

November
2022

The Slice!

Issue 1

Tasty portions of Innerleithen club news, served monthly!

Dear reader,

This is our first issue of what we hope will be a monthly publication. It has been some considerable time since we had a club newsletter and felt this was a good idea for several reasons. We no longer make use of the Peeblesshire News to publish club results and achievements (social media is the fashion) and we feel this deserves recognition. We continue to have issues with our club e-mailing system, therefore "The Slice" will be a further means of communication to members and will be placed on our website monthly, for reference at any time. This will serve as a means of keeping our website up to date. Finally, The Slice will evolve going forward with monthly features, however the intention is to keep this a light-hearted publication, which should be fun, as well as informative. Enjoy!

Editor ("Ed!")



Results - November

November Medal - Sat 5 th Nov				
Pos		Gross	H/cap	Net
1	Roddy McLean	77	13	64
2	James Armour	83	18	65
3	Craig Rendle	72	5	67

The November Monthly Medal seen a lower than average turn out of members, however there was no shortage of good golf on display. The weather remained consistent (rather damp and miserable) for both morning and afternoon starters, however it was not all doom and gloom.... This presented a higher than average chance of early qualification for the Super Medal 2023! Of the morning starters, good scores were posted by Orry Jardine and Keith Norman (Net 68's respectively), Brian Slow (Net 67), with the best score of the morning coming from the ever-consistent Jim Armour (Net 65). Again, there was some good scoring from the afternoon golfers with a pair of Net 67's being posted by Mike McGovern and Craig Rendle.

Score of the day came as a consequence of a steady front nine of 39, followed by an excellent back nine of 38 in the worst of the days conditions. This was good enough for ex-captain Roddy McClean to secure qualification and the win. Roddy made comment that he couldn't actually remember hitting a decent shot all round and whilst his playing partners could do nothing but concur, a win's a win Roddy.... Well done!

Winter Stableford Rd 2 - Sat 12 th Nov				
Pos		Points	H/cap	
1	Keith Gibb	45	19	
2	Keith Hay	42	14	
3	James Armour	42	17	

The second round of the winter stableford series seen a good turnout in favourable conditions. This was reflected in the scoring with 15 of the 25 starters scoring 36 stableford points or more. Finishing in the top 3 again was Jim Armour. Jim started, double bogey, birdie, double bogey before steadying the ship. A solid back nine of 38 seen Jim finish with 42 points. After a solid front nine, Keith Hay was “1 under par” for his back 9 standing on the 17th tee. An unfortunate “bogey bogey” finish seen Keith finish with a very respectable 42 points.

Score of the day was to come from Captain Keith Gibb who kicked off his round with a 4, 3, 4, level par “loop”. This was followed up with a further 5 pars to complete a superb front 9 of 36. A quick check of his score card got the heart rate up and the knees knocking, however a steady start to the back nine followed. After pars at the 15th and 16th. Keith made bogey on 17 followed by a trip to the Leithen Water off the 18th tee. Rumour has it Keith was so ashamed at the impending low score that he turned 90 degrees clockwise before teeing off towards “The Leithen” in a bid to make the score less embarrassing! The captain was unavailable for comment post round and was last seen driving out the car park trying to hide his face. Well done Captain... but next time save it for the Super Medal instead of Round 2 of the Winter Stableford 😊

Texas Scramble - Sat 19 th Nov				
Pos		Gross	H/cap	Net
1	Turnbull, Turnbull & White	67	12	55
2	Gibb, Archibald & Notman	61	6	55
3	Phaup, Lunn & Rendle	61	4	57

Always a fun competition, the November Texas Scramble was played once again, in reasonable conditions for the time of year. Given the consistent heavy rain of late, the course was presented in good condition. It was no surprise to see some low scores posted throughout the day. A blistering start from Dunn, Nicholson and Waddell seen a run of early birdies. A further 3 birdies on the back nine with no dropped shots was good enough for a more than satisfactory 64 - 5 = 59. Innes, Hay and Robertson posted a credible 68 - 9 = 59. Ex-Captain Raymond Caine, along with the father/son combo of Ronnie and Josh Landers posted a bogey free 64 - 7 = 57. They were pipped for 3rd place (BIH) by Phaup, Lunn and Rendle. Then the fun began!

Gibb (Craig), Archibald and Notman teeing off in the afternoon, knew the score to beat and birdies at 5 of the opening 6 holes seen them well on the way to their target. A back nine of 4 straight pars, followed by 4 straight birdies put them in a commanding position playing the last. Into a stiff breeze off the tee the team were left with a good 160 yard second shot. A par 4 would have seen them go top of the leaderboard for sure, with only one team remaining out on the course. Could they hold their nerve?..... 3 approach shots later and not a ball on the green. A disappointing display from 3 tough competitors. An “up and down” would be required and despite their best efforts, it was a bogey 5 that went on the card. Nonetheless, a superb 61 - 6 = 55 was good enough to go top of the leaderboard. This was the catalyst for a flurry of Whatsapp messages and a few checks of the “Live Leaderboard”!

The trio of “Whitey”, Colin and Grace Turnbull were last to finish and a superb bogey free round of 67 - 12 = 55, which included 3 birdies in the last 6 holes was enough to snatch victory from The Three Amigos. Young Grace was witnessed on course hitting several great shots and she is definitely one for the future! Well done Grace and you must take extra kudos for carrying your Dad and Whitey 😊. Notman and Gibb were in deep misery and unavailable for comment. Craig (Scrog) Archibald commented simply, “Unbelievable Jeff”.

Winter Stableford Rd 3 - Sat 26 th Nov				
Pos		Points	H/cap	
1	Ronnie Lander	42	11	
2	Grant White	39	19	
3	Josh Landers	38	25	

Round 3 of the winter stableford series got underway in dry but windy conditions, with the wind playing a part in what was a lower (stableford) scoring average than in round 2. A solid front nine of 37 from Gregor Nicholson was followed by four pars in the first 5 holes of the back nine, which had Gregor well on the way to a very low score. Bogeys at 15, through 18 took the shine off what was an otherwise cracking round of golf. He’s never far off the pace and his 38 points were good enough for 4th.

Young Josh Landers, who is used to scoring as many as possible on a Saturday, did not disappoint. Only this week he was scoring on the golf course and not the football field. Enjoying a break from his beloved football, Josh came in with an excellent 38 points to secure third... another for the future! The editor caught a word with Josh post round and when asked about his excellent ball striking and where he gets his natural sporting talent, Josh replied, “Ma Mum”.

Whitey, off a handicap of 19!! shot a very respectable 39 points. Well done Whitey and the sooner Mr McGovern is onto you the better! Ronnie Landers was clearly in the zone from the off and was, by his standards, pretty quiet and focused all round. Ronnie clearly had his sights set on round 3 of the winter stableford. A front 9 of 37 had him well on his way. A birdie off a 280 yard tee shot on 15 put him in a strong position with 3 to play. Despite his best efforts to screw this up with bogeys on 16 and 18, Ronnie posted what would have been a scratch 75 = (42 points). Well done Ronnie.

Player of The Month

With recent net scores of 65 and 69 respectively, alongside stableford scores of 42 and 38, player of the month for November goes to Jim Armour. Jim was “interviewed” by the editor whilst preparing for his round on Saturday there and when asked about his recent good run of form, he was very humble, commenting himself that he’d somehow gotten to a handicap of 19, which was “ridiculous”. Irrespective of handicap, Jim has played consistently good golf in recent weeks, with his ball striking more akin to a single figure golfer.

During said interview, Jim was loading a brand new Sun Mountain “fully waterproof” golf bag onto his cart, which he’d bought with his winnings. When asked how he planned to spend the remainder, Jim explained he was treating himself to new golf shoes, waterproofs for the winter, a new driver and if there was any left over he would put it towards his next holiday. Well done Jim!

Course Report

We are well into winter golf now, however the greens staff continue to work hard to present the course in as good condition as possible. Given the recent weather, I’m sure you’ll all agree, the course continues to be presented in excellent condition. The “closures” around the 1st and 4th greens have been of benefit and these areas have seen significant growth.

Please continue to repair pitch marks. This is very important given the current soft conditions. Don’t just leave broken tees for others to pick up. Pick them up yourself and bin them, along with any other rubbish. Do your bit to keep your course looking good. Be assured the greenkeeping team are continuing to work hard and a lot of the work being carried out at this stage will be of benefit to us all come the summer. Keep up the good work everyone.

Ralf the “Rules Rat”



Let me introduce myself. My name is Ralf. I’m an expert in the rules of golf but I know sometimes the rules are really confusing and complicated. Each month, I’ll explain one or two rules and how they should be applied in practice whilst playing your round. I’m not very good with long complicated words so if you want all the fancy detail, go and look at the rule book! I’ll keep things simple and will try to cover situations you are likely to encounter whilst playing at Innerleithen.

I thought preferred lies was a good one for November, given these are now in operation and will be for the duration of winter. Before I go any further, if you delve deep enough into the rule book, you *may* find a ruling which allows the taking of a preferred lie without marking your ball. Ralf will not be happy if this is done and it is certainly not good practice.

Rule 1 Preferred lies:

“A ball lying on any closely mown area (fairway), may without penalty, be lifted, cleaned and placed within 6 inches (roughly a scorecard length but Ralf won’t be snooping about with a tape measure) of where it originally lay, but not nearer the hole and not in a penalty area (why would you?) or on the green. A player may place the ball only once and after it has been placed it is in play”

Ok. Seems straightforward, however Ralf has been watching and has seen some players simply bend over, pick up their ball (it’s only a winter comp an’ ma wee fingers are too cold to go digging about for a marker or tee peg!!), wipe the mud off on their trousers and replace it nicely on the nearest worm cast ready to hit their next shot!. Don’t.

Best practice: Place a marker or tee peg behind your ball. Lift and clean your ball and replace within 6 inches no nearer the hole, only once. As Aleksander my Russian Meerkay cousin would say.... “Simples”! 😊

Future Competitions/Events

Saturday 3rd December:

This coming Saturday sees round 4 of the winter stableford series. Remember it is your best 5 scores from the series, which count towards your total. It's looking like another good turnout and let's hope the frost stays away!

Saturday 10th December:

December medal. Morning tee times are filling up so get your name down on BRS. Remember, this is your monthly opportunity of qualification for the Super Medal.

Saturday 17th December:

Round 4 - Winter Stableford Series

Saturday 24th December:

Xmas Eve Stroke. If you fancy a break from preparing your Christmas dinner.....

Wednesday 28th December:

Xmas Waltz - 3 person team. This is always a good fun day with a shotgun start at 0900 hrs. Meet in clubhouse **no later than 0845 hrs** team pick etc. A two-course lunch of Soup/Cottage Pie and Mash will be available.

Sunday 29th January 2023:

Club AGM - 1500 hrs at the clubhouse. Any motion must be made in writing no later than 9th December.

Saturday 25th February:

Presentation night (Get the date in your diary - further details to follow)

Naomi's Kitchen

“It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas” at Naomi's Kitchen! There are still spaces left for Christmas Parties so get in touch to book. The team are cooking up some scrumptious Christmas Specials over the festive season and are taking orders now for and festive cakes. They look (and taste) great so why not give yourself one less thing to do and get your order in now!

We love having visitors in our cozy welcoming clubhouse, so why not take some exercise and walk up to the Golf Club over the festive period and stop by for some food and drink in front of the log fire, before your return journey. You'll be made very welcome.

Over and above the traditional festive food, Naomi and her team provide a selection of wholesome hot and cold food, which includes meals, snacks, cakes and desserts. There are daily specials as well as the daily menu and Naomi and her team are happy to cater for larger visiting parties. You can call Naomi on 07792070853 or email naomikitchen04@gmail.com

