

Men's Golf Captain's Blog – 13th November 2025



Welcome and thanks

Welcome to my first monthly Captain's blog. Firstly, and most importantly, on behalf of the entire Men's golf section I would like to congratulate and thank Justin on a terrific 12 months and for being such a dedicated, friendly and all-round superb captain. To play well over 100 rounds, attend every full Golf and Men's Golf Committee meeting, organise matches and ensure that he played with as many different Members as possible during the year and still have time to hold down a full time job, a marriage and a family as well as regularly walking the dog is phenomenal! Justin, you have set an incredibly high bar. I am not sure how I am going to follow that. Thank you and I wish you a very happy captain's retirement although I am not sure that is going to happen as you segway into being the Ladies' Captain's consort! Also, many congratulations to Claire Martin on a wonderful and successful year as Ladies' Golf Captain.

On the subject of which, many congratulations to Jo Thesiger on becoming the new Ladies' Golf Captain. I am really looking forward to sharing the year someone who is not only an exceptional golfer and person but also a long-standing and good friend. I just hope that I can keep up with her on the golf course! I am also delighted that two wonderful people have agreed to be our Vice Captains – Johnny Perkins and Cathy Staveley. It's great to have you both on board for the journey over the next 12 months.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead, although it does feel a little strange having all the build up to and euphoria of the Captains' Drive In (including thankfully getting the ball off the first tee) to then pulling down the shutters on the season with the Season Finale two weeks' later!

Having said that as the autumn conditions have definitely set in over the last week or so after such mild and almost spring-like conditions of October, it is probably the right decision. The later autumn and winter months give us all time to reflect on another golfing season (no doubt with varying emotions) and to prepare ourselves for what will hopefully be a wonderful year of golf during 2026.

Jo and I are incredibly lucky to be Captains during the celebrations of the Club's 125th anniversary and as with all the Club's sections, are planning some special events to help celebrate this fantastic landmark. Most of the events will take place at the end of May / beginning of June. More details will follow early in the New Year. Those celebrations together with the Captain and Pro matches (which I have been told are one of the real highlights of the year) together with the usual busy internal and external golfing schedules mean that it's going to be a busy but hopefully fun year of golf.

External golfing success

While all of that is for the future there has been a huge amount of golfing activity going on at the Club over the last six weeks. I am delighted to report that we have had one of the most successful years in the Club's history in Surrey County competitions.



Firstly, huge congratulations to the Men's Scratch Team who won the Surrey County Scratch Team Knockout Final for the first time ever, beating Banstead Downs 3-2 at Addington Palace GC. The final match had to go the 19th hole to decide the winners, and it was fitting that Scratch Team Captain Scott Stanley calmly rolled in a 6-footer to win the match for the Club. This is a tremendous result for the entire Scratch squad and the Club as a whole. The winning team in the final of Connor Hamilton, Henry Dubiel, Alex Tonge, Scott Stanley and Shaun Feldon were incredibly well supported and motivated in earlier rounds by Pete Crocombe, Finn Begley, Dave Birn, Vince Thorne and Mike Hamblin.



Equally as impressive was Jack Collins and Henry John's winning of the Kelso Hamilton final which is the first time the Club has won this 4BBB inter club Surrey competition since 2012. Jack and Henry were in the Surrey East Division and won 4 matches before beating Wimbledon Common in the East Division Final. This qualified them for the East v West final, which they won against Burhill GC, at Woodcote Park GC. This is a magnificent achievement by two of the younger members of the section. Great to see. Well done boys!

And finally many congratulations to Johnny Perkins and his Surrey 5s team/squad who won the Surrey East competition and just missed out in the County final, losing to Foxhills GC.

A team in a very close match at Roehampton Club which finished 11.5 - 9.5.

We will celebrate all of these tremendous victories, together with the winners of all the internal Championships, competitions and knockouts at the Annual Dinner on Friday 21st November. I am looking forward to toasting all the winners and seeing as many of you as possible. It should be a great evening.

Competition results

As well as the external tournaments there have been a number of internal competitions over the last few weeks. I am pleased to announce the following results:

Captains' Drive In 11th October

1st Therese Swanson and Paul Taylor – 46 points

2nd Peter McGovern and Shaun Erasmus – 45 points

3rd Kassandra Spalding and Stephanie Williams – 44 points



Season Finale 25th October

- 1st Patrick Stuff – 41 points
- 2nd Luke Gorman – 38 points (countback)
- 3rd Trish Boyington – 38 points
- 4th Paul Igoe – 37 points (countback)
- 5th Paul Taylor – 37 points (countback)

The team winners with a total Stableford score of 106 points were Patrick Stuff, David Stuff and Simon Prince.

Men's November Stableford 1st November

- 1st Ben Wilson – 40 points
- 2nd Neil Anderson – 39 points
- 3rd Shaun Feldon – 37 points

And congratulations also to the winners of the mixed roll ups:

Saturday 4th October Hugh Jacobs (36 points) on countback from the evergreen John Randel and James Whidborne).

Sunday 19th October Henry Spratt (a very impressive 40 points playing off 5) with James Whidbourne second (with another podium finish on 39 points) and Adam Creed third (with 38 points).

Sunday 9th November James Rowlinson (37 points) with Nic De Wasseige (36 points) just pipping Peter McGovern on count back for second place). Well played gents!



Just on a couple of off course matters I would like to thank Martyn Ryan and former captains Gerry Dennigan and Peter McGovern, who have stepped down from the Men's Golf Committee. Thank you for all your time and hard work over the years gents. And I would like to welcome Luke Gorman (who will share the Scratch liaison role with Dave Birn), David Stuff and Alex Milward to the Committee. Thanks for putting yourselves forward guys.

Christmas Charity Competition

Finally, and apologies as this first blog feels more like an essay, I would like to remind you to sign up for Jo's and my Christmas Charity Competition on Saturday 13th December. We will be sending you more information shortly. We are supporting two great charities, [Home-Start Wandsworth](#) and [The Baked Bean Charity](#), and we are hoping to get off to a massive start in our fundraising campaign for them. I can promise you some excellent and interesting auction lots so even if you can't play on the day you can hopefully make some sealed bids to buy some early Christmas presents or simply treat yourself!

I hope to see as many as many of you as possible next Friday at the Annual Dinner along with our guest speak, Iain Carter.

Bob Mitchell, Men's Golf Captain