

THE DELGANY DISPATCH



OCTOBER 21ST, 2022



Captains' Message



Heartiest congratulations to Ruth Jenkinson on her nomination as incoming President for 2023, and to Ian Barrett as nominee to be incoming Vice-Captain of Men's Club 2023. We were delighted to be present at last Friday's Committee Day dinner when President Greg and Vice-Captain Tom made the respective...and much anticipated..... announcements. We look forward, with equal anticipation, to Tuesday 25 October when Vice-Captain Betty will announce her nominee as Vice-Captain of Ladies Club for 2023 at the Ladies Annual Prize Presentation.

We would like to record our thanks to those Members who responded to the publication of the Draft Club Code of Conduct last week. Helpful observations and suggestions received will be incorporated into the next draft.

You will know by now that Director of Operations Mark Carwood will leave us for pastures new in November. We will have an opportunity at a later date to mark his 4.5 years tenure with us in this important and central role in the management of our Club but suffice to say at this time that we, as Captains, have greatly appreciated Mark's support and guidance over our year in office. We wish him every success in his new venture and will always be welcome back in DGC, on or off the course.

One of the issues Mark had to manage just in the last week was a fault in our gas supply and the consequent loss of hot water and catering facilities for a period of 6 days while our Registered Gas Installer investigated and repaired the fault prior to necessary sign-off by Bord Gais on Friday last. We are hugely appreciative of Members' patience and understanding during that time, which also coincided with the tragedy in Donegal, an event that brought Health & Safety into very sharp focus for us all. And, yet again, our kitchen staff, dependant on electricity only for cooking across the week, produced the goods – not our usual fare, perhaps, but satisfying to Members and guests all the same, so a big 'Thank you' to James, Tom, Vaida and the kitchen team for your incredible input.

Captains Pat and Ann.

Contents

1. Captains' Message
2. Club President
- 3-4 Mens Vice Captain
5. Ladies Prize Presentation Night & Lady Captains Dinner
6. Men's Competitions
7. Diary update
8. Bellevue Cup report & Committee Day
9. Captain Pat's Ace
10. Diary Advertising
11. Director of Operations & Hollow Coring
12. William Walshe
13. Delgany welcomes & Dear deer
14. And finally.....

Introducing DGC President elect Ruth Jenkinson

President Greg, together with Vice Captains Betty and Tom, are delighted to announce their proposed choice of Ruth Jenkinson for election as President of Delgany Golf club in 2023. Ruth's nomination has been posted on the Noticeboard in the Clubhouse and will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting of the Club on 5 December.

Ruth was born in Dublin and has a career background in Marketing and Accounting. She has a long history of membership and distinguished service in the Club. Ruth joined Delgany 30 years ago having started out golfing in Kiltarnan after a very successful career in hockey where among her many prizes was the Leinster Senior Cup title.

Ruth's well-honed hockey skills carried through to her game of golf and she represented Delgany many times in the Junior Cup and Senior Foursomes inter-club competitions. Ruth has also made a major contribution to team management acting as Team Liaison officer and managing both the Senior Cup and Revive Fourball teams. She has also given stalwart service as Competitions Secretary in the Ladies Club and has twice served on the Course Committee. Ruth is a renowned expert on Rules of Golf and is the acknowledged go-to person in the Ladies Club for direction on tricky rules issues.

The Jenkinson name is well known in Delgany as Ruth's husband Tom has been a member for 55 years and her son Mark is also a member. Ruth is anticipating that her daughter Lynn will follow the family tradition when she tires of her current passions for hockey and tennis and her three young granddaughters will no doubt follow in the grandparents' footsteps in due course.

We congratulate Ruth and wish her every success in her year as President.



Introducing our 2023 Vice Captain Ian Barrett

We recently caught up with our new Men's Vice Captain for 2023 Ian Barrett and asked him to give us some background on his rise to fame at Delgany!

Like our incoming Captain Tom, I'm a Laois man, from Portlaoise and the second of 6 children, 5 boys and 1 girl. We lived in Portlaoise, then Limerick in the early 70's before moving to Delgany in 1975.

As Delgany wasn't a hurling stronghold (then or now), I started caddying with brothers, Leslie, Cyril and sister Michelle (another brother Niall would follow). I had four regular 'bags' every weekend; Louis Kennedy (Club Captain 1973), Past President Mick Cronin, Paul Hautz's dad Hans and a young Phil O'Neill!



Ian and Cyril at the 5th hole in 1976.



Ian's Mother Angela

My brothers Leslie and Cyril and myself joined DGC in 1978 as Junior Members, our mother Angela had joined a year earlier, as you could only apply for Junior membership if you had a parent in the club (Dad was more of a Croke Park man!). Angela got her handicap down to 12, and loved every minute of her time in the club for the next 40 years.

I worked in the bar from 1978 to 1984, my first night was Tommy Corcoran's Captain's Dinner in 1978. That was a lively period in the social life of Delgany, great times.

I was an occasional student in UCD (BA, History & English) and completed a H. Dip before joining the Department of Labour in 1986. Left in 1989, joining KPMG in HR Consulting. I have worked with Walls Construction since 2000 and completed a Masters in HR and a Masters in Journalism by part time study.



Introducing our 2023 Vice Captain Ian Barrett

My wife Carmel is from a golfing family as both her parents were Captains of Donabate GC, and we have two children, Laura and Sean, in their early to mid-20's. Early days, we lived in Bray but moved to Swords in 2001 for commuting reasons and have travelled from Swords to Delgany for 21 years! However, bought a house in Ashford recently with the intention of moving back to Wicklow during the next few years. I served on Main Committee in 1991 and 1992 and have avoided serious club commitments for 30 years since!



My biggest golfing achievement was as a member of the GUI pennant winning Smurfit Cup team of 1981, although winning the Singles Matchplay in 2017 (and of course the Foursomes Matchplay with the legendary Don McGrane in 2019!) ran it close.

Reasonable golfing career in DGC having won back to back President's Prizes in the 1990's (Eddie Farrelly and Frank Harding) and have a useful Matchplay record (Singles Matchplay, two Bellevue Cups, two Mixed and the aforementioned Foursomes with Don McGrane).

I'm a lifelong Chelsea fan and broad range of interests including news and sport and (with a little luck and a lot more application I might have achieved my ambition to be a sports journalist).



Ian on the left with the Canaries Golf crew.

Director of Operations Farewell

I want to thank the staff, Management Committee and members of the club for all your help and support to me over my 4 ½ years at the club. I was afforded the opportunity to take over from John O’Sullivan who was with the club a very short time after a long term absence of a Manager in the club. It was a huge honour and being completely honest, it was a much bigger task than I originally envisaged. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working on your behalf and I am immensely proud of the work that the Management Committee, sub committees and staff have performed throughout my time at the Club. There are two people I would like to give a special mention to and that is Martin and Diane Reid, their unfortunate timing as Captains was to our huge benefit. They worked tirelessly on your behalf and were a huge support to me and my staff in very difficult circumstances. They provided calmness and a rationality when it was too easy for us to lose our focus.



My decision to move on is with a heavy heart. I will miss the Club dearly. I have been offered a new opportunity to be the General Manager of Killiney Golf Club and will be starting towards the end of the month. I will be finishing on November 18th. This is not a goodbye but more of “I will see you around”.

Hollow coring explained

So what is hollow coring and why is it required ? Hollow coring is the removal of cores from the playing surface. We used a ½ inch tyne to remove the soil from the surface. The cores are ejected, cleared up and removed. It is known as the amelioration of the soil structure as per David Caul.

Why is it done ? With the volume of traffic we have it causes the ground to become compacted and hardened. This means drainage is less efficient and the grass roots are prevented from absorbing oxygen. Hollow coring allows the compacted turf to expand and air and moisture to be more easily absorbed. The coring helps address the problem of thatch (**Thatch is a layer of grass stems, roots and debris that settle and accumulate overtime**). A thin layer is acceptable but too much thatch will hold water like a sponge.



Once the hollow coring was completed 120 tonnes of top dressing sand is being applied. This was to replace the removed material to help dilute thatch, restore surface levels and firmness, improve drainage and/or generally improve the overall quality of the root zone.

Ladies Annual Prize Presentation, October 25th

One of the final big day events for a Captain in her year is our Ladies Annual Prize Presentation Day on October 25th this year. We will play a 3 person team scramble with 3 clubs and a putter during the day. Presentation Evening and buffet will commence at 7.00 p.m. and Vice-Captain Betty will make her “big reveal” as to who the incoming Vice-Captain for the Ladies Club will be for 2023.



Please book your table with Jamie and the buffet cost for the evening is €20.00.

Captain Ann.

Captain Ann's Dinner

I will be hosting my Captain's Dinner on Friday November 4th and can't contain my excitement about this evening. I am so looking forward to it!

Please purchase your ticket from the bar as soon as possible as there are limited numbers as to how many we can facilitate on the evening.

You never know, but maybe some excellent entertainment might be provided on the evening its all a mystery!

Captain Ann



Who knows what we will do in 2022?

Men's Competition News

The Competition on Wednesday October 26th will be a 4 man invitational event with a shotgun start at 1pm. The format is two to score on holes 1 through 17 and all four scores to count on the 18th hole.

As you will have seen in the last Dispatch the Men's Prize giving night is on Wednesday, October 26th. **Please note that it starts at 7:15pm (and not at 8pm as previously advised).** We would ask all prize winners to be in attendance at 7pm to ensure we start on time. We will be contacting each person to confirm their attendance.

Placing on Fairways

Lift and place on Fairways only. Play as it lies in the rough.

NB - placing on fairways means that the competition is still a qualifying one for handicaps.

Volunteers for Competitions & Handicaps Committee

It's that time of year again when we are planning for next year already. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various activities associated with competitions setup and processing of results. If you might be interested in joining the team please email competitions@delganygolfclub.com.

Returning Your Card

We have noticed a growing trend in all competitions whereby cards are not being returned. For example, 7 cards were not returned in a recent Sunday Four-ball which equates to 14 members. We would ask that everyone returns their card in all competitions regardless of score.

Many thanks

Competitions & Handicaps Committee



2023 DIARY

Ladies Telephone Numbers

The list of ladies telephone numbers as per 2022 Diary is on the noticeboard to the right as you enter the ladies locker room.

1. Please check your details and advise the Admin Office if any amendments required.
2. If your number is not listed or you are a new member and would like your number to appear in the diary please email Admin and provide the number to be included.

Please email admin@delganygolfclub.com
by Tuesday 15th November.

Thank you

Bellevue Cup 2022 Report

It was remiss of the Dispatch in our recent review of the Matchplay finals not to mention the fantastic achievement of Tommy Synnott in winning the Bellevue Cup.

The Synnott family has strong ties with the club going back many decades. Tommy's Dad was a member, his cousins are brothers JJ and Vincent, both stalwart members for many years, while his uncle Joe won the Scratch Cup in 1952. Although the Bellevue Cup goes back quite a bit further, being the oldest trophy played for in Delgany, first contested in 1909, the year after we were founded The competition was originally strokeplay, but just over 40 years ago the rules changed so that a reduced field now qualify for Matchplay competition.



This year Tommy was up against Colm Whooley in the final. As we know, Colm's form in leading the Captain's Prize and going on to win the Singles Matchplay was excellent, and he could not be blamed for thinking about another 'major' when he was 2 up standing on the 15th green. However, at this point Tommy's putter went on fire and he single putted 15, 16 and 17, an aggregate distance of more than 80 feet, according to the bemused and bewildered Colm! This effort brought the match to the 19th hole, where, perhaps deciding there was no magic left in his putter, Tommy pitched into the hole for a 4 and won the match!

Congratulations Tommy, a great name on a great trophy!

Ian Barrett

Annual Committee Day



Winning smiles all around...



In second place



Third place ...

A great day was had by all as we thanked our volunteers who give so much to the club.

Special thanks go to all the staff at Delgany for ensuring everything went smoothly with the course in great condition and the excellent catering that evening.... Its all very much appreciated, thank you.



Nearest the Pin

Mens' Captain Pat Kitterick's Ace in Powerscourt

We note that Men's Captain Pat modestly omitted to mention that he recently joined the elite group of golfers who have a 'hole in one' on their golfing CV.

Pat's moment of glory came on Friday October 7th at the 16th hole on Powerscourt East course as he played in their Visiting Captains Day. He took aim with his trusty rescue club and watched in awe as his ball flew straight at the pin and rolled in for his first ever hole in one. As you can imagine, there was much cheering and hollering the word is that at that very moment, allegedly our ex-President Dick Cotter was about to finish his round at the 18th in Delgany only to miss his two foot **putt due to the noise coming from Powerscourt!**



Pat's hole in one was generously acknowledged by Powerscourt GC Captains Neill Love and Stella Carmody with the presentation of a framed photo of the aforementioned 16th hole.

Congratulations Pat.





ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS in 2023 DIARY

**If you would like to bring your
business to the attention of the
Club's Members
you could place an ad in the
2023 Diary.**

**Please phone or email
Administration on 2874536 ext 4 or
admin@delganygolfclub.com as
soon as possible for details and to
reserve a page.**

William Walshe selected for Golf Ireland Underage High Performance and Performance Development Squads

After his heroics for the U14 Leinster winning team at the Interprovincial championships in July, we are delighted to announce that Delgany's William Walshe (aged 13) has been selected for the Golf Ireland U15 Leinster (South East section) boys 2023 panel. Golf Ireland notes on its website that under the High Performance programme, Golf Ireland 'has identified a clear pathway for all golfers to follow in the development of their game. The programme aims to equip players with the necessary skills to help them participate in the sport for life. It also aims to provide opportunities for players to achieve their full potential, from basic competencies to representatives honours and ultimately becoming a professional golfer, if that is what they wish to do'. Some more details about the High Performance programme can be found at the Golf Ireland website.

Coaching Panel selection criteria:

There is quite a strict selection criteria in operation for coaching panels and the Golf Ireland selection committee require players to achieve strong results in at least two of the following three criteria to be considered for selection (with strong weighting at U14 & U16 level on performances in championships):

- * Tournament results (domestic performances U14 & U16 championships)
- * Handicap (typically a handicap of 4 or better for an U15 or 6 or better for an U14)
- * Coaching report

Thankfully, William has two endlessly enthusiastic parents willing to drive him around Ireland to play in all of these championships and no doubt William is eternally grateful and appreciative of this level of support! With strong performances in the U14 and U16 championships during the summer (4th in the Leinster Boys Open Championship in Balcarrick, 8th in the Irish U14 Boys Amateur Open Championship in Lucan, T24th in the U16 Ulster Boys Open Championship in Bangor) William was able to seal his place on the panel.

William would like to acknowledge and thank Michael Behan and Tom Bergin in particular for their support over the last few years leading the juniors and giving them the support that allows all of the boys and girls to thrive in Delgany – the junior set up in Delgany is the envy of many other clubs. William would also like to thank Gav for the time he gives to junior coaching and to all of his friends in the junior section (and to senior members as well) for the encouragement and support he gets throughout the year – it is much appreciated.



Delgany welcomes

Our very own Sean O'Rourke and Ailbe Brennan welcomed Tony Marsh from Saratoga California to Delgany last week. Tony's son Daniel is married to Sean's Daughter Aisling. Aisling recently gave birth to baby Elanor (a sister for two year old Saoirse). Tony was very impressed with the course and clubhouse and wishes to pass on his thanks to all who looked after him so well during his visit.



Dear deer...

Our thanks to Dermot Browne and Tony Corcoran for some great photos of our resident deer



And finally....

Our thanks go to Ellen O'Mahony for this photo of a recent unannounced visitor Lady Captain Ann has beaten us all to the punchline with her "Head over heels about Delgany GC' comment !!



However we are leaving the last word to our readers as regards what Donal Meehan is saying to his new friends here



The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the Clubs

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With technical support from Briege Burton