#### WYCOMBE HEIGHTS Events • Golf • Family MEMBER NEWS AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2023

In this Edition | GM, Club, Golf and F&B Update





## A NOTE FROM...

Chris Young General Manager

I can't believe we are in August already and what a contrast in weather between this year and last!

Congratulations to our Club Champions this year, Mark Vining, John Dimond, and Sue Pearson. Great achievements from you all and we'll look forward to getting your name up in lights towards the end of the year.

### Greenkeepers

I am delighted to welcome Stuart Giddings as Head Greenkeeper to the team. I'll let him introduce himself later in this newsletter but suffice to say we are very lucky to have him on board. It's been a tricky few weeks for the greenkeepers but they've coped with everything incredibly well and the course is looking great at the moment (helped by the rain). A big thank you to the team and to the Head Greenkeepers who've come to support from around the business. It's a huge advantage being part of a multi-site business and things would have been very different if we didn't have them here to offer support.

## **Golf Bookings**

We have had a lot of members not turning up for their rounds recently and forgetting to cancel their bookings. Can everyone please ensure that they cancel their round a minimum of 24hrs prior to their tee of time. This is especially important in the mornings and at weekends when tee times are in high demand. This is lost revenue to the club and ultimately becomes a cost to burden that needs to be offset by increased revenue elsewhere. Please ensure that you follow the policy otherwise the individual booking will be liable to the green fees going forward.

## Practice

We are also increasingly seeing quite a few people out on the course late afternoon hitting lots of balls into greens and taking multiple approach shots from the fairways. Could I ask that the course isn't used as a practice facility as we end up with multiple divots and pitch marks increasing the wear and tear on our surfaces. We have an adequate chipping facility, a short game par-3 course and a range to practice as much as you like. I don't mind an extra drive, or an extra approach shot, but we are talking 10-20 balls and more being hit.

# **Employee of the Quarter**

I'd also like to congratulate Rhiannon Curnow on being our Employee of the Quarter. All the department heads get together and vote on who they believe is worthy of this coveted award. We use feedback from colleagues, visitors, and yourselves to support this process. Rhiannon has done an amazing job within the F&B team and on behalf of all of the team and the members wish her congratulations and thank her for all of her hard work.

### **Cost Pressures**

We have started to see a slight easing in cost increases especially around fuel, gas and electricity experienced by the club, other businesses, and domestically over the last year. We hope to see this continue. Food inflation remains incredibly high and as of June 2023 was 17.4% (down from 19.2% in March). We hope that this trend continues and prices start to ease into the last quarter of the year. We are now starting to see costs on certain foods stabilise but it may be a little while yet before prices start coming down.

We have negotiated a new electricity contract for the rest of this year and throughout 2024.

This is a 100% green tariff supplier and the costs, although still significantly higher than the end of 2022, give us a stable platform at better rates for the whole of 2024.

Let's hope that for the rest of August we have some decent weather return and maybe a prolonged Indian Summer into the Autumn. If we can balance that with some rain overnight to keep the reservoir topped up that would be fantastic.

For those of you taking a bit of well-earned holiday this year we wish you all the best and hope that you have a great time whatever it is that you're doing.

Thank you

Chris





## GOLF SALES & MARKETING TEAM

Henry Willett Sales & Marketing Manager

Hello everyone and welcome to summer 2023!



Unfortunately the weather hasn't quite understood this yet but I am sure we will return to blazing sunshine now that the Ashes has finished. Unfortunately we had to cancel Caribbean BBQ Night due to lack of interest. I firmly believe the cancellation of this party led to the four weeks of rain we have seen since!

Later in July we hosted a free Junior Open Day. A huge thank you to Jack Robinson for volunteering his time alongside Tom, Jack, Rhiannon, Matt, and Chris in making the day a success. In total we had 24 kids cycle through our driving range, short game, and putting stations and learn some of the basics of the game. With the summer holidays now in full swing it's a great time to consider our Junior Golf memberships for your friends and family. We offer options on both golf courses and these start from as little as £2.50 a week.

In September, our very own Goutom Barthakur will be bringing his modern twist of 1950s rock and roll with his band, the Crockets Rockets! Bring your dancing shoes on Saturday 16th September as the six-piece band play your favourite tunes from the 50s all the way to some modern classics. Prices, including food, start from £24.95 for members/£29.95 for visitors and can be booked on the website or directly in the Pro Shop.



In October we are hosting a Halloween Party on Saturday 28th. With plenty of time to prepare your Halloween costumes there should be no excuse not to dress spooky and be in with a chance to win great costume prizes. Again, prices including food start from £24.95 for members, £29.95 for visitors and can be booked on the website or directly in the Pro Shop.



After Halloween we turn our attention to Christmas! This year we hope you can celebrate the holiday season with us at our Christmas Party Nights, Christmas Tribute Nights including Dirty Dancing vs Grease and Magic of Motown, and Christmas Lunches. Information can be found here: <u>https://shorturl.</u> <u>at/aCJ68</u> or on our website.



This year we have also added a Christmas twist to our driving range packages. Show off your December golf game to your friends, family or work colleagues and enjoy unlimited golf balls, club hire and festive platter in our heated VIP bays this December.



Come and find me in the Clubhouse if you would like any more information on any club events. Here's hoping for some great golfing weather in the month to come!

#### Henry



# DRIVING RANGE UPDATE

Jack McDonagh Driving Range Manager

Members,

I'd like to take this opportunity in the

newsletter to tell inform you all further on TrackMan Range and the TrackMan Golf App.

What's new on the range? TrackMan have released a brand-new game called 'On the Edge'. On The Edge is a thrilling knockout game for golfers and non-golfers of all ages. This game is to entertain and help practice distance control on shots ranging from 50yards to 200yards. This has been released just in time to bring your children, grandchildren, nieces & nephews down to the driving range for a bit of fun over the summer holidays.



The TrackMan golf app is available in the Apple and Google Play stores on IOS or android devices and is the best way to track your progress on the driving range. The app allows you to store and track your data from the driving range, as well as seeing competitions that are being run, different game modes and activities you can play as well as the 'find my distance' mode, which allows you to go through your bag, a club at a time, and get an accurate distance for that club.



We are currently running monthly competitions on the game 'Bullseye'. July was the first month we ran the competition and we have had some excellent scores, but it would be great to see one of our members top the leaderboard! There are some great prizes up for grabs each month and it is completely free to enter! The top five places from each month's competition will be entered into our mega end of year competition which will take place in December! During the grand finale, there will be even bigger prizes to be won! 1st place in July and August will be a two hour VIP driving range experience, with



# Join us for our TrackMan Party Nights

**Unlimited Balls** 

Pizza & a Alcoholic/Soft Drink Fun for all

**Pumping Music** 

£20.00 per person

Minimum of 4 people per booking

Runs Every Saturday Night from 6pm

# **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL SCAN THE QR TO BOOK**





unlimited balls and your own private bay! I hope to see a lot more of you on next month's leaderboards!

Create bragging rights by TOPPING the leaderboard.

Enter August by clicking https://bit.ly/TMAugustTour

With the weather being unpredictable in the UK, TrackMan range allows you to transport yourself to another country to play golf on one of the virtual golf courses. Why not take yourself to the beautiful real club Valderrama in Spain, the PGA national course in sunny Florida or the Gloria Golf resort in Antalya, Turkey? There are hundreds of courses to choose from, so let me know where you'd like to play, and I will see what I can do!



Thank you all again for your continued support!

Regards,

Jack

# AN UPDATE FROM...

**Duncan Purcell** Head Professional

Happy August everyone! We are in the peak of the golfing season and the course is in as good condition as I have ever



seen it. I must give a huge amount of credit to our greens staff for all their efforts these past few months, and thanks to the respective Head Greenkeepers from our sister BGL sites that have assisted during this transition period on the greens team. The feedback I have received for the new tee boxes, the condition of the greens, and the newly installed approach irrigation system has all been extremely positive.

I would like to congratulate all our Club Champions for 2023. They are as follows:

Men's Gross Champion: Mark Vining Men's Nett Champion: David Hawkins Chairmans Cup Champion: Gurvir Gill

Ladies Gross Champion: Sue Pearson Ladies Nett Champion: Carole Mills

Seniors Gross Champion: John Dimond Seniors Nett Champion: Phil Bearyman

Thank you for all who competed. Thank you to all the Committee members who worked so hard in preparation for these events and well done to the F&B team for all their hard work on each of these days.

As we are now in the school holidays, I would like to remind you that we are conducting our Junior Summer Camps. These run Tuesday – Thursday every week from 9am – 1pm. The cost

of these are £42 per day or £106 for all three days. This covers all coaching, and parents/ guardians are to provide a packed lunch each day for the junior in attendance. These lessons will be conducted by PGA Assistant Tom Millward and myself. As well as these camps, we host a junior roll up lesson each Saturday from 11am – 12pm. The cost of each session is £10 and is hosted by Tom.





Every quarter we recognise a member of staff for their outstanding service. The winner for Q2 is F&B Supervisor, Rhiannon Curnow. Well done Rhiannon from all of us!

We are currently holding our mid-year sale. We have promotions on Motocaddy bundles, wedge promotions, men's and ladies clothing, and all men's and ladies' footwear. Don't forget, we also offer full TrackMan custom fitting for both Ping and TaylorMade. For all our latest promotions please ask in store or follow us on our Instagram @wycombeheights. Finally, one of the most impressive aspects of our membership is your generosity for a great cause. On July 30th, Captain Jag Khatkar hosted his Charity Day. The chosen charity was the NAS – National Autistic Society. With a full field and plenty of money raised for such a wonderful cause, it can only be described as a huge success. Thank you to all who sponsored a prize or donated to the charity. Thank you to the Men's Committee for their assistance in organising the day. Well done to Captain Jag for the success of his Charity Day! A truly worthy cause.



On Friday, August 18th, The Annual Jack Robinson Charity Day will take place in aid of the Y.E.S (Youth Enquiry Service) Charity. Y.E.S offers free and confidential support, information, and counselling to young people (13-25) in the High Wycombe area. Having been witness to a few of these days over the last few years, Jack does a wonderful job in raising funds for Y.E.S as well as hosting an auction thereafter. Please, if you would like to donate, please get in touch with me and I can pass on any details or donations to Mr Robinson.



Thank you

Duncan

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# COURSE UPDATE

Stuart Giddings Course Manager

My name is Stuart Giddings and I would like to formally introduce myself as the new Course Manager at Wycombe Heights Golf Club.

I am currently the Deputy Course Manager at Redbourn golf club and was absolutely ecstatic to be given this opportunity at Wycombe Heights.

I have been in the greenkeeping industry now for 16 years working at various golf clubs. I first started at Redbourn Golf Club when I was 16 then moved to Chiltern Forest Golf Club, Aldwickbury Golf Club, and Beaconsfield Golf Club. With my experience and qualifications I aim to deliver a high standard quality golf course throughout the year.

I can't wait to meet all the members and staff at Wycombe Heights and feel free to say hello if you see me out and about on the golf course or around the clubhouse.

**Best Regards** 

**Stuart Giddings** 

# FOOD & BEVERAGE UPDATE

Seven months through the year already and we are so thankful for all your continued support in the clubhouse. We have some exciting new beverages, food specials and events coming your way:

# A New Monthly Menu

Head Chef Gary has complied some of his favourite burgers from over the years and has created the new "Burger Menu" that will be available to purchase everyday alongside our specials. Enjoy a burger and a beer on the patio and remember our kitchen is open till 8pm on Thursday, Fridays, and Saturdays! Also, our winter seasonal menu will be coming out in early September – it's full of delicious items, so keep an eye out!



# Enjoy a Refreshing G&T or a Tasty Glass of Bubbly?

We have added a flavoured gin to our collection, Beefeater Peach & Raspberry. The notes of fresh peach and a contrasting raspberry tang. Beefeater Peach & Raspberry is the perfect flavourful addition to our classic gin repertoire. This classic taste of juniper and citrus are enhanced by the slightly sweeter notes of peach that shows a delightful burst of raspberry on the finish.

We now offer our delicious sparkling prosecco by the glass! Join us on Wednesdays for a glass for just £5.00 when purchasing one of our food specials. We have thought about our designated



drivers and have satisfying alcohol-free G&T's bouncing with lots of flavour. We are also introducing Guinness 0.0, our non-alcoholic beer with the same beautiful smooth taste, perfectly balanced flavour and unique dark colour of Guinness.

# **Our Love For Local Beer**

We have a love of Rebellion and beer and we believe you do to! We have added Rebellion Overthrow to our list of Rebellion beers for the summer months and would like your opinion on which one we try next. We will be heading into the cooler months soon and are looking for recommendations so pop into the bar and let us know your favourite Rebellion beer!

# **Re-useable Cups**

Hit the course with our reusable cups for just £1.99! This enables you to get 10p off regular hot beverages and 15p off any large hot beverages! Why not add a shot of our delightful syrups?



# **Staff Highlights**

One of our newest members of staff has shone very brightly in her love and talent when it comes to working in hospitality. This month's Staff Spotlight is Paige Adams!



# What's your role & how long have you been at Wycombe Heights?

I am an F&B Assistant training to be a supervisor. I have been at Wycombe Heights for six months.

#### In a few words describe your role?

Learning, exciting, and wonderful.

#### What is your favourite part?

The learning and development I have received and overall, just everything.

# What is your favourite meal and drink from the menu?

Our homemade delicious sausage roll and a classic cup of tea!

#### What are your plans for the future?

To be a supervisor in the near future and to increase my knowledge to enhance our members and guests experience.



Thank you for reading the latest Members News.

Please feel free to contact us on 01494 816686

#### WYCOMBE HEIGHTS GOLF CENTRE

Rayners Ave, Loudwater, High Wycombe HP10 9SZ

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