



Society of Hertfordshire Golf Captains

Captain Brian Gary Rees (2024-2025)

Hon Secretary Eric Diment

Issue 2-2024

Captains Day 25th April

Harpenden Common.



Captains Day started, as it seems this year, with potential rain and windy conditions, but fortunately this never really came to fruition and most of the entrants got round without getting wet.

As usual, Harpenden Common produced an excellent golf course with fast and true greens and smart fairways. The food and beverages were superb and was enjoyed by all.

Our Captain, Brian Macdonald, supplied a Halfway Hut, staffed by his Wife and friends.

The Competition was won by Mark Paton, 41pts, with Alan Walsh 39pts and John Aldridge, 38 pts 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Nearest the pins were Bob Howell, David Lines, Doug Barson and Paul Martins.

The Past Captains Prize was won by Bob Howell on 37pts.



AGM 25th April

The Society's AGM was held at Harpenden Golf Club following the completion of the Prize giving for the Captain's Day 1966 Trophy.

The Hon Secretary confirmed that all Notices, Minutes and Reports had been issued to all those present, which all those present confirmed, and they were all accepted and approved unanimously.

The Hon Secretary reported that there had been 2 nominations for members to the Committee Melvyn Rose (Aldenham) and Doug Barson (Welwyn Garden City) and these members were duly elected. He further reported that the Hon Secretary, Eric Diment (Aldwickbury Park), and Hon Treasurer, Bob Howell (Arkley) would continue for the next year.

It was then advised that as there was now a vacancy for Hon Auditor and the Neil Hewitt (Old Fold Manor) had been nominated and was unanimously accepted by the membership.

The new Captain, Gary Rees (West Herts) the new President Andy Nemes (Knebworth) and the new Vice Captain, Nick Brooks, were then adopted.

Finally Brian Macdonald was presented with his Past Captains Tie and the meeting concluded



Happy 50th Birthday Whipsnade Park!!



Whipsnade Park is not a “regular” for the Society and so, in its 50th year, we thought we should tell the members a little bit more about it.

In 1972, Dagnall Hill Farm was acquired with planning permission for a golf course by ex-England rugby prop forward Larry Webb. He enlisted the skills of local professional golfer George Hamshaw to design the course which was subsequently opened in 1974. It was taken over by the current owner Derek Whalley in June 1978 and his daughter, Ruth, is the present General Manager. The course is situated in between the villages of Studham and Dagnall in the very west of the county.

The clubhouse was originally farm buildings dating back to the 1850s and included barns and cow sheds. The flint walls and Queen Ann oak beams were converted to the bar area and restaurant which you see today.

The 18-hole parkland course is bounded on two sides by Whipsnade Zoo and although it is 500 ft above sea level, the course itself is only gently undulating. It is not uncommon to spot wallabies hopping across the fairways and on the 3rd and 4th holes you will see the Zoo’s animals on display.

The 50th anniversary will be marked by various celebrations during the summer not least of which is the visit of the Society on Wednesday 19th June to play a match against the club. We are very much looking forward to this visit and entertaining the society members on the day.

Match with County Under 14's

On a day that started in poor weather but eventually ended up with sunshine the Society was joined by the U14 County Players, and with a highest handicap of 10 the members were being treated to some great golf shots and some amazing short game control.

Fortunately we play with the Juniors and in a match format two teams set out on Essendon's New Course led by our Captain and Immediate Past Captain. At the end of the day the Result was $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$ in favour of the Captain.



Team Captain's



The very talented County U14's

Website Update

After much gnashing of teeth and hair pulling, I now have some control of the Website and now believe that the information can be posted in the correct locations and with up to date information.

The pages may be presented slightly differently from the past but with just a few clicks you should be able to locate the information you are looking for.

If you have any problems or would like further information published then please do not hesitate to contact me at pgilgr@yahoo.co.uk. I cannot guarantee that all items requested will be inputted but if the Committee feel it is relevant then it will be uploaded.

Phil Greenwold

Clothing.

The Clothing information is now back on the Website and will no longer be published in the newsletters, so please if you want to purchase and Society clothing contact Kas Donald as listed on the Website and she will see to your needs.

Society Matches

Can you please advise the Hon Sec as soon as possible of any matches you wish to play in this season to assist him in selecting teams.



Fixtures 2024

Thursday 7th March Annual Dinner	Aldwickbury Park AL5 1AB
Tuesday 9th April County Boys (Under 14's)	Essendon AL9 6HN
Thursday 18th April Past Captains Dinner	Harpenden Common AL5 1BL
Thursday 25th April Captains Day & AGM	Harpenden Common AL5 1BL
Sunday 5th May Herts Salver	West Herts WD3 3RL
Tuesday 7th May Inter – Club L/Officers	Moor Park WD3 1QN
Wednesday 8th May London Captain	Pinner GC HA5 3YA
Monday 20th May Buckinghamshire	Aldenham GC WD25 8NN
Thursday 30th May Mixed v Norfolk	Brickendon Grange SG13 8PD
Monday 3rd June Triangular	Brentwood GC CM14 5RJ
Monday 10th June Suffolk Captains	Royston GC SG8 5BG
Wednesday 19th June Anniversary Match v Whipsnade Park	Whipsnade Park HP4 1RH
Monday 24th June Match v Vice Captains Club	Letchworth GC SG6 3NQ
Sunday-Monday 30-1st July Mixed Away Forest or Arden	CV7 7HR
Thursday 18th July Presidents Day	Knebworth SG3 6NL
Wednesday 7th August Four Counties	Droitwich WR9 0BH
Wednesday 28th Aug Mixed Invitation Mtg	Brookman's Park AL9 7AT
Monday 9th Sept Vs Bedfordshire	Bedford & County GC MK416ET
Monday 16th Sept Vs Northamptonshire	Aldwickbury Park AL5 1AB
Monday 23rd Sept With Herts Lady Captains	Mill Green GC AL7 4TY
Wednesday 9th Oct Autumn Meeting + Crameri Cup Final	Porters Park WD7 7AZ
Wednesday 16th Oct Presidents Reception	Knebworth GC SG3 6NL
Monday 2nd Dec Xmas Fayre	West Herts GC WD3 3RL