SUMMER ROUND UP
The Captains’ Corner

From the Lady Captain
Our wonderful ‘summer’ is over and autumn works have begun on the course. Maybe it’s my age but I love autumn, the purple of the heather, the red berries of the rowan trees and the Course, which looks magnificent!
The Captains’ Charity was a great success again this year. Big Thanks to Barry Hall, Sean O’Sullivan, George Reid, Bert O’Brien and all who helped out with this very worthwhile event. Thank you to all the members of Howth Golf Club who were so generous to this year’s Fund Raiser. Amazingly, close to €22,000 was raised for our two charities; ARC and Cairdeas Alzheimer’s Day Unit.
Our Team Matches are all over but our autumn ones are about to begin. Lists are up on the noticeboards. Round Robin Groups are already set up and ready to go. Winter League will be starting early October. The Hi/Low is about to begin too. Nine-hole Turkey competitions, Tain and Tiger, winter rings and so many other little treats to keep us all busy for the rest of the year.
The Husband and Wife competition was well supported again this year with a full timesheet. Norma and Sean O’Mahony had a wonderful win with 43 points. Thank you to Barbara and Craig Mc Mullen for organising this event. Peter Opperman, as usual, served lovely food afterwards and another brilliant night was had by all in Howth Golf Club.
I hope you all continue to enjoy your golf and your Club.
Mary Judge
Lady Captain.
The Captain’s Corner

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members that have played in all our competitions over the summer. I have a few personal highlights. The first is winning the Felix McHenry Trophy with the Lady Captain Mary. We had some great matches on our way through the rounds and I would like to congratulate Frances and Tony Brady on making it to the final.

I had the great pleasure to play opposite Conor Collier as he shot level par in the Michael Hennigan Shield, a delightful young man and I wish him well next year as Junior Captain.

Although we didn’t have the best of weather we have got our entire medal complete and our Golfer of the Year went down to the last competition and yours truly won but I was pushed all the way by Ger Hurley.

To our members who supported the Captain’s Charities Weekend I was delighted to present cheques of €10,800 each to ACR House and Cairdeas Alzheimer Day Centre. The charities committee, Catharine McCann and all the prizewinners who made it a great event.

We had our Monday and Tuesday nighter’s finals on the 3rd of October and Matt Haugh with 42 pts was the overall winner on the day with Eoai Keogh winning the Monday Nighter’s league and John Costello and Bernard Byrne tying for the Tuesday Nighter’s league.

As the evenings draw in I wish all members good luck in trying to win some Christmas fare. Also I would like to express thanks to our extremely hard working committee within the club.

Joe Richardson
Around the Greens

At the time of writing the greens are recovering well from recent hollow coring which also included over seeding with creeping Bentgrass. The previous two overseedings are now showing results with obvious areas of Bentgrass now establishing which will give us a good mix of Bent and Annual Meadow Grass (AMG). The fact that our greens are predominantly AMG is not desirable given the vulnerability of that grass to various diseases. Indeed we had a problem with Anthracnose disease (basal rot) this summer which has resulted in some bare patches on some greens --- they are now recovering with the creeping Bent hopefully colonising the infected areas. We are carefully monitoring the progress of the new Bentgrass which will in time give us healthier, more resilient and truer putting surfaces (and faster for all those Jordan Speiths among us!!).

There are still some outstanding works associated with Motion ‘A’ which have yet to be undertaken and we hope to start these over the next weeks --- they include some mounding between the 14th and 16th fairways and new mens tees at the 7th and 13th. These works will involve a significant amount of soil transport and this will be carried out with the minimum of disruption. A remarkable feature of the tree planting of last spring is the level of tree establishment -- we have lost very few trees and many have even started to put on some extension growth. Planting in such an exposed location as Howth which is on average 400 feet above sea level, I would have expected greater losses ---- lets hope the coming winter is kind to us. I am sure all members are looking forward to the time when all the new spinneys are in play !.

Some members have pointed out the regression in the condition of the practise ground and the shortage of practise balls. Now that the high intensity use (and indeed abuse) of the area during the summer is over the course staff will give the area extra attention. There was an ample supply of practise balls at the start of the summer and most of these are now lost both within and without the course... a fresh supply is on order.

G Barry. Course Converor.
Howth Castle Reception

Christopher and Meryl Gaisford St Lawrence hosted a reception at the Castle for the Former Captains their wives and the Trustees and Council on Tuesday the 29th of September. Christopher had served as President of Howth Golf Club from 1957 until 2014, a span of 57 years, this must be an International record. The large attendance of Former Captains and their wives and Lady Captains added up to more than 90 persons at the reception.
The Captains’ Prizes to members
18th July 2015

The Captains’ prizes to the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Club competition took place on 18th July and the timesheet was heavily booked by both ladies and gents. Golf Buddies were the beautiful prizes for both the ladies and the gents and these were won by Helen Webster with a great score of 39 points and Ruairi Allen with another great score of 40 points. These beautiful Captains’ prizes as well as many other prizes were presented at a dinner in the Club on the same evening. A very big thank you from all the members to Captain Joe Richardson and Lady Captain Mary Judge for giving all the members a very special day.

Captain Joe presenting Helen Webster with her prize

Lady Captain Mary presenting John Clancy and Sean O’Mahony with their prizes
Howth Golf Club

Receiving their Prizes
Mary Geraghty and Gross winner Mary Goode

Anne O’Malley
And
Pat Slowey

Adele Keegan
And
Kate Brosnan
The Junior Captain's Corner

I couldn't have asked for a better year in terms of golf. I thoroughly enjoyed being Junior Captain in 2015 and I embraced the roles that came with the job. Firstly was my drive in which went brilliantly. There was a very big turn out on a cold windy day and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

I went out to see the lads play in some of the events this year and the golf I witnessed was fantastic. The Andy Desmond was played in Clontarf golf club and Howth did exceptionally well. We comfortably beat St Anne's and Corrstown which brought us into the semi finals in Portmarnock Links but unfortunately lost out to Beaverstown golf club. The two foursomes pairings were Ciaran Kelly & Michael Duignan and Conor Collier & Michael Fitzgibbon who did their club proud with both their golf and the way they handled themselves. The Fred Daly Cup was played in Donabate golf club, Howth did not make it through the stroke play qualifier despite our best efforts. The best score of the day from our team came from Conor Collier with a fantastic gross 77 which included 4 birdies in 5 holes on the back 9. In the Irish Junior Foursomes this year our lads put on a clinic and the two foursomes pairings of Ciaran Kelly & Tom Crinion and Conor Collier & Michael Fitzgibbon came first in the qualifying round with total scores of 73 and 74 respectively.

This was my last year playing in the Fingal League and Howth did extremely well, exceeding many people's expectations. It was played over 8 weeks at 8 different venues and Howth finished 5th out of 16 teams. This is our best showing in the last several years. We won two of the weeks. In Howth Michael Duignan, Michael Fitzgibbon, Ben Foy and myself won with 106 and in Malahide Ciaran Kelly, Michael Duignan, Jack Hughes and myself also won with a total of 106. We entered the final week still in with a chance to win the League and we did not hold back. The big guns were sent out to Forrest Little Golf Club, John Smyth, Conor Collier, Ciaran Kelly and myself but despite our best efforts we couldn't take home the gold.
The Junior Captain's Corner

My Junior Captain's prize was a very enjoyable day, 33 people played on a perfect morning and the winner was Tristan Farren-Dunne with a mind blowing score of 45 points. The juniors did both themselves and their club proud at all levels this year. We did very well in the Barton Cup this year making it to the 5th round, losing out to Clontarf who later lost in the final. I was lucky enough to play alongside Martin Cleary and we were unbeaten in three matches. Conor Collier and Ciaran Kelly also proved themselves to be a formidable pairing having won all four of their matches. Senior Cup was played in Milltown Golf Club and myself and my brother John both represented Howth, I won my match and John was walking down 18 and looked to be in control before being called in because overall Howth lost to a very strong Malahide team 3.5-1.5. The Club Championships is a perfect example of how strong the junior section is with 5 juniors coming in the top ten, which includes 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Of course i didn't do this alone. I'd like to thank the junior vice captain Conor Collier for stepping in whenever he was needed as I had my leaving cert this year and wasn't always free. My year wouldn't have gone so well if it wasn't for the help of Errol Golding and George Kearns. Words cannot describe how much of a help they were this year. Errol has been the face of junior golf for many years now and he does not get the recognition he deserves. He is always just a phone call away and never refuses to help us. Whether it's a part of our game that's gone wrong or we are stuck for a lift we can always rely on Errol. Without Errol there would be no junior section so we are for ever in debt. This is George's first year as Junior Convenor and I have to say he has done an outstanding job. As I'm sure many of you know juniors do not always get the respect they deserve and George so willingly fought for us in every way he could and for that I can never thank him enough. I speak for all the juniors when I say we couldn't have asked for a better junior Convenor.

I really enjoyed my year as junior captain and I’d like to thank Joe Richardson and Mary Judge for their support and wish Paddy Cooney, Brenda Flynn and Conor Collier the very best of luck in their captaincy roles in 2016.

Brendan Smyth
Junior Boys’ Results

**Junior Captain’s Prize (Brendan Smyth) 14th July 2015**

**White Tees:** Tristan Farren-Dunne (19) 45 pts, Matthew Duignan (14) 40 pts, Gross Ciaran Kelly (8)

**Yellow Tees:** Jack Hughes (23) 41 pts, Alex Smith (28) 35 pts, Louis Gallagher (23) 32 pts

9 Hole Yellow: David Stack (28), Karl Cox (28), Conor White (28)

Longest Drive: Brendan Smyth (3)

Nearest the Pin (8th): Alex Cassidy (28)

Most Birdies: Michael Duigan (12)

**Captain’s Prize to Juniors (Joe Richardson) 10th August 2015**

Michael Duignan (12) (w) 40 pts, Dylan Moran (28) (y) 41 pts, Ciaran Kelly (8) (w) 37 pts, Dylan O’Donovan (26) (y) 35 pts, Michael Moore (23) (y) 33 ypts.

9 Hole Yellow: David Kiernan (28)

**End of Season Prizes 17th August 2015**

Michael Fitzgibbon (9)(w) 39 pts, Tom Crinion (12)(w) 37 pts, Dylan Moran (26)(y) 36 pts, Gavin L’Estrange (28)(y) 35 pts, Dylan O’Donovan (26)(y) 35 pts, Matthew Duignan (14)(w) 34 pts, Michael Creavan (26)(y) 34 pts, Alex Smith (28)(y) 32 pts, Michael Wright (28)(y) 31 pts, Darren Kearney (28)(y) 31 pts,

9 Hole Yellow: Charlie Grant (28), Alex Cronnelly (28)

**Junior Match Play**

Winer: Ciaran Kelly (8)
Runner Up: Michael Fitzgibbon (9)
Club Championships Prize Giving on 25th August

Felix McHenry Trophy
Winners
Lady Captain Mary Judge
and Captain Joe Richardson

Tim Phelan Trophy
Winner
Sean Cleary

Ladies Cup
Winner
Carmel Brennan
Ladies Fourball Trophy
Winners
Louise Mahon and Susan Curran

John McGuirk Trophy
Winners
Breda Mullally and Bride Byrne

John McGuirk Trophy
Runner Up
Brenda Flynn and Pauline Quinn
Sid Bradshaw Shield
Winners
Brendan Smyth and Conor Collier

James Middleton Trophy
Winners
Eddie Hyland and Peter Gorman

James Middleton Trophy
Runner up
Fer and Ciaran Kelly
Husband and Wife Competition

Winners
Sean and Norma O’Mahony
With Craig and Barbara McMullen

The Husband and Wife Competition was held on Saturday 12th September. A beautiful summer’s day made this day most enjoyable for all who took part. The evening meal by Peter Opperman and his staff was excellent. This was followed by the presentation of the Coveted Cup and a lovely selection of prizes. There were also some “fun” prizes for six gentlemen in the Club who beat the “Pros” Howth Golf Club’s very own twins Brendan and John Smith who got involved in the atmosphere of the day and showed all who took part a wonderful exhibition of golf.

Our prizewinners were Sean M. and Norma O’Mahony who won the coveted Perpetual Trophy and a very generous voucher with a score of 43 points. There were five runner up prizes and each couple received a most generous voucher. A big thank you must be extended to Barbara and Craig McMullan for arranging such an excellent and enjoyable event, a lot of work went into it and it was very much appreciated by all the participants.

Runner up
Carol and Ronan Carberry

3rd Place
Paul and Felima O’Callaghan
Ladies Prize Giving

Lady Captain Mary Judge with Aideen Jeffares presenting Derval Magann with the Phillie McHenry Trophy

President Liam Cahill with Lady Captain Mary Judge presenting the President’s Prize to Helen Holden

Lady Captain Mary Judge Presenting Brenda Flynn & Barbara McMullen with the Eileen Monahan Trophy
The Captains’ Charity Nights

Firstly Mary and I would like to thank most sincerely our extremely hard working committee for all their help without whom we would not have had such a great success. We would like to thank our Chairman Sean O’Sullivan and wish him well re his current health issues, Secretary Barry Hall committee Margaret O' Halloran, Bronwyn Reilly and George Reid(who we also send best wishes for a speedy recovery).

We are happy to report that cheques for €10,800 were presented to ARC Cancer Support Centre’s and Cairdeas Alzheimer Day Centre. Once again members day on Saturday was well supported. The caterers contributions was very well received.

Mary and I are most pleased with the great success and wish next year's Captains good wishes.

Lesley Phelan receiving her Team’s Prize from Sean O’Sullivan

Mary E Archer and her Team receiving their prizes from The Captains Joe and Mary
The Council are pleased to announce that we have made the following appointments, to HGC Office:
Betty McDonald is our new Manager & Barbara Nolan F.C.A. has been appointed to maintain our accounts and financial information. Both Betty and Barbara will be working on a 3 day week basis. They bring a wealth of experience in their fields, in terms of Management and Change Management & Process Efficiency.
Catherine will be "front of house" with responsibility for Membership Administration and other Admin requirements.
No doubt you will all join us in welcoming Betty & Barbara, and offer any assistance they may need during their first couple of weeks.

OFFICE HOURS:

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Bridge Notice

Howth Golf Club Bridge evenings are on Monday and Thursday with play starting at 19.30. We always welcome any new members who would like to join us and if you don’t have a partner please contact Patricia O’Reilly 087 277 5525 or Marie Stanley 839 0860 and they will be able to make an arrangement for you.
Oppermann & Oppermann

Sunday Lunch is now open in Howth Golf Club with a Special Sunday Lunch Offer

Mum or Dad Is Eating Free
6 or more persons dining – 1 person eats free
15 or more persons dining – 2 persons eat free

Special Sunday Lunch Pricing
3 Course Sunday Lunch to include tea and filter coffee - € 24.00 pp
2 Course Sunday Lunch to include tea and filter coffee - € 18.00

3 Ways To Make Your Sunday Lunch Reservation
Howth GC Restaurant Reservations: 01 8323055
Email: info@oppermannandoppermann.ie
Administration Office: 01 613 7703 ( office hours – Mon – Fri )

Terms and Conditions
Menu content can be changed at the discretion of management
Eating Free Offer – based upon the cheapest menu combination from main menu
All offers based upon advanced Sunday Lunch Reservations