

OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS



NEWSLETTER - NUMBER EIGHT - SPRING 2019

THE CAPTAIN'S GREETING

Ah! The Spring Newsletter! The first sign of the start of the OGC golfing year. So hopefully the weather is improving - as I've got older I am definitely becoming a fair-weather golfer.

It was great to see so many of the regulars at the Winter Lunch on St Valentine's Day. As usual Mike Morley and Hadden Hill did us proud. Thanks go to Stuart Sinclair for organising it and Peter Walton for being the guinea-pig "acting treasurer" for the day. This will be a feature of every match and event this year, so that I can focus on my Captain's duties. As I said at the AGM I will answer to "Captain", "Mr Treasurer" or "Mr Grumpy".

By the time you receive this I imagine you will have received the team listings for the year. Roger does a fantastic job in collating all the replies and trying to satisfy as many of your wishes as possible. I am sure you appreciate that - especially for some matches - demand for places far outweighs supply.

Have you ever considered joining the committee? It doesn't matter if you have been a member for 12 years or 12 months - what is needed is enthusiasm. The nomination process can be a little dry - a formal notice telling you when nominations have to be in for the December AGM. Your committee is concerned that you may feel that it is awkward putting yourself forward - please don't hesitate. Perhaps chat to one of the current committee. New blood on any committee is very healthy.

I am pleased to hear that the number of entries in the knockout competition has increased since last year, justifying our decision to make this a regular feature. I'm grateful to Ian Allison for organising this.

Thank you to the members for allowing me this opportunity to be your Captain. You've made Mr Grumpy very proud. Whilst it would be great to win many matches, it is far more important that you enjoy yourselves and meet up with old friends (foes?).

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at matches, events and tours. As I tell all new Drayton Park Captains - joining the Oxfordshire Golf Captains is the biggest perk of taking on your responsibilities.

Have a great year,

Chris

Captain 2019

1. THE OGC WEBSITE

Colin Whittle has been doing a great job with the management of our website, but it is disappointing that so few members ever access it. There really are so many interesting bits and pieces and I would urge everyone occasionally to have a look to see what's happening at <https://www.oxfordshiregolfcaptains.co.uk/>

Apart from all the history, including match results and trophy winners over the decades, you can also keep an eye on what is being planned for your future golfing entertainment. The good news is that you don't need to be a geeky IT nerd, because it is the simplest job to access the site; the password for the Members' area is [drive4show](#).

It might be an opportune moment to ask everyone to check their own entry details in the online directory. There are frequent cries of "I didn't receive that email/letter/information," and nearly always it transpires it was because an individual's contact details, most often a new email address, hadn't been notified either to me or Stuart Sinclair. Similarly, if your name does not appear in the on-line Directory and you would like it to, the Data Protection Acts demands your consent, so please let us know.

2. MATCHES AND EVENTS

As always, at the beginning of the year, an email circulation was made to all Captains, attaching the 2019 golfing calendar and asking everyone to notify their wishes and intentions for involvement in our matches and internal events during the coming season.

At the time of writing, I have received 118 replies from members indicating their wishes to participate in our 20 matches and 13 events. As far as matches are concerned, there are 312 places available and again this year they are all heavily over-subscribed by a ratio of more than three to one, so please do not be too disappointed if you didn't get all that you requested, as there are just not enough places to go round.

The teams for 17 of the 20 matches have been circulated and, now that you are aware of your match commitments, would you please make your diary entries. Should it happen, for whatever reason, that you can no longer play in any of your designated matches, would you kindly let me know immediately. To leave it until the match letter is circulated makes it more difficult to find a replacement; it is so much easier to do that with an earlier warning.

Should it be that you haven't yet returned your match/event request, don't panic! Captains do frequently drop out of a match for which they've been selected, which entails finding someone to make up shortfalls. So it still makes sense, even now, for you to send in your return and we will do our very best to ensure you get some matches. In any event, there are always our internal events in which you may have an interest?

Our first social event this year was our Winter Lunch at Hadden Hill where, to endorse the Captain's comments, we were royally treated to great food and drinks by Michael Morley, his head chef and all his happy smiling people in the clubhouse.

Historically, our first golfing event has always been our Spring Meeting at Burford Golf Club, and so it is again this year on Wednesday, 17th April; we are expecting the usual huge turn-out of members wishing to renew old and much valued friendships.

Our next calendar event is the annual match against the Somerset Captains, this year to be played on Thursday, 25th April at the Long Sutton Golf Club - <https://www.longsuttongolf.com/>.

The second year of our knock-out competition will shortly get underway; congratulations to the trophy holders, Chris Spearing and Simon Berry, who will be defending their title. This year 19 pairs have entered, which is a 35% increase over last year, so good luck everyone.

If you have not yet received your diary sized version of our OGC 2019 golfing calendar, your club representative should be holding one for you. However, you will also find our full 2019 calendar of matches and events repeated again beneath this newsletter and also on our website.

3. THE CORNWALL TOUR 2019

This year's trip to Cornwall is from Sunday 12th to Thursday 16th May and we currently have a travelling party of 35 who will be staying for the duration at the hotel on the Carlyon Bay golf course; our three matches against the Cornish Captains will be played at Point of Polzeath, Launceston and Carlyon Bay Golf Clubs.

As an added interest, Bill Major has offered to organise a not-too-friendly tournament on the hotel snooker table. So, if you are travelling and are interested, you'd better hone your cuing skills, otherwise, judging from last year's performances, there could be some very late nights; perhaps six-reds frames will become the order of the day!!

The party is just about full but, there is currently one vacancy and, dependent of course upon hotel vacancies, it might just be possible to squeeze in one or two more travellers. Therefore, if you have not undertaken this trip before, especially if you are a fairly new member, please get in touch with me as soon as possible.

If you cannot make it this year it might be a good idea, even now, to register your interest in future tours. So, think it over and if you are interested in the 2020 tour, which will take place between Sunday, 17th and Thursday, 21st May, 2020, please let me know at roger.sillence@live.co.uk or 01993 776303.

4. THE CAPTAIN'S TOUR 2019

Your Captain selected the Torquay area for our 2019 "Captain's Autumn Tour," with the games being played from Monday, 9th September to Wednesday, 11th September at Churston, Dainton Park and Weston-Super-Mare Golf Clubs respectively.

We managed to get an excellent deal and thus far have 29 Captains making up the party. As of last week, there were still some hotel vacancies available, so should you be interesting in travelling with us, please get in touch with me as soon as possible.

5. CAPTAINS' CLOTHING

Most will already know, but for those who do not, Glyn Hall is your master tailor who will provide all your OGC golfing equipment, but this does not include blazers. We have suitable stocks of all items and sizes of shirts, both long-sleeved and sleeveless sweater, caps and ties.

If you need any of this kit, please make sure that you provide Glyn with plenty of notice, as it is not often possible to get it to a match or event with only a couple of days' notice; the best point of contact for Glyn is by email at ghall@cfl-ltd.co.uk. If it's a blazer you need, Stuart Sinclair at stuartjohnsinclair@gmail.com has all the details you need.

***Happy golfing,
Roger***

*Roger Sillence
Match Secretary
Oxfordshire Golf Captains.
March, 2019*

"Membership of the OGC is the best thing that ever came from being the Captain of a golf club."

Please see the next page for your 2019 golfing calendar

THE OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS - FIXTURES 2019



<i>Date</i>	<i>Fixture / Event</i>	<i>Venue</i>
February		
Thur 14 th	Winter Lunch	Hadden Hill
April		
Wed 17 th	SPRING MEETING	Burford
Thur 25 th	Somerset	Long Sutton
May		
Mon 13 th	Cornwall	Point of Polzeath
Tues 14 th	Cornwall	Launceston
Wed 15 th	Cornwall	Carlyon Bay
Thur 23 rd	Cambridgeshire	Brampton Park
Wed 29 th	Worcestershire	The Cotswolds Club
June		
Tues 4 th } Mini-	Dorset	Weymouth
Wed 5 th } Tour	Devon	Honiton
Wed 12 th	Sussex	Kirtlington
Tues 18 th	PRESIDENT'S DAY	Badgemore Park
Mon 24 th	Berkshire	Newbury & Crookham
July		
Mon 1 st	Oxfordshire Ladies	Bicester (H)
Mon 8 th	FOUR COUNTIES	The Wychwood
Thur 11 th	Warwickshire	Feldon Valley
Wed 17 th	Gloucestershire	North Oxford
Thur 25 th	CAPTAIN'S DAY	Drayton Park
Tues 30 th	MIXED GREENSOMES	Studley Wood
August		
Fri 2 nd	London	Wyke Green
Tues 6 th	Wiltshire	Carswell
Thur 15 th	QUEEN'S JUBILEE	Stoneham
Tues 20 th	Buckinghamshire	The Oxfordshire
Tues 27 th	* FOUNDERS' CUP	Tadmarton Heath
Thu 29 th	Hampshire	Hartley Wintney
September		
Wed 4 th	AUTUMN MEETING	Hadden Hill
Mon 9 th to Wed 11 th	Captain's Tour - Torquay	Churston Dainton Park Weston-Super-Mare
Mon 16 th	Cornwall	Henley
Tues 17 th	Cornwall	Oxford City
Wed 18 th	Cornwall #Dinner	Burford
November		
Wed 6 th	Committee Dinner	Oxford City
December		
Wed 4 th	AGM & Dinner	Oxford City