



Aboyne Golf Club
Formaston Park
Aboyne
Aberdeenshire
AB34 5HP

Press Release

22nd March 2017

Management Changes at Aboyne Golf Club

Aboyne Golf Club has made a number of changes to its management team as the club builds on the national success it achieved last year having been chosen to host the Scottish Golf Women's Finals.

In preparation for the new season, David Munro takes over as Greens Convenor to continue the enhancement of the course. David remarked "we received very positive feedback from Scottish Golf after successfully hosting the very high profile Ladies tournament last year. Over the winter months we have continued to enhance the course with a major tree management programme and re-styling a number of bunkers. In addition, our Head Greenkeeper Colin Forbes and his team have been re-shaping some of the holes on our heathland back nine taking out gorse to help the speed of play and make the course enjoyable and playable for golfers of all abilities. Colin and his team have done a fantastic job."

Additionally Ian Anderson is co-opted back on to Council as Finance Convenor. Club President Scott Mackie paid tribute "Ian has done a phenomenal job guiding the club through some challenging financial times in the recent past. Like all golf clubs in the area we have been impacted by the downturn in the Oil & Gas sector and are working hard to ensure the standards of the Club are maintained and we continue to grow and appeal to the wider golfing audience both here in the UK and further afield. "

In further changes, Keith Gardiner takes over as Gents Senior Captain. Keith commented 'I am delighted to have been selected as Seniors Captain for the 2017 season. We have a full programme lined up of monthly Medal and Stableford competitions as well as inter-club matches against twelve Aberdeenshire golf clubs. We have been able to engender a real spirit of camaraderie among the members of the Seniors' section and we are always pleased to welcome new faces to the fold."

The Ladies Section continues to flourish under the stewardship of Club Captain Sandra Findlay. Sandra said "Last season was unbelievable as we hosted the Scottish Golf Women's County Finals which challenged the club but gave us widespread national recognition which has paid dividends. This season we have been asked to host the Aberdeenshire Ladies County Golf Association, Watt Duffus tournament as well as a full programme of club and open events. It promises to be another busy season."

Meanwhile Club Captain Dan Broadhead is gearing up the men's section to defend the Deeside League trophy the club won for a third consecutive year. Dan said "I am thoroughly looking forward to the season ahead, and we are keen to retain the Deeside League again. Early reports from our members are that the course is in good shape, so here's to hoping a fantastic season of golf for not just our club but all those on Royal Deeside who have been severely challenged by 'Storm Frank' as well as the economic downturn."

Club President Scott Mackie said, "We have worked exceptionally hard in the winter months upgrading the course and clubhouse. We have restructured our membership offering and opened up new categories with more flexibility to attract even more new members to the Club both playing and social. We want to continue to attract a wider and more diverse audience – younger generations, families, ladies and those that see our golf club not purely as a venue to play golf but also as a key social hub for the local community. We are already seeing the fruits of this hard labour and are always keen to speak with local people and businesses to see how we can further promote the Deeside area and our Club."

Contact

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Notes to Editors



Aboyne Golf Club Council - April 2016

From Left: Keith Gardiner (Gents Seniors Captain), Sandra Findlay (Ladies Captain), Carmeen Eakin (Council Member), David Munro (Greens Convenor), Scott Mackie (President), Justin Grant (Vice President), Dan Broadhead (Men's Captain), and Janice Innes (Council Member). Absent from photo Nigel Bradburn (Marketing Convenor).

Aboyne Golf Club

Aboyne Golf started life as a nine-hole course on the village green as early as 1881. The current stretch of 6,033 yards was modernised and reconstructed some 100 years later and the present 18 holes was opened in August 1991. The course provides a fine test for golfers of all abilities and has a membership of just under 650 players and social members. It 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 are in 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 outward nine. Thereafter, the course changes character to rugged heathland terrain and climbs gently providing magnificent views of some lovely Aberdeenshire countryside. Another small loch lurks at the 15th and the closing holes test the skill of the most seasoned campaigner. The home hole is a long par 3 and provides a worthy finish to a challenging round of golf.

