



THE LEICESTERSHIRE GOLF CLUB

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

WINTER LEAGUE

Club Captain, Mike Bucktin has started his year with a bang by winning the Winter league and the PL (Dicky) Richards Trophy with his playing partners, Alan Fletcher and John Cox. Starting with a loss, half, loss, they finally got into their stride and won 12 consecutive games, finishing with 83.33%.

55 teams took part, many playing as a threesome, and not a single round was lost to the weather or poor ground conditions. Confirming, once again, The Leicestershire Golf Club is playable throughout the year.



It was all to play for as the winter league entered its final weekend. Leading the way were Tony Lord and Richard Binnie with several teams in the running depending on how results fell. Mike and Alan played in the morning and were 3 down after nine holes against Tony Norman and Robin Fraser with Robin showing just why he was a scratch golfer for many years. However, Mike and Alan put together a brilliant back nine to win the match 2&1! Tony and Richard then began their match against Adrian Jones and Ross Morrison knowing a win would land them the title. Adrian and Ross rose to the occasion and, as is the case in the winter league, a loss dropped Tony and Richard back into the field.

In second place on 80.00% was Chris Dean and Marc Palmer, with David Wall and Simon Pollard finishing third once again with 79.17%. The final day loss saw Richard Binnie and Tony Lord finish fourth with 78.52% ahead of Yousuf Chhadat and Mehmud Adam on 75.00%.

The remaining prize winners were Andy Lowne and Steve Lock, Roger Corp and Chris Saul, Mark Simpson and Tony Jarvis, Mahmed Asra and Arif Osman, David Johnson and David Mitchell.

Club captain Mike Bucktin commented, "Alan and I, along with John Cox and Neil Scotchbrook (sub for one match!) are delighted to come out as winners. For me particularly so, as for many years I partnered Andy Sutcliffe in the winter league who was a great friend and drinking buddy of Dicky Richards. So to win the trophy named after Dicky is a special honour".

In recent years Mike has hibernated through the winter but is now duty bound to defend his title next year!

TLGC Winter Series

The 6th and final open winter series was played on Friday 8th march 2019. Playing at TLGC in the winter has proved a big attraction as a very strong field of 77 battled it out for the first prize of £500. The winners were:

- 1st Paul Maddy (Professional – Gog Magog GC) 37 Points
- 2nd David Dryden (TLGC) 35 Points (c/back back 9)
- 3rd Gareth Iliffe (Hinckley GC) 35 Points
- 4th David Greive (Greetham Valley GC) 34 Points (c/back back 6)
- 5th Clive Smith (TLGC) 34 Points (c/back back 9)
- 6th Neil Robinson (Hinckley GC) 34 Points
- 7th Edward Proctor (Hinckley GC) 33Points (c/back back 9)





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CAPTAIN/PRO CHALLENGE

Heralding the start of the new golf season, Club Captain Mike Bucktin teamed up with Vice-Captain Graham Warwick, Club Professional Pete Livie and Assistant Professional Kym Larratt to challenge the field in a Texas Scramble medal. As Storm Gareth blew through the course with very strong winds they posted a good score of 64 Gross, 62 Nett. However, this was not good enough and 10 teams bettered this, resulting in a big pay out for the Captain! Top of the pile with a remarkable Nett 58.9 were Andy Lowne, Duncan Ralston, Richard Dalby and Harry Dalby, closely followed on 59.6 by David Howard, Ray Mason, Rob Field and Adrian Keene.

Mike Bucktin had this to say "It was an absolute pleasure playing with Peter and Kym. As well as their work in the shop and their coaching roles, our professional team are excellent golfers and their control in very windy conditions was impressive. The power and precision of the tee shots coupled with the accuracy of the approach play was awesome. Our score was very creditable given the conditions and congratulations to the teams that bettered it. I hope everyone who played enjoyed it as much as I did."



Ladies Section

The annual charity bridge tea took place on 4th March in aid of the Captains Charity, Air Ambulance. Twenty tables of four took part, with people coming from all around the County. They were served a delicious afternoon tea and the cards were good to some, with the prizes well received by the winners. First prize went to Gilly Clear from Rothley GC. £700 was raised that afternoon, boosted by an amazing raffle, run by Clair Tandy and Hilary Higgins.



The Charity fashion show held on 22nd March was enjoyed by

models (pictured left) and spectators alike. Mandy Noss from CABI clothing organised a very professional line up and a further £280 was raised on the day for the Captains charity.

On 27th March, the ladies played an interesting away leg at Whittington Heath in The Taskers. The match was played in the midst of a rebuild of the course! Five new holes, three relocated holes and a new clubhouse to be built - all thanks to HS2! The team had to negotiate mountains of red netting, many diggers and workmen, lots of new bunkers not in play and hollow tined greens to boot. Played in a great spirit, TLGC lost 5 - 2. Let's hope we can overturn that in the home leg.

Our entrants for the Daily Mail foursomes, Janey Heaney and Mary Jarvis, won their first round match away at Scraftoft on a very cold and wet March day. They had to give 16 shots and the match went to the 19th hole. Not a euphemism for the bar! They play the next round at home against Luffenham on 15th April at midday and would welcome any support. Good luck Janey and Mary.



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Seniors Section

The last round of the Seniors Winter Series was completed on Monday 18th March with a wonderful turn-out of 48 players. First, with 83 points were P.Crewe, M. Hercock, P.Kalsi and J.Vetsy. Second with 80 points, D.Popat, B.Marlow, H.Kassam, P.Nutall, closely followed by P.Donaghy, D.Johnson, N.Mason, I.Hedley on 78 points (after countback).

Mike Lewis standings: leading the way going into the forthcoming season after the winter series is Tony Mendes with 7.75 points, followed by Francis Lobo and Brain Marlow, both on 6.0 points with Dhiru Popat, on 5.00 points.

Seniors Captain, Paul Donaghy reports: "A total of 65 members have taken part in this year's winter series. May I take this opportunity in thanking you all for your support, as we look forward to this year's monthly competitions and club matches. The first monthly stableford is on Monday 15th April and all seniors are most welcome to play. The first seniors club match is away to Glen Corse on Wednesday 3rd April".

Juniors Section

The Leicestershire Golf Club are pleased to announce they have been selected, for the second year running to host Girls Golf

Rocks on the 18th May 2019.

Aimed at girls aged 5-18, we are aiming for 2019 to be a great success and hope that all TLGC members will help spread the word. Girls Golf Rocks is a joint programme run by **England Golf** and the **Golf Foundation** with the support of county associations.

Girls Golf Rocks will run in 26 counties across England this year, offering free taster sessions, girls-only coaching courses and the chance to get out and play.

In 2018, 21 counties were involved with over 1600 girls who enjoyed a taste of golf, with many going on to coaching sessions.



Free Taster Session: This is a great way to find out if golf is the game for any girls wanting to give it a try. The girls will get together with other beginner girls to relax and play fun games. With PGA professional coach Pete Livie leading the activities and Girls Golf Rocks Ambassadors from TLGC on hand to help and encourage all taking part. All equipment needed will be provided and the relaxed and friendly atmosphere allows plenty of time to chat and make new friends over refreshments.

The girls can wear what they want as long as it's comfy and keeps them warm. Trainers are fine for footwear. The taster session will be followed up by girls-only group coaching for anyone wanting to take their golf further.

Beginner Coaching Groups: Join a group of other girls and learn the basics during six weekly, one-hour sessions.

If interested please contact either, Club Professional Pete Livie 07525 450798 or the club office 0116 2738825 Ext 2 or visit girlsgolfrocks.org and search for The Leicestershire.



Hole in One!

Oliver Tutt (pictured right) had a hole in one on the 8th hole on Saturday, 30th March whilst playing a friendly round with Finn Dobson. Oliver hit a five iron on to the green and watched it roll into the hole. Congratulations Oliver!



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VINES, WINES & CORKS (SPARKLING EDITION) - FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

Twenty six lucky members and friends enjoyed a wonderful evening at the golf club on Friday, 15th March. Hosted by General Manager and ex-sommelier Will Bevan and ably supported throughout the evening by Piotr Zuj and Nicole Laycock, those present blind-tasted five different sparkling wines and one champagne. Working from notes and advice given by Will on how to match each, from a large selection of breads, cheeses, canapes, caviar and chocolates, participants were asked to mark each in terms of preference. The 'Cave de Lugny Sparkling Burgundy Blanc - Chardonnay' came out tops, closely followed by 'Lindauer Special Reserve Brut NV - Chardonnay, Pinot Noir'. The only champagne came fourth! Will said the 'Cave de Lugny' always punches above its weight @ £10.49 v £27.00! Congratulations to Mrs. Isobel Crump who named all six in the right order!



Coming Up...

- ⇒ Last night of the Masters - Sunday 14th April.
- ⇒ Sunday 9th June - Under 35's team championships, qualifying 36 hole medal, played in 3's - full details on club's website.
- ⇒ TLGC Summer BBQ - Sunday 23rd June (no dress code!)
- ⇒ Thursday 4th July to Sunday 7th July - English Men's Open Mid-Amateur Strokeplay (Logan Trophy).
- ⇒ 43rd Women's British Open at Woburn GC - the club has organised a coach for Friday 2nd August, cost £18 per head. Your chance to see the top women golfers including reigning champion, England's Georgia Hall. Sign-up sheet on the Mixed Noticeboard.
- ⇒ Bridge lunch - Monday October 7th.
- ⇒ New Year's Eve dinner and disco - Tuesday 31st December.

... & IN OTHER NEWS

- Do you know of anyone who wants to learn to play golf? Get them to enrol in the club's 'New to golf membership' - £250 includes 6 lessons, a Range pass and £50 to spend in the bar.
- A strong contingent from TLGC made the trip recently to Woodhall Spa GC, to play in the 29th Annual Charity Golf Day organised by the Rotary Club of Woodhall Spa for the John Bevan Cup. It attracts a field from all over the country and raises funds for the many charities the Rotary Club support. Star of the day was Seniors captain Paul Donaghy, who posted an impressive 37 points to finish in 3rd place, the best finish by a TLGC member since the competition began. Well done Paul.
- Richard Wale, who recently re-joined TLGC, was recently awarded a gold medal for becoming the 2018 Midland Golf Union Order of Merit Champion. Richard amassed a total of 810 points in last season's leading amateur open championship across the region - he was well clear of his nearest rivals from Staffordshire and Nottinghamshire, who finished on 705 and 540 respectively. Many congratulations Richard and best of luck in the coming season.
- Richard will add much needed strength to our Scratch team as they return to the top division this season. Scratch team captain, Tom Sherwin and his team hope many members will turn out and support them in their first two matches which are at home - Thursday 25th April v Hinckley GC and Thursday 9th May v Lutterworth GC. Good luck gentlemen.