



HEVER
CASTLE
GOLF CLUB

Newsletter

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Captain's Report



So, here we are in the height of summer. I arrived at Dartford Golf Club to caddy for Club Champion Colin Linsley in the Watson Trophy and it was snowed off! Driving (slowly!) back to Hever, our Invicta League match against Nizels had also been cancelled so we had a few coffees and enjoyed 18-holes of indoor golf with yours truly, Bob Whitty, Steve Whittaker Jr. and Tony Hussey making it to the play-offs (as we were the only ones left at the Club!). Tony Hussey managed to sink a tricky 30-footer, treble-breaking, dog-leg right, negotiating sundry items of furniture and a Chesterfield armchair to win!

Matt Saxby started the Trophy season well by winning the Spring Salver. Michael Warwicker won the Founder Trophy and David Towle, the Littlejohn Cup. I was delighted to host the Captains' Rose Bowl Trophy in April. The event was superbly supported and Pat Whitty emerged victorious. Several highly entertaining and competitive Hever matches

have taken place and I would again like to thank Vice Captain Tony for his excellent and enthusiastic organisation of these events.

The match against Crowborough Beacon at their magnificent course was heavily subscribed and we entertained Nizels at home and fielded 9 pairs aside! Team Hever recorded a sparkling 7 – 2 win. Our performance in competitive golf has continued to improve and we have reached the quarter final stages of both the North Kent Foursomes and the Yeomans Trophy.

The HSBC-sponsored Wee Wonders event held at Hever proved a great success.

Captain's Day was a terrific event and I have to extend my sincerest thanks to my wife, Linda, Ellen Chase, Paul Taylor, George Hawes-Gatt, Mike Aldred, John Morrison, Scotty, Neil Johnson and Matt Saxby, (the Pimms Partners!), Peter Holder, Joyce Woodhouse (and Team), Richard Hinds and Allan Chase for enabling the day to run so smoothly. I realised that the day must have been a success as out of the 120 entrants during the day, we managed to drink nearly the same amount of Pimms in litres. Peter Parks was again, brilliant in the Beat the Pro on the 12th raising over £500 alone and I am truly humbled by the generosity and kindness shown by all present as over £1,500

was raised for my nominated charity. Congratulations to Peter Lightfoot who won with 37-points off the Blues with tricky pin positions and many distractions, and also to Eileen Dodd who won the Ladies Competition with 36 points.

Helen Brown and I hosted the Interclub Captains' Invitational and alongside Tony Hussey and Katrina Vickery, Hever wrestled the Cup from Limsfield Chart, who won last year, back to Hever's Trophy Cabinet with 78-points! We then travelled to Broke Hill's Invitational, Hever being represented by me and Katrina, Tony Hussey and Karil Greenhalgh and we narrowly missed the double whammy being beaten on countback into 2nd by Reigate Hill.

Club Championship was another great success immaculately organised by Allan Chase and administered by Richard Hinds. Colin Linsley won with rounds of 77 & 75 with a newly liberated(!) David Hawes-Gatt winning the Ardcoyle Trophy with super rounds of 82 & 87 gross.

I have to say that Hever is beautifully presented right now thanks to the efforts of David Wood and his Team and I trust you will enjoy the rest of the season. Take care and swing smooth!

Ken Lipton
Club Captain

**STOP PRESS! CAPTAIN'S CHARITY
GRAND RAFFLE PRIZE DRAW 21ST FEBRUARY 2009**

**TICKETS STILL
AVAILABLE!**

For General enquiries please contact Hever Castle Golf Club, Hever Road, Hever, Kent TN8 7NP

Tel: 01732 700771 Email: mail@hevercastlegolfclub.co.uk Website: www.hever.co.uk

Lady Captain's Report

This is a busy time in the golfing year and several important events have either taken place or will shortly be taking place.

The first of these was the Ladies Spring Meeting, which was ably organised by Sharon Twiggs and was enjoyed by all those participating. The results were as follows:-

Ladies Spring Meeting Result

Winner	Jennifer Worth	nett 77 on countback
2nd	Karil Greenhalgh	nett 77
3rd	Gill King	nett 78

Congratulations to these ladies and to the following winners:

Winter Singles Knockout Winner	Sharon Henderson
Brindle Eclectic Winner	Sharon Twiggs
Winter Eclectic Winner	Chris Parry

The Dodderers Quaiach

was contested in a fine competitive spirit and, this year, resulted in a win for the ladies. Thank you to Eileen and Peter Dodd for organising this event.

The Ladies Open

was well organised by Jan Rooke and we had a perfect day weather-wise. It was heartening to see how many members of the Ladies' Section were around helping on the day. It makes such a difference to the success of the occasion.

The Ladies Invitaion

Although there was a disappointing turn out for the Ladies Invitation, it was an enjoyable occasion. The buffet meal proved popular with the ladies.

The Ladies Captain's Day

I enjoyed my Lady Captain's Day. The weather was perfect and all went smoothly or at least I was unaware of any snags. Stuart did a great job manning the Pimm's tent and helping with the putting competition, along with Eileen Dodd. Thank you to all who supported me on the day. The results are shown on the right.

Lady Captain's Day Results

Morning Stableford Competition

Winner	Katrina Vickery	39 points
2nd	Karil Greenhalgh	38 points
3rd	Sharon Henderson	37 points

Afternoon 9 holes Rumble Winners

Alan Wright, Russell Thomas, Liz Biggs and Pat Johnson

2nd

Bob Pullin, Ted Williams, Jennifer Worth and Irene Wright

Well done all of you.

Results of the matches:

Ladies v. North Downs (home)	Win 3 ½ - ½
Ladies v. West Malling (away)	Loss 1 ½ - 3 ½
Ladies v Croham Hurst (home)	Win 3 - 1
Mixed v. Croham Hurst (away)	Loss 2 - 6
Mixed v. Lingfield Park (away)	Draw 3 - 3
Mixed v. Sweetwood Park (away)	Loss 3 ½ - 4 ½
Mixed v. Chartham Park (home)	Loss 3 ½ - 4 ½

As the KCGLA is keen for clubs to try a few of the new nine hole competitions, we will be trying to fit in one or two, most likely in the early evenings. Please keep an eye on the notice board for details. They are also introducing a new competition called Champion of Champions in 2009. This will be for the 2008 Lady Club Champions from each club.

The Ladies Club Championship has just been completed, thanks to Pat Whitty for organising this event. Congratulations to

Karil Greenhalgh, the new Ladies Club Champion and to Jackie Pollock, the new Handicap Champion. There are three mixed competitions coming up soon - the Couples Cup on 27 July, the Mixed Invitation on 3 August and the Hever Stud Challenge on 10 August. Please try to support these events. With the long, light evenings, summer is a lovely time for playing golf and I wish you enjoyable golfing.

Helen Brown - Ladies Captain

Vice Captain's Report

Well here we are, my 2nd Newsletter and I am still on The Committee and I must say it is an honour and privilege, and definitely an opener.

The membership is rapidly increasing and is almost at the 550 mark. The course is absolutely fantastic as are the new practice facilities. Leiths are putting in a lot of effort as can be seen by the coffee machine (from which I was honoured to have the first cup).

The showers and toilets are now nearing completion. I'm sure you'll agree that the finished result will be worth waiting for.

Well our resident Bart Simpson look alike (Colin Linsley) is Club Champion again, after holding off a great fightback by Graham Meddings.

Thanks to all of you who are giving me great support in the club friendly matches. To date we have played 9 and won 5, halved 2 and lost 2. At the moment I am trying to arrange our annual pilgrimage to Vilamoura, which will be the 2nd week of September. This 7 day trip

which includes flights, golf, hotel and van hire will cost approximately £700.00 and any of the lads that are interested, please let me know. It is not a trip for the faint hearted as we spend lots of the evenings in museums, churches, art galleries and places of local historical interest.

Congratulations to Steve May who after a great Captain's Day managed to get into Da Vinci's in flip flops and shorts and then went on to attempt to break the Land Speed Record in a supermarket trolley. Apologies to David Hawes-Gatt who will now no longer be known as "Big Dave".

On a serious note, there have been complaints about bad language within the clubhouse. Some people find this offensive which is understandable. May I suggest that offending members please take note, and use only the Queen's English.

Tony Hussey
Vice Captain



Senior's Report

We have 87 full members at HCGC who are aged 55 and over. All of these 87 members are able to play in Seniors' competitions and matches provided they have a handicap and are five or seven day members of the main course.

Many of you appear reluctant to put your names down for the friendly inter club matches we play or to enter the Seniors' Stableford competitions during the summer months, each of which qualifies for the Bill Payne Trophy. Only 37 members have taken part in one or more of these Stableford competitions so far. We have also had a poor take up for the Seniors' Cup, which is the most prestigious competition for Seniors in the year. I would remind you that any member can turn up at 8.30am each Monday, Wednesday and Friday and join the "roll-up" and get to know more members. Please let me know what we can do differently so you can enjoy your golf at Hever more?

If you have any suggestions, please write to me at the Club office address or by e-mail to rogerlewis218@tiscali.co.uk Alternatively, you can give me a call on 01892 770218.

The member with the highest aggregate of the best five scores from the six Seniors' Stableford competitions wins the Bill Payne Trophy which is presented at Seniors' Day in December. Roger Clow is in the lead after the first three Stableford competitions with 109 points compared to his nearest rivals George Bentley and John Finch both of whom have 99 points.

The Seniors have played a total of 9 matches against other clubs of



George Bentley, the winner of the Seniors Cup with 37 points. Paul Reid was 2nd and Bob Pullin was 3rd, both with 36 points

which we have won 6, lost 1 and halved 2, so that is an excellent result so far. We have another 8 matches to play this season and lists will be put on the Seniors' notice board for you to add your name if you wish to play so PLEASE do so. They are a lot of fun.

Roger Lewis
Senior's Representative

Veterans Report

We are half way through the league season I am pleased to report we are lying in fourth position with 7 points, Eltham Warren are in the lead with 20 points.

Congratulations to the Hever Vets who won at home 3&2 against Eltham Warren on 14th July breaking their winning streak.

Once again I would like to express my thanks to James Grinyer for his help, and to you all for the support you have given me.

Vets Secretary
Ron Judge

Handicap Report

In my last report I gave the match play and stroke play indexes to be used at Hever Castle Golf Club effective 1 May 2008. From some of the comments I have received the rationale for having two stroke indexes seems unclear.

At past AGMs, I have reported each year on the course statistics giving the total performance on each hole, the number of times it has been played, the average score on each hole and the average over par etc. This I have done for each of the competition tees used comparing the results of the current year with the previous year. Each year, members have commented on the disparity between the degree of difficulty shown in the report and our existing stroke index. Our existing stroke index was in effect a match play stroke index and reflected correctly the directions contained in the Handicapping

System on the distribution of the stroke index etc. The Rules of Golf require "Committees to publish a table indicating the order of holes at which handicap strokes are to be given or received" and this we had done.

The 2008 Unified Handicapping System (UHS), in the section relating to Handicap Stroke Index [Appendix G], stated, inter alia, that the existing system for the stroke index used in match play "have proved to be suitable for that purpose" and that "there is a cogent case for the Index in [stableford, par and bogey competitions] such competitions to be aligned to the ranking of holes in terms of playing difficulty irrespective of the hole number" and "Clubs that conduct a significant number of Stableford, Par and Bogey competitions may wish to provide separate stroke index for match play and the listed forms of stroke play."

I reported on these matters at the 2008 AGM and following discussion, the committee decided to introduce a separate stroke index for all stroke play competitions along the lines suggested in the UHS.

The Committee has confirmed that:

We would retain, unchanged, the existing stroke index for use in match play. The existing Princes stroke index would remain unchanged for both match play and stroke play competitions

For any competition combining the use of Princes with either the Kings or Queens the existing match play index would be used.

A new handicap stroke index would be introduced for both Men's and Ladies stroke play competitions. This would be based on a 'snapshot' of the ranking of hole in terms of their playing difficulty, irrespective of the hole number, generated by the handicap computer software. For the Men this was based on some 7637 rounds played in competitions using the white tees and for the Ladies some 1413 rounds played by the Ladies in competitions using their red tees. The new stroke play SI reflects these figures.

The new stroke play index was brought into use on 1 May 2008 for both men and ladies stroke play competitions and the new cards have recently been received containing both match play and stroke play indexes. It was not considered practical, or economic, to have two different sets of cards and I am grateful to all members for their patience in using the old cards with an insert giving the stroke indexes to be used during the transition period until the new cards arrived.

Richard Hinds

HOW TO IMPROVE AT GOLF

BY PETER PARKS



Copies of our Head Professional's instruction book are now available to buy in the pro-shop or online at www.ticktock.co.uk, priced very reasonable at £5.99.

Designed for junior golfers it makes the ideal gift for children or grandchildren, however, many of the tips within are relevant for golfers of all ages.

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21ST FEBRUARY 2009

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE!

Moonshiners Swindle



EVERYONE WELCOME!

Sunday 24th August

9am - Golf Shotgun Start (18 Holes)
From 1.30pm - Hog Roast



Entry Fee is £15 per person

or

Free entry if you have played in at least 3 Wednesday Swindles this season.

Also Invite your family & friends to join for the Hog Roast for only £10 per person!

5-Day & Princes Members are very welcome to enter with a supplementary £10 greenfee.

For General enquiries please contact Hever Castle Golf Club, Hever Road, Hever, Kent TN8 7NP

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