



ENGLANDGOLF  
**GOLFMARK**

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# TYNEMOUTH GOLF CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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**DECEMBER 20, 2019**  
TYNEMOUTH GOLF CLUB  
Spital Dene, Tynemouth NE30 2ER

2019 saw Tynemouth Golf Club take major strides forward – both on and off the course. It was also a year when the spotlight shone on three members who are doing rather well in their day jobs.

But first, in February, it was the time for TGC to be recognised for its own achievements with the presentation of the GolfMark, SafeGolf and Clubmark awards by England Golf, which described the club as “as a place where there are no barriers.”



Tynemouth is only the seventh of 42 clubs in Tyneside and Northumberland to receive the awards and Phil Graham - England Golf's Club Support Officer – was full of praise. “We’re trying to change the perception of the sport; and to do that we need more clubs like Tynemouth,” he said. “There’s a warm atmosphere here.

It’s a welcoming club. Even as a novice you are made to feel part of the club.”

That welcome was extended to the participants in both TGC’s Get into Golf programme and Girls Golf Rocks, where 25 five-to-13-year-olds were given free introductory coaching. Tynemouth was one of only ten North East clubs chosen for the event, which was such a success it has applied to run it again in 2020. Fingers crossed.

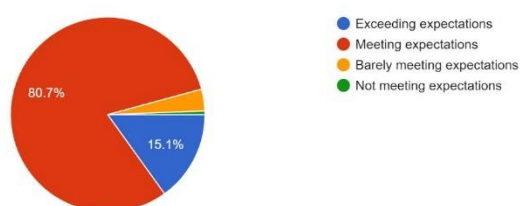


New golfers of all ages are also being encouraged to take up the game at Tynemouth through the highly successful 15 for 12 offer and Winter Membership. Meanwhile the Academy is going from strength to strength.

It was not only England Golf saying great things about the club. A survey of members demonstrated how everybody's hard work and commitment has been appreciated.

Related to your reasons for joining, how are the club doing?

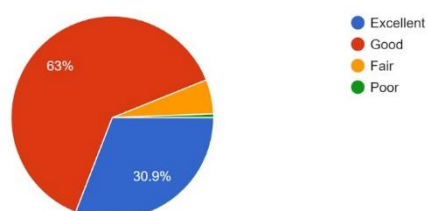
166 responses



More than 95% of you said the club was meeting or exceeding the expectations you had when you joined. In a survey two years ago that figure was less than 80%.

How do you rate the Bar - Service

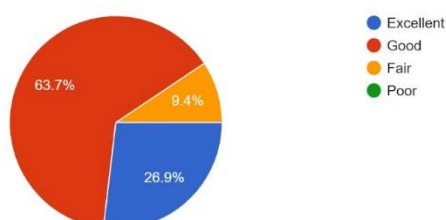
165 responses



Appreciation of the bar service has rocketed from less than 60% in 2017 to nearly 94% in 2019.

How do you rate the present "Catering" - Quality?

160 responses



While ratings of the club's catering have also soared – from 58% to 90%.

Tynemouth would like to thank new bar manager Iain Finlay and our caterers Paul and Michelle Scott for their fantastic efforts.

TGC continues to invest in the course which, after all, is why most of us chose to be members. In 2019 the club bought a rough cutter – affectionately known as "The Beast" –



and a Leaf Collector – or to give it its official name: the Wessex HTC18 High Tip Sweeper Collector.



The resulting excellent condition of the course is hopefully making a difference to your game. There have been many stand-out performances in 2019.

In July club manager Paul Whittaker was the proud winner of the Tim Bull Cup for best net score in the Vets Seniors County Championship.

Meanwhile Stewart Fell's astonishing run of form continued. Not only was he named the Newcastle and District Player of the Season, he also won the Stansfield Medal for the sixth year in a row.



Well done Stew and only another six to go to beat club legend Ian Clark. Time is certainly on his side. Ian took 21 years for his 11 wins.

Meanwhile everybody at the club remains excited about the advance and successes of 14-year-old Freddie McKenna who has had another outstanding year. His handicap was reduced from four to one, making him the lowest handicap under-18 player in the county.

He is now the number one player for Northumberland County Juniors and his list of achievements in 2019 included winning the Graeme Storm Open, becoming champion of Northumberland Schools and finishing fourth in the England Schools Championship. He was also the youngest ever qualifier for the Northumberland Men's County Championship Knock Out competition. TGC congratulates Freddie.



TGC is proud to salute some fine county performances this year. Alongside Freddie, Dan Harrison also represented the county at Junior level. Playing against the South of Scotland at Powfoot GC they were both unbeaten.

Craig Storey and Ian Watt represented the County Seniors team in the match against Yorkshire at the club. It is worth mentioning that they were the only unbeaten Northumberland pairing on the day.

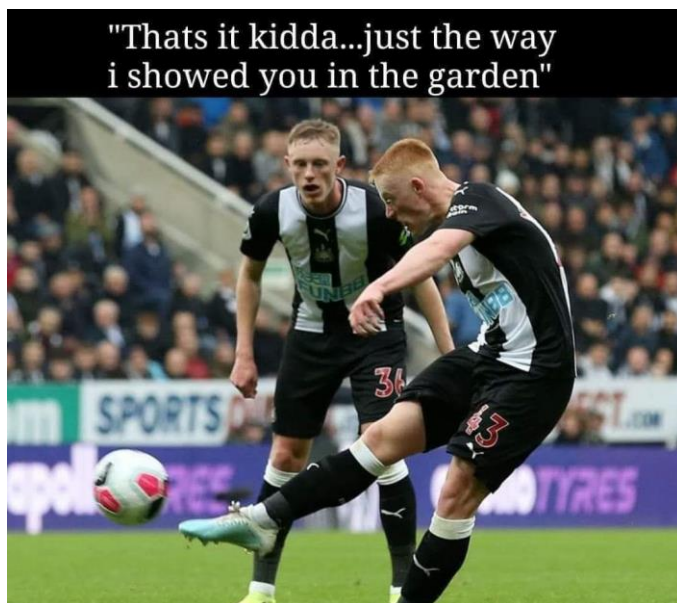


While many golfers can look back on a successful 2019, there are three other members who can reflect on their very public achievements during the year.



Andy Dixon – and his business partner John Paul Gardner – appeared on the BBC's Dragons' Den and secured a £50,000 investment in their healthy snack business.

And Sean and Matty Longstaff burst on the scene at Newcastle, with Matty scoring the Premier League Goal of the Month for October with his stunning winner in his debut against Manchester United.



The cheers from the clubhouse must have been heard all the way to Sunderland. In their media interviews the brothers have been a credit to their family and friends, and Tynemouth Golf Club hopes 2020 is another successful year for Andy, Sean and Matty.

The club looks forward to the new year under the captaincy of Jane Henderson and George Harrison. We are proud to have them as our figureheads and wish them every success.



We would also like to congratulate Gillian Davison on her appointment as vice-captain of the Northumberland County Veteran Ladies' Golf Association. Next year as Captain you will see more "Ladies Vets County" comps/matches at the club.

Finally, in the season of giving, it is appropriate to recognise the generosity of members who every year raise so much money for good causes and also the club itself for allowing the use of its course and facilities by fund-raisers.

Beneficiaries this year have included St Oswald's Hospice, The UK Sepsis Trust, The Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade and Acorns, which is based in North Shields and Supports children affected by domestic violence. We hope the help we provided can make a difference.





*We wish a Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous  
New Year to all members of Tynemouth Golf Club.*

