



## **Captain's Newsletter 1st July 2022**

Fellow golfers, I hope this finds everyone well and taking advantage of the favourable weather we have had in the last 10 days or so. It has been wet at times, mixed with some cloud and sun, but there have still been opportunities to get out onto our fabulous golf course. Here is the latest newsletter with everything that is going on at the "The Castle". This will be my last newsletter for a few weeks as I head off for some sunshine on Saturday!

### **Competitions**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June saw the Veterans Stableford Trophy won by Iain Aitken with an impressive 38 points. Here are the results which, as always, can be found on the SG App:

#### **Overall**

1. Iain Aitken 38pts
2. Doug Robson 36pts
3. Joe McGoldrick 34pts

#### **Division 1**

1. Scott Hunter 36pts
2. Stuart Mackenzie 34pts (BIH)
3. Wilson Friel 34pts

#### **Division 2**

1. Iain Aitken 38pts
2. Doug Robson 36pts
3. Joe McGoldrick 34pts

#### **Division 3**

1. John Chittick 35pts
2. Alex McKendrick 33pts
3. George Owers 32pts

Well done to everyone taking part.

The Ladies Captain's Prizes competition on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June had the following results:

### Silver

1. Sheila Biggart 38pts (BIH)
2. Marion Munro 38pts
3. Vivien Howe 37pts (BIH)
4. Anne Judge 37pts

### Bronze

1. Gillian Donaghy 37pts
2. Christine Minto 35pts
3. Morven McLeod 32pts

Well done to the winners

The Thursday Stableford Competition saw 18 entries and a win for myself with 44 points and a career best scratch 68. Not bad if I do say so myself, witnessed by my playing partners of Ewen Templeton and Robert Murray who came in second with a sterling 39 points.

All the knockout competitions appear to be progressing well so good luck as the final stages are getting closer. July 2<sup>nd</sup> sees the monthly medal and the draws for both the Senior and Club Championships qualifiers are to be found in the following links.

[Club Championship Schedule](#)

[Club Championship Qualifiers](#)

Members Guest Day proved to be a roaring success albeit with a few communication issues on the day. The two shotgun starts have proven to be an excellent idea with the afternoon tee times fully booked and only 4 tee times not taken in the morning. A great day's golf was had by all with some unusual pin positions adding to the fun element and the 7<sup>th</sup> tee situated up next to the ordinance survey stone giving a sensational look at the green and the views back to Glasgow captured in all its glory.

The prize list was superb and special thanks to Greens Convener Brian Glover for the hard work put in to make the day a success.



Afternoon winners Andy Hayne and Andy Forrest.

### **Catering and Hospitality**

The fish night was yet another success as our new chef settles into the role. No other news to add at this time.

### **Course/Greens**

The course remains in superb condition with Craig now having the help of an additional member of staff to keep on top of the work.

As can be seen the greens are looking superb with many commenting on Saturday how true and consistent, they were as well as starting to show some speed although this has to be monitored given the windy weather, we have been experiencing to ensure the balls remain still whilst putting.

The divot bags continue to be utilised and you can see the growth appearing where the seeded sand has been applied.

A couple of housekeeping rules for those newer members as well as the rest of us. Remember that full flight chipping on the practice putting green is not allowed due to a health and safety risk and it also has a negative impact on the surface. Putting and bump and roll only is the preferred practice method on this green.

When on the course remember and use the bells to alert players behind the area is clear to play and finally, please repair pitch marks and replace divots.

## **Social Events**

The social calendar remains fluid at the moment as the season is very busy at the moment and holidays start to kick in. However, watch out for a "Pie and Pint and a Pundit" in late August early September which will be a great opportunity to hear some stories from two of our members Ally McCoist and Derek McInnes.

Also, the pub quiz will be along also so keep watching this space for these fun events.

## **Newton Shield Team**

The Newton Shield team signed off the season with a loss to a very strong Ralston side. The only saving grace was a good win for Robbie MacKillop on his season debut.

I would like to pay my thanks and gratitude to team manager Alan Gordon who after 7 years at the helm is standing down. He has at times oversaw some of the best golf produced by Ranfurly Castle's finest as well as getting the Muirhead Trophy back to where it belongs with back to back wins. He goes with a superb record and some inspiring team talks that were a treat. He leaves the team in good shape as we start to draft in some new players for the future.

We are now on the lookout for a new team manager for next season.

## **Juniors**

The juniors have started their inaugural Junior Muirhead Trophy strongly with a resounding 4-0 start in the Fourballs. The team are already gelling and looking forward to the next round of matches. This has been a great learning curve for our young golfers as they start out on their careers here at The Castle.

WELL DONE

Finally, this will be the last newsletter for a couple of weeks, so get out onto the course and enjoy any dry weather we get.

Happy golfing

Stevie Scott

Captain