

# WISHAW GOLF CLUB WORLD

## *Introducing our Captains for 2023/24*



As long-established members of Wishaw Golf Club, these three may be new Captains but have vast and varied experience of the Club and are certainly not new to golf.

Darren has been Vice-Captain to Paul Williams for the past year and has headed up Club Teams as well as being involved in organising events and is now looking forward to his time as Club Captain. He was a great help to Paul last year, helping him to raise substantial funds for charity. Darren is hoping that members will be as generous this year for his chosen charity, "Wish Upon a Star", a charity which enables children with life-limiting conditions to fulfil their dreams. He has chosen the bunkers on the 15th as his Captain's Bunkers so if you go in them, please donate to the bottle in the bar.

Margaret kindly stepped in as Vice-Captain in February. Although she has not served the traditional 'apprenticeship', Margaret has been a member for many years and has organised several of the external team events during this time. This experience will help greatly in her new role. She is supporting Darren in his chosen charity.

Rob Pratt has been Vice-Captain to Kevin Daly and has been a member of Wishaw Golf Club for a number of years. He has the support of the Seniors' Team Committee and will be an excellent addition to the Members' Committee.

## HANDOVER & AWARDS EVENING



Following the wettest March for forty years, the weather did its best to ruin our traditional Captains' Handover game. However, Wishaw Captains and Vice Captains are made of sterner stuff and following an inspection of the course by our dedicated greens staff, went out on Saturday 1st April to play a reduced hole competition along with a number of equally hardy and determined members.

The Betterball competition was won by Steven Taylor and Andrew Berry with a very creditable 20 points. In second place were Peter Miller and David Chapman with 19 points, followed by Ken Hayes and Stephen Mullings with 18 points. The Ladies' Hole prizes were won by Barb Kelsey on the 15th and Sue Franklin on the 17th. The Mens' Hole prizes were won by Ian Higgins on the 12th and Stephen Mullings on the 15th.

Presentation and Handover Evening was a very successful event with over 70 Club members and guests attending. Brendan Kimmet was again on hand to take photographs of all the award winners and the Handover event. These photographs will be available for members to purchase from the Club, proceeds going to the Captains' Charity, "Wish Upon a Star".



Last year's Captains, Sue Franklin and Paul Williams presented all of the awards to the winners, the one below being the Club Champion, won by Sam

Knowles.

Following the presentation of Awards, the Handover of the three Captains took place. The incoming Captains being presented with their blazers and the outgoing Captains were presented with tokens of appreciation from the Club in recognition of all of their hard work on our behalf last year.





A huge part of the evening was the handover of the cheque to Paul and Sue's charity, The Birmingham Children's Hospital. Thanks to the generosity of Wishaw Golf Club members, Paul and Sue were able to present a cheque to the value of £5,748.76 to the charity. Elysa Cooper from the charity detailed some of the work that they undertake and it really is a very worthwhile cause.



I would be sadly lacking if I did not express the thanks of the members to Richard Langley and his team for their assistance with the organisation of the event and for the catering and bar service on the night.

And last, but not least, a big shout out to our Chairman and Master of Ceremonies, Paul Baker for ensuring that the whole event flowed seamlessly.

A good time was had by all!

## SUMMER LEAGUE IS BACK!

This Club Major is to be run again this year but, following last year's disappointing level of entries, the format is changing. It will be a singles competition, rather than the doubles format of last year which discouraged many from taking part due to the problems of arranging fourballs. As last year, it will be played over eight weeks from 30th May to 20th July on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week with different formats for each week, Stableford, Bogey, Medal and Murphy's. Each of the formats will appear twice and there will be a sheet explaining the 'Murphy's' format attached to the score card. The best four cards for each player will count towards their league points so you do not have to play each week.

If you would like to play in this, please register with the Club Shop by 1st June. Registration costs £4 and each round you play will cost £3. Before playing each round, please register with the Shop and return your cards there afterwards.

As it is a Club Major, you will need to have the minimum 6 qualifying cards in before each round you play.

It is hoped that this format will encourage more players to take part so please give it a go. Apart from the exciting prospect of getting your name on the Honours Boards, you will also find out just what 'Murphy's' is!

# PUZZLE PAGE

## Iconic holes in golf

1 Which course is this?



2 Sunningdale Golf Club is in which English town?

3 You carry a score card with you each time you play which has the names of each hole, so what is hole 18 called?

Now for a few anagrams

Name the famous golfers

4 Rescued flop

5 I'm one gloom cretin

6 A rude saliva

Now for some rules questions

7 A player makes a practice swing and accidentally moves their ball in play on the fairway with their club. What is the ruling?

A There is no penalty, but the movement of the ball counts as a stroke and the ball must be played from where it lies.

B The player receives one penalty stroke and must replace the ball.

C There is no penalty but the player must replace the ball.

8 In match play, a player's ball is in a penalty area in shallow water but he decides to play it as it lies. He deliberately touches the water in the penalty area on his backswing. What is the ruling?

A There is no penalty.

B The player gets one penalty stroke.

9 If a player makes his first stroke in a round on a non-conforming tee, they are disqualified from the competition. True or False?

10 Which Spanish golfer won the 2017 US Masters

## VIEW FROM THE LADIES' LOCKER ROOM

It is recorded that one of the first lady golfers was Mary, Queen of Scots in the 1500s. During her reign, the famous St Andrews Links Golf Course was built. Mary was credited with creating the term "Caddie", derived from "Cadets", used by her when referring to assistants. Unfortunately, she had her head chopped off by her cousin, Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> before she could get her handicap down to single figures!



At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a Scottish judge suggested women should only drive the ball 70 or 80 yards as the posture for a full swing was not particularly graceful when the player is clad in female dress.

It has been a male-dominated sport for longer than women have been allowed to play. It still is, with more professional competitions and better prize money for the men. Women still have a long way to go to catch up.

The LPGA was founded in the 1950s by Helen Hicks. Fourteen tournaments were held during its first season. Today, thirty-three tournaments are held each season.

Things are finally looking brighter in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Women are more accepted on golf courses and given new opportunities.

That said, many of our local golf clubs still do not encourage women to play on Saturday mornings, calling them "the gentlemen's medal or stableford competition day", thereby only allowing women to play later in the day. Not much good in the winter months!

We are therefore, extremely lucky at Wishaw to have the luxury of playing at any time on any day and being encouraged to enter club competitions for all, but due to the difficulty of the course we unfortunately do not have a very big ladies' section. However the challenges of our course enable us to tackle numerous courses with confidence.

This season we have again achieved fantastic results, not only in our club competitions, but also in external competitions. Our final competition of the season was the 'Mad Hatters' three clubs and a putter. Due to the adverse weather, this was held partly in the simulator studio together with an indoor putting competition which made for a fun afternoon. Congratulations go to Margaret Howitt on winning the Teapot.

I thank all the ladies for their support and my congratulations go to all the ladies who have had success in qualifying or winning any of our competitions and wish all the incoming Captains a very successful year.

Sue

# SENIOR CAPTAIN'S REPORT

As I write these notes, there are only a few days left of my Captaincy. This is a review of 2022.

Our results this season were disappointing from my point of view. We played 28 matches won 12 and lost 16. At home we won 9 and lost 5, away we won 3 and lost 11.

The Senior Player of the Year was Steve Copley, well done.

The Seniors Open was very successful and a big thank you goes to Geoff Greenwood and Richard Massey. Also thank you to the volunteers on the day, the sponsors for each hole and the people who supplied the Tombola prizes. Last but by no means least, Stuart Thompson who ran the putting competition. There were 156 entrants on the day and some entrants were declined because all the tee times were taken.

We must remember that, for Wishaw Seniors to be successful, are the people behind the scenes, Ken Nimmo, Treasurer, Richard Massey, Match Allocation Secretary, that's from the playing perspective. The greenkeepers for keeping the course in excellent playing condition throughout the season. The kitchen staff for supplying first class meals. Richard Langley for booking all the tee times.

Finally, a big thank you to all the players for making my Captaincy very enjoyable. Not only did I meet new players from the opposing teams but also from Wishaw of whom I probably would not have had the pleasure of meeting, if I had not been Captain.

## ANSWERS TO QUIZ

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Answer 1  | St Andrews (17th The Road Hole)                                 |
| Answer 2  | Ascot   |
| Answer 3  | Fox Covert  |
| Answer 4  | Fred Couples  |
| Answer 5  | Colin Montgomerie   |
| Answer 6  | Laura Davies  |
| Answer 7  | B The player gets one penalty stroke and must replace the ball. |
| Answer 8  | A There is no penalty   |
| Answer 9  | False   |
| Answer 10 | Sergio Garcia   |



## CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

### Farewell from the Outgoing Club Captain

Hello everyone,

It has been an enjoyable year, with the talk understandably being about how the course is improving and the different ways in which the club is moving forward. We also raised an amazing £5,748.76 for The Birmingham Childrens Hospital Charity. Well done, that was outstanding.

I would like to welcome our new Club Captain, Darren Whitehouse. Darren has run the West Midlands League team for a number of years now. He has done a brilliant job and has the respect of all the players. Welcome also to Jason Allen, our new Club Vice-Captain. As well as working at Sutton Coldfield College Academies, Jason is our Welfare Officer and has helped as we tried to reinstate the Juniors section last year. I am sure you will agree that the Captaincy is in safe hands in 2023 & 24.

Finally, I must give a shout out to our Chairman and a past Captain, Paul Baker. In succeeding Larry Barnes last year Paul had pretty big shoes to fill. So I'm particularly thankful for his support.

And thank you all for your support. It has been an honour to be Club Captain and a privilege to represent Wishaw Golf Club.

Paul Williams

Wishaw G.C.

Club Captain 2022/23

## FINAL NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

At the start of another golfing year, I would like to record my appreciation for the articles from last year's Captains. I would also like to thank our other main contributors: Richard, Jason, Joe and of course our Quizmaster Paul Baker. Of course, these do not need to be the only contributors to the Newsletter. I am happy to receive ideas, articles and any suggestions from all members of the Golf Club.

And finally (Nicked from Tony Broome on a WhatsApp group)

John and Bob were two of the bitterest rivals at the Club and neither trusted the other's scorekeeping. One day, playing a heated match and watching each other like hawks, John holed out on the 4th and marked his six on the scorecard asking Bob "What score did you have?". "Six", replied Bob. "No, a five". John marked the scorecard out loud "Eight", he said. "Eight? I couldn't have had eight" Bob protested. "No" said John. "You claimed six, then changed it to five but actually you had seven." "Then why did you mark down eight?" asked Bob.

John told him. "One shot penalty for improving your lie".