

## AUGUST COMPETITIONS

Fri 3 Gents Open Seniors (Stableford)  
 Sat 4 Monthly Medal (Stroke)  
 Thu 9 D & R Trophy Round 2 (Stableford)  
 Sat 11 Mahee Cup (Par)  
 Fri 17 Mixed Foursomes (Ladies Invitation)  
 Sat 18 Millennium Trophy (Par)  
 Sat 25 Norman Valentine Trophy (Over 50s) & Sweep  
 Sun 26 D & R Trophy Round 3 (Stableford)  
 Followed by presentation of prizes

## OPEN WEEK REPORT

Do you think there is any chance of getting round dry? Well, during Open Week the odds would have been greatly stacked against you. It can be summed up by the fact that in the Seniors Competition on the 5<sup>th</sup>, a gross prize could not be awarded, as there was not one competitor who completed 18 full holes. Still, despite the weather the course has never looked better, or greener. Rumour has it that even Wilson Gaw was pleased. One of the interesting points which came out of Open Week was that for the first time visitors outnumber members, which goes to show the reputation the club is gaining for the quality of it's course. After all, who needs to go to Loch Lomond for a game when you can play on a little island in Strangford all year round for the same price.

Its impossible to thank people individually in this column for their work during Open Week but I'm sure members appreciate that the course doesn't prepare itself, advertising brochures, posters and results don't suddenly appear and that the bar doesn't run on its own. To all those who gave of their time during these nine days please accept the club's grateful thanks.

## Captain's Select -V- President's Picks

A friendly rivalry has broken out between the Captain and the President. This has culminated in a team challenge match. The two main protagonists are currently picking sides, and I understand that bribery and skulduggery is the order of the day. The competition, which will mimic a Ryder Cup format, will take place in early September. During the run up to the date the competition committee has agreed that a line of sight rule will operate if the temporary grandstands interfere with a members shot.

## PRESIDENT'S DAY

"It's President's Day Jim but not as we know it." You may be forgiven for thinking that this is a line from an old STAR TREK movie, but no; it is however what you might be thinking after seeing the changes our President, Jim Cooke has in store for members on 1<sup>st</sup> September. So what are these changes?

There will be a few alterations to the course, with the 11<sup>th</sup> being shortened and played as a par 3. The 16<sup>th</sup> will be extended with the teeing area on the right hand side of the 5<sup>th</sup> tee and the 18<sup>th</sup> being played off the winter tee (forward right of the main tee). Prizes will be awarded to the overall winner plus 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> as in the normal three Saturday Sections. Other prizes will be, longest drive on the fairway at the 3<sup>rd</sup>, nearest the flag at the 8<sup>th</sup>, nearest the flag at the 18<sup>th</sup> (in two shots) and the most points at the par 3s. It's also hoped to run a Target Golf Competition in aid of charity. So come along and enjoy the day and don't forget the dance and presentation of prizes that night; all invited.

## KNOW THE RULES

### **Lifting, Dropping and Placing the ball**

Before lifting a ball that has to be replaced (e.g. when the ball is lifted on the putting green to clean it), the position of the ball must be marked. When the ball is being lifted in order to drop or place it in another position (e.g. dropping within two club-lengths under the unplayable ball rule etc.), it is not mandatory to mark its position although it is recommended that you do.

When dropping, stand upright, hold the ball at shoulder height and arm's length and drop it. If a dropped ball strikes you or your partner' caddie or equipment, it must be re-dropped without penalty.

A dropped ball must be re-dropped if it rolls into a hazard or out of a hazard, on to a putting green, out of bounds or to a position where there is interference from a condition from which free relief has been taken (e.g. an immovable obstruction).

A re-drop is also necessary if the dropped ball comes to rest more than two club-lengths from where it was dropped or nearer the hole than the original position, the nearest point of relief or where the ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard. If the ball when re-dropped rolls into any of these positions, place it where it first made contact with the ground.

## TIPS FROM THE MAHEE PRO.

### *Dear Pro,*

*I'm always hitting the ball heavy and taking lots of divots. I'd move heaven and earth to improve*

### **Pro's comments**

*Try heaven as you've already moved most of the earth.*

### *Dear Pro,*

*I've been playing 10 years and still can't break 100*

### **Pro's comments**

*If I were you I would saw 6 inches off the end of each of your clubs. It won't improve your golf but it will make it easier to fit them in the bin.*

## MAHEE 9 HOLE SUDOKU

Congratulations to last month's winner **Geoffrey Stevenson.**

Another **£5.00** voucher is up for grabs and this month it's a little bit tougher.

Please leave your completed entries marked for:

The Editor C/O Macaw's Golfing Emporium.

Closing date for entries is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August.

8				6	3	2		
		1		5				6
9								
2	7		4					3
		5				6		
6				8		7	9	
								7
4				9		3		
		2	8	3				1