

# The Links Leader

Summer 2024 / Issue 11



## CAPTAIN PAUL'S PRIZE 21-23 JUNE 2024



What a fantastic three days of golf with qualifying rounds on Friday and Saturday attracting an entry of 227 with the top 51 players going out on Sunday in reverse order to compete for the wonderful prizes and, of course, the honour of winning the Captains Prize.

As usual the weather played its part with a rainy blustery Friday followed by two days of glorious sunshine. The format for the competition, with first round scores carrying forward, ensured that our winner, Neil Doyle, had to play his best golf to overcome a stern challenge from Nick Reville and Ken Maher in second and third place respectively.

Neil of course had the benefit of having our Junior Captain Jamie as his caddie. I'm sure young Jamie was well rewarded for his advice and efforts.



View more pictures [here](#)



## PRESIDENT PAT'S PRIZE

18 MAY 2024



We had a wonderful day and evening for President Pat Byrne's Prize, with great weather, very competitive golf, and super dining and entertainment in honour of our esteemed President.



Congratulations to Ciara Howard on her fantastic win, Tara Dunne on her Gross Prize and President Pat's daughter Nicola on securing the Burrow Prize.

View more pictures [here](#) and video [here](#)

## CAPTAIN PAUL'S PRIZE TO THE LADIES 11 JUNE 2024

### NEVER SAY NEVER!

A big shout out to Kitty Roche who won her very first MAJOR by claiming Captain Paul's Prize to the ladies with a fantastic score of 64 nett.

Kitty told us she has been trying for over 30 years to win one and has now finally achieved her goal.

She really is an inspiration to us all.

More photos [here](#)





A big thank you to Kellys Hotel for their continued generous sponsorship of the much sought-after prize this year won by John Butler.

**SENIOR SCRATCH CUP**

**7 APRIL 2024**

This year's Rosslare Scratch Cup attracted a very strong field of 88 of Ireland's best scratch golfers who competed for this prestigious prize over 36 holes on the Championship Links Course.

This year's competition ended in a tie for first place between Eoin O'Carroll of St Annes GC and Paul Coghlan of Castleknock GC with Eoin winning the tournament on the third tie hole.

Well done to Rosslare prizewinners Mark Whelan, Gary Collins and Mark Mullan.



---

**LEINSTER COMMITTEE GOLF DAY OUT**

**FRIDAY 10 MAY 2024**



We welcomed Ladies and Gents Committees from all over Leinster for their Annual Golf Day out.

A super day's golf and dining was had by all, and congratulations to Heath Golf Club on their win.

## GREENKEEPER'S BLOG

It's very hard to believe that we are at the mid-way point of 2024 already, and that it's 3 months since my last greenkeeper's blog.

With all the rain in the early part of the year, it felt like all the months have rolled into one, and while the last week or two have improved temperature wise, we still have not seen any real sign of the summer.

With that said, our fantastic crew of volunteers, led by the evergreen Jim Cullimore and Kevin Foran on The Burrow, have been back out over the last couple of weeks, keeping our fairway moisture levels topped up, and for their unwavering support in maintaining the playability of the links, I thank them immensely.

Our last update was in March, and we have had an extremely busy few months on the links since.

With the winter projects all finished up, we were back into more regular maintenance and really setting the course up for the season.

April kicked off with the Senior Scratch Cup, a competition which I love preparing for as it gives us a nice lead into the season, and getting feedback from some of the top amateur golfers in the country gives us an idea of where we are at, condition wise.



We carried out the first of our selective applications which helps to reduce the fatter, undesirable weed grasses in our greens and approaches.

This was followed up by our Spring overseed of pure fescue, which helped to fill back up the surfaces after an extremely busy winter of golf traffic.

This practice consists of punching 10mm pots in the greens, before seeding with our Wiedemann Terra Float Air Seeder, top dressing with sand and dragging all the sand and seed into the holes.

We had a very high percentage germination rate and disruption to play was minimal.



At the back end of April, we took delivery of two new John Deere 2750 E-cut Hybrid greens mowers from Dublin Grass Machinery.



These machines provide an excellent quality of cut, and with the cutting units being powered electrically rather than hydraulically, it reduces the chances of harmful oil leaks on our greens.

Thanks as always to the Greens, Finance and Management Committees for ensuring we have the right tools to do our job.

Since sending out the last update with the bunker raking and pitch mark repair videos, we have seen a marked improvement in care for the course from our members.

We thank you for this and ask that you continue in the same fashion, raking bunkers, fixing pitch marks and filling divots.

A question I get asked a lot is:

Where should we leave the rakes?

Inside or outside the bunker?

My personal preference, and the one which I feel has the least impact on playability is pictured.

If the rake is left with the handle just on the edge of the bunker facing the line of play, it reduces contact with the ground and therefore less likely that a ball will come to rest against it or get deflected from its line.

**Preferred rake position**





In recent weeks we have really seen an improvement in definition and presentation throughout the courses, with the tall fescue rough coming into its own.

We didn't have any deep rough to speak of last year, following the drought spell in May and June 2023.

I felt this took from both the playability and aesthetic of the course.

This year however, growth conditions have been perfect for it to regenerate following our mowing over the winter, and while it may be playing a little bit tougher, it offers a true test of links golf.

Assistant Superintendent Dermot McCallion applying a wetting agent and seaweed mix to our 2<sup>nd</sup> green, to keep our moisture levels just where we want them and promote plant health.



Taken with the drone on a beautiful June Sunday morning.

Thank you to all my greens team for their outstanding work, day in, day out.

They work all sorts of unsociable hours in all conditions to produce top class surfaces for your enjoyment.

We are blessed to have them here at Rosslare.

Many thanks and enjoy your Summer of golf.

Mark Doyle

Links Superintendent

June 2024

**Huge congratulations to Mark on receiving his Club Management Diploma from CMA Europe. Well done, Mark!**



---

## HOIST THE MAINSAIL



Our magnificent mast situated at the entrance to the club, which was erected to mark the Club's Centenary Year in 2005, has been restored to its former glory thanks to the efforts of Bobby Devereux and his team.

Pictures here and the video link below show how tricky it was to get it back in place after its restoration.



<https://youtube.com/shorts/UAOsL7CJTQY>

## PROSHOP NEWS



Dear Members

### Wedding bliss

I would like to take this opportunity to give a heartfelt thank you for all the lovely calls, texts, cards, generous gifts that me and Sonya received for our wedding. We truly felt very special and lucky to have so many friends and well-wishers.

We had a wonderful few days and celebrated in style with friends and family in Newbay House Wexford. A fantastic venue that's brilliantly managed if any of you are interested for the future; 😊)

Another special word of thanks to Anna, Cillian and Benny who held the fort for a few days when we nipped off to unwind for a few days afterwards.

### Junior Summer Camps 2024

We are holding two summer camps this year:

**July 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>.**

These camps are for kids strictly between **7 and 14 years of age**.

The camps are from **4-6pm and cost €50**.

Places are limited so please book through the Proshop asap.

### Golf Tuition & Custom Fitting:

You can now book Golf Lessons and Custom Fitting directly via the below link:

<https://jamieosullivan.proagenda.com/>

I have recently upgraded my Trackman to version 4 which has lots of new features for teaching the long and short game including putting.

### Proshop Fashions:

We have been extremely busy preparing for the busy golfing season and have brought in a few new labels for 2024.

For ladies we have Pure Golf, Swing Out Sister, Chiberta and Zero Restriction and for the men we have Fairway & Green, Donald Ross, Zero Restriction and Penguin.

Anna has been very busy, and the shop is looking fantastic and hopefully alluring with the wonderful styles and colours.

### Spanish Members Golf Trip 2024:

This is the final call to those of you who are wishing to come on our Annual Overseas Golf Trip.

I am delighted to announce the destination of our 2024 Annual Golf Trip with Cassidy Golf Travel.

We are heading to Sunny Spain, Torremolinos from October 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>. We are staying in the beachside beautiful Sol Principe Hotel and playing three rounds of Golf at Lauro, Baviera and Parador. The trip is all inclusive and consists of all your air travel, all baggage, all transfers, and all golf with buggies. This will be our fifth Annual Golf Club Trip and is one of the highlights of my year.



The great fun and friendships that this trip has yielded makes it a week never to miss. The Hotel is situated right on the beach less than ten minutes from the airport. It is a short walk along a beautiful beach promenade to several towns.

As places are limited, I would ask you to reserve your booking through Cassidy Golf:

[golf@cassidytravel.ie](mailto:golf@cassidytravel.ie) or phone 01-8725000

All contact details and other information is on the attached poster.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.



We are really looking forward to another busy summer season at the Club, the courses are both in immaculate condition thanks to Mark and the lads. If you require any help or assistance with your Golf Game or equipment, please don't hesitate to call in and we will endeavour to help you.

Happy Golfing!!

Jamie, Anna, Cillian & Benny!!



---

## U18 IRELAND V WALES Girls and Boys International Challenge

22-24 MARCH 2024

Rosslare Golf Links were extremely proud and honoured to host this prestigious international competition held over 3 days at the end of March. After a practice session on Friday the competition itself commenced early on Saturday morning with the foursomes followed by singles in the afternoon. A further singles session on Sunday morning concluded with a great win for the Irish Boys and Girls over their Welsh counterparts.



Maybe some future Rorys, Shanes or Leonas on show here that weekend.



## HOLE IN ONE CLUB



**Captain Paul Boggan 14th**



**Ian Lynch 10<sup>th</sup>**



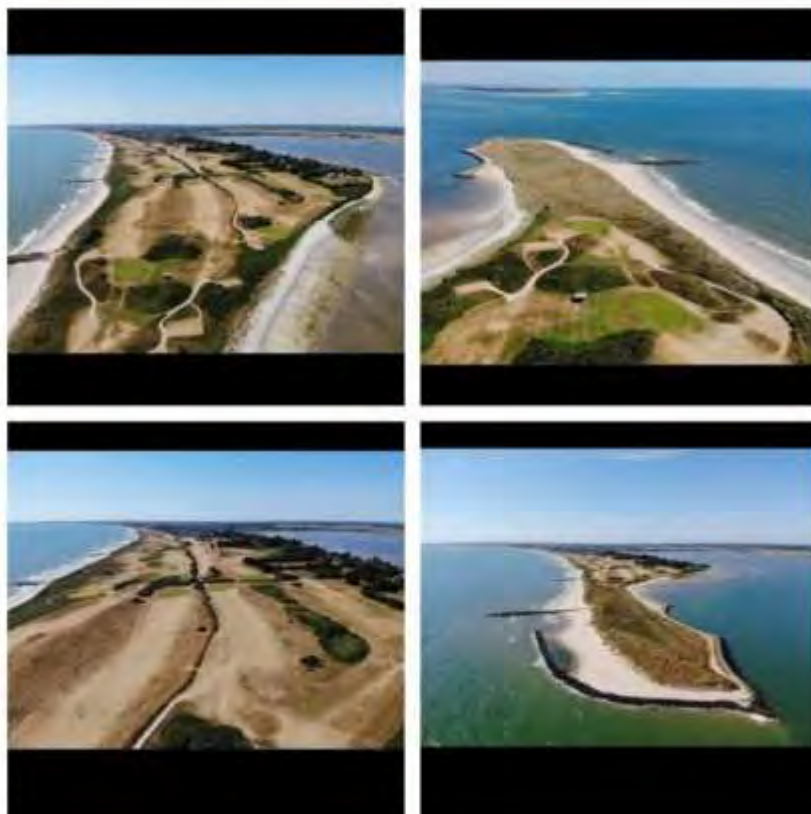
**JP Cullen 10<sup>th</sup>**



**Pádraig Power 10<sup>th</sup>**



**Tommy Rowe 10<sup>th</sup>**



***We must never let this happen again!***

These pictures of our course in 2018 illustrate clearly the dangers posed by the unpredictability and reality of global warming into the future.

Our SGM gave the Club the mandate to secure adequate funding approval to allow works to commence on a state-of-the-art irrigation system in October 2024.

These major works will equate to

- more efficiency,
- less water waste,
- less chemical use
- reduced cost of overseeding

***The future is now!***



**Inaugural Joint Committee Meeting of Men's and Ladies' Clubs**

Neil Kilgallon, GI Development and Club Support Officer, South Leinster gave a presentation to our Joint Committees on the One Club Model with lots of ideas for building an even more modern and inclusive club. This is the direction that Golf Ireland are encouraging golf clubs to follow on the pathway to the future structure of golf clubs in Ireland.

A landmark day indeed.

## CAPTAIN ANNE'S PRIZE TO THE GENTS

26 MAY 2024

In keeping with our One Club philosophy, Captain Anne Roche Redmond initiated a new Prize for the Men's Club.

Captain Anne's Prize to the Gents was a great success, and well done to winner Rory Deane.

Pictured here: Captain Anne with Captain Paul and prize-winners.

Well done Captain Anne!



---

## NEVER MEET YOUR HEROES

Cillian Duggan paid no heed to this advice when he met one of his all-time heroes, Tommy Fleetwood, on a recent trip to Dubai where Tommy is based.



---

## A FESTIVAL OF LINKS GOLF

OPEN WEEKS 29 JULY – 11 AUGUST 2024



Our beautiful Links Course has never been in better condition, so we can't wait for this year's Festival of Links Golf.

Booking now open!

Our annual Play in Pink fundraiser was a huge success this year, sponsored by Gemini Surgical Innovations. This year, President John Howard kindly organised a Men's competition in the Burrow, with prizes for best dressed in both competitions – the Trolley Dollies and Vice-Captain Boyd took the honours!



The competitions and raffle made a total of **€2200** in aid of Breast Cancer Research, a fantastic total, and great fun on the day.

Well done everyone!

View more pictures [here](#)



## WELCOME MICHAEL!

Best wishes to our new Food and Beverage Manager, Mr Michael Troller, being welcomed to the Club by Captain Paul Boggan.

## DON'T LET THE OLD MAN IN

Davy Noonan and John Long have no intention of letting this guy into their active golfing lives as recent events have demonstrated.



John Long



Davy Noonan

On the 19 May Davy played in the Hogan Cup and shot **81 gross** on the day of his 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday beating his age by 2 shots. It's a feat most of us can only dream of achieving.

He said he was inspired by his lifelong great friend John Long who won his division in the Multi Tee singles competition on the 15 May.

These guys are truly an inspiration to us all.

[Toby Keith - Don't Let the Old Man In \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

---

## GET INTO GOLF PROGRAMME 2024

We had an overwhelming 45 ladies participating in this year's program. Managed by Clare Barry, Vonny Kelly and assisted by an experienced group of great volunteers it proved a great success.

It ran over a period of 8 weeks. Under Jamie's expert guidance, the ladies spent the first four weeks learning basic techniques and skill-building sessions, followed by four weeks of on-course practice at the Burrow course. These sessions helped them navigate the course properly along with learning the basic rules and etiquette of the game. A special thanks goes out to PJ and Kevin, in the Burrow, for enabling the smooth running of our various events.



Our grand finale on June 6th was a big hit, with over thirty ladies enjoying a scramble tournament on the Burrow course followed by a really enjoyable evening at the clubhouse. Attended by Captain Anne Redmond and Vice-Captain Karen, Certificates and prizes were awarded by Golf Ireland, and the catering staff ensured a memorable experience for over 50 attendees.

Between participants, helpers and volunteers everyone certainly enjoyed the eight weeks of **getting into golf**, leading to almost 50% of the group joining as playing members in the Burrow Course at a cost of €250 until December 2024.

Moving forward, our goal is to nurture these players and support the continuation of their golf journey. To facilitate ongoing encouragement for this group, a dedicated **WhatsApp** group will be set up. Should any members wish to be included (text 086 7956355). We welcome any volunteers who might help to mentor and encourage our new golfers.



---

## JUNIOR NEWS



### SUMMER COACHING CAMPS WITH JAMIE

Rosslare Golf club PGA Professional Jamie O'Sullivan is holding two camps this summer:

**July 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>.**

These camps are for kids strictly between **7 and 14 years of age**.

The camps are from **4-6pm and cost €50**.

Places are limited so please book through the Proshop asap.

## FOLLOW YOUR CLUB ON OUR SOCIAL CHANNELS

