



## Ladies' Golf Captain's Blog – 14th March 2024

Well, the February weather continues into March, testing everyone's patience – greenkeepers and Members alike.

Despite this, there is still much to report on golf events that have been played during the last month, albeit in mixed conditions.

### Competition results

On Wednesday 7th February, the Ladies Golf Committee ran a Matchplay Experience session for some of our newer handicap golfers. A briefing was held to appraise the players of the scoring, rules and tactics before despatching them in pairs to compete over 9 holes – accompanied by another experienced pair to assist their understanding.

Feedback suggested that everyone had a lot of fun and enjoyed the new challenge. Well done to all who took part and thanks to our willing helpers / tutors. New handicap ladies interested in participating in a future session are welcome to contact me.

On Tuesday 13th February, we held our Annual Foursomes Golf and Charity Bridge afternoon. Inga Kempton and Lou Wills were the winners of the morning golf with 36 points. Runners up Cathy Staveley and Jo Thesiger scored 33 points, closely followed by Judy Gowing and Pippa Walker with 32 points.

The afternoon bridge was a mixed event attended by 44 players. Raffle tickets were on sale and proceeds from the day raised an impressive £750 for the Lady Captain's Charity, Small Steps.



Prizes were awarded to Gunilla Huldts and Val Patten for the only Slam Bid and to Jackie Beedle for the best score, with Liz Collins a close second. After the bridge, a lovely afternoon tea was served before the prize giving and raffle draw.

Huge thanks to everyone – those who attended and donated so

generously to Small Steps, the Bridge section for allowing us to commandeer the Bridge Room, Louis and Matt for selling the raffle tickets, the catering team for providing a delicious tea – and to Claire Martin for leading the proceedings.





The popular fun competition 'Kick, Throw, Gimme' returned on Tuesday 20th February. As the title suggests, each player can take one of those options to get them out of trouble during the round.

The 'throw' is particularly useful for chucking the ball out of a bunker and, as ever, reports of the 'kick' were usually the least successfully executed – despite the stylish demo.

Winners were Pippa Walker, Kate Carson and Sandy MacCaw with 88 Points. Runners up were Sally Gesua, Caroline Leslie and Sandra Drum with 84 Points, closely followed by Kasandra Spalding, Jo Thesiger and Katy Preston with 83 Points.

The Stableford competition held on Tuesday 5th March was non-qualifying due to the number of temporary greens. Trolleys were, however, permitted and some impressive scores were recorded, with Lucinda Cormack leading the field with

a stunning 40 points. In second place was Jo Thesiger with 38 points and Henrietta O'Shea following closely with 37 points.

The curse of the Wet Tuesday returned to scupper our plans for this week's Australian Spoons with the course closed. This is now re-scheduled to take place alongside the Coronation Foursomes on Tuesday 7th May.

### Mixed Golf

On Saturday 17th February, the annual mixed individual Stableford competition was held in benign conditions, with a field of 72 competing for the coveted Alan Scott Trophy.



Alan was Head Pro at Roehampton between 1980 – 2008 and it was delightful to meet him as he came along to present his magnificent trophy to winner David Worden who won with 41 points.

18 ladies were among the contenders, and congratulations to Junior member, Harriet Prince for coming in with the highest ladies score of 35 points.

A further mixed event was held the following weekend, being a fun shotgun and everyone playing from the red tees. The format incorporated the 'Kick, Throw, Gimme' theme. After some heavy overnight rain, players were carrying clubs, but the weather was mild and dry for the

competition.

### Surrey Women's Golf Inter-Club Knockout Competitions 2023/24

A sign that the summer season is soon to be underway, the Surrey Inter-Club Knockout draws have now taken place and Roehampton Club ladies are limbering up for the team competitions as below.



- **Hicks Trophy** – drawn against West Byfleet in the preliminary round but Roehampton Club has been granted a walk-over as WB have been unable to field a full team.
- **Centenary Bowl** – drawn against Betchworth Park in the preliminary round and will play home on 28th March and away on 30th March.
- **Wallis Trophy** – Drawn against Cranleigh in the preliminary round and will play away on 24th March and home on 4th April.

Meantime, Roehampton Club is progressing well in the Pearson and Derry competitions:

- **Pearson Trophy** – the team is through to the Group Knockout stage and will play West Surrey. Home on 4th April and away on 12th April.
- **Derry Cup** – the team have already secured a 3-0 Away win vs Royal Mid Surrey in the semi-final and will play the home leg on 24th March.

Very best of luck to all the teams!

Keep updated with progress through our notice board and on the website [www.surreywomensgolf.org](http://www.surreywomensgolf.org)

### **Annabell Fuller**

Recently turned professional, Roehampton Club Member, Annabell Fuller is already featuring among the top international ladies and posting some very consistent scores. Last week, she played in the Aramco Team Series in Tampa, finishing in 20th place out of a field of 61, scoring 2 under over three rounds.

### **Coming up – Ladies Club Day Tuesday 26th March**

Make sure you are signed up for Ladies Club Day (sign up opened on 12th March). The golf will be a shotgun start at 9.30am. Format – 18 holes Greensomes plus some other fun elements. Sandwiches / afternoon tea will be served afterwards at 2pm before the prizegiving for the Club Day Competition and winter knockouts. No need to change after golf. Please sign up at Club Reception for the tea.

### **Ladies' Open Gold Challenge Cup 2024 Saturday 6th April**

Roehampton Club is hosting the Ladies' Open Gold Challenge Cup on Saturday 6th April. This is a hugely prestigious event so do pop a note in your diary to come along with friends and family to watch some of Britain's leading female amateur and professional golfers playing our home course. Note: in order to prepare for the tournament, the course will also be closed on Friday 5th April.

And finally, congratulations to Ricky and Alice Pharo who welcomed their first baby Luca into the world on 6th March.

**Caroline Dewar, Ladies' Golf Captain**