



MARKET DRAYTON GOLF CLUB

RAVEN REVIEW

e-mail address: market.draytongc@btconnect.com

March 2009

Introduction.

New format new ideas. We hope you like it. We want you, the members, to express your views and ideas for YOUR club. And what ever you do make this year a year of

PARTICIPATION

We will try to keep this message short and to the point. It will contain news of our teams and news of forthcoming events. The future and cost to you of your membership depends on your support across the board.

If you have not yet done so please let Chris have your e-mail address.

Please note the telephone number of Fred Brown is 653793 and not as in the diary.

Welcome to our new Captain Ron Humphreys and Vice Captain Derek Birch. I am sure we all wish them a successful and enjoyable year.

Coming Soon

Please check your diary for fixtures.

Sat 29th March Harry Lane Trophy.

Thurs 9th April Captains Away Day at Fulford Heath GC.

Fri. Sat, Sun 10th, 11th, 12th April Easter Stableford unlimited cards.

Thurs 16th April Seniors Open.

Fri 24th April Ladies Am-Am.

Sat 25th April Church Stretton at home (friendly match)

Sat 2nd May Vale Royal Abbey mixed friendly match.

Mon 4th May Mixed Open

Sat 9th May Wrekin away (friendly match)

Sun 10th May Gents Invitation.

Social and Entertainment.

With a new Committee the aim is that we will have at least one Social Function each month. With that in mind the Committee have created a Schedule of Events. Please support the Club by attending these Events. The more money we can make this way the lower will be the subs.

The first Event will be a **Quiz Night on Wednesday 8th April** time and details to be advised.

Thereafter we will have:-

Sat 23rd May Greek night,

Sat 20th June Salisbury Hill Barbeque,

Wed 8th July Texas Scramble followed by a light meal,

Sat 22nd Aug Jazz Nignt.

Please put these in your diary and make sure that you come.

The Captains "Drive-in" took place on the 25th Jan. The weather was cold but 90 (or so) players turned out to support the Captain. He and President Fred Brown lost on the 17th to Derek and Russell. The team match was won by the Vice Captains Team.



Ron Humphreys Capt. Derek Birch V. Captain. Russel Clewes. Fred Brown President

Just a few thoughts on golf:-

Definition of the average golfer: one who starts with 6, shouts "fore", takes five and puts down a three

Fairway: that which a player playing six on a long hole is heard to answer when asked how far it is to the flag.

Gimme: an agreement between two golfers who can't putt.

Handicap: a device for collective bargaining on the first tee.

Golf and sex are the only two things you can enjoy and not be good at.

Web Site.

We have a wonderful web site at www.marketdraytongolfclub.co.uk. Have you used it? It is brilliant. It contains the diary and lots of other information. Please also note our e-mail address of market.draytongc@btconnect.com.

Handicaps

Denis Roberts has raised the point that there are a great number of players who have not properly maintained their handicaps. It is necessary that all players put in three cards each season. To ensure that you do not lose your handicap (be red carded!) please play your 3 competitions and put in your cards.

Competitions & Results.

The "Scratch B" Team have had a very successful season. In the Hargrove Trophy County Competition they reached the semi-final. Losing to a very strong Oswestry Team. In the process they beat Mile End 4 to 2, Kington 5 to 1, Ludlow 4 to 2. Congratulations to Derek Birch, Ian Corcoran, Matt Birch, Philip Ash, Peter Yelland, Liam Kelly and Fred Turner-Handley.

The Winter League is now reaching it's climax. After many weeks of battle between 36 teams in 4 leagues the Quarter Finals will be played on Sunday 15th March. This competition is played in all kinds of weather and our congratulations are given to all teams particularly the quarter finalists. The line up is:-

Steve Lander & Gordon Shurmer v Bill Oliver and J Gillespie

S Lee & Tony Wells v Phil Alcock and Roger Large

Billy Morgan & Martin Roden v Jack Oakes and Cameron Timmis and

Matt Birch & Simon Parton v Paul Brown & Daniel Hand.

Bob Bayliss.

Ladies Section.

The new lady Captain's season started with her drive in. Jenny Wilson drove off in style on Sunday February 15th in the first major event since severe weather forced the course to close. As she stood on the first tee, Jenny was presented with a beautiful bouquet by Ron Humphreys the men's captain. Watched by more than 60 fellow members, including the president Fred Brown, the men's captain Ron Humphreys, lady president Sheila Johnson and lady vice captain Joanna Howard, Jenny, with nerves of steel, hit a spectacular drive up the first fairway.



Fred Brown President. Jenny Wilson Lady Captain. Ron Humphreys Captain.

The drive-in was followed by two competitions on the front and back nine holes. The front nine competition was won by Christine Barlass, Sally Glover and Margaret Playfair with 39 points and the winners of the back nine competition were Chris Armstrong, Chris Ward and Denise Shuter also with 39 points.

A bottle of champagne donated by Jenny in aid of her charity, the Severn Hospice, this was won by Cynthia Espley for marking the spot, almost to the inch, of Jenny's opening drive. After the competition, members enjoyed afternoon tea in the clubhouse.

Best wishes to Jenny for a very happy and successful year.

Ladies Forthcoming Events.

Russell has arranged for a representative from golf clothing company, Glenmuir, to visit the Club on April 7th and together they will present a display of the current season's fashions in the Clubhouse following the April Medal.

Penny Heath will run a Swap Shop of new and nearly new golf clothing in the Clubhouse on 21st April starting at 2pm. All proceeds to the Lady Captain's Charity, the Severn Hospice; a minimum donation of £1.00 is required for each item 'bought'.

Our congratulations go to Cynthia Espley and Sheila Johnson who, having beaten their opponents from Hawkstone Park GC, proceed to the next round of the Daily Mail Foursomes Competition.

Lynn Ellerton.

Juniors Section.

After many years the Junior Organiser, Denis Furnival has retired from the job. On behalf of the Club we say many thanks for your sterling efforts.

Last year the Junior Team was very successful reaching the final of the North Staffordshire League. They lost in the final to a strong Trentham Team in the playoff at Newcastle. In the Shropshire League the team finished in joint second missing the playoffs by an extremely small margin. Congratulation to all.

One junior in particular who deserves congratulations is Matt Birch (handicap 4). Last season he was unbeaten in his County Matches winning on 11 occasions. He has also been selected to attend the Shropshire/Hereford Junior Golf Academy in Spain. He will go to Spain for a week where he will be coached and take part in a special match against a Catalan Boys Team. Best of luck Matt and keep off the sangria!!

Do not forget the **Junior AGM on Saturday 28th March at 10.30.**

Russell has now available the Junior "swingometer" (Explanar Swing Trainer)

Mens Seniors Section.

With the new team of David Crawley as Seniors "Captain", David Graham as Organiser and Ron Berry as Treasurer the section with 72 participating players is stronger than ever. Despite the uncertainties of the winter weather the Mens Senior Section was active playing a winter competition over this time. The annual Xmas Dinner Dance was held in December and attended by thirty five senior men and their ladies - a good time was had by all.

The winter competition continued with 1st Ron Salisbury, 2nd Roy Bloor and 3rd Pat Davies in the winners frame in the Xmas Stableford. In January (3 clubs & putter) Roy Bloor (again), Bob Cann and Steve Robinson took the prize vouchers. February saw Bob Parker, Sean Bermingham and Peter Lawson taking the Stableford prizes in style. The last of the winter Stablefords, a three ball yellow ball comp, was won by the team of Ron Salisbury, Peter Barker and Fred Brown with 77 points notwithstanding the "curse of the yellow ball" on two or three holes. January also saw the weather delayed final of the Stan Bryning Shield with Steve Robinson winning a close match against David Graham by 2&1. SeniorGolfer of the yeat was Peter Lawson. Well done Peter.

The inter club matches start in March. The first at home against Penn is scheduled for March 19th. The second against Oswestry on the 26th March is also at home. The team sheets were filled very quickly so if you want to play in these enjoyable matches get your name down quickly.

The third match is against Crewe at home on the 2nd April. And don't forget the MDGC Seniors Open on Thurs 16th April.

David Graham

Professional.

As the new Season approaches Russell Clewes our Professional has a number of offers to make. He has a range of Gents Lined sweaters at £32.50 (half price) and Callaway trousers at £15 per pair. He has a few pairs of Footjoy shoes (2008 Style) left at half price. Referring to his golf balls he has Srixon Distance at £10 per dozen, Bridgestone Tour 330s at £18 per dozen (half price) and all Benross stock is also at half price. Also now available are the Srixon Z star and Z star x.

The new Bridgestone range of clubs, bags, wedges and balls are now in stock.

Demonstration clubs Sky Caddie SG5 and SG 2.5 are now available.

We will all have seen the building alongside the nets. This is for the Explonar Swing Trainer and lesson can now be had (standard adult and junior frames are available).

Please support our Professional whenever you can.

Compliments and Gripes.

What we do not want are meaningless moans. What we do want is constructive criticism or compliments. Let us know your views.

We wish rapid recovery to all our members who are not 100%. Get well soon and come back to the most frustrating but enjoyable game on our millionaires course

Final Thoughts.

Never try to keep more than 300 separate thoughts in your mind during your swing.

When your shot has to carry over a water hazard, you can either hit one more club or two more balls.

If you're afraid a full shot might reach the green while the foursome ahead of you is still putting out, you have two options: you can immediately shank a lay-up or you can wait until the green is clear and top a ball halfway there.

The less skilled the player, the more likely he is to share his ideas about the golf swing.

No matter how bad you are playing, it is always possible to play worse.

Next edition April 2009 please send your contributions by 12th.

Fred Brown. (fredbrown@aol.com)