



The Delgany Dispatch

21st January 2022



Winter programme 2022 and other course matters

**‘Winter is a season of recovery and preparation’
(Paul Theroux, American Novelist)**

That sums up very neatly the natural cycle of our wonderful course at this time of year. Unfortunately, recent bouts of frost and the ‘Course Closed’ sign have meant taking the ‘recovery’ element a bit too far for our liking, but perhaps it is nature’s own way of saying ‘give me a little rest’! It is great, however, to be on our full greens as often as we are at the present time.

Our Course staff will admit they were spoiled during the long Covid lockdowns of 2020 and 2021 with the luxury of time to spend on aspects of maintenance overdue and often impracticable when the course is at its busiest. That is why, during an extended period of limited golf at this time of year, it is possible to undertake some significant preparation work on the course through the annual Winter Programme published to the membership on 24 December last. As we speak, work has begun and will be evident as you play.

In brief, the Winter Programme 2022 focuses mainly on irrigation, encroachment of vegetation (trees, gorse, scrub) on some holes, and bunkers (re-shaping/re-alignment/repositioning). In addition, storm Barra left its mark and that clean-up continues. Other projects include a new Nursery, sourcing a new well, additional boundary work to protect our property from unwanted incursion, thinning out of trees and copses and the installation of an artificial teeing strip at the back of the 9th tee. An important element of course maintenance is timely consultation with an arborist - that is again imminent - given the age and condition of some trees and the need for a replacement programme. Regrettably, some surgery may be warranted in the interests of health and safety.

Recent course issues have caused members some concern. Firstly, the advent of frosty conditions required urgent attention to spraying of greens to prevent loss of quality and the need for further remedial work and in that process some damage was caused to specific areas of the course. Course staff fully acknowledge and regret that situation and steps have been taken to prevent any such reoccurrence.



Secondly, the work to the back 10th tee-box (pictured above) - undertaken on Health & Safety grounds following a member's serious fall - is a temporary solution to reduce the chances of any further accidents. In addition, due to buggy traffic and the soft conditions, the ground itself to the side of that tee-box had been quite adversely impacted. The area will be fully re-sodded in the Spring and options for safer and visually attractive permanent access to the tee are being considered.



Work on the bunker at the 8th hole



Work at the bunker at the 10th Green

Finally, bearing in mind that we all have a responsibility to look after our beautiful course, it was so disappointing to see multiple unrepaired divots at the chipping area in the past while. Sand-boxes and individual sand-bags have been provided to facilitate repairs as we practice or play and we would ask all members to be diligent in using those facilities for the benefit of all.

Wishing everyone a safe 2022 and a great year's golf ahead.

Captains Pat & Ann with Stephen Keogh, Course Chairperson.

Letters to the Editor



This is a picture I took of the sixth fairway on Wednesday last. It clearly indicates to me that some idiot is practicing on the course with no regard for current winter conditions. Practicing on the course at any time in this manner is the height of ignorance. I would love this image in the next Delgany Magazine with some words to advise people that this type of behavior could lead to their possible suspension from play for a period.

**Yours in Golf,
Bob Wynne**

Getting back to normal and then some....

It's been a very busy January for Delgany members, not least because the unseasonably mild weather has enticed members onto the course who might normally wait until Drive-In day to power up the battery and buff up the clubs. With increasingly optimistic noises coming from Government, it looks like many of the restrictions we've been enduring will be lifted shortly, allowing a return to a more normal social life.

Our bar and catering staff have been performing heroics especially in the last fortnight resulting from Covid cases, but it's reckoned the worst is behind us now. The staffing situation was so curtailed last weekend that on Sunday the bar was open only for six hours, with sandwiches the only food available. Fortunately, Jamie and his team were able to provide catering following the funerals of former President Chris Ball and former Member Peter McKeever in recent days.

Now, however we are back to a full catering staff and Jamie is again taking bookings for Sunday lunch in the club restaurant, which impressed many members and their guests with the quality of food and service before Christmas. **There are still some places available for Sunday Lunch (menu below), but please book early and remember we all still have to wear our masks indoors until seated.**



SUNDAY LUNCH MENU

Melon au Porto

€7.95

Prawn Cocktail

With Marie Rose (1,2,3,6)

€9.95

Chicken & Pancetta Vol au Vent (1,6,14)

€8.95

Deep Fried Breaded Brie

With a Cranberry Coulis (1,6,8,9,14)

€8.95

Roast Sirloin of Beef

*Served with a Rich Roast Gravy
& Yorkshire Pudding (1,6,7,9,14)*

€18.95

Traditional Cider Baked Loin of Bacon

With Cabbage & Parsley Sauce (1,6,14)

€18.95

Baked Dorne of Salmon

With a Bearnaise Sauce (2,3,6)

€18.95

Beef Curry Madras

With Basmati Rice & Poppadum (1,6,9,12,14)

€16.95

Vegetable Korma

With Basmati Rice & Poppadum (1,6,9,12,14)

€14.95

All Mains Served with Roast & Mashed Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables

Chocolate Ganache with Ice Cream

Sticky Toffee Pudding with Ice Cream

Apple Pie Tart a La Mode

Baileys Cheesecake

€6.95

Mains + Dessert €24 / Starter + Mains €27 / 3 Course €32

*1. Gluten 2. Crustaceans 3. Fish 4. Peanuts 5. Soybeans 6. Milk 7. Nuts 8. Celery
9. Mustard 10. Sesame Seeds 11. Sulphites 12. Lupin 13. Molluscs 14. Eggs*

Subs up ...

In other encouraging news, the members' subscription payments have been running ahead of 2021. By mid-January €650k had been paid, some €50k more than the same time last year and there has been a good influx of new lady members.

Delgany Play postponed till Autumn ...



Lady Captain Ann writes:

I am disappointed to tell you that the planned staging of "Cupid wore skirts" will have to be postponed until next October. As someone who has been closely involved in the plays over the years, I know at first hand the level of work and commitment the cast and their Director Bernard have put into rehearsals and how much they were looking forward to putting it on.

The original plan was to perform it in February as usual which wasn't possible and then the end of March seemed like an option but unfortunately the practice facilities are working against us.

The lively Delgany audiences have been so much a part of all our plays as the feedback and their laughter lifts the cast and gives the play its energy every year.

Our adapted theatre is small and intimate which in normal times can accommodate around one hundred people. In these times the numbers would have to be severely restricted in order to create a safe space for each individual in the audience. Our feeling is that these small numbers would not make for a great experience for either the cast or the audience. It is a pity, as in these times we could all have done with a good laugh and a night out.

All we can do is to hold out until October when hopefully the restrictions will have been lifted. I am sure the performances then will make it well worth the wait.

Mens Winter League update

Last few places available....

- The Men's Winter League is up and running with c. 135 entered. We can facilitate 6 more entries on a "first come first served" basis. If interested, please email competitions@delganygolfclub.com with your Name, Handicap Index and Mobile Number.



All Winter League players PLEASE NOTE :

If playing on the Friday of a Winter League weekend, please note that if you wish to have your score entered in the Winter League you **MUST** enter the ALT Competition on the Computer in the hallway.

On designated Fridays there are **TWO SEPARATE COMPETITIONS**.

The first is a standalone Mens Singles Competition which says **FRIDAY ONLY**. Please do not enter this one if you want to have your score in the Winter League. The second is the ALT Winter League and this is the one you should enter to ensure your score is included in that round of the Winter League. **Please remember to write your Team Letter on the top of the card.**

Anyone entering the Friday Only competition will **NOT** have their score included in that round of the Winter League.

If you have any questions please contact the competitions committee.

Keep it moving, PLEASE !

The Men's' and Ladies' Competition Committees have issued a joint appeal to members to tackle the perennial problem of slow play.

They write:

As it is the start of a the golfing year, it is an opportune time to talk about **Slow Play** as it is being reported far too frequently unfortunately.

We all need to respect the rights of our fellow members so it is vital that none of us falls into bad golfing habits which can take from anyone's enjoyment.

We would ask all of you to make a conscious effort to follow these tips which are simple but effective...

- **Be on time to tee off at the start of your round.** If your group is not ready to play then you should allow the following group to tee off..
- **Don't tee off until the group in front are approaching the green** - the intervals are there for a reason !
- **Play Ready Golf** - if it is safe to do so hit your shot.
- **Have your decision-making and club selection done** whilst waiting to play
- **Bag/Cart placement** - always leave your bag/cart towards the next tee-box and avoid having to walk back to collect it when you've just finished the hole.
- **Story-telling**...we all love to have a chat on the course but not at the expense of the group behind you...it's fine if you are walking up to your next shot/putt but nowhere else
- **If you have NO chance of reaching the group/green in front of you, then play your shot...**
- If you are unfortunate enough to mishit a shot, **pay close attention to the ball flight and outcome...**
- **3 minutes** is the maximum time permitted when searching for a ball - once that time has elapsed then you must declare it lost
- **In a stableford competition, you should pick your ball up immediately once you have "scratched" at that hole...**

- **Take 1 practice swing only and keep your time over the ball to a minimum** (less than 10 seconds)...
- **On the green**...don't take too long to size up your putt or to look at it from multiple angles !
- **Card Marking** should be done when you arrive at the next tee...

Finally, if you are have lost a full hole on the group in front, you MUST call the group behind through...

If we all follow these tips then all our rounds will be at least 1 to 2 minutes per hole quicker...

Thank you in advance for your cooperation...

Men's & Ladies Competitions Committees



Men's Team News

In preparation for battles ahead, Delgany's team managers have been appointed and are hatching plans and strategies to bring more glory to the club. It's all happening under the experienced eyes of Dermot O'Brien and his wily assistants Dick Cotter and Sean Donnelly.

Team Managers 2022

| Team | Managers | | mobile | email |
|------------------------|----------|--------|--------------|--|
| Barton Shield | Berkery | Don | 087 266 7299 | don.berkery@gmail.com |
| | Byrne | John | 086 402 1120 | - |
| | Cotter | Dick | 086 105 7258 | dickcotter2004@yahoo.co.uk |
| Fitzgibbon Cup | Bradshaw | Jason | 086 820 1442 | jasonbradshaw03@gmail.com |
| Barton Cup | Hautz | Paul | 086 803 2725 | phautz@gmail.com |
| | | | | - |
| Junior Cup | Berkery | Don | 087 266 7299 | don.berkery@gmail.com |
| | Cotter | Dick | 086 105 7258 | dickcotter2004@yahoo.co.uk |
| | Byrne | John | 086 402 1120 | - |
| | | | | - |
| Pierce Purcell | Greene | Ken | 086 255 5170 | kgreene60@gmail.com |
| | Whooley | Colm | 086 383 7212 | colmwhooley@gmail.com |
| | Barrett | Ian | 086 837 2479 | ian.barret@pjwalls.ie |
| | | | | |
| Metropolitan Cup | Loy | Conn | | conn@ioresource.com |
| | | | | - |
| | | | | - |
| Irish Mixed 4-Somes | Jones | Bernie | 086 081 2120 | berniejones52@gmail.com |
| | Bergin | Tom | 087 236 2629 | tompbergin@gmail.com |
| | | | | - |
| Cullen Cup | | | | Not entering |
| | | | | - |
| Jimmy Bruen | Finan | Frank | 086 257 9494 | fjpfinan@gmail.com |
| | Farrell | Phil | 087 051 0112 | philipfarrell5@gmail.com |
| | ORiordan | Jim | 087 416 2939 | zeusdan22@gmail.com |
| | | | | |
| Seniors Section | Donnelly | Sean | 087 258 1214 | sdonnellyassoc@gmail.com |
| JB Carr | Brennan | Ailbe | 087 958 3325 | - |
| | | | | - |
| All Ireland 4-ball | O'Neill | Greg | 087 255 6221 | drumminfarm@gmail.com |
| | Bailey | John | 086 260 4975 | jbailey@fliprecast.ie |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---------|--------------|--|
| Seniors Section | Donnelly | Sean | 087 258 1214 | sdonnellyassoc@gmail.com |
| JB Carr | Brennan | Ailbe | 087 958 3325 | - |
| | | | | - |
| All Ireland 4-ball | O'Neill | Greg | 087 255 6221 | drumminfarm@gmail.com |
| | Bailey | John | 086 260 4975 | jbailey@fliprecast.ie |
| | | | | - |
| Old Conna Seniors | O'Neill | Greg | 087 255 6221 | drumminfarm@gmail.com |
| | Byrne | Seamus | 086 322 6452 | shayburn@eircom.net |
| | | | | - |
| Best Cup | Byrne | Seamus | 086 322 6452 | shayburn@eircom.net |
| | Kinsella | Jimmy | 087 144 7671 | jimmykinsella1@gmail.com |
| | | | | - |
| Super Seniors | O'Loughlin | Cyril | 087 234 0099 | searson.oloughlin@gmail.com |
| | Brock | Paddy | 086 409 8198 | paddyjbrock@gmail.com |
| | O'Brien | Dermot | 086 256 0401 | dermot.l.obrien@gmail.com |
| | | | | - |
| Junior Section | Behan | Michael | 086 819 3583 | mgbehan0919@gmail.com |
| H/C 1-16 | Greene | Ken | 086 819 3583 | kengreene60@gmail.com |
| H/C > 16 | Lyons | Ciaran | | ciaranlyons57@gmail.com |
| Youngest | | | | - |
| Wicklow Cup | Mulligan | Basil | | basil.mulligan@zurich.ie |
| | | | | |
| Team Management Chair | OBrien | Dermot | 086-2560401 | dermot.l.obrien@gmail.com |
| | Cotter | Dick | 086 105 7258 | dickcotter2004@yahoo.co.uk |
| | Donnelly | Sean | 087 258 1214 | sdonnellyassoc@gmail.com |
| Support | Kavanagh | Gavin | 087 988 4176 | gavin.kavanagh@gmail.com |

"The most important shot in golf is the next one."

-Ben Hogan.

"Sometimes the biggest problem is in your head. You've got to believe."

-Jack Nicklaus.

"The secret of golf is to turn three shots into two."

-Bobby Jones

"Hit the shot you think you can hit. Not the one you think you should."

-Dr. Bob Rotella.

Fitzgibbon Cup
Delgany-V-Foxrock
Sunday 23rd January 2022

Home

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------|--------|
| 1. Robert Bradshaw (5.4) | & | Simon Rees (8.7) | (14.1) |
| 2. Fergus McDonald (6.5) | & | Jim O'Riordan (8.1) | (14.6) |
| 3. Aidan Lacy (5.3) | & | Conn Loy (10.0) | (15.3) |
| Sub: Ian Byrne (4.1) | & | Jeremy Waring (9.9) | (14.0) |

Away

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------|--------|
| 1. Alex Coffey (1.8) | & | Garret Keogh (12.9) | (14.7) |
| 2. Liam May (2.6) | & | Ian Barrett (11.6) | (14.2) |
| 3. Conor McCarthy (5.9) | & | Eoin Feeney (8.3) | (14.2) |
| Sub: Declan Hanley (4.5) | & | Ben Grogan (9.7) | (14.2) |

Minimum combined handicap index must not be lower than 14.0. Players eligibility requirement is the lowest handicap for the period 1st July 2021 to 1st January 2022.

Manager: Jason Bradshaw

Asst Managers: Paul Hautz & Donal Meehan

In Memoriam

Chris Ball RIP



The recent passing of our former Club President Chris Ball has been a huge loss to his wife and esteemed Delgany member Cheryl, his daughter Samantha and sons Simon and Robin, as well as his wider family and his very many friends, especially in Delgany Golf Club.

Chris was President in 2005, having joined the club with Cheryl in January 1972, exactly half a century ago. They had moved to Ireland from the UK in 1969 and settled in Delgany. Initially Chris was a consultant to Kodak in Ireland and later, with his lifetime business partner Peter Todd, established the highly successful Reprocentre, a company specialising in graphic art.

A man of exceptional character, Chris was hugely innovative and his insights were made available freely and quietly to club captains and committee chairs over many years. The benefit of his talents were gratefully received and acted upon. He did all this privately and discreetly without requiring any accolades whatsoever.

There was, however, one occasion when Chris's generosity could not remain hidden. In 2009 he was the successful bidder in an auction in support of Joe Codyre's son Martin. RTE broadcaster, the late Colm Murray, brought down the hammer on Chris's €2,500 bid for a guaranteed bet of €100 on the winner of the Aintree Grand National that week. Paddy Power duly handed Chris a cheque for €10,000 after 100/1 shot Mon Mome won at Aintree. (The average winning odds for the previous decade were 14/1)

Most Members will be familiar with Chris's appearances out of nowhere at Prizegivings, Dinners and other events, where he was always armed with his Camera. Over the years, many of these photographs have been the mementos of times past and treasured memories of the last 50 years.. Chris was inclined to concentrate on internal photography with the outdoor activities captured by the late Noel Ryan.

While Chris did play in competitions, it was the social side of the game that appealed to him more; he was a great supporter of all activities in Delgany and members will fondly recall his role as “ticket master” during the staging of plays by our amateur actors over the years. Typically, he was present in November 2021 for the Captains’ and President’s Farewell dinner and entertainment.

And it wasn’t just our members who held Chris Ball in high regard. He took a personal interest in the staff on the course and in the Clubhouse which was rightly appreciated by all, most especially our Pro Gavin who formed a great friendship with Chris.

It would be remiss to overlook the immense charitable contribution and organisation which made so many of these efforts so beneficial and successful. It is impossible to list all of these but their successes speak for themselves. People do not fully appreciate the time and effort that members do on a voluntary basis and without regard to their time involved.

Personally I feel very fortunate to have known Chris over so many years which I know will be shared by so many. He will be sadly missed but, I know remembered by all who enjoyed his company, presence and friendship.”

Paul Keogh, Delgany Captain 1980

Kay Lynch (nee Mulligan)

On 3 February, 2022 we lost a lovely member of Delgany Golf Club. All who knew Kay would have known her to be a beautiful gentle lady. Kay was a member of Delgany since February, 1982 and was a sister of Anne Farrell another great Delgany member.

Kay enjoyed her golf but loved meeting her friends for lunch and chats in the club. She was loved by so many and this was manifested by the success of her Bed and Breakfast business which she had for many years in Enniskerry. She made the visitors so welcome and as a result many came back time and time again. Kay will be sadly missed by her two daughters, her grandchildren, her dear sister Ann and her family and all her friends in Delgany.

May she rest in peace

Lady Captain Ann

In Memoriam

John T. L. Weir



I first came in touch with John Weir on his ninetieth birthday. I happened to be in the club when the bar staff presented him with a cup cake for his birthday. He was not impressed and he made his views known to one and all - loudly. That was John, forthright and blunt but mischievous. If you looked more closely you might have detected a wry smile that said he really appreciated the gesture.

My next encounter with him was playing with him in the Wednesday Fourball. He collapsed on the 3rd hole and I brought him back to the clubhouse where he ended up in hospital suffering from dehydration. He was back on the course the following week as though nothing had happened. From then on we became firm friends.

John did not just walk around our wonderful challenging course, but galloped around it putting many of his younger peers to shame. Eventually his doctor advised that he should use a buggy. Reluctantly he complied. He appeared every Wednesday enthused to play come rain hail or shine. Sadly a cold wet Wednesday in early December proved a step too far. The following day he was admitted to hospital and diagnosed with pneumonia from which he never recovered.

John began his commercial life as lowly employee in a factory in Louth only to reach the heights as Managing Director of the well known and respected Braids of Ennis in Co Clare. Subsequent to that he identified a market in supplying turn key furnishings solutions to apartment renters and owners both in Ireland and the UK. He was truly ahead of his time. His busy entrepreneurial mind explored bringing solar powered cars from china to Europe which continued to exercise him to his demise.

He was very proud of his acceptance as a honorary member of Delgany an honour I believe was well deserved. He was also convinced proudly that in his 99th year he was the oldest playing golfer in the country. That I believe was also true.

As a measure of John and his determination to live and enjoy life to the full and to never give in I offer the following example. In late October our fourball was leaving the 3rd green and proceeding

to 4th tee. John had scrubbed and had driven to 4th ahead of us. He turned his buggy at the tee when suddenly his accelerator jammed at full throttle and came careering towards us. Knowing that a catastrophic crash would occur he deliberately swerve right into a copse. His buggy hit a tree head on and he was thrown violently head over heels into the undergrowth. When we found him he was already up and brushing himself down. When asked would he like to retire his response was immediate - " absolutely not, let's play golf" . We continued and he completed the round.

John was extraordinary in that he never looked his age . He was always cogent, eyesight perfect and had a hearing that of a twenty year old so much so that many did not believe his age. But he was as stated - determined, energised, optimistic, and enthusiastic to the end. More importantly he was a wonderful friend . He was a warrior and mischievous to the last. When He demanded your attention you complied. RIP.

Derek MacHugh

New member profiles

Today it's a big Delgany GC welcome to:

Mary De Chaumont



Golfing background: I began playing golf 2006.I played hockey, tennis and netball when I was young.

Why Delgany GC: It was recommended to me and I am thoroughly enjoying my golf and the wonderful atmosphere and inclusivity from the members.

Golfing ambitions: To play as long as I am alive

Sporting Heroes ? Jimmy Greaves, Billie Jean King, Phil Mickelson and Cliff Morgan

Golfing successes so far: I have won a fourball tournament and a Scratch Cup. I also have 2 ILGU Bronze Medals and played on teams for my previous club Charlesland GC

Any Interesting facts you would like to share? I am just back from Australia after visiting my Daughter and her family and avoided Covid

Karl O'Donoghue



Golfing background: My golfing background goes back a long way, starting with hitting balls on the green in front of my house when I was about 8. Growing up in Templeogue I spent a lot of time playing pitch and putt in the Spawell before joining Castlewarden as a junior member, where a young pro called Gavin Kavanagh was the assistant pro! I had a long twenty-something year break from golf before finally joining Delgany only last year.

Why Delgany GC: I caddied at Delgany for a friend some 30 years ago at a junior interclub competition, we were the visitors, since then I have always thought I would like to join Delgany. I remember thinking at the time how nice the course was, and how friendly the atmosphere was, and still is today.

Golfing ambitions: My competitive streak means that every time I play I want to win, so I would definitely like some 'silverware' this year.

Sporting heroes: In golf I would have to say my sporting hero is Seve Ballesteros, I just loved the way he could get out of trouble on the course, still to this day I find myself thinking 'what would Seve do?' when I'm stuck in the trees around Delgany!

Other sports: As well as golf, I also sea swim regularly, I've completed several marathons and have recently taken up 5 a side football.

Golfing successes so far: Success for me in golf right now is going out and striking the ball cleanly, hitting a few greens in regulation and getting around without any three-putts. In terms of prizes, my biggest success so far was being runner up in the Bellevue cup last summer, it was my first ever match play competition and I loved the format.

Interesting fact: The first time I ever really struck a ball cleanly was hitting a 7 iron at the age of about 8 on the green in front of my house, I will never forget those conflicting feelings, the joy that I'd hit the ball so well, and panic as I watched the ball fly over the end of the green and take one giant bounce on the road and go straight through my neighbour's window. Every time I hit the ball I want to strike it like that.

The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the clubs Communications Sub
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Eugene Murray, Adam Rodgers & Tony Corcoran.

