

FGC Newsletter

Filey Golf Club

May 2010

Issue 1

Inside this issue:

Lady Captain	2
Greens' Committee	3
Treasurer & House	4
Greenkeeper	5
Rabbits	5

His Master's Voice

Early in his career Nick Faldo repeatedly asked Ben Hogan whether he could pass on any secret for winning the US Open.

Hogan replied that he could.

His words of wisdom?

"Shoot the lowest score!"

Please submit any articles for consideration to :

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Download a copy of this newsletter from the web.

www.fileygolfclub.com/clubnews.html

Welcome to the first edition of the club Newsletter. It is hoped that this will become a regular feature in the club activities.

The intention of this newsletter is to keep members informed and up to date as to what is going on both on and off the course.

In the first instance contributions will be mainly from committee members but it is hoped there will be contributions from members also. It will only be as good as what people want it to be.

I am now well into the 4th month of my captaincy. Time passes very quickly, despite the slow start to the year with the terrible weather we encountered.

My captain's shotgun drive-in, which took place on 11th April 2010, was I believe, a success and well received by members. I would like to thank those who supported the day. The weather was good and the event was played on an excellent golf course, thanks to Andy and his staff for their continued efforts in maintaining the golf course to such high standards. From speaking to people both locally and from further a field that high standard is being talked about in golfing circles. Long may it continue.

The winners of the competition were 2 of our younger members, Daniel Barnes and Jamie Gregory with an excellent score of 58. I am informed that their golf was of a very high standard.

So congratulations to both !!

Changing the subject to fund raising. As members are aware in recent months there have been events within the club to raise funds for the local soldier who received serious injuries whilst serving his country in Afghanistan. These events have now come to an end. A presentation of the cheque to family members was made on Friday 23rd April 2010 (club Quiz night) at the golf club.

The amount received at the time of my writing this article was in excess of £1100.

May I take this opportunity to thank both staff and members who organised the events and to those who contributed to the final amount. Many, many thanks.

Just one final point on fund raising, I would just like the membership to know my chosen charity is Orchid, fighting male cancers. Your support for this would be greatly appreciated, There is a collection box on the bar, along with the chance to purchase a badge supporting the charity.

In conclusion I would just like to reiterate the intention of this newsletter. It is to keep the membership and staff informed of what is occurring, so if there is anybody out there who would like to contribute we would be very grateful to receive your articles.

Many thanks.

Eddie Burton - Captain 2010

Lady Captain Debbie

Welcome to our 2010 season at Filey Golf Club! I am honoured to be Lady Captain and represent such a great club!

It is said that time passes fast as you get older but it passes twice as fast when you are Lady Captain! I do not know where the time has gone since my Drive-in.

In this difficult economic time it is imperative we all work hard to keep our club and course at the highest standard of the golfing market. One of the most effective ways of promoting our club and its facilities is by word of mouth. We have a fantastic facility here, which we sometimes take for granted and it is in the interest of all members to promote the club positively at all times.

I believe we have a very strong and positive ladies section here at Filey and we continue to have good entries in our medals, stablefords and most major competitions. Many of our ladies also visit other clubs and are very often in the prizewinners. Well done to you all in representing Filey Golf Club and keep the flag flying!!

It is most important we continue to attract future members and juniors and we are hoping to promote more 'taster sessions' in the very near future.

Our congratulations go to Junior member Grae Robson who has recently won the Junior Championship at Ripon.

I would like to wish everyone great golfing this summer and the best of luck with all Team matches, Competitions, and Open Days but most of all, enjoyment on the fairways!!

"SOME IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY"

TUESDAY 18TH MAY - INVITATION DAY

SAT/SUN 29TH/30TH MAY - OPEN WEEKEND

THURSDAY 3RD JUNE - LADIES OPEN DAY

FRIDAY 2ND JULY - LADY CAPTAINS DAY

SATURDAY 3RD JULY - JOINT CAPTAINS DAY - EVENING - SUPPER AND DANCE

SUNDAY 4TH JULY - CAPTAINS DAY

VERY BEST WISHES AND MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE AT FILEY GOLF CLUB FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Lady Captain Debbie



Greens' Committee

At the time of writing (mid-April), the Greens are playing well despite the severity of the recent winter.

The long period of hard weather has taken its toll on the greens and has encouraged fusarium fungal disease to increase. With kinder weather and the recently applied top-dressing, improvement should quickly be seen.

The Greens on the Academy Course are now looking much improved this year after the additional time spent on them last year.

Being unable to provide irrigation for the Academy Course is still a challenge and remains an issue for us to consider.

The Tees

Work on establishing new tees on the 13th and 11th started on 8th April. The soil that had been stored near the 13th is of such good quality that it will be used to finish these tees and will also be used to extend the 6th. We were able to purchase turf at a very competitive price to lay only the teeing-off area of the 13th. This may be able to be in play this season.

Because of cost constraints, all other areas will be seeded.

The cost of the work for both tees is just short of £790, thanks to much volunteer labour.

The decision has not yet been made as to whether the 13th is to become a par 5 or remain par 4 (or it possibly could be both.) There are the implications to consider regarding the change of stroke index. This will be discussed further by the committee and we will keep members informed.

The Main Course and the Academy Course

Across both courses there is a degree of moss infestation affecting about 50 acres in total. Spray treatment with ferrous sulphate will take place within the next few weeks to resolve this.

Much favourable comment has been received about the state of the 18 hole course from both members and especially visitors. Many players have commented on the trueness of the Greens saying that they are among the best in the area.

Credit must be given to all our staff for doing such a good job.

David Bradshaw

Chair of Greens' Committee



Honorary Treasurer's Report

After the success of the last financial year, the Committee took a calculated risk in raising the full annual subscription by a nominal amount to £585. This did not prevent a large loss of members (equivalent to 50 full); the resulting reduction in subscription income, together with a VAT bill of about £10,000 in January 2010, exceeded the previous year's operating surplus. This has meant that, yet again, a very close eye is being kept on costs and the cash-flow situation.

It is imperative that income from the courses and the bar is increased and that new members are attracted to the Club through targeted marketing.

The Clubhouse and its facilities represent a valuable asset which is under-used, particularly by members. The committee is planning a series of social events aimed at increasing use of the clubhouse which should generate a much needed increase in bar revenue.

I would urge all members to attend these events - have a good time and support your club during difficult times.

My thanks go to Mrs Veronica Gilbank who is doing sterling work in the office and to all staff, in particular, the Greens' staff, who are working under a very tight cost rein.

C G Callow

House Sub-Committee

The House sub-committee, led very ably by Barbara Smith, is continuously seeking ways of improving facilities within the lounge area. Last year sufficient funds were raised, through various raffles at social events, to provide us with some new balcony furniture.

Earlier this year, following a request from the Seniors' section, the carpet was cleaned and improvements made to the balcony access and front of bar area. The latter was not too successful and further work is being carried out, under guarantee, in late April to remedy the problems over possible trip areas.

As everyone must realise, the double glazing to the balcony doors has deteriorated. We cannot go back to the supplier, they are no longer in business, so we are asking those members who have connections with, or are, glaziers, to put quotations forward so that the doors can be repaired and made good. Hopefully, there will be somebody out of our present membership who can assist.

A flat screen TV has been provided by the two Captains and we thank them for their funding of this additional amenity for the club.

Most of the funding for the Clubhouse improvements comes from raffles and social events. With the present state of the club's budget we need all the help we can get from the membership. Another Social Night is being arranged by Barbara for late May/early June and of course we have the Captains' Weekend Social and Buffet to look forward to in early July. We hope that as many members as possible will support these and other events so that we can continue improving the social aspect of the clubhouse.

Wendy Taylor

From The Greenkeepers' Shed

Having just come through what has been the hardest winter in over 30 years, the quality of the golf course has come though better than expected. Although we have been closed for many weeks due to heavy snow falls, we have tried to keep the course open as much as possible when wet, although many moans & groans have been heard that the course has, at times, been too wet to play. We have been trying to obtain a balance between accommodating members and what is beneficial for the golf club as a whole.

As we approach summer, the greens will be scarified, top dressed & fertilised along with monthly sarrel rolling & wetting agent applications, then a gradual reduction in cutting heights will commence as the soil temperature warms up and more growth appears. Bunkers have recently been edged, weeded & tidied, with the sand being dug over and redistributed. There are a number of bunkers which still need to be topped up with fresh sand - this should hopefully have taken place before you read this article.

Many of the course hazard markers have recently been painted or replaced and realigned as an aid to course presentation and hopefully for better definition of hazards around the course.

We are currently looking into the problem of moss on the fairways and hopefully should be in a position to apply a soluble iron mix in mid May, to help towards eradication of this ongoing annual problem.

Many more tasks have and will be undertaken since last autumn, however in such a short article we thought best to give a little insight into what will be happening on the course as we approach summer.

Andy (Course Manager)

Rabbits

The last 12 months have been an eventful year. Starting with Trevor Lunn's 12 months term as Captain extending to 18 months. We would like to say a big thank you to Trevor for all his hard work. We all enjoyed Trevor's away day at Forest Pines, with a total of 36 Rabbit members participating.

In the Flamborough and District Alliance we won first place in The Lisa Jane Trophy, with Alan Muschamp and Bill Pashby scoring a stunning 49 points. Well done Alan and Bill!

Throughout the year we have had excellent team participation with over 20 Rabbit members making themselves available for all Alliance competitions. A big thank you to all.

As you should all be aware Karl Thompson has now taken over as Rabbits' Captain along with the help of Neil Womersley as Vice Captain. We are looking forward to another busy year.

This year, for the first time, the Rabbits Captain's day will be on Saturday 8th May and will incorporate a full programme of three competitions, open to all Filey Golf Club Members, including Rabbits, Men and Ladies. This promises to be a sociable day for all members.

Another important date for your diary is Captain's Away Day. This year the venue is Sandburn Golf Club on July 22nd. Please put your name on the Rabbits board early as places are limited.

To any non-Rabbit members, you are more than welcome to join our friendly crowd (handicaps 16 - 28.) Please do come along and join us. We are looking forward to a challenging Alliance this year.

Karl and Neil.

The Little White Ball

*“In my hand I hold a ball.. white and dimpled, rather small..
Oh, how bland it does appear.. this harmless looking little sphere..
By its size I could not guess.. the awesome strength it does possess..
But since I fell beneath its spell.. I’ve wandered through the fires of hell...
My life has not been quite the same.. since I chose to play this stupid game..
It rules my mind for hours on end.. a fortune it has made me spend..
It has made me swear and yell and cry .. I hate myself and want to die..
It promises a thing called par.. if I can hit straight and far..
To master such a tiny ball.. should not be very hard at all..
But my desires the ball refuses.. and does exactly like it chooses..
It hooks and slices, dribbles and dies... and even disappears before my eyes..
Often it will take a whim to hit a tree or take a swim..
With miles of grass on which to land, it finds a tiny patch of sand..
Then has me offering up my soul.. if only it would find the hole...
It’s made me whimper like a pup.. and swear that I will give it up..
And take a drink to ease my sorrow... but the little white ball knows.. I’ll be back tomorrow!!!!*

[Submitted by Lady Captain Debbie](#)