



Knightsbrook Golf Club Newsletter

March 2020

Message from the
members

We wish our captains,
Richard and Marie a
very successful Drive in
and a great golfing year.



The captains and committee

strongly urges members to
replace divots and to repair
pitch marks on the course.
Rather than blaming society
golfers let us take responsibility
for ensuring that the
course continues to present
in pristine condition by doing
OUR BIT every time we play



Dates for your Diary

Club Away Day
In
Farnham Castle Co.
Cavan

Saturday 25th July.
Maximum 30 members.
Cost : Approx €155pps
More details to follow.

OPEN WEEK

July 27th to July 31st
A week of team competi-
tions so that you can bring
your golfing friends and
show case the golf course

Message from the Captain

I'm delighted to be addressing you as the 2020 Captain of Knightsbrook Golf Club. Congratulations to Lady Captain Marie Gordon and the Vice Captains Gerald Reilly and Anne Geraghty in their new roles in the club.

The committee and I are looking forward to the year ahead and especially to working with all the members. To Damien and Angela, thank you, for giving of your time and dedication to the club as captains last year. You are owed a debt of gratitude from all the members. I am pleased to inform you that the committee is reintroducing the club **away day** this year. This will be organised by Ray Glennon, one of our new committee members. Ray will have more information on this event at a later date.

Club Person of the Year... It could be you!

I'm also delighted to announce the introduction **The Club Person of the Year Award** which will recognise a club member for their commitment to Knightsbrook Golf Club. A subcommittee has been set up comprising of the President and the two serving Captains to decide who will be the recipient of this inaugural award. We are very grateful to **Prism Inks** who have very kindly committed to sponsor this prestigious award this year and into the future. I would like to thank all the committee members for their work so far this year. Their work ethic is second to none, for which I know, club members are truly grateful. Thanks to Mr Peter Igoe, Proprietor, Ronan and his green keeping staff, for the way the course is presented every week both winter and summer.

Special thanks to Dominic, Kate and the staff in the pro shop for their ongoing help to members every time they turn up to play. We thank Amanda, Eimear, Shane in the bar and catering staff for the delicious food and wonderful hospitality. I intend to play golf with as many members as I possibly can this year. The golf might not be great, but the crack will be mighty. I'm looking forward to seeing you on the course.

Richard Wheeler, Captain.



Message from the Lady Captain

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all members of Knightsbrook Golf Club. It is an honour and a privilege to be Lady Captain a role that comes with responsibilities and challenges. I am very fortunate to have the support of a dedicated group of ladies on committee, including team managers. Together we will make every effort to continue the great work of our predecessors and continue to build and expand the ladies' club.

I hope to see and encourage all ladies to participate in the club's weekly competitions this year. The mixed 9-hole competitions have been a great success and provided a great opportunity for members to meet and integrate. I encourage all members to take part in these competitions this year.

We are again entering the Inter Club competitions and will have ladies participating in the Irish Mixed, The North Leinster Mixed, Intermediate and Challenge Cup Competitions and the South Meath Challenge Cup. I wish all of our teams and their managers the very best of luck.

The Ladies National AIG Finals will be held in Knightsbrook for the third year running, which is indicative of the high esteem in which Knightsbrook Golf Club is held by the ILGU. The success of this competition is due, in no small part, to the volunteer work, on and off the course, by the members of the club.

The Golf course is in wonderful condition and has been excellently maintained. Together with the ongoing improvements there will be no excuses for bad golf! I would like to acknowledge Ronan and his staff for their diligent work in this regard.

To Angela and Damien, outgoing captains, thank you for your work and dedication to the club over the past twelve months. They have been great ambassadors for the club.

Particular thanks to Angela for her long service as Lady Captain. I would like to wish incoming Vice Captains, Anne Geraghty and Gerald Reilly every success. They bring a wealth of experience to the club and I look forward to working with them during 2020. I would like to wish the junior section of the club every success this year. I look forward to working with it and continuing to grow our working relationship with the committee in the coming year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Dominic and Kate for their trojan work in the Golf Shop. No task or request is ever too big for them and they are always ready to assist in whatever way they can.

I look forward to their continued support in the coming year. I cannot let the opportunity pass without thanking all of our sponsors for their support and generosity which is vital to the successful running of the club. Finally, I am delighted to be working alongside Captain Richard Wheeler and President, Sean Ó Díomasaigh and I look forward to working with them along with the Men's Committee to ensure an enjoyable and memorable year of golf for all.

Marie Gordon, Lady Captain





Angela Reilly driving in for her 4th year as Lady Captain of Knightsbrook Golf Club 2019

Congratulations and thanks to Angela Reilly

for her sterling service to Knightsbrook golf serving for four years as Lady Captain

Message from the Competitions' and Handicap Committee

The 2020 Competition & Handicap Committee is Chairman, Peter Whelan, Eamonn O'Brien, Leonard Flynn and Thomas Conaty and any issues or queries for the Committee should be in writing and addressed to the Competition & Handicap Secretary or emailed to knightsbrookcompetitions@gmail.com The committee would greatly appreciate if members adhere to this protocol and particularly do not approach committee members when playing on the course.

The committee aims to provide a varied programme of competitions throughout the year and would appreciate any feedback from members in regard to competitions. The committee has agreed that entry fees for all competitions will remain the same as 2019 and hopes to improve the value of prize funds in response to members' wishes at the AGM. Members will be notified of revisions to prizes after the March committee meeting. When the club returns to 18-hole competitions after the Captains' Drive In on March 15th.

The committee has introduced a **matchplay scorecard** for use in all matchplay and **inter-club competitions**. We have requested the Leinster Branch of the GUI to respond to our proposal and if agreed the following are the proposed changes to hole indices: -

Hole 1 Change from Index 4 to Index 8, **Hole 2** Change from Index 2 to Index 4, **Hole 8** Change from Index 6 to Index 2, **Hole 9** Change from Index 8 to Index 6

The new unified World Handicap System will be introduced on the 2 November 2020 bringing an end to the demon **point one** system. From this date handicaps will be calculated on a rolling basis, based on the best 8 scores from the last 20 qualifying competitions. More information will be provided on this throughout the summer. **Non-Return** will be a thing of the past and will be replaced by a system which will calculate a score for the omitted holes based on a bogey for the first one missed and a par for each one thereafter. This probably will require a more detailed explanation and the committee will advise members once clarifications are available. This will have implications for members entering incomplete scores.

An interesting year ahead for Captains Richard and Marie, Vice- Captains Gerald and Anne and President Sean and all the Committees.

**Peter Whelan,
Secretary,
Competition & Handicap Committee.**



Warren Wallace receives his Monthly Medal



Liam Grant winner of Seniors' Medal 2019

Course Information

We have been through a spell of severely wet and windy weather since the beginning of this year. In spite of this the course has remained in remarkable condition and we have lost very few golfing days. Ronan and his staff take every opportunity to continue with improvement work. Ronan reports that "in February rainfall was 157 mm, the mean temp 5.5c and the soil temp 4.1c. Compared to last year when rainfall for the same month was 34.5mm, the mean temp 7c and the soil temp was 5.4c. Because of these figures in contrast to last year, not as much aeration as last year has been possible. Five fairways have been linear drained (ground breaker), and greens have been solid thinned. When ground conditions improve hollow coring of greens and tees will begin. The new stone works in progress on 6, 12, and 11 stalled until the weather improves and we can bring soil to the stone edge. Bunkers on 14 and 15 will be re-sanded and concrete liner laid this year in the phased upgrading of bunkers. The tree at the back of 10th green tees had basil rot and was cut down for safety reasons".



Knightsbrook Junior Section 2020

On behalf of the Junior Section we would like to wish Captain Richard and Lady Captain Marie, along with their committees, a wonderful golf season in 2020.

Welcome back to our Junior Committee, Elva, Mary, Chris, Peadar and Ronan. Thank you to PJ who will not be with us this year for his commitment. We look forward liaising with PGA members, Emmanuel and Stephen, along with some new and familiar faces who will be introduced at our information session, details of which will follow soon.

The junior section will host its annual Easter Hunt and social event. shortly The Easter Bunny has been known to drop a trail of carrots all over the 1st fairway and if we're lucky plenty of chocolate eggs too!

The Junior Committee caters for school-age junior golfers of all abilities. It aims to

- develop skills,
- provide lessons
- organize competitions for all levels.
- challenge our players against the best in inter-club games.
- develop our improvers through fun skills and the golf sixes programme, introduced last year in collaboration with CGI.
- provide opportunities for beginners to develop the fundamental skills of golf through fun games and practical lessons.

If you are interested in joining the committee or helping out when you can, please contact Elva on 086 3431368 or knightsbrookjuniorgc@gmail.com. Existing members will be emailed shortly with details of 2020! New members welcome. Contact through above details

Elva Leavy
Junior Convenor



Frank Leonard Golfer of the Year 2019 with Captain Damian McDonnell and Colin Mc Allister winner of Gold Medal 2019 receives his prize from Richard Wheeler on behalf of sponsors, Trimfold

Date for Your Diary

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of **Mr. Peter Igoe**, Senior Knights are hosting a charity golf event on **Thursday 23rd April**, in support of **Trim Meals on Wheels**.

A 13-hole, golf competition will commence at 9.00am and will be open to all **Knightsbrook Golf Club** members and their guests.

All proceeds will go to the charity.

Tea/Coffee, Snack food and light refreshments will be available to purchase on the day.

We look forward to as many members and their friends as possible, joining us on the day and supporting this very worthy charity.

Replace your divots and repair your pitch marks please

GOLF QUOTES

- ◆ "The most important shot in golf is the next one." – Ben Hogan.
- ◆ "To find a man's true character, play golf with him." – P.G. Wodehouse.
- ◆ "The only sure rule in golf is he who has the fastest cart never has to play the bad lie." – Mickey Mantle.
- ◆ "Golf is a puzzle without an answer. I've played the game for 50 years and I still haven't the

DIARY 2020

- ◆ **This year's Diary is available in the shop. It will be online on the club website**

www.knightsbrookgolclub.com

Giving back to Members

- ◆ **This year's Super Sundays will be free entry competitions.**
- ◆ **Annual complimentary Christmas Dinner : cost €27 per member.**

KNIGHTSBROOK GOLF CLUB V THE FRIARS GOLF CLUB

Knightsbrook Golf Club will host a unique event this summer, our Treasurer and Friar, **Alan Codd**, has organised a Ryder Cup style match against the Friars Golf Club. The **Friars** are a club predominantly based in the Washington DC area but also has membership across the U. S. There will be 12 players on each team and will consist of foursomes and singles matches.

The match will be played for the Anne Codd Cup. Anne Codd, a sister of Alan's, lived and worked in Washington DC and was a citizen of both countries until she passed away from lung cancer in 2011.

The match will take place on Saturday August 1st and promises to be a great day's golf with plenty of craic to be had, both on and off the course.



The Friars Golf Club is not your typical golf club.

They travel to find great golf experiences. They understand that the game of golf is about camaraderie and fun.



Pauline Rayfus, Lady Captain Knightsbrook Golf Club 2010.

Knightsbrook Golf Club members were saddened at the passing of Mrs Pauline Rayfus, former Lady Captain of the club in 2010 and long time member of the ladies' committee.

Pauline, passed away on Thursday 5th of March after a long illness, at the Mater Private Hospital. We extend our condolences to her husband Dermot, her daughters Michéle, Elaine and Suzanne. and the wider Rayfus family who have long associations with golf at Knightsbrook and Co. Meath Golf clubs.



GUI and Non GUI Interclub Competition Team Managers 2020

Teams' Coordinator: Gerald Reilly

Barton Shield: Stephen Rayfus, **Barton Cup:** Stephen Rayfus, **Pierce Purcell Cup:** Francis O'Donoghue, **Irish Mixed Foursomes:** Seamus Lanney and Jodie Coughlan, **Junior Cup:** Warren Wallace, **The Nationals:** Peter Whelan, **North Leinster, Mixed Foursomes:** Sean Ó Díomasaigh and Mary Higgins.

Non GUI Interclub competitors' managers

Newsam Cup: Leonard Flynn and Rodney Trenwith, **Duggan Cup:** Raymond Murray and **Walker Cup:** Frank Behan.
Central Towns' Cup: TBC



Please do not dispose of your cigarette butts in on the golf course and continue to dispose of golf tees in the boxes provided



Thomas Conaty receives his hamper from Captain Damian Mc Donnell and Marian Buckley and Richard Wheeler receive their mixed foursomes matchplay prize from sponsors Daniel and Angela Reilly