



## LHGC Vice Captain

For those unable to attend the AGM in July, we are delighted to confirm that David Brammer has been duly elected as the Men's Vice-Captain for the remainder of the 2023/24 season and Captain-designate for the 2024/25 season. We wish him every success and please give him your full support.



## County success

In the Ladies County Junior Championship, held at Bridgnorth GC on the 31st July, the girls battled it out over 36 holes in a gross Strokeplay event for the honor of lifting the Championship shield. After the morning session, the competition was very close with only 3 shots between the top three girls. The afternoon session saw further torrential rain affect the girls, but with a stunning second round of 73, Katelyn Wilkie from Lilleshall reclaimed the title with Sophie Brothwood (Wrekin) finishing in the runners up spot.



## County juniors

3 of our up-and-coming juniors Tyler, Emily and Elsa played on the county Pee Wee tour completing rounds at different clubs, all 3 thoroughly enjoyed the events. Congratulations to Elsa Thomas who came second in her age group twice and third on another over the 6 different courses.



**Freddie Timmis** played for SHUGC U18's v Derbyshire U18's at Arscott Golf Club on Sunday 9th July 2023. With many U18's unavailable for S&H it was an opportunity to bring in some of our younger players and they didn't disappoint.

This match was Freddie's debut for the County and what a great performance. Despite a narrow loss in the morning foursomes, which was understandable as it's a case of hitting every other shot with his playing partner, he managed to beat his Derbyshire opponent 3&1 in the afternoon session. No mean feat as he was playing one of Derbyshire's top players.

## Presidents Day

Well done to everyone who supported Mr President John for his special day Sunday 31st Sept. Very challenging weather conditions but still some very impressive scores. Winner of The Presidents Putter was Stuart Thorn with 45 points closely followed by Runner Up Peter Rossiter with 44 points.

The Green Tee Seniors competition was won by John Harper with 38 points. NTP on the 16th - Ryan Shervey and Longest Drive on the 5th was Mark Wilding. The Juniors played in their Major - The "Presidents Platter" and Katelyn Wilkie won with 42 points.

The Ladies played a 9-hole fun comp, and the winning team were Julie Cann, Sylvia Jukes and Michaine Callahan. A memorable day all round.



### Ladies Course record

Many congratulations to Katelyn Wilkie who won the Junior Major, the “President’s platter” with 42 points and in the process breaking the Ladies course record with a round on Net 70, gross 66. Katelyn now plays off a WHS handicap index of 1.4. The previous record was established before the Par 5 holes were introduced.



### Ladies Handicap League

Congratulations to our Lilleshall Bluebells team who have made it through to the semifinals where they will play against Hawkstone Falcons. The team managed to win all their matches in the qualifying rounds. Good luck ladies. Our Lilleshall Lillies team played some great matches but sadly did not progress to the next round.

### Strawberries and Cream on the Putting Green

To celebrate Wimbledon fortnight, Lady Captain held a fund-raising event on the putting green. This involved a fun couple of hours with some challenging tennis related putting and a very difficult chipping game on a miniature tennis court! Well done to Mary Harper who won the final match against Ann Pratley. Around £120 for Asthma + Lung UK charity was raised.

### Centenary Celebrations

Lady Captain, Debbie and Lady President, Elizabeth represented Lilleshall at the centenary celebrations of Brocton Hall Golf Club. 88 Ladies played in a Florida Scramble competition followed by afternoon tea. The plans to have tea on the terrace were thwarted by the weather but an enjoyable day was had by all.

### Lady Captain’s Away Stay

Twenty two ladies had an enjoyable stay at Forest of Arden Golf and Country Club. The courses were very challenging, and we got a bit wet on the Sunday but the sight of some wonderful deer on the back nine raised our spirits.

The winning team of Julie Cann, Mary Harper, Michaine Callahan, and Joan Lawson were presented with prizes by Lady Captain Deb Nicholson.



## **Blue staked plantation areas.**

There have been several queries about maintenance of the plantation areas and how long the blue stakes must remain.

As part of our permission from the Forestry Commission to clear woodland to create the new par 5s, we were obliged to plant about 3 hectares of new woodland – hence the plantations. We must maintain these for at least 10 years from the date of planting (last phase was completed in 2018). The blue stakes will, therefore, be with us for another few years, at which time we can start to consider thinning and making some of the areas more maintenance-friendly for the future. Even if we had spare man hours to regularly clear the plantations, which we don't, our consultant has advised that we should not do so as it encourages the young trees to compete and grow stronger.

Our consultant arborist (who is our agent for dealings with the Commission) has also inspected on several occasions and advised on pruning and maintenance requirements that we are following.

## **Free Drop**

Please remember that you get a free drop from the plantation areas provided you and your playing partners reasonably believe that your ball ended within the blue stakes.

Please do not hold up your playing partners and those following by looking for a ball in these circumstances, just drop another and get on with the game.

## **2023 Membership stickers**

The 2023 membership stickers are now available from the bar, Blue for 7-day members and red for 5-day members. Please display these on your golf bag where they can be clearly seen.

## **Club Lottery**

The Club lottery was instigated in April this year with the intention of providing good prizes but also developing a fund to finance enhancements to the club experience for members, which otherwise could not be afforded above priority spending on the course improvements. The April Lottery was successful, however subsequent months have seen less entries so that to date the project has broken even overall. As this initiative is not supported by sufficient members to make it viable the final draw was made on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> of July. The final winners were £100 Geoff Sellars, £50 David Martin, £25 Lisa Shervill.

## **Volunteers needed to repair course sandstone walls.**

You may have noticed during a round of golf at the club, the sandstone walls at Tees 14 and 17 have deteriorated and need some repair illustrated in the images below.



Hopefully we have members with the relevant skills and equipment who would kindly volunteer their time to inspect the sites and advise and help to repair the walls.

If you can support the club in this way, would you please contact Peter Sorby, Director of Facilities, on m: 07880 595360.



## Competitions & Handicaps

This is a reminder to members, and for the benefit of new members regarding a change of rules for Men's Major competitions. On 28/3/23 The Competitions & Handicap committee sent out an email to all members advising of the following change to competition rules:

With effect from 1st April 2024, to qualify to win a Men's Major competition, a minimum of 5 individual competition scores will need to have been submitted in the previous 12 months. The current criterion for Ladies is for 3 competition scores to have been submitted in the previous 12 months and this will remain unchanged. Effectively we have given members 12 months' notice in advance of this change and there is still time to put your entries in for the weekly competitions.

## Pro Shop Winter League

Sorry for the delay in publishing the result of this year's pro shop winter league, the competition that runs from October to April had some 20+ entrants with the best 6 stableford scores counting in a league table format. With scoring very tight the top 4, Paul Bird, Richard Halford, Richard Akers and Graham Lindley were then thrust into a match play knockout situation with the semifinals over 9 holes and the final over 18 holes, the lucky finalists were Paul Bird and Richard Akers, fierce rivals, with Paul Bird coming out as the eventual champion, congratulations to Paul.

Thank you to all that entered and here's to October when it all starts again. Pro Shop Team

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