

Ladies' Golf Captain's Blog – 18th October 2023



Well - talk about hitting the ground running! Charlotta signed off her last blog just two weeks ago and so much has happened already.

But before I move onto that, I'd like to reiterate our thanks to Charlotta for her year as Lady Golf Captain at Roehampton Club. She has been a wonderful leader and her lovely Swedish touches have been enchanting and fun. Most memorable was when she appeared in her fabulous national costume on Lady Captain's Day.

My last task as Lady Vice-Captain was to organise the **Fox Trophy Day** – a golf competition for Past Lady Captains followed by lunch. Pat Fox, who donated this trophy, was Lady Golf Captain at Roehampton Club in 1966. And for those of us old enough to remember, this was also a memorable year when England won the football World Cup. I don't think Pat will mind us revealing that she is now 96 and she made the journey from her home in Sandwich to oversee the proceedings.

Eleven of our Past Captains ventured early onto the course in the wonderful warm October sunshine and played for the Trophy. Jane Peel was this year's winner and runner up, Rosemary Paterson. After, all the golfers were joined by a further seven Past Captains and we assembled for a very jolly lunch and a fun photo afterwards.



The Fox Trophy Lunch

The next day was the **Ladies Golf Annual Meeting**. Charlotta and I teamed up with our 'golf buddies' Jill Pepper and Jane Farrell. We had a great time playing St Andrew's Foursomes in the lovely autumn sunshine. Sadly, our scores were not good enough to appear on the impressive leader board, as below:

- 1ST Place – Priscilla Harries and Sandy MacCaw- 41 Points
- 2ND Place – Alison Post and Heather Webber - 40 Points
- 3RD Place – Jo Thesiger and Cathy Staveley – 39 Points



The Centenary Plate Winning Team

Hole in One! A huge fanfare for Astrid Drayson who scored a Hole in One on the 14th. And grateful thanks from Charlotta for Astrid's kind donation to Age UK Wandsworth for this achievement.

The Ladies' Section AGM followed the golf competition and Yours Truly was duly pinned with the appropriate Lady Captain's brooch by Charlotta.



Pinning the Lady Captain's badge

Captains' Charity: I also announced at the AGM that my charity for the forthcoming year is Small Steps. This is a local charity that helps children aged 0-5 years who have a physical disability, including cerebral palsy and other forms of motor impairment. These children need a great deal of extra stimulation and assistance to reach even the most basic of milestones. You'll be hearing more about them during the coming year, but for immediate information, please visit www.smallsteps.org.uk I'm delighted that Men's Captain, Peter McGovern has also chosen Small Steps as his charity and I hope that we can combine to make a real difference through our combined fundraising activities.

The Captains' Drive In followed on Saturday 14 October. Well, that was a nerve-wracking experience. First, the membership has fun predicting the combined drives hit off the first tee by myself and Peter McGovern. Whoever guessed 584 yards was certainly having a laugh! In the event, Peter hit a majestic drive and mine wasn't too bad, so we were at least off and running without any great embarrassment.

After we had teed off, some 100 players went out onto the course for a mixed shotgun start. Still the warm October sunshine was with us and I had the pleasure of playing with Peter McGovern plus Charlotta and Simon Butler. (photo right)

Roehampton Club Ladies' Team win the Centenary Plate Competition

The busy AGM week was rounded off by the closely fought finals match at Royal Mid-Surrey when the Centenary Bowl team took on Surbiton in the final round of the Plate Competition and congratulations to our ladies for bringing home the trophy. A slight surprise was that the 'plate' actually turned out to be a splendid cut glass bowl. No doubt this will now be on display in Roehampton Clubs cabinet, so do go and admire.

Huge congratulations to all the players during this campaign and to the team who played in the final - Lorna Robey, Trish Boyington, Steffi Williams, Charlotta Lyckeus and Heather Webber, plus their supporting caddies - and of course their fantastic captain, Angie Atkins. (photo right)

And if that wasn't enough, on Thursday 12 October, Roehampton Club was cream of the crop at the **United Services Ladies Golf Autumn Meeting** at Sand Martins Golf Club with Caroline Williams winning with 38 points and Lorna Robey winning the scratch prize with 33 points. Well done, both.

Weekend Ladies Survey: We recently undertook a survey of our weekend lady Members to seek their views on how they would like to see the golfing activities develop for the weekend competitions, etc. We had a small but representative return giving us feedback which is now being analysed and we are working on a programme for 2024 to hopefully provide a variety of activities combining competitive golf as well as some fun days.

Upcoming Teams

There are two big mentions here. First to the **Annodata** squad who are now in the **quarter final**. The surprise news is that the next match will be held Away against Perrenporth – in Cornwall! Hats off to the ladies who are racing down to the South West this coming weekend determined to bring home that win.



Past and Present Captains after the Drive in



Jane Farrell and Jill Pepper join Caroline and Charlotta for the AGM golf

This is the final stage and the winners of this next match will be on their way to Spain for the Semi/Final rounds. Go Girls!

And – closer to home – we have the first match in the new season **Pearson** campaign to be held this week on Thursday 19 October. At home against The Drift. Good luck Tigers.

Finally, this week's **fun competition** was a Waltz. Well done to the winners:

1st Polly Lewis, Valerie Patten and Heather Webber - 74 Points

2nd Shirley Keane, Caroline Leslie and Lucinda Cormack - 71 Points

3rd Sally Gesua, Patricia Morgan and Kathleen Bacon – 70 Points

The mornings have suddenly become colder and we had news of our first early morning frost on Monday, so I fear that summer golf is now coming to a close, but we've had a good run making it to mid October with some lovely autumn weather so far.

Enjoy your golfing and I look forward to seeing everyone on the course soon.

Caroline Dewar
Ladies' Golf Captain