



## A message from the Captain

Welcome to the June edition of the Loudoun Times. It gives me great pleasure to thank all players, sponsors and guests who participated in, and donated to, the 2022 Loudoun Gowf Club Charity Day in aid of Ayrshire Cancer Support. This charity has become a vital part of the local community, providing help and support to people throughout Ayrshire. This year we raised a massive £14,200 for the charity. In conjunction with Diageo, we have now raised over £300,000.

A huge thank you must also go to Sally Hamilton and Liz Keohone for their continued efforts in organising another successful day. Thank you also to the staff and volunteers who assisted them in the preparation for the event.

The event was won by Jim Davidson and his team with a score of 112. Fantastic golf!

Around the club we have now completed the resurfacing of the road. Apologies to members affected by the last minute closure of the course last Thursday morning. Initial plans had been to divert cars entering and leaving the club to allow the works to proceed. However, on the morning of the works, the contractors wanted the road completely closed. Ronnie and the green keeping staff will be finishing the edges of the road over the next couple of weeks.

I'm sure we will all agree that the course has come on leaps and bounds over the past couple of weeks.

Ronnie and his team continue to work hard preparing the course for the Loudoun Open on Saturday 4th June.

In June we plan to send out a member satisfaction survey. I hope all members will complete this. We can use the results of this survey to improve the facilities and services we offer to our members. I am aware of some concerns regarding the new bar and catering opening hours. We have formed a subcommittee to review this issue. This group will look at the finances around the bar/ catering open hours, the implications for staffing and suggest potential solutions.

Catering staffing remains an issue. Russell has been working incredibly hard over the past couple of months and should be applauded for his efforts.

Finally a huge congratulations to Robert Anderson who was part of the Scotland team who finished fourth in the recent senior curling world championships in Geneva.

Congratulations also to Scott Gilchrist who completed his first tandem skydive and ran his first marathon.

Gavin Scott

## Club Opening Hours

### Bar

Monday - Thursday	11 am - 6 pm
Friday	11 am - 9 pm
Saturday	10.30 am - 9 pm
Sunday	11 am - 8 pm

### Catering

Monday - Thursday	10 am - 5 pm
Friday	10 am - 7 pm
Saturday	10 am - 7 pm
Sunday	10 am - 6 pm

(Last food orders 15 minutes before closing).

If there are no members present in the clubhouse or on the course, we will close early.





# The Greenkeepers Cuttings

Ronnie Montgomery - Head Greenkeeper

Welcome to the course report for June. The summer temperatures we normally see for May/June are not quite here yet, but the growth has certainly started on the course. We have seen a huge improvement on the repair work which was carried out in the spring. Most overseeded areas have now started to germinate and are producing excellent cover, especially on the greens.



Last month we double verti cut our greens, followed by an overseed and top dress. Greens were also overseeded with 'Germinal Abermajesty all bent mix'. As stated above this has started to germinate and produce excellent cover on the greens.

Leatherjacket activity has thankfully been very low on the greens as the Crane fly have now taken flight. This will help our greens surfaces recover quicker as the grubs are no longer feeding on the grass roots. Over the past 2 weeks the greens have been running a little slow for this time of year. In this issue of the newsletter, I would like to explain the reasons why.

As of Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May preferred lies were no longer in play on the course.

Play from the medal tees has been restricted for Medals / Competitions, or for playing ties, for longer than I would have liked to allow the tees to recover from winter. With the growth rate now increasing on the course, I can now confirm that general / casual play may resume from medal tees. Thank you to everyone for your patience with this.





## Speed of Greens

At present we are only operating with one greens mower, but it has long been my goal to have two greens mowers operational at the club. One mower would act as a back-up and would also be used for verti cutting, or cutting greens shortly after top dressing was applied. The second mower would be the main mower, which would never be used for tasks other than solely keeping the greens running true and to give a precise cut throughout the season. As we currently only have the single mower, it has to carry out a variety of different tasks and thus availability of machinery has a slight impact on the speed of the greens.



An order was placed with Double AA John Deere back in June 2021 for a new mower with a delivery date of February 2022. However, with the recent worldwide supply challenges we all face today, this has had a

negative impact on the supply of new equipment/parts. We are one of many golf clubs who are waiting on new equipment to be delivered from overseas, but we were one of the first to place an order. We are hopeful that our new mower will shortly enter the country and it will be with us very soon and allow us to put it to work during the 2022 golf season.



I will update through our various channels when we take delivery.

## Driveway Repair

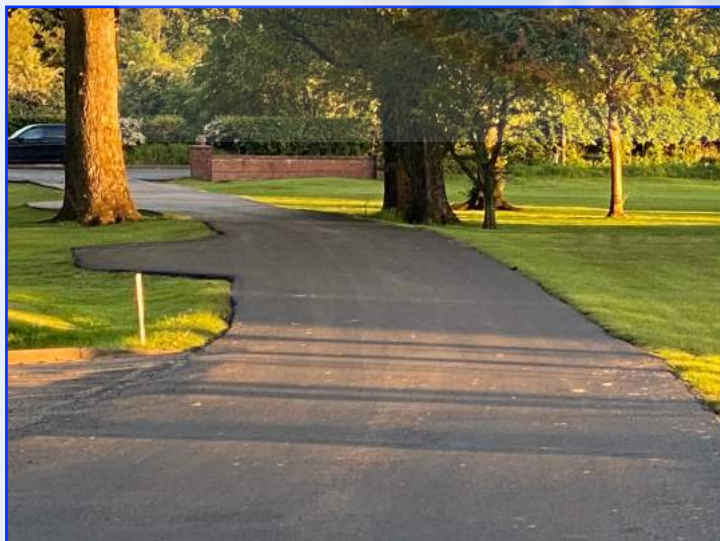
Finally, the driveway to the club has now been fully resurfaced.

This work was supposed to be completed in 1 week but the paver for laying the tar was stranded on Arran at another job due to ferry cancellations. This pushed the work back a further 5 days.



The speed bumps have been removed as we felt they were a little too aggressive on cars coming into the club. Due to the speed bumps being removed could we remind everyone to please mind their speed when

entering the club. Pedestrians, golf buggies and greenkeeping equipment cross this road regularly and we need to bear this in mind. Signs will be placed at the road end and car park soon to remind everyone. We would appreciate your cooperation.



Finally we would like to thank the team at Asphalt Design Limited for completing the work.

## Course maintenance

Mowing of all areas on the course will be ongoing throughout the summer months as per:

- Greens are being cut 7 days a week
- Fairways will be cut twice a week.
- Tees are cut twice a week
- Aprons 3 times a week



### Height of cut to date:

- |                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| • Greens          | 3 mm  |
| • Fairways        | 12 mm |
| • Tees and Aprons | 11 mm |
| • Semi rough      | 40 mm |

## 170 CLUB

The May draw was concluded on the 29th May, witnessed by Past Captain Liz Keohone and Finance Convener Niven McDowall

All winners will be contacted by Club Secretary Jim Davidson with regards to their winnings

The winners were as follows:

1st Prize £150, number 73	Fraser Scott
2nd Prize £100, number 66	David Johnstone
3rd Prize £75, number 36	Alan Gregor
4th Prize £50, number 118	Gerry Sweeney

Anyone wishing to participate in the 170 Club, which raises additional funds for the Club, please contact Sally Hamilton at [salhm@aol.com](mailto:salhm@aol.com). The cost is £5 per month and debited from your card, next draw at the end of June

## Gents Match and Handicap - David Johnstone

### Club V1 – Enhanced Markers Scoring for Mobile Score Input

With effect from Monday, 6 June 2022, Enhanced Markers Scoring for Mobile Score Input (mobile app scoring) will be enabled.

This is to ensure Loudoun Gowf Club complies with the Rules of Golf.

The process is approved by the R&A to be used in place of returning a traditional paper scorecard.



Players will enter their own score at each hole as well as a score for one of their playing partners ie their nominated marker, as declared at the start of the round. Scores will be cross checked at the end of the round before being submitted for handicapping and/or competitions result processing.

In effect, players using their mobile app are simply replacing the traditional card system.

As the Match Committee understands it, **a score will not be accepted** unless both scores tie up.



## Coach's Corner ...Ricky Nicol

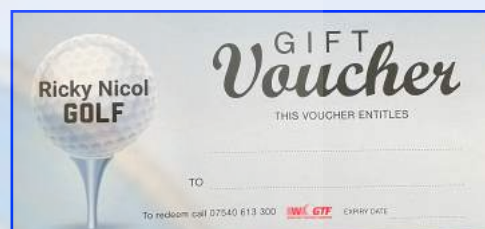
I have not issued any coaching dates beyond June as we are approaching holiday season.

If members have already formed a group that wish to be coached on a group basis, then please contact me on 07540 613300 in order to arrange suitable dates / times. I will endeavour to accommodate all those who are interested. Group coaching will only run with a minimum of 2 persons. Cost is £15 p.p.

Individual sessions are available within the Simulator room (£35 p.p. for members, £40 for non-members).

I now have vouchers available to purchase for coaching - be that a session in the simulator or on the practice ground. It's also Father's Day on Sunday 19 June and vouchers would be an ideal gift for the occasion (from £30).

Contact me to discuss/ purchase on 07540 613 300 or check out my FaceBook page



## Ladies Match and Handicap – Sally Hamilton

### Latest results:

	Div 1	Div 2
April Medal	Margaret Dalziel (70)	Eileen Munro (76)
Macmillan Cancer	Shelia Adams (67)	Joanna Montgomerie (64)
May Medal	Christine Milroy (64)	Helen Cuthbert (71)
Medal Finals	Aileen Anderson	Janice Shaw

Thank you to all those who played in, and donated to, our recent Macmillan Cancer Support competition raising £96 for this wonderful charity.

Our first major of the year, The Scott Cup was played in the first 2 weeks in May with Audrey Thompson this years' winner with a combined nett score of 143 and Kelly McNee winning the Mary Hamilton Picture.

### Senior Ladies Triam 21st June 2022:

Anyone wanting to play in the Senior Ladies Triam please contact the competition organiser Annette Toal. The competition is open to teams of three ladies +55yrs. Format being the best nett score at each hole, maximum handicap 36 and 85% course handicap allowance.



### Summer Eclectic

To date 34 ladies have signed up for the Summer Eclectic and it's still all to play for! Leading Division One is Sheila Kennedy with a nett 56, closely followed by Margaret Dalziel on 57. Division 2 is led by Eileen Munro on 55, followed by Margaret Hendrie on 57. This competition will run throughout the summer months and is open to all ladies, raising much needed funds for our Ladies Section.

## Race to Turnberry 2022 - Rab McKell

The race to Turnberry 2022 Final took place on April 30<sup>th</sup> over the King Robert the Bruce course at Turnberry.

48 played in what was the worst weather we had seen in the past six weeks.



Winners of the nearest the pins were:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Sonny Kerr,
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Simon Grant
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Ali Graham,
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Andy Douglas
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Gavin Ireland

Winners of the longest drives at the 18<sup>th</sup>

- 0 to 11 handicap - Stuart Templeton
- 12 and over - Andy Douglas

The top 10 results were:

10<sup>th</sup> place - Ian Robertson, 9<sup>th</sup> - Stuart McLaren, 8<sup>th</sup> - Andy Muir, 7<sup>th</sup> - Kevin Morton, 6<sup>th</sup> - Chris Clark, 5<sup>th</sup> - Ali Graham, 4<sup>th</sup> - Scott Hamilton

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sonny Kerr
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Simon Grant who was beaten by 0.34 points
- 1st - (and for the second year in a row) with a score of 72.67 was **Brian Alexander**

We would like to thank David Johnstone for setting up our HowDidIDo competitions, Russell and the Bar Staff for keeping us fed and watered throughout the winter and for our prize-giving dinner.





## Charity Day 29th May 2022

The [#weeclubwiththehugeheart](#) 💙 smashed it.

To date we have raised over £14,000 for Ayrshire Cancer Support, with, fingers crossed, a few more wee donations this week.



Hopefully with Diageo match funding we can take the total to nearly £30,000 😊

These days are not possible without the help and support of all our staff and volunteers at Loudoun:

A huge thanks to Ronnie and his team, the course was amazing (as usual) 😊

Russell and all his team for feeding and watering over 200 folk on the day, amazing effort 😊

The Loudoun Lassies who supplied all the food in the Howf, and Ashleigh Building for the drinks with both helping to raise over £1000 alone.

To all our sponsors and members teams, thank you for the continued support.

Everyone who bought raffles, auction prizes, “fivers”, made donations and just threw money in our collection buckets, we thank you all.

Not one penny was spent on prizes thank you to all our members and sponsors who donated all the prizes, you truly are amazing.

To local golf courses who donated 4 balls for prizes and auction, local businesses who donated prizes for auction, thank you.

Finally to everyone who helped out on the day, you all know who you are, thank you 🙏

See you all next year,  
Liz and Sal xxx



## The final word .....

As always any comments, feedback, questions or suggestions for future content or articles please email me at [rob.brown@sky.com](mailto:rob.brown@sky.com) or the Captain at [gavscott@doctors.net](mailto:gavscott@doctors.net)

The newsletter will be distributed through Club V1. To ensure as wider distribution as possible, please could you ensure that the office has your most up to date email address. If you hear of others who haven't received this newsletter, please point them towards the office to have their email updated.

