



Communications Group

(On behalf of the Management Committee and Club Members)

September/October 2019 Newsletter

Dear Members

Welcome to the autumn Newsletter of 2019.

This Newsletter looks at a busy summer on and off the course, the autumn/winter programme for the course management, and also looks ahead at our centenary year 2020.

Plans and progress on the Course

The STRI Report for August 2019 was positive reading. You can find it as a printed copy in the locker rooms, and online on the Club Website. In summary, the report finds the course is in good condition, with significant recovery on the fairways from the hard drought of 2018. This is due to the careful course management, and the new Vredo slit seeder has already proved a boon. The greens approaches are recovering slowly; an issue is the lack of dedicated irrigation in some places. Greens are excellent, with dense, healthy sward and no signs of disease scarring. The specific treatment for individual greens is praised, e.g. the new 16th requires different nutrition and aeration from most others. New bunkers on 7th and 10th are a big improvement; there is work needed in other places to reconstruct or alter the bunkers.

Work on the course

- **Seeding has taken place on zones within fairways, especially the 1st, 2nd, 8th, 12th, 15th and 18th.**
- **All greens have been hollow-tined, top-dressed and brushed (in between rain showers – it always rains at the wrong times!)**
- **The approaches to greens have been renovated, hollow cored and top dressed, and the same applies to the temporary greens, ready for winter.**
- **We are levelling/replacing some winter mats that have been unsettled/overworn.**
- **We continue to look at a redesign of the 11th tee, to improve its appearance and reduce maintenance time. Meanwhile we will re turf that tee area for this year.**
- **As ever, many thanks to Carl and the greens staff for producing a course of such high quality – something that visiting teams and individuals frequently praise.**
- **Please note this clarification of club/local rules: the mid-fairway marker posts for 150x are fixed, so if you're impeded, take a free drop rather than uprooting the markers.**
- **The autumn/winter programme focuses on bunkers, trees and general course presentation. Specifically,**
 - a. **Bunkers around 2nd green to be re-established**
 - b. **Fairway bunker on 2nd, left side, to be made a green hollow**
 - c. **Fairway bunker on 2nd, right side, to be reshaped to soften/remove lips**
 - d. **Fairway bunker on 14th, right side, to make a less severe face**
 - e. **Tree thinning at rear of 12th green, and over "Scotland" area**
- **There are continuing tasks, especially turfing of worn areas.**

Wider Club Matters

Matches and events

The re-arranged Gents Invitation Day was very successful, as was Craig Morris' Testimonial Event in September. The re-arranged Seniors' Open also had a very large turn-out and was financially profitable.

Seniors Matches

Many thanks to Iain Fletcher, who has coordinated the Seniors' matches programme brilliantly. He has decided to return to full time work, as a teacher – there's dedication for you – so the seniors' committee is looking for a replacement for Iain. If anyone is willing to take over this role, please contact Vice Captain Allan Meacher.

Team results

A busy August at Retford Golf Club

- *Retford hosted a home Mixed Friendly against Gainsborough on Sunday 4th August. The Gainsborough team included a player 92 years of age; what an inspiration to all golfers. Retford managed to clinch the win.*
- *Retford played their last league match at Wollaton, needing a win to gain promotion. Unfortunately they were beaten, but young Ben Marro gained his second scratch team cap, after his win on Monday night at Oakmere.*
- *The scratch league player of the year is Lewis Hunt winning 6 from 7 matches; congratulations to him. We have a strong team, with a good spirit. Many thanks to the players, who have played to their best in every match; Chris Naylor, Chay Rafferty, Pete Wheatcroft, Tony Inman, Ian Hardman, David Hough, Lewis Hunt, Ben Marro and George Cordall.*
- *Retford won the Notts Men's Inter Club Foursomes for the second consecutive year. They played Oakmere in the final, with a resounding result. The team was Chay Rafferty and Tony Inman, George Cordall and Louey Palmer.*
- *Congratulations to Tony Inman who won The President's trophy on Sunday 8th September. Tony was playing Wayne Lowe in a good spirited and well contested final. Well done to both players on reaching the final of one of the clubs prestigious trophies.*

Extra Stableford 15th September

1st Steve Booth with 42 points; 2nd Darren Hunt with 41 points

Senior Stableford 19th September

1st Geoff Walker with 41 points; 2nd J Archibald with 39 points

Stableford 20th September

1st I Ball with 37 points; 2nd D Scott with 35 points

200 Club Competition Winners September 2019

100 golfers played on a damp and windy on the last Saturday in September. The overall gents winner was Reg Walters on 41 points, some of this due to good fortune from bunkers and trees, as he recalled during his winner's speech. The winning Lady was Jean Cooper, carding 31 points, which was quite an achievement having had a reduction to her handicap of two shots during the week for some low scoring in a qualifying round.

Gents

BF9 20 David Lilley; BB9 23 Norman Hollandby; Halfway 31 Chris Scholey;

7th 37 Rex Riley

6th 37 BB9 Howard Cooper

5th 38 Steve Hull

4th 39 Gary Lane

3rd 40 Pete Brett

2nd 40 BB9 Ken Hull

1st 41 Reg Walters

Nearest Pin on 3rd Anthony Thompson

Nearest Pin on 11th Michael Flynn

Nearest Pin in two on 17th Ian Lindley

Ladies

BF9 16 Pat Eccleshall; BB9 13 Pat Stirling; Halfway 25 Liz Fitzakerley

3rd 28 Barbara Burton; 2nd 29 Sue Boyes

4th 26 BB6 Lin Tongue

3rd 28 Barbara Burton

2nd 29 Sue Boyes

1st 31 Jean Cooper

Nearest Pin on 3rd Pam Beardsall

Nearest Pin on 11th Barbara Burton

Ladies Section

Inter club update

Ladies Silver league Promotion

The ladies silver team played their last match of the season on Monday 23rd September away at Mapperley. They only had to win one game out of seven; it was a very tense time waiting for all the players to finish their matches. Six returned having being defeated with just Karen Pollard the last player to finish. A win would mean promotion back to A division; well done Karen for a great result and securing promotion. Thank you to all the ladies who played in the silver league matches throughout the season contributing to this season's success.

The Retford ladies' bronze league consists of 7 ladies in the team, with handicaps ranging from 19 to 38. Unfortunately, they have been demoted for next year.

42 ladies played in the Lady Captain's Away Day at Ashby Decoy. Despite a worrying weather forecast the conditions were calm and fine and all ladies remained dry. The winners were Lynda Moore - 1st division, Jean Cooper - 2nd division and Cynthia Herrington - 3rd division. The team prize went to Sue Boyes, Lin Tongue and Joan Birtles. Nearest the pin was Jean Cooper. The event concluded with a meal in the clubhouse where Lady Captain, Helen Dean, presented the prizes and thanked all the ladies for supporting the event.

"The Coronation Foursomes" played by the ladies on August 6th was won by Abi Kennedy and Jacky Walsh; finishing a close second were Geraldine Matthews and Jean Brunt.

A nice win and a welcome to Retford Golf Club for Abi , one of our newest members and our youngest at age 24."

Ladies Stableford 9, played on Tuesday 10th September, was won by Keran Hutchinson with 37 points. Jacky Walsh was 2nd on count back from Ros Waterhouse. Both ladies scored 35 points

**Lady Captain's Day was very well supported and the weather was kind to us.
The main prizewinners were:**

Captains Prize - Sue Nickless

Scratch Prize - Pat Fox

1st Silver - Lin Tongue

Lower Bronze - Jacky Walsh

Upper Bronze - Pat Eccleshall

The Mollie Loseby Cup played on Tuesday 3rd September was won by Lynda Moore with a net 72.

Lady Captain Helen Dean came 2nd with a net 73.

Other Club matters

- **Centenary Year 2020**

Plans are well under way for events and celebrations for our Centenary. Details will be published nearer the times, but here are some headlines for your diaries.

- ✓ **January 1st; Champagne Breakfast, followed by Captain's Drive-in at 11.00am.**
- ✓ **Mid-May; Captains' Invitation Event (Current Captains of Notts and nearby Clubs).**
- ✓ **Saturday 16th May; Captain's Charity day. Teams of 4, £10 for members, £15 for visitors. Entry will be available in the Pro Shop from 4th April, with full payment on entry. With limited places, an early entry is strongly advised**
- ✓ **Centenary Week 22nd-25th June; including Gents and Ladies Invitation events.**
- ✓ **Centenary Weekend Fri 26th –Sun 28th June;**
- ✓ **Fri 26th June; Hickory Golf Day and Texas Scramble. Teams of 4, 3.00pm start on shotgun. £40 per team, including great prizes.**

Again, early entry (from 4th April) strongly advised, with limited places available.

- ✓ ***Saturday 27th June; Social Pro-Am golf, BBQ and Live Band. £25 per couple, with prizes, food and live entertainment. Again, early entry (from 4th April) strongly advised, with limited places available.***
 - ✓ ***Sunday 28th June; Centenary Championship and Trick Shot Show. £5 entry per person, including entertainment and prizes.***
 - ✓ ***17th & 18th July; Captain's Away trip, to Ulsthorpe Golf and Country Club. Only 28 places available, £118, including 2 rounds of golf, bed, breakfast and evening meal. Again, early entry (from 4th April) strongly advised, with limited places available.***
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- ***The catering at the Club is proving popular and successful. A key to this is the publicity that Greg highlights on Facebook. If members will follow and respond with "like" on the RGC Facebook page, it would boost our popularity even further.***
 - ***There is an app, the Loyal Free App, onto which Craig has enrolled RGC, which encourages anyone in the area, visitors or residents, who might be interested in visiting or playing at the Club.***
 - ***We've had a mixed response, with great success of the Wednesday Bunker menu and a very poor take up on other days when catering has been available from 9.30am, with sales less than the cost of wages. Therefore, with immediate effect, we are trialling the Bunker menu to be available on Monday through to Thursday. In addition, this will be available from 11am, rather than midday. Friday will stay the same with food available from 9.30am. Where there are visiting parties who have pre-booked cooked food, this will also be available to members. Apologies to the few members who will be affected by this change.***

And finally....

As always, if members have any concerns, ideas or proposals, please contact us so we can follow up with you.

From

Andy Massey, Dean Atherton, Barbara Burton

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