

# **E-NEWS**

## **FEBRUARY 2019**



### **Captain's Notes**

We have been extremely fortunate with the weather recently, with many around us struggling with deplorable conditions. The course being open for most of the time has made it possible to still enjoy a wee game, despite the time of year. The Opening Competition is not that far away and Mark and his team have done an excellent job over the winter in maintaining the course with the major work centered on the revamped 12<sup>th</sup> which is looking really good and I think will be a joy to play. Additionally, the clearing out of the branches behind the 3<sup>rd</sup> Green should allow in a lot more light.

Later in the year, sees the Solheim Cup taking place at Gleneagles. What an opportunity for Ladies golf and the game in general. A superb venue and just up the road too, what could be better?

It is a shame that this years Gents Dinner had to be cancelled, due to low numbers, as I was particularly looking forward to hearing Willie Hunter, our guest Speaker, in full flow, with his renowned wit and banter.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the best to Reagan Downie, who has left for pastures new, after many years at Aberdour.

Enjoy the Game. It's good to get away sometimes from all the strife and troubles in the world and concentrate on just how best to play the 4<sup>th</sup> green!!

Steve David  
Captain

**REMINDER**  
**LADIES ANNUAL DINNER**  
**FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH AT 7 PM**  
**£25.00**

**ALL LADY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WELCOME**

# Match News

## SUMMER MATCH PLAYS 2019

There are now less than 4 weeks to enter the club's various summer match play competitions. All players must enter by Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March and **NO** late entries will be accepted.

Gents, Ladies, Seniors and Mixed competitions can all be booked under the "Knockouts" section on the HowDidIDo website, or via the clubhouse touchscreen. If members are unsuccessful in using those methods, please contact the Match Committee a.s.a.p.

Entrants should read the rules for each tournament to ensure their eligibility, and they must have a valid competition handicap at the entry deadline. Again. No exceptions.

## WEST FIFE WINTER LEAGUE

Aberdour will contest the latter stages of the Handicap Winter League for the third successive season, a 3-1 home win against Auchterderran guaranteeing another semi-final place at the end of February. Gary Cruickshank played a captain's role, securing the crucial point alongside Ross Thompson which ensured the visitors could not overhaul us in the league standings. In his first season picking the team, Gary has seen the squad defeated only once in seven matches, recording five wins from the other six contests. The Handicap team are undefeated at home since January 2015; a run of 17 matches (14 wins, 3 draws).

In the final Scratch tie of the season, Aberdour managed a 2-2 draw away to Kirkcaldy (Balwearie) on Sunday. The result means we end the competition just a single point shy of reaching the semi-final stage. Andrew Travers & Colin Campbell won 4&2, while Craig Hempseed & Simon Oliphant were victorious 2 up. Craig finishes the season as Aberdour's top points scorer with 3.5 points from four matches.

## RULES NIGHT

Thank you to the 58 members who came along to the Rules Night last month where the changes for 2019 were presented by the Match Committee.

## The Solheim Cup 13 - 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at Gleneagles



Don't miss the excitement!

Get your tickets now for what will be a fiercely fought competition between Europe and the USA's best women golfers

We hope to run some fun events at the Club around the Solheim Cup

The green staff are currently working on the Winter Programme. The main work this year is maintenance and repairs to the non-tarmac paths around the course. This work will be carried out in March after the finishing work to the 12<sup>th</sup> hole bunkers, which includes whacking down existing sand in the bunkers and laying the final 50mm to give the bunkers time to settle in time for the new season.

If you have been down recently you will have noticed that the trees behind the 17<sup>th</sup> tee have been removed with the exception of the specimen Spruce tree. This work was undertaken following complaints that the branches of these trees were rubbing against cars and also to give better visibility of players teeing off the 17<sup>th</sup> to cars entering the car park.

There has been some criticism regards the position of the winter green at the 4<sup>th</sup> this year. The reason for the position is that last winter despite putting up ropes and painting direction arrows some members persisted in lifting the ropes and climbing up the banks causing damage to these areas.

Mark and his team work hard to give us a good course during the summer and keep us on the big greens whenever possible during the winter. In return I would ask that members follow the rules during the winter:

1. Repair pitch marks.
2. Play off mats.
3. Follow marked out routes around the golf course.

Your assistance would be much appreciated.

Should you have any feedback relating to the course please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself.



## Ladies Update

The Ladies Winter Eclectic has proved very successful over the past few months and it is encouraging to see two of our new lady members at the top of the net leader board.

The golf season will soon be upon us so please remember to enter our competitions on line. Entries may be made on 16 February for our first Medal on 9 March and on 27 February for our Novelty Competition on 20<sup>th</sup> March.

If you have not entered our Knockout Matchplays yet please note the closing date is 9 March for entries.

Our three Ladies Opens are filling up so if you want a specific tee time it would be worth booking now.

## Bar & Catering Franchise

One year on and Alan Matthew (Oui Chef) and his team have worked hard to turn around the decline in the bar & catering sales. It's definitely looking healthier than it was but there's still some way to go to create a busy clubhouse with a good atmosphere seven days a week. The club is fortunate to have visiting parties to bolster sales during the summer months and also, very



importantly, a core group of members who support the facility on a regular basis. We do need to encourage more members to use the facility and we need more functions and events. The more the clubhouse is used the more likely it is that we can invest in a long overdue refurbishment of the main lounge which we think would make it a more appealing place to eat and drink. Your views are very important to us and we need feedback and suggestions from you. Alan and his team would like to thank you all for your support over the last year and Alan is more than happy to hear your views and he is keen to meet individual needs with regards to catering and bar provision so if you have any requirements please do speak to him.

The catering franchise is not subsidised in any way by the Club and, in fact, it provides the club with an modest income, albeit most of this is used to maintain and repair kitchen and bar equipment and pay for gas, electricity and rates Alan meets all staffing costs, which are by far the highest costs for the facility, he pays VAT, offers member discount on drinks, and pays the Club a percentage of his takings. It is a commercial business and as such needs to make a profit. In these difficult and challenging times in the food and drink industry he needs as much support as possible from members.

Golf Club Catering is never easy and recently some clubs in our local vicinity have lost their caterers or have reported bar & catering losses in their accounts. Let's make sure that Aberdour continues to be able to provide such a service to members, their guests and our visitors.

**SLUM GOLF IN MUMBAI - GOLF CAN REALLY BE PLAYED ANYWHERE!**



## Have you got your SCOTTISH GOLF CARD?



Exclusive to members of Scottish Golf affiliated golf clubs, the Scottish Golf Membership Card adds value to your membership and enhances your enjoyment of playing golf in Scotland.

The digital Scottish Golf Membership Card is personalised with your name, club and Scottish Golf ID (CDH) number. This will help identify you as a member when you are at other clubs, whether playing a Club Open or playing as a visitor, and can be used to access a number of member benefits including:

- Preferential green fee rates at participating clubs and leading Championship golf courses.
- Exclusive competitions and special offers with our partners including GolfKings Travel.

### How to download your digital Scottish Golf Membership Card?

- Firstly, you need your 10 digit Scottish Golf ID (CDH) number. If you do not have this, please contact your Home Club.
- Register your Scottish Golf ID via the following link, all you need is your Scottish Golf ID – <https://www.scottishgolf.org/player-registration/>
- Login to the Members Clubhouse by clicking 'Login' button on the top right of our homepage – [scottishgolf.org](https://www.scottishgolf.org)
- Click 'Download Membership Card' and an email will be sent to your registered email address.
- Simply save the digital membership card to your smartphone (or computer) as an image

## Ladies Present a Cheque for £700 to Alzheimer Scotland



The Christmas Coffee Morning in December raised £700 and the Ladies presented the cheque to Alzheimer Scotland last month

## New Sponsorship Packages Are Now Available

<p><b>Bronze</b></p> <p><b>£150 &amp; VAT</b></p> <p>Advert in the Clubhouse on the Sponsor's Board with a Business Card Holder and a banner on the Club's Website. Social Membership of the Club</p>	<p><b>Silver</b></p> <p><b>£300 &amp; VAT</b></p> <p>Advert in the Clubhouse on the Sponsor's Board with a Business Card Holder and a banner on the Club's Website. Advert on a Tee. Sponsors Day for a team of four and 4 Green Fee Tickets. Social Membership of the Club.</p>	<p><b>Gold</b></p> <p><b>£450 &amp; VAT</b></p> <p>Advert in the Clubhouse on the Sponsor's Board with a Business Card Holder and a banner on the Club's Website. Advert on a Tee. Sponsors Day for a team of four and 12 Green Fee Tickets. Social Membership of the Club.</p>	<p><b>Platinum</b></p> <p><b>£600 &amp; VAT</b></p> <p>Advert in the Clubhouse on the Sponsor's Board with a Business Card Holder and a banner on the Club's Website. Advert on a Tee. Sponsors Day for a team of four and 20 Green Fee Tickets. Social Membership of the Club.</p>
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Contact Jane Cuthill for more information 01383 860256 Opt 2 or e-mail [manager@aberdourgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:manager@aberdourgolfclub.co.uk)

### The Daffodil Pickers



The Aberdour Daffodil pickers are meeting in the Clubhouse on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February to discuss preparations for the annual show of yellow on the Avenue.

All proceeds from the sale of the daffodils (£1 per bunch) go to Cancer Research. This is a tradition that has been going on for well over 50 years.

Sometimes they get a hard time for picking the flowers from passers-by who don't know of the tradition or the large sums of money they raise each year.

A big well done to them all!