



Newsletter

August 2023

Club Captain – Jon Lewis

August has thankfully been a far dryer month than July which has enabled us to enjoy our golf without the use of waterproofs! However, the occasional heavy downpours have highlighted the continuing drainage issue with the 9th green, this is why the planned essential maintenance was brought forward slightly to enable a double dose of core removal which will greatly improve the greens future drainage, while giving enough time for recovery. You will have all noticed the development of a temporary 9th green, which we hope will not be required but the Committee feels it is best to be prepared for another wet winter. Please be aware that in mid-September our greens staff will be carrying out full core & top dressing of the greens. Removal of cores has not taken place for a number of years and will have a longer recovery rate than the usual method of spiking, this work is vital for the future performance of the greens so your patience is appreciated.

Congratulations to the winners of the month's competitions; Gareth Leedle – monthly medal, Matthew Cowell – midweek medal, Simon Minns & George Dickson – Keith Handscomb cup and Gordon Carter winning the Collins Salver.

Thank you for continuing to offer your suggestions through the suggestion box, we will be acting on these ideas by installing a second practice net along with 3 new ball washers and relocating existing washers to the approach of tee's. You should see these installed within the next few weeks.

The Ladies Open was a resounding success with over 40 ladies enjoying the day, the proceeds of the day have kindly been donated to further improve the clubhouse by replacing the dining chairs.

Please enjoy your golf through September while being respectful of the staff and the course.

A NIGHT AT THE RACES



LÔÔK

Keep an eye out
for this months
Sunday Carvery
Date

Saturday 21st October

Ladies Captain – Janet Coles



Yet another month has passed and we are now getting into our Autumn programme. The league matches have all finished and we will sadly be relegated this year from the second division. However, we did win our last two matches which gives us great hope for next season. As far as the Scratch League is concerned we finished in last place in Division 1 purely on one home match being halved rather than won. This league result was very close and my commiserations to our players. Many thanks to all the ladies who represented us in these County Matches throughout the season.

On 7th August we held our Past Captains' Day when we were joined by a number of ladies who can no longer play but enjoyed the social occasion. We were pleased to welcome Liz Harvey and Linda Wagstaff who are no longer members at Ryston but joined us to play in the Stableford. Nearest the pin prize was won by Tracy Russell and the overall winner was Dorothy March. Our game was followed by a delicious afternoon tea prepared by Tonya and Paige. This photograph shows our gathered assembly – can you recognise everyone?



Our Club Championship was won by Ann Fletcher with Susan Filby winning the handicap prize. The Kitty Gillies Trophy was won by Melanie Martin. Susan Filby triumphed once again when she won the Doris Ball Rosebowl and the Boo Moore Trophies were won by Pat Blyth playing with Janet Rice.

Our Ladies Open was held on Friday 25th August and was a great success. Lyn Kirk will be reporting on this but I cannot let the occasion pass without thanking her for all the hard work that she puts in to make it such a happy day, enjoyed not only by our visitors but also by the members who helped during the day.

2023 Ladies Open – Lyn Kirk

Once again, the weather stayed fair for our annual Open event with 56 guests from 17, mostly East Anglian, Clubs – however the Straightest drive prize was taken back to Cheshire! We know we're popular, so news of our beautiful golf course travels further afield seemingly.

1st prize winners represented Bawburgh; 2nd prize a little nearer to home from Ely and 3rd, also out of county, to Newmarket Links. Gorleston GC and March GC took the nearest the pins. Delamere Forest was the club for the straightest drive. We had, again, imposed a handicap limit but the scores of 47/43/43 took us a bit by surprise – maybe another think on the format for next year! Ann and Pam B worked tirelessly for several hours on the V1 to produce the results in a most professional manner, the first time this has been trialled.

It is a pleasure to be able to pass on the delighted comments from our guests to Tonya and her staff for the delectable half way house, followed by a lovely 2 course buffet. The greens staff presented the course beautifully and the raffle, as always, was most successful.

Finally, a resounding success for the Ladies Section – thank you to all those who played a part





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Seniors Captain – Michael Brown



Hello everyone, the months just seem to fly by now and the nights are pulling in quite quickly.

We started this month with a home match against Wensum Valley losing by 5-1. Our return match away at Tydd St Giles was a win for Tydd 5-1.

On the weekly roll-ups which are well attended some good scores continue to come in. On Tuesday the 15th we played the C&B cup and it was nice to see Graham Child at the club who started this competition with Kevin Bishop who sadly passed away. Graham talked about how he and Kevin started the C&B cup several years ago to many of our newest members. During the competition Graham walked around the course seeing all the members playing. After the competition we all enjoyed sandwich's and chips all prepared and served by Paige. A big thanks to Paige for the excellent food. Graham then presented the prizes 4th place was Brian Downs and Alec Mackenzie with 64pts, 3rd Mike Reed and Robert Parker with 65pts, 2nd Eric Savage and Arthur Lomas with 66pts and the winners were Barry Marks and Mike Brown with 70pts. Nearest the pin on the 4th was Nigel Wagg and nearest the pin on the 7th was Roger March. My thanks go to Graham for organising the day and to all the members who took part.



On the Thursday we played Fakenham away and came away with an honourable draw. We also played the Millennium Cup with Graham Warren the winner with 40pts. Well done Graham, who for the second time this month wore the bandit's hat, also on the roll up on Thursday Grahame Mizen came in with 42pts, nice one Grahame.



Peter and Tiff continue to keep the course in good order and all the other clubs we have played at home have remarked how good it is and have enjoyed playing it.





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The Secretary – Andy Ware

Course Rules

1/ When starting your round from the first, all members of your group must be ready to play, if a group is on the 9th green they have priority to continue, your group will then be able to start your round.

When starting from the 6th please do not interfere with the pace of play of any group on the 5th hole.

2/ When playing your approach shot to the 2nd green please allow the group in front to clear the 3rd tee.

3/ When playing your approach shot to the 3rd green, please allow the group in front to clear the 4th tee, if they are playing from the forward Red tees.

Please repair all pitch marks & replace divots.

4/ A single player has no standing, so a larger group is not obliged to let them through unless they wish to.

5/ A maximum of 4 players are allowed in one group unless foursomes are being played.

6/ Saturday pace of play is 4 ball pace.

7/ Please let faster groups behind play through, if you have lost ground on the group in front.

Campbell Cup

The final of the Campbell Cup is between Nigel Wagg and Mike Reed. The 36 hole final is scheduled for Friday 8th September starting at 9 am. Please allow the two players through to help speed up the game.

Competition Eligibility

To win a prize in a Cup Competition 4 competition Medal or Stableford cards have to be played at Ryston since the start of the previous year. Anybody that has not completed these cards will be able to enter, but not win a competition.

Results

August Medal Gareth Leedle 68

Midweek Medal Matthew Cowell 66

Midweek Stab Stuart Murphy 40

Collins Salver Gordon Carter 65

Keith Handscomb S. Minns/ G. Dixon 44

Seniors Millennium Graham Warren 40

Amy Goddard Ann Fletcher 37

Joan Burrall Ann Fletcher 91

Kitty Gillies Melanie Martin 33

Doris Ball Rose Bowl Susan Filby 70

Boo Moore P.Blyth/ J.Rice 35

Golf Lessons Available

Peter Lunt has been a fully qualified PGA Professional for over 35 years.

Lesson fees are:

£15 for half an hour.

£25 for 5 hole playing lesson.

All other lesson options negotiable.

Contact Peter on 07568318390

Plunt79@gmail.com to book.





Ryston Park
Golf Club

Newsletter

August 2023

Greenstaff

Where has August gone! Before you know it we shall be clearing the leaves once again... oh wait, we've already started!

Hollow – coring has already taken place on the 9th green for the reasons Jon has already explained and the recovery has been very quick due to the good temperatures and rainfall. We can only hope for the same for September. Weather depending, all greens will be hollow – cored and top-Dressed and the course will be **CLOSED** from noon on Thursday 14th September and will not re-open again until Saturday 16th September. Sorry for the disruption.

Once this has been done a hand dug drain will be installed on the 9th green. We anticipate the 9th green will be out of play for a few days while we carry out the work and allow the turf time to settle. A temporary green will be in place so you can still play the hole and we shall aim for days when there is not much on in the way of fixtures.

Fairways will also be getting some attention in the next few weeks in the form of chain harrowing and hollow-coring of some areas.

There are a number of wasp nests around the course and clubhouse at Present, so obviously please be careful if you encounter any.

Thanks go to Michael Russell for giving up his time each week to cut the rough. To Andy for keeping the place looking tidy and helping us out when needed and of course to Roger for cracking the whip!



Tiff volunteered for the AIG Women's Open at Walton Heath

Arriving on the Sunday prior to the competition I got to see the course in all it's beauty with no spectators and also to get my bearings.

My 'day' would start with a 3.00am alarm. Ready to be at the Greenkeepers shed at 4.00am for the team briefing and wait in anticipation for what my role would be for the week ahead. My name was read along with the greens mowing team, but I was the clean up. To be honest I thought I would be out with a back pack blower clearing up grass clippings. But then it dawned on me, I'd be using a hand mower and cutting the perimeter of the greens! Now terrified as we don't use hand mowers at Ryston. So a quick crash course in how to use the mower and I was let loose to cut these perfect greens, (in the dark) knowing if you mess up, the whole world will notice.

The morning shift would be over by 9.00am and the day was spent at the course until 5pm when we would then do another shift divoting fairways until 9pm/10pm. Although one night I got the chance to cut rough, which was again terrifying as there were TV cables lying everywhere! This was my pattern for the next 7 days and although tiring, it was a great experience again to meet other greenkeepers, to share knowledge and to see how a course is presented at the highest level.

