

"If you drink, don't drive. Don't even putt." – Dean Martin



Horsforth Golf Club

Spring Newsletter

We are working within a budget as defined by Council and Michael Smith our treasurer. There is a lot of enthusiasm to continue projects on the course and in the clubhouse and we have a busy schedule ahead. We are working hard to get the balance right in



We have a new Council and new chairs for the various working committees

Dave Vine	Greens
Dave Oldroyd	House
David Coverdale	Business Development
Dennis Armitage	Competition

terms of members, visitors and external events to ensure we have a consistent and stable financial position. I still have a mantra of 'transformational change' and our goals are realistic for overall betterment given the economic environment.

We have increased fees by 3% having had no increase for 4 years, removal of our CASC status caused an increase of £21,500 for our rates and we are subject to increased wage costs due to the 'living wage' and legislative pension contributions. I think the amounts across the various membership categories are fair and reasonable.

The ladies toilet and shower refurbishment and the new gents toilet were delivered to budget. We did however incur additional costs for unforeseen drainage issues and the resultant new path. Overall the works are now complete and further aid the presentation and appeal of the club.

Captain Peter Walker and Lady Captain Sue Coverdale are all set for the golfing season ahead and I wish them a healthy, happy and successful year.

 Paul Edmondson

House

I hope all members will agree that the new toilet facilities to the visitor gents, ladies and the disabled toilets are a big improvement to the club.

Work has recently been completed to upgrade the existing flat roofs to the club house which were in poor condition.

All the patio chairs and tables have been rubbed down and re-oiled ready for the new season care of the President and volunteers.

Other minor works which are planned this spring are:

- Redecoration to the car park elevation of the club house
- Replacement of the cellar door
- Glass infills to the patio balustrading
- New sink to the rear of the pros shop for washing clubs/shoes
- New carpet to the lounge and varnish the dance floor
- Refurbishment of the bar stools in the lounge and 19th which are badly worn
- Repairs to the kitchen floor

In the club survey 2016 the gents lockers scored highly for refurbishment. Details of the Gent's locker room proposals and new pricing tariff will be available soon for members to see, these will be displayed in the



locker room. The new lockers will be larger and capable of accommodating a trolley bag and shoes. These works ideally would take place over the quiet golfing period during the winter months, therefore you have plenty of notice to clear out your old locker!

You may have noticed new benching and towel rails have been installed along with shower curtains to give better privacy in the gents showers.

Sunday lunches have now arrived! We had a successful Easter Sunday carvery which was well supported by members, it is our plan to roll these out on a monthly basis. Our new chef James is also keen to try new themed evenings to members and guests subject to demand.

David Oldroyd - House

Greens

We are focusing on a number of areas as a follow on from Sean Ryan's agenda last year, namely drainage, bunkers and greens. We are also into the main growing season and you will note the activity by the greens staff.

Drains

- We have completed the first phase gravel banding on the fourth fairway.
- Broken drains right of 6th repaired
- Drain extended up to spring on top of 10th fairway
- Drainage to left of 17th fairway excavated and to be repaired

Greens

- Verti drained, seeded and dressed
- Bunkers edged
- Additional sand in bunkers

New paths to commence ASAP.



Thank you to all who turned up to help Sunday 23.04.17 (Dave & Jane Oldroyd / Scott Vine / Ben Coverdale, Andy Jones, DV). The area to side of putting green has been cleared and bark chip-pings laid. Looks great!

Dave Vine - Greens

Competitions Committee

The various cup competitions are all underway and congratulations those who managed to get through the first rounds. We plan to introduce a new eclectic medal through the months of May, June, July and August. The best gross and net aggregate scores over 8 matches to determine the winners.

Dennis Armitage - Comps

Business Development

Projects Workshop

We undertook a workshop in Council to engender support for any item of improvement and to prioritise the outcomes. We took into account the comments from the 2016 survey and member feedback to create a club wish list going forwards. The final list needs to be ratified but includes the following for consideration:

- Gents and Ladies Lockers
- Club exterior appearance
- Driving Range
- Room hire and visitor numbers and rates

There will be numerous smaller and less costly projects going on as well as we work to make this the best value club in North Leeds.

2016 Survey

We continue to work on member concerns and suggestions. The feedback we have is that the catering has improved significantly in recent months, and the weather has helped in improving the bunkers – but thanks to members for taking time to rake them properly

The car park has lines, the Ladies changing rooms completed, new loos in the clubhouse etc. More work will be done on the course and appearance of the facilities.

Look out for a survey on funding the lockers.

Business Principles

We are keen to progress the club, but also to show restraint in a challenging environment. Major projects will be considered in the light of how they are funded and the return for the club over time.

David Coverdale - Business Development

Captains Report

The new golfing season is upon us.

Augusta has been played, and we have a European champion in Sergio Garcia.

The 2017 golf season at Horsforth has got off to a dry start and the knock out matches are under-way.

The scratch team have got off to a good start, progressing through their first two knock out matches. Congratulations to Mick Hunter for the best 36 hole score at Cobble hall with rounds of 72 and 69.

The net team and 8-15 teams play their first matches next week.

The club is trying to attract new junior members and at the moment it is free membership for all junior members. So if you fancy getting your children involved in the game, ask for an application form. There will be junior coaching sessions starting soon.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and successful golfing year. (enjoy)

Peter Walker - Captain

Lady Captain's bit

Horsforth Ladies had an excellent result in the North Leeds Ladies Golf Alliance which takes place over four rounds in the winter. We finished runners up out of 10 teams and were presented with a salver.

Our A and B team matches have got off to a successful start and the Evening League matches will soon be coming thick and fast. Our first major trophy - the Centenary Team Trophy - was won by Wyn Dickinson, Sally Hirst and Marian Pollard.

We are looking forward to taking on the gents in the Ladies v Gents competitions - be afraid gentlemen!

We have several new lady members and are looking forward to them joining in with all our events.

I hope we all have a busy and enjoyable season with lots of sunshine.

Sue Coverdale - Lady Captain