

Ladies' Golf Captain's Blog – 8th February 2024

Well, we now have January behind us. The days are gradually getting longer and hopefully we are over the worst of the wet winter as we creep into February. Was it a 'Dry January'? For some on a social level, maybe, but as for the Tuesday weather, we didn't fare too badly although we had some varied conditions – frosty, windy and sometimes damp. Let's hope spring is on the way and the weather gods will be kind to us in the coming weeks and months.

Seniors Mixed Competition at the Hurlingham Club

On Thursday 11th January I had the pleasure of joining the Seniors Mixed Competition at the Hurlingham Club. 'Twas a cold and frosty morning with the ball bouncing in all directions! This is an interesting outing – driving over the frozen lake (twice), over the croquet lawns, around the cricket pitch and of course, taking care of penalties by landing in precious flower beds, definitely tricky.

But a victory for Roehampton Club as we brought home the 'Rose Bowl' for the first time ever in an away match. A most enjoyable day.

Fun Competitions

On 16th January, the yellow balls were out for the Ladies' morning fun competition. It was a beautiful sunny day, but trolleys were banned due to the frosty conditions and therefore the competition was held over just 9 holes. As previously publicised, all 'carry only' competitions will now be only 9 holes.



I heard that a few lost their yellow balls diminishing their chances of high scoring, but the winners in first place with an impressive 58 points were Val Patten, Tessa Ringrose and Lucinda Cormack. Second were Jo Thesiger, Louise Tierney and Helen Maguire with 52 points in third place with 49 points, Lindy Evans, Rosemary Patterson and Pippa Walker. Well done all.

A week later, Storm Jocelyn was threatening to disrupt our Playing Cards competition with rain and high winds. The course was open and trolleys allowed, so like troopers, we pressed on ...

The rain wasn't too heavy but it was **very** windy. The groundsmen had diligently been around the course early morning to pin different playing cards onto the flags – many of which were ripped off in the wind, but carefully chased down by Members who managed to fix them near the green for the following players.

Congratulations to everyone who played in these tough conditions – most completing 18 holes – and a special mention to the two teams who scored 101 points each, with the winners declared on countback. In

first place were Susan Sandler, Astrid Drayson and Melanie Lindsay Brown and in second place were Tricia Morgan, Alison Post and Sandra Drum.

A non-qualifying Stableford Competition was held on a Tuesday 30th January. Dry, but cool and grey. Just three temporary greens that day and the course was in great shape after the recent dry spell. 44 players were out on the field and the winner with a stunning score of 43 points was Kathleen Bacon. Claire Martin was second with 37 (countback) and Astrid Drayson in third place.

The Texas Scramble was held on 6th February. It was breezy but once again dry – have we turned a corner from wet Tuesdays?! Ali Jacobs, Jackie Beedle and Astrid Woloszczuk were the winning team with Jane Peel, Fiona Pollard and Helen Maguire in second place and Mary Barlow, Lorna Robey and Annette Timms coming third.

The inaugural Weekend Ladies Foursomes fun competition was held on Sunday 21st January, supported by a fabulous turnout of 34 players. The weather was kind and relatively warm but as the ground had not recovered from the recent frosty conditions, 18 temporary greens with bucket holes were in place.



After the round, players congregated in the Members Bar to socialise and for the presentation of the new Trophy to winners Kathleen Bacon and Astrid Drayson with 44 Points. Runners up were Amanda Campbell Lambert and Cilla Harries with 42 Points, pipping Emma Angood and Lou Wills on countback, also with 42 points.

Captain and Pro

My second Captain and Pro competition was played on 24th January. Partnered by Oscar, we were challenged by Emma Angood and Kathleen Bacon who gave us a tough match. Despite Oscar's fantastic three birdies and an eagle on the front nine, we were all square at the turn.

We got into difficulty after Oscar hit a magnificent drive on the 12th but the low sun prevented us from seeing the direction of travel and the ball was never to be seen again! The opposition took a firm hold after this incident and were the victors. It was a really fun game of golf and a privilege to play with Oscar. Thanks to Emma and Kathleen for supporting my charity, Small Steps.



If you'd like to challenge me and another Pro during the coming months, just sign up on the noticeboard in the locker room. A few dates are still available and some more will be added later.



Charity Golf and Bridge Day – Tuesday 13th February

Many golfers have already signed up for the morning shotgun foursome's competition starting at 9am but there are still places available.

The afternoon Bridge is open to all Members and guests, male and female. There will be afternoon tea, as well as prizes and a raffle. The entry fee is £20 per head, all proceeds to benefit this year's Captains' charity, Small Steps www.smallsteps.org.uk

Alan Scott Trophy – Saturday 17th February

Attention Weekend players – sign up individually and you will be in a mixed team of three players competing in this shotgun start, Stableford competition. Alan Scott was the Head Professional at Roehampton Club between 1980 – 2008 and we are delighted that Alan is planning to come along to present the trophy!

Derry Team

The Derry Team are back on parade having won through the initial round robin stage and will play their first knockouts against Camberley Heath home and away on 11th and 12th February respectively. Good luck to Jo Thesiger, Jane Peel and Lorna Robey representing the Club in these matches.

Surrey Knockouts

The Summer Knockouts are now open. Sign up for the 4BBB, Foursomes and Singles events, etc. Full details can be found at the [Surrey Women's Golf website](#). Entries close on 15th March. [Click here for the latest Surrey Women's Golf Newsletter](#)

Ladies Away Day – Friday 5th July at Blackmoor Golf Club

Vice-Captain, Claire Martin is arranging this year's away day at Blackmoor Golf Club. Located on the Surrey / Hampshire border, this is a Harry Colt designed heathland golf course and will be a real treat! Booking information will be available in due course. www.blackmoorgolf.co.uk

Course Maintenance

Please note that there will be restricted golf 26th – 29th February due to course maintenance and therefore we will not be organising a competition on Tuesday 27th February.

Annabell Fuller

Congratulations to Roehampton Club member, Annabell Fuller who has officially turned professional after securing her full Ladies European Tour (LET). Please consider supporting her through her [Go Fund Me page](#) Annabell is hoping to join us at Roehampton Club in the Summer to present a Masterclass to members – more info to follow.

Let's hope that the drier weather continues through February as we hone our golf skills ready for the spring events. In the meantime, enjoy your golf on our wonderful course which is in amazing condition. Thank you to Peter and all the greenkeepers.

Caroline Dewar, Ladies' Golf Captain