



OAKMERE

Oakmere Park Golf Club

Club Newsletter

September 2018

Daryl St John-Jones Director of Golf

We have had a very interesting year for golf courses in the UK. We've had floods, snow and the longest, hottest drought since 1976. The upside of the drought was the courses played very short yet the greens were holding, which resulted in low scores. The downside is the damage done to the fairways. Hopefully they should make a full recovery although all other courses are in the same boat and time and rain will heal all.

This September we begin to construct the new 14th green on the Admirals course to complete the Mackenzie & Ebert project.

This year we have also contracted David Stansfield, agronomist, to advise us on the courses this season and have made a number of tweaks to the course maintenance program, following his guidelines. David has advised 60 of the top 100 courses in the UK. One of the changes which made an immediate impact was the purchase of a dedicated rolling machine so the greens get ironed/rolled regularly after cutting. This has given us smoother and quicker surfaces this summer. Unfortunately we have had a lot of scarring on the Admirals greens. 2 reasons, firstly we extended the size of the greens in April which scalped them around the green edges in places. These have begun to thicken up and eventually have complete coverage. Secondly we have had 2 hydraulic leaks which burn the greens. Unfortunately this happened when it was pouring with rain and in the dark and was un-noticed whilst mowing. Although unsightly they wont impact the playability of the greens and will be cored out this Autumn and dressed. We will also be re-turfing any damaged tees this winter which are subject to poor recovery due to tree shade.

Now that the construction phase has almost completed our Greenstaff will be able to concentrate on the finer detail of winter maintenance which has had to take a back seat the last 5 years.

One of my objectives is to reinforce our reputation as the best winter course in Notts. Last year was exceptional and a number of areas looked tired and worn. This winter they will be getting the attention they need to make sure we have a dry tidy walking area regardless of what the winter throws at us.

Wishing you all a great winter season and long may this warm weather continue.

Derrick Farthing Admirals Club Captain

Thank you to everyone that supported the four main Captain's events this year. The Joint Captains Day on 16th June had a shotgun start with 89 players, a bouncy helter-skelter and face painting for the kids and a BBQ. The total raised for charity was £449.



The Captain's Away Day on 13th July was at Burton on Trent GC this year. The weather was kind and this was a 27 hole golf day. Congratulations to our Away Day Champion Mr Colin Walkden.

The Captain's Away Weekend was 22nd and 23rd of July at Patshull Park. The weather was dry and very hot. The course and facilities were thought well of by the players. Congratulations to our Away Weekend Champion Mr Phil Cooper.

We held a Captain's Charity Day on 11th August at Oakmere and had good weather, generous donations to the charity collection buckets and good golf scores. Our winners were Richard and Sue Baxter, with 43 points, who received £100 each and a place at the Prostate Cancer UK Golf Championships at Sandy Lodge 10th September.

Thank you also to those players that gave their time and talents to represent Oakmere in the John Harrison Summer League this year. In the end we came fourth with

Mapperley and Southwell going through to the playoff for the Trophy later in the year. Also, thanks to the Scratch and Foursomes teams players who have represented us well this year.

Finally, the future of golf is looking healthy. The Nippers Tour fixture took place at Oakmere on 24th June, played on the Commanders course, age range under 12s and what a high standard of golf and etiquette from such young people!

Sylvia Thomson Club Lady Captain

With most of June and July has been exceptionally hot as well as ladies being away on holiday there have only been a few brave ladies playing golf.

Our Mixed Interclub team have reached the semi finals which will be played at Wollaton Park golf club on Monday 6 August. Good luck to you all enjoy.

However, my Lady Captain's Day was exceptionally well supported with 27 ladies playing golf (although 3 only played 9 holes including myself!). It was one of the hottest days of the summer and my admiration for the 24 ladies who played the full 18 holes is immense.

Thanks must also go to Pattie and Irene for looking after us at the half way house with tea, coffee, cold drinks and a wonderful selection of cakes. My son Brian drove round the course with bottles of water and bananas to make sure everyone managed to stay reasonably hydrated, closely followed by Lucy taking photos of you all.

The winners were:-

- 1st Prize Yan Tjon
- 2nd Prize S L Tang
- 3rd Prize Sui Kwan Tang
- 4th Prize S W Yau
- Nearest the Pin 8th Pat Wilcox
- Nearest the Pine in 2 12th Julie Walkden
- Longest Drive 11th Josie Bailey

The golf was followed by an excellent meal to which 33 ladies joined me including the Captain's wife Di Farthing, my 2 daughters in law Jane and Sue and my granddaughter Lucy. We had a raffle which raised £106 for our charity – thank you to all who contributed.

I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful gifts I received on the day that was most unexpected. Finally I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make my Captain's day such a memorable one.

On Thursday 26 July we played 9 holes followed by scones, jam and cream and tea/coffee. This was followed with an open meeting to discuss the way forward for Admiral Ladies as we are struggling with ladies volunteering for committee and captaincy. Various options were discussed but no decisions were made.

Womens Golf

It has been a great summer with more girls&women getting into golf at Oakmere through our SheCanGolf and GirlsGolfRocks groups fore! beginners & returners. Please see below for the upcoming dates and times for SheCanGolf:

- SheCanGolf – beginners & returners group for girls, women & family groups at Oakmere – call/text Jamie Jarvis – 07515 817683*
- Thursday – 'Get into Golf' group lesson 6 -7pm £5hr wear comfy clothing – all golf equipment provided if needed*
- Saturday 3 - 4.30pm £8pp - equipment provided if needed*
- 3 hole 'On the Course lesson with Jamie Jarvis coaching' ... then with the option to stay&play - 9 holes together*
- Sunday afternoon - SocialGolf - fore! beginners & returners*
- SheCanGolf '9 hole fun competition with prizes! - call/text Jamie Jarvis – 07515 817683 to book your place*
- GirlsGolfRocks Group - fore! girls aged 5 – 18years*
- Sunday 11am - 12 5 group sessions - £25 to book...*
- GirlsGolfRocks group sessions - Jamie Jarvis – 07515 817683*

'Get involved to

help to grow Girls & Women & Family Golf at Oakmere' -

**Share the SheCanGolf & GirlsGolfRocks group lesson times with friends & family members*

**Book a school/college group, a workplace group or sports/leisure group of friends for a 'Friends SheCanGolf Group Golf Session' with Jamie Jarvis - call/text Jamie Jarvis 07515 817683*

**Call/text Lesley Penman or Alisa Baguley to find out their views of being part of the SheCanGolf beginners & returners group & for your interest in sponsoring the 'Get into Golf' groups at Oakmere Call/text - Lesley - 07740 772136 Alisa - 07825 875677*

**to read the SheCanGolf Newsletter - 'hit' the Academy link & then the SheCanGolf logo on the Oakmere website & to follow & join in the conversation on the SheCanGolf - facebook link.....*

Gary Oscroft Admirals Secretary

All last winters course work is completed and in play' the exception being the new 14th green which will be constructed this September and in play in 2019. Dependent upon size of construction site we will either use the 13th hole as normal but then walk down to the new tee which will become a par 3 or play over the new green to the existing green. Watch this space for progress updates.

The course will be re-classified in 2019 when all the outstanding course work is finally completed and the new 14th Green will be in play.

Regarding GPS updates for the alterations to the Admirals Course I have been in contact with both 'Sky Caddie' and 'Garmin' with a view to updating their GPS course layout so that the new 7th and 8th Greens will be shown with correct yardages on the GPS displays.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind members of the impending introduction of the new rules on golf in January 2019. If you go onto the R&A website your will be able to view videos which explain the new rules. It is also my intention to run some workshops in November through which I can explain the new rules and answer questions. I am attending an England Golf workshop on the 1st November at the Nottinghamshire Golf Club at which time I will receive the latest update about the changes.

I hope you are all enjoying your golf with this glorious weather we have been experiencing recently.

Alan Hall Admirals Seniors Organizer

Since our last Newsletter the Seniors Section has gone through its usual busy period, and with the hot weather continuing throughout it has been an excellent time to play golf, our friendly matches continued where we Beat Carholm at home 6-0, Shirland at Home 5-1, had a narrow 4 1/2 - 3 1/2 victory in our 1st of our Tri Series matches against out very close neighbours The Commanders, Beat Trent Lock at Home by 117 pts to 97, Beat a very strong Springwater side by 5 1/2 - 1/2 and Drew with Norwood Away 3 -3 then drew at Southwell 3 - 3 before beating Norwood at home 4 -2. Nigel Richardson took a team of 12 seniors to play in this year's Small Beers Trophy at Carholm where we finished a gallant 2nd to winners Carholm. In the Taskers Interclub Competition 3rd round our B team lost to Burton on Trent A at home 2 - 5. Our A team in the Plate had a fantastic win away against Mapperley A winning 5 1/2 to 1 1/2, in the 4th round Plate the A team were beaten at Asbourne A 5 - 2. Our Seniors Monday Competitions have drawn above average attendances over the hot period with many Mondays having over 36 members taking part, our Summer Eclectic had to be cut short to 3 rounds due to the course changes, so we Started again with the Eclectic Trophy which will be 7 rounds, at beginning of July we had our Monthly Medal Final 2018 which was won by John Kenton with Nett 68. We have started the Medal qualifiers for 2019 and Steve Lee and P Turner are our first qualifiers. Also in August we had our Veterans medal Trophy which was won by Peter Turner with a Nett 60, (gross 88). We have also been entertained by a mixture of team comps of Traffic Light, Waltzs and Texas Scrambles, also 2 from 3 and 3 from 4 Stablefords some which were attended by the Ladies Seniors.

On Thursday 16th August 32 senior members went to the Nottinghamshire "signature" course for their away day. After the usual Coffee an bacon cob (fried egg for vegetarians) the event competitions on the day were Singles competition and 2 from 4 STB Team competition, the day, after some morning cloud was bathed in lovely sunshine and the course looked well after overnight rain, after the round we had our 2 course meal, which was followed by the presentation, the winners of the team event with a Team score of 93 (on last 6 countback) were Colin Ralphs, Terry Craggs, Hugh Thomas and Frank Harris. The overall Singles winner was John Kenton with 43pts. Seen in the photo being presented by Oakmeres past Captain Roger Allen. Our big Seniors competition was our Seniors Open on Monday September 3rd, where 30 pairings contested a close



competition. First place went to Oakmeres Terry Craggs & Colin Quickfall with 50pts, 2nd from Norwood Park was M.Fletcher & M.Marriott with 45 pts on countback from Oakmeres Geof.Benson & Alan.Kemp on 45pts, and 4th were Oakmeres Alan Hall & Roger Allen on countback with 44 pts, well done to all who took part.

Terry Craggs & Colin Quickfall with Club vice-Captain Michael Douglas who presented the Seniors Open Trophy to the winners.

Our next big competition on the horizon is our Christmas Lunch and Competition, which this year will be held on Monday 17th December, the entry sheet and Menu will be published and put on the notice board in the near future.

WINTER CHANGE, this year our Monday Winter Competition Tee times will be changing, basically to give us more light, less fog and frost and hopefully encourage new seniors to give it a go, we will also revert, in Winter to Front 9 and Back 9 TEE starts, and hopefully by January with new

rules to speed up play this will also help the length of time for your round. For winter competitions from 5th November till February 18th 2019 we will be meeting in the spike bar from 8am with the draw around 8.30am and first tees around 8.42.

For the benefit of any members new to the club and any members who have reached the qualifying age, the Seniors Section is open to Admirals Members who have reached the age of 55. In SUMMER we meet in the spike bar every Monday morning(except bank holidays) between 07.30 and 07.45, the playing order and draw is then made, first tee around 8.00am, this is an excellent opportunity to play in regular competitions, with a changing mix of people and handicaps of the same age group. The competitions are published in the Club Diary and also posted on the Seniors Noticeboard in the corridor; this is where the competition result



Graham Atkinson Commanders Club Captain

The middle of the year is quite a quiet period with field sizes down due to holidays and relatively few major competitions, but topped and tailed by two major social events:

The Oakmere Joint Captains Party (Saturday 16th June), for which the competition was played over the front 9 of the Admirals and the back 9 of the Commanders Courses. It was a great success on the day. Unfortunately no Commanders Players featured in the Prizes but we were heavily outnumbered.

The Annual Charity Texas Scramble (Sunday 2nd September). 17 teams took part and we raised a total of £1140 for the Alzheimer's Society. A big thanks to all who helped and took part and especially to Julie, Rachel and Sandy who ran the raffle raising £565. In a closely fought contest which saw 4 teams tied on net 56, the event winners on last 6 count-back were Colin Smart, Colin Handley, Tim Gabb and Tony Whitehouse

The combination of hot dry weather and the new greens regime including ironing the greens has seen some consistently low scoring occurring and quite a few handicaps tumbling as a result (Dave Voller). The course is playing very well at present and congratulations should go to the green keepers.

The Club Championships were played over the weekend August 4th and 5th. Mark Hanbury was crowned Club Champion with a gross 149. Paul Stone took the Nett Trophy with a nett score of 128

Jim Taylor won the Vice Captains Cup and Dave Abbott won the Captains Cup. Also congratulations to all who have won other competitions too numerous to mention here.

Up and coming events:

On the course the Nottingham Pro - Am Alliance starts in September and we will soon be starting the Winter Cup and Eclectic.

Off it Roy Griffin has arranged a Christmas Party for Friday 7th December, tickets are available from behind the bar £12 each (adults only) including food and an Elvis impersonator (or is he???) - get the date in your diaries. Colin Ross has put out the details of next year's Captains Away weekend to Telford, list is on notice board.

Happy Golfing

Cathy Elliott Commanders Lady Club Captain

After the dreadful weather in late winter/spring we have all enjoyed the dry and warm summer conditions especially the fast running of the balls!

Those of us who took part in the Joint Captains' Day on 15 June thoroughly enjoyed it all and thanks must go to Derrick Farthing in particular for all his organisation.

Our Lady Captain Day was on 27 June when members decorated a buggy with flowers in keeping with the charity for this year and everyone enjoyed a fun game etc. My personal thanks to all, especially vice captain Sue Scott, who made it such a lovely day.



This was followed two weeks later by our Charity Day which was a 'Battle of the Flowers' challenge between two teams Sunflowers and Roses, the former headed by Captain Cathy Elliott and the latter by Vice Captain Sue Scott. Team members all wore their respective flowers. This was won by the Roses. There were also chipping and putting competitions. Many thanks to the various male players who either took part in the putting or made donations. A raffle, photo comp and lunch then followed. A tremendous total of £527 was raised for the charity

We have had several comps over the last three months – Ladies Tray won by Sarah Hardy, Alpha Trophy won by Eleanor Chipperfield, Ladies Rose Bowl

won by Lena Sowter and the Past Captain's Decanter won by Margaret Sears. Congratulations to all these ladies. However, the greatest success was the qualification to the national final of the PING competition by Angie Harrison and Jean McKee. This is the first time that the Oakmere Commanders Ladies have had a pair go through – a huge achievement and prestigious for the club. The final was played on 4 September and our ladies enjoyed it despite very fierce competition. Very well done indeed!

On Bank Holiday Sunday 10 Commanders Ladies went to Kenwick Park for an overnight stay. This has become an annual event as everyone enjoys it there so much. On the Sunday the weather was less than kind to us but a great weekend nonetheless.

We have welcomed 2 new members to the section in the last quarter who have just completed their handicaps.

Our next charity event is the Antiques evening on Friday 21 September from 6pm when Charles Hanson, Auctioneer and TV personality will give us a talk and also choose a few items from ones brought for discussion. All Oakmere members, families and friends are invited to this. Tickets cost £5 and are available from Captains and behind the Bar. We hope that as many of you as possible will join us.

Richard Bond Head GreenKeeper

Completion of the Mackenzie & Ebert project begins Friday 21st September. Tom Mackenzie has visited site and designed the new 14th green on the Admirals Course. We anticipate it will take 2 weeks to complete. During the construction golfers will play to the 13th green and walk to the new tee located next to the construction site and then play the 14th as a par 3. Once construction and turfing has completed, and dependent upon the size of the excavated areas, members will be able to play to the existing green as normal and if your ball finishes on the GUR there will either be a drop zone or take a drop under the Rules of Golf.

Admirals 18th We will be trialling a new fence on the inside of the driving range with a view, if successful, to take down the existing fence on the corner of the 18th hole. The trial will be determined by the Health & Safety aspect to the golfers if the existing fence is moved back 30 yards.

Oakmere Bar & Catering

We have a new offer on Monday evenings: Two main meals from the specials board for only £12, served between 4 and 8pm. Great value.

Tickets for the Christmas Party on 7th December are now starting to sell fast, don't miss out on one of the UK's best Elvis tribute acts. Purchase your tickets from the Bar.

This year's Christmas Fayre menu will be available soon. Group bookings welcome. Speak to the Bar/Catering Managers for further details.



Jamie Jarvis - Range

A new offer every Wednesday evening of 100 Range balls and a pint, glass of wine or soft drink - £5 from 5.30pm onwards.

Range menu still available – order from proshop.

2000 new range balls have just been added.



Good news for the colder months – we now have one heated bay with a view to adding more if this proves successful.

For range specials please see the daily 'A Board' or Range Noticeboard.

Jamie Jarvis - Oakmere Pro-Shop

As you may be aware I am now the new Club Professional. I have already started to make changes to the layout of the Pro-Shop and am currently developing each section.

The aim is to offer more variety to our Members and provide everything you need or want at the best price.

If you can't see what you want – no problem – just ask!



The Ladies section has had an overall and is now stocking a wider selection of shirts, jumpers, jackets and shoes. A wider selection of Ladies clubs will be stocked soon.

I am excited to announce that I will be stocking Titleist equipment – the new TS Woods are arriving in the next few days for stock and demo.

Please see the Pro-Shop staff regarding the NEW bonus ball draw to be run weekly. There will also be a Nike Apparel draw.

No. 7 Relief from Ground Under Repair



Question 1:

- a) A ball lies in tyre tracks that have obviously been made by a course maintenance vehicle. May this be considered a hole made by a greenkeeper and thus ground under repair (GUR)?
- b) Are cracks in the earth, which often occur in hot and dry conditions, ground under repair?
- c) Can a ball be lost in an area marked as GUR?
- d) May a player play their ball from GUR?

Answer 1:

- a) No, tyre tracks are not holes made by a greenkeeper. The Committee would be justified in declaring a deep rut to be ground under repair, but not shallow indentations made by greenkeeping equipment such as those in the photo, Decision 25/16.
- b) No. However, a player whose ball lies in a large crack would be justified in requesting the Committee to declare the crack to be ground under repair, and the Committee would be justified in doing so, Decision 25/12.
- c) Not if it is **known or virtually certain** that a ball that has not been found lies in GUR. In this case, the player may take relief, without penalty, under Rule 25-1c.
- d) Yes, Rule 25-1b states that a player may take relief from interference by an abnormal ground condition. Therefore, players are permitted to make their stroke from GUR if they think that it is in a more favourable position than where they would have to drop their ball to take advantage of the relief afforded. However, be aware that the Committee may have introduced a Local Rule prohibiting playing out of GUR, so as to protect an area of the course.



Note: Players often complain that they should be able to take relief from irregularities in the course, such as tyre tracks, cracks in the ground, divot holes or spike marks on the putting green. This is what the R&A has to say on this subject;

One of the main features of golf is that it tests the player's ability to execute a wide assortment of strokes under a variety of different conditions. The skill factor in golf would be greatly reduced if players could eliminate difficult conditions, without incurring any penalty, rather than have to overcome them through execution of a particular stroke. It is therefore, a traditional golfing maxim that you should play the ball as it lies and the course as you find it. This is encapsulated in Rule 13-1 which provides, "the ball must be played as it lies, except as otherwise provided in the Rules".