



## Minehead and West Somerset Golf Club Newsletter

### Newsletter No 23 for July Month 2016.



#### **Stephen Kaye Club Chairman.**

I want to thank all those who have put forward suggestions.

In the box located on the bar. Your suggestions are noted and when we can and if practical we will act on them. It would be helpful if you put your name on your suggestions so that I can answer and update you with follow ups. Many thanks for the kind comments that have been made, particularly with regard to the improvements in the catering department.

I also want to thank all those that volunteered to be part of the CASC working group. The response to the invitation to be a part of the working group was extremely good and is very encouraging. We will wait to see what recommendations the working group propose.

Just a note about newsletters. Some of the text refers to events that are due to take place and have now been completed, sorry! July has been quite a busy month for me. Getting contributions together editing and collating the text can take a considerable amount of time.



#### **Dorrien Bickerstaff Club Captain.**

Renovations to the Halfway house were completed by a small task force on time for the Club

Championship weekend. Many thanks to Pete Bowden and Mick Shortland on the trowels, Dougie Heyho mixing it, Vince Wheeler playing the saw and chisel, the two Past-its Phil A and Phil B slapping it up and down and yours truly observing. Many thanks also to Dougie for the final strokes.

Day One of the Club Championship had Darren Kneeshaw romping away with a 76/63 from Tim Dennis 71/67 and Charlie Griffiths 80/68 however Day Two sorted the men from the boys. Well actually no, because 17 year old Owen Thresher played out of his skin with a 68/63 having to ring his father to come in to buy the port for his first ever hole in one. Day two second was Brian Hamblin 74/66 from Jamie Anderson 83/68. Therefore huge congratulations to Club Champion for the second year running, Tim Dennis winning by one point from the young pretender Owen Thresher.

Sadly, due to a mix-up the Tiverton game has had to be rescheduled to

later in the year however the club managed a resounding win over Weston – Super- Mare.

All was in place for my Captain's Charity Day the first weekend of August, with over 150 entries from every aspect of the club. I will also be welcoming Rob Fear Enmore's Club Captain to join us that day. Minehead and Watchet Dementia Alliances and the continuing Captains Fund will be the beneficiaries. Monies will be allocated from the Captain's Fund contributing towards driers for both changing rooms and towards the Junior Section. Many thanks to all who have offered to help and to those who have provided prizes and raffle prizes already. Please leave any donations with Faye in the office who has asked me to remind all that second membership subscriptions are now due.

In these very dry days the grounds staff are doing a wonderful job keeping the course up to standard and also thanks to the Pros for their helpful and courteous ways with members and visitors alike – oh and good luck to Jordan with your exams!

I wish Jenny a very happy and successful Ladies Captain's Day on Thursday on behalf the Club and look forward to a great month's golf.

I don't do Facebook but I am always available on the end of a phone or in the clubhouse for a chat and a beer.



#### **Jenny Holland, Lady Captain.**

Beginning of July, Kay Lockett & Julia Holroyd went to

Thornbury to play the Australia Spoons but unfortunately lost at this County Event.

In the interleague, we lost to Enmore away 4 3 and won at home against Wheathill, 5 2, great effort.

Unfortunately, we played in the Wessex at Yeovil, losing 5 2.

Our club Championship was played on Thursday 21st July, Jayne Webber had the best gross, becoming our club champion for the fourth year running, 2nd was Sara Warren. Best Nett was won by Sarah Hill, very well done girls.

The ladies who could not play 36 holes on the same day, played for the Clover Cup over 18 holes, the winner of the cup was Gill Hurley and the runner up was Sarah Hill.

Kay Lockett won the Coronation Cup knockout, beating Jenny Elliott on the 15th in the final.

Winner of the Bronze cup knockout, was Mary Beakes taking Liz Walsh to the 17th.

August is going to be a busy month,



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starting on the 1st with past Captains Salver, Lady Captains Day on the 4th, and our Ladies 125yr Anniversary on the 18th, finishing with the Arnold Palmer on the 28th Aug, let's hope that the weather will be kind to us.



### **Dave Chidgey, Seniors Captain.**

Since my last newsletter the Seniors have played five matches with mixed fortunes. Against both Libbaton and Sidmouth we won 4/2 and lost by the same score to both Oake and Worlebury. I will give the score against R.N.D at the end of this report as at the time of writing it hasn't been played. I must say whatever the result these matches are played in the way that golf should be played with great sportsmanship by both teams. It's pleasing to hear that the clubs who visit us enjoy coming to our club to play for the welcome they receive and well cared course to play on. Finally I must say that the meals we receive have improved big time and that the kitchen is definitely moving forward well done the chef.

The match against R.N.D. ended with a win for them but we also were winners as we all enjoyed playing

the course and the hospitality that was extended to us.

### **Janet Handley.**

#### **Juniors Section**

Friday 29th July was the Junior Open. Three of our members took part and we had eight entrants altogether. Rachel Evill from Minchinhampton won the cup with a handicap of 9 and a gross score of 91. The nett winner was Tom Keyte, from Oake Manor, with a handicap of 28 and a nett score of 69. Our own Josh Ruston, handicap 19, had second prize with a gross score of 99 and second nett was Will Keyte, Oake Manor, playing off 26 with a nett score of 74.

A big thank you to our Lady Vice President, Wendy Barker. Her help was invaluable when it came to checking the scores and supporting me in running my first Open Competition.

On Sunday 31st July, Sean and Ryan Doyle, Harry Aziz Hendrick and James Dibble attended an Experience Day at Burnham and Berrow. The idea behind the day was to introduce Clubs not in the Junior League at present to how the League is now run and encourage us to join the league in 2017. It was my first visit to Burnham and I was most impressed with their facilities. Mike

Perry who hosted the day, was disappointed with the lack of response from some clubs in replying to his emails.

The participants played the Channel Course where many balls were lost in the hot, sunny, blustery conditions with hazards either side of what appeared to me to be very narrow fairways. It was certainly an experience for those who hadn't played the course before and has made us more appreciative of the familiarity of our own course. A lunch was provided for the participants and James was deemed to be the overall winner receiving a golf cap as his prize.

A big thank you to Tony Catchpole for helping with transport and ball spotting around the course we could not have participated without his help.

Despite the rain on Monday evening ten Juniors attended. Not all were dressed for the weather but it didn't stop four of them playing a few holes out on the course receiving instruction from George. Jordan took six of them onto the putting green for a time then, sensibly, they continued their lessons in the simulator.

Tuesday 2nd August was the Junior Championship. Four Juniors took part and played two rounds of 18

holes with a break for lunch. Owen Thresher won the KBK Jones Cup for a best gross score of 150. Josh Ruston and Harry Aziz Hendrick drew for second place with a gross score of 179.

James Dibble won the AJ Ridler Cup with a net score of 132 with Owen in second place nett 140.

Again thanks to Wendy for helping with the scoring for an off the record Stableford scored from the results of the first 18 holes.

Well done to all those who have participated over the last few days and hopefully in the coming weeks more Juniors will join us.

Our next competition is Tuesday 9th August. The Libra Cup. Tee off 2pm. It's a Stableford over 18 holes and there is no entry fee for this one.

### **Graham Wright – The Warreners**

July has been a busy month for the Warreners, well we are not getting any younger you know!

On July 6th we entertained the Colonials from Exeter at Minehead. The result was a 3-3 draw exactly the same score as the away match at Exeter which means we hang on to the trophy, a large wooden carved





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Elephant. We had an excellent three course meal after the match served by our new Chef Graham enjoyed by all and some compensation for our visitors who were met with cold showers when we finished playing. The following week on 13th July we played the Warreners Championship, a medal round off the white tees in very challenging conditions resulting in a fairly high standard scratch. The trophy was won by Maurice Holding with a score of 72 par.

On Friday 22nd July the Warreners travelled to Saunton golf club to play Chivenor Golf Society (formerly RAF Chivenor G.S.). The match was played on the East Championship course in good weather but the Warreners lost the match 4 -2.

On Wednesday 27th July the Warreners played a rearranged competition for the Brian Rendell trophy a Stableford competition which was keenly contested in much better weather than on the previous competition. This was reflected in much better scores and won by Les Fox who was immediately cut by two shots.

We Warreners also have a fairly busy August with home matches. The Warreners would like to wish our club captain Dorrien an enjoyable

and successful Captains day on 6th August.



### The Course, Graham J Wells

The written schemes for the Waste Planning Authority are in preparation and are required for their approval before we can recommence landfill deliveries. When completed and approved Lynch will then be able to apply for the U1 licence to deliver landfill to our first chosen area (5th or 7th tee). Before we finally instruct Lynch to proceed I will be seeking alternative quotes for the work, but this has been done before and the alternatives were unable to satisfy our requirement for a qualified operator with the equipment to landscape the delivered material (Lynch will do this) or to agree a better quote.

Evening rabbit shooting by Ian Gabb has started and he has bagged several dozen. At the time of writing I am not sure whether he has had the opportunity to do any night shoots which is his intention.

There is a lot of ragwort on the course and I will need to organise working parties to help remove this. Unfortunately, I have had a hip problem which has prevented me

from even walking the course so my ability to manage this work has been limited so any help I can get from committee members and club members in supervising anything I organise will be welcome. (I will just stand aside and wave my arms at the workers as usual!)

The trees have been moved with the minimum of disruption (cost £450 far below 2 alternative quotes received) and the logs have been cut to a size for Chris Bingham who intends fashioning them for use on projects for the benefit of the club!

The precise location of the leak in the irrigation system has yet to be determined, hence the use of hoses at less than optimum times.

Rob Barrett has sourced a disc spinner (final cost £2500 plus VAT slightly above £2250 originally approved but in better condition) to replace the irreparable drop spreader which will enable more economical and more even dressing of the greens.

The course was presented in fair condition for the Club Championship and the kind comments of members who played were much appreciated.

Remember: The 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.