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# *The Haymaker*

*(The Newsletter with a Punch!)*



Newsletter of the Little Hay Golf Club

Edition 54, September 2015

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## **A Word from the Club Captain**

The Club Championship was blessed with sunshine on both days, not like last year, and good scores on both days. The course was in good shape again for the occasion. Thanks to George and his staff. Playing off the blue tees was certainly a great test for all the players who took part.

Congratulations to Nick Jefferson with a great second shot into the eighteenth, and won with an eagle, from second place Matt Armstrong.

Congratulations to Steve Wilkinson who won the nett Club Championship. Congratulations also, to Will Howe who won the Junior Club Championship.

Club competitions are drawing to a conclusion with one final being won in the Fred Roberts' Championship by Elaine Meagher and Paul Whiter.

I would like to say well done, to all the players who came second, and are normally forgotten. The A-team had another good win over Stevenage (probably because I was on holiday).

PLEASE remember, if you wish to play in the monthly Medal and the Presidents Day competitions, that your name is entered in the competitions book on the front desk. Both sheets are removed 9/10 days prior to the comps.

I am looking forward to the annual Ladies V Men match, and hope the men can win for the first time. Continue to enjoy your golf, and good luck to all who are playing in any of the finals.

**Chris Miles**

## **Rules of Golf**

This month I have been given subjects for Rules discussions which are pretty simple to comment on. The fact I had my ear chewed by a couple of senior friends gave me an incentive.

## **Ball Marking**

There is no rule saying that you must mark your ball. However, it is highly recommended, at every opportunity, in the rule book.

## **Marking your/fellow competitors card**

All you are required to do is enter the gross score on each hole. Check that the handicap against your name is correct and up-to-date and that what your fellow competitor has put down as your score is correct.

**You are not required to total the scores, or insert Stableford scores.**

**Only do this if you have a very neat hand.**

**The standard of legibility on senior competition cards has recently been appalling.**

**Leave out the scribble!!**

**Keep it simple.**

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## Men's Section News

<b>August Medal – Division One</b>			
1.	<b>Ian Elborough</b>	<b>76-12 = 64</b>	<b>new hcp 10.3</b>
2.	<b>Ben Hopkinson</b>	<b>71-6 = 65</b>	<b>5.3</b>
3.	<b>John Leahy</b>	<b>81- 13=68</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>August Medal – Division Two</b>			
1.	<b>Ivan Lawrence</b>	<b>79-15= 64</b>	<b>new hcp 13.3</b>
2.	<b>Bo Ho</b>	<b>84-19=65</b>	<b>17</b>
3.	<b>Brian Ridgeway</b>	<b>89-22=67</b>	<b>20.5</b>
<b>Mens 2015 Championship over two days</b>			
<b>Both days were won by Steve Wilkinson with net scores of 69 and 71</b>			
<b>Well done Steve</b>			

## Senior Moments

### A Word from the Seniors' Captain

**SLOW PLAY !!!** Remember that.....and Remember my saying in last Month's Article that there was a great improvement ??? Well we, some anyway!!, seem to have somewhat slipped back into bad old ways at last weeks (20<sup>th</sup> Aug) Stableford. There were still Fours taking longer than 4.5 hours, a time which I count as generous bearing in mind that it seems to be UNIVERSALLY accepted that four hours should be the optimum time a 4-ball round should take. If any 4-ball are taking more than 4.5 hours then you are VERY SLOW and are not paying attention to the well publicised "TIPS" that Arthur Smith put on the Senior Notice Board, every time you play. AVOID SLOW PLAY ..... which causes ..... ANGER, DEPRESSION, IRRITATION, AGGRAVATION and lots of other .....tions that I wont mention here. COME ON Chaps.....SPEED UP, so that.....tions are a thing of the past. PLEASE PLEASE make sure that your Group keeps up with those in front of you.

Also I said in last months' edition that August was effectively the 'height' of Summer !!!!! Well we enjoyed a couple of days of Sun and a few free of strong wind (no!! Not that kind silly) but overall just not the sort of conditions we might have expected for maybe our best Summer Month. Never mind we live in hopefor September weather.....don't we?? Our compensation has been that George and his Staff have had the Course, and particularly the greens, looking and operating superbly well. Thank you.

The recent rains have at least been beneficial for the course, if not for our golf. I must break off here to send HUGE congratulations to Paul Whiter and Elaine Meagher who won the Fred Roberts Trophy. WELL DONE Paul and Elaine.

Through August there was plenty of Senior's Golf activity. We played Whitewebbs Park away and WON 4-2. DREW 3-3 with Cheshunt Park. at home, and LOST 2-4 to Batchwood Hall ,away.

Two interclub matches , v Hazlemere, and v Stockwood Park to go this season so we hope for that number of successes. We'll see.

Meantime the Senior's Monthly Stableford and Medal matches continue to be so very well supported by large numbers that I can only put down to the projected charisma of RAY MOORE as our 'organisational guru'.... what the heck would we do without him. AND, for that matter. DAVID GARBUTT who, besides his duties as Membership Secretary... which itself is such a very exacting task, always operates the Computer to record our scores and therefore keeps our Handicaps up-to-date. Quiet and UNSUNG HEROES both of them. A BIG THANK YOU and full appreciation to both, from me and indeed I think from all Seniors. I do hope we all know just how valuable these Gentlemen are to the Club overall and not just the Seniors.

So fingers crossed for a super, summery, sultry September and for fun, fit, fast, fluent, flowing Golf!!

**Trevor**

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### **Report from the Liaison committee**

It is several months since Haymaker has had a report from this committee, where representatives of the Club and Sportspace meet about six times a year to discuss – well, more or less anything of interest to members and management of Sportspace. Our last meeting in June was particularly interesting and wide – ranging, so I thought a report to all members was overdue, writes John Poston, one of the Club's representatives, the others are Keith Puddephatt, previously club President, Suzanne Brady and Jean Dove.

For many meetings, there was a lot of discussion about the wide-ranging plans for course development, but those plans are now dead. Some of the requirements are not though, the need is clear, but the method of financing is not. The priorities as Sportspace see them are:-

1. Improvements to many of the tees, especially those where the crowning is obvious, like the men's 9<sup>th</sup> , or where the limits on locating the tee positions are clear, like the 5<sup>th</sup>.
2. Provision of water storage, golf courses are not exempt from drought restrictions and in the event of a dry spell, maintenance of the course would be very difficult.
3. Replacement and improvement of the driving range nets.

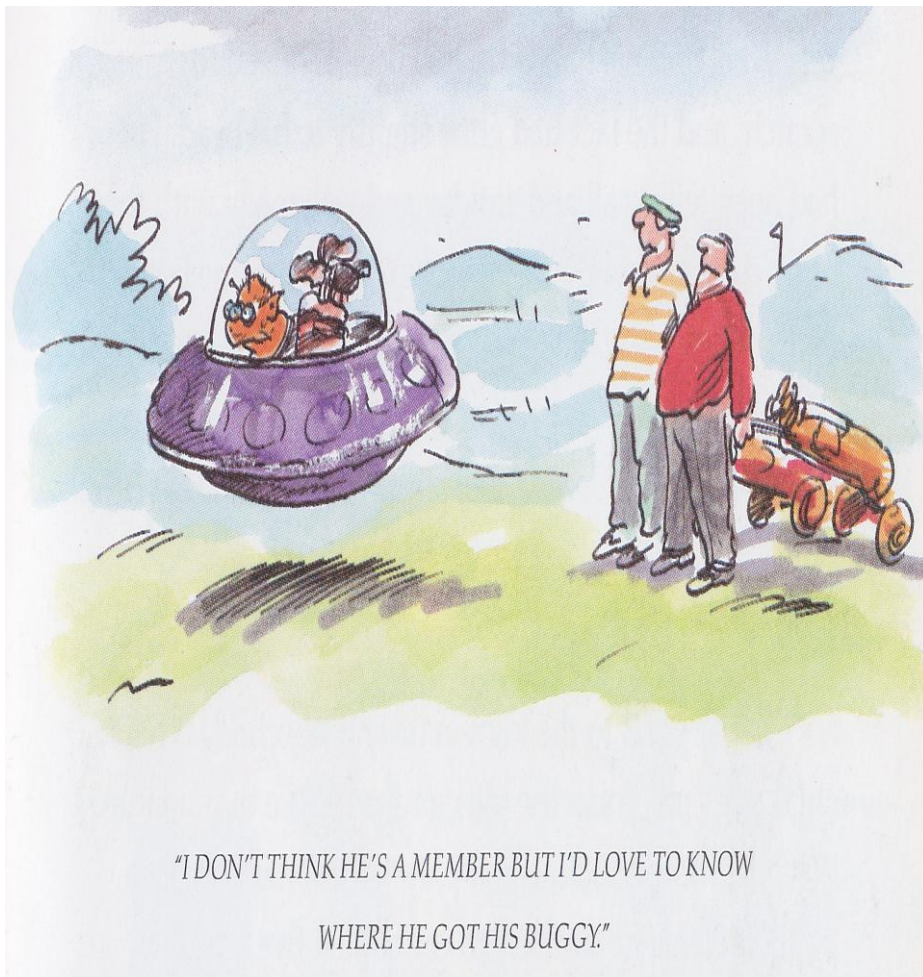
All of these would have been part of the wider scheme, by-products you might say, now they need to be considered by Sportspace and Dacorum Council. We should not expect rapid progress, which means we might need to press for smaller programmes like some improvements of the tees in the meantime.

At the last meeting, we suggested a series of issues for consideration by Sportspace:-

1. Would it be possible for disabled players, with a clear need for a buggy, to have a discounted rate for buggy hire? and might this be extended to some of our most mature players. THIS HAS ALREADEY BEEN IMPLEMENTED with a reduction for those players from £20 to £12. So a good result.
2. Could Sportspace consider the introduction of a discount card for restaurant and bar use by Season ticket holders? This is under consideration and we will press the issue at the next liaison meeting.
3. Could Sportspace consider joint membership of golf and other sports facilities at advantageous rates? George Reid has been considering this, looking at other club's experiences, he feels a joint membership of golf and swimming might be worth trying, AND WOULD VALUE FEEDBACK.

George normally shares his views about the course at these meetings and raised two issues this time. He is looking at alternatives to the use of the mats for the winter, though the incorporation of artificial turf areas in front of the tees seems to be rather expensive. He is also considering a small

reduction in the numbers of bunkers. He, and the liaison committee members, would value feedback on these and other issues. Our next meeting is at the end of September.



"I DON'T THINK HE'S A MEMBER BUT I'D LOVE TO KNOW  
WHERE HE GOT HIS BUGGY."

## Ladies News

Lady Captain Report – 28 August 2015

Welcome again to my Captain's report.

Another month has passed with the weather being a mixed bag from glorious sunshine to overcast and drizzle, but we have been blessed with a generally dry course. Some ladies have capitalised on this and have played such good golf that their handicaps have been cut. Well done! It's also been a very busy month for some of our golfers. We've had ladies playing in opens, club and external competitions.

We held our long awaited Invitation Day on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> August. I would firstly like to take this opportunity to say a BIG thank you to George Reid and his team who worked tirelessly to ensure that the course was in a worthy condition. And it certainly was! Enough to impress our visitors. I received many compliments about the course. Also a huge thank you to Chrissie and her staff as well as Fred and his kitchen staff. They excelled themselves. Chrissie set up the tables beautifully in the new extension which created a lovely atmosphere. Fred provided us with a truly delicious meal. We all thoroughly enjoyed the day. With everyone's help and support the day was a great success. The winning team was Lesley Quinn and her partner Rosemary Higgs from Ellsborough.

Unfortunately we had to cancel our match against the seniors. It was to take place on Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> August. Over fifteen men signed up for this competition and only ten ladies. It is a pity we missed out on this one as it is always enjoyable playing against the seniors. In the past they have given up their Mondays to play with us. I hope that next year we will have enough ladies to play against them on their preferred day.

**Our Successes.....**

### **Old Mutual Golf Challenge**

Well done to for Jackie Joslyn posting the best medal scores. She played in the regional final which on Monday, 17 August at the International Course of the London Golf Club and came 14<sup>th</sup> in a very big field.

**Ladies Championship of England National Final** 9 August at Southern Valley, Kent.

Nine ladies qualified for this competition. I am very proud to say that Elaine Meagher came second. She always does our club proud and represents us with her usual grace and determination.

### **August Medal Winners**

Sat 1st: Elaine Meagher

Mon 3rd: Linda Reeve

### **Friendly Competitions**

Tues 18<sup>th</sup>: We played at home against Aldenham. The score: 2 all.

### **Fressingwood Cup**

Mon 10<sup>th</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> Bobbie Barnes 42; 2<sup>nd</sup> Alison Marsden 40; 3<sup>rd</sup> Linda Reeve 40

Alice Cooper once said: "Mistakes are part of the game. It's how well you recover from them, that's the mark of a good player."

Enjoy your golf

Dorcas

## Junior News

Junior Report Hay Maker September 2015

### **General**

August is the busiest month for the junior with juniors playing in both the Men's and Junior Club Championships, three Lexus League matches and three junior only competitions. The junior again played well and improved over the holidays. Will Howe had his HCP cut by 4 strokes and Michael Burton by 3 strokes. Five other junior also reduced their HCPs . We had mixed results in the Lexus league matches but had a notable home win against our pool leader and last year's competition runners up Redbourn.

Congratulations to Will Howe for winning the Junior Club Championship on count back from Robbie McIvor Gross 161 over the two days, Robbie McIvor 135 for winning the nett competition over the two days, Craig Walker 3<sup>rd</sup> 145 in the Men's Nett Club Championship and George Rocca 3<sup>rd</sup> in a HGU Junior Open Golf Championship. ( Full reports of all competitions and Lexus league matches below)

### **September Competitions and Fixtures**

There are no junior competition next month as the summer holidays are over. Lee will be continuing with his coaching sessions. Please remember that there are still two competitions in the October half term. After the last competition on Wednesday 23 October there will be prize giving and awards.

#### **President's day Stableford Competition 12 September**

Please sign up for the club President's day Stableford Competition the entry sheets are at reception in the club house. This competition is open to all sections of the club and all juniors are encouraged to play.

### **Competition results**

#### **Mens Club Championship 8th and 9th August:**

It is a testament to the Little Hay junior programme and the encouraging atmosphere of the Little Hay club members that 6 juniors felt confident to enter the Men's Club Championship this year. It was commented on how well the junior conducted themselves and how impressed those playing with the juniors were with the standard of their play. It was a bit unnerving for some of the juniors playing off the blue Tees for the first time however they all adapted well.

On the first day the three best junior player were Craig Walker 84 in 10<sup>th</sup> place, Hamish Jarvie 88 14<sup>th</sup> and Luke Wrathall and George Rocca 92 18<sup>th</sup> equal.

On day two, Luke Wrathall 84 finished 7<sup>th</sup>, Hamish Jarvie 85 8<sup>th</sup> and George Rocca 86 11<sup>th</sup>.

The best combined gross scores were Craig Walker 171 10<sup>th</sup> place, Hamish Jarvie 173 12<sup>th</sup> and Luke Wrathall 176 14<sup>th</sup>.

In the Nett Club championship Craig Walker 146 finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and Hamish Jarvie 149 finished 7<sup>th</sup> Luke Wrathall 156 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Junior Club Championship 18th and 19th August**

On the first day, the reigning Champion, Luke Wrathall, led with a round of 77 from Robbie McIvor on 79, George Rocca on 81, and Will Howe on 82.

On the second day, Hamish Jarvie led with 78 from Will Howe on 79 and Robbie McIvor on 82 The combined scores for the 2 days saw Will Howe and Robbie McIvor tied on 161 and Luke Wrathall on 162. Will was declared the 2015 Champion on countback.

Congratulations Will Howe new Junior club Champion 2015.

In the simultaneous nett competition, Will's score of 131 was unbeaten, with Robbie McIvor on 135 and Tom Parr on 136. Robbie McIvor won the Junior Cup for 2015.

Congratulations Robbie McIvor new Junior Cup winner 2015

### **Junior Stableford 5<sup>th</sup> August**

There was a good turnout for this competition it was closely fought with only with only 4 points separating the first 6 player..

Both Harry Miller 39pt and Craig Walker 39pt played well with new comer Harry in his first competition taking first place on count back with Craig second and Hamish 37pts 3<sup>rd</sup>. the final order of merit points went to Michael Burton 36pt fourth and George Rocca 35pt and Tom Parr 35pt. George taking the last points on count back to finish 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Junior Medal 12<sup>th</sup> August**

Another good turnout and some exceptional play from Michael Burton to win the medal. His nett score of 62 saw his HCP cut by 3 strokes. In Second place was Harry Miller 69 on count back with Will Howe 69 third. Fourth and fifth were also decided on count back with Tom Parr 72 fourth and Robbie McIvor 72 fifth.

### **Junior Stableford 26<sup>th</sup> August**

Abanded due to flooded due to flooded greens

### **Lexus League matches**

#### **10th August: Ashridge Home Won 3 to 1**

Little Hay were able to get partial revenge for our defeat 2 weeks previously at Ashridge. Little Hay won 3 matches to 1 but overall, home and away, Ashridge gained 19 1/2 League points to Little Hay 12 1/2.

#### **21st August: Redbourn Home Won 3 to 1**

Redbourn who were last years runners up and who had soundly beaten us away, lost to us at home by 3 matches to 1. However as with Ashridge, overall League points went to Redbourn 18 to Little Hay 14 over the two legs.

#### **22nd August: Letchworth Away Drawn 2 All**

After a hard fought fixture the match finished in a draw 2 matches each.

#### **28th August: Letchworth Home Drawn 2All**

28th August v Letchworth (Home). drawn 2 matches each, Letchworth 81/2 League points points, Little Hay 71/2. Overall, Home and Away, 4 matches each but Letchworth 171/2 League points, Little Hay 141/2

### **Junior Order of Merit table after 19 August**

With only three more competitions before the Order of merit is decided. The top of the order of merit table is hotting up. Only 297pt separate the top three.

PLACE	Name		Cum Points
1st	Walker	Craig	1282
2nd	Butler	William	994
3rd	Wrathall	Luke	985

Martin Evans and Eileen Jarvie





Pictured is Will Howe, aged 16, with the Little Hay Junior Championship Trophy

## *What's on This Month and Next?*

### Men

#### SEPTEMBER

Saturday 5 – 0930 B team v Ruislip – Home  
Sunday 6 – 0800 Medal – Home  
Saturday 19 – 0930 A team v Batchwood – Away

#### OCTOBER

Saturday 3 -0930 A-team V Panshanger – Away  
Sunday 4 – 0828 Medal – Home  
Saturday 17 – 0930 Needle Shield – Away  
Saturday 24 – 0828 John Catchpole - Home

*All Seniors are eligible to play in any of the competitions listed above.*

### Seniors:

#### SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 1 – 0828 Match v Hazlemere – Home  
Thursday 3 – 0828 Medal – Home  
Thursday 10 – TBC Senior Captain's Awayday – Away  
Wednesday 16 – Match v Stockwood Park – Away  
Thursday 17 – 0828 Stableford – Home  
Tuesday 22 – 0828 Seniors Cup Round One – Home  
Thursday 24 – 0828 Seniors Cup Round Two – Home

#### OCTOBER

Thursday 1 – 0828 Medal – Home  
Thursday 8 – 0828 Charity Shield (Vic Allen Trophy) – Home  
Tuesday 20 – 0828 Senior Cap V former Senior Caps – Home  
Thursday 22 – Stableford - Home

### Ladies:

#### SEPTEMBER

Saturday 5 – 0820 BL Autumn Fruit Bowl (Q) – Home  
Monday 7 – 0836 Autumn Fruit Bowl (Q) – Home  
Thursday 10 – 1000 Match v Verulam – Home  
Monday 14 – 0836 Lady Captain's Day – Home  
Saturday 19 – 0930 BL Friendly Stableford – Home  
Monday 21 – 1000 Captains v Past Captains – Home  
Friday 25 – TBC Match v Essendon – Home  
Saturday 26 – 0804 BL David Johnson Trophy (Q) – Home  
Monday 28 – 0836 David Johnson Trophy (Q) – Home

#### OCTOBER

Saturday 3 – 0804 BL Medal Q – Home  
Monday 5 – 0836 Medal Q & 9hole friendly Stableford – Home  
Saturday 10 – 0804 BL Founders Cup bogey/par Q – Home  
Monday 12 – 0836 Founders Cup bogey/par NQ – Home  
Saturday 17 – 0804 BL O'connor foursomes & Daily Mail Competition – Home  
Monday 19 – 0836 O'connor foursomes and Daily Mail Competition – Home  
Saturday 24 – 0804 BL Goddens Trophy Greensomes – Home  
Monday 26 – 0836 Goddens Trophy Greensomes – Home  
Saturday 31 – 0828 November BL Medal – Home

### Juniors:

#### SEPTEMBER

Saturday 26 – TBC *Lexus League* Semi finals – Away

#### OCTOBER

Monday 21 – 1100 Stableford – Home  
Wednesday 23 – 1100 Medal and end of season prizegiving  
Friday 30 – 0900 *Lexus League Finals* at Hartsbourne

### ALL SECTIONS Club Competitions:

#### SEPTEMBER

**Saturday 12 – 0800 Presidents Day Stableford – Home**

#### OCTOBER

**Sunday 11 – 0804 All Sections Cup - Home**

**All match details and social events can be found, in detail, on the club website.**

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**Vice-Captain & Match Secretary:** Gillian Howells

**Membership Secretary:** Fran Tarling

**Handicap Secretary:** Chris Marsden

**Medal Secretary:** Jackie Joslyn

**Secretary & NAPGC Rep:** Linda Reeve

**Treasurer:** Carol Kent

**Business Ladies Rep:** Hee-Young Crowhurst

**Eclectic Secretary:** Caroline Banks

**County Rep:** Bobbie Barnes

**General Member:** Jacky Pearson

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