



Ladies Section

NEWSLETTER - November 2011

Christmas

The Clubhouse is looking very festive now that the Christmas decorations have been put up, heralding the countdown to the big day, and there is so much going on during the next few weeks that it will be time to hang up your stocking before you know where you are. You could go to the Club for a tasty Christmas meal; buy cards and gifts at the Christmas Coffee Morning; purchase draw tickets giving you a chance to win a wonderful prize; have a ball at the Golf Club Annual Dinner and Dance; exercise your brain at a Quiz Night; bag some bargains in the Pro Shop Christmas Special; or even just play golf!

So much for next month, what about the one that has just ended? Read on and all will be revealed!

County / EWGA News

The Club Secretary, the Ladies' Handicap Secretary and the Ladies' Honorary Secretary attended a seminar entitled CONGU Unified Handicapping System (UHS) and Rules of Amateur Status 'Changes 2012 - 2015' at Exeter Golf and Country Club on Tuesday 8th November run by James Crampton, the SSS and Handicap Manager from the EGU. It was a long meeting lasting three hours during which time numerous points were covered relating to the subject matter. This information will be disseminated to members in due course.

At simultaneous meetings on 16th November the EGU and EWGA voted on their proposed merger with the result that the proposal was approved. This means that on January 1st 2012 the two separate organisations will become one under the new title of England Golf, one national governing body representing all amateur golfers in England.

Vonnie Evans, our Ladies' Captain and Dorothy Jefferson, our County representative, attended the annual Delegates' Meeting of Devon County Ladies' Golf Association at Exeter Golf and Country Club on 18th November, when nominations for officers of the Committee were approved, proposed amendments to the constitution were accepted and five recommendations sent in by different clubs were discussed.

Mixed Competition

The annual mixed Bottle Competition was played on Sunday 13th November in fine, mild conditions, which made a welcome change, as more often than not the weather for this particular fixture can be decidedly inclement, sometimes resulting in it not being played until as late as the following February. Forty two couples participated in the foursome stableford hoping that they would score well enough to win one of the bottles that made up the sixteen prizes. The top six pairs were as follows: 1st - Kara Bridgeman & Steve Thorne 42 pts / 2nd - Philippa Affleck & Tony Brinsley 39 pts

/ 3rd – Alison & Mark Pillar 39 pts / 4th – Sheelagh Dean & Barry Long 38 pts / 5th – Trudie & Peter Cross 38 pts / 6th – Jacqui & Alex Rowe 38 pts. Considering the format had been foursomes and playing conditions were no longer what one might experience during the summer months, scoring overall proved to be good with 34 points attained by Claire Carey and Pete Jeffrey achieving 16th place.

Winter Knock-Out

A Winter Knock-Out competition is being trialled this year and will become a regular feature in the annual programme of competitions depending on how successful it proves to be, but so far so good. The top sixteen ladies in the final medal played on 4th October, who wished to qualify, were entered into the knock-out draw. The first round has already been played, and the second round should be completed by 6th December. The intention is for the final to be played by the end of January 2012, so that the cup can be presented at the AGM in February.

Winter League

The Winter League has been well supported this year with twenty five ladies entering, a number of whom only took up golf in 2011. There are four divisions three of which have six ladies each and one which has seven. All those involved need to have completed their matches (singles match play / full handicap difference – 2 points for a win and 1 for a draw) within their division by the end of March 2012. The semi-finals between the winners of each division will take place during the first two weeks in April and the final during the last two weeks of the same month. The beauty of the Winter League is that it enables competitors to hone their match play skills over the winter ready for the start of the new playing season in 2012.

Ladies' Locker Room

The refurbishment of the Ladies' Changing Room has now got the thumbs up from the Board, so it will be all systems go in the not too distant future. The plan is for all lockers to be emptied by Friday 13th January 2012. After that the metal lockers will be removed, new lighting will be installed, the walls painted and new carpeting fitted, before the new wooden lockers arrive, are assembled and put in place. It anticipated that all this work will be completed by Tuesday 31st January 2012, as long as everything goes according to plan. All ladies who currently have a locker will be sent a letter explaining the situation regarding the allocation of the new lockers. Attached pro formas need to be completed and returned as soon as possible, so that those ladies who do not have a locker at present can then be contacted.

Torquay Golf Club Past Ladies' Captains Society

Twenty three out of the current twenty seven members of the Past Ladies' Captains Society sat down to lunch on Thursday 24th November to celebrate their Autumn Meeting. Prior to the meal eleven of the ladies had played a stableford competition over eleven holes, in pleasant conditions, after which followed the Society's AGM, chaired by the outgoing Captain of the Captains, Gill Balsdon. Once the ladies had been well fed and watered Gill proceeded to pass on some information she had discovered regarding the Society's history, in particular that it had been formed in 1981 and three of the original members (Wendy Cornelius, Dorothy Dickinson and Ngaire Lang) were amongst the assembled company. Not only that, but Gill had also discovered a secret nonagenarian - in September Wendy Cornelius had achieved this milestone unbeknown to

anyone, though her attempts to keep this news quiet eventually proved unsuccessful. She was presented with a bunch of flowers to wish her a belated Happy Birthday and granted honorary membership of the Club by the Board of Directors, which was announced on their behalf by Joy Prail. Wendy was understandably overcome by all this attention. The Autumn meeting ended with Gill Balsdon announcing the winner of the morning's eleven hole stableford competition which was Joy Prail who scored twenty one points, and then the Captaincy was passed on to Maggie Coxill for the next twelve months.

Devon Lady Captains' Golf Society

Past Ladies' Captains from across the County descended on Teignmouth for their Autumn meeting (a greensome off three quarters handicap) plus AGM on Thursday 13th October. Sadly it was not possible to play any golf as the course was obliterated by a blanket of fog which would not disperse despite the start being delayed in the hope that it might. When it was obvious that this wait was futile the society's officials decided to hold the AGM so that everyone could then go home. It was a pity that the end of Verena Richards' captaincy proved somewhat of an anticlimax due to the fog. The meeting concluded with Sue Pearman, who took over as Captain of the D.L.C.G.S. for the next twelve months, explaining her vision for the future of the Society.

Rule of the Month

Now that winter has arrived golfers need a little bit of help in order to cope with the adverse conditions that can be experienced at this time of year so "Preferred Lies" or "Winter Rules" may be introduced by the Committee in order to grant relief, which come under the heading of temporary Local Rule. There is always some confusion over what exactly this entails so hopefully the following explanation will clarify the situation. Relief can be taken either from "closely mown areas" (any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less) or "through the green" (anywhere on the course except in a hazard) depending on what is specified on the notice board by the first tee on any particular day. To take relief a player must first mark their ball before lifting and cleaning it, after which it can be placed (only once) within six inches of the marker, no nearer the hole. If in doubt refer to page 128 in the new "Rules of Golf 2012 – 2015."

Weekly Competitions

Tuesday 1st November – Captain v Secretary Match

The Captain's Team beat the Secretary's Team 8-7

Tuesday 8th November – County Stableford

Division 1 – Sue Bradford 24 / Claire Carey 23 / Sue Wood 22 / Anna Balfour 21

Division 2 – Ann Fisher 31 / June O'Dwyer 27 / Sue Slater 23 / Cora McCauly 23

Division 3 – Hayley Ratcliff 26 / Jan Spencer 24 / Anne Needham 22

Tuesday 15th November – Fun Competition (Gruesome Greensome!)

(A competition whereby the second shot on each hole is taken from the worse position of the two drives, as chosen by one's playing opponents!)

1st – Maxine Adams & Susie Brinsley 25 pts

2nd – Barbara Hele & Anne Needham 25 pts

3rd – Val Banks & Jan White 24 pts

4th – Gisa Ellis & Libby Porter 23 pts

5th – Roz Wood & Hilary Bray 23 pts

6th – Susan Baxter & Toni Jones 21 pts

Tuesday 22nd November – Stableford

Division 1 – Nicole Simonetti 30/ Charlotte Dommett 28/ Claire Carey 28/ Chris Lester 27

Division 2 – Philippa Affleck 29/ Caroline Smith 27/ Ann Fisher 27/ Jackie Lovering 26

Division 3 – Hayley Ratcliff 27/ Val Banks 25/ Jacqui Rowe 21/ Anne Needham 21

Tuesday 29th November – Team Competition - Captain / Pro Challenge

Unfortunately this competition had to be cancelled due to inclement weather conditions, but hopefully it will be rescheduled in the New Year, before the present Ladies' Captain comes to the end of her term of office.

Forthcoming Events in December:

1st – Senior Ladies Christmas Competition and Lunch

2nd – Christmas Coffee Morning

3rd – Torquay Golf Club Annual Dinner & Dance at the Palace Hotel

4th – Mixed Competition

6th – County Stableford / Deadline for 2nd round of Winter Knock-Out

7th – Evening Bridge

9th – Ladies Christmas Dinner

13th – Ladies Christmas Competition / Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

14th – Evening Bridge

15th – Quiz Night

17th – Party Night

23rd – Christmas Draw Night

31st – New Year's Eve Party

Please note: The 2012 Club Diaries are now ready for collection from the bar.



“MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR”