



Issue 8 | December 2020 | newsletter@carlislegolfclub.com

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Bryce McLean



CAPTAINS BLOG



Hello fellow members,

Here we are, the end of another season, and what a season it's been, starting or not starting when we were all plunged into lockdown a day before our official opening, getting back into the swing in late June and enjoying competitive golf once again. Unfortunately the weather also got back to normal and we have had a mixture of good and bad culminating in having to cancel the closing day scramble.

Now that South Lanarkshire has been moved to level 4 restrictions our plans to open the clubhouse have had to be put on hold.

The course has been saturated by weeks of continuous rain leaving it extremely wet and soft in certain areas, however, following the winter work undertaken by our greens team the greens are the best I can remember for this time of year, which all bodes well for next season. We could do with a dry, windy spell to allow the water levels to drop and give us a better chance of playing consistently through the winter months.

Just when we thought it couldn't get any worse along comes the new World Handicapping System which should keep our minds active for the next few months. I hope everyone has registered for the Scottish Golf App. and have your new Handicap Index.

On a brighter note, I am delighted to welcome Lynne Bridges to committee as interim Treasure. As Lynne is from Carlisle, some of our younger members will know her from school days. I am sure Lynne will bring a fresh new approach to the roll and we wish her every success.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As always, Observe the rules and Stay Safe

Malcolm

Club Captain



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youtube.com

COURSE UPDATE

Hello All,

Another month gone and more changes to our daily lives, the only constant seems to be the rain!! Despite last year and the year before being extremely wet, we are on course to surpass the amounts of rainfall of the two previous years. The Closing Day Scramble had to be cancelled although if we had been playing at a different time of year, and had more daylight, it would probably have been possible to delay the competition for an hour or so and then resume, after water had been cleared from the greens. Unfortunately though, the competition had a very busy starting sheet which ran right through until the back of two and given that it was dark before 6pm, any delay was out of the question.

To get back to the course, the growth has really slowed down now on all areas, which is good because for the last couple of weeks it has been too wet to cut fairways and rough!! The greens have recovered well from the scarification work that was done on them in September and we will now just try and keep the surfaces open and keep them free-draining as much as possible. It looks like golf is going to be a form of exercise that will be allowed over the winter with COVID restrictions, although a pint and a bowl of soup might not be allowed!

We have started on our winter programme, details of which can be found on the notice board, (I think) but there will be no major green re-shaping or building. We are going to do some drainage on some of the wetter bits, tidy some of the paths and do some work on trees and tree plantations.

To end on a sombre note, I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Willie Hamilton. He and I go back quite a long way and I, like many others will miss him, if not his jokes!!lol His dulcet tones and

customer relations were a joy to behold in the Pro shop . RIP Willie.

Andy.

This month brings about the first of our “Greenkeeper Profiles” to help everyone get to know the staff a bit better, maybe...

On the following page, we begin with our longest serving member of staff who has been here since the sheep were looking after the cutting requirements - nearly!!!



GREENKEEPER PROFILE - SAMMY



NAME - George "Sammy" Lammie.

JOB TITLE - 1st Assistant Greenkeeper

EMPLOYED AT C.G.C - 39 years

GOLFER - NO

FAVOURITE TASK OR MACHINE - Cutting rough on the AR 522 (in good weather!!!)

FAVOURITE HOLE AND WHY - The 11 th , just because of the way it looks.

GIVEN AN UNLIMITED BUDGET CHANGE 1 HOLE - I would make the bottom part of the 14th fairway/rough, a lake.

FUNNY STORY/EVENT YOU HAVE WITNESSED WHILE WORKING - watching my old boss running after the tractor when he parked it at the side of the 1 st green, walked over to speak to me and THEN realised he hadn't put the handbrake on.

WHAT GIVES YOU THE MOST JOB SATISFACTION ? A sunny day when the course is all cut and looking at its best.

DO YOU THINK THE JOB IS EASIER OR MORE DIFFICULT THAN WHEN YOU STARTED?

Easier, simply because of all the more modern machinery.

Next month, our next longest serving member of staff – Andy.

IN CONVERSATION WITH CLUB CHAMPION BRYCE MCLEAN

Congratulations on winning your first Club Championship - how does it feel after coming very close last year?

After just missing out last year it was great to get the job done and feels good for all the hard work to pay

How did you feel going into the last day with a 1 shot lead over 10 time club champion Craig MacNicol and did you have any nervy moments?

I felt confident in the way I was playing and I knew I couldn't give to many shots away so had to stay consistent as Craig has a lot of experience on the last day !

How did your experience from 2019 help you get your win this year?

Knowing I was able to go right down to the wire last year gave me the confidence to push on.

What was your most memorable shot or hole over the 4 rounds - talk us through it?

In the second round I birdied the first three holes which I had never done before setting me up for a good round !

Do you plan to stay at Carluke GC to defend your title?

I plan to stay at Carluke has a member and try to win it again next year as it is my last year as an amateur and may be my last time to win it for a while....

You study Golf Management/ Professional Golf at UHI (Dornoch) so what is your long term plans for playing or working in the world of golf?

Long term plan is to be a pro at a golf facility or golf club and play events on a regular basis!

What playing/personal targets have you set for remainder of this season and into next?

Next season I am aiming to get to scratch or lower to prepare me for the future!

What area of your game would you pinpoint as main area to improve and why?

Main area would be putting as I've realised to shoot good scores and go low you need to be putting good all round.

Finally, give us a bit of insight into how you celebrated your first club championship

The celebrations started with Several free pints making their way to my table so thankyou to everyone who bought me a drink, then I went home and celebrated with family and friend so a great way to end the day! (Felt awful in the morning)

Congratulations once again Bryce on a well deserved maiden Championship!





Merry Christmas from All at
Carluke Golf Club!