

New Members

Any new member who is having difficulty getting a regular game with other members is encouraged to approach the Club Professionals & General Manager or any member of the Management Committee or Golf Council for advice and assistance.

New Members Day

Another highly successful and well attended new members day was held on the 1st of June. Thanks to the high number of new members who attended on what was a fun afternoons golf.....next year we will try and organise slightly better weather for the event though!!

Captain's Comments

After the record amount of rain that we had early in the year, it has been wonderful to have such a prolonged good spell (touch wood) and the courses are looking great. As HPGC is quite high up, the growth on the greens and fairways is later than our lower lying neighbours but as usual the greens from June onwards are looking good.

Hilton Park is continuing to attract significant numbers of new members on the back of our enhanced reputation and the sensible deals on offer. One thing all members need to do is to try and ensure that new members are made welcome and are able to get playing partners.

As our finances are well in line with budget, the good news is that we are proceeding with the installation of new gents lockers as approved at the AGM. This will occur in late October/November and details will be published nearer the time. I am hopeful that we will then be able to proceed with the ladies lockers next year and this will be an item for this year's AGM.

Medals

The initial success of the Touch Screen Terminals (TST's) for gent's tee sheet bookings was hampered by computer gremlins for the 3rd Qualifier held on 31st May. Unfortunately a computer malfunction caused changes to the tee time slots resulting in some confusion and annoyance on the day of the medal. We apologise to anyone who was inconvenienced. The problem has been fixed and we are hopeful that similar difficulties will not occur in the future.

The ladies, who use a balloted system for medal entrants, are currently testing the TST tee sheet booking system and, all being well, will be introducing similar procedures in the near future.

Competition Results

Congratulations to John Stevens and Ian Easdale on winning the Winter Fourball Competition by defeating John Stuart and Gordon Hynd in the final.

In the Jessiman Trophy , Hilton Park recently defeated Douglas Park to progress to the quarter final of the competition where we shall be away to either Ralston or Clober.

The Spring outing to Aberdour was blessed once again with very good weather and was well supported with thirteen teams contesting the Donald Law Trophy. Scores were extremely close with the eventual winners being Iain Orr , Bert Friar and Jim Morland. Special thanks must go to Graham McDerment who, despite being incapacitated due to serious injury, organised the entire event. Well done Graham and make a speedy return to playing



EPITAPH

It is with sadness that we have to announce the death of Mrs J L Moffat a former Lady Captain of the club. Toni, as she was more affectionately known was a member for many years and was involved in Scottish women's amateur golf for more than 50 years. A vice president of the Scottish Ladies Golfing Association Toni was Aberdeenshire Ladies County Golf Association president from 1992/1993. She played golf to county standard over four decades, twice winning the Aberdeenshire title.

Greens

Stuart Neil and the Green Staff have been up against difficult weather conditions this winter, however they have still managed to do a great deal of work to improve the conditions of the courses. Both courses are continuing to improve year on year and I am sure that everyone agrees Stuart and his team are doing a great job. If you would like to see what has been achieved on the courses through the winter, please see the notice board in the main lounge.



Stuart's up to his knees in it!!

Score Cards

Notes for guidance on the information required on score cards have been posted on the spikes bar notice board and adjacent to the TST in the main hallway. Whilst the computer system is a great help to the handicap volunteers it does not do everything. The cards need to be sorted by hand and checked against the computer's records to ensure that no cards are missing and that all scores have been correctly entered into the system. The inclusion of total scores, including stableford points when appropriate, reduces the time spent on the sorting process and your assistance with the provision of this information on the score cards will be greatly appreciated

Ladies Competition Results

The Ladies' competition season is now well under way, after initial weather problems in April. Congratulations are due to the following outstanding winners:

Audrey Gardiner for a net 63 in the Spring Meeting on 26th April

Oona Boyce for winning the Ladies' McCondichie Quaich with 42 points on 27th April

Bridie McNaughton for winning the SLGA Brooch with a net 59 (yes, 59) in the May Medal on 10th May.

Also in the May Medal the Medals Finals Thomlinson Medal was won by Anne Cumberland.

Lastly in the May Medal there were four silver players with 2s, three at par 3s, but Christina MacPherson managed it at the 10th!

Junior Boys

A very big thank you to the new boy's convener for 2008, Ray Colquhoun for taking on the role. David Mulholland is looking after the boys medals

Also, we now have a group who will help with the Boys' team matches, namely Malcolm McKidd, David Young, Matt Duncan, Charles Kinsey, John Hughes, and Ian Murray. I am sure we all agree that the support from all above at the grass roots of the club is very much appreciated.

Slow Play

Despite notices on golf etiquette on slow play being posted in the clubhouse, the problem is continuing to bedevil play in medals and bounce games. Please try to follow the hints and guidelines suggested in the notices and cut out slow play.

Remember, try to keep up with the game in front and not simply ahead of the game behind as this can create a backlog for the following field of players.

