

Fermoy Golf Club

Committee of Management Newsletter May 2013

Secretary Manager Appointment:

The chairman of the COM extended his congratulations to Denis Twomey on his appointment as Secretary Manager to the club. He reported that the interview process was rigorous and was largely conducted by the external HR expert. In this regard he publicly acknowledged the expertise and assistance given by Seamus McEvoy (UCC) as a member of the interview panel. The appointment was welcomed by the entire Committee and all joined with the chairman in wishing Denis well for the future. The trustees were to be advised of the appointment.

Fundraiser

The ladies and gents clubs have formed a Fund Raising committee and it is at the early stages of planning the club fundraising classic. The Chairman (COM), Lady and Gents Captains are driving this venture which is specifically organised to raise funds to finance the recently purchased grasshopper mower. This machine has greatly added to the equipment necessary to maintain the course and replaces the old topper mower which had reached its end of life. The new mower is faster, more manoeuvrable, allowing close mowing to trees and banks of grass. Members may already have noticed the improvement especially on the eighteenth hole.

It is also the intention to erect lights around the practice area to provide a facility for members to practice in the winter months. A feasibility study is currently being conducted. The work of construction will be voluntarily undertaken should the result of the study be positive. It is envisaged that it will be self financing when completed.

The fund raiser will be held on 6/7/8 of July next and members are encouraged to plan now, invite friends and where possible use whatever connections they have to enter teams. With over €2,000 in prizes it is a very attractive event in the clubs calendar of events.

The Course:

It is good to note that members and visitors have commented very positively about the overall condition of the course. The ground staff have worked hard to bring it to its present condition, but it is intended to continue the work of improving the overall appearance and playing condition of the course. The Voluntary group can greatly help in this task by assisting in divot repair, general clean up of area around the club house, clearing weeds and briars from identified areas of the course and burying the tree stumps that remain after the recent tree removal. The work will be identified and co-ordinated by the ground staff.

Signage will be upgraded and improved to assist in traffic control and members can assist very significantly to the upkeep of the course by exercising care and attention when playing – repair all ball marks on greens, do not erode the banks around greens and bunkers by insisting on walking up/down steep slopes. We have constructed steps to tees and where pathways exist to tee boxes these also should be used. The inclination to scale the front of the second tee box rather than use

the pathway is both dangerous for the individual and harmful to the grasses, it will create an ugly scar in time.

The scandal of unrepaired plug marks must end. PLEASE when on the putting surface check for plug marks and repair them. It will only take a matter of seconds and will assist recovery. It is not the job of the ground staff to repair such marks – every player has this responsibility.

Average green speed (measured) is now 8.5/9.

The Professional Shop

Both captains reported that the new arrangement with Dave Ryan is working very well. He is proving to be a great asset not only in terms of the well stocked shop, but also for his interest in the club and the members. He is extremely helpful and has offered tips and some advice to members without obligation – it is very appreciated.

The Committee also welcomed the appointment by Dave of Mathew Mc Carthy as his assistant in the shop. Mathew was proposed for membership of the club at the meeting and the application will be considered by the Gents club at their next meeting. Mathew is interested in representing the club and will be a great asset to our senior teams.

Timesheet

The Committee reaffirmed its decision regarding the timesheet and referred to the public notices displayed in the clubhouse regarding the issue.