



OAKMERE

Oakmere Park Golf Club

CLUB NEWSLETTER

April 2018

Daryl St John-Jones Director of Golf

Will it ever stop raining or snowing?

This must be the worst winter we've had for many, many years. This has resorted in increased activity creating, longer and harder hours for the green staff keeping both courses playing and also extra drainage work for the Spring maintenance program. The downside is that until the ground temperature rises this works makes the playing surface really bumpy. Therefore please be patient as the greens will be back to their normal quick smooth surface by May.

Mackenzie & Ebert Program.

All new bunkers and GUR around the 4th & 10th green and the new 7th & 8th holes are planned to be in play by 15th May. The last part of the program is to build the new 14th green which is planned for September

Bunkers

Our bunkers get a lot of stones in them every year due to granular convection. Prior to the pre season top up we hand pick these stones out and then fill the bunkers up with the required amount of sand for the season. However we do miss some and due to granular convection will continue to rise to the surface during the season which is why we have a local rule to treat them as moveable obstructions.

Divot Bags.

This was a great success last season and we intend to reintroduce this once the grass starts growing.

Derrick Farthing Admirals Club Captain

Well after a cold, grey, sometimes frozen start to the year we are finally enjoying our Golf at Oakmere. Although the course improvements are still in progress, you can see that the minor disruption will have all been worth it. We have the St Georges Day Open Competition coming up on Friday April 20th with great prizes, traditional food and a chance to dress up if you like!

Captains day this year will be on Saturday June 16th and both Admirals and Commanders Men's and Ladies Captains have all got their heads together to hold one big Captains Day event. Starting with an 8am Shotgun start on the Admirals Front 9 and Commanders Back 9, food after the round, really great prizes, loads for families to do and let's hope the weather is as brilliant as it was last year.

My Admiral's Men's Captains Charity this year is Prostate Cancer UK. While this is not a local charity, it takes a UK wide charity like this to be big enough to do the medical research to make a difference to fighting this killer disease. You'll see the collecting bucket out on the first tee at our golf event days, but also remember the collection jar in the spike bar for those unfortunate enough to drive off the 18th tee into the driving range to leave a donation if they wish.

I hope you are able to take full advantage of the golf course this year and also think about putting your name down to come on the Burton on Trent away day and Patshull Park away weekend later in the year.

Happy Golfing

Sylvia Thomson Club Lady Captain

Ladies, welcome to my Lady Captain's year 2018. Firstly I would like to thank Muriel for the wonderful job she did in her year as Lady Captain. I would also like to welcome Pat as my Vice Captain and wish her well over the next 2 years. Thanks also to my Committee and the ladies who so willingly gave of their time to help throughout 2017 and hope they will continue to support me in the coming year.

The Bill Lowe trophy was well supported in December - the weather was dry but very cold. The winners were Julie & Terry Craggs. Our Christmas lunch was enjoyed by all.

The Captains Drive In was very successful and despite some anxious moments I managed a reasonable drive - not too far behind Captain Derrick's effort! The buffet provided by the ladies was excellent as usual and I would like to thank everyone for their help and donations of goodies. Also thanks to Josie, Lesley, Pat, Muriel and Julie for their help on the day the Raffle was well supported and we raised £221.

Burns Night was celebrated on 27th January. The evening was a huge success and the group were very entertaining. The catering was up to its usual high standard and was enjoyed by everyone present. Many thanks to Billy and the bar and catering staff for a great evening.

The weather hasn't been very kind during January and February but a few hardy souls are playing regularly (I'm afraid I am not one of them).

Our pre-season get together on 1st March was sadly affected by the weather and had to be postponed to the following Tuesday with just coffee and lunch.

The first mixed competition of the year - the Spring Cup - was held on 8th March. Eight pairs played on the day and the winners were Kim & Gary Oscroft. The game was followed by a very pleasant lunch.

Finally I would like to welcome my Committee and assure you I am very much looking forward to working with you all to make 2018 a great year for Admirals Ladies.

Womens Golf

SheCanGolf



The SheCanGolf (beginners & returners group) have shown real commitment to turn up every Thursday night on the range through the winter months!

.... everyone is really keen to improve and is now looking forward to getting out on the course together in the Spring and Summer months.

The group of girls & women are also very keen to grow the game for girls, women and family groups at Oakmere

and have got together to organise a Drive, Chip & Putt golf taster event on Thursday April 19th for all Oakmere - Men, Women and Junior members to support & introduce a female friend or family member to give golf a try! Notices have been posted on all notice boards and near to the ladies clothing in the pro - shop. Although this event is to encourage new girls & women to get a taste of golf, it would be much appreciated and we would welcome you to help 'your invites' on the night and to stay with them after the session for a meal together in the bar.



Also very excited to announce that Oakmere GC has been chosen this year by England Golf Club Development to run the GirlsGolfRocks project for (Girls aged 5 -18 years) The free taster lesson for this group of girls will be on Sunday April 29th then with follow on sessions through May. There will be fliers & posters around the Club and look out for more details on the Oakmere website and the next Oakmere Club Update email message sent to all Members.

For 'Get into Golf!' sessions - please check out the SheCanGolf group on the 'new' Oakmere website and click on the Academy link to go to the SheCanGolf link for more information on - flexible & weekly coaching times, SheCanGolf Newsletter, Contact details and the SheCanGolf Facebook page. For anyone who would like a coffee&chat 'meet - up' and a tour around the golf club facilities, then please contact me on 07906 994331

Many thanks, I will look forward to meeting you and showing you around.

Gary Oscroft Admirals Secretary

I hope everyone is now getting to play golf following the really 'horrible' weather we have been experiencing.

All the course work will hopefully be completed by May 2018. The exception being the new 14th green which will not be ready until later on in the year? (Possibly late autumn)

Since my latest newsletter concerning the 'Modernisation of the Rules of Golf', which are to be introduced in 2019, the R&A have very recently circulated some amendments to the proposed changes (This follows from extensive feedback from golfers). The adjustments are: -

- Dropping procedure. Now to drop from knee height.
- Measuring in taking relief. Now measured using the longest club (other than a putter) in players bag
- Removing the penalty for a double hit.
- Balls lost or 'out of bounds' – Alternative to stoke and distance. New local rule available from January 2019, permitting Committees to allow golfers the option to drop the ball in the vicinity of where the ball is lost or out of bounds under a 2 stoke penalty.

White tees will come into play on Saturday 31st March 2018 but 'pick & place' will remain until the 1st May 2018.

New Data Protection Regulations come into being in May 2018 and as a result the Club and the Admirals Committee are examining its processes and procedures to make sure we are compliant with the new requirements.

The Golfer of the Winter Finals took place on the 24th and 25th March respectively.

The winners are:-

- Saturday Final – Jason Davies and Colin Walkden
- Sunday Final – Richard Devine and Tom Burton

Alan Hall Admirals Seniors Organizer

You will all have to bear with me, as this is my first newsletter since I took over from Rick on 1st Jan 2018. I can at last put to print a big thank you from myself and all the Seniors for his hard work keeping the Section in check and running it so smoothly, I only wish I can get up to speed as soon as possible removing the little gremlins that keep appearing, it is so different from just turning up, signing in, thrashing that little ball about, going home and sleeping it off, I, like everyone, thought what an easy job it was, HOW WRONG I AM, its hard work, but enjoyable.

It has been a terrible few months, Rain, Wind, Ice, Frost and Snow, Oh and I bit of Sun, and it all appears to be on a Monday, Seniors Competition day, it is my fault, I am regularly told. SORRY to you all. Luckily we are a hardy bunch and a little bad weather doesn't put us off, we have only lost 3 Mondays to the weather since the beginning of December. Hopefully we have now turned the corner, the weather will pick up and the turn-out will start to increase. A big thanks to the green staff for their hard work in keeping the course open and playable, on top of the work on the new course alterations, which we all can't wait to put to use, especially the 7th and 8th.

NEW 8TH GREEN FROM TEE

We have played two of our Monthly Medal QRs this year where the two best scores each month progress to a Monthly Medal Final which this year will be played on Monday 2nd July, those so far to qualify are Terry Craggs, Dennis Bilson, Jim Newton, Michael Johnson and Rob Armstrong. We have played our Final Round of the Winter Eclectic and the winner is Rob Lakin beating Steve Lee by 0.20 of a shot, congratulations to Rob and well played, you can keep up with the Seniors Eclectic Table on HowDidIDo, on our home Club area under Eclectics, and a table is always



displayed on the Seniors notice board in the corridor, along with the weekly individual or team competition winners.

For the benefit of any new members and existing members who have reached the qualifying age, the Seniors Section is Open to all Admirals Members who are over

55, with any handicap right up to 54. We hold regular Weekly Drawn Competitions and meet in the spike bar every Monday morning (apart from Bank Holiday Mondays) between 07.30 and 07.45, the playing order and pairing are drawn at this time, first tees are usually around 08.06. This is an excellent opportunity to play in a regular competitions with a changing mix of people in the same age group, we have Medal QRs, Stableford QRs, Eclectic Winter and Summer Competitions (QRs) and a mixture of Fun team games. Details of Weekly Comps are shown in the Diary and on our Notice board.

We enter 2 teams in the Taskers Trophy, this is a National Knockout Singles Match Play Competition, regionalised for the first few rounds, for players 18HC or less and for over 50s. Unfortunately our "A" team were beaten by Matlock "B" in the 1st Round by 5 to 2, a close encounter with one match going to an extra hole and the final match a loss by 1 shot on the 18th hole, the "A" team get a final chance for silverware as all 1st round losers play in the plate competition.

We have a Seniors Friendly Team, looked after by Bob McEwan where we play around 20 matches, home and away against other Seniors Teams from the surrounding areas, which is a great opportunity to play at other course with Coffee on arrival a very friendly round of golf and a 2 course lunch. List for player in these matches is put on the Seniors board usually 2 weeks before a match, if you would like to play put your name on list. Our first match this season is at Home v Southwell on Wednesday March 28th.

Our Seniors Away Day this year is on Thursday August 16th at The Nottinghamshire, the event consists of Coffee and Cob on arrival a Stableford competition with both team and individual prizes followed by a 2 course lunch. Sheet is on Notice board if you wish to go, (this competition is also a drawn competition), this is a great opportunity for a day out on a good course with a great social atmosphere, initially we would like 32 members, then extras in groups of 4, details and costs etc are show on noticeboard. Our noticeboard is in the corridor to the changing rooms.

Cathy Elliott Commanders Lady Club Captain

Because of the long spell of poor weather only 2 nine hole qualifiers have taken place recently. The first was won by Ann Gee with 21 points and the second by Pat Sulley with 20 points.

On Wednesday 7th March when the Nottingham Alliance was playing at Oakmere we forfeited our club day so alternative tees were booked at Springwater and Rufford. This was enjoyed by all who took part especially as it was a good day weather-wise for once. Angela Harrison and Lena Sowter who represented us in the Daily Mail Foursome Competition unfortunately lost their match away against the Admirals Ladies on 16th March.

The Goldsworthy Trophy was held on Wed 14th March. 2 players, Angela Burton and Sarah Hardy finished with 16 points, with Angela the winner on countback.

Last week 12 of us went on a week's golfing holiday to Portugal which was a great success despite rather inclement weather on a few days which resulted in full 18 holes not being played on two occasions. 3 hardy souls however did continue on one of those days! A couple of free days added to the enjoyment.

Future events are the Bilsthorpe Trophy on 28th March which is played over 18 holes, the Spring Cup on 4th April and a friendly at home with the Norwood Ladies on 25th April. The Summer Eclectic on the Back 9 commences on 1st April.

Advance notice of an Antiques Event with Charles Hanson to be held on Friday 21st September, early evening. Further details and definite will be announced nearer the time. I hope that as many members of all sections of Oakmere as well as family and friends will attend. Monies raised from tickets will go to my charity of the year - Flower Pod (adults with learning difficulties) based in Brackenhurst College grounds.

Richard Bond Head GreenKeeper

Another very busy winter has almost come to a close, (despite current weather patterns). The 4th and final phase of the Admiral's course redesigning has been carried out.

This has involved the reshaping of the 4th and 10th green surrounds. Amendments have been made to the back of the 15th to prevent water holding in the hollow. Fairway bunkers on the 5th and 15th have been redesigned and relocated. New fairway bunkers have been constructed on the 10th and the 14th (in preparation for the latter changing to Par 4). A new tee with irrigation has been constructed for the new Par 3, 15th. A new 10th yellow tee, also fully irrigated, has been constructed as a part of significant redesigning of the 10th hole. In addition to the new bunkers and green surround, a large portion of trees have been removed from the corner improving playability. Two more tees have been added to the new 8th, creating a wide range of playing options. It's hoped that this latest phase of construction should be ready for play in May. (The exact date will depend on weather conditions)

In addition to the construction work a replanting programme has been introduced x400 gorse plants, x50 Oak, x50 Beech and x50 Silver Birch have been planted. The current 7th fairway has been planted in preparation for the opening of the new holes. All of these plants will be fragile until they have become established, so extra care around them would be greatly appreciated.

To help the establishment of the newly turfed areas, it has been regularly fertilised with normal and slow release granular fertilisers. It will accelerate the establishment of these areas if the turf especially the bunker edges are not damaged, please use the boards provided to enter and exit the bunkers. I would like to thank you all for your continued support and co-operation.

Oakmere Park - Bar & Catering

The Sunday Carvery is proving to be extremely popular with many members complimenting the Bar/Catering staff on the quality of the food and service. Serving a choice of 2 roasts and a selection of sweets from 12 pm until 3pm. Give Ritchie or Nick a ring to book your table.

Summer Catering: We will be running the full menu and specials board till 9pm on Wednesday/Thursday & Friday evenings as from 9th April, so you can get a home cooked meal after your evening round of golf.

Function room Hire: Remember that if you have a special occasion to celebrate, as a member of Oakmere, you can hire the clubhouse free of charge (usually £250). So come and celebrate with us.

Oakmere Park – Pro Shop



The pro shop extension has now been completed and we are fully stocked with new equipment from Taylormade and Callaway as well as ping cobra and Wilson staff. Custom fit options are available on all of our hardware and we will price match so don't

hesitate to come and speak to one of the professional staff should you have any questions. With summer just around the corner why not pop in and treat yourself to the latest spring summer clothing collections from Nike and Puma to ensure you look your best while on course!



Oakmere Park – Driving Range

Free Golf Lesson

For those of you who haven't already taken advantage of this great offer but our new Professional Matt Whelband would like to introduce himself to each and every member and he has generously offered to give every member a complimentary introductory Golf lesson . If you would like to take advantage of this offer please give Matt a call on 07837 635250.

Bring the Bar to the Range: The new Range Menu is now available, please see the notices on the range, and also the pr-shop staff can advise you on how to order drinks and snacks while you are on the range.

Specials: please see the specials board and notice boards on the range advertising ball tariffs and offers on Range Membership, Happy Hour and Range Cards.

A new vending machine machine has now been installed on the range offering good quality Tea/Coffee, Hot Chocolate and Soup.