



# THE LEICESTERSHIRE GOLF CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

February 2020

## Winter League

The 2019/2020 Winter League will probably be remembered as the wettest ever to be played at The Leicestershire Golf Club. A great deal of credit has to be given to our excellent greenkeepers who have battled throughout the winter, especially in the face of some major storms. While many around us were closed, we lost only one Saturday to the weather until the last weekend. Club Captain, Graham Warwick states *“Despite my optimism of improving weather in last month’s newsletter, we continue to experience a persistent spell of wet and windy weather. The course has been battered leading to unprecedented (at TLGC) course closures due to flooding, the loss of some trees and many fallen branches. Despite this the hardy members of TLGC continue to defy the elements on the course and have battled their way through Storms Ciara and Dennis”*.

Leading into the last Saturday of the winter league, there were several positions in the Top 10 up for grabs. At the beginning of February, Alan Martinez and Kevin MacDonald were just in front, closely followed by Mark Simpson and Tony Jarvis, Parin and Atin Patel and Roger Corp and Chris Saul. Unfortunately, a further course closure on 29<sup>th</sup> February on the last weekend meant there was an anti-climax with several games which could have influenced the top placings cancelled. The eventual winners of the PL (Dicky) Richards Trophy were Alan Martinez and Kevin MacDonald, seen here receiving their trophy from the Club Captain.



The final positions for the ten prizes for those playing a minimum of 10 matches were: -

Position	Name	Name	%
1	Alan Martinez	Kevin MacDonald	88.5
2	Roger Corp	Chris Saul	85.7
3	Adam Dovey	Tony Pollard	80.0
4	Barry Hall	Jim Clarke	76.9
5=	Phil Thomason	Will Ridgway	75.0
5=	Altaf Makani	Aslam Mahomed	75.0
5=	Parin Patel	Atin Patel	75.0
8	Mehmud Adam	Yousuf Chhadat	72.7
9	Duncan Jones	David Charman	70.0
10	Paul Player	Josh Pimblett	68.2



We now look ahead to the **new season** with fingers crossed for some better weather. The **Captain/Pro challenge** will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March. This year the event will be played as a fourball AM/AM team event. Any teams beating the Captain/Pro team’s score will double their entry fee money. Graham is hopeful the strong team of vice-captain Jon Flint, the ‘two professional Petes’ (Livie and Faragher) and himself will keep the damage to his wallet to a minimum. Sign up on BRS from Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March and prove Graham wrong!

Graham has had a good response from gentlemen wanting to play in social matches, with approximately 20 members indicating their availability. The first is a home match against Market Harborough GC on Tues 5<sup>th</sup> May and the team sheet will be posted on 24<sup>th</sup> March. If anyone else would like to be considered for these matches, please sign up on the team sheets posted in the men’s locker room, six weeks before matches.



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### TLGC Winter Series

Club professional, Pete Livie was full of praise for our hardworking green staff who produced a very good course between the storms, to ensure play was possible on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February. Pete was also pleased with the quality of the field for this series which also included 2016 European Ryder Cup golfer, Andrew Sullivan!

However, it was PGA professional Matthew Cort (Beedles Lake GC), who stole the day in extremely blustery winter conditions. He went around our course in a 7-under par score of 63 and amassed an amazing 42 points, with 5 birdies and 1 eagle! Andy Sullivan, was second, on countback from Mathew Ginley (Sherdons GC, Tewkebury) with 40 points. In fourth, also on countback, was George Raitt (Whetstone GC) who just pipped the professional from Wellingborough GC, Simon Lilly with 39 points.

Pete Livie (middle) is pictured with Mathew Cort (left) and Andy Sullivan.

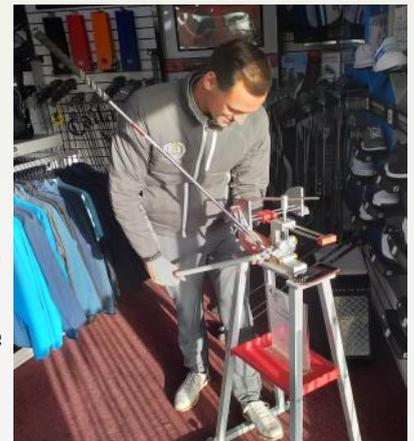


### New member of Staff



Professional Pete Livie is pleased to announce the arrival of Peter Faragher, as his assistant professional. Peter, originally from Somerset, turned professional in 2015 and began his PGA training at Taunton & Pickering Golf Club. Since moving to Leicestershire in 2016, he has been working at Humberstone Heights Golf Club and has built a reputation as an excellent coach with a strong passion for developing junior golfers.

In his spare time Peter enjoys playing golf, clay shooting, walking with his dog and spending time with family and friends. Please say hello to Peter in the professional shop next time you're at the club. And while you are there, have a look around the well-stocked shop and get yourself all geared up for the coming season. Need your clubs tweaked to get those extra yards or for improved accuracy, the 2 Pete's have all the equipment to help you on your way!





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### JUNIOR SECTION

With the new season rapidly approaching, the junior section is very excited about some of the fantastic initiatives they will be involved with during 2020.

Firstly, for the third year running TLGC have been accepted by England Golf to hold a Girls Golf Rocks event. Following on from the success of last year, with around 40 girls coming to the club for a fun packed taster session, we have high hopes for this year. Our new assistant professional, Peter Faragher, will be leading this initiative, with the full support of Pete Livie and all the junior organisers.



Secondly, we have been invited by the Golf Foundation to submit a team into the inaugural Leicestershire region GolfSixes League. This exciting format is aimed at both boys and girls with higher handicaps. GolfSixes League means quicker six-hole matches against other clubs in a fun 'Texas Scramble' format – a great way of building

confidence among new players. The matches are designed to create a sense of belonging in junior sections, while also forging a respect for practice among young players. The Leicestershire junior section is very excited about being part of this brilliant initiative.

Thirdly, whilst we can't say too much about this at this stage as plans are still being finalised, we can tell you that in June, The Leicestershire Junior Section are planning to be part of a large and exciting 2 day initiative, aimed at getting juniors and adults into golf. Involving representatives from England Golf, The Golf Foundation, Leicestershire and Rutland Golf Union, Leicestershire & Rutland Ladies Golf Association and Leicester City Council, this promises to be a fantastic opportunity to bring new people to the club and golf. Keep your ears and eyes open for further news!





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### Greens

Chair of Greens, Paul Donaghy and Course Manager, Chris Lewis and his staff have had a torrid few months and will be relieved when all these horrendous storms finally blow away. Paul states, *"Many thanks to those who have sent comments through, they are valued, and as promised we will respond. It shows just how much members care about their course, and your ideas and thoughts are much appreciated"*.

A sign-up sheet for volunteers is up in the downstairs rear foyer - it is hoped that any voluntary work with regards to the course will take place sometime in April and/or May. Full details to be released in due course. Remember many hands make light work, so please put your name forward.

Paul continues *"As we reported last month, everything is being done that can be done to keep this course open, however there are times that we have no choice, but to close. The Greens committee thank you for your patience and understanding regarding this matter"*



**Drainage :-** Drainage in certain areas around the course including the practice ground has shown inefficiencies in coping with the amount of rainfall we have been experiencing. A drainage plan will be put together to improve these areas

Paul and Chris were very pleased to receive the following feedback from two competitors who played in the last Winter Series on Friday 14th February. *"Yet again the Greens at the Leicestershire have proved themselves to be absolute quality. In the past six weeks, we have played Hollinwell, Sherwood Forest, Moortown and Alwoodley. None have greens as good as The Leicestershire. All beautiful golf courses but the smooth putting surface you have at the Leicestershire are wonderful. Congratulations to the Committee who decided to invest in the re-construction of the greens decades ago - a great investment. This is our fourth year playing the winter series at TLGC and the greenkeepers continue to deliver fantastic greens. Hats off to them and the Pro shop for providing a well-run event and the club in general. Keep up the excellent work'. Regards, Neville Green (Chesterfield GC) & John Hickton (Grassmoor GC).*



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## Captains Charity: *The Carers Centre*

A pull up banner, summarising their activities is now displayed in the downstairs bar. The charity runs a craft group for carers which produces handmade gift cards and gifts. A selection of these was provided for members to use for Valentine's Day gifts in return for a donation and there was a good uptake of these by the old romantics at TLGC. **Further cards/gifts will be available for Mother's Day, 22<sup>nd</sup> March.**

Last year the club's fund-raising effort was boosted by a group of staff doing a sky-dive in aid of the Captains' Charity. Club Captain Graham Warwick states "*Although perhaps not quite as dangerous, we are putting together a group of TLGC members and supporters to run the Leicester Marathon/Half Marathon on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October in aid of the charity*". So far, Graham has recruited TLGC members Saj Khan, Adam Dovey, Chris Saul and any other members who would like to join them are most welcome. Further details of how you can sponsor the runners will follow later in the year.

### Coming Up.....

- **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** – Captain/Pro Challenge
- **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** - Mother's Day Lunch
- **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March** - Executive Q&A
- **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** - Taste of Spring
- **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Millennium Bowl at TLGC
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June** - Executive Q&A
- **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June** - TLGC Summer BBQ -
- **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September** - Captains' Charity Golf Day and Dinner
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in May, June, July and August (5.15pm)** – Mixed golf
- **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September** – Captain's Away Day at Chesterfield GC

### And in other news.....

⇒ Eight hardy members from The Leicestershire played in the The Royal Cinque Ports Winter Pairs Open on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> February. Peter Fowler and Simon Bridgwater came third with 40 points, in very stormy and wet conditions.

⇒ Club Captain Graham Warwick was accompanied by Mike Bucktin, Roger Corp, Paul Donaghy, Alan Fletcher, Jon Flint, Francis Lobo and Chris Saul at the Leicestershire & Rutland Golf Union annual dinner on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> February at Hinckley GC. As Richard Wale could not be present to collect his third consecutive Midland Order of Merit, Graham received the gold medal on his behalf.

No pressure Richard, but we look forward to your fourth merit award this coming season. Good luck!

⇒ The president of England Golf was also present at the dinner and in her address to all those present she stated "*England Golf were very pleased to host the Logan Trophy at The Leicestershire Golf Club in 2019. The competition was a huge success and our sincere thanks to all the members of The Leicestershire, who could not have been more welcoming and who played no small part in making the day a great success*".

