



Tiverton Golf Club Newsletter

Club Email: tivertongolfclub@lineone.net

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Captain

Looking back over August we cannot be awfully impressed with the weather. However, let's look forward to September and hopefully a drier month.

I would like to congratulate all the club members who played against Minehead at home and were victorious 11½ - ½. I would also like to congratulate all staff concerned with course presentation lately. This will hopefully be enhanced further by the drainage work currently in progress on the 11th, 17th and 18th holes. Finally, I would like to thank everyone who continuously put themselves forward for club fixtures and social events. We look forward to a very busy September and your continuing support.

Colin Carey, Captain

Ladies

Presidents 1 won their quarter-final match at Honiton against Staddon Heights and now play Ilfracombe at Woodbury on September 13th in the semi-final. It is the second year they have reached this stage of the competition. Please come and support the team if you can. An early start, 8am, but if the match is anything like the quarter-final it will be very exciting. Good luck to Carolyn and her team.

The Sheelah Creasy team lost to Staddon Heights in their quarter-final after a difficult match on a very dry course at The Warren, but well done to all the team which did so well to get that far.

Sue Norris and Annette Cardwell will be playing their 7th round of the Daily Mail Foursomes after winning at St Mellion and we wish them continued success in this competition. The 36-hole Championship gross and net prizes were won by Abbi Moyes with Alex Dudley a close runner-up for the net prize.

Conditions on the day were not good with the first 18 played in some very heavy rain.

The Mixed Open was a great success and we received a great deal of praise for the condition of the course and the professional way the day was run. Many thanks to everyone who helped.

September 1st will be our final ladies'

open this year, with a large field entered and I am sure it will be another successful day. Help is still needed for both starting and ball spotting. September is another busy month with the Autumn Meeting on the September 8th. Please remember to sign up for both the competition and meal. Our annual match against the men is on September 19th and with some help from our younger members, I think we could win this year! The Rita Eastick Bowl will now be played on September 27th so as not to clash with the President's semi-finals.

Sue Probetts, Ladies' Captain

Greens

The drainage is nearing completion and has gone very smoothly. MJ Abbot has been a very professional outfit and we hope that your golf has not been too interrupted. During recent heavy rain the culverts took a lot of water, which is encouraging!

The coring process on the greens continues and the overall putting surface is definitely improving. The aim is twofold. The first is to try and get rid of all the thatch that has grown up in the top inch of the greens, and the second is to encourage roots to grow deeper. Not only does this give better grass but also helps with drainage.

Lots of people have been helping with the divot filling exercise and we are grateful for their contributions. If anyone wants to help, please let me know.

The difference on the fairways is already clear to see and we intend to extend the divot filling in the future. It should also enable us to cut the fairways shorter and more often, thereby giving a much better surface to hit the ball.

The area to the right of the 3rd is, as ever, a concern and it would help if golfers could drop the ball further into the fairway, **BUT ONLY IN GENERAL PLAY!**

There have been a number of issues that continue to annoy many golfers and I would ask you all to help in the following matters:

1. Rakes in Bunkers:

Please ensure they are positioned correctly after use and not left lying parallel to the edge of the bunker. This will stop balls being trapped just inside the lip.

2. Trolleys:

Lots of people take their trolleys between green and bunker and we would ask ALL golfers to leave their trolleys on the fairway side of a bunker. The Greens committee is very keen to hear from anyone who has a suggestion on any course improvements.

At the moment, in conjunction with Competitions, we are looking at some Championship tees for use in 'The Majors'; the trees to the right of the 4th; the humps to the left of the 7th green; the area between the 13th green and 14th tee. Any comments will be gratefully received. Enjoy your golf.

Martin Selby, Greens Chairman

Veterans

The August stableford was won by Ian Wilson (18) 39 points, second Jim Walton (19) 39 points, third Mike Hurley (11) 37 points and fourth Marcus Scott (14) also with 37 points. Scores do not seem particularly high but then holes 10 and 11 were not in use.

Bryan Stairs stated earlier this year that he could play 18 holes of golf without saying a word! Not many of us believed him and issued a challenge pledging money to Devon Air Ambulance provided Bryan would, if he failed, add a further £100 to the sum pledged. Eighteen holes were played on August 12th and Bryan, much to everyone's surprise, did as he said he would. Money pledged amounted to about £200. Most of this has been collected and defaulters are urged to pay up as soon as possible.

The organisation of veterans' matches has been taken over by veterans' vice-captain David Jack. Veterans are reminded that having confirmed their availability to play in, or act as a reserve for a match, any change to that status should be reported to David or, if close to the date concerned, the match captain.

Gerry Franklin, Veterans' Captain