

# Withington Junior Newsletter Spring 2011

## Welcome to the Spring Newsletter.

I hope you have all had a good winters rest and looking forward to the new Golf Season. April/May is generally regarded as the start of the season, however to steal an early march the team players have already completed their 1<sup>st</sup> Summer Medal competition of 2011.

The Junior Committee is pleased to confirm that all the junior events scheduled in 2010 have again been included in the 2011 itinerary and recognising the excellent participation both last year and during the winter a few extra tournaments have been arranged.

The Saturday morning lessons will again be a feature starting 7.5.2011 an ideal introduction for junior members of Withington Golf Club and an opportunity to meet new friends.

The principal change to subscription arrangement is the withdrawal of the free membership scheme which proved very successful in boosting the numbers of young players at Withington. Ultimately the Club has had to reintroduce a membership fee however having listened to the suggestions of the Junior Committee has banded the subscription by age at very competitive rates. I hope that when you fully assess the costs the benefits of membership are also recognised.

Finally, I wish you all a good summer of golf and look forward to seeing you in junior tournaments and practice sessions throughout the season.

## Early Season Competitions & Practice Events

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2011 – Team Match vs Northenden (away) 2:00pm

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011 – Team Match vs Didsbury (home) 2:00pm &  
Yellow Group Practice 4:30pm

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – Junior Practice Sessions commence 9:30am

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – Team Match vs Northenden (home) 2:00pm &  
Yellow Group Practice 2:30pm (friendly match vs Northenden).

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – Junior Practice Sessions 9:30am.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011 – Junior Practice Sessions 9:30am

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2011 – 2<sup>rd</sup> Junior Medal (White Tee) and 1<sup>st</sup> Medal  
(Yellow Tee).

## Subscriptions for 2011

Junior Subscription notices have now been despatched and for many will be the first renewal notice. The subscription is collected annually and entitles the junior member to enter the Junior Competitions and events at Withington Golf Club.

I very much hope that those who enjoyed practicing and playing in competitions throughout 2010 will renew their memberships early.

To assist with the administration please respond to the club secretary as early as possible.

Juniors Aged 8 to 12 - £35  
Junior Aged 13 to 15 - £50  
Juniors Aged 16 to 17 - £80

In addition EGU Fees of £8.75 and Insurance of £3.50 is payable.

**Any queries please contact either me or the Club Secretary.**

## Entering Competitions

I am very aware that only a few juniors are loaded on the computer booking system. Ideally I would like everyone to use the booking system to indicate if they wish to play either socially or in Junior Events.

A reminder of how to access the system.....

In order to use the system you have to initially register via the Club website [www.withingtongolfclub.co.uk](http://www.withingtongolfclub.co.uk) if you have an e-mail address please ensure you enter the details. You will be invited to choose your own password. This will prevent anyone else from booking or deleting times in your name. Your username will be your club membership number as shown on your gold swipe card.

In the meantime I will continue to circulate e-mails highlighting forthcoming events and will accept responses indicating a desire to play.

## Saturday Morning Practice Session

I was really pleased with the numbers that turned up each week last year and the overall determination of everyone to improve their golf skills. The feedback from the coaches has been very positive regarding the progress of all the groups and I hope many of you will be back with us this season. The sessions will again run for 10 weeks and offer a taste of golf for those new to the game and some more disciplined practice for older players. **Registration will be 9:15am Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011 and practice will commence at 9:30am**

It was very uplifting to hear the comments of senior club members who have viewed the development of the junior section positively as evidenced by the additional voluntary support we have received on Saturday mornings.

I would also like to highlight the generosity of Withington member Ron Bullock who underwrites the costs of providing the coaching and there by ensuring that this very valuable training is offered free of costs to the youngsters.

## **Handicaps**

A number of youngsters playing the Yellow Tee course have been given Club Handicaps for use in our internal competitions. I will endeavour to amend these based on the submission of properly completed scorecards following Competitions.

All cards must be signed by an experienced golf player with a handicap themselves.

I will also consider handicap amendments based on a card where a minimum of six consecutive holes have been played and the card has been signed by a Club Member with a valid handicap. Either hand your cards in to me or leave in the pro shop.

## **Good Behaviour at all times**

We must remember that Withington Golf Club is a private members club and that it is important to respect all the other members that enjoy the excellent golf facilities. Every junior member is responsible for their own behaviour, not only on the golf course but in and around the Clubhouse and on the practice facilities. The standards of behaviour are not onerous and are no different to that which your parents would expect at home.

### **For example.....**

Imagine that you have just sunk a twenty five foot birdie putt and you see your mate three fairways off in the distance..... Don't tell him there and then at the top of your voice about your putting success.....wait and tell him in the club house over a glass of orange juice.....it's just that us "oldies" don't like all the noise!

The Junior Committee expect the highest levels of mutual respect between all junior members. We expect excellent standards of behaviour and a high degree of sportsmanship as befits a golf club member. Shortfalls in standards will be viewed very seriously.

## **Junior Captain's Comments**

The start of the season is always an exciting time and this season is proving no different. Although we were disappointed to lose our opening match, the result was incredibly close and there were many positive signs across the team. Most pleasing is the introduction and participation of the younger players in our junior section. The impressive displays of Kieran Bullock and Adam Sixsmith, who came 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively in the opening junior medal of the season shows how well the younger players are coming along. Both provide a great example for those attempting to rise into the increasingly strong senior junior group. In all aspects the future for juniors at Withington is look bright.

**Jamie Webb**

Junior Captain

## Standards of Care

The Withington Golf Club has a clear Child Protection Policy and our Coaches and Principal Committee members have been Criminal Records Bureau checked.

## Look after your valuables!

Withington Golf Club is not immune from criminal activity that occurs throughout society. Take care not to leave your golf equipment lying unattended and be wary of anyone requesting access to the locker rooms.

## Team Performance

To be selected for the teams the principal showcase is the Junior White Tee Medals, the next one is due to take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2011. The event will be over 18 holes played from the white competition tees for males and red tees for females and is suitable for juniors with a handicap of up to a maximum of 28. As it is the Committee's intention to introduce every junior member to events on the Golf Course, we will also run a supplemental tournament played from the yellow tees over either 9 or 12 holes. This will help the committee to assess handicaps and decide when it is appropriate for a player to enter the White Tee Medal Competitions.

## Competition Results

### 1st Junior Medal Competition (White Tee)

**Winner: Kieran Bullock Gross 98 Net 70**

**Runner Up: Adam Sixsmith Gross 99 Net 71**

### Team Match

**Northenden 4 – 3 Withington**

**Team: Jamie Webb, Sam Prince, Ateeb Khan, Tajinder Ranshi, Josh Hinds, Iain Stewart, Jake Eyre.**

**Paul Higgins**

**Junior Organiser  
0161 973 8849**