

PREFERRED LIES DECEMBER 2022



Golf is the most addictive, frustrating, exasperating, infuriating, vexing, brilliant, dispiriting, demoralizing, disheartening, superb, glorious, remarkable, superior sport ever played.

Participation in golf across the UK and Ireland is continuing to surge, according to new figures. Data released by BRS Golf shows the number of rounds played in the first nine months of this year is 81% higher than 2019.

It also shows year-on-year growth against both 2020 and 2021, although both included Covid-19 lockdowns which stopped play in some parts of the UK.

The number of rounds booked through BRS between January and September was 19.6million, compared to 8.7million in the whole of 2019.

So here is a review of 2022 in the life of Hawkstone Park Golf Club ...

January saw a slow start to the year at the golf course with conditions meaning that there was a 'carry only' policy on the course.



Go play golf.
Go to the golf course.
Hit the ball.
Find the ball.
Repeat until the ball is in the hole.
Have fun.
The end.
- Chuck Hogan

Captains 2022 – Drive In

Our annual Captains' drive-in was held on Sunday, February 6th in front of a great turnout of members and family who were there to give our Captains terrific support for the start of their new year.

With the wet weather not dampening their spirits, they all 'drove into office' with thunderous applause!

Ladies Spring Competition – Monday 21st March

It was wonderful to see 30 ladies playing 9 holes at our 'all prizes Spring Meeting' on Monday. Format was Individual Stableford and congratulations to the winners: Gina Chesters (Division 1) and Janet Sadler (Division 2.) With an extremely warm, balmy day it was fantastic on the Hawkstone Course with greens that had been recently ironed.



CAPTAINS CHARITY COMPETITION



Sunday 10th April saw 74 fellow members join Captain Ian and Lady Captain Cheryl for the annual Captains' Charity competition. The event was a resounding success with over £600 raised on the day for their joint charities, the Renal Unit at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and The Samaritans. Ian and Cheryl would like to thank members for their amazing generosity, with hole sponsorships, golf & raffle prizes and donations on the day.

Captain v President – Saturday 23rd April:

Hawkstone Park Golf Club members played the annual match between the President's team and the Captains' team. With 16 teams on each side, it is always a highly competitive match for the Millenium Trophy which was presented by Past President Dale Benbow. This year the Presidents team won. CONGRATULATIONS PRESIDENT DAVE AND HIS TEAM!!



CAPTAINS AWAY DAY – May 2022

Over 50 members enjoyed a fabulous day of golf over a testing and scenic course. With goody bags and prizes galore, a fantastic day out was had by all.

KEN SMITH COUNTY TROPHY – WINNERS 2021/22

It was great to see the Hawkstone Park mens scratch team win the final of the County Ken Smith trophy with an outstanding result against Ludlow two games won and one halved 6 holes up overall.



2022 COUNTY GOLF TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP (THE SHROPSHIRE STAR TEAM TROPHY)

18th May saw Hawkstone Park host the annual County Golf Team Championship.

18 teams all over the County entered a team of 4 players. Finishing a very respectable third in the competition was: Robin Mackness, Nick Roberts, James Greaves and Terry Nutt.



QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE SOCIAL

Many members and friends enjoyed a 10 hole competition and social get together celebrating the Jubilee weekend. Thank you to House & Social for organising and members who brought food.



Lady Captains Day – June 2022



Lady members enjoyed a special day with Lady Captain Cheryl Greaves on 13th June. The sun decided to make an appearance for the day and we were all treated to some fabulous 'nibbles' courtesy of Caroline Hollins on the 12th tee. Annie breakwell took the Lady Captains prize with a fantastic score of 43 points, reducing her handicap in the process.

PRESIDENTS DAY – Dave Greaves

My second Presidents day got off to an early start. I was at the Club by 5.30am, it was a lovely morning and I saw the sun rise over the follies. Just bird song a few rabbits and me. First job to see if the Gazebo was still standing. It was just about but needed adjustment so I lowered it in the hope that it wouldn't blow away. (It did in the end even with Cheryl, Julie, Freddie and Bethany hanging on to it). Thanks to family, friends & members for working so hard to make the day special.

Play started at 7am dry but windy. A massive thank you to all that played and helped me enjoy my day. It was a good test of golf with fast greens and wind. However as you can see from the results not all found it that hard with some great scoring. Congratulations to all the winners, but especially to Past Lady Captain Wendy winning the Presidents putter and prize.



I had an unusual nearest the pin prize of a sports car for a weekend Sponsored by Furrows. A good shot stood for most of the day. However the last but one player (Jordan Evans) got inside it, only to be beaten by the last player to play on the day Nigel Ross.

The day was completed with the presentation and excellent meal.

Thanks again for making it so special

Dave

President 2021-22

CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE (Captains Day July 2022)

On Saturday 23rd July over 100 members and guests played in the annual Captain's Day, which has been the highlight of my year in office so far. In the evening over 60 members with family and friends enjoyed a 'taste of the seaside' meal at the prize presentation and really entered into the spirit of the occasion. I would like to thank the many members for their kind support and well wishes and in particular to my wife Jane and her band of merry helpers (Rosemay Hampson, Beverley & John Holmwood and not forgetting my daughter Fiona with new Grandson Jude), for their preparations and manning of the 'Halfway House', that received so many positive comments.



Congratulations to all prize winners and thank you for all of the raffle contributions and tickets purchased that resulted in over £450 raised for Cheryl and my Captain's charities.

Lady Captains Away Day – Llangollen Golf Club

30 lady members travelled to Llangollen on Monday 25th July to play in their Open and celebrate Lady Captains Away Day. A good day was had by all and fortunately the weather was just about kind to us all. Winning team from Hawkstone was Jane Williams, Elizabeth Gatenby and Brenda Harrington with 81 points (and none of them had played the course before! – well done!)



LADIES INVITATION DAY – MONDAY 22nd AUGUST

Approximately 50 ladies and guests enjoyed a fabulous day last Monday. Even the slightly damp weather couldn't dampen the friendship and playing our fabulous course everyone had a fantastic time.



Friendly match v Church Stretton – September

Captain Ian holding 'The Ashes' which was brought back to Hawkstone when the recent friendly match was won by HPGC.

Hawkstone Park were recently proud to host the County Ladies Centenary Competition which attracted a huge field of over 150 County lady members. Organising the day was Sheila Parker and Lady Captain Cheryl Greaves and Hawkstone ladies were the winners on the day. Well done to the team of Vice Lady Captain Angela Boxall, Issi Brisbane, Liz Dutton & Angela Gwilt.



We send our congratulations to Lady Captain Cheryl who been voted in as the 2023-24 President for The Society of Shropshire Lady Golf Captains. This is not only a great honour for Cheryl, but also Hawkstone Park Golf Club.

80 golfers recently competed for the Seniors' Slate at Aberdoverly Golf Club on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st October, a 36 hole scratch stableford competition. The scoring was favourable on day 1 with very little wind, but day 2 presented a little more of a challenge! Congratlutions to Nigel Chesters who finished 3rd overall with a total overall of 70.

Congratulations also to Keith Forster who was the winner in Category B with a total of 68 and Nick Roberts who finished 12th with a total score of 65.



LADIES HALLOWEEN HOOT TEXAS SCRAMBLE – OCTOBER 2022

Spooky!!



Ladies Golf News ...

The ladies reached the last 16 nationally of the Annodata Classic, finally being beaten by Cleckheaton Golf Club away.

The ladies reached the final of the County Ladies Handicap League, sadly being beaten by Bridgnorth Golf Club.

2022 SENIORS MEMORIAL DAY ON 25TH OCTOBER – Gerry Whitby (Organiser)

The annual Shot Gun, Texas Scramble was held on a warm sunny day and enjoyed by 48 members of our club.

The golf scores on the day were good and the winning team was that of **ALLEN EVANS** and represented by Paul Tenneson, Amir Razvi, Dave Samuel and Richard Williams with a score of 56.0.

This year we raised £175 for the Club Captain's Charity.



CHRISTMAS TEAM TEXAS SCRAMBLE – Sunday 27th November

On a surprisingly warm Sunday morning, 60 members turned out to play the annual mixed team Texas scramble. The course was in extremely good condition, with the greens playing very good for the winter period. There were some fabulous scores from all groups, and an amazing score of nett 48 was the winning score. The team was: Helen Apperley, Steve Clifford, Keith Marsh & Martin Lloyd.



TURKEY SHOOT – Sunday 11th December

What a winter wonderland out on the Hawkstone Course for the Annual Turkey Shoot, braved by lots of members trying to win their Christmas lunch! The winners of each division were:



Ladies – Gina Chesters

Division 1 – Stewart Mills

Division 2 – Dave Ralphs

Division 3 – Paul Harris

Whist playing in the Seniors stableford competition on the 29th November, the incoming Seniors Captain Barry Loynes had a hole in one on the 3rd hole on the Hawkstone Course. Barry hit a 7 iron which flew the ball right into the hole and unfortunately broke the protective plastic lip. In true tradition, Barry made sure everyone had a drink on his behalf to celebrate his achievement. Well done Barry.



Ladies Xmas Cracker Competition

With the course being quite 'solid', the ladies met on their usual Monday morning and enjoyed a '12 Days of Christmas Quiz' with mince pies and festive cheer.



The year was 'rounded off' with 134 members and guests attended this year's Annual Dinner & Prize Presentation. From all the comments received the overwhelming consensus is that the night was a huge success with excellent service from the staff of HP Ltd. Entertainment was also 'first rate' with singing from a local vintage trio The BlueBird Belles, who certainly made sure that lots of 'toe-tapping' was seen with also 'twisting and hand-jiving' being very popular!



Captain Ian thanked the and House & Social Sub-Committee for organising such a wonderful evening. The deserving winners enjoyed receiving their trophies – thanks again to our hard working Ladies for ensuring every Cup, Bowl and Shield were in sparkling condition. Well done also to Candice Danleigh who correctly guessed the length of

the Captains speech; we also raised approximately £160 for the Captains Charity from generous members and friends who guessed the length of the speech.

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day."

