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# THE DELGANY DISPATCH



# September 23rd, 2022





# Captains' Message



## 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun' (Ode to Autumn, John Keats)

We remembered our dear departed Johnny May on Friday 8th September. Johnny wintered too soon but his Autumn will always be a fond memory for those who know him best. It was a night that awakened for many Members raucous, delightful and memoryfilled occasions of years past when there was, perhaps, a greater sense of freedom to celebrate long into the night and with abandon. More will be written and images will abound to help us keep this event in our thoughts but for now we just want to thank most sincerely every Member who helped make that night unique. We are especially grateful to the May family who very generously presented Johnny's magical putter to the Club in his memory – that will be cherished and have pride of place.

Our loyal members have done it again! Turning out in great numbers, emptying your pockets and joining in the spirit of our Charity Day for a great cause, you have honoured us as Captains with your support and we cannot say 'thank you' enough for that. All those involved in organising the event deserve our special thanks for their energy and hard work. A final thought – the idea of the Captains' Bunker (honour donation!) was not to penalise unduly, but some managed to 'keep it in the family'! Just sayin'!

Captains Pat and Ann.

## **Members Survey**

#### Member Survey - Last Call for Responses

A big thanks to all the members who have already completed the survey, the response rate has been growing and is now around 1/3 of members. We urge those of you who haven't yet completed it to click on the link below and get it done, it will take just a few minutes. It is important that a broad representation of members give their views on to the future of our club. The survey will remain open until Sunday evening 25th September. If anyone is having difficulty accessing it please contact the office.

To open our survey link please right click on the link below and select open hyper link

## https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PJF8SGQ

## **Course News**

Not that any of us would ever want to be that far off line, but its good to see that the netting to the right of our first green has been refitted to add that extra level of protection for our neighbours.



Our Operations Manager Mark Carwood has reminded us that The Irish Schools Junior Boys Championship will be played here on the morning of October 3rd. There will be 60 boys (20 Teams) fighting out for a much coveted Irish trophy. Our own Cheryl Ball, Dick Cotter and Paul Hautz will be aiding Golf Ireland on the day with the officiating and Management.

As highlighted elsewhere, the hollow coring of our greens takes place from 2pm on the afternoon of Sunday October 16th. As a consequence, the course will be closed that afternoon and also for the full day on Monday, October 17th. On Tuesday October 18th and Wednesday October 19th., only 9 holes will be in play for both those dates.

# **Mens Competition News**

#### 1. Hollow Coring - Afternoon of Sunday October 16th:

Please note that the course staff will be carrying out hollow coring from 2pm on the afternoon of Sunday October 16th. As a consequence, the course will be closed that afternoon and also for the full day on Monday, October 17th. On Tuesday October 18th and Wednesday October 19th., only 9 holes will be in play for both those dates.

2. October Medal The last Medal of the year is being played on Saturday October 1st.

Please note that the Alternate Day for playing in the Medal has had to be moved to Sunday October 2nd because of the Wicklow Hospice event on the previous Friday.

All the year's Medal Winners will be eligible to play in the Medal Final on Saturday, October 8th

## **COMPETITION ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS (our thanks to Paul Hautz):**

1. The only way to enter a Competition is through BRS (members.brsgolf.com/delgany/login), your entry fee will be taken from your purse (purse can be seen by pressing three dots on right hand side) which has to be kept in funds by yourself or through the office.

2. You will need to sign in to most Competitions either in the Pro shop (easiest using your swipe card) or in the hall.

3. It is up to each player to make sure that their **correct handicap index, course handicap, and playing handicap are on the card (see next page)** along with playing date and name of Competition. Some Competitions are played over two days so will have the starting date on card.

4. Scores should be put down after each hole with the corresponding stableford points where necessary.

5. After finishing round, add up the scores and put result in box marked Result. Two signatures are needed , marker and player in order to validate the card and score.

6. Enter score into computer. With fourballs / rumbles etc. Put score in with 0 for non scoring player then the computer will automatically go to next hole (0-4 4-0 5-0 4-0 3-0 0-5 5-0 0-3 0-4) front nine (See next page). Then when satisfied, place card in the correct competition returns box as marked in clubhouse.

7. When Competition is finished and cards have been checked, the results will be put up in Locker room and on the Internet. Remember all prize WINNERS are announced on DELGANY-

**<u>GOLFCLUB.COM/COMPETITIONS</u>** and all players scores/returns are on HOWDIDIDO.COM (which is not a finalised result as competitions committee have to check cards and sort categories before announcing the result).

This is everything that is needed to keep the competitions committee happy.



# How to avoid the dreaded DQ.....

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4	343	338	287	4	14	5	0			2		331	287	4	
5	169	163	147	3	• 6	0	4			3		152	147	3	1
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12	390	376	315	4	• 1	0	6			2		366	315	5	
13	301	292	286	4	11	5	0			2		288	286	4	
14	168	164	145	3	13	0	4			2		160	145	3	1
15	340	337	265	4	15	5	0			2		276	265	4	1
16	163	154	141	3	17	3	0			3		146	141	3	1
17	375	365	252	4	• 3	0	6			2		320	252	4	
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# A once familiar figure around Delgany dropped by last week...

Eamonn Darcy is pictured here with Gavin and Catalina in the Delgany pro shop. As a tour pro Eamon brought great fame and glory to Delgany in the 1970s, '80s and '90. Eamonn was born in Delgany, County Wicklow. He turned professional in 1968 with high expectations and he went on to win 18 official international tournaments and 4 national wins.

He started playing on the European Tour full -time in the mid-1970s and immediately



made a name for himself. He finished third on the Order of Merit in 1975 and made that year's Ryder Cup team, his first of four performances. The following year he was second on the Order of Merit, only behind Ballesteros.. Eamonn has had four European Tour wins and 13 runner-ups.

Eamonn's first official win was at the Greater Manchester Open in 1977, handily defeating a trio of British golfers by 8 shots. In the off-season, Darcy would often play on the Australian Tour with much success, winning the 1980 Air New Zealand Shell Open and the 1981 West Lakes Classic. He would also finish runner-up at the 1980 New Zealand Open.

Eamonn was a consistent performer on the European Tour in the 1980s, finishing in the top 30 of the Order of Merit eight times. He won the 1983 Benson & Hedges Spanish Open and 1987 Volvo Belgian Open, shooting a final round 64 to defeat Nick Faldo and Ian Woosnam down the stretch. However, his greatest moment may have come at the historic 1987 Ryder Cup. He played on the team that included Nick Faldo, Seve Ballesteros, Ian Woosnam and Jose Maria Olazabal. Eamonn defeated American Ben Crenshaw on the last hole to secure an individual win and the team's 13th point. His performance was indispensable as it ultimately determined an outright win and stopped a great American fightback. Europe would win by the score 15–13, the first time on American soil.

Eamonn's career began to wind down in the 1990s. He recorded his final official victory at the 1991 Emirates Airlines Desert Classic. The following year, he contended for a major championship for the first time at the 1991 Open Championship. He entered the final round just one shot out of the lead. His even-par 70 was good enough for T-5, his best finish ever in a major. In 2018 Eamonn was awarded a PGA Lifetime Achievement Award when he was the guest speaker at a dinner attended by 800 people including his Golfing peers, guests and the PGA Executive.

Finally, we wish our Pro Gavin Kavanagh a speedy recovery from his foot injury... at least we know that Lewis Hamilton's job is safe for now.

# **Captains Charity Day September 17th 2022**







## **Fashion Show**









TUESDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER 2022 DINNER: 7PM SHOW: 8.30PM

## **Junior News**

The summer season has now ended for our juniors and what a season it was as the weather was kind to us on every Thursday this year. Our next Thursday Competition will be on over the Halloween break but already our select group have played a Scotch Foursomes with our senior players last Sunday which was a great success. We will be running a few more over the Autumn period.

A big thank you to our hard working committee and all our 'Thursday Helpers' who give up their time to walk the six holes with our scramblers. Thanks also to our Professionals Gavin, Catalina and Geoff for all their coaching over the summer and we hope to continue some coaching at weekends over the next few weeks

#### Delgany Junior Boys on the road again!

Our annual outing for the Junior Select group took place on Monday 22nd August and what a treat it was for the boys in travelling to the Irish Open venue Mount Juliet. Five 3 ball teams competed on the day with our Professional Gavin playing 3 holes with each team on a course in pristine condition. The winning team on the day was Cathan McCarthy, Evan Lenehan and Felix Burke. The 'Best Team Player' award went to William Walshe, a memorable day was had by all and the weather was kind to us. Thanks to all the drivers Ken, Dinah, Garret and Gavin who managed to fit all the boys , clubs and buggies in and a huge thank you to Gavin not only for giving up his time but also for arranging the green fees, breakfast and lunch.



Winning team Felix, Cathan and Evan with Gavin



William receiving his prize from Gavin

## **Juniors at Mount Juliet**



Winning team Felix, Cathan and Evan with Gavin



William receiving his prize from Gavin



Ross, Garret and Patrick



Jack, Hugo and Robert



Ready for action Cathan, Evan and Felix



Alex, William and Charlie

# New Members .... Introducing Martina Conneely

#### What is your golfing background?

I started playing golf with the Tuesday Eagles in Leopardstown some years ago but with more time on my hands I felt I would enjoy the social aspects of a club.

#### Why did you join Delgany?

A number of my friends had already become members in Delgany and had a lot of good things to say about it. I decided it would be the club for me and joined at the beginning of the year.

#### What are your golfing ambitions?

I am hopeful that with practice and regular golf my game will improve to the point where I can get my handicap down.

#### What other sports are you interested in?

While I would not consider myself sporty I play tennis and am a member of Monkstown Tennis Club.

#### Any interesting facts you would like to share?

I am a big dog lover and enjoy walking my dog in dun Laoghaire where I have lived for 15 years.



We are always happy to show some of our members course photos, send them to delganydispatch@gmail.com

This week our thanks go to our Editor Sean O'Rourke for this lovely deer family photo as they watched his group tee off at the 5th hole.



# New Members .... Introducing Daniel Byrne

#### 1. What is your golfing background?

When I was a child I spent my summers playing pitch and putt. Since returning from Australia a few years back, I participated in nomadic golfing around the country. For me golf is a great way to appreciate the Irish countryside, so I bought a set of old clubs on adverts.ie and managed to get some very long walks in. Some say golf is a good walk spoiled, but being a glass half full type, I think bad golf gets the step count up - that is my mental philosophy anyway when I find myself in the rough! Thank god I now have a new set of golf clubs and I can hit slightly straighter these days.



## 2. Why did you join Delgany?

In the last year I feel my golf has improved a lot but I felt I needed to get more game time. After plenty of research I felt that Delgany was a club I'd like to join. Living in Greystones, it's very handy and I've enjoyed being out on the summer evenings looking at the views and wildlife Delgany has to offer.

#### 3. What are your golfing ambitions?

My immediate ambition is to get my official handicap, start playing in competitions and then reduce it as far as I can!

## 4. Who are your sporting heroes?

I have plenty of heroes over the years depending on what sport I was indulging in at the time. For now it's definitely everyone involved in Irish rugby. When not playing golf, I'm a keen Irish rugby fan and I'm very proud of how the teams have progressed over the years from grand slam glory to the recent series of wins against the All Blacks.

## 5. What other sports are you interested in?

I've dabbled in a lot of sports over the years, including snooker, Gaelic football and Soccer. I also have my PADI Advanced Open Water certificate, so I enjoy a dive every so often on holidays. I never played rugby, but it's probably my favourite sport to watch, especially the 6 nations.

## 6. What are your golfing successes so far? (Teams, prizes, other golf achievements)

I'll be totally honest here, I'm not very proud of my achievements so far. I managed to win the wooden spoon in a recent trip to Vilamoura. That probably should have been the answer to why I joined Delgany, as I am determined to hand it back at next year's trip. There's never been a bigger driver (pardon the pun) for me to get more game time.

**7.** Interesting facts you would like to share? I love to travel and that's what I do anytime I get a chance. I have dual citizenship. I lived in Australia for six years in Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. I got my Citizenship in 2015.

# Johnny May tribute night review

A night to remember our esteemed past member Johnny May took place on Friday 9th September last.

Jim Blake deserves great credit for accommodating over 130 golfers in his final 9-hole Mix and Match which was followed by superb food and a tribute to Johnny delivered by Ian Barrett, with musical assistance afterwards led by Phil O'Neill.

May family members including his sons, John, Michael and Liam, sister Marcie, and nephew Phil were made very welcome by a large Delgany gathering that filled the bar and dining room.

We were also there for two important functions. Firstly, the May family presented Delgany with Johnny's famous hickory shafted putter, that holed miles of putts during its long tenure in Johnny's magical hands. It now sits in a beautiful case (see photo) handcrafted by Graeme McHugh from a Delgany Golf Course Chestnut tree and will be displayed in a suitable location in the clubhouse in due course.

Also, prior to Johnny's untimely passing, plans were finalised to present him with Honorary Life Membership, and it was decided it was appropriate to do this posthumously on the night, and in an eloquent and fitting tribute, Captain Pat presented this honour to Liam.

Ian then delivered a reflection of aspects of Johnny's life and thanks to his assiduous research we learned that in his early years Johnny was a fantastic footballer who trialled with Wolverhampton Wanderers and then played for Bray Wanderers and Workmans Club. When he hung up his boots, he joined Delgany in 1963, and his handicap tumbled to the extent that he won four scratch cups in a six-year period.



Johnny also represented the Club on many occasions including the victorious 1981 Barton Cup team and shot a new course record when winning Phil O'Neill's Vice President's Prize. Playing off 4 and starting with a bogey, Johnny birdied 7 of the next 17

holes for a 63 gross!

Ian also regaled us with stories of Johnny legendary singing skills, in Delgany, Kerry and abroad, including his regular trips to the Canaries, where his renditions of 'Some Enchanted Evening', 'Memories' and 'My Way' would bring the house down.

On a perfect evening for golf and getting together, members and guests alike were delighted to remember a great family man, golfer, gentleman, and friend.

# And finally....



This excellent photo was taken by Derek O'Brien and we are asking you to identify its location on our course. Our President Greg O'Neill has agreed to sponsor a bottle of wine as a prize, so please send you answer to

# delganydispatch@delganygolfclub.ie

In the event of more than one correct answer, all winning answers will be entered into a draw and President Greg will pick the lucky winner out.

## The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the Clubs

Communications Sub-Committee: Sean O'Rourke (Chair), Tanya Beattie, Ian McMahon Eugene Murray & Tony Corcoran With technical support from Briege Burton

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