



Aboyne Golf Club
Formaston Park
Aboyne
Aberdeenshire
AB34 5HP

Press Release

2nd December 2020

Embargo till 0001hrs Friday 4th December

ABOYNE APPOINTS DIRECTOR OF GOLF

Aboyne Golf Club is delighted to announce the appointment of Michael Kinloch as their new Director of Golf.

Mike joins from Dubai Creek Golf and Yacht Club where he has been a pivotal member of the resort's management team for the past 12 years.

Born and raised in St. Andrews, Mike's professional career started at the Old Course Hotel where amongst his achievements he was awarded the 2003 Scottish PGA Trainee of the Year. Keen to gain international experience, he ventured overseas to help establish the first grass golf course and resort in Kuwait. Thereafter a season as a professional at The Dukes Course St Andrews was followed by a winter teaching at Dubai Creek which sparked his interest in the country.

The 2008 season was spent back at St Andrews Links Golf Academy before his permanent move out to Dubai. As Head Professional, for the past 4 years, Mike has been accountable for the complete operational leadership of the golf academy, driving range, Top Tracer and par 3 course.

Speaking of the appointment, President of Aboyne Nigel Bradburn said "Mike offers over 21 years' experience driving customer and service excellence at prestigious golf clubs and resorts in both the UK and Middle East. He is clearly a talented individual whose dedication to service excellence and commitment to enhancing customer experience was so readily apparent at interview. His credentials have been repeatedly endorsed by his referees and peers in the industry."

Nigel added "With Aboyne's growing standing in the golfing community, we were fortunate to have a good level of interest in this opportunity. Mike was the stand-out candidate amongst a high-quality pool of applicants, and we are delighted to have secured his services. Given his first-rate qualities, we are confident that Mike is the person to lead and promote our club and golf as a modern, safe and all-inclusive sport attracting more players as we come out of the coronavirus pandemic. We are absolutely thrilled he has chosen to join us, and he will add substantial value to our service offering to members and guests."

Commenting on his appointment Mike said "I have been looking for the next challenge in my career back in Scotland and the role at Aboyne really excites me and is exactly what I am looking for. I have been impressed with the vision and strategic intent of the Council at Aboyne and the exceptionally professional way they have conducted this recruitment campaign. It is great to see such a forward-thinking and progressive club in these testing times for the sport as we start the recovery from COVID-19."

Mike went on "Aboyne is a first rate, varied and challenging golf course maintained in pristine condition. The recent clubhouse refurbishment has clearly further enhanced the customer experience. It is a club with a substantial track record of success growing the game at both junior and novice level and I look forward to further increasing the club's profile and national standing."

Mike Kinloch takes up his appointment on 11th January 2021. He is married to Katherine and they have two boys aged 8 and 6. The family will relocate to Royal Deeside early in the New Year.

ENDS

Contact

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Aboyne Golf Club - Director of Golf Mike Kinloch



ABOYNE GOLF CLUB



The oldest club on Royal Deeside, Aboyne was established in 1883 and has won many plaudits as one of the best maintained, varied and challenging inland courses in Scotland. Initially conceived by renowned architect Archie Simpson and laterally extended by celebrated designer Martin

Hawtree, such is Aboyne's growing reputation the club has been selected by governing body 'Scottish Golf' to host a variety of national competitions.

A course of two distinctive halves, it provides a test for golfers of all abilities presenting 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. Visitors are delighted with the contrast found between the front and back nine.

Aboyne Loch is a notable feature lending character and scenic beauty 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 and climbs gently providing magnificent views of some lovely Aberdeenshire countryside.

Here golfers are tested by the course's distinctive topography which see several holes with undulating fairways formed around the historic 'rigg and furrows' of medieval farming which add a unique terrain challenge requiring more brains than brawn to play.

DUBAI CREEK GOLF & YACHT CLUB

Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club, voted one of the world's 'Top 100 Must-Play Golf Courses', is a resort that incorporates an 18 hole championship golf course, a 9 hole Par 3 course, golf academy, six restaurants and bars, gymnasium, tropical swimming pool, the 223-bedroom Park Hyatt Dubai, 92 residential executive villas and a 121-berth marina.