

AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE GOLF CLUB (www.ampleforthgolf.co.uk)

NEWSLETTER – 5th October 2016

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Member,

With the Autumn about to start, it seems an opportune time to give everyone an overview of the year to date. Anyone using the course in the last week will have seen the work taking place in order to provide the standard of greens we have become used to. The greens have been both scarified and aerated, plus had the sand applied which when brushed in will soon have the playing surface back to normal. Miles apologizes for any inconvenience caused but you know that it is necessary if we are to enjoy the greens the whole year round.

I hope that you have enjoyed playing off the new 12th tee this year during competitions, good work by Adrian has ensured that our tees continue to prosper. Work has begun on creating a new 18th tee, just to the rear of the existing one which, when brought into play next year will further provide variation and challenges.

A new irrigation system has been installed throughout the course that brings us into line with Yorkshire Water regulations. More draining will take place at strategic points on the course over winter and more tree management will also occur. It is intended to provide a “winter green” on the first to allow drainage work to be carried out on the regular green.

As always, autumn brings leaf fall so please be considerate of this when the leaves are not always cleared quickly enough.

Club Membership has held up better this year than for many a year and the numbers competing have been good although, in both cases we could do with more. (I have just realized I sound like the figure from Oliver!)

The Clubhouse continues to attract more usage and I want to emphasize that it is available to any of our members should they wish to bring in a group for golf or social events.

We had a good Club Match against Aldwark where an honourable draw was achieved. They enjoyed it so much that they have asked for a “home and away” game next year.

Steve has done an excellent job as Captain this year. He has organized events well and continues to come up with new ideas for the future, on which all I can say at this moment is, watch this space!

I would like to ask you all, once again if you would please sign in when you intend to play. I do understand that for some it may be difficult to look ahead one week, but it would help the Club to overcome congestion on the course and possible causes of frustration. I am willing to put your name down if you just call me. We have recently had a complaint of slow play and this has been caused partly by Members just turning up and “slotting in” where available. Please help with this matter and please, please try to follow the good golf guide on slow play.

We have Quiz nights and Dominoes evenings planned for the winter that I hope will be well

supported.

Lastly may I say once again a big thank you on your behalf to our Manager, our Green keeper, our Handicap Secretary and all of those who work so hard to keep this club running so well.

These have been difficult times for all golf clubs and some have gone under. We have been very fortunate in having dedicated members who represent the spirit of this very special little club of ours. I never tire of telling everyone how great golf at Gilling is. Please help me spread the word.

Looking forward to seeing you on the course.

Ken.

FROM THE MANAGER

As you are aware, cars are not permitted in Gilling Castle grounds, which makes shotgun starts a bit of a trek for some. Would you also please note that the white building (toilet) next to the cricket pitch by the 6th tee is NOT to be used by members of the public and that includes us. This is Health and Safety driven in the interests of the students at St Martin's, Ampleforth.

As you know, I provide bacon butties on most Saturday mornings (£1.50). However, having just watched "The Great British Menu", I am aware of my limited repertoire. If any of you can suggest alternatives/additions to Club Fare, please let me know.

On Sunday, 20 November, our annual Turkey Trot will be played starting at 0830. This is where each player brings a gift which is put into the kitty. At the end play, the gifts become prizes and are selected by players – highest Stableford scores having first pick etc. The first prize is a Turkey (cash equivalent). This year we will again have bacon butties at the start with mulled wine and mince pies (or hot dogs) at the end.

Ian Henley
Manager