



Communications Group

(On behalf of the Management Committee and Club Members)

April 2022/May 2022 Newsletter

Dear Members

It's May, and the grass is green and growing fast. This Spring Newsletter looks at how the season has started on the course, and how we have a new team running our bar and catering.

In the Clubhouse

Jess Parker and her team, Joanne, Josh, Katie and Klaudia, have taken over the running of the catering and bar in the Clubhouse, and have worked hard to get fully trained and to reach Level 5, the top level of Catering Health and Hygiene.

For now the bar and food service will be available from 12 noon every day, closing around 8-10pm most days. A full list is published on the kitchen door in the bar. The team will also gradually take on the provision of meals for matches, societies etc. Ryan is continuing the halfway house service on Sundays.

There is a new menu of bar snacks, and we will look into widening the opening times and range of meals on offer. Clearly this will depend on Members supporting and using the facilities to sustain the service on offer. A number of members have used the suggestion box in the bar to support the provision of breakfasts, particularly at weekends. There will need to be sufficient take up of this to justify bringing staff in. If you have a view on this please add to the suggestion box or email retfordgolfcomms@gmail.com or text or voicemail 07969 875464

As the team develops and improves the services your patience and support will be appreciated.

Social Events

- ***On Saturday 2nd April, from 10.30am, the coffee morning and sale, arranged by the Ladies' Section, raised £1200 to support the Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice, and the Golf Club. The winner of the corridor putting competition was Charles Cooke, who narrowly beat Craig in the play-off. It was great to see the Clubhouse so busy and supportive of our fund-raising. New garden furniture – tables and seats on the grass near the steps – are some of the purchases made by the Ladies Section.***



Queen's Platinum Jubilee golf event on Thursday 2nd June

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

**MEMBERS PRO-AM
FUN DAY**

Thursday
June 2nd
2pm

Plus
Afternoon
Tea

10hole pairs
event

1 member
1 family guest
for putting

FANCY DRESS WELCOME

£15 per couple
Including sandwiches,
scones and tea or coffee

Prizes for golf and
best dressed

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR TEE TIME IN PRO SHOP

- There is a **200 Club** meal and presentation on the last Saturday of each month. Again, all members welcome.

Golf Events and Results

The season got off to a brisk start with the traditional Captain v Vice Captain Drive Off teams match, and the Ladies Captain v Vice Captain teams match.

The Lady Vice Captain led her team to victory but she has taken a modest rear position in the award photo below – and the Lady Captain is even more modestly behind the camera!



Internal Knock-Out Competitions

The season's Knock-Out competitions are drawn and under way, with first round matches due to be completed very soon. Please enjoy them and ensure that there are no delays in completing them. Remember, it's everyone's responsibility to make contact and arrange dates and times for matches.

Club Championship

The Club Championship for 2022 is on Sunday 22nd May, played over 36 holes. Please make your entry at the Pro's shop by 15th May.

Results of Matches

The season of inter-club matches has begun and the first results are detailed below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Competition</u>	<u>Home</u>				<u>Away</u>
28/03/2022	Notts Scratch League	Retford	3	v	2	Nottinghamshire
02/04/2022	Scratch Friendly	Retford	3.5	v	2.5	Gainsborough
07/04/2022	Seniors	Ramsdale	6	v	2	Retford
18/04/2022	Notts Scratch League	Chilwell Manor	3	v	2	Retford
20/04/2022	Seniors	Retford	3.5	v	4.5	Styrrup
29/04/2022	Scratch Friendly	Retford	3.5	v	4.5	Worksop
30/04/2022	Ladies Bronze League	Nottinghamshire	4.5	v	2.5	Retford
03/05/2022	Seniors	Thonock	6.5	v	1.5	Retford
04/05/2022	Ladies Bronze League	Retford	6	v	1	Coxmoor

Scratch Team Progress

- In our first home scratch match, against The Nottinghamshire, Retford won 3-2. Notably, Mark Marshall was 3 down with four to play, and still won his point!*
- We had a scratch friendly against Gainsborough, winning 3.5-2.5, and a second scratch match away at Chillwell, which we lost 3-2.*
- In the scratch friendly on Friday 29th April at home against Worksop, there were 8 single matches, and we lost 3.5-4.5, decided on the last hole and last put of the last match. It doesn't get closer! A highlight was that 13year old Owen Rafferty, playing his first match for Retford, won his match.*

Friendlies

- *We had a friendly match at Worksop, over nine single games.*
- *On Sunday 8th May we have our first mixed friendly at home, playing Doncaster, in a new am-am format, with one gent and one lady to count, rather than match play format.*

Seniors' Section

Are you a Senior? Yes, if you're over 55! Read on....

The Seniors Section of the Club held its Annual General Meeting on 24th March 2022

AGM Review:

- *Dave Towers (acting Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that it was good to return to a normal golf year, and thanked Ian Littlewood for organising all the friendly matches. Dave also thanked those people involved in the 2 very successful Am/Am tournaments held during 2021.*
- *Fraser Britton thanked the Seniors Section of the Club for their donation of £4,300.00 for the Practice nets and Fencing to the Practice area.*
- *The Seniors committee for the forthcoming year is:*
 - Allan Meacher - Chairman*
 - Dave Towers - Treasurer*
 - John Flavell - Secretary*
 - Ivan Gilbert - Committee Member*
 - Dave Moore - Committee Member*
 - Nick Sly - Committee Member*
 - Ray Wood - Committee Member*

The seniors Section of the Club organise two [Am/Am tournaments](#) per year in June and September. Ray Wood has organised these very successful Am/Am's over the past few years; should you be interested in playing in one of these they are on the Club website.

The Summer Am/Am is on 23rd June and is fully booked but there are still some Tee Off times available for the Autumn Am/Am on 14th September.

*Ian Littlewood organises the **Seniors friendly matches**; the fixtures for 2022 are below.*

Should you be interested in playing in any of these matches please contact Ian directly for more information. ian@iclmltd.com.

Wed 7th Apr Ramsdale A

Wed 20th April Styrrup H

Tue 3rd May Thonock A

Mon 09th May Wath A

Mon 16th May Mapperley H

Wed 25th May Ramsdale H

Wed 1st June Town Moor A

Wed 15th June Doncaster H

Wed 22 June Styrrup A

Mon 11th July Carholme H

Mon 18 July Mapperley A

Thurs 21st July Rufford A

Thur 28th July Wath H

Thurs 4th Aug Doncaster A

Mon 15th Aug Worksop A

Wed 24th Aug Carholme A

Thurs 1st Sept Worksop H

Wed 7th Sept Thonock H

Thurs 22nd Sept Rufford H

Thurs 29th Sept Town Moor H

200 Club Competition; Saturday 28th May

This is for members of the 200 Club. Entry sheet is on the Social Golf noticeboard in the Foyer. The presentation for this event will be at approx. 9.00pm on that Saturday.

On the Course

Course Update

- **Work on the bunkers is complete, including a new soakaway for the new bunker by the 1st green.**
- **Greens and fairways have been fertilised and are showing pleasing growth and quality, though we still need more rain. This is also a problem for some of the worn patches where we have seeded. A side issue is the massive increase in the cost of fertiliser, as a direct consequence of the Russian- Ukraine conflict. We are not immune.**
- **Divot bags have now been provided at the first tee, and we urge you all to use these to fill in divots. Similarly, we need to remind all golfers of the need to repair pitch marks on the greens. Here is a simple explanation from Golf Monthly of how to do this and how not to...**



To achieve the ideal look, you need to push the earth inwards as demonstrated above, rather than lifting it upwards, which is what causes unsightly scarring. Once you have circled your pitch mark, gently push the earth inwards towards the centre of the crater and then tap down any excess material with your putter to leave the smoothest possible surface.

The new practice nets are completed situated next to the buggy sheds. Many thanks to the Seniors Section for funding these and to Stuart Moore and John Hallam for all the work in building them and to the President's grandson, Blake, for informally opening them!



- *The Greens staffing has been a concern, with long term sickness, but we welcome Max back to work and we are pleased that Karl Stanley has joined the team. We also welcome a new apprentice, Lewis Smith, who will be linked to Myerscough College for training.*
- *We are aware that the greens are a little behind schedule, which has been mostly due to lack of manpower and weather conditions. Please bare with us as they should now be returning to then excellent greens that we would expect.*
- *We still welcome volunteer help around the course, such as debris and litter collection, and de-stoning and raking bunkers. If you can help, please contact Steve Hyatt, Chair of the Greens Sub-Committee.*

Course Safety

We have recently been made aware of a situation where a dog was hit by a golf ball on a footpath. Fortunately, the dog is fine, but the owner reports a previous near miss. Could all golfers please be aware of the need to ensure the safety of walkers on footpaths and to make sure that warnings are shouted when appropriate.

Tee time Bookings

After reviewing the system of on-line booking for tee times, we will continue with the current pattern, whilst keeping it under regular review.

Other Club matters

- *County Cards are available now. These are part of your membership, and give you discounts when playing at many clubs around the County. Gents can collect them from the Office and Ladies can collect from Angie Dyer or Sue Nickless.*

We have improved the ways of further communicating with members about what's happening in the Club.

- *A **Suggestions Box** is now in place in the bar area, where members can put any ideas or suggestions to the Management Committee.*
- *There is also a printed leaflet available in the foyer and bar area of the Clubhouse, giving details and photos of the Management Committee members.*
- *If Club members want to raise any points/issues/queries for the Committees, please contact the chair of the appropriate sub-committee, via the e-mail address retfordgolfcomms@gmail.com, or through the Suggestions Box in the Bar area, or to **mobile 07969 875464**.*
- *If members have any golf related news items please let Mary Saddington know, via retfordgolfcomms@gmail.com*
- *The next full Management meeting will be on **Tuesday 7th June, 2022, at 7.00pm**. * **If members have any points they would like to raise, please write to the Chairman, via the contact details above.***

Best wishes, from

Andy Massey, Mary Saddington, Dean Atherton, Charles Cooke

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