



Captain's Newsletter 26th May 2022

Fellow members,

This will be the first newsletter in a few weeks as I was off to enjoy the sunshine rather than being stuck here in the driech weather that has been upon us. I have a few things to go through, so I appreciate your patience. As I look out my window, at least it is dry!

Well, it was!!!

Competitions

Saturday the 14th of May saw the first round of the **Spring Meeting**. I had the tees and greens set to challenge the competitors given the importance of the event. As such, some great scores were returned as follows:

Kinnell Trophy

	Name	Round 1 Net	Round 2 Net	Total
1st	George Colquhoun	64	70	134
2nd	Gary Caldwell	70	77	147
3rd	Laurie Mcleod	73	74	147

Jubilee Trophy

	Name	Round 1 Gross	Round 2 Gross	Total
1st	David Provan	76	77	153
2nd	Gregor Munro	76	78	154
3rd	John Ferguson	80	76	156

Well done to George Colquhoun on winning the Spring Meeting handicap and with it the Kinnell Trophy. The scratch winner for the Jubilee Trophy was past Club Champion David Provan closely followed by another former Club Champion Gregor Munro.

Club Championship Qualification

Qualifying for the Club Championship and Senior Club Championship is decided by the best 2 Gross scores from the 4 qualifying competitions.

May Medal

Spring Meeting 1 & 2

June Medal

The top 15 (Club Championship) and top 7 (Senior Club Championship), along with the defending champion, qualify for the knock-out stages of each championship.

In the event of a tie, the player with lowest gross score from the 2 best Gross scores will qualify e.g., if 2 players have a total of 150 for the 2 scores, Player 1 with a 74 and 76, Player 2 with a 75 and 75, Player 1 qualifies due to the 74 being the lowest score.

If a competitor qualifies for the Club Championship and the Seniors' Club Championship, they will be able to play in both. If a competitor qualifies for two Finals, then the Club Championship takes priority.

The **Welcome Quaich** was played on Sunday 22nd May and, after some strong winds and generally tough playing conditions, the winner was Wilson Friel with a commendable 37 points closely followed by Andy McCrystal on 35 points. There were very few other great scores due to the challenging weather.



The Ladies Medal/Finals/Qualifier was played on the 18th of May with the result as follows:

1. Anne Robinson +2 (76 net)
2. Louise Cooper +4 (79 net)
3. Pamela Mackenzie +7 (81 net)

The Thursday Stableford on the 19th of May was won by Angus Gould with a sensational 45 points closely followed by Callum Stevenson on 38 points.

Some great scores out there so well done to everyone taking part.

Catering and Hospitality

Leanna has kindly asked if any of our members know of anyone looking for summer work as there are opportunities for bar and catering work throughout the season. There is also a part time vacancy for a chef. We would ask anyone interested to please contact Leanna at the Clubhouse hospitality@ranfurlycastlegolfclub.co.uk

Please see the following Curry Night for Friday the 24th of June. I would ask that you book early as the fish nights have become a great success and I envisage the curry evening to be every bit as popular.

[Curry Night Pdf](#)

Captain's Night on Saturday 11th of June is now filling up nicely and can I ask that you get in and book your place as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Leanne is also looking for those already booked to pay and to choose their starter and main course a week before the event. Please see the following for the menu:

[Captain's Night Menu Choices](#)

Tickets cost £25 per person and can be purchased through Leanna at the bar, and I guarantee a great night will be had by all. The event will be from 6.30 for a 7pm meal with entertainment in the form of Platinum Duo who have performed at the Castle in the past. I look forward to your support.

Course/Greens

The course is now starting to show its teeth as the grass starts to grow and the rough starts to get up, making it more important to keep your ball on the short stuff. Craig has continued with the necessary greens' maintenance where possible with light top dressing along the way. The greens, have indeed, not been quite as good in the last week and a half as they were earlier in the season. This seems to be a Ranfurly Castle thing - as I look back every year this pattern continues.

The rhododendron bushes are out in all their glory at number 12, with colourful displays at the back of the 17th green adding great colour at this time of the year.



I certainly noticed in my travels into the rough that the grass is starting to grow and there are now wispy areas that tangle with your clubs. The fairways remain generous as it is ever so important to keep the ball on the short grass.

The tee boxes are now starting to grow after a heavy winter period and poor weather conditions. We will hopefully get the chance to move the tee boxes into different positions as the season progresses, thus offering increased protection for the more used teeing areas.

The divoting was a great success and you can already see the improved surfaces and regeneration of the damaged areas.

Our Head Greenkeeper is still on the lookout to increase his complement of greens staff with the vacant posts proving difficult to fill.

Social Events

Unfortunately, the quiz has had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances and a new date will be arranged and communicated.

We are in the process of looking at ways to fit in social events to suit a wider audience as we start to get into the season. Hopefully, Captains Night will set the tone, and the bar and club gets the support necessary to increase the social calendar. It cannot be underestimated the significant strain placed on socialising due to the Covid pandemic. Hopefully we can start to buck that trend.

Newton Shield Team

The Team have had a very tough schedule of late due to lack of availability. A draw was the best we could get at home to Erskine and then suffered a heavy defeat away to Kilmacolm with a weakened side. It's not looking too favourable this season, but the team will keep plugging away to get a play-off spot.

Next up was Ralston at home, again, with a severely depleted side. Unfortunately, we went down 4.5-3.5 with the reigning champions panicking going into the last few holes. Good wins from myself, debutant Brian Glover and Steven Lamont and a half from Ian Mitchell meant we came up just short. Manager Alan Gordon praised the valiant effort.

Juniors

The juniors continue with their season as the Newton Shield gets underway. Junior Convener David Provan has been impressed with some of the golfing talent progressing through the Castle. The young players should start to benefit from coaching from our professional Stuart.

Pro-Shop

The shop is awash with colour and equipment for golfers of every standard. Remember, members get a 10% discount on purchases and there is also a price match through the suppliers at Foremost Golf. See Stuart or Dawn for the finer details.

It remains for me to say that I hope you are getting out onto the golf course and that we soon start to get the summer weather we crave to get our game into shape. If you have any problems or queries, please contact me on the email address below or utilise the suggestion box in the ground floor foyer.

Please leave your details to allow me to respond as quickly as possible.

Happy golfing

Stevie Scott

Captain

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