



Wortley Golf Club



Captain's News Letter – June 2010

Dear Members,

I hope you are having a good year and your golf is almost on form.

This year is the Centenary of the Sheffield Union of Golf Clubs and I was pleased to receive a Plate, for Wortley, on your behalf, to commemorate this Event. I intend to frame it and have it displayed in the Clubhouse. An image of the Plate is on our Website.

As part of the S U G C Centenary celebrations I played in a Captains Team (of four) Event at Rotherham Golf Club and we won 1st Prize – a pair of engraved wine glasses each. (yes, the other three were good !)

You can keep up with news of competitions and events by visiting our Website which is updated weekly.

I'm sure you won't be surprised that we are receiving many compliments from visitors on our beautiful course and catering. The team of greenkeepers headed by John Davis are doing a marvellous job, thank you very much lads !

- The greens are superb and we all contribute to the high standard by repairing pitch marks. Please use a proper tool instead of a tee peg. Janice deserves praise for her catering which has been remarkable while she has been recovering from her serious accident earlier this year – great work Janice !

Nick & Janice would like to thank members for their consideration during the first weeks after the accident when Janice was able to offer only a limited menu.

- Our Sunday lunch dining room dress standards require that golf attire should not be worn before or after playing.
- We have 3 reminder notices posted but, please remember, if you would like food after playing **evening golf** on a **Tuesday** or a **Thursday** please **order before** going out to play.

The Summer Ball was a memorable event. I'm sorry that some of you missed the Entertainer because he was late on stage. However, it's generally agreed that the delay of 'Elvis' gave us the bonus of a wonderful performance from Adele and great support from Andy. Without prior notice nor musical backing they were fantastic. Thank you very much Adele and Andy.

Past captain W.J.Hayes 'discovered' a silver salver engraved "The Earl's Trophy" in the cabinet. This is an important legacy from the last

Earl of Wharnccliffe, and I welcome your suggestions for an annual competition for this prize.

Our Chair of Social, Jean Bloodworth has a silver candelabra donated by the late Mrs Joan Keay: please advise with any suggestions for it's appropriate use.

Three Doncaster area golf clubs engage in an Annual Triangular Tournament. Their teams have a mix of players and handicaps and each club hosts once in three years. It has become a keenly anticipated, friendly contested 'Blue Riband' event. I wondered if this type of competition would be suitable for Wortley ? I welcome your feedback on this topic, including your preferences on which two neighbouring clubs to approach if we decide to include in our fixtures.

Due to lack of support we cancelled our Gents Am-Am scheduled for 10th September. We have replaced it with a Men's Individual Open, priced at £17. This is being promoted on info@golfempire.co.uk under 'individual', and 'Yorkshire' region. This is an opportunity for your friends or colleagues to play competitively for prizes at a great discount. Of course we expect to generate significant income for the Club.

Notes from Lady Captain :-

Saturday 21 August - "The Night the Ship Went Down"

Fancy dress - what were you wearing the night the ship went down ? Were you in bed ? On the stage, entertaining ? Captain of the Ship ? At a Fancy Dress Party ? Working as a Cook, Waitress, Steward, etc. ? Sunbathing ? Swimming in the pool ? In the casino ? In other, words anything goes !!

Disco, and a meal in a basket.

Sunday 22 August - Player and Non-Player Competition (first tee time 11.30 a.m.)

Members to invite a non-playing partner to play the course, e.g. Ian and Kay Saxby. 18 hole competition. Member to play fairway shots, non-player to do the putting. Meal and prize presentation to follow. Warm sunny afternoon already ordered !!!! A fun time guaranteed !!!

Thank you,

Elaine.

Notes from Hon. Treasurer :-

Unfortunately we have had a bad start to the year. The first quarter was badly affected by the awful weather we had to endure.

Our income was down on the previous year by over 7% as well as the budget by 9%. Visiting Parties were 39% down on 2009 and Casual Visitors were 88% below 2009. All this as well as members not frequenting the club resulted in Drinks Income being 27% below 2009.

However by the end of May we have managed to recover slightly, although we are still below forecast and last year in many key areas. Our Income is now 3% below this time last year and 1% below forecast. Casual Visitors are 24% below last year and forecast and Drinks Income is 7% below last year and 9% below forecast. Due to there still being a few vacancies for membership we are also 3% below forecast for Subscriptions.

So far we have also had an expensive start to the year. The Course although 5% ahead of budget is confident of coming in on budget by the end of the year. The Clubhouse has also had an expensive start to the year and is currently 14% over budget. This has been caused by finding a number of areas where essential repairs were required. Although we will continue to improve the fabric of the building where essential I hope that all non-essential works will be put on hold to ensure that the expenditure does not run out of control versus the budget.

I hope that in the remainder of 2010 we are able to moderate our expenditure, by so doing we may be able to improve our financial position by the end of the year.

David Poisson.

Notes from Hon. Chair of House :-

We are going to organise a 'Painting Day' later in the year. This is the House equivalent of a divot night. Members could volunteer to paint/stain woodwork around the clubhouse, not important stuff like doors and windows but the fencing/sheds etc.

Tools and paint / stain etc will be supplied - we will keep you posted.

Does anyone know where the off-cuts of our dining room carpet were stored please ?

Dr Ed Birkby.

Notes from Hon. Competitions / Handicaps Secretary :-

Competitions are being well supported, this on certain day can cause problems with slow play, and in particular on medal days. On President's Centenary Day we banned starting on the 14th hole and waiting while the group in front reached the 1st green before teeing off on the 1st tee, I would appreciate your views as to if this improved the pace of play. If we find the measures are not working we may have to resort to tee off times during peak times ie . 7.30 am to 11.00 am.

Can I remind members who's handicap remains inactive to correct this as soon as possible, and also that once a handicap has become active 3 more qualifying cards are required so that your handicap remains active on 1st of January 2011. Qualifying cards consist of Competition cards and supplementary cards (if eligible), on a measured course.

Members express views to me on the number of competitions we have at Wortley some that we need more and some that we have too many, again your views will be appreciated.

Mark Charity.

And finally

Good luck to the squad of players in our League Team – well done so far, here's hoping for better luck in our 'second half' of the season.

Never say "**never**", after 50 years of playing I recently bagged my first eagle on a par 4, a perfect 7 iron onto the green and into the cup ! I wish all of you good golf and some happy surprises.

Alan Hampshire,
Wortley Golf Club Captain.
alanhampshire@rocketmail.com