

The Delgany Dispatch



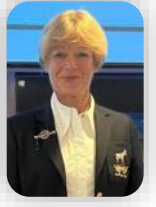
Issue 02.24

<https://delganygolfclub.com/delgany-dispatch/>

February 23rd, 2024



Captains' Message



With the onset of the 6 Nations and St. Patrick's Day only a few weeks away Spring has finally arrived, and we are hopeful that the golfing season will be up and running shortly.

The weather has been behaving itself reasonably well over the past few weeks, however every heavy overnight rain gives away any gains made in terms of the course drying out. As you will know, this situation is not unique to Delgany. We recently had a groundworks and drainage specialist examine the situation on the Avenue and he reliably informed us that countrywide there is a hangover from the heavy rains during the months of July to September last year, and then of course the winter rainfall only exacerbated the problem.

Nevertheless, our course staff and the members (by walking in the rough and the use of sand-bags) have done their best to get us out and playing whenever possible, and hopefully we can look forward to a long, hot summer.

But before we leave winter, a mention about the Winter League which is reaching its closing stages. The last qualifying rounds are this weekend, and it looks like Captain Ian and last year's Captain Tom's teams are safely through to the semi-finals with "all to play for" for the 5 or 6 teams also in contention. Many thanks to the organisers especially Alan McDonnell for his trojan work in collating all scores every weekend and getting the results and state of play out to the Managers and their team members.

The other big news story of course is the Delgany Drama Group's production of 'The Mating Season' which finishes its 8-night run this Saturday. Much has already been said and written about this wonderful Delgany tradition, and the effort and commitment that started back with rehearsals in August 2023 is simply outstanding. The play has been a wonderful success and was sold out for all 8 nights, and very importantly, it represents a significant revenue stream both in terms of ticket sales and hospitality, with the dining room being also very full most evenings. Sincere thanks to the cast and crew, and to our bar and catering staff, and of course Eamonn, and we are looking forward to the final two performances this evening and tomorrow night.



Captains' Message



Other news includes new developments on the golf course front that are detailed in this issue and the start of our interclub golf calendar with the Fitzgibbon Cup underway, when we play our close neighbours Killiney on Sunday, with 3 matches home and away. Good luck to our Managers Tom and Basil and to the team and panel members. Although we have a very healthy-looking mix of youth and experience, Tom tells us that if there are any aspiring interclub players, especially between handicaps 3 to 8, don't be shy, contact Tom, Basil or Ray and there is every chance you will be called for duty at some stage in what is a long campaign.

On the Ladies side, as detailed separately, it has been 50 years since the ladies brought home a trophy. In the hope of addressing this dearth, Ann Boyle and Avril Dowley have revised the team entries this year and selection panels are now in place. First off, managed by Pauline Burke and Niamh Rigley is the Intermediate Foursomes team match v Carrickmines, to be played by 28th April. Individual handicaps should be no lower than 13 in 2023 with a combined maximum of 34 again in 2023.

Looking at dates for your diary, the first information evening concerning the new One Club model is scheduled for Tuesday 5th of March next and we hope to see as many members as possible there. Finally, preparations are under way for our 'Captains Drive In' on March 23rd and we look forward to you joining us for a great day of golf, fine food and as much fun as possible.

Captains Ian & Alison





Course Report



Breaking news on and off the course!

We are delighted to announce that **Steven McDonald** is to take on the position of Head Greenkeeper and as he takes up his new role, we will be strengthening his team, both on and off the course.

To that end, an important development is a decision to engage a new course agronomist, **Trevor Norris**. Trevor was a Senior Agronomist with the leading international consultancy, Turfgrass, involved in the development, management, and maintenance of golf courses throughout Ireland and Europe, working closely with golf course architects and golf club personnel including General Managers and Course Managers. Last year, Trevor decided to branch out on his own and he has already been retained by several clubs in Leinster and beyond. He makes his first working visit to Delgany today and we are looking forward to benefitting from his expertise and experience.

We can also confirm that **Martin Murphy** has, after much consideration, indicated it would be the right time to have a new Course Committee Chair in place. The Management Committee would like to express its thanks to Martin for unhesitatingly stepping into the role towards the end of last year, and for his sound advice and good counsel during what has been a period of some change in a relatively short time.

Following in Martin's footsteps, we are delighted that **Ian Cuddihy**, currently a member of the Course Committee, has agreed to take on the role. Ian has the attributes to lead both his Committee and our Course team in what are exciting times ahead for our most important asset.

Our very best wishes to Steven, Trevor, and Ian (and the Course Committee) in the months and years ahead and we look forward to seeing the fruits of their labours as soon as it stops raining and that lovely parcel of land that is our course dries out.



Finally, our men's Vice Captain Sean O'Rourke has sent us a few photos to remind everyone why we all need to use our divot bags and not just leave it to the conscientious few. As you can see in Sean's photos, the ground is extremely soft on occasions and such large divots take months to repair if left untreated. **So, please bring your sand and seed bag, fill in your divots and encourage everyone to do the same.**





Those were the days..



As we look back 50 years and remember 1974.

It was the year our Delgany Ladies brought home the Townsend Cup (now the Senior Four-somes).

This is the last time the ladies brought home a trophy and we are hoping to remedy that this year!

Delgany Golf Club
Townsend Cup Team 1974



Mrs A Bain; Mrs A Gaynor; Mrs E Whelan; Mrs M Kenny; Mrs L Wycherley.

Mrs K.Baker; Mrs A Byrne; Mrs B Wallace (Lady Capt.); Mrs A MacKeogh (Team Capt.); Miss D Brennan.



Ladies News

(Reporters: Mary O'Neill & Yvonne Connolly)



Competition News

Presentation of prizes for 13th February and 20th February will take place on Tuesday 27th starting with an early bird at 5.00pm. Please book your tables with the bar. Looking forward to seeing as many as possible for our first Presentation night of 2024.

We propose holding an informal and fun 9 hole competition on Thursday 7th March. No need to book on BRS system, just turn up and be ready to play at 9.00am and there will be a draw for partners. We would particularly encourage new members and those who are new to competitions to take part. I will have Committee members on hand to help and answer any questions you may have. Please text me, Pauline Burke on 087 2336785 to confirm attendance. If you have any questions at all about attending, please give me a call.

With the aim of building stronger panels and engendering a competitive team spirit amongst us, the Teams Committee has revamped the selection of competitions we are entering.

The Committee is currently setting up coaching and practice sessions and ask that anyone who would like to be considered for a team and has not yet signed up, to please make contact with Ann Boyle on 087 262 9217 as soon as possible.

It's a great way to improve your golf and get to know lots of other club members outside your normal circle. So come on, join in and play your part in bringing team success for Delgany Ladies.



Ladies News

(Reporters: Mary O'Neill & Yvonne Connolly)



Doreen Brennan

Joining Delgany in 1961, Doreen won many trophies and 3 Lady Captains' prizes. She played on many teams including the winning Townsend Cup team, the Senior Cup and together with Anne Gaynor, she also won the Daily Mail Irish Foursomes, going on to represent Ireland.

In 1980, Doreen captained the Senior Alliance where she represented Delgany for many years. She was a fantastic ambassador for the club, rubbing shoulders with Leinster's golfing elite, she had a very high profile in both ladies and mixed golf circles, while fostering good relations with many other clubs. As a result of Doreen's high standing within the ILGU many prestigious competitions were brought to Delgany for the first time.



Doreen was Lady Captain in 1971 and in appreciation of her enormous contribution to the club, was invited to become an honorary life member in 2021. She played most of her golfing career off 4 and holds the ladies' record for the old course. In 2022, aged 90, she lead the field after Day 1, with a score of 65 off a handicap of 21.

Doreen was a camogie player of note before joining Delgany. As noted in Wikipedia, in 1960 Doreen became the first player in camogie history to captain her side to victory in both the All Ireland Camogie Championship and the Gael Linn Cup for inter-provincial teams in the same year. She won 4 All Ireland senior medals playing for Dublin in 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960. Around the same time she also won 3 interprovincial medals and 2 intervarsity cups playing for UCD.

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Apart from her sporting achievements Doreen had a challenging job as Senior Chemist in the State Laboratory. After 13 years as a Trustee, Doreen resigned this year, prompting an opportunity to say thank you to her for everything she has done for Delgany and to congratulate her on an outstanding sporting career.

Isn't she just fabulous!

Captain Alison



One Club Framework



Further to our club email of February 16th, we would like to remind you that 'Information Meetings' will take place in the clubhouse to discuss the adoption of the One Club Framework.

In order to facilitate as many members as possible, there will be a choice of two evenings:

Tuesday March 5th

or

Wednesday March 20th

The EGM is scheduled to take place on Thursday April 18th 2024.



Mothers Day



*Why not treat Mum and all the family to
a special Delgany*

Mother's Day Lunch

on

March 10th

Early booking is essential

Contact Jamie at 01-2874536 ext 3

to reserve your table.





Membership



OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS

A sincere thank you to all the members who have renewed their subscription for the coming year. Your prompt payment and continued support is very much appreciated. To those who paid before 31st December, your complimentary vouchers should be collected from the shop before the end of February please. Your early payment very much helps the cash flow and running of the Club.

Please note that the subscriptions were due on 31st January 2024

If you have not paid your subscription, we would appreciate if you could please do so as soon as possible. Otherwise in accordance with the Club Rules your membership is deemed to have lapsed. Members who have not paid their subscriptions are ineligible to enter or win a prize in Club competitions. Access to the Booking System (BRS) may also be disabled.

So should you for any reason need to discuss the above matter please do not hesitate to contact me in strictest confidence.

If you are paying by Direct Debit, this will have already automatically rolled over and you do not need to contact us.

Patrick Bradshaw CCM

General Manager

23 February 2024



Ladies News

(Reporters: Mary O'Neill & Yvonne Connolly)



New Ladies Team Uniform

We're delighted the new team uniform is now ready for purchase. See below the new Jacket, Polo and Gilet. If you want to purchase any of these items you have to pre order with Gavin and he will have them crested. The team discount will only be available up to the end of March.



Black Jacket c €130
Team Price €99



Red Polo c €55
Team Price €40-€45



Black Gilet c €89
Team Price €69

Blooming Lovely

Breda Murtagh & Therese Nugent






Ladies News

(Reporters: Mary O'Neill & Yvonne Connolly)




Zumba Gold Taster Class

There will be a taster class for Zumba Gold on Monday 26th February between 3 & 4pm. As the poster says, it is suitable for everyBODY. This class is free and if we get enough enthusiasm the committee will organise a series of further classes. These will also be held on Monday afternoon. Cost will depend on numbers. So get your dancing shoes out!!



ZUMBA[®] gold

Low Impact,
Joint Friendly,
Fun Moves,
Great Music,
Improves Cardio,
Balance & Flexibility
Suitable for everyBODY



Monday 26th February
3pm to 4pm
Delgany Golf Club

No Experience Necessary

**Have fun doing Cha Cha Cha, Salsa, Tango, Merengue,
Swing and many more !**



Men's Competition News



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Winter League (WL) – Round 11 & Round 8 (rescheduled):

The final rounds of the Winter League are on the weekend of February 23/24/25.

If you are playing in the WL on these dates, you must have your **TEAM LETTER** written on your card, otherwise your score will **NOT** be included. **NO TEAM LETTER – NO SCORE!**

Whilst Captain Ian Barrett's Team look like they have all but sealed the Number 1 slot, the final four slots could change this weekend. It's all to play for!!

1	K	Ian Barrett	824
2	J	Tom Bergin	802
3	B	John Sweeney	800
4	A	Eugene Rellis	784
5	D	Sean O'Rourke	782
6	F	Don Berkery	780
7	G	Brian McGee	777
8	C	Shane O Loughlin	767
9	E	Conn Loy	759
10	H	Paul Hautz	754
11	I	Donal Meehan	749

Winter League Semi-Finals – Sunday March 3rd

Once the outcome of the WL Qualifying Phase is known, the Semi-Finals will be arranged as follows. 1st plays 4th and 2nd plays 3rd

The format will be Fourball Matchplay with 5 pairs from each team playing the opposition team's pairs. The tee is reserved from 11am to 12.30pm on Sunday, March 3rd.

Men's Teams Trial – Saturday, March 9th.

Please note that the planned Teams Trial is postponed to a later date which will be confirmed in due course. There will be a normal Singles Stableford running on March 9th.

HOLLOW CORING – MARCH 11TH, 12TH & 13TH

Has been postponed.



Men's Competition News



-MOVING TO 15-HOLES & 18-HOLES:

The plan is to move to 15 holes on Wednesday, March 6th., subject to confirmation by the Course Staff.

Similarly, we plan to move to 18 holes a fortnight later on Wednesday, March 20th (to be confirmed).

CARING FOR OUR COURSE:

Please note that we are still playing under Winter conditions and we would gently remind all players with trollies (of ANY type) that you are obliged to walk in the rough with them (on either side of the fairway). Multiple reports have been received of players dragging/pushing their trollies across fairways to play their shots. You must park your trolley in the rough and in line with where your ball lies, if on the fairway. Decide what club you need and just take it over to play your shot.

Also, pitch marks are not being repaired on greens – it only takes a few seconds and is so important.

UNCLAIMED PRIZES:

This year we are introducing a new process whereby any (physical) prizes which are unclaimed 2 weeks after the date of the competition will be used for another competition. Please note that you can nominate someone else to collect your prize if you cannot. Alternatively, you should email competitions@delganygolfclub.com to arrange a collection date as soon as possible after the competition.

COMPETITION RESULTS:

As previously advised, Competition Results are not final until published on the 'Latest Results' section of the members website. Results on HowDidIDo publish automatically when the competition closes. However, a result is NOT official until the physical cards have been checked and the result posted on the Delgany website. The checking of the cards may result in the finishing order changing in the event of a tie and a countback.

Go to competitions section of our Club website and you can check for final results.

The results are also printed and displayed in the Men's Changing Room.

Finally, we would ask you to do us the courtesy of keying in your score on the hallway computer after all your rounds in ALL competitions. It's not too much to ask and helps all of us to collate scores accurately. Thank you...

John Gallagher

Men's Competitions Committee



This photo was kindly sent in to us by Paul Ryan and we think he has captured the moment perfectly. Lets hope there's a crock of sunshine at the end of our rainbow. We could certainly do with it after our wet winter slog.

Here's to better days ahead..... Where's Tony Quinn? all together now

'Bring me sunshine'



The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the Clubs

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