

# Ladies' Golf Captain's Blog – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024



After a quiet August, the golfing activity exploded back into action in September. A lot to report ...

My last two **Captain and Pro** matches were held in early September. First against Val Patten and Heather Webber. The opposition played superbly. However, a quick pep talk to my partner, Ricky on the first tee explaining that I needed a win for my rather pathetic track record of Captain and Pro matches, seemed to have the desired effect. Ricky pulled out all the stops, scoring 63 with six birdies – Nice! (for me).

The final challengers were Liz Collins and Buz Dodds. We had huge fun and again Ricky was on sparkling form but after a tight match, we secured the final win.



The Captain and Pro Grand Finale Competition followed on 12th September. All of the season's challengers were invited to play and the aim was for them to beat mine and Ricky's scores on the day. A really fun afternoon and Ricky and I were unbeaten. The top score by the original challengers was from Charlotta and Claire.

A total of 13 matches have been played since last November and I am delighted to report that we have raised a stunning £3,000 for Small Steps. My thanks to all of the challengers for the generous donations; to Ricky for supporting the charity by giving his own time and also that of the Pros who took time out to play.



**The Pearson 36 hole Salver** competition was scheduled to take place on Thursday 5th September. The weather was far from ideal – heavy rain prevailed at the 8am start time resulting in just six stalwart players venturing out to play. The morning weather was a mixed bag but the players were adamant that they would play the remaining 18 holes in the afternoon – after all the weather looked a bit more settled. Oops – thunder and lightning struck as they were coming down the 7th / 8th holes and the course was subsequently closed and play abandoned.

A decision was taken that Round Two would be taken from the scores from the following week's George Gadd medal competition. Congratulations to Henrietta O'Shea who won the Salver, shooting a nett 145 (1 over). And to Jo Thesiger for winning the Robey Trophy, awarded for the best scratch score, shooting a gross 161 (17 over).



**Tuesday Golf** has been more serious during September, with fun competitions set aside in lieu of various trophy competitions.



First, the **Ladies George Gadd and Grannies Vase** with 50 players competing on a fine morning. Congratulations to Sandy MacCaw for winning with nett 65 to win the Ladies George Gadd Trophy and to Barbara O'Boyle with nett 71 to win the Grannies Vase.

**The Autumn Meeting** singles medal rounds were held on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th September. 63 Members turned out for these rounds, played in lovely autumnal weather. The following week we played the Foursomes on a contrasting cool but dry day. However, it was a great relief that the course was open after the previous day's closure, following heavy downpours of rain over the weekend.

After the Foursomes, Members congregated for sandwiches and Autumn prize giving. The morning results revealed that Tricia Culliford and Heather Webber were the winners with 40 points. Runners up were Lindy Evans and Jenny Gaskin with 39 points and in third place were Lucinda Cormack and Therse Swanson with 38 points.

The main prize giving featured the Autumn Meeting trophies awarded to:

**Symons Trophy** to Charlotta Lyckeus for the top aggregate nett score in both Bronze and Silver Divisions 76 + 66 = 142

**Johnson Trophy and Pearson Salver 1968** to Liz Collins

**Anne Cowan Salver** to Cathy Staveley

**Pedersen Salver** to Jane Peel

[Click here to see full competition details on the prize sheet](#)

Trophies were also awarded to the winners of pre-Autumn Meeting trophies.





The **Summerside Cup** is the weekend autumn competition and was held on Saturday 14th September with 20 players. A very cold start to the morning – woolly hats were even spotted, but many were down to shirtsleeves as the day warmed up. Congratulations to Harriet Prince, winning with 36 points. Runner up was Shirley Keane with 35 points and Lucy Jones took third place on countback with 34 points.

Returning to relaxed golf, last week's competition was a **Waltz**. Louis' weather forecast assured us of a dry morning whereas mine was very different and those who played will recall that it was *extremely* wet. Happy Tuesday ...

The winners were Ali Jacobs, Joanna Thesiger and Clodagh Taylor with 78 points, runners up were Sally Gesua, Polly Lewis and Tessa Ringrose with 76 points and in third place Patricia Morgan, Caroline Dewar and Claudia Chan with 75 points.

Roehampton Club were invited to enter a team for this year's **Kingswood Salver**. Hosted by Kingswood GC, seven clubs are invited on a rotational basis and as a result, we play roughly once every four years. Three foursomes teams are entered with each pair being low / high handicap. This year's team was Jane Peel and Louise Tierney, Astrid Drayson and Caroline Dewar and Fiona Pollard and Caroline Nettel.

On day one we won our first match against Cuddington and remained in the Trophy competition. On day two we drew with Clandon Regis but were knocked out on a sudden death play off. Clandon Regis went on to win the Trophy (we were so close!). However, we were then entered into a 9 hole 4BBB competition and won a handsome trophy – currently on display in the ladies' locker room



This two-day event was huge fun. Kingswood were fantastic hosts and I'd like to commend the brilliant play by our team.

### Team News

Sadly, it's the end of the road for the **Hicks and Wallis** teams – both making it to their respective semi-final stages.

The **Hicks** team came up against Hindhead, the holders of this competition. Team captain, Lorna Robey reports that it is many years since Roehampton Club made it to the semis, so this was a fantastic achievement. Nine of the Club's top players featured in the six matches.

Likewise, the **Wallis** team had a fantastic run but were defeated by Windlesham last week. This is the first time that the Wallis Team have made the semi-finals in this relatively new Surrey competition. With a squad of some 15 dedicated players, Louise Tierney captained a terrific campaign. Congratulations to all.

Our Ladies' and Men's Club Champions, Issy Simpson and Alex Tonge challenged each other to a **Champion of Champions Match** and it was played last weekend on a lovely sunny afternoon. They were neck and neck at the turn, but Alex had the edge and was the victor.

It was a great match and a joy to watch – played in great spirit and both agreed that this should be an annual event.

**The Annual Fox Trophy** competition for Past Lady Captains was played on 7th October. Traditionally organised by the Lady Vice-Captain, Claire Martin arranged the competition followed by a delicious lunch. Pat Fox who donated the trophy and was Lady Captain in 1966, was sadly unable to join us this year as the journey from her home in Sandwich was considered too far.

11 players were on the course in beautiful warm sunshine. This year's winner was Angela Atkins with 37 points and runner up was Vivien Harris with 34 points.



**The Ladies' AGM**, being held on Tuesday 8th October, is press day for this issue of the Recorder and I will therefore sign off here and leave the incoming Ladies' Captain to report that day in the next issue.

It is therefore time for me to sign off as contributor to the Ladies' Golf monthly Recorder blogs. I'm told that many of our Members are not avid readers, but thank you to those who have occasionally sent messages of appreciation. I've enjoyed reporting on our activities through the year.

As I hand over to Claire Martin, I'd like to thank the Club for giving me a wonderful opportunity of being Ladies' Captain for the 2023/24 season. It has been a huge honour and most enjoyable. I must also thank my wonderful committee for their untiring support, all of whom have contributed enormously to the running of the Ladies' section. And, of course, my gratitude to Louis and Matt for everything that they do to make the Captain's job so much easier.

Best of luck to Claire and I look forward to playing golf with many more of you as we go forward into the next season.

**Caroline Dewar, Ladies' Golf Captain**