



The West Lothian Golf Club Newsletter

January 2010

Volume 1, Number 1

Headlines

Snow Joke if you're a golfer!



A scene typical of January 2010.

Snow lay on the course for over 30 days. Read more in the Course section.

I hope you enjoy this publication and with your help I hope to see it develop in 2010. I would like to start a questions and answers article and if you have any queries relevant to our Club please contact me at manager@westlothiangc.com and I will select a few each month. Also if you have any good stories from happenings on the Course or Clubhouse send them to me and I will add them to the Newsletter.

Regards- Alan Gibson.

Supporting your Club functions will ensure a healthy bar income resulting in improvements to services and costs.

Your Council will be working hard in 2010 to further enhance the successes of our Club.

If you feel you have the skills or time to help out in any area of the Club's business please contact Alan Gibson.

Social Update

January Food Sale!

There's a great offer during January of a 20% discount from all menu items, including snacks of soup and hot filled rolls.

Quiz Night

Thanks to everyone who attended our Quiz Night on Friday 15th Jan; great fun was had by all with Team Griffiths/O'Neill romping to victory. A special mention to the Bar Team of Craig & Stephanie who were all on their own and in between serving lots of drinks managed a magnificent 2nd place.

*A date for your diary – come along to the next quiz night, hosted by Colin Young, on **Friday 26th February**. All welcome – families, friends, neighbors, and colleagues – just £5 entry per team with cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.*

A Taste Of...

Taste of Italy on Friday 12th Feb.....why not treat your Valentine? A delicious menu for just £16.50 per person. Reserve your table at the bar or call 01506 826049.

2010 Bookings

The Clubhouse offers a fantastic venue for your Party Celebrations – whether for that special birthday, wedding anniversary or engagement. Some weekend dates are now available with a selection of buffet or fine dining menus on offer.

Additionally, the Members' Bar also provides an ideal awayday venue for conferences, sales meetings and company training events. Why not combine it with one of our Golf Packages for your colleagues?

Your Conveners for 2010

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Match Secretary | Leigh Conner |
| Junior Convener | Linda Clyne |
| Clubhouse Convener | Kenny Campbell |
| Greens Convener | Jim Grant |
| Finance | Ian Black, Ian Cook and Alan Gibson |
| Summer League | Alan O'Neill |
| Seniors League | Norman Hendry |
| Marketing | Alan Gibson, Alan Reid and Ian Cook. |
| Membership | Linda Clyne and Ian Cook |
| Pro-Am | Peter Ritchie and Maureen Shanks |
| Catering and Events | Craig Samson |

For all catering and events enquiries contact Craig at steward@westlothiangc.com or telephone 01506 826049

Clubhouse News

It takes a great effort to keep the Clubhouse in pristine condition and our House Convener has worked tirelessly throughout January .

Even the Queen would have felt at home in our Clubhouse during January. The familiar smell of freshly painted surfaces was all around. Created by Mr. Kenny Campbell with the able assistance of his reliable 4X4 which got him up to the Clubhouse when even tractors were struggling.

Many thanks to Kenny for all the work he carries out at the Club and I am sure you will all note the fresh décor on your next visit.

New pictures have been hung around the walls these being very kindly donated by Mr. Jim Harwood and they have certainly brightened up the walls around the Clubhouse.

The new front step at the front entrance has enhanced the area and produced a safer access to the Clubhouse. Thanks go to Mr. Robert Watt and his team for carrying out the work.

Match and Handicap

With the 2010 season fast approaching please remember to fill out and return your competition entry forms which were posted with your subscription notices.

Membership and Finance

The trend sees a continuing fall in Membership numbers with some 15 resignations through December and January. On a happier note we have gained 7 new members with several more Membership enquiries coming in.

The Club 2000 Membership Database system is constantly being improved and thanks to all those who have provided updated personal details.

My sincere thanks go to Linda Clyne and Ian Cook for their able help and assistance in Membership affairs.

Finances remain tight and much work is ongoing in cost saving schemes and income incentives. A full mid term financial audit will be carried out by your finance committee at the end of February.

A Mid Term Audit will be carried out in late February.

Course News

*Snow joke
being a green
keeper in
white
surrounds-
For the golfer
despair with
the course
'out of bounds'*

The snow began to fall on December 16th and the following morning the course was unplayable. A heavy fall of some 6 inches in depth on the 23rd of December resulted in the longest course closure since I began recording in 1989. For 32 days the course was covered in snow and whilst the golfers were resting fungal disease, in the form of snow mould (pictured below), was having a field day beneath the white blanket. Mr. Chris Kennedy, course manager at Wentworth GC warned us all, through a news item on Sky Sport News, that there was a high likelihood of disease infestation following the thaw.

As predicted we have been affected and several of our greens have a high percentage of their surface infected.



The scarring will take some time to heal and I have carried out essential aeration works and treated the surfaces with fungicide. Patience is required and as in previous years the greens will recover fully. The speed of the recovery process is dependant on weather conditions and an early spring in 2010 would certainly help.

The staff took a deserved break during the worst of the weather using up holidays due and on their return have been busy on tree maintenance and drainage projects.

I will provide a full update on pre season works next month.

*Remember to
contact me if
you have any
questions or
stories which
can be
included in
future
publications.*

I hope you have enjoyed your read and I will deliver more news and reviews next month.

Alan Gibson.