

THE DELGANY DISPATCH



OCTOBER 7TH, 2022



Captains' Message



We are so fortunate here in Delgany GC that our Members intuitively act in ways that reflect the ethos of our Club - the values, attitudes and behaviours that we know instinctively to be the 'right way to be' when involved with our Club. As Captains, we have felt a personal obligation to reflect that ethos of 'values in action' in our dealings with Members, management, staff, visitors and guests, but also to encourage others to do so in whatever way possible. To that end, we have realised that all the best practice we have observed and valued has never been 'codified', or documented in one place for our Members, to be held up as the way we are (and always want to be) in Delgany.

A Code of Conduct is the vehicle commonly used in golf clubs to set out the behaviours expected of members, staff and visitors and it is an important element of a club's responsibility to regulate and manage its activities. We see it mainly as a helpful guide but it is also a form of protection for all involved with the Club because there may be very rare occasions when 'conduct unbecoming' has to be recognised and dealt with in a formal way through the Code. We hope you will understand and support the rationale for introducing such a document.

Management Committee has approved a first draft of the Code and the document will, in time, include specific elements such as Dress Code and Course Etiquette. It is a lot of text for a single edition of the Dispatch so, for your convenience, the document will be circulated shortly as an attachment in a separate message. Please take time to read it at your leisure. Of course, we welcome constructive feedback that will allow us to refine the code and best reflect what we all believe in and exemplify.

Captains Pat and Ann.

Contents

1. Captains' Message
2. Club Membership News,
New Tee Box signs
3. Members Survey update
4. JB Carr Trophy
5. Captains' Day Charity
update + Know the rules
6. Men's Competitions
7. Ladies Buddy Matchplay
8. 2nd Tee box news,
Last Man Standing
9. Remembrance
Service
10. Reduced reward
for Aces
11. New Members &
Mens Prize-giving
12. And finally.....

Club Membership News

The club is close to full membership, but we are keen to fill the remaining spaces. An initiative will be rolled out later this month to encourage members to recommend Delgany Golf Club to anybody who might be thinking of joining a golf club. The main feature of this initiative will be that the new member will be able to join at the current level of joining levy of €3,500 and avoid any increase (effective from January 2023) that may be approved at the Club AGM in December. An email will be sent to all members containing the details of the offer. The offer will be limited in number and will only apply to those that have completed the joining process before the end of this year, so we ask members to move fast. The Director of Operations will be happy to deal with any queries in this matter.

New Noticeboard and Tee Box signs

It has been decided to replace the noticeboard at the practice putting green and to upgrade the tee box signage throughout the course. When complete, this will improve the look of our tee boxes, as well as providing members and visitors with a map showing the features of the hole.



A key part of this project will be to secure sponsorship for each tee box. Each tee box sign will contain a panel where details of the sponsor, including logo and QR code, can be displayed. We hope this advertising opportunity will appeal to local businesses and to corporates wishing to promote their brand. We urge members to get behind this initiative.

We would welcome your expression of interest in becoming a sponsor. You can email us at sponsorship@delganygolfclub.ie , or contact Vice Captain, Tom Bergin (087 2362629).

Club Members Survey update

The response we received from the member survey was very good with 384 members participating of the 889 who were issued the survey email. This response rate of 43% is at the high end versus other clubs where responses generally ranged from 20% to 50% with only one exceeding 50%. There was also a good representation across all the member categories, age profiles and genders in the responses.

The responses were overwhelmingly in favour of a One Club Model, some key results detailed below:

93% believe the governance of the Club should be improved

92% favour an independent Board/Management Committee Chairperson for a 3 year term

88% favour a new club constitution under the One Club Model

84% favour a single club structure to administer golf affairs for members.

Other responses give an indication of the type of future club structure members would support:

There is a divergence of views on the type of structure with 44% expressing a preference for a single golf sub-committee, 39% favour maintaining separate mens and ladies sub-committees of the Management Committee and 17% have no preference

62% favour retaining mens and ladies captains

64% believe all members over 18 should have full voting rights.

A large majority of 82% believe there is gender equality in our club.

We were very pleased with the willingness of respondents (48%) to serve on Committee in future.

Next Steps

The Governance Committee will re-group later in October with the support of Golf Ireland to consider and map out a process for implementing the new structure and drafting a new constitution. The survey has provided us with a very clear basis to progress changes within the club and move to the One Club Model. Our plan is to hold an information evening for members in mid-2023.

The Governance Committee

Tom Bergin, Sean Donnelly, Deirdre Mackay, Betty Sherry, Simon Wilson



JB Carr Trophy



Preparations for the JB Carr 2022 Team commenced in March with Team practice in the Club and followed with a home and away challenge against Old Conna. This was followed by another practice match day in April before the Team was selected to play Blainroe on the 28th April. Delgany won the Match 3-2 and then went on to play Bray in the Wicklow Semi-Final in Bray.

Intense practice on Bray Golf Course followed before the Match took place on the 23rd May in Bray. The Match was finished in torrential rain with a dramatic win for Delgany and a place in the County Final against Powerscourt.

The County Final was played on a home and away basis in June with Delgany opting to play the away half of the Match first which ended with a 3-2 win by Powerscourt. The second leg of the Match was played on the 17th June in Delgany which Delgany won 3-2 leaving the Final tied at 5 matches each. This required a sudden death play-off with one pairing from each Club. Delgany won the play-off on the second hole in dramatic fashion and became County JB Carr Champions for the first time since 2016.

Next up was the Leinster Quarter Final against Castlecomer with the match fixed for Castlecomer. Detailed preparations were put in place but alas Delgany's great run came to an end on a wet afternoon in Kilkenny. Between practice, challenge and actual matches the Delgany JB Carr Team put in an enormous effort and clocked up 12 days on golf courses.

Team Management: - Sean Donnelly, Brendan Cooney and Ailbe Brennan.

Captains' Charity Day News

CAPTAINS' CHARITY – ALZHEIMERS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

We are delighted to inform you that the final figure for the funds raised during our Charity Day was €3,200. We are very conscious that you have been asked on many occasions during the year to contribute to various charities and once again, thank you sincerely for your generosity and participation in this event.

Congratulations to Donal Lennon who is the winner of the raffle for Car Space and we had two winners of 'guess the number of golf balls' - Peter Finlay-Mulligan and Kenny Johnson both guessed the correct number which was 78.


Captains Ann and Pat

LADIES PLEASE NOTE THAT POLEFORKING COMMENCES ON SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER SO WE WILL HAVE A "SANDY NINE" ON 18 OCTOBER

Know the rules

We are indebted to past President Dick Cotter who spotted this explainer recently in The Irish Times. For many decades in Delgany, this rule that holes could not be played out of sequence was honoured in the breach rather than the observance. Generations of members hit their tee shots on the 17th hole before playing the 16th. But the powers of Golf instructed the Club to change this custom - hence the arrival of a buggy to ease the steep uphill trip to the 17th tee-box.

Nowadays, what seems to be honoured more in the breach than the observance is the requirement that players exiting the 16th green must wait in the protective netting until the next group have played their tee shots - only then should they make the trip up to the 17th green.



Know the Rules

Q Two players on the fifth hole play their approach shots to the green but agree to take a detour to the sixth tee to play their tee shots before going on to putt out on the fifth green. This is to avoid having to walk back up a hill to the sixth tee and to save time. What is the ruling?

A In matchplay, the players are disqualified under Rule 1-3 for excluding the operation of Rule 2-1 by failing to play the stipulated round, provided the players knew that this was a breach of the rules. If they did not know that their action was a breach of the rules, both holes stand as played. In stroke play, the competitors are disqualified under Rule 3-2 for failing to hole out on the fifth hole before making a stroke from the sixth tee.

Men's Competition News

1. Singles Matchplay:

As you walk upstairs and before you enter the bar, you will see the names of past Captains and Presidents on the large boards there in the landing area. It may have escaped your attention but there is another board in the same area which is known as the Blue Ribbon Board.

It displays the names of all the past Singles Matchplay Winners. Each year, 64 players qualify for the Matchplay, but there can only be one winner.

Terry Day has graced that board on four previous occasions but after a gallant match, this year's winner is going on the board for a second time...

Congratulations to Colm Whooley...!!!



2. Matchplay Double Winners:

Whilst Terry Day may have missed out on a 5th title, we are sure that he will be consoled by his and Ian Byrne's phenomenal achievement in winning no less than two Matchplay doubles competitions.

Ian and Terry managed to win both the Fourball and Foursomes Matchplay Competitions....well done lads !!

Honourable mention goes to Peter O'Toole/Donal Meehan and John Garvey/Cyril McGuire, the runners up in the respective Finals.

Mens Competitions Committee

Ladies Buddy Matchplay

It's time to sign up for the second year of the buddy program. The program will be run similarly to last year but for those who weren't part of it, I'll give some information below.

Once you sign up you will be placed with a more experienced player to play 3 or 4 nine hole four-ball matches. I am hoping to start slightly earlier this year to give people the opportunity to play 1 match pre Christmas if they wish. The scoring system will change slightly but more on that once partners and groups are set.

I would ask if you are signing please make sure you will be available as matches may have to be played at weekends and must be completed before the end of March. We had some matches not played last year and I'm hoping to avoid that again. (5 day members can pay a small green fee and play at the weekends). Our 2022 program was a huge success both in introducing club members to each other but also in newer and older members gaining additional knowledge of golf, match play and our beautiful course.



It doesn't matter what your handicap is, if you're just starting your golf career or you just want to have some fun please join the program.

To sign up please email or text me on
oloughlina@gmail.com 0872904156

**Please encourage every lady you meet to sign up. We had over 90 ladies last year
and I'm hoping to top that number!**

Yours in Golf
Anna O'Loughlin

At last.... Wall works starting behind 2nd tee box

The building contractor's (Durkin Construction) representative has been in contact with the Club to discuss the upcoming works on the wall at the back of the second tee box. For those who may be unaware, we sold a small part of the land approximately 2 metres in length x 8 metres wide behind the 2nd tee box for €250,000 (received within the 2018 & 2019 financial year ends).

The acquisition of our land was required for traffic management purposes to support the planning permission for the new development on Bellevue Road opposite Browne's Lane. The construction will take approximately 6 weeks and will require a reconstruction of the wall. We will lose access temporarily to the middle and back of the 2nd tee box while construction is taking place. The work was originally scheduled in 2019 but has been continuously delayed for various reasons. Durkin Construction acquired the development site from Eddie Holly who originally negotiated and purchased our land. The recent delays for Durkin Construction have been caused by Wicklow County Council and Irish Water. The Contractor has met with Joe Nelson (Chairperson of Development), Stephen Keogh (Course Chairperson) and Mark Carwood (Director of Operations) in relation to the works.

Mark Carwood, Director of Operations.

Last Man Standing update

Last weekend was pure carnage! thirty eight were still in the game before the weekend and only fifteen survived.

Liverpool not winning was the downfall for many. Sadly Vice Captain Tom hit the rocks!

As you know the proceeds from this initiative will be used to replace the existing noticeboard at the practice putting green. We have invited tenders from suppliers and will install the noticeboard as soon as we can. The astute survivors are listed below and we wish them well this weekend.

Aodh Bourke / Peter Lyons / Conn Loy / Jim Behan / David Lyons / Michael Murphy

Aidan Lacy / Tony Doyle / Don McGrane / Fergus McDonald / Declan Hanley

Ann-Marie O'Grady / Pat Craig / Hugo Henley / Alan Grace

Reported by Tom Bergin, Vice Captain.





2022 Remembrance Service

**Please note that the
Annual Remembrance Service**

will take place in

The Clubhouse

on

Wednesday, 2nd November at 7.00 pm

Please email Admin if you wish to have a name included on the list of Members and relatives to be remembered at this year's Ceremony.

Email: admin@delganygolfclub.com

Reduced Reward for Aces

Most members would be aware that the club and members, through our annual subscription, are members of an AIG insurance scheme operated under the auspices of Golfing Ireland.

Traditionally one of the benefits under the policy was the insurer would in the case of a hole in one cover a bar tab up to the amount of €250.

A few years ago the Insurer took the decision to stop this particular cover as part of a review of the policy. At the time our Club Committee took the decision to continue the tradition and agreed that it would cover the bar receipts up to a maximum of €250 in the event of a Hole in One by a member in a competitive competition.

After a year in which there were a record number of holes in ones recorded (13 to date) it has been decided that the cost to the club is too much. While still wanting to recognise the achievement, it has been agreed that for the time being the club will cover bar receipts on the day up to €100 for the member with the hole in one. At the end of the year the club will also provide certificates for any member fortunate enough to have a One on their card. Also, both AIG and HowdidIdo have monthly draws that any golfer with a hole in one can enter.

We are hoping that members will understand the need to reduce the club's exposure and costs in these difficult times. We have checked with many of our neighbouring clubs and most of them make no financial contribution in the event of a hole in one.



New Members, introducing Ed Stafford

1. What is your golfing background?

I played when I was a teenager, gave it up in my twenties and back at it now!

2. Why did you join Delgany?

I moved to Dublin earlier in the year and was looking for somewhere and Delgany was recommended by a friend

3. What are your golfing ambitions?

Would love to get down to single figures...

4. Who are your sporting heroes?

Patrick Reed... No only joking, more Rory

5. What other sports are you interested in?

Leinster & Leeds... very different success rates in recent times!

6. What are your golfing successes so far?

A hole in one is the extent of it I'm afraid!



Men's Annual Prize-giving Night

The Men's Annual prize-giving night will be held on Wednesday October 26th at 8pm, all trophy and medal winners are asked to attend.

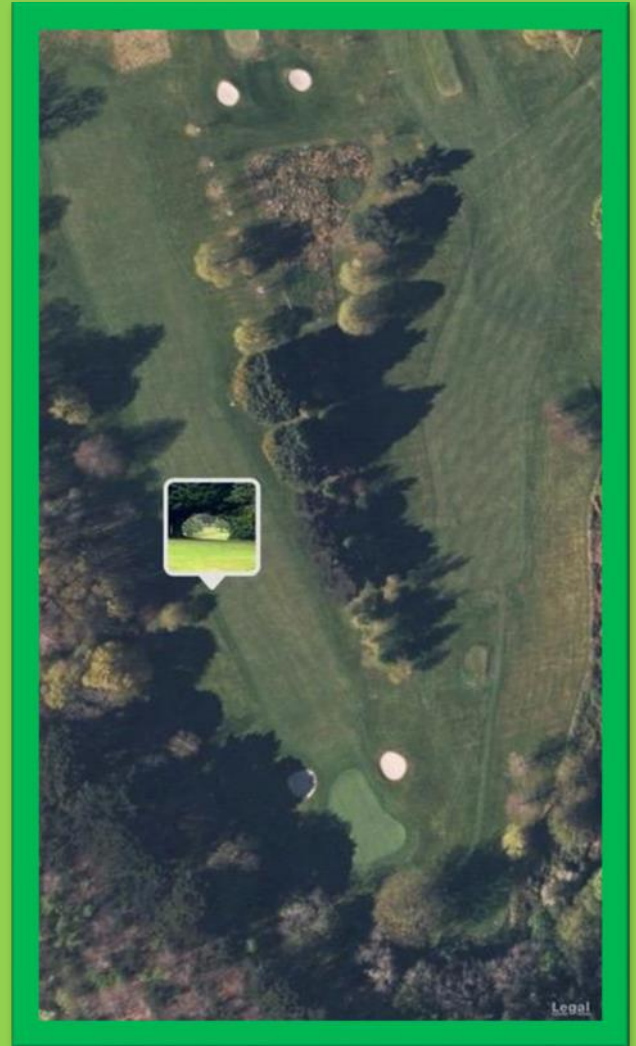


And finally.... Our photo quiz answer

Last issue we asked you to identify the location of Derek O'Brien when he took the photo below.

Derek has confirmed it was taken from the 17th fairway, over the hill and looking through the trees across the 18th fairway towards the 9th green (see photo on the right). We had three correct answers and our Vice Captain Tom Bergin picked out Ferghil Henderson's name from the hat.

Congratulations to Ferghil and our thanks to all those who entered and of course our President Greg for sponsoring the bottle of wine as a prize.



The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the Clubs

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