



Paul Newman stars again in Kerridge Pro-Am

PAUL NEWMAN of East Berks GC won the Kerridge Pro-Am for the second year in succession on Thursday July 11 with a four-under-par 69. Our head professional, Paul Simpson, and James Ablett of Le-on-the-Solent were tied just one shot behind in second place while our own Joe Simpson shared fourth spot with Tim Spence of The Golf College and Jamie Debrou of American Golf on 72.

Joe also led the West Berks team of Jason and Mark Kendal and Tony Coventry go first place in the team prize with a 16 under-par score of 130. They were followed by a three-way tie on 131 with the team comprising professional, Danny Phillips, of Cotswold Club and his own team of amateurs placed second on count-back. Unattached professional, Ben Talbot with the West Berks trio of Darren Boulton, Andy Greaves and Christy Whelehan were third and the overall winner, Paul Newman, with Patrick Whelehan, Mark Ramos and Tony Athawes of West Berks were fourth.

At the presentation our men's captain, Nigel Day, thanked Herongate Leisure for its sponsorship of the event and the continued support from Kerridge

Properties and Northcroft Golf.

He also acknowledged the generous hole sponsorship by Kevin Hopwood of Hopwood Ash Financial Planning Consultancy and similar support from other organisations through the main sponsors.

Nigel went on say that great credit goes to our head professional, Paul Simpson and Nick Jones of the General Committee for organising and co-ordinating with PGA South, to Pat Whelehan and his team for presenting the course in such fine condition and to Foxes Catering for its normal top class buffet.

One prize that Nigel didn't present was that of longest drive on the tenth hole that he won himself.



A great day was had by all who participated - well done to all concerned.

See P2 for: Captain's long weekend and why you shouldn't barge the birdie man into the bushes

The rest of the week's results

Kevin wins in midweek

Kevin Dixon and Tim Burnett both scored a fine 42 points in the men's midweek stableford held on Tuesday July 9. Kevin took first place on count-back while Phil Cannon was third with 38.

Richard wins senior medal

Eight players beat the net par score of 73 in the July Senior Medal held on Friday 12. Richard Watson was the clear winner with gross 86, net 64 followed by Peter Booth with 87, net 69 who beat Rob Small gross 86, net 69 on count-back to take second place.

Liddiard update

There were 11 entrants and just three qualifiers in the Wednesday nine-hole Liddiard Cup qualifier. Chris Terrett who

was making his tenth appearance in this year's qualifiers won the day with 22 points followed by the ever-consistent Patrick Wilmore with 21 and Gordon Munro with 19 points.

With just two qualifying rounds remaining competition for the Herbie Sternberg Trophy, awarded to the player with the best five qualifying scores, is hotting up. Long-time leader Patrick Wilmore remains in front on 103 while Jason Kendal and Chris Terrett are tied for second place on 102. Darren Boulton is another serious contender with 99.

Team matters

Congratulations to Tony Athawes and his team on a fine 6-1 home win against Newbury and Crookham, a victory that

secured a place in the quarter-finals of the Hillman Trophy Plate competition.

The club Saturday inter-club team had another fine away victory at Hadden Hill on July 13 winning by 4½ to 1½ to maintain this season's unbeaten record.

Our seniors enjoyed their second consecutive away win when they travelled to Weybrook Park on Monday July 8 and won 4-2 while the ladies' team was also on the road on Thursday July 11 recording a 3-1 away win at Bradfield College, a match closer than the result would suggest with both the first two matches being decided with the final putt on the eighteenth green.

Not so lucky on its travels the West Berks mixed team lost 3½ to 2½ at North Wilts on Saturday.

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

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The Captain's long weekend

THIS YEAR'S men's Captain's Day was held on Sunday but our generous captain, Nigel Day, decided to make a long weekend of it and included competitions on Saturday and Monday.

It's Paul on Saturday

Paul Reber won on Saturday with 36 points beating Peter Gelemter on count-back while Nick Jones with 35 points also required count-back to beat Andrew Grayson to third spot.

Mark on Sunday

Mark Ramos won Sunday's competition with a splendid 43 points. Darren Boulton and Simon Matton both scored 39 points with the placing in that order on count-back. Garry Dixon was fourth on

38 while Gale McAuley with 32 points won the ladies' prize.

Nearest-the-pin prizes were won by Garrys Dixon and Postlethwaite and Mark Ramos.

.. and amazing Geoff on Monday

Today, the results are not yet finalised as we go to press but Geoff Pudner has recorded 46 points and a gross 77. To hold a handicap of 14 at 82 is remarkable enough but to shoot a 77, five better than his age off the whites is something else. Full result next week.

Nigel thanks everyone who supported his Captain's Day by playing in any of the competitions over the weekend. Well done Mr Captain.



Nigel and Mark Ramos

Be ready but take it steady

Dave Ware offers a personal view on some of the new rules

THERE CAN be no doubt that the new rules introduced in January 2019 have been well publicised but I fear that this raft of publicity has the effect of giving some golfers the idea that the new rules reign supreme and any rule that existed before January 2019 can be forgotten.

How many times this year have I heard players say that playing from outside the correct teeing ground now carries no penalty? Wrong, under Rule 6 you do not count that shot but you have to play again from the correct area under the penalty of two shots.

I was also told with absolute authority that it no longer matters if your putt from on the green hits another ball that is stationary on the green. Wrong again. Rule 11 says that you replace the ball you hit, play your ball from where it lies and take a two shot penalty.

Most of the new rules seem sane and sensible. I love keeping the flag stick in while putting, a real game speeder and I am delighted that the double-hit I have spent years perfecting is now legal. However, I think the new drop rule is plain daft. Why can't we drop from anywhere between knee and shoulder height? Too simple?

There is one new edict that is highly laudable but is in danger of abuse. I'm all for ready play. This should discourage people from waiting for a player, whose ball is a few feet further from the hole than their own, to walk 100 yards and play before they will dream of testing the wind, checking the distance and pontificating about what club to use.

It must be remembered the etiquette of allowing the honour to the player who has the best score on the previous hole still applies, as does the provision that the

player furthest from the hole plays first. But now its only if they are ready. So, if you arrive at the tee and waiting for the player who has the honour would cause unreasonable delay then by all means tee-off. What you shouldn't do is to overtake that person walking on to the tee, barge him into the nettles and proceed to play.

Similarly, if you find yourself on the fairway and a player's ball is further from the pin than yours and you are sure you can play without holding up that player by all means proceed. What you should not do, just because you get to your ball first, is to obstruct a player who is behind you and ready to play.

So, if you're ready, play. But don't obstruct others, that does not speed up play. And, of course, always be *ready to play* whenever it is your turn.

The above are the personal views of the writer.

The rest of July at West Berks

Tue 16 Men: Midweek Stableford
Ladies: Midweek Medal

Wed 17 Men: Liddiard

Sat 20 Ladies: Summer Stableford
C7s v Rye Hill (H)

Sun 21 Men & Ladies: Pro's Cup

Mon 22 Men: Midweek Stableford

Wed 24 Men: Liddiard (last qualifier)

Thu 25 Seniors v Donnington Grove (H)

Sat 27 Men: Stableford
Scratch League v Calcot Park 2 (H)

Sun 28 MIXED OPEN

Mon 29 Men: Midweek Stableford

Tue 30 Mixed: Special Tiara Trophy

Wed 31 Men: Liddiard Final