



Minehead and West Somerset Golf Club Newsletter

Newsletter No 21 June 2016.

Stephen Kaye Club Chairman.

This month I want to pay tribute to a number of people that make our club what it is. First the volunteers that run our club. Having been just a short time working with our management committee I am in awe at the commitment and hard work that they put in, without any reward, to all the tasks and the management of our club. The marketing group also work hard to increase income, feeding the benefits back to the club. I would also like to thank the staff including our very important greens staff who constantly work hard to produce a top product for the members and our visitors. Our professionals that are always there to help and provide a great service. Finally I would like to thank you the members who make our club great. I have a feeling that we have left behind the divisions and we are pulling together as a club. The juniors section is making some great strides forward and I am personally delighted to see growth in this area. Thanks Janet for your dedication to this vital area. The main club with Dorrien at the helm continues to prosper and there is a noticeable

positive buzz that can be felt. The Seniors Section continues to be well supported and with Dave as Captain and Graham as Secretary it is in safe hands. The Ladies Section who do so much for our club and always help out at functions and in many other ways. Of course we can't forget the Warreners and their continued contribution. This is our club and it's the people that make our club great.



Dorrien Bickerstaff Club Captain.

One of our challenges this year is to continue keeping a tight hold of costs and being creative in how we bring in revenue. The Open Competitions at the beginning of May all were a great success both on the course and in the clubhouse and many thanks to all those who helped arrange them, participated in them and roped in visitors to join them. The weather was extremely good for the seniors and Ladies and improved as the day went on for the Men's. Many thanks to our two entry stewards at the Men's Open who managed to construct one of the new patio sets in time for our visitors from Lyme Regis to have a pint in the sunshine between sorting the entries and the scores!

However the Open Competitions also highlighted the sad state of repair of our halfway house, plaster and door are both in a bad condition. It needs repairing before our Club Championship date of Saturday 8th July. Please contact me as soon as possible if you have any skills or spare materials to offer. We already have plastering skill offers from two members, but many hands make light work. Monies contributed from the Open Competitions raffles will to help cover initial costs.

Enmore got their revenge in this month's club match Enmore being the victor 8 ½ to 1 ½. Next club match is Saturday 25th June against the club Swindlers. Please rally to your Club – your Club and Captain needs you! (Sign up list is on the captain's board)

As promised last month here is a list of all the different regular groups that go out so our newer members (and maybe some of our more established members) get the most out of their membership.

Tuesdays – Swindle. Open to all members and visitors. Name in the book by 10:45 - ready for the draw. Depending on numbers go out in threes or fours. Wednesdays – Seniors Roll Up from 8:00 (55's and overs) Captain's Swindle (If no evening competition). Open to all

members. Name in the book by 16:00 format decided on the day. Fridays – Swindle. Open to all members and visitors. Name in the book by 10:45 - ready for the draw. Format decided on the day.

The main solution is more members, so anything you can do to encourage your friends to join really does make a difference. Two diary dates. Saturday 6th August is Captain's Day. As we all know this is a fun packed charity day, so the more the merrier. Please involve family, friends, golfing acquaintances to make it a success. Sealed bids are being accepted to make up a foursome to go out with the Captain (or not to). The entry list will be on the Captain's board as of the 6th June closing date 30th July. Further updates will also be posted there detailing what's going on that day. Saturday 28th August is Arnold Palmer Day, let's see how many member/non-member pairings we can make up this year.

Finally, please take time to check out what's happening this month here at Minehead and West Somerset and make a note in your diary to join in if possible.

Enjoy your golf and remember - I am always available on the end of a phone or in the clubhouse for a chat and a beer.



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Dave Chidgey, Seniors Captain.

Since my last newsletter I am pleased to say that we have met with considerably more success in our matches. At home to Vivary we had a 4 1/2 to 1 1/2 win followed by, at home again to Saunton a win of 5 to 2. In the Seniors Avalon league at home to Tall Pines we recorded a win of 5 to 0. This was our second match in this league having won the first at home.

The very pleasing thing about all these home matches is the comments made by all our visitors of the warm and friendly greeting they received and how much they enjoy playing our course, well done everyone.

Janet Handley, Juniors Section

Jordan, George and I have been really pleased with the number of Juniors turning up every Monday evening all of them making excellent progress. There were fifteen one evening! That is without some of the older Juniors who are taking exams at present. James Dibble won the Francis Adams Trophy with a score of 33, his best score yet! The match was played Tuesday against a really

strong wind. Ethan and Ryan weren't so lucky as in spite of some excellent play the wind wasn't so kind to them. A big thank you to Steve Plenty and Ryan's grandad who accompanied them to help with scoring and rules.



Jordan, George and I would like to thank all those adults who have been so supportive on Monday evenings going along with The Juniors. We have used a Texas Scramble format and having so many helpers has made this possible.

Our next big push is to try and get more girls involved. The two we have at present are showing great promise but are outnumbered, so next Tuesday evening is to be a **GIRLS ONLY** evening.

Graham Wright – The Warreners

What a change. During May there were some days with very little wind and sometimes it



was helping on the back nine. This didn't help Warreners matches much as the two matches played were both away. We played at Brean on 4th May where they have a much rearranged course that is quite a test of golf. When they have a decent club house built (the site is now marked out) it will be a very good venue to play.

The Warreners lost the match 3 1/2 to 2 1/2 with David Kedge and Bill Hogg, Graham Wells and Ray Milton winning and Dave McQuater and Les Fox getting a half. As the result is a two legged affair we look forward to Brean's visit later in the year when we hope to overturn the deficit.

On the 11th May we visited Worlebury where we found they had some last minute problems with raising a team and ended up with only six players. We played three four ball matches and the Warreners lost 2 1/2 to 1/2 with Paul Beck and Bill Hogg getting the half. The six Warreners who were left played a Bowmaker competition between themselves and all were rewarded

with an excellent meal afterwards. On the 18th May the Warreners played for the Ron Lawrence trophy that was won by Graham (manages the course) Wells with a score of 39 points. Obviously his course management was spot on for that day.

Now into June with more Warreners matches, competitions and all the club activities to look forward to.



The Course, Graham J Wells

We expect the County Council finally to adjudicate on our application to extend

our landfill plans sometime before mid June. Thanks are due to John A'Court who has assisted in communication with the Council notably over the objections received from neighbours and the Town Council. Given approval we will liaise with C J Lynch to secure their permits to bring in the landfill which will subsequently enable us to reassess expenditure plans for the course and the Club in general.

Rob Barrett and I have met with Alan Bissell to help him to understand the recent phasing of course expenditures which have led to a recent over expenditure against



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budget but which will readjust to be on budget later in the year.

I have had discussions with several individuals who have expressed an interest in shooting rabbits. When I have fully assessed their experience and their licences a number of them will be granted approval to proceed with shooting. We will still be left with some problem with rabbit control until such time as we have repaired and extended the existing rabbit fencing. Finances have prevented us taking action on this issue but recommencing landfill deliveries may help with this although it will still be a major expense which will have to be dealt with by only 3 greenkeepers - we had 5 when the fencing was originally constructed!

During May we replaced 3 inoperative greens' sprinkler system control boxes which will improve timed watering to the benefit of play around the greens during the day.

Some members have commented on the need for a "second cut" to prevent balls rolling straight into the rough from fairways. Right now the equipment available to us and the availability of green keeping time to attend to this do not permit resolving this issue satisfactorily but we strive to give attention to things as best we can! Meanwhile please be aware

that misdirected balls may no longer be prevented from going out of bounds by chicken wire at the base of the fencing – if your ball disappears off course it's your own fault!

I have a very special request for all members to give very special attention to NOT taking wheeled trolleys and in particular ride-on buggies close to the proximity of greens. Notably please do NOT go between greens and greenside bunkers, follow paths wherever possible and use the new parking areas beside the 2nd and 14th greens at all times. Also please avoid obviously worn areas which have been caused by previous failures to follow these principles of good management. New white lines restricting access to greens have been recently marked.

Notice from Alan Bissell, Club Treasurer.

Payment of Subscriptions

A reminder to those members who this year have chosen to pay their membership subscription by 2 instalments. The second instalment is due for payment by 1 July. Payment may be made either in the office or over the bar. No invoice will be issued as the full amount and the

instalments were detailed on your invoice issued at the start of the year. If you wish to pay by cash or cheque then a receipt can be issued at the time of payment. You can also pay this should be a debit card or credit cards although credit cards are subject to a small additional charge.

Please make prompt payment in order to help with administration.

Book your place!

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'.

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.