

THE DELGANY DISPATCH

MARCH 16TH, 2022

Captains message

We were greatly encouraged by the very positive response from Members to the club's Ukrainian appeal and we are eternally grateful to all who have contributed so far whether via the BRS bookings or otherwise. *Míle buíochas/Duzhe d'akuju!* Unfortunately, the weather did its best to spoil our plans for large turnouts over last weekend, so we have decided to repeat the process over this coming weekend. The club will keep you posted on developments.

Speaking of the weather - again! - conditions have not allowed progress with the critical drainage works on the 16th, so it has not been possible to open the full 18 holes as planned by this time. We need a fair wind now to allow course staff to complete this work....so all entreaties to a Higher Being will be most welcome!

You may have noticed that normal text/SMS messaging to timesheets about the course, buggies etc. has been disrupted over recent days. This was due to a generalised BRS technical fault not of the club's doing and affecting other clubs also. Thankfully, this was resolved in the past day or so. We are especially indebted to Catriona in Accounts who kept pressure on BRS Support.

In this edition, please do take time to read the item on the Review of Governance and Strategic Planning being led by our Vice-Captains Tom and Betty. This is but a first step along the road to a vision of our club, its governance and its management for the next 5, 10 or 20 years. The key message is that it is you, the Members, who will determine that future. Finally, we wish all our Members and staff, and your families, a very happy St. Patrick's Day and we hope you will have an opportunity to join in the celebrations at some stage. Alongside the Covid-19 Remembrance and Recognition public holiday, this long weekend presents plenty of opportunity for golf and for socialising and we hope to see many of you around the club over the coming days.

Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig oraibh uile! Pat & Ann



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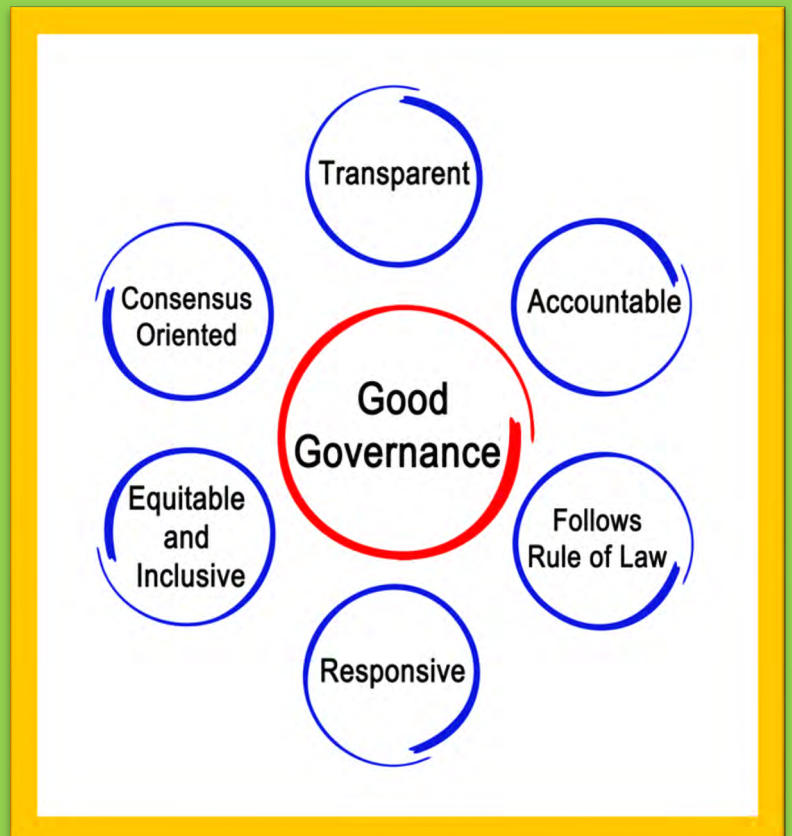
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Review of Governance and Strategic Planning

In accordance with Golf Ireland's recommendation for a One Club governance model for golf clubs your committee has commenced the process of reviewing the current governance model for Delgany. Many member-owned clubs in Dublin and Wicklow have already gone down this road and in a number of cases have fully implemented a One Club approach.

The main objective of our review is to improve efficiency in the running of the club and to facilitate strategic planning rather than being re-active to ongoing events, which most clubs tend to be.

Nothing in the review will affect members in terms of golf rights and privileges. It will focus on how we can ensure our club can be more effectively structured to meet the needs of members and provide a strong and future-proofed level of governance.



Golf Ireland is providing assistance to us in undertaking the review. The process will include one or more surveys of the members and we encourage active participation. We will take a gradual approach as our priority is to ensure we have the right model for our golf club.

The outcome is likely to involve changes to the club constitution and to the structure and responsibilities of club offices and committees. However, there will be consultation all through the process and you, the members will ultimately decide on any changes and we emphasise again there will be no impact on the way we currently enjoy golf.

Our Vice-Captains Tom and Betty have been designated by the Management Committee to coordinate the process and bring it to conclusion.

The Jet Set....

Captain Ann was delighted to wear the green of Ireland in the Belleair Grand Prix tour event in Florida with another well known Delgany lady, Mary O'Connor, at the weekend.

For those of you who watched the Players in Sawgrass you know the weather conditions that prevailed but we did our best and had such fun.



Ladies Buddy Programme update

Congratulations to all who have taken part and I hope you have had fun and learnt a few tips along the way! We had 11 groups of 8 pairs and a few subs along the way so over 90 ladies have played making the program a huge success.

Each group was named after one of the seven summits of the world and Irelands highest peaks. This was to encourage everyone to strive for the peak of their golf game and going by the results this has been achieved. Going forward believe in yourself and when representing Delgany on teams remember "You got this".

The following are the 12 pairs who have made it to the final.

Bernie Jones & Colette Doyle	Margo Lavelle & Brigid Bergin
Cheryl Ball & Breda Dunleavy	Bernie Clarke & Kay DeLoughry
Karen Crowley & Susan Archer	Cliona Lyons & Caroline Loughlin
Mary Brennan & Marie Bolger	Bairbre Smith & Maura Lernihan
Valerie Stokes & Ann Marie Gallagher	Mary Corcoran & Helen Ging
Susan Lennon & Marian Lambe	Teresa Thompson & Carol Brady

The finals will be played as a stableford four ball competition over 9 holes. These matches are to be played opposite the pair listed in your buddy group message.

The overall winner will be the pair with the most points.

This will be announced at our end of program dinner on March 25th in Delgany GC.

Please make a huge effort to attend this night, there will be plenty of craic!

Anna O'Loughlin

Introducing Conor Mc Donald



As we learn throughout life, a change is always a challenge and today I met with our new golf Professional Conor Mc Donald who has taken on the challenge of standing in for our resident Professional Gavin Kavanagh during his sick leave (get well soon Gav). Anyone who has ever walked into a shop as a customer will know the benefit of a friendly face and a warm welcome, in this scenario Conor has it all and the game expertise to go with it.

Conor turned professional at the age of twenty and served his time under the guidance of David Walker at Foxrock Golf Club and Johnny Young at Rosslare Golf Club. He competed in the Irish PGA tournaments for the best part of a decade with some notable success. While studying with the PGA, Conor developed a deep rooted passion for coaching and the science and technology of golf equipment. Conor brings excellent coaching experience to Delgany with the aim of helping you step by step, in achieving your golfing potential.

Conor McDonald

Conor offers tailored individual or group coaching sessions from beginner to advanced and looks forward to helping the junior programme at Delgany Golf Club.

Relaxed and confident, he was more than happy to share his knowledge and tell me about his golf journey to date. I asked him what advice he had for our members regarding the golfing season ahead. His recommendation is to start working on your wedge play now and you will see the benefits by the summer, he suggests that 45 minutes on the range per week will also give your game a lift as you improve your swing rhythm and ball striking. Conor highlighted the fact that golf equipment is evolving all the time and players should always do a complete review of their kit each year ahead of the new season in order to give themselves every advantage.

Conor is available for lessons (individual and group) with players of all standards from April and is happy to offer a club fitting service for our members. Conor highlighted how Golf is good for your mental health with fresh air and open spaces to help you get that vital head space that we all need, he recommends that we all get out and enjoy the game as often as we can.

In closing, I asked Conor about his hobbies and found out that we have a talented guitarist and singer on our books!! Conor and his band 'Gypsy Cure' released a single last year and have great fun in their spare time so welcome to Delgany GC Conor, your audience awaits!

(Tony Corcoran 15/3/2022)



Mens Winter League latest

Semi Final 2022 Report

Semi-final #1 11:00 H John Sweeney vs I Frank McGee

Semi-final #2 11:40 F Ian Barrett vs B Tom Bergin

All 4 matches had to be played to a finish unless the semi-final had already been decided.

The first semi-final was hard fought and all of the matches were tight. However, John Sweeney's team H won the first 3 matches and progressed to the 2022 Winter League Final on 27th March.



The second semi-final was a totally different affair. Tom Bergin's team B were 2:1 up after 3 matches with the final, decisive match tied level going down the final hole. Brendan Cooney (F) held his nerve to hole the winning putt and tie the semi-final at 2:2.

So the two remaining Captains each chose to play each other in a Sudden Death Singles Match Play Playoff starting on the 1st.

A good drive from each followed by a superb second from Tom (B) which finished just short left of the green leaving a tricky chip

to the pin at the back of the green. Ian (F) laid up with his second and played a superb pitch (with backspin) onto the green leaving a longish putt for par. Hole halved and onto the 2nd...

On the 2nd green, Tom was below the pin in 3 while Ian was at the back in 2 with a long putt to the pin position at the other end of the green. Ian's putt ran the length of the green and finished within gimme distance of the hole for a 4. Tom's putt was outside the comfort zone in terms of distance and just missed the hole.



So team (F) having been 2:1 down in their semi-final, turned the match around and progressed to the 2022 Winter League Final on 27th March.



Ladies Rules night

As you will see from the photos, there was a good turn out for the ladies rules night.

Our thanks go to Ailbhe O'Brien from Bray GC for the excellent presentation and to all those who contributed to a great night.



Chairing and caring

We are pleased to advise our chairs have found a new home.

With their facility in Greystones Tiglin tackle one of the greatest social problems and challenges facing our nation today. For many years the Tiglin Challenge outreach team have served men and women affected by homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction on our streets. Tiglin gives people with addiction problems a second chance, it gives them life beyond addiction.



Tiglin believe that true value and real change emerges over time, as a result of healthy relationships, good ideas, sound decision making and a lot of hard work. But none of that results in long-term value creation without the most important factors: patience and commitment.

They strive to help the 'whole person', not just the substance abuse.

The Tiglin Challenge approach is to teach a whole new way of living by addressing family relationships, work attitudes, self-image, peer pressure, temptation, community relationships and a variety of other life skills.

Delgany Golf Club are more than delighted to share the chairs.

Mens Team report

Team Report 15th March 2022

The season is moving along quite rapidly with all team managers beavering away like swans in a lake in getting their preparations in order for the season. All panels are in place with practise games arranged and many underway as managers seek to arrive at their best selection.

The Golf Ireland Inter-club draws which are due to be published on 18th March will bring a lot more clarity to the task ahead.

Of course, the Fitzgibbon Cup is more than half-way through with two games remaining for Jason Bradshaw's team. These are due to be held on 20th March versus Old Conna and 27th March against Castle.

Two ones in two years, hat trick to come ?



Congratulations to Bernie Jones on her hole in one at the 8th on Tuesday. It was Bernie's 2nd one at the 8th in recent times and Paddy Power have suspended all bets for next year !



Ladies prizes presentation March 15th

Ladies 3 ball waltz winners:

Congratulations to

Mary Markey

Maura Lernihan and

Trish Caren.

Our thanks also go to sponsors

Mags Mc Darby

Mary Corcoran and

Ann Nulty



Please note

The next issue of the Delgany Dispatch is March 30th and all items for publication should be submitted by lunchtime Tuesday 29th of March

Our photo of the week comes from Sawgrass



The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the Clubs Communications Sub-Committee:
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