

## Denbigh Golf Club



# Cae Drain Chronicle

APRIL 2010

## FROM THE CAPTAIN

The first thing I need to do is to wish you all as Members of Denbigh Golf Club, a very successful and enjoyable season ahead.

Leaving winter behind us and what a hard winter we have had, however our Winter League was as successful as ever and I would like to congratulate Robert Anderson on being the overall winner. Our thanks to Stan and Eric for all their hard work and for our Winter League evening c/w entertainment from John Sellers.

The following day with a few hangovers we had Captains' "Drive In" followed by the traditional Captain v Vice Captain match. Unfortunately the Captain's team lost 13 -11. I'm looking for revenge in the return match in October. The turn out for the occasion was fantastic, the Vice-Captain and myself would like to thank you for your support.

As Members I am sure you are aware that staffing matters have moved forward from last year. We have now appointed a new Course Manager (Karl Parry) and on behalf of the club I would like to wish him every success and I have assured him that we will all give him our full support. I would also like to thank John, Mike and Darren for all their hard work on the course, indeed the course is in excellent condition for the time of year.

The golf season has started with all the sections of the club busy with various competitions and there seems to be a buzz about the place which is great to see. All we need now is a good summer so we can welcome visitors to help our finances after a very poor winter.

I would like to thank the various Committees for all their hard work in moving the Club forward. Many thanks to Peter H Jones (Chairman of Social) and the Social Committee for arranging various social events that have been excellent and well attended, please continue to support the social functions when you can. Thanks to Glyn Arthur Roberts for keeping our web-site up to date and Emyr Jones in keeping the Club well publicised in the local press and national magazines.

Congratulations and best wishes to Mark Matthews on his appointment as Junior Captain 2010, a worthy choice. Have a good year Mark.

May I also thank all those who have donated to the Captain's Charity (St. Kentigern and Hope House). Even at this early stage of the year donations are filling the collection boxes in the Bar and Professional's Shop and the Winter League and Bodidris Day kindly collected a combined total of £400.

Finally I would like to thank you all for your support in what is a very special year for me as Captain of Denbigh Golf Club.

**Gary Thomas**  
Captain

## ON THE COURSE

Most of you will have by now met or will have seen Karl Parry our newly appointed Course Manager (Plays off 9 H/C). Karl joins us from Mold GC where he was Deputy Head Green Keeper and from how he has performed over his first 4 weeks with us, clearly he is Mold's loss and Denbigh's gain. He has informed the Greens Committee of his vision of how the course should be presented and I ask that you be patient and allow Karl and the Green Keeping Team time to get on with the job and with still being early spring, time for mother nature to take its course.

It is disappointing to note that Members in general are failing to help matters by still not replacing divots and repairing pitch marks, it's your course please help by doing the right thing.

A report from the STRI Agronomists following their recent course inspection is now displayed in the locker rooms.

It is pleasing to report that it has been possible, without affecting the budget to lease purchase a top dressing machine mounted on a utility vehicle. This top dresser can apply a light dressing onto the greens and tees and will enable us to follow the STRI's recommendation, that is a little often and without affecting play.

Many thanks to Kevin Parry who has volunteered to care for the garden areas, I'm sure he could do with assistance (Many hands make light work) so if you have the time please contact Kevin.

Please be assured that the Greens Committee, Course Manager and Green Keeping Staff are all working to present the course to the high standard that you expect.

Best wishes to you all for the summer golfing season.

**George Williams, Vice-Captain**

## LADIES' SECTION

Well, what a start to the year, all that snow but how lucky we were to be able to hold our Open Valentine Day, congratulations to all the prize winners.

Many thanks to everyone who made the Winter League Dinner such a success, I hope that the Ladies who attended enjoyed themselves as much as I did. Congratulations to all the prize winners in the Winter Competitions, especially Sue McCarthy, the Tuesday Competition Winner and Tracy Ellis who won the Sunday Competition as well as the Eclectic.

I have another thank you and that's to Jan Jones who runs the Quiz during the winter months that ends with a dinner in the clubhouse. I really enjoyed the evening, thank you for the kind invitation (it's no wonder I need to diet.)

We started the 2010 season with our annual Ladies' Captain Vs Ladies' Vice-Captain match, congratulations to Jane and her teams on their victories. (Sunday & Tuesday matches) The season is now well under way with most of our Ladies having completed their three cards ready for the Knockout Competitions.

Commiserations to our Ladies who were unsuccessful in the County Championships held at Wrexham earlier this month but congratulations to Alison Mathews and Christine Jones who were 4th & 3rd in the NWLCSA Silver & Bronze meeting held at Conwy.

Team matches have now started and good luck to all who will be representing the Club, do your best and enjoy.

Finally, I would like to wish all Members a good season, good golf and hope you have a good time in the summer season.

**Mrs Sondra Williams, Ladies' Captain**

*Gents Golf Development for new members starting end of May. Please encourage a non golfing friend to attend. Look out for details posted in the locker room.*

*Any items that you may have for inclusion in the next issue in July will be very welcome. Please contact the Office.*

## AROUND THE GREENS

I am delighted to have been appointed Course Manager of such a great golf club which has huge potential of becoming one of the best courses not only in the area but nationwide.

I would like to thank all Members for such a lovely warm welcome and it has been great getting to know so many Members since taking up my duties.

Being a very keen and low handicap golfer, I understand just how a golf course should be set-up and what the golfer would expect and likes to see on the golf course day to day.

As I was previously at Mold Golf Club, I have gained the experience and knowledge of managing a golf course with similar terrain and climate conditions which will be put to good use here at Denbigh.

Before being at Mold Golf Club, I was very fortunate to be appointed Assistant Superintendent for the Greg Norman Golf Club, Tiburon GC in Southwest Florida, USA where we held the annual PGA Shark Shootout Tournament.

I'm sure you will agree that our main goal is to achieve grassed covered greens with smooth, firm and fast putting surfaces by means of little disturbance to the golfer. My theory on all operations to be carried out on the golf course is "LITTLE & OFTEN" thus leaving the playing surface always in play and in great condition.

I have big plans and big ideas for this golf course and through the Greens Committee and working with the Green Keeping Team, all in good time we will reach our ultimate goal of producing a very fine and prestigious golf course all year around and hopefully, attracting new members and more visitors.

I would like to say that to me, this is the start of a new era, the past is the past. We must look to the future and all work together for the benefit of Denbigh Golf Club. Your assistance in keeping buggies and trolleys clear from greens' surround, replacing divots, repairing pitch marks and raking bunkers after use will benefit the course.

Finally, I welcome constructive criticism and I am always willing to listen to your views about the course.

**Karl Parry, Course Manager**

## OPEN WEEK 2010

**Principal Sponsor:**

**Heineken UK**

**Programme of Events:**

**Monday 07 June**

**Senior Gents B/Ball (55+)**

Stableford. Full H/C. 3/4 allowance

**Sponsored by**

**Pen Y Bryn Joinery**

**Wednesday 09 June**

**Ladies B/Ball**

Stableford. Full H/C. 3/4 allowance

**Sponsored by**

**E Jones & Sons, Denbigh**

**Friday 11 June**

**Texas Scramble**

Team of 4 Gents, 4 Ladies or  
Mixed 2 Gents 2 Ladies.

Medal. Full H/C, 10% Com.

**Sponsored by**

**George Williams Insurance**

**Saturday 12 June**

**Gents Better Ball**

Stableford. Full H/C. 3/4 allowance

**Sponsored by**

**Castle Steel Fabricators Ltd**

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*Please make sure that you update the Office re change of address, telephone number or email address. Have you registered onto our on-line booking system?*

## SOCIAL

Following on from the hectic social programme that's kept everyone on their toes this year, the Committee have decided to promote more golf orientated functions during the lighter evenings during the summer months rather than try and keep you indoors! As the "Fun Nights" of golf been a great success over the last couple of years it has been decided to carry on with them again this year, the first "Fun Night" will be on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April, these nights are usually in the form of a stableford competition and are for full Members only and are a social mix up as we mix everyone into different pairings, handicaps are not required and don't worry if you haven't a regular partner as everyone mixes in! There will also be another of the "Fun Nights" on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. The Guys and Dolls night where Members are encouraged to bring along guests is on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June, this competition is always very popular and tee times need to be reserved. Start thinking of your non playing guests early, as this is the one where you need two players without handicaps to play with! The "four club" night will be at the end of August.

The committee have decided to let the "summer sevens" start earlier this year and we hope you will enter into the spirit of the event and build on the success of last year's event. This year we are starting the competition on the 30<sup>th</sup> May and carrying on to the end of August.

The Juniors enjoyed their experience of "Night Golf" and the few hardy adults who ventured out after them also had a great time. As the warmer weather is now approaching we will be looking to put on another event for the club starting at about 10:00 pm, although the date is yet to be sorted out. A date to put in your diary is Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May when Denbigh Golf Club will have its first "Car Boot Sale" we hope that this fund raising event will be a chance for you to bring along your old clubs, clear the attic and garage, sell your goods and buy something in place. Further details will be advertised shortly.

It is intended to organise another "Auction of Promises" in the near future as a means of raising funds towards a specific project that is yet to be agreed. The only suggested project at this time is a half way house on the 9th. Any other ideas you may have for consideration will be welcomed.

**Peter Hughes Jones, Chairman Social Committee**

## VETS

At the recent Vets AGM there was an almost complete changeover of Committee Members, John Raine the retiring Chairman gave way after his 2 year term to Trefor Jones with Arthur Duddle being his Vice-Chairman for the next 2 years. Tony Austin who has been the Secretary for as long as anyone can remember finally gave up this arduous task after years of stalwart work and Eilian Williams has now stepped into his shoes. Eilian has quickly found out that you can't please everyone all the time and can't please some at all! Geoff Doherty remains as Treasurer, he has to finance his holidays somehow. The other Committee Members include Tony Claber who works with the Match & Handicap Committee in reducing handicaps at every opportunity, Emyr Jones who continues his publicity work in the local news papers and newcomers Barry Fishwick who talks about complaints on behalf of everyone and Alan Brooke who just talks.

The Vets winter competition has been completed with Alan Brooke taking the honours having accumulated 27 points being well ahead of the runners up, Glen (the farmer) Jones and Trevor Jones both with 16 points. The summer competition has commenced and the early leader is Mike Roberts.

There are some vets who are beyond the stage of using the white tees and in order to retain their handicaps under the new system, the existing 7 Vets' trophy competitions held in the summer months are being used for this purpose. All the results will pass through the computer system with handicap changes being monitored in the approved manner. The first of these competitions, the Association Cup has been played with Roy Tickle 1st, Alan Brooke 2nd and Gary Beaks 3rd. To everyone else's amusement, Alan Brooke was the only competitor whose handicap was reduced.

The Inter Club match season has started with the first match away at Holywell that ended in a tie, 5 matches won, 5 lost and 2 halved. The away match at Caernarfon was postponed due to their course being snowbound with ours waterlogged on the same day.

Consideration is now being given to what project the Vets will select for their annual donation to the Club.

The Vets have 62 Members and welcome new members, if you are over 55 years of age, retired and interested. please contact Eilian Williams.

**Geoff Doherty**

## MANAGER'S NOTE

In the last edition I wondered what would lie ahead in 2010 and hoped it would be all good. No such luck, what a terrible start to the year, closed on and off for some 6 weeks through bad weather and when open the weather wasn't much better. No Members playing, no Visitors and the knock on effect being no requirement for bar and catering. On the bright side things are now looking up with projected total green fee income 2010 likely to make up for the shortfall in the winter and as can be seen, the course is starting to take shape and looking good for the season ahead. Well done to Karl and the Green Keeping Team.

Congratulations to the DGC quiz team in retaining the Inter Club Championship Shield. (Abergele, Denbigh and Old Colwyn)

Well done to Eifion Jones (President 2008/9) in being the first winner of the "Members Reserved Car Park Space" (If you weren't in the draw that is why you did not win)

Most grateful thanks to John Arwel Jones for purchasing a new bunded fuel tank from the "Bonus Ball" draw that he runs week in week out. Your fund raising efforts for the Club are very much appreciated John.

Please report to the Pro's Shop before play to ensure that **all** players' names are recorded on the tee booking system. Course usage reports are a waste of time if recordings are incomplete.

Thank you for your assistance and enjoy your golf.

**John Williams, Manager**

## MATCH & HANDICAP

I have taken over as Chairman of the Match & Handicap Committee from Mr Ted Wilding MBE who has now started his term of office as President of the Club. The Match & Handicap Committee is most grateful to Ted for leading the Committee over many years, he will be a hard act to follow.

The season started with the traditional Captain Vs Vice-Captain match with a 13-11 win for Mr Vice-Captain.

Thanks to the Gent and Lady Members for raising £160 for the Captain's Charity during the event.

With the season in full swing we have just completed the draw for the Knockout Competitions and now looking forward to our away day at Padeswood & Buckley on 01 May 2010, 128 Members making the trip.

Congratulations to our Mail On Sunday Golf Classic team in beating Conwy 3-2 at Conwy. A fine win gents.

Congratulations also to Stan and James Roberts in winning their first round against Clays in the Daily Mail Foursomes.

A reminder to Members to observe the rules with regard to active and inactive handicaps. If you have any queries please contact a Member of the Match & Handicap Committee.

Friday 30 April 2010 will see the return of monthly prize presentations, (Notice in the locker room) on the same evening there will be a "fun golf night", food will be available and special offers on selected bar products. Everyone is welcome and if you are a prize winner then please make every effort to attend, if you are unable to attend then arrange for somebody to act on your behalf and collect your prize. Failure to adhere to this will result in your prize voucher being donated to the Junior Section. Before going out to play please acquaint yourself with the local rules.

Enjoy the season, play well and fair and we look forward to reducing your handicap in the weeks ahead.

**Kevin Hughes**  
**Chairman, Match & Handicap Committee**

## CATERING

No report from Cliff, he's having an extend stay in Egypt thanks to the volcanic ash. Please help the Catering Staff to help you, if you have a tee time late afternoon let the Staff know before you go out if you will require a meal later.

*Good luck to Kylie (Bar Steward) who is now on holiday prior to taking maternity leave. Hope all goes well.*

*Clear the garage and attic ready for a "car boot sale" coming soon in the clubhouse (no cars).*

*Introduce a New Full Member and get £20 on your bar card.*

*If you have a skill that could benefit the Club and would like to volunteer your service, please see the Manager. any way please*

## JUNIOR SECTION

Since my last report in December, we have had some very bad weather, which has stopped the juniors from playing and practicing, but in the last few weeks things have changed.

The club has lost a few Junior Members who never took part in the junior events but we have had a number of new members, who are very keen and take part in the tuition, this is giving the section a strong young squad. Total number to date is over 50.

On March 28<sup>th</sup> The I. G. Roberts Trophy was played, the weather conditions were not perfect, the winner was Jake Hellion 32 pts, eleven years old, winning on the back nine from Tom Brown, third was Josh Jones 30 pts.

The D.G.U. Junior League is played over four rounds at four different venues, Clays GC, Denbigh GC, Abergele GC and Llangollen GC. The first round was played at Clays Golf Club on 6th April. A team of six players from each club, playing a medal round with the best four net scores to count, after the first round Denbigh Boys came first with a four stroke lead from Clays, Mark Matthews ( Junior Captain) had the best net score of the day with a net 66, CSS 70. Jake Hellion had a 68 net. The next round will be played on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Denbigh.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> an evening of night golf was held, organized by Peter Jones (Chairman of Social) and John Williams (Manager) who I would like to thank on behalf of the Junior Section, the weather was dry but cold, they played holes 6. 7. 8. 16., the first started out at 8-45 pm playing stableford, with the last coming in at 11pm. All the players had food before going out and with the Parents staying to watch it turned out to be a very good evening. There were two equal scores for first place, the winners being, Tomas Pendlebury and Dion Evans, 12 pts. 3rd Frankie Foster 11 pts, 4th Rees Jones and Nial Kelly 10 pts.

Peter Jones has sponsored the Junior Section once again with nine dozen golf balls, I and the Juniors would very much like to thank Peter for his continued support.

The first match of the North Wales Counties Junior Championship was played on April 8<sup>th</sup>, at Prestatyn GC. Denbighshire playing Flintshire, a team of eight players playing foursomes AM, and singles PM. Representing D.G.U. Mark Matthews was picked to play in the team.

The D.G.U. Second team play The North Wales Girls Team at Ruthin Pwllglas GC on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April, Jake Hellon has been selected to play in the match, we now have two Junior County Players this year.

I would like to thank all the Members for their support, and the Course Manager and his staff, for the great job they are doing on the condition of the course.

**Bruce Carlyle, Junior Organiser**

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<i>M D Full Set + Bag</i>	<b>£289</b>
<i>Gents Shirts</i>	<b>£9.95</b>
<i>Gents Trousers</i>	<b>£25</b>
<i>Hi Tech Shoes</i>	<b>£29</b>
<i>Golf Bag</i>	<b>£39</b>