



*Communications Group
(On behalf of the Management Committee and Club Members)*

Newsletter

July/August 2023

Dear Members

We approach mid-season, and the course thrives.

Good events to report on, and to look forward to, both on the course, and in the Clubhouse.

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On the Course

- **The new Aerator is now in action, allowing faster and wider micro-tining of the greens.**
- **Spin dressing on the greens keeps them running smoothly; we will probably use up to 20 tonnes of top dressing over the summer period.**
- **All the tees have been deep tined, allowing irrigation water to reach deeper levels. Special attention has been paid to seeding and dressing the par 3 tees, to encourage fuller grass growth.**
- **Those bunkers identified as needing attention will be worked on with a rolling programme of topping up the sand. Heavy rain has caused a lot of erosion of bunker faces and compaction, so constant raking 'BY ALL' is necessary.**

- A sod's law of unforeseen machinery breakdowns, over a two month period, has caused problems with mowing the fairways and first cuts as well as ironing the greens, but hard work and imaginative temporary measures have got us through that.
- Early in August, a new irrigation pipe will be installed along the hedgerow towards the 1st green. This should take about 3 days, so temporary green 10A will be used, for health and safety reasons.
- The vandalism issue is somewhat reduced, though the 3rd green and tee box have been damaged and needed repairs. We have concerns as the school summer holidays arrive. If golfers see any such vandalism, will they please report it to the Office, and if possible take photos? The Police have been very positive and helpful and will pick up on any new evidence.
- A new and approved product, in addition to our current plans, will be used in tackling the chafer and leather jacket bug problems.
- Looking ahead, we are trying to limit use of temporary greens in the winter as much as possible. We have taken on board comments from members and will return to and prepare the temporary green in the left corner of the 7th fairway; as we have improved irrigation in front of the 7th green we can tap into that system to water the temporary which would then give the temporary green area the chance to survive.
- Other targets for our winter programme include a comprehensive overhaul of bunkers, irrigation improvements on selective greens and tees, and tree canopy pruning on 2nd, 5th, 6th and 10th holes.
- Nature-watch; a small deer was spotted jogging past the 9th green recently. Let us know of any other wildlife sightings.

Competitions and Results

Seniors Men's Am-Am 22nd June 2023

Organiser Ray Woods reports ;

“Well, what a successful day! 176 golfers from as far afield as Knaresborough, Chatsworth and Ashby Decoy were welcomed to RGC for this popular event. Feedback was how great the course was, how the food and humour at the Half-Way House and in the Clubhouse were outstanding, and how efficient and hard-working the catering and bar staff were.

Massive thanks to everyone who helped, especially coordinator Ray Woods; Howard Cooper (Registration); Dave Moore (Raffle); Rex Riley (score cards); 1st tee starters (Allan Meacher, Mike Mahony, Ted Eccleshall, Malcolm Lee and Dave Stirling); half-way house caterers (Sue Boyes, Pat Eccleshall, Wendy Pine); Club House Staff (Jess, Jan, Josh, Sarah, Ester); Carl and his Greens staff for the superb condition of the course; Club Pro Craig Morris for constant support; Nicki and Di in the Office. Without all these folk, the event would not have worked.”

Ladies Summer AM-AM Wednesday 28 June 2023

Karen Pollard reports:

“The Ladies also had a very successful day with 84 golfers from clubs not only in Nottinghamshire but also Derbyshire, South Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Staffordshire.

The weather was kind with only one shower at the end of the day which thankfully only slightly caught one group out on the 18th.

Excellent comments were received about our lovely course, which together with the quality of the cakes at house way house made this a lovely day out with many teams telling us they will see us again in October.

Many thanks to all the members who baked, the ladies who served them up and made numerous cups of tea and coffee and to all the members who helped prepare and organize on the day.

Also a big thank-you to Nicky & Di for all their support, the Club House Staff for their service both before and after play, the Greens staff and of course Craig for his consistent helpful smiling & calm assistance.”

Captain’s Away Trip to Cave Castle

Dave Halford reports that they had a great couple of days. The hotel was great, the course good - greens terrifying!!, weather fabulous, company even better.



Captain's Day

Dave Halford reports:

“For Captain’s Day we were blessed with fabulous weather – a little too hot if anything!!

For the first time we organised this as a shotgun start. This had the benefit of a great atmosphere in the clubhouse for the prize-giving.

Liam Bennett won with a net 67, just beating Neville Blake by virtue of a better back nine. Mark Nicholson won the best gross score prize.

Captain’s Day prize winners

1 st Prize	Liam Bennett	net 67
Best gross score	Mark Nicholson	68 bb9
2 nd Prize	Neville Blake	net 67
3 rd Prize	Andrew Hopps	net 68

4 th Prize	Chris Glover	net 69
5 th Prize	Ian Purdy	net 69
6 th Prize	Neil Palmer	net 70
7 th Prize	Steve Berry	net 70
8 th Prize	Adam Parker	net 71 bb9
Best front 9	Steve Betts	net 31
Best back 9	Mick Bell	net 34
Nearest pin on the 11 th	Wayne Lowe	
Longest drive on the 18 th	Andrew Cooke	

Ladies Exchange Day

Whilst 22 ladies visited Retford Golf Club in an exchange day on 11th July, there were 28 ladies from our club who defied the weather forecast and had a day out at Sleaford Golf Course. There were only a couple of showers to dampen us and we kept our spirits up with a fun competition for 7 teams of 4. The team totals were 2 out of 4 to score and all 4 to score on the three par 3s. Well done to the winning team of Anne Jordan, Jacky Walsh, Janet Oxley and Marlene Robb who came in with 92.

Although Sleaford also have had damage from chafer beetles this was mainly on the fairways and the greens were well maintained and on the day were very fast. We were made welcome by some Sleaford ladies and the catering staff provided a delicious 2 course meal. I heard from their Lady Captain that they too had really enjoyed their day in Retford even if they found our course challenging! It was therefore a satisfying successful exchange day for both parties.

Lady Captain Anna Avery

Women in Golf.

This venture continues to go well. We've had four coaching sessions with James at monthly intervals and since the first session we have had between 12 and 15 turning up who have formed a regular group.

Moving forward, James will now organise the sessions and some of our ladies have formed a Mentor group where already 7 of our beginners have had practice on the course with a member. This, we hope, will continue and expand throughout this year.

Two ladies have joined the three months trial membership and another is in the process of doing so. This will lead to them joining as full members when they feel ready.

What we have done thus far will become the template for what we would like to do again next year and our ladies committee have set aside funds for the initial Taster Sessions next season.

New members to this group are very welcome at any time and if you have a family member or friend who would like to try golf please put them in touch with the club office.

Jacky Walsh. Ladies Secretary.



Nottinghamshire Golf Union Inter Club Scratch League Division 3

Date	Opponent	H/A	Result
27-Mar-23	The Nottinghamshire	H	Won 3-2
17-Apr-23	Radcliffe on Trent	A	Won 3-2
22-May-23	Beeston Fields	H	Won 3-2
12-Jun-23	Mapperley	H	Won 4½ - ½
19-Jun-23	The Nottinghamshire	A	Won 3-2
03-Jul-23	Radcliffe on Trent	H	Won 3-2
07-Aug-23	Beeston Fields	A	
14-Aug-23	Mapperley	A	

The scratch team have turned in a remarkable season so far. With only 2 matches to play they have a 100% record and are guaranteed of promotion to Division 2 next year.

The matches are played as 5 singles matchplay on a Monday evening, with each team in the Division being played Home and Away.

Outstanding player this year has been Owen Rafferty who has won all 6 of his matches and most recently against Radcliffe returned a 10and8 victory, winning all 10 holes played in a gross 5 under par.

The team are confident they can continue this form and return a whitewash victory of 8 out of 8 by the end of the season.

DIVISION THREE:							
Golf Club:	Played:	Won:	Halved:	Lost:	Games won:	Games Lost:	Points:
Retford	6	6	0	0	19 - 1/2	10 - 1/2	18
The Nottinghamshire	5	2	0	3	14 - 1/2	10 - 1/2	6
Mapperley	5	2	0	3	10 - 1/2	14 - 1/2	6
Radcliffe on Trent	6	1	1	4	11	19	4
Beeston Fields	4	1	1	2	9 - 1/2	10 - 1/2	4

Seniors Friendly Matches

Date	Club	H/A	Result
Thurs 06/04/2023	Ramsdale	A	Lost 3-4
Wed 19/04/2023	Styrrup	H	Tied 3½- 3½
Tues 02/05/2023	Thonock	A	Lost 3-5
Mon 15/05/2023	Mapperley	H	Lost 1-5
Wed 24/05/2023	Ramsdale	H	Lost 3-4
Wed 31/05/2023	Town Moor	A	Won 217-216
Mon 05/06/2023	Wath	A	Lost 0-8
Wed 14/06/2023	Doncaster	H	Lost 2½ - 5½
Tues 20/06/2023	Styrrup	A	abandoned
Mon 10/07/2023	Carholme	H	Tied 3 - 3

Future fixtures

Mon 17/07/2023	Mapperley	A	Thurs 20/07/2023	Rufford	A
Thurs 27/07/2023	Wath	H	Thurs 03/08/2023	Doncaster	A
Mon 14/08/2023	Worksop	A	Wed 23/08/2023	Carholme	A
Thurs 31/08/2023	Worksop	H	Wed 06/09/2023	Thonock	H
Thurs 21/09/2023	Rufford	H	Thurs 28/09/2023	Town Moor	H

Should any member over 55 years old wish to play, please let Ian Littlewood, John Flavell or the office know, with your contact details.

OUR MANY CHARITY EVENTS EXPLAINED

Many of our members may be wondering what all the 'charity' competitions are, so let us try to clarify:

Captain's Charities

Both the Lady and Gent Club Captain nominate a charity that they would like to support during their year. This year Mr Captain, Dave Halford, has chosen Weston Park Hospital and Lady Captain, Anna Avery, has chosen Breast Care Now. They both have very personal reasons to nominate these charities.

The main golfing event in the calendar for both Captains that is specifically to raise money for these charities is Captains' Charity Day.

Occasionally members will be advised of other social events that are designed to raise money for these charities e.g. the Ladies recently held a coffee morning when the proceeds were shared between the Lady Captain's charity and the Ladies' Section.

This does not mean that all social events are for the Captains' charities, as it is important that some events are to benefit the Club e.g. a Race Night is planned in October, the profits from which will go entirely to the Club.

Other Charity Events

The Club will also support other organisations wishing to hold a Golf Day to raise money for other charities e.g. The Rotary Club of Retford organises a day to raise money for the NSPCC. We are always hopeful that Club members will support these events.

In the Clubhouse



Past Captains' Dinner



RETFORD GOLF CLUB LTD

July 200 Club

We will be holding our next 200 Club Dinner on Saturday 29th July 2023, 7pm for 7.30pm.

Please note the new price of £16.50 per head for a two-course meal.

The meal choices are:-

Main Course:

Chicken, Lemon, Garlic & Chilli

Baked Cod

Assorted Cold Meat Salad

Marrow Stuffed with Mexican Rice

Served with Dauphinoise Potatoes & Fresh Mixed Vegetables

Dessert:

Queen of Puddings

Homemade Treacle Sponge

Pears Belle Helene

Cheese & Biscuits

If you would like to join us, please complete a meal choice slip, which you can get from the bar. Please remember that bookings cancelled after Monday 24th July will still have to be paid for.

Please note that you do not have to be a member of the 200 Club to attend.

Recruiting a Club Secretary.

Following a comprehensive review of the current management arrangements, the Committee have agreed that there is a need for reinforcing the administrative team delivering the business of the club. It is expected that this will achieve greater efficiency, improved service to Members and Visitors and increases in Visitor income.

We are therefore currently seeking to appoint a part time senior administrator to act as a Club Secretary providing greater administrative support to the Directors, Committees and staff teams. They will form part of a core executive team including the senior committee chairs and directors, allowing the Directors to concentrate on a more strategic role.

Ideally this would be an internal appointment from within the membership and it has therefore been advertised to Members by email in the first instance. If necessary it will be advertised more widely in due course.

Any member with an interest in the role can obtain more details by email to retfordgolfcomms@gmail.com or application to the office before the end of July, please.

Let Us Know

We have further improved the ways members can communicate with the Committee about what's happening in the Club. To repeat from previous Newsletters

- The *Suggestions Box* has been relocated to the reception area, below the computer terminal used for entering competition scores. Members can put any ideas or suggestions to the Management Committee but please make sure each has your name clearly marked on it or no action can be taken.
- 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.
- The Club Room TV has been set up with a scrolling information display with various elements, including current month diary and notice of social events. Any ideas for further slides to add to this can be suggested to retfordgolfcomms@gmail.com or in the suggestion box.
- 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. If members have any golf related news items please let Andy Massey know, via retfordgolfcomms@gmail.com.
- The Club has a re-activated Facebook Page, "Retford Golf Club", for regular general updates and information for the general Public. A group "Retford Golf Club Members" has also been created where information aimed just for members will be posted.
- The next full Management meeting will be on **1st August 2023, at 6.00pm.** *
If members have any points they would like to raise for future meetings, please write to the Chairman, via the Office.

Best wishes, from

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Andy Massey, Mary Saddington, Charles Cooke, John Flavell

Communication Group (on behalf of the Management Committee)