



**COUNTY LOUTH**  
— GOLF CLUB —

125<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER



We hope everyone is enjoying the golfing season so far, it is hard to believe that we are already more than halfway through it.

Thanks to everyone who has represented the Club in team matches this year; there have been some very close and exciting encounters. While major success has so far eluded us we still have some teams that may yet bring a trophy or two back to the Club, to whom we wish the best of luck.



Thanks also to everyone who participated in and supported the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration week, and we look forward to some more great occasions over the coming months.

***Harry Collier, Captain***  
***Jackie Quinn, Lady Captain***

### Dates for your diary:

Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> August:	Captains Prizes for Juniors, Student/Intermediate, and 5 Day Members
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> August:	Mens Captains Prize – Qualifying Rounds
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> August:	Mens Captains Prize - Final Round
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> August:	Course Exchange Day with the Island Golf Club
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> August	The Links Trophy

## Lady Captains Prize

Congratulations to Mary Joy, recent winner of Lady Captain Jackie Quinn's prize. Over the two rounds Mary, playing off a handicap of 29, had a combined net score of 150, winning by the narrowest of margins over Valerie Reddan, also on 150, on the count back. Rosemary Howell took the best gross prize with a score of 167.



## 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration week took place from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Several competitions and events were held during the course of the week in which members had an opportunity to bring guests to the club to join in the celebrations.

The History display banners were unveiled in the Clubhouse Lounge and have proved to be a great focal point of interest for members and visitors. Much gratitude is owed to Sheila McCann who took on the huge task of compiling all the material used and then ensuring the designer and printer produced such wonderful displays.

To commemorate the anniversary a number of once-off Medals have been specially commissioned, and these are being awarded to members in the major Club competitions during the year.

On 20<sup>th</sup> August we will have a Course Exchange Day with the Island Golf Club. The format of the competition will be a Four Person Team Event, any combination Ladies and Gents. Booking arrangements will be no different than with any other competition. Members will book their tee time in the normal manner through the BRS booking system, the only difference on this particular day is to show up at the Island Golf Club on the appointed time to play your round.

Earlier in the year a Commemorative Calendar was published to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A new Bag Tag has also been introduced.

Members who have not received a calendar, diary and/or new Member Bag Tag should contact Club Reception [reservations@countylouthgolfclub.com](mailto:reservations@countylouthgolfclub.com)



## The Irish Women's Open Stroke Play Championship & the Garvey/Reddan Trophy

Co. Louth Golf Club has produced generations of elite golfers, none more so than Clarrie Reddan and Philomena Garvey. Renowned as two of the most successful players in Irish golf, the Baltray natives were this year honoured at the Irish Women's Open Stroke Play Championship, which took place at County Louth Golf Club from May 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>.

Maria Dunne (Skerries) led wire to wire to claim the Championship title, and become the first recipient of the **Garvey Reddan** trophy. It was fitting that Barry Reddan caddied for Maria as she put in a tremendous performance in the final round to seal victory.

Asked afterwards to put into words how she felt, Maria commented...

*"I am absolutely delighted, it was nerve wrecking! I just tried to focus on my own game and keep going one shot at a time, that's easy said but I really tried to stick to it today. Once I realised I was a couple of shots ahead of my playing partners I said to myself to just par the last 4 holes and don't worry what the others are doing. I managed to get a nice four on 18 which was a great way to wrap it up!"*

How fitting it was that within the month Maria, a former member of County Louth, would be elected an Honorary Member of the Club, recognising not alone this victory but also her great achievements at every level in the amateur game.



*A reception to honour Philomena Garvey and Clarrie Reddan was held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May at County Louth Golf Club, at which members of both the Garvey and Reddan families were in attendance.*

*Special guests at the Reception also included Vonnie Noonan, President ILGU and Mary McKenna MBE.*



## East of Ireland Championship

Soon after Maria Dunne had lifted the Garvey Reddan trophy it fell to the top amateur male golfers to come to Baltray to compete for the East of Ireland Championship, now in its 77<sup>th</sup> year.

A stunning final round 66 secured the title for Reece Black and a first senior championship for the Hilton Templepatrick teenager and Irish Boys International.

Six behind at the start of play, Black caught fire to claim a three-shot win from Robbie Pierse of the Grange Golf Club.

Overnight leader Colin Woodroffe (Dun Laoghaire) fell away, dropping five shots on the front nine, and it was Black who capitalised to claim the biggest win of his young career. Pierse pursued him throughout, and hit the front with an eagle at the sixth, but his challenge faltered.

Black picked up three birdies in four holes from the 11th, which was to prove the decisive stretch. Four shots better than Pierse on the way home, 32 versus 36, Black proved the old adage that championships only really begin on the back nine of the final round.



## Honorary Membership

At a special dinner and presentation on 17<sup>th</sup> June Honorary Membership was bestowed upon a number of individuals in recognition of their achievements and contribution to golf, whether at Club, National or International level.



Two Club members duly honoured, and in attendance to receive their Certificates of Honorary Life Membership from the Club Captains, were Finbarr Ronan and Deirdre Smith.

Others on whom Honorary memberships were conferred are: Darren Clarke, Maria Dunne, Shane Lowry, Leona Maguire, Graeme McDowell, Rory McIlroy and Stephanie Meadow.

## New Committee Structure

A proposed new Committee Structure has been the subject of presentations at recent AGMs.

We are now at an advanced stage of presenting to members the changes to the Club Rules that would be necessary to facilitate a new Committee Structure.

There are also other amendments and changes to the Rules which our consulting barrister has advised would be prudent to consider, all of which will be communicated at a Members' Information Night in September. Should the Committee be satisfied with the feedback received it will then move to bring the necessary changes to a vote by members at a specially convened EGM.

## New Short Game area

The new Short Game area is growing in very well. We await the forthcoming visit of our consultant agronomist Dr. Ian McClements of the STRI to receive his opinion on when it can be brought into play.



## Clubhouse

Three hundred & thirty members recently completed the Clubhouse Survey. This represents a healthy response rate of approx. 35%. Thank you to all members who took the time to complete the survey. The feedback received is very helpful as we develop a strategic plan for the Club.

The aspects of the Clubhouse most frequently commented on in the Survey were:

- The provision of a Members area **preferably** located upstairs & providing views of the course
- The need to improve the exterior surfaces of the building (A detailed survey of the building exterior has recently been completed by our Architects OBFA)
- The poor standard of the **locker rooms**, shower & toilet areas
- The confusing nature, **layout and design** of the 'arrivals' area

The full survey results have been passed on to our consulting Architects O'Brien Finucane & Associates for review & technical analysis. It is anticipated that OBFA meet with the membership later in the Autumn when a full discussion on future options for the Clubhouse can take place.

## Golf Buggies

At its most recent meeting the Committee decided that the use of privately owned buggies on the golf course would not be permitted, except by those members who have enjoyed that privilege up to now. In addition, club buggies will only be available for hire by those in possession of a current medical certificate of disability. This policy is in line with most top championship links courses; although there are some that do not permit buggies at all.

There will be further communication to members on this matter in the near future, as consideration is given to whether some limitation is placed on the movement of buggies in order to protect certain areas and surfaces.

## Junior Golf

Many thanks to all who supported the recent Junior Development Golf Day on Wed 19<sup>th</sup> July. Using funds previously raised from the same event in recent years a new camera system and software specifically designed for golf coaching has been purchased. This will assist our Professionals further in educating our junior golfers. The equipment is also available for tuition to all other categories of members.

The junior summer coaching programme is in full swing with Paddy and Enda providing weekly tuition to all age groups.

## Dress Code

The Dress Code for the golf course and clubhouse, as outlined below, has been revised and is now published on the club website, in both the Member and Visitor sections. New notices will be placed around the Clubhouse to highlight the Code, an abbreviated version will also be placed on dining tables. Members of staff have the authority to bring the Code to the attention of anyone not adhering it.



### Dress Code

#### Golf Course and Clubhouse

Members and Visitors are requested to maintain a good standard of dress both on and off the course.

#### ACCEPTABLE

- Tailored Shorts
- Denim Jeans **provided** they are neat & tidy, are of uniform colour and are free of fraying, holes, rips or tears.
- Tailored Crew/Turtle Neck Golf Shirts.

#### NOT ACCEPTABLE

- Round Neck T-Shirts.
- Sleeveless Shirts (men only).
- Hooded Sweatshirts.
- Vests and Branded Team Jerseys.
- Beach and football shorts.

**PLEASE NOTE** Wet clothing, Hats/Caps and Visors must be removed in the bar and restaurant areas.

Persons not adhering to the above dress code may be asked to leave the Club House or the Golf Course.

#### Mobile Phones

Mobile phones may be used in silent mode to send and receive data only.

Mobile phones may be used on the golf course in emergency circumstances only.