

The Winter League turns to Jellie

The Winter League is set up to reward those who consistently produce good scores over a three month period and this year one man led from the end of January to the end of March. His regular low scoring was summed up by a fellow member who stated that he had lost so many times to this man that he had named him as a dependent relative on his tax return.

Despite being continuously wet under foot for the first 8 weeks, the 2009 Winter League only lost one competition day to bad weather. It takes a lot to stop winter golfers and play continued, even though it did require on a few occasions the movement of pins onto temporary greens that would have benefited from the use of a heavy roller before every putt and the increase of the hole size which somewhat exceeded R&A dimensions by a factor of four.

By the end of January the top 20 were still very closely bunched together, with Bobby Jellie top, thanks to 25pts on the 24th. February saw a consolidation of positions ready for the all important run-in where poor scores could be discarded leaving the best seven to count.

March is the time when players can emerge from the pack and pass the unsuspecting leaders, but it was the leader himself, yes, that man Jellie, who was first in Section 1 on 7th March and added a valuable 21pts to improve his best seven card total. With three Saturdays to go could anyone stop him? Well perhaps Jim McKeag could; for on the same day he was the Section 3 winner with 22pts and moved up to 2nd place. Despite this, the lead was 6pts.

On the 14th the lead was stretched to 8 with Bobby posting another 21pts. Arnie Andrews now led the chasing pack on 140 with only two weeks left. 21st March and Jim McKeag with another 21pts cut Bobby Jellie's lead in half. Only 6 pts covered the next 9 places.

A combination of strong winds and a move back to the main tees made scoring on the final Saturday extremely difficult. However, as they say cream rises to the top and with another 20pts Bobby Jellie clinched the first Major of the 2009 season, averaging 21pts plus, over the 7 counting cards.

The Match & Handicap Committee are said to have called an emergency meeting!!!!!!

Final Results – Winter League 2009

1 st R Jellie	150pts
2 nd J McKeag	140pts
3 rd P Gibson	141pts
4 th T Reid	141pts
5 th A Andrews	140pts
6 th G Phillips	136pts
7 th A Kennedy	135pts
8 th A Hoyle	135pts
9 th D Martin	135pts
10 th D Hutchinson	134pts

Team Competition

The team competition runs along side the individual with the 4 best scores from each team counting every week. Over the first ten weeks Roy's Rovers consistently edged out in front leaving the rest of the teams seemingly to battle it out for 2nd place. With a fortnight left Roy's Rovers looked to have an unassailable lead. Their score of 787 was 26 ahead of Moore's Merry Men and 29 ahead of 3rd place The Junior Giants. With one week left Halliday's Heroes moved into 2nd but with four teams only 2 points behind it was going down to the wire. The final Saturday's results saw Roy's Rovers win but their 26 point lead had been reduced to 10. 2nd came The Junior Giants on 903pts with Halliday's Heroes 3rd on 901pts.

The Inner Game

If you had a choice between a new putter or the latest "hit it 20 yards further" driver, what would you choose?

The vast majority of us would go with the driver. Your driver tends to be the most expensive and also the most changed club in your bag, but is it the most valuable to improving your game? It's worth noting that no matter how far you strike the ball; approximately 40% of your shots per round will be made with your putter.

I'm not advocating that you should rush out and buy the latest new putter, although Macaw's Golfing Emporium will do you a good deal; I am merely pointing out that statistically the putter is the most used and therefore the most valuable club when trying to improve your game. Having one that works for you on a consistent basis will help you lower your handicap much more than hitting the ball 20 yards further.

The Mahee Pro

Mahee Pro explains terms used to describe hazards:

Bunker - A deep depression filled with sand filled with golfers in a deep depression.

Rough – Un-mown, naturally wild area bordering the fairway. There are three basic types of rough: low rough, a narrow strip of 6-inch-high grass where the ball may be easily playable; deep rough, where the ball may be lost or if found, may be unplayable; and munchies, where the ball may be eaten or stolen and used as an object of worship by primitive people. Munchies can be found to the left of the 6th fairway.

The 19th – An Editor's View

As Editor I feel it's my duty to keep an eye on rival golfing publications such as Golf World and Golf Monthly. It was when reading the latter's March edition that I spied an article on the "Best 9 Hole Courses in the UK" by Jeremy Ellwood the Associate Editor. Naturally I sat back expectantly, ready to read the virtues of our little gem. However to my dismay no mention was made of our Mahee or dare I say it, Northern Ireland. But do not fear fellow Islanders your Editor has pen or is that keyboard, in hand and will be putting Mahee Island Golf Club's case to Mr Ellwood in the near future.

Your Editor will keep you informed.

Mahee 9 Hole Sudoku

The winner of March's competition was Billy Dodds.

Your voucher is available for collection from the shop.

Another **£5.00** golf voucher awaits this editions lucky winner.

Please leave your completed entries with your name on the back marked for:

The Editor C/O Macaw's Golfing Emporium.

Closing date for entries is Friday 8th May 09.

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