



# THE LEICESTERSHIRE GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

December 2018



## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

The Leicestershire Golf Club wishes all members and staff a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Thank you for all your support throughout 2018. We now have a new President, Captain and Committee to take us into 2019.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The 95th Annual General meeting was held at the club on Saturday 1st December 2018. Outgoing President Alan Fletcher started proceedings with the announcement of Chris Hilton's retirement from the Board of Directors. Alan thanked Chris (a member for 65 years) for his long and excellent service to the club as Captain, President and committee member. Alan also announced Carol Smith was retiring from the Committee and thanked her for her service.

The President's Report, Captain Neil Scotchbrook's Report and Malcolm Northover's Financial Report were all dealt with swiftly and Clive Smith and Peter Brookes were duly elected **President and Vice President** respectively. Clive thanked Alan for his great leadership of the club through two full and challenging years and vowed to continue the path to excellence and to raising the profile of the club.



Clive then took the chair and Mike Bucktin (pictured right) and Graham Warwick (pictured left) were elected as **Captain and Vice Captain** for 2018/19. Mike said his grandson told him the offer to Captain TLGC was a once in a lifetime opportunity and he thanked all the members for their trust and confidence in his appointment. He also announced the Captain's charity (shared with Lady Captain Marion Keene) will be for the Air Ambulance Appeal Fund.



Other Sectional Captains are Paul Donaghy (Seniors), Marc Palmer (Under 35's) and Haris Khan (Juniors).

After a lapse of many years, a contested election then took place for 3 vacancies on the General Committee. An unprecedented seven members had put their names forward resulting in 185 votes being cast (77 at the AGM, 108 in writing). A total of 490 X's were checked before Clive announced Francis Lobo, Lucy Patterson and Mark Simons as elected committee members for the next 3 years.

The AGM finished in a record 42 minutes (if only Brexit could be that quick), giving all those present a chance to enjoy a drink or two at the bar, courtesy of the newly elected President and Captain.

**Congratulations to ALL and good luck for your years of office.**



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## CAPTAIN'S CHARITY



Neil Scotchbrook and Kathy Hunt ended their year of office by taking great pleasure in presenting a cheque at the Christmas lunch, for an amazing sum of £12,700 to Dr. Reem Al-Jayyousi, Consultant Nephrologist at University Hospital of Leicester NHS Trust. Reem is the clinical lead for a project to deliver inpatient haemodialysis to patients with kidney problems who are admitted to Glenfield

and Leicester Royal Infirmary with other medical issues. At present, dialysis patients admitted to these hospitals have to be transported across the city three times a week for their scheduled dialysis session which is unpleasant for the patients and very inefficient. This cheque from TLGC is contributing to the £30,000, which the Kidney Care Appeal (chaired by Vice Captain Graham Warwick) has promised to fund a new facility - it is hoped this will be up and running at Glenfield early in 2019. Well done, Neil and Kathy!



## Christmas Lunch, Carols and Father Christmas



Christmas arrived early this year when a large number of members and their guests gathered together on Sunday 2nd December 2018 for a sold-out Christmas lunch. A delicious meal was followed by the hearty singing of Carols, accompanied once again by Andrew Green. For the "12 Days of Christmas" each table was



allocated a number and were expected to jump up and sing their "Two Turtle Doves" / "Six Geese a Laying" / Ten Lords a Leaping" / "12 Drummers Drumming" with gusto... well after a heavy meal there was not much leaping in view. No wonder the club has arranged a Pilates session in January!

It was then the turn of the children and their parents and grandparents to enjoy yet another sold-out (in 3 days!) event on Sunday 16th December. A sumptuous 3 course meal, including amazing dessert tables complete with



chocolate fountains, was enjoyed by all. There was plenty of jumping and leaping this time, when Santa was spotted driving down the 18th fairway in a well decorated electric buggy! (what else would you expect at a golf club). Rudolf was re-charging his batteries!

The excitement was palpable (chocolate fountains only partly to blame) when Santa arrived upstairs with his large sack of presents! Then a sudden hush surrounded the room as Santa handed each child their present – wrapping paper was soon strewn around amidst shouts of joy as the eagerly awaited gifts were opened.

Many, many thanks to Simon, Piotr and each and every member of staff in the clubhouse for all their hard work during this very busy festive season.



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### TLGC WINTER SERIES 3

An almost full field played on Friday 14th December in extremely cold conditions, which saw the start delayed by 30 minutes. Semi frozen greens did not deter Gareth Iliffe (Hinckley GC), who amassed a very good 41 points, three points clear of runner-up Kevin Courtney, his Hinckley clubmate.

There was a tie on 36 points, resolved on countback, resulting in Nathan Blank (Enville GC) in third and yet another Hinckley member, Paul Young, in fourth.

Top professional was Simon Lilly (Wellingborough GC) fifth, who tied with amateur Neville Green (Chesterfield GC) sixth, on 35 points.

Nearest the pin prizes went to Steve Thomas (Pype Hayes GC) on the 3rd, Buser Ferrar (unknown!) 8th, Steve Manship (Wellingborough GC) 12th and Simon Lilly on the 17th.

The TLGC winter series continues to be a very popular event in the close season, confirmation our course is in a better condition than many around us. The next round is on Friday, 11th January, 10am Shotgun start.



### SENIORS

Conditions were reasonably benign for this time of the year, when the Seniors played their December round (4BBB) of the winter series on Monday, 10th December. Francis Lobo and Tony Mendes came in 1st with a total of 41 points, followed closely by Dhirajjal Popat and Barry Hall, second on countback from Paul Donaghy and Richard Brucciani. Both pairs finished with 39 points.

Seniors Captain, Paul Donaghy informs "the next winter series will be played on Monday 21st January 2019, a 'Sunningdale foursomes'. Also a copy of next year's fixtures is on the Seniors notice board and on the clubs web site in the diary". A good time to plan which matches you wish to play in, before you start booking your holidays in the sun!

Paul also requests eligible members (55 and over) to join the Seniors section (£3 annual subscription). And on behalf of the Seniors section, Paul wishes everyone a good Xmas and a happy New Year.

### JUNIORS

The future looks bright for county youngsters reported the Leicester Mercury this month, quoting the County Golf Union President, Kevin Whitfield-Green. "Overall the strength of junior golf throughout Leicestershire – boys and girls – is exciting for a bright future. We have enthusiastic boys in the county squads and it is good to see them coming through so strongly. We will be encouraging and monitoring their progress and I am confident the county ladies will be doing the same with the girls".

Three of our Juniors were presented with their awards by the County President for featuring in the 2018 Order of Merit. Thomas Dzuiba, led the handicap OOM, with a total of 50 points. Finn Dobson was third with 41 points. Alexis Brown was also third in the girls section with 26 points.

It's great to see the next wave of Juniors practising on a cold Sunday afternoon, under the watchful eye of Junior organiser, James Dobson.

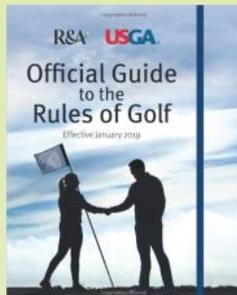




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## NEW RULES OF GOLF 2019



New rules of golf come into effect on 1st January 2019. There have been significant changes to rules and definitions and members should take time to digest (excuse the pun as you help yourself to your third helping of turkey and Christmas pudding) these many changes.

To assist you, TLGC have erected a wonderful display in the foyer of the club, with a colour coded summary chart, illustrating the various changes. There is also a 'players guide' available to take away.

Also, since Wednesday 24th October, a series of seven emails have been sent weekly to all members, clarifying these changes. Many thanks to Malcolm Northover and Will Bevan for all their hard work and diligence in helping us to understand these rule changes.

There is also a video which illustrates many of the new rules: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWqZoxnV\\_gI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWqZoxnV_gI)

Members may have also noted the green mats on the Par 3 tees and on the 10th fairway and are encouraged to use them to protect the course. The very hot and dry summer has left many bare areas and these are being addressed by the Greens staff and committee (note work started on the 2nd tee). Details of what is being done will be highlighted in next month's newsletter.

In the meantime, all golfers are reminded of their **responsibilities** to help maintain the high standards at TLGC – **please replace divots, rake bunkers and repair pitch marks**. NO EXCUSES. We do not want our visitors to say "It's impossible to get a true roll on these greens – no one repairs their ball markers here!" It takes just a few seconds but can save a lot of unnecessary work and time for the green staff. If you are struggling to bend, the Pilates classes will help!

### Coming Up...

- ⇒ Cross Country & Captain's Drive-In on **Sunday 6th January**, followed by the Big lunch! Captain Mike Bucktin and Professional Pete Livie have designed a new challenging 9 hole cross country course. Playing from a tee to a different hole, without having to shout FORE is great fun and there are still some slots left. This will be followed by the past Captains putting out on the 9th green and then Mike, with his fellow Captains will formally start their year, with a drive in from the 1st tee. Mike is putting up a bottle of Champagne to the member who guesses how far his drive will travel. Every penny of the £5 entry will go towards the Captains charity, Air Ambulance, which will be formally launched at the Big lunch afterwards. 50 yards, not passed the ladies tee and OOB have already been taken! Mike who rarely plays in the winter, has been warming up for his big drive by making a few appearances in the Winter League!
- ⇒ Pilates at TLGC on **Friday 11th January!** Pilates is a form of exercise (for women and men) which focus on strengthening the body, with an emphasis on core strength. The core is an area located between an imaginary line running around the body just below the diaphragm and another running above the pelvic floor. Pilates involves focused concentration and flowing breath to improve general fitness and overall well-being. And it will add yards to your drives! The free taster sessions at 10.00am and 11.30am will be taken by Charlotte Pochin-Hawkes, who has a degree in Sports Therapy. Charlotte has worked at the University of Leicester sports centres and is very keen to help members improve their posture and strength to prevent injuries and reduce muscular aches and pains.
- ⇒ Ladies New Year coffee morning on **Monday 14th January** at 10.30am at which programmes and match sheets for 2019 will be given out and a discussion on the implementation of Match Managers.
- ⇒ TLGC Quiz Night on **Friday 18th January** at 7.00pm. Still a few places left for teams of 6 to enter. A fun evening to test your general knowledge.
- ⇒ **Sunday 9th June** – Under 35's team championships, qualifying 36 hole medal, played in 3's – full details on club's website.
- ⇒ **Thursday 4th July to Sunday 7th July** – English Men's Open Mid-Amateur Strokeplay (Logan Trophy).

### ... & IN OTHER NEWS

Member Sajjad Khan and his wife, Nasreen (pictured) recently trekked to Everest Base Camp to raise funds for Cancer Appeal. It was a gruelling 17 day trek which required a lot of prior training in Snowdon, Ben Nevis and Yorkshire's Three Peaks! Encountering altitude sickness and wind chill temperatures of -15 degrees C, they succeeded in reaching both base camp (17600') and Kala Pathar (18200'). Sajjad has raised £5000 so far. Over the years Sajjad has been raising monies for several charities and recently ran the London Marathon for Whizzkids. He will be running again next year for the Dyslexic Research Trust and can be sponsored on <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/sajjad-khan-SAVMLMBONDS3332018-845105>  
Well done Sajjad.



Overheard in the clubhouse after a bad round ... ☺ "The greenkeeper must be in an awful mood. I've never seen so many tough pin positions". "That leaf blew in front of my putt". "The greens I normally play on are much slower". Excuses, excuses, excuses. ☺

**SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL!**