



What's been happening at WBGC?

FOR REASONS beyond our control there was no issue last week so our most recent issue was published on Tuesday May 7.

Since then we have had two rounds of the Lambourn Trophy and much more has happened so this is a summary of the past two weeks at West Berks.

Johnny gets the first round in

Johnny Corbridge managed to leave the sanctuary of the bar on Sunday May 12 and won Lambourn Trophy R1 with a gross 86, net 71. There followed a three-way tie on net 72 with Mike Denny taking second spot, Chris Ramsey third and Colin Price fourth on count-back

The second round was played yesterday but because of a technical issue we will not have the result of that and the overall comp until next week.

Paul is top senior

Paul Barton won the seniors' medal on Friday May 10 with a gross 94, net 73. Richard Watson with gross 96, net 74 was second and Monty Kingston with 91, 77 took third spot.

Kevin comes good

Kevin Good won the men's Saturday stableford on May 11 with 39 points. He finished two ahead of Geordie Duncan while Phil Clare was a further point behind in third place.

A Reber repeat

Paul Reber scored 38 points to win the Saturday stableford at the weekend, a feat he also achieved back in March of this year. Gordon Mackinnon was one point behind in second place and Martyn Drewitt a further point behind third.

Liddiard update

We have had two Liddiard qualifying rounds since our last issue. The dreadful weather on Wednesday May 8 meant that there were no qualifiers. Just eight hardies entered and only Simon McNeill and Brian Cowan, returned cards but, unfortunately, not with the required 19 points. The weather was much kinder a week later when there were 29 entries and nine qualifiers. Andrew Greaves was

the best of the day with 22 points while Martyn Drewitt, Greg Collins and Dan Taylor with 21, Jason Kendal with 20 and Andrew Kerr, Bernard Holden, Simon McNeill and Brian Bailey with 19 were the other qualifiers.

Team matters

Our **seniors** have had a couple of close encounters. On Tuesday May 7 they halved 3-3 at home to Caversham Heath, while on Wednesday of this week our senior captain, Barrie Seaman, returning from holiday was made to sweat for a while. Away to Wokefield we lost the first three matches but managed to win the remaining three to force a hard-earned half.

Our **mixed** team suffered frequent showers and a 3½ to 1½ defeat away to Marlborough on Thursday May 9.

The men's **Saturday team** made it five wins on the bounce when they entertained North Wilts on May 11 and won 3½ to 2½ while the **Central Sevens** lost by 4½ to 2½ away at Tadmorton Heath and the **Scratch League** team lost 7-0 at home to Goring and Streatley 2.

Mary braves elements

On Wednesday Mary Harwood played in the regional England Golf medal at Buckingham Golf Course, an event that she qualified for by having the best four medal rounds at West Berks.

Weather conditions were not good with heavy rain showers and the occasional hail storm that would account for the fact



Pic shows Johnny Corbridge (right) winner of Lambourn R1. He is with Heather Green when they both recorded a hole-in-one on Captain's Day 2017.

I could not bring myself to crop Heather out of the picture and leave Johnny in. Now if it had been the other way round? - Ed

that none of the 76 competitors in the competition beat par.

Unfortunately, Mary was not in the top ten finishers who qualified for the national final to be played as part of England Golf Week at Woodhall Spa in August

Ladies' county comps

Since our last issue the ladies have had two county competitions. In the Inter Club Shield held at Sonning our team of Gale McAuley, Sandy Miller and Mary Harwood came 12th out of 23 teams.

We also played the second round of the Duncan Trophy when we lost 5-0 away to a very strong Reading team.

See Page 2 for rules update on embedded ball, info on Men's Open and free public liability insurance with the EGU plus more ...

Many thanks to the Hopwood Ash Financial Planning Consultancy for printing this bulletin

Please send items that you would like to be considered for the bulletin to Dave Ware at: dgw.ware@gmail.com

To request a copy email: maryharwood695@btinternet.com

Rules query from a member**Ball embedded in a hazard***Dear Ed*

I value the rules section where you explain the changes to rules introduced in 2019.

When playing recently, my ball was plugged on the far side of the water hazard on Hole 12. It had cleared the water but was embedded in the bank within the marked area. I know the rules have changed regarding balls embedded in the rough and was not sure of my ground so I applied the old adage that you can't go wrong if you play it as it lies.

I believe I was right to do so because although you can now take relief if a ball is embedded anywhere in the 'general area' - that is fairway, rough, wrong tees etc. there is no relief from 'penalty areas' - bunkers and water hazards.

Is this correct? *Name and email supplied.*

Our TTNB Rules Guru answers:

Our correspondent did exactly the right thing.

Rule 16.3 (a) advises that relief for an embedded ball is allowed only when the ball is embedded in the general area. In this instance the ball is embedded in a penalty area, so relief is not available.

There are two exceptions where relief is not allowed for an embedded ball in the general area. One is applicable primarily to links golf courses when the ball is embedded in sand in a part of the general area that is not cut to fairway height or less.

The other is when interference by anything other than the ball being embedded makes the stroke clearly unreasonable, for example when a player would be unable to make a stroke because of where the ball lies in a bush.

When relief is allowed, the reference point is the spot immediately behind where the ball is embedded. The relief area is one club length from the reference point, subject to remaining in the general area and being no nearer the hole.

The rest of May at WBGC

Tue 21	Ladies: Midweek Medal
Wed 22	Men: Midweek Stableford Men: Liddiard
Sat 25	Men: v Broome Manor (H) Men: Stableford Men: Scratch League v Goring 2 (A) Ladies: Coronation Foursomes
Sun 26	Men & Ladies: Fun Competition
Tue 28	Mixed: Sunshine Cup Men: Midweek Stableford
Wed 29	Men: Liddiard
Thu 30	Seniors: v Drayton Park (H)

Enter now for the Men's Open**Saturday June 8 2019**

It's that time of year again when we hold our Men's Pairs' Open and compete for the Mackenzie Trophy in honour of a distinguished member of this club, Andrew 'Macca' Mackenzie.

It's a great day. Entry fee is £40 a team and with West Berks members getting a £10 a head discount it's good value with a chance to play in a great competition, win one of the fine prizes and enjoy a bacon roll and coffee on arrival.

In addition to visitors, it is also open to pairs from WBGC and five day members are welcome.

See entry forms on the bar or contact Nigel Day on 07786 198256 or email: nigel_day@hotmail.com

Enter now to support the club and honour a great stalwart of West Berks.

A message from your chairman*To: All members of WBGC*

The general committee is pleased to announce the formal appointment of Dave Ware as the Press Officer for West Berkshire Golf Club. This is a role that he has fulfilled very effectively for a considerable period of time on an informal basis and is well worthy of formal recognition. The committee would like to thank Dave for his efforts in producing Tee Times and his releases to the local press.

Kevin Hopwood
Chairman

Free golf insurance with the EGU

From July 1 2019 all members of golf clubs that are affiliated to the English Golf Union will receive an additional benefit in the form of £10 million personal liability insurance at no extra cost.

The insurance is underwritten by Allianz and provided through Bluefin Sport.

More information will be passed to members from the General Committee as it becomes available.

Top spot for Joe at Oxford City

West Berks were well represented on the leader board of the Oxford City Pro-Am held on Friday May 10.

Joe shot two-under to take a share of first place while Ollie tied for fifth place on level par.

Well done boys - bodes well for the rest of 2019.