quick reminder golf attire is just that golf attire. This must be worn on the course, and while certain rules have been relaxed, shorts must be appropriate for the game (not the beach or the builders yard variety) collared shirts tucked in and socks worn. In the club house, smart casual wear please.

Now the main competition season is underway I would like to thank all those members who have gone out of their way to make this a good start to the competitions year, and congratulate the numerous winners so far. There have been a very small number of issues that have cropped up and I would like to raise just one with members and explain the effect it has:

- Card going "missing": In order to monitor handicaps and standard scratch we need all cards returned, even if you have NR on a hole. We can't close competitions until we have all cards in so administrators get frustrated and go

home very late.

The Swindle dinner was a huge success with an excellent turn out for dinner. Congratulations to Marc (Duracell) Johnson (overall winner) and John Griffin (Plonker). These turn up Swindle games add a great social dimension to our club as you may be playing with different partners every week, which is lucky for John as he has started the new season with two wins in the first few weeks.

As you all know the Club Championship will be held the weekend of 9/10th July. Please, please if you can, make the effort to be back down the club for the prize giving. Presenting such a prestigious trophy in a quiet clubhouse is actually quite disheartening for the winner, so to tempt you all back there'll be nibbles on the tables!

Enjoy your golf and remember summers on the way (the rains warmed up)!

I am always available on the end of a phone or in the clubhouse for a chat and a beer.

Cheers Dorrien



Jenny Holland Lady Captain.

Sorry that there wasn't a newsletter last month, but I was away in Palm Springs, California for

my son's wedding, temp 90 to 119, glad to be back in this lovely summer weather.

I would like to thank my committee for all their help while I was away, they did a great job, thank you ladies.

Jayne Webber and Ros Chidgey played in the centenary plate county knockout, at Long Sutton against Wheathill and it took Wheathill until the 19th hole to beat them, great try. We went to Vivary golf club to play against the men, it was a closely fought game in the rain, but we lost. We had a very good open Greensomes in May.

1st Jayne Webber & Fona Lovell 39 pts 2nd Anne Oglesby & Nancy Marshall 38pts 3rd & 4th places were won by Clevedon teams

We had a good win at home in the Wessex against T & P, thanks to Kay being Captain.

We won a friendly against W.S.M at home 3/2. In the league at Wheathill we lost 2 1/2 to 4 1/2.

July will be busy as the County Seniors ladies have their open at Minehead and it is the ladies Club Championship, 36 holes on one day is tough, we look forward to a nice meal afterwards with our Champion.



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Dave Chidgey, Seniors Captain.

Since my last report it's been a very busy time on the course with not only competitions some of which has been, fun, competitions, some the more serious qualifiers and many matches. At Worlebury Sidmouth and Burnham and Berrow we did not fair well. We performed well against both Weston and Tiverton narrowly losing both 3 1/2 to 2 1/2. In the Seniors Avalon league whilst we lost to Enmore it's pleasing to say that halfway through our matches we are holding second spot to Enmore. All the teams we play against have a much larger pool of players who want to be involved in their matches, we have a pool of about 16 I would like to say thank you to them who play match after match home and away and thus keep the flag flying for MWSGC. THANK YOU ALL



Janet Handley, Juniors Section

First of all my sincere apologies to Sean Doyle who came third in the

Francis Adams Cup not Ryan his brother! Sorry Sean.

We have managed to recruit more girls and now have five girls turning up regularly on a Monday evening. Hopefully we can continue to build on this.

Three of our players are attending an Experience Day at Burnham & Berrow organised by the Development League. They are targeting clubs like our own who are trying to rebuild their Junior Section with the intention that we will hopefully be able to join the league.

HELP NEEDED. I have realised that what will be required are volunteers to help with transport! I do have one other Junior who would like to attend this event but requires transport and I think this could be a problem when attending events at other clubs.

If anyone is able to volunteer to attend the Burnham & Berrow event on Sunday 31st July, first tee off 11am I would be really grateful 😊. I know it is a big ask.

If anyone is willing to volunteer this sort of help for future events it would be good to have some people that I am able to contact. If you could contact me via phone or email I would appreciate it. We will reimburse costs.

I do hope that over the summer period we will be able to encourage

some of our Juniors to go along to the Open events at other clubs in the area and being able to provide transport is going to be important where parents are not available to provide this.

Our next competition is our Junior Open on Friday 29th July.

Graham Wright – The Warreners

Here we are halfway through 2016 already and no real summer yet.



The Warreners began June on the 1st when the Tony Ridler Trophy was played for in a stableford competition which was won by Dave McQuater with 42 points.

On the 8th June we should have played against Chivenor at Minehead but they could not get a full team and the match has now been rearranged for 26th September. The Warreners visited Ilfracombe Golf Club on 20th June to play against North Devon Police and were soundly beaten 5 1/2 to 1/2. The half coming from Paul Beck and Pete Scott who were last out. The Police fielded a strong team who played the course very well but the Warreners were compensated by an excellent meal served in their

restaurant affording the fantastic view.

This year some of our opponents seem to be suffering by having difficulty in raising a full team which was the case on 29th June when the Warreners were due to play the Royal Naval Air Station at Yeovil. Their society does have difficulty with shifts and postings so last minute cancellations are not unusual and this is another fixture that has to be rearranged.

We now look forward to July and August when we have a full diary of matches and competitions. Hopefully!



The Course, Graham J Wells

After much deliberation and delay (by them!) the County Council has approved

our application to extend our landfill plans with a time limit for completion of 2021. Their approval applies manageable restrictions on timing of deliveries and daily numbers. However before deliveries may begin it appears we must submit 3 or 4 written schemes to the Waste Planning Authority concerning such issues as landscape planting, soil management, wetland habitat management, noise and dust management (to satisfy neighbours'



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objections) etc! We are trying to establish the amount of detail required in respect of this activity before wasting time on unnecessary detail. From a personal viewpoint the time and resource which the Environment Agency, the County Council and the Waste Planning Authority have given cause to be applied to our Plans shows why this country is becoming bogged down in useless red tape in order to satisfy the existence of jobsworths for whom our taxes pay! However, when all this is finally dealt with we will liaise with Sean Lynch so he can apply for the appropriate certificates (from the Environment Agency!) to deliver the non-agricultural waste we are using.

Ian Gabb (proprietor of Isokdesigns in the Avenue) has been appointed to shoot rabbits on the course.

Notices giving members advance warning of needle tining, reseeding and top dressing the greens and of desisting from practicing on the course have been well received. It remains to be seen whether the latter activity is stopped altogether. However, during the top dressing the drive belt on our top dresser drop spreader has broken and will cost up to £2000 to renew. Rather than doing this we are looking at the possibility of acquiring a disc spinner

which top dresses more thinly and evenly (cost £2250 plus vat.). This is a much preferable option for the future good maintenance of the greens but either expense has not been fully budgeted for and this further illustrates the club's long term failure properly to invest in equipment for course maintenance. We have accepted a reasonable quote for removal of the trees behind the 6th green whose roots were coming up under the green and the bunkers. Members will be forewarned of when this work is to take place.

We have narrowed down the location of a leak in the irrigation system which was preventing our use of timed irrigation in certain circumstances. It's repair remains a priority.

We have responded to members' requests for a second fairway cut along the 7th, 8th and 9th fairways although the damp weather and the limitations of our equipment have left unsightly grass cuttings all over the place! Our apologies for this but drier conditions and further cuts should improve things.

Work is now ongoing to prepare the course as best we can for the Club Championship in July. Accordingly members may note a little more

rough than has been the case recently!

Reminder to Book your places now!

We NEED members to support our opens as this brings in visitors and much needed income.

A new Open for our Club is an over 55's Men's Texas Scramble Open. This will take place on Wednesday 10th August.

The entry fee is just £10.00 per player for a member and just £15.00 per visitor.

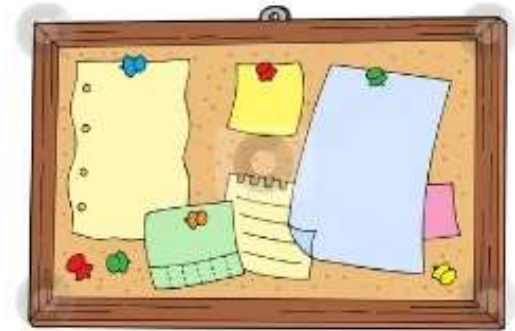
Teams of 3 can be made up of member/visitor combination at the appropriate price. A good chance to invite friends from other clubs to make up your team and enjoy what should be a fun day with prizes.

More details can be found on our website under 'Visitors' and 'Open Days and Competitions'.

Don't Forget!

Ladies have an Open Bowmaker on Thursday 6th October. Again details are on our Club's website.

Check out the various notice boards and website for further comps and updates.



Happy Golfing everyone!

Minehead and West Somerset Golf Club
Continuing to raise standards.