



Men's Annual General Meeting

Will be held in the Clubhouse
Saturday, 4th December 2021
at 4:30 p.m.

Agenda

1. Minutes of last Men's Annual General Meeting 2020
2. Men's Honorary Secretary's Report
3. Handicap Report
4. Junior Convenor Report
5. Notice of Motion
6. Any other business
7. Election of Officers & Committee

Terry Noone, Honorary Secretary
Paul Dobey, Honorary Treasurer

**COPIES OF MINUTES OF THE
2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE CIRCULATED ON WEBSITE
&
ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE BY ARRANGEMENT**

Men's Hon. Sec. Report for 2021 A.G.M.

2021 saw another year tick by in our lives as members of Courtown Golf Club and your Men's Committee hope that it has proven to be another enjoyable and successful year for you. In general, the matters of the club have progressed to our satisfaction this year and much credit is due to our Captain Vincent Kearney, his Vice Captain Adrian Copeland and President Jim French who have worked tirelessly to represent Courtown and its members both inside the club and beyond.

The 2 major challenges that we faced this year were the re-introduction of COVID-19 restrictions which saw the cancellation of golf for the first 4 months of the year and the introduction of the WHS Handicapping system. I believe that as a committee we dealt very successfully with these challenges to the benefit of all our members.

Competitions

Many of the normal activities of the Club were curtailed again this year due to the coronavirus restrictions. With golf not permitted until 12th May 2021 we once again had to contend with a changed golfing environment. As you will all remember the GUI protocols permitted casual golf only and subsequently competitions were permitted but with longer gaps between tee times and other social distancing measures. It was an incredible achievement by our Competitions Secretary, Kieran Murphy, and his committee that a full complement of majors and competitions were successfully squeezed into a reduced calendar including the completion of the 2020/21 Winter League.

The Captains and Presidents Prizes were well supported with full time sheets and were won by Pat Ryan and Donal Sheehan respectively.

The Gorey Guardian Summer Series was a major success with over 230 members and visitors playing each Wednesday and was won by Niall Hughes.

We had a good mix of winners throughout the year in all types of competition.

Congratulations to all the winners and commiserations to the also rans....

A special word of thanks is needed to our many generous sponsors who continue to support our club. I would strongly urge our members to reciprocate that support for our sponsors in their many businesses.

Competition Secretary would like to thank his sub-committee, the office staff, the course staff, the professionals, and the office volunteers all their help throughout the year. A special word of thanks to Mary and Laura for their help with presentations and prizes.

Handicaps Report 2021

The implementation of WHS into Courtown was seen by many members as a seamless transition but the amount of work that went on in the background was incredibly onerous and a huge debt of gratitude is due to our Handicap Secretary Paul Doran and his sub-committee. They dealt daily and weekly not only with our member queries but also with Golfing Ireland to ensure that we complied with all guidelines and recommendations. I can confirm that WHS has been fully implemented and is here to stay.

A full report from our handicap Secretary is attached herewith.

Teams

Despite the late start to competitive golf the club agreed to participate in most GUI registered team events during the year. Teams Secretary Noel Ivanoff made a major effort to recruit team managers and worked tirelessly with those managers to ensure that a full complement of members were available to each team in order to represent our Club. Unfortunately, no success was forthcoming this year but a major review and consideration of the club approach to team events occupied a considerable amount of time at our committee meetings and our incoming Captain Adrian has undertaken to address this in the next golfing year.

We as a committee were delighted and encouraged by the many new members that joined our club during the year. We would like to extend our 'Cead Mile Failte' to each and every one of you and we hope that your membership will be enjoyable and fruitful and we look forward to your active participation in Courtown Golf Club for many years to come.

I would like to sincerely thank your Men's Committee for volunteering their time and for their hard work in 2021. It has been my pleasure and privilege to work alongside them. Your committee consisted of Vincent Kearney (Captain), Jim French (President), Adrian Copeland (Vice-Captain), Paul Doran (Handicap Secretary), Kieran Murphy (Competition Secretary), Paul Dobey (Treasurer), Noel Ivanoff, Cathal O'Donoghue and Stephen Redmond.

A special thank you to Vice Captain Adrian, our Junior Convenor, for his tireless work in co-ordinating all matters with our Junior members. His report on the junior section is attached herewith.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our outgoing Captain Vinnie on a great golfing year and wish all the very best for a wonderful 2022 to our incoming Captain Adrian.

Terry Noone

Men's Honorary Secretary

Courtown Golf Club AGM Handicap Report 2021

It's now one full year since the World Handicap System introduction and it appears to be bedding in well. There have been no formal requests for individual handicap reviews in the last 6 months.

The Handicap Annual Review was recently completed by the Handicapping Sub-Committee. The process involved thorough scrutiny of all reports available on the Dotgolf platform, and a review of scoring history and competition wins, including team events and four-ball competitions over the past year. The outcome was that relatively few handicap adjustments were made. The committee's overall approach remains that, in general, a player's recorded scores are the fairest and most even measure of their own ability.

Approximately 45 new handicaps were issued this year and the committee continues to encourage any member without a handicap to return marked scorecards with 54 holes in 9- or 18-hole format.

There has been some commentary on social media about the fairness of the WHS in terms of prize distribution, particularly among lower handicaps. Our analysis demonstrated that prizes have been reasonably well distributed among the different handicap categories.

The following table provides some detail:

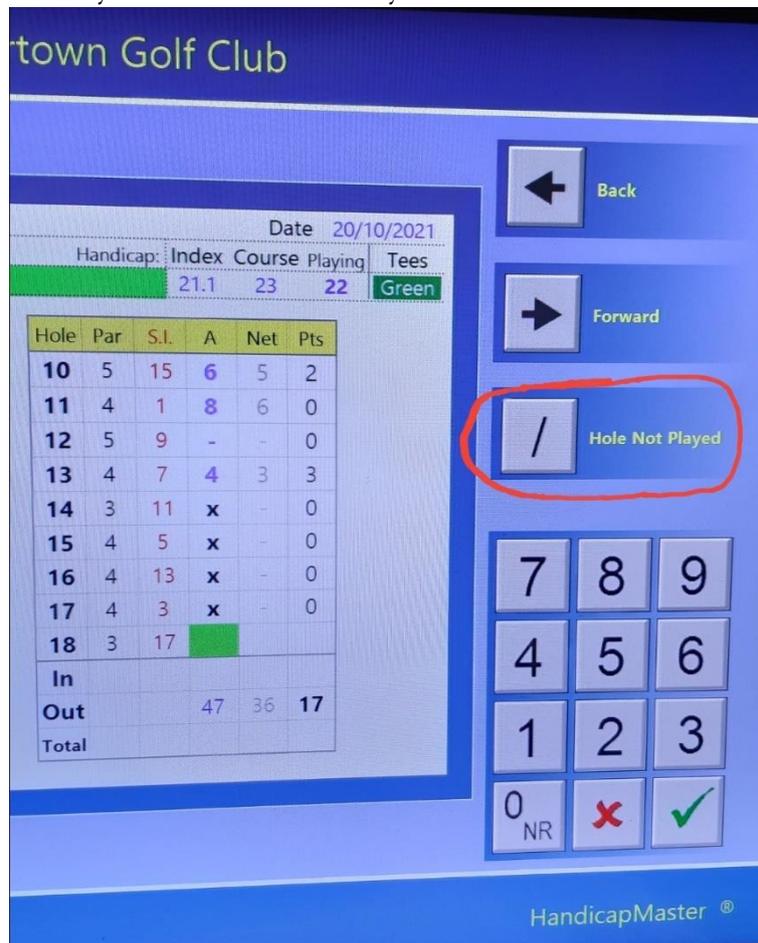
95% Course Handicap - % Distribution

95% Course Handicap Category	% Distribution among 578 adult male members	%Distribution among 5725 entries in 50 Singles competitions	%Distribution for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Prize winners in 50 Singles competitions	%Distribution for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Prize winners in 25 Team competitions
-1 to 5	3	5	4	4
6 to 10	10	14	13	10
11 to 15	22	23	19	21
16 to 20	23	23	28	37
21 to 25	20	20	25	16
26 to 30	13	10	10	8
31 to 35	6	3	1	3
36 to 40	3	1	0	1
41 to 45	1	0	0	1

Average Member 95%CH	20
Average Singles Entrant 95%CH	18
Average Singles Prize Winner (1st,2nd,3rd) 95%CH	18
Average Team Prize Winner (1st,2nd,3rd) 95%CH	17

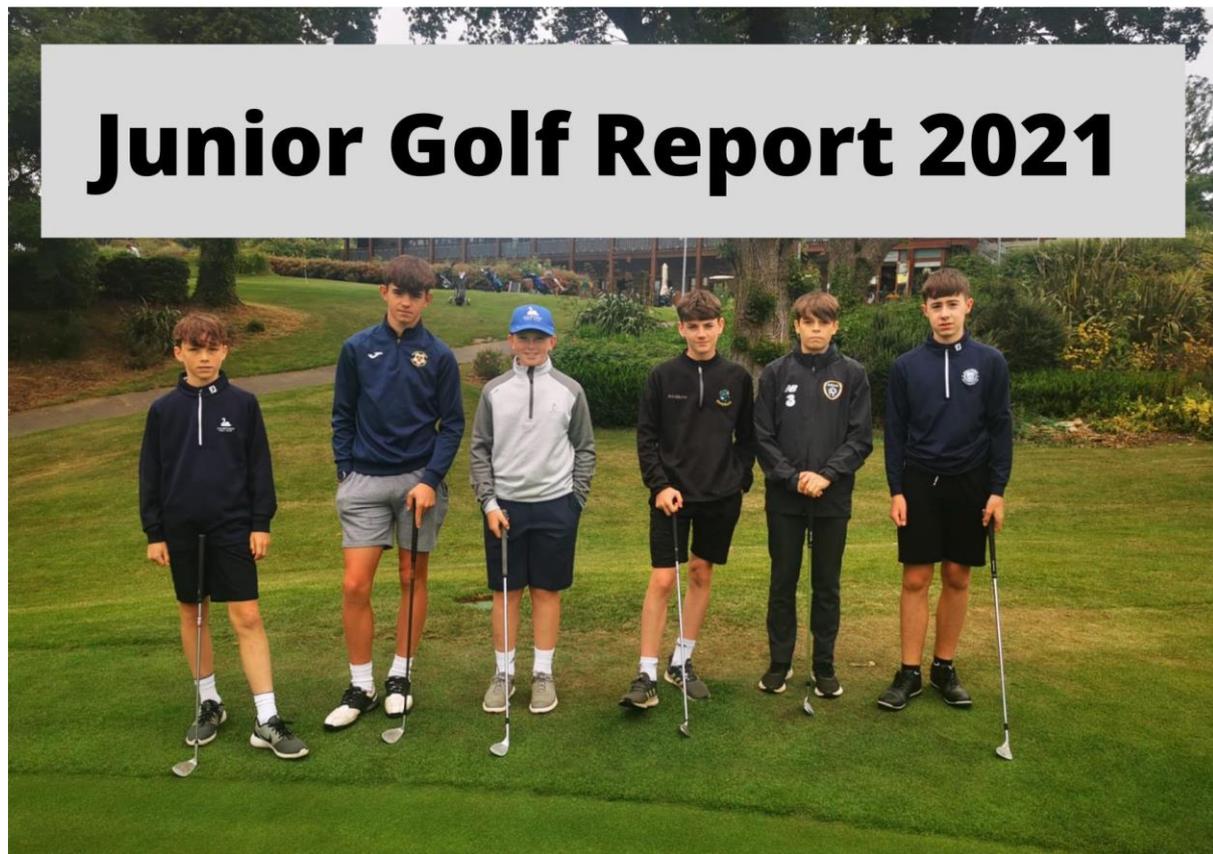
The issue of non-returned cards and incomplete scorecards continues to create extra work for the committee. The rules are clear that complete cards should be returned for qualifying Competitions and for General Play scores that are recorded for handicap purposes. It is expected that, once started, rounds should be completed, except for some very specific reasons including injury or illness, dangerous weather conditions, or failing light. Members should note that there is a difference between a hole recorded as not finished and a hole that is not played at all. They are the same score (zero) from a competition point of view, but for

handicap purposes, the NR scores a net double bogey, whereas the Hole Not Played scores a net par. This has a significant influence on a player's Score Differential for the round and subsequent Handicap Index adjustment. Therefore, it goes without saying that the "Hole Not Played" button must always be used where relevant.



Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Handicapping Sub-Committee for their significant input during the year.

Paul Doran (Handicap Secretary)



After a slightly delayed start, Junior golf commenced on the 29th of April this year. It was a busy season with weekly sessions finishing up at the end of September.

The junior section continues to go from strength to strength. We had 101 new juniors join this year. It is fantastic to see kids interested in golf. This comprised of 64 boys, 30 girls and 7 students. This success can be attributed to several things.

1. The guidance from golf Ireland in the type of events to run.
2. Access to the course – Kids just want to play on the course. Both in competitions and practice.
3. The very cheap first year fees (€55 increasing progressively to €200 over 4 years)
4. Weekly coaching sessions. (Like in other sports only possible with help from parents)
5. A fun environment. (A relaxed approach to Rules)

The Challenges for the junior section going forward are to retain these new members and continue to attract new members. With the increased numbers this becomes more of a logistical challenge in scheduling golf activities into sessions with manageable numbers. Access to PGA coaching with Paul during the busy period will require planning and thought. Also, access to the course for juniors is vitally important for their enjoyment and therefore retention.

As numbers increase, this will obviously become more of a challenge in getting the balance with member's access. Currently, Junior cadets were using the back 9 on a Thursday evening during the Summer for on course supervised practice. There were some instances of minor disruption to members with this. The alternative is to Block the back 9 exclusively for juniors from 6pm on a Thursday. This has to be in the evening as parents are required to supervise. 9 and 18 hole competitions were held on Monday and Friday mornings.

Summary	Boys	Girls	Total
U-10	32	15	47
U-12	39	13	52
U-15	40	12	52
U-18	17	9	26
U-21	40	6	46
U-25	14	3	19
Total	182	60	242

New Members 2021	101
Boys	64
Girls	30
Students	7

This year we had 3 Junior teams competing in inter-club Competitions. This was the first time in a number of years that we had entered teams, so it was great to get back competing. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful but it was a great learning experience that the boys really enjoyed. I believe most of the team are eligible for selection next year again, so I hope we can build on the experience and be competitive in these competitions every year going forward.

We held a number of Competitions during the year. Our Cadets played a number of 'Golf Sixes' competitions. This is a fun team format played in a team of 6 (3 2-ball scrambles) over 6 holes shortened to 150 metres. We held a fun 'Ryder Cup' match-play competition. Unfortunately, the result was the same as the real thing with a USA win, however this one was a bit closer.

This year's Boy's Junior Captain's prize (Taylor Dench) was won by Christopher Maguire (HC23) with 38pts. Girls junior Captain's prize (Bethany Tränkner) was won by Caroline McGarry (HC32) 37pts.

This year the annual Junior open day Tom Funge Memorial was held on the 12th August and was won by David Flood (HC24 Ballymoney) with 42 pts. The Girl's prize was won by Emily Tuite (HC22 Tara Glen) with 36 pts. We also held a golf sixes competition on this day for our Cadets and a great day was had by all. Food was served outside.

Special mention to Darragh O'Toole age 14 (HC10) who got his first hole in one on the 20th August on the 18th hole. His regular playing partners Andrew Smith and Tom Funge would probably have won the prize for the most golf played this summer. It's great to see their practice paying off. Hopefully we will see them representing Courtown in inter club competitions in the future.

Due to COVID it was not possible to have any social activities in the club but this is something we will look at next season. We also hope to have a few talks on different competition formats, Rules of golf and various aspects of golf at the club that was not possible to do as a group this year.

The season finished up with an away outing to Blackwater par 3 on Sunday the 3rd of October and great day was had by all. It was great to see the improvement from all our young golfers through the year. Special thanks to Paul Morris for his expert coaching and patience. And to all the parents who helped out.

Adrian Copeland (Junior Convenor)