# Ladies' Golf Captain's Blog – 17th July 2025

SHAMPTON CE

We have had a scorcher of a summer; the joys are watching the ball roll forever down those dry fairways and the rough being so dry that it is far less penalising. Please remember to stay hydrated and protect yourself with a hat and sunscreen and do walk in and cool off if you are overheating.

#### **Course Renovations**

Renovation work is underway on four greens: the 4th, 5th, 7th, and 16th. These will take until early September to fully bed in. During this period, we are only permitted to have **two temporary greens** in qualifying competitions. As a result, 16-hole competitions will be played, with the 4th and 5th holes **out of play**. Enter NS (not started on Intelligent Golf). Please note, playing the 4th or 5th in a qualifying round will result in **disqualification**.

- For **non-qualifying rounds**, you may still play 18 holes.
- **All 9-hole competitions** during this time will be **NON-QUALIFYING.** You are permitted to submit a card for qualifying purposes from the back nine only as this will have one temporary green.
- **Friday Stablefords** will be played over **16 holes** with two temporary greens. No 9-hole qualifiers will run during this time.
- **Tuesday 9-hole Stablefords** following the 18-hole rounds these will be fun, non-qualifying games during the renovations.

### **Recent Competitions and Events**

# **Club Championships Saturday 14th June**

A beautiful (and early!) start at 7.40 am saw 17 ladies tee off in the 36-hole medal format – always a true test! Issy retained her title as Club Champion, and I retained my spot – in last place!

- Club Champion: Issy Simpson -73 + 74 = 147
- Runner-up Scratch: Alice Pharo 81 + 78 = 159
- Best Morning Scratch: Jo Thesiger 83
- Best Afternoon Scratch: Nicki Fillingham 82
- Best Handicap 36 holes: Angela Atkins 72 + 76 = 148

### Ladies' Invitation Day Tuesday 17th June

A fantastic turnout with 80 ladies joining us, some from as far as Devon and Leicestershire! The winners were Caroline Williams and Lucy Bodkin (Coombe Hill) with 36 points.

The raffle raised £555 (thanks to socks, phone chargers and generosity) and one guest generously donated £350 to our charity – thank you!

Click here to see more photos from the Ladies' Invitation Day

### **Longest Day Challenge Friday 20th June**

A heroic effort from 29 players, with the first tee time at 4.15 am and playing either 36, 54, 72 or 100 holes on a very hot day. There were 184 birdies and 8 eagles, so not just a lot of golf was played but a lot

of good golf. This was a huge fundraiser for  $\underline{\text{FiSH}}$ . Individual donations amounted to £4,720. The Club donated £1,000 for the Birdies and Eagles and then topped up the amount again. The total amount raised



for FiSH on this one day alone was £7,500! Justin, I and FiSH are totally blown away by your generosity. Many thanks to you all.

### Stableford - Tuesday 24th June

1st place – Gunilla Huldt – 42 points

2nd place – Angie Atkins – 40 points

3rd place – Jo Thesiger – 39 points

Well played – high scoring rounds

### 9- hole Stableford - Tuesday 24th June

1st place – Claudia Chan – 19 points

2nd place Lynda Dawson – 18 points

3rd place - Patricia Marks- 17 points

### SEJ (Southeast Juniors) Sunday 29th June

A mixed match which was highly contested. All bar one had a handicap of under 6, they play all over the southeast and were very complimentary about our course, particularly that we had grass on our fairways unlike all the other clubs that they had played this summer. We may not have had quite as much youth on our side but we did have home advantage and won 3/1.

### Ladies' Captain's Day Tuesday 1st July

On what was one of the hottest days of the year, 30 degrees (although I keep saying that every week!) 76 ladies joined the fun. The Greenkeepers devised a genius Crazy Putting challenge on the putting green, which was £1 to enter.

We had plenty of challenges on the course: spin the wheel to select your club, beat the Pro Oscar, buy a drive from Oli Vargo, who hit some drives a massive 360 yards, which I'd say is more than most of the field could have driven. We did retreat to our newly refurbished Clubhouse for tea as it was too hot outside. We raised £1,076 for FiSH. Thank you everyone for making it such a fun and generous day.

Click here for more photos from the Ladies' Captain's Day



Back for its second year, created by Katy Preston – our own version of the Solheim Cup! Teams of five, playing foursomes, better ball, and singles.

- Winners: Team No Sorrys Annette Timms, Caroline Williams, Gunilla Huldt, Polly Lewis, Viv Harris 108
  pts
- Runners-up: Birdies of Prey 108 pts too!
- 3rd place: *The Tee Set* Catherine Cooper, Hanneke Smits, Liz Dodds, Perrine Faye, Pippa Walker 101 pts Everyone loved it. Already looking forward to next year!









# Ladies' Away Day at East Berkshire Thursday 10th July

A beautiful parkland course and tricky greens kept all 39 of us on our toes. A lovely day organised brilliantly by Jo Thesiger.

- 1st Team: Caroline Dewar, Viv Harris, Shirley Keane
- 2nd Team: Therese Swanson, Siobain Rolston, Melanie Schreyer
- 3rd Team: Claudia Chan, Alison Post, Sally Gesua
- Individual prizes went to Amanda Campbell-Lambert, Patsy Miller, Fiona Anderson, Fiona Pollard, Cathy Staveley and Nicki Fillingham



### Click here for more photos from the Ladies' Away Day

# Fun Comp (Playing Cards Theme) Tuesday 15th July

A relaxed game—just what we needed after all that heat!

1st Therese Swanson, Jenny Gaskin and Margaret Swain 129 points 2nd Patsy Miller, Sandy MacCaw and Lindy Evans 123 points (countback)

3rd Keh Smith, Angie Goodale and Melanie Schreyer 123 points

### The Druce – at West Byfleet – 9th July

60 clubs and 240 ladies played in the foursomes eclectic competition at West Byfleet. It was a scorcher of a day. Our morning players Astrid Drayson and Hanneke Smits set the score in the morning and then Emma Angood and Amanda Campbell- Lambert went out in the afternoon to improve on the morning score. The greens were tough for all, fast and undulating. The winners were RAC. We finished a very respectable 23rd out of 60. Well played!



# **Player Highlights**

### **Issy in Surrey**

Issy Simpson was a key player in the Surrey First Team, who beat Sussex, Hampshire, Middlesex, and Kent to win the South Region Week. They'll now compete at the English County Finals at Selby Golf Club in September. Good luck Issy and Team Surrey!

### **Individual Surrey Knockouts**

We still have some strong players in the Individual Knockouts, good luck to all in your next round.

- 4BBB Fiona Pollard and Pippa Walker are into the semi final.
- Centenary foursomes two pairs are in the quarterfinals: Emma Angood and Astrid Drayson and also Kathleen Bacon and Andreina Townsend.
- Burditt Salver Fiona Pollard.

### **Daily Mail Foursomes**

Cathy Staveley and Andreina Townsend are now through to round six! A fantastic run so far – go team!

### **Captain and Pro**

These matches are a highlight of my year. It is always a privilege to play with one of our lovely Pros. Will and I took on Lou Wills and Katy Preston—some *serious* competition, but we managed to sneak a win -2/1!

#### **Team Matches**

Our teams are doing exceptionally well, and we are into the quarter finals in all current competitions. Well played everyone and good luck in the next matches. We are supporting you all the way!

- Hicks Trophy vs Cuddington won 3/2 away and home match will be played 24th July.
- **Centenary Bowl** vs Foxhills.
- Wallis Trophy vs Tandridge.



Friendly Away at Clandon Regis – Narrow loss  $1\frac{1}{2}$ – $2\frac{1}{2}$ . Ladies V Seniors lost 1/2: 5 1/2



There are still places available in the AWAY match at RMS on 2nd August. Do sign up on Intelligent Golf if you are able to play.

It's been a busy, hot, and incredibly rewarding month of golf, camaraderie, and charity. Let's keep the sunscreen close, water bottles full, and the birdies coming!

Claire Martin, Ladies' Golf Captain