



Women into Golf Initiative

LHGC are participating in the England Golf Women into Golf Initiative with an event on the afternoon of Saturday 11th March 2pm to 5pm. This is being hosted by the Ladies section aimed at boosting the membership by introducing women new to golf or interested in returning to golf after a significant layoff.

The details are on the club web site and the two packages on offer can be accessed via the following link: **Women's Golf Promotions 2022**. If you know someone who might be interested in this initiative please direct them to the web site or inform the membersec@lhgolfclub.co.uk.

County Competitions 2023

The club plan to enter 4 teams in the county competitions for 2023. If you would like to be considered for selection for any of the matches, please contact the team captains listed below.

Paul Shirt is the Captain for the **Scratch Team** and **Hargrove Competitions**. Contact: paulshirt@live.co.uk

- The Scratch is a summer competition in the match play format, played off scratch.
- The Hargrove is a winter competition in the match play format, played off scratch.

Tim Davies is the Captain for the **Handicap League**.

- The Handicap League is pairs playing better ball off official WHS handicaps.

Terry Beech is Captain of the **Ken Smith** team. Contact: terrybecky79@gmail.com

- The Ken Smith is Seniors pairs, playing of scratch.

Dates of matches will be open as soon as organising dates have been completed.

Digital Handbook

We have produced a digital handbook for members aimed at making access to key information about our great club much easier to find. The 'Master copy' is now on ig and can be accessed via the club website using this link **Lilleshall Hall Golf Club website** then scroll down to the 3 buttons.

The handbook includes information that was previously in the club paper diary, such as major competitions, county competitions, club history and much more. This has been enabled by extensive updates to our website and can be extended further to include other aspects as the website is developed.

You are welcome to send in suggestions that highlight club activities and useful club information for inclusion in the handbook, which could also improve content on the website.

Send your ideas to the communication director at: communicationsdirector@lhgolfclub.co.uk.

Open Afternoon Saturday 20th May

Due to the pandemic and Covid restrictions in recent years the club haven't had the opportunity to hold an Open Day to attract new members to our club.

Given the growing population in Newport and the local area, we are planning to hold an Open Day on Saturday 20th May 2023 from 1.00pm - 5.00pm.

We will be advertising in Nova News, Facebook and other social media platforms, along with some roadside posters around the locality. Hopefully, you as our current members, will take this opportunity to speak to people you know, who may be interested in joining and inform them of the event too!

Mary Harper, who is organising the event, is looking for volunteer members to support her prior to the day by baking a cake, or on the day with various activities. These will be things such as meeting and greeting, registering interested attendees, serving refreshments, escorting visitors around the facilities and some designated areas of the course, along with engaging in a social discussion about the course and club.

Any support would be gladly received even if it's just for an hour or two on the day! If you would like to help please contact Mary at mary.harper.50@icloud.com.

LHGC Social Calendar

1. The Captains Drive in will take place on Saturday 1st April 2023

Players and spectators should meet at 12.00pm in the clubhouse for presentations and photographs at 12.30pm. Charity lollypop sticks will be available at £1 each. Guess where each of the 3 drives will land and the lollypop stick nearest each ball wins a prize.

The Captain, Ladies Captain and the Junior Captain will drive off the first Tee from 1pm, followed by a Canadian Texas Scramble competition with a shotgun start. Each player must use a minimum of 4 drives and if your drive is selected you do not take part in the 2nd shot.

Entry to the competition will be through ig at a cost of £20 per team. Please come early to pace your lollypop sticks before the 1pm deadline. A choice of two special food options will be available for pre-order before the event.

2. Dates for your diary and information

- Saturday 11th March 2pm to 5 pm: Women into Golf open afternoon.
- Monday 8th May: Coronation competition. This will be a shotgun start to accommodate a post golf social. Entry will be on ig, more details to follow in edition 6 of the Newsletter.
- Saturday 20th May: LHGC Open Day.
- Tuesday 13th June: Lady Captains Day.
- 24/25th July: Captains Weekend.
- Sunday 30th July: Presidents Day
- Tuesday 15th August: Lady Presidents Day
- Sunday 10th December: Turkey Trot Competition

3. Volunteers to help arrange socials

Social events, some including golf, are essential to the success of our club both from helping to re-generate the friendly, cohesive atmosphere that we have all enjoyed, through to ensuring that the bar and catering facilities do not operate at a loss.

If you would like to help develop the social calendar by joining the social team for the new season, or have ideas for social events you would like to see, please contact the Social Secretary Helena Price helenaprice@gmail.com.

Seniors Matches

LHGC have a strong Senior's group who play regular matches against other clubs throughout the season both at home and away. If you are 55+ you are eligible to play in these enjoyable, competitive golf fixtures played in a friendly social atmosphere.

The season runs from March through to October and each match consists of 12 players per side (6 pairs) played in the 4 ball better ball format, followed by a meal.

Details of the match schedule are posted on the website at **Seniors Fixtures** and on the senior's noticeboard in the men's changing room, so you can see the range of great courses available to play.

If you are interested, please contact the Seniors Organiser Antony Blyth by e-mail at: **antonyblyth@aol.com**.

Club Champion

It has been agreed that to recognise the status of the Club Champion, currently Paul Shirt, the Club Champion will be allocated a parking space for the year following their achievement. The current "Buggy Park" on the 1st Tee car park will be assigned the "Club Champion" at the earliest opportunity.

Golf Fees for the 2023 Season

The calculation of golf fees across all categories for the 2023 season, as indicated to members by e-mail, has now been completed and the rates are live on the club website.

You can access the table by following this link. **Membership Rates and Benefits**. A new membership category "Off Peak Golf" has also been added.

Suggestion Book

Just a reminder to members that we have a suggestion book behind the bar, for you to contribute to improving all aspects of our great club, which is reviewed regularly.

It is important that the entries are not anonymous so that we can feed back information to you about any suggestions you make in a timely manner. All contributions are much appreciated.

Get Season Ready With a Golf Club MOT

This time of year can be pretty frustrating with the bad weather constantly closing golf courses, and even when you can get out playing often it's on winter greens and tees. This down time is a good chance to have a look at your equipment and see if it's fit for purpose.

This is often called a Club MOT. There are two factors worth taking into consideration, general wear and tear, and then suitability and change in loft and lie angle. Firstly, let's have a look at general wear and tear, the main things to look out for are...

Grips

The modern synthetic grip will wear out gradually over the course of time, the fact it's a gradual process is the problem. We don't put the clubs away one weekend then take them out the following to find they've gone slick and shiny.

As the grip slowly deteriorates, we just **grip the club tighter and tighter** leading to tension in the hands, wrists, elbows and shoulders, not great for that smooth takeaway! Leaving the clubs in the back of the car in either hot or cold conditions only accelerates the problem. Grips should be inspected at least twice a year.



Shafts

It is a myth that golf shafts “go soft” over time, both steel and graphite shafts, if looked after, will last a golfer's lifetime. However, **shafts will alter in playability if damaged**.

Steel shafts should be inspected for being bent, dented or rusty. Graphite shafts can suffer from being worn down by rubbing against the bag and if damaged can start to delaminate. Unfortunately, all these symptoms indicate the shaft needs replacing.

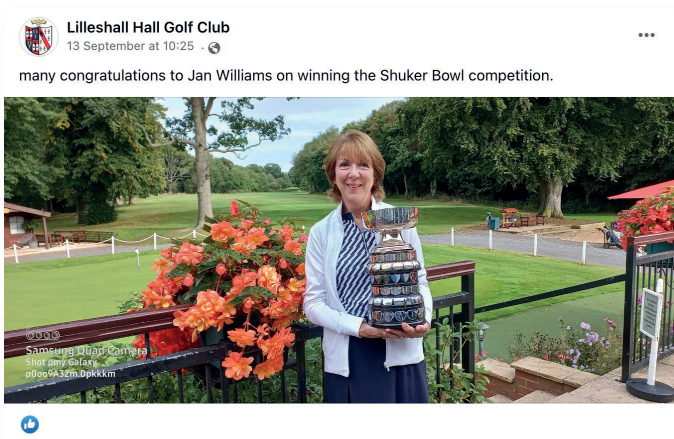
Grooves

Most of us don't hit the middle of the face consistently enough to wear out the grooves in our irons. Those 10 pence piece sized marks on the face of tour pros' iron are a result of hitting thousands of shots out of the sweet spot, something well beyond the club golfer! For us the **sand wedge is the club most likely to lose the grooves**, this is due to the abrasiveness of the sand in the bunkers, though most problems with grooves can be resolved by just cleaning them with a nail brush or tee peg, but if you do find a wedge is worn out, it needs replacing.

The second, and possibly the more frustrating, reason your clubs need an MOT is **Loft and Lies**. Regular use can alter these which in turn can affect yardages and accuracy. Although forged irons are perceived to give better feel, these **soft, mild steel heads are affected more than the more durable cast clubs**. Golfers practising on mats or playing on hard ground are especially vulnerable.

So, with all of the above information I'm sure you can see how important it is to get your equipment checked and adjusted if need be all of which we can do in the workshop here at the club. Get booked in before the season takes off and give yourself some time to adjust to your new feel clubs. **Happy golfing**, the Pro Shop team, Shervill Golf Performance.

See our Most Popular Social Media Posts Below



If you have an interesting story for the club, please contact communicationsdirector@lhgolfclub.co.uk