

Issue 21 | April 2023 | newsletter@carlukegolfclub.com

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CAPTAINS BLOG



Hi Fellow Golfers.

A warm welcome to all, including our many new members who have joined over the last few months. Hopefully you found the new members induction night useful and if anyone missed it, or have joined since, please get in touch if you have any queries. Hopefully I will get a chance to meet up with you over the season.

We have had a very wet March but the forecast looks promising so hopefully conditions will get back to normal soon. Thank-you to Andy and the boys for keeping the course playable as much as possible in recent months. They do fantastic work over the winter and it won't be long until we see the benefits of this as we get competitions underway through April.

It is a huge privilege to be Captain of our club and I look forward to a memorable year. We have had some great Captains in the last few years and I hope to carry on their sterling work. I would also like to thank Lynne, Bill and Gavin for the work they continue to do every day keeping the club running smoothly.

We have already had a couple of social events and our catering team have been busy planning events for throughout the year, so look out for email and Facebook updates and posters throughout the clubhouse on upcoming events.

I have chosen the Clydesdale Food Bank as my charity this year. We are all affected by the cost of living crisis but there are many in the local area that could do with our help, so please give what you can through various raffles throughout the year. We will also be raising funds to replace our current defibrillator and will display information on posters in the clubhouse detailing how you can help.

As I type this, the sun is shining and long may it continue. I hope you all have a fantastic season and I look forward to catching up with everyone on the course or in the clubhouse.

Captain Fraser











COURSE UPDATE

Hi folks

Here we are at the start of another season, (although I think the "season" is Winter at the moment!!).

Unfortunately, although we managed to get some play on Opening day, we were forced to keep Winter rules in operation due to the excess rainfall and subsequent soft, wet and in places, muddy conditions. Hopefully we will get an improvement in the weather and the course will dry out enough to get everything cut and looking shipshape again.

Over the Winter we tidied/reshaped all the greenside bunkers and put fresh sand in them (see pic). We have also purchased some new members' rakes, so every bunker on the course has at least one decent rake in it - so no excuse for leaving footprints etc!!

Also over the Winter, we made improvements to the watering system. This consisted of the laying of some new pipework to get the taps nearer to the greens/tees, and installing new taps and fittings. We now have the ability to get water to every green and tee, with no more than 50 metres of hose at most. What we do not have, however, is pop-up sprinklers, which I think some people understood was what was going on. Unfortunately, my budget for this job was around £2000, and not £200,000, which is closer to the figure it would be to get a fully automated, irrigation system to tees and greens.

(Funnily enough we haven't used the new system yet!!!).

You may encounter during your round, one of the new valve boxes at the side of the greens, or near the tees (see pic).

These contain the new taps and if one interferes with your swing or stance you are able to take relief under rule 24-2.

COURSE UPDATE

Given the conditions we had to finish the job in, there is understandably some mess near the taps and connection points. Until further notice any of these areas should just be treated as GUR.

Fingers crossed the weather picks up soon and we get a decent spell of weather to start enjoying our golf again. Good luck to all for the new season.

Andy and the team.





PRO SHOP CHAT

A warm welcome to the new Pro Shop Blog and a big welcome back to all our members after the winter hibernation period.

Also, a very warm welcome to all of our new members. For those that don't know me, my name is Craig Ronald and I have now been at the club for over 20 years. I became the Club Pro having decided I no longer



wanted to be away from home, playing on the European Tour, in truth I didn't like the travel and I missed my young kids. I still enjoy competing and still play a fair amount, maybe not as successfully as I was in the past, but I have some great memories with over 80 wins as a Pro which included becoming Scottish Champion in 2004 while I was here at the club, something that I am proud of.

This year we will have some instructional videos in the Newsletter along with tips to help out your golf game.

Also 1 on 1 lessons are available, these include all parts of your game, having been taught by some of the best coaches in the world, I have plenty of knowledge of the golf swing. Lessons can be tailored to you, so if it's just a putting lesson or short game lesson that's up to you.

All of our new stock is due in early April, so pop in and grab a bargain.

Custom fitting of golf clubs remains a problem for us with no simulator or range bays, however, if you're looking to get custom fitted, let us know and we can point you in the right direction.

In the meantime, we are here to help in any way we can, just pop in or give us a call on 01555 770574 (option 2).

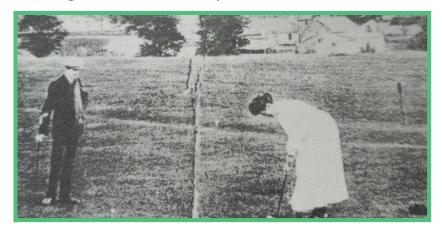
Until the next time, keep 'em straight!

Craig

HISTORY OF THE CLUB - PART 1

Over the course of the season we are going to look at the History of the Golf Club from when it was founded 129 years ago to the present day. It's fair to say there have been one or two changes in that time period!

Carluke Golf Club was founded in 1894 with the course originally located in the Belstane area of Carluke with the picture showing golf that took place back in 1894.



However, the stay at Belstane was short lived after a fallout with the farmer, resulting in the Golf Club moving to ground at Langshaw Farm on Boghall Road near Braidwood.

The Golf Club's home would soon change again in 1910/11 when it would move to its current home on Mauldslie Road following negotiations with Coltness Iron Company which resulted in a year by year lease of the grounds.

The Gents fees at this time were priced at £1 1 Shilling (£1.05 in total) with the Ladies fees 50% of this at 52.5 pence. The Clubhouse was located behind the present 12th green where you can still see part of the remains and pictured are golfers from circa 1910/11.



WINTER LEAGUE WINNERS

Despite the official season ending in October, golf doesn't go into hibernation mode for many over the winter months with various winter leagues taking place in rain, hail, wind, snow and the occasional bit of sunshine. Thanks to all the organisers who put in the hard work and a special mention to Archie Hutton, who ran the 8-9 league for 25 years, from his playing partners. Shown below are the winners from the winter leagues and well done to Petrol Pump sweep winner Billy Watson (not pictured).



Linzi Kane was the winner of the Ladies winter league with Esther Lillie presenting the trophy.



The table topper of the Humpty sweep was Scott Hamilton for the 2nd year running.



Alan Gibson was the victor of the 10 o'clock Gang Sweep.

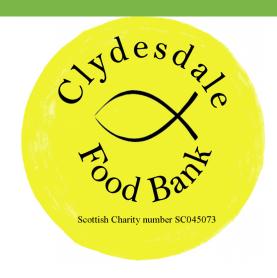


Mark Oliver was first place in the 8-9 winter league.

FUNDRAISING

Throughout the course of the year the Golf Club will be looking at ways to raise funds for a number of projects as well as the Captain's chosen charity, Clydesdale Food Bank.

Last year the club raised £4,000 for Lanarkshire Cancer Care through the generosity of the members and there will be various ways that you can help people in food poverty throughout the year so keep your eyes peeled.



We are also in the process of looking to raise funds to assist with the purchase of two new defibrillators, one for the clubhouse and one for on-course.

The club have enquired into grants available towards this spend and we hope to hear back in the next couple of months if we have been successful or not.

6 HOLE COURSE/TROLLEYS

A couple of things we need to remind members of is that if you plan to use the practice area or the short game area please check-in at the Pro Shop. This is required purely for us to know the numbers. In the past we have sent people down believing it is empty only for the players to return to the shop and complain.

Please be aware that the practice area is first and foremost a 6 hole course, therefore, people who book the 6 hole course will have preference over casual practice. When using the area for casual practice, if possible, use the mats, however, grass practice will be marked but please only hit one way. Please do not hit balls back towards the 2nd tee as this causes unnecessary divots to be taken out of the 6 hole course. We would like the course to stay nice for the kids that have competitions on it. We thank you for that.

If using the trolleys stationed outside of the Pro Shop, please ensure payment is made in the Pro Shop prior to using the trolley.

FIXTURES/DOWNLOAD

As well as printed copies of the members handbook being available from the office, you can also download the handbook and the fixture list from the website from the link below.

https://www.carlukegolfclub.com/fixture-list/

Similar to last year we have also created google calendars for the Gents and Ladies fixtures which you can add to the calendar in your smartphone or desktop simply by clicking on the + Google Calendar link as shown in the screenshot below.

Just click the website link above and then click the +Google Calendar link. You can choose to add Gents, Ladies or both.

