

# PREFERRED LIES JANUARY 2023



Here we go again. It's that time of year when we all sit down, take stock of our game, and set our golf goals for the year ahead.

Whether you're still squeezing in a few rounds before the year's end or stuck indoors dreaming about your next round, your 2023 golf goals will not be far

from your mind.

## **BUT HOW DO I ACHIEVE MY GOALS??**

### **Write them down**

Something as simple as writing your golf goals down can significantly impact your golf improvement. There's something about putting pen to paper (or finger to phone) which makes it feel like you're forming a binding contract... with yourself.

Put your list of goals somewhere you will see them every day. Maybe your fridge or your phone's home screen. It can provide a powerful reminder when life gets in the way - as it invariably does.

### **Show commitment & work ethic**

You will need to schedule time each week for off-course practice and, where possible, a round or two midweek before your weekend tee-time. Rather than waiting for a window to appear in your week, better results will follow if you stick to a pre-determined schedule.

Good times are ahead if you can make a genuine commitment to work on the different areas of your game.

### **Find what works**

You will know what works best for you in terms of practice and your golf/life balance once you experiment a little. Whether it's a few evenings a week at the range when the kids are in bed, or finding an hour or two on your way home from work - just do you.

## **Get golf lessons**

This one isn't exactly a prerequisite because some of you may prefer to find your way. With that said, one fundamental way to accelerate your golf improvement is to have a pro cast their eye over your golf swing.

If you've never linked in with a golf coach, the start of the year is the perfect time to take the plunge. Their valuable feedback can give you much-needed direction and shape your goals for the coming 12 months.

## **Find Accountability**

Having a buddy you often practice with can make the process more enjoyable. They can bring extra motivation and keep you accountable when improvement has been hard to come by.

You could pledge to both practice three nights a week together, come rain or shine. If you're a little mentally drained after your weekend round, you might need a gentle nudge to keep you honest.

## **Reward yourself**

When you've worked towards a target all year, and it finally arrives, it's essential to mark the occasion. Many successful athletes are clear on the need to give themselves some real kudos for hitting a target.

Feeling proud of your achievements can encourage further goal-setting and create a looping effect towards continued success.

## **But don't get disheartened**

Getting frustrated when you don't hit a goal is only natural, but try not to beat yourself up too much. Your best-laid plans can come undone for various reasons; some may be outside your control. Sing when you're winning, and dust yourself down when you're not.

Remember, there's no such thing as failure; just a lesson learned. If you gave it your all, that's something to be proud of. If you didn't, you'll know why you missed out this time.

## HOLE IN ONE!!

Huge congratulations to our Junior Captain, Ben Carr, who secured a fantastic hole in one on the 3<sup>rd</sup> hole of the Hawkstone Course. A pin point accurate iron shot, which spun back 1 yard past the hole. Ben, with a handicap index of 10.8, scored 74 gross in the recent Sunday medal, an amazing nett 62; consequently winning the competition by 8 shots!



## England Golf

Why not check out their website, which gives information about all England Golf championships and tournaments this coming year (<https://www.EnglandGolf.org/2023-England-Golf-Events>)

Have you activated your My England Golf membership? Check out the many benefits of being a member ([Become a member - England Golf](#))

## Club Repairs

Some golf clubs are loved and cherished, others live more colourful lives. Close encounters with trees, run over by golf carts, you know the thing. A secure hold of the golf club is vital for shot accuracy. If you play 3 or 4 times a month, it is recommended that you get your clubs re-gripped each year.

Fortunately, Lewis Baker (Director of Golf) offers club repair facilities and regripping. Please just pop into the golf shop or email him on: [Lewis.Baker@hawkstone.co.uk](mailto:Lewis.Baker@hawkstone.co.uk)



**GLENMUIR**  
*1891*

### HPGC clothing

Top quality clothing is available at competitive prices to Club members from Glenmuir, a highly reputable manufacturer based in Scotland. It includes standard items such as Polo Shirts and Sweaters in a wide selection of colours and styles in Lambswool, Merino and a new Cotton option.

Whilst all items are shown in detail on the Glenmuir web site at [www.glenmuir.com](http://www.glenmuir.com) a limited number of full colour brochures are also available for your perusal via the Secretary. Any items from the Glenmuir & Sunderland ranges can be ordered. If they are not on the standard HPGC list please ask for a price.

The "Hawkstone Park Golf Club" Crest is kindly loaned to us by agreement with the Hill family, it has unique colours and the design is protected by copyright. Please note, to comply with our agreement, all items that include the Club Crest must be ordered via the Golf Club Secretary.

## 2023 RULES OF GOLF NOW IN EFFECT



The 2023 Rules of Golf are now in effect. Please take time to familiarise yourself with the key changes. The R&A have numerous videos, infographics and articles explaining each of the changes in detail which can be found on their website or on the Rules of Golf app, both of which you can access by clicking the buttons below. These are great resources to also pass onto your members.

[Rules Hub \(randa.org\)](http://randa.org)

[Rules of Golf App \(randa.org\)](http://randa.org)

[Find out more about the Rules changes](#)

[Download Rules of Golf app](#)

If any of you missed the snow in your area in January – this is where it was .... on the golf course!!!

Snowy conditions for January (one reason why it was closed for a week!!)





## BURNS NIGHT (Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January) ...

With scotch in hand, Ken MacGillivray approached the podium in the Waterloo Suite adjusted the microphone and proclaimed the Ode Tae a Haggis.

“Fair fa’ your honest, sonsie face, Great chieftain o the puddin’-race!” he exclaimed in the Scots dialect of poet Robert Burns, wielding his haggis knife. “O what a glorious sight, Warm-reekin, rich!”

As servers came round to tables with haggis warm and fragrant, and piper Eric Harrison played a bagpipe accompaniment, the golf club’s Burns Night tradition kicked off last Friday evening with around 70 members enjoying the festivities.



## QUALIFYING SCORES

### AUTUMN SHORT COURSES –Non qualifying for handicap purposes

Given the current set up for both courses at Hawkstone which include preferred lies in the general area, multiple temporary greens combined with forward tee markers; acceptable scores cannot be submitted as a player or as a marker as a qualifying score in either a casual round or a competition round until further notice.

### Looking After the Course

To help maintain the course in good condition during the winter and for your own safety:

- Try to keep to the paths where possible and avoid walking through muddy areas. Please keep trollies and buggies away from steep slopes and wet areas.
- Do not take trollies and buggies within **3 metres** of a putting green. This generally means taking buggies and trolleys on the outside of bunkers rather than between the bunker and the green.
- Consider if you can use a carry-bag rather than a trolley or buggy.

### Dates for your diary .....

Annual General Meeting – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Waterloo Suite – 7.30pm

Captains Drive In Competition – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Shotgun start 9.30am

HPGC 2 Day Mixed Golf competition - Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>/Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Captains Away Day – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June (Eaton Golf Club)

Senior Captains Away Day – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August (South Staffs GC)



### FOMO?

Then why not go to [hpgcgolf.com](http://hpgcgolf.com)—for your ‘hole’ golfing needs. Everything you need all in one place to make sure you don’t miss out on any golf and social events. Why not make your New Year’s Resolution to get your ‘mug shot’ on the 2023 Trophy Winners page! Need information on any County events—check out the website. Need information on our Opens in 2023 —

check out the website. Need information on any 2023 fixtures – check out the website. Hard copies of the 2023 diary will be available on renewal of golf club dues during March.