

## Club Captain – Jon Lewis

I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and may I wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Yet again the main talking point of the month has been the weather and the unprecedented volume of rainfall we have seen. Sadly the course has been forced to close on numerous occasions to prevent excessive damage that would otherwise take much time and resources to return to the normal high standards that Ryston sets.

I hope you can all appreciate that our greens staff are doing all they can to keep the course open in these challenging times.



The drainage pipework placed under the 9<sup>th</sup> green has been very successful in keeping the green in use, so we will look to use similar methods to drain water from other problem areas on the course.

The AM-AM was well supported and enjoyed by all those that attended. The winning team consisted of Matt Bussens, Steve Capes, Chay Sharpin & Lewis Tighe so congratulations to the winners on the day, those presented with trophies from the seasons mixed cup matches and to those organisers that worked hard to make the event such a resounding success.



We are approaching the clubs Annual General Meeting which not only brings my tenure as Club Captain to an end but also gives the opportunity to join the clubs committee. All aspects of the day-to-day running of our club is managed by the elected members of the committee, so if you would like to become involved or would like more information on what is required from it's members then please speak to either myself or our secretary Andy.

Hopefully we will see some improved weather conditions over the forthcoming month, so we can all enjoy our golf together. Once again, please be respectful of our staff, the course and don't forget to repair those pitch marks.

## Mixed Cup Winners

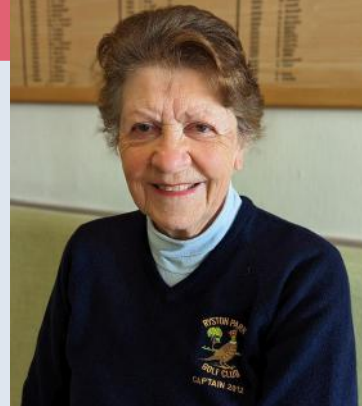




# Newsletter

December 2023

## Ladies Captain – Janet Coles



Well, here we are in 2024 and I am considering giving up golf and putting my efforts into building an ark!

We have welcomed back Trish from her Spanish sojourn - she must be really delighted to get back to our seasonal winter weather! I am green with envy of those ladies who managed to seek out some sunshine during December. I feel that The Maldives will soon be considered to be twinned with Ryston Park!

The ladies held their usual Bring & Win on 6th December followed by an excellent seasonal lunch provided by Tonya and then many of the ladies played in the

Christmas AmAm on 17th.

It was really good to see the clubhouse full of members and their friends. The atmosphere was great and we must thank Maggie, Tracy and Susan for their superb organisation.

We competed on 20th for the much coveted "Christmas Pudding" trophy and this was won by Patsy Parker who beat Tracy Russell by the narrowest of margins on count-back - better luck next year Tracy!

During 2023 we ladies have contributed some of our funds to the Club by purchasing the new dining chairs which finish off the refurbished clubhouse. We raise our money by means of our Annual Open Day - a lot of hard work but it is enjoyed by us

and our visitors and enables us to help the Club.

Finally, can I recommend that everyone looks at Tiff's 2023 summary on the Ryston Park Facebook page - an excellent presentation Tiff - many thanks



Before and after photos of Amelia (Maggie Ward's Granddaughter) donating her hair to provide a wig for children undergoing cancer treatment. She also raised £700 for the Princess Trust which is enough to make wig for a child. Thank you to Ryston Park for their generous donation of £115 from members at the Christmas Am – Am.



## Seniors Captain – Michael Brown



This will be my last month as Senior Captain. This month we had a few roll ups weather permitting and we played a Winter Alliance match at Fakenham in which we played Dereham, resulting in a halved match. My thanks go to the members who took part in the match. The next Alliance match is at Feltwell on the 4th January 2024 against Dereham.

We held our Annual Dinner on the 15th and those attending enjoyed the meal. My thanks go to Tonya and Paige for the excellent food which was served at the tables and to Ryan for running the bar. A big thank you to Tiff and Peter for all their hard work throughout the year on maintaining the course and keeping it in excellent condition.

I would like to thank all the members who have supported me throughout my year as captain and hope you continue to support the incoming captain for the coming season. Finally I wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and wish you all well and good golf in 2024.



# Newsletter

December 2023

## The Secretary – Andy Ware

### Club AGM

The Club AGM will take place in the Clubhouse on Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 7 pm.

Nomination Forms for Vacant positions on the Committee are on the Notice Board and need to be handed to the Secretary before 1st February 2024. If any member has anything to raise in Any Other Business, this needs to be communicated to the Secretary before 1st February.

### Changers to the World Handicap System

Just as you thought you had got to grips with the WHS there is changers coming in from

April 1st, 2024

The following changes included in the WHS™ 2024 Rules of Handicapping are:

- ✓ Introduction of Course Rating™ minus PAR (within CONGU nations)
- ✓ Introduction of acceptable scores from 4BBB formats
- ✓ Implementation of Expected Scoring
- ✓ Using Un-rounded Course Handicap™ calculation
- ✓ Course Rating™ changes
- ✓ Rating of courses of a minimum 1500 yards
- ✓ Standardising Par

This Month we will look at Course rating minus Par:

#### How it works?

If the CR is Higher than Par, players will receive additional strokes, however if the CR is lower than the par, they will lose strokes, this is to ensure that handicap target score is Nett Par/36 points. This applies for all handicap indexes.

For example:

A male player currently playing Ryston from the white tees (C.R. – 70.4, SLOPE - 125, Par 70), with a handicap index of 12.0, would have a course handicap of 13.

- $H.I. \times (SLOPE/113)$
- $12.0 \times (125/113)$
- $12.0 \times 1.10619$
- $13.27428 (13)$

However, using CR-PAR, the players handicap index would be 14, taking into consideration the difference in the course rating and the Par of the course.

- $(H.I. \times (SLOPE/113)) + (C.R.-PAR)$
- $(12.0 \times (125/113)) + (70.4 - 70)$
- $(12.0 \times 1.10619) + (.4)$
- $13.27428 + 0.4$
- $13.67428 (14)$

This means that players are now aiming for Nett Par/36 points.

#### Benefits

- ✓ Golfers are playing to PAR of the course for handicapping purposes.
- ✓ Golfers will receive shots based on the course difficulty

## Results

**No Comps this Month**

### Golf Lessons Available

Peter Lunt has been a fully qualified PGA Professional for over 35 years.

Lesson fees are:

£15 for half an hour.

£25 for 5 hole playing lesson.

All other lesson options negotiable.

Contact Peter on 07568318390

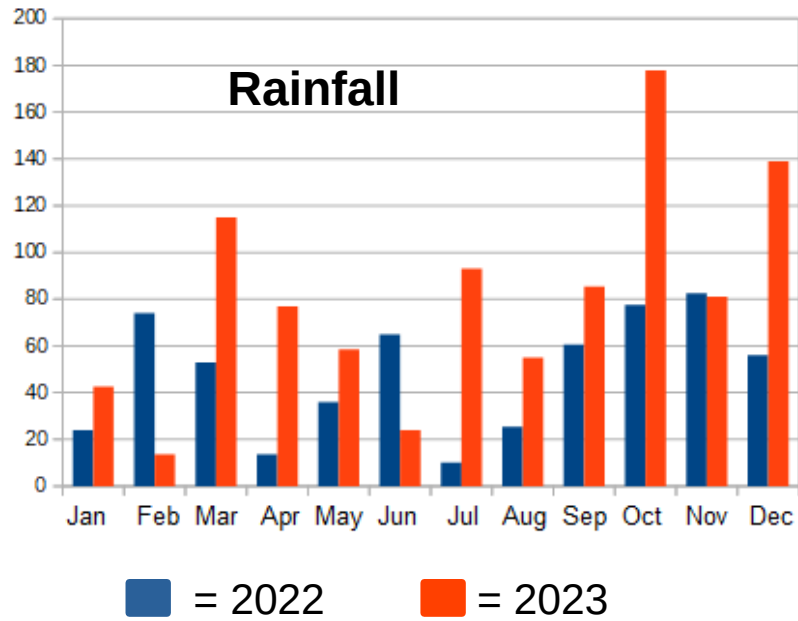
[Plunt79@gmail.com](mailto:Plunt79@gmail.com) to book.



## Greenstaff

A very wet end to 2023 with 139mm falling in December. Bringing the yearly total to 962mm! 2022 years total was 577mm. As reported on the news, Denver is among the wettest in East Anglia and it's certainly showing on the course. The ponds are near capacity, the water table is very high, so any rain that falls struggles to drain away as quickly. We shall try to keep the course open as much as possible but it all comes down to the amount of rain and the time of day it falls. For example, if it rains during the day and stops before night, the chances of the course being open the next day are more likely as it has time to drain overnight. However, if it rains during the the night and stops in the morning, the course has no time to drain before play. So even though it might not be raining always check the website in the morning before travelling to the club, especially if has rained during the night.

Closing the course is not an easy decision to make or something we take lightly. We strive to produce a course for people to enjoy all year round and to have to close it as often as it has been because of something we cannot control is demoralising. But we have to look at the bigger picture. There are a lot of variables to consider when closing the course, such as, ground conditions, how many holes are effected, is it safe to play, what damage will play cause, what restrictions should be in place, what's the forecast for the rest of the day. Whatever the decision is, we know we will not please everyone. Please also remember, no two courses are the same. Different soil types, topography of the land and drainage systems will all play a part in how well a course copes with this amount of rainfall. But we have to try and stay positive, this weather simply cannot last!



But we have to look at the bigger picture. There are a lot of variables to consider when closing the course, such as, ground conditions, how many holes are effected, is it safe to play, what damage will play cause, what restrictions should be in place, what's the forecast for the rest of the day. Whatever the decision is, we know we will not please everyone. Please also remember, no two courses are the same. Different soil types, topography of the land and drainage systems will all play a part in how well a course copes with this amount of rainfall. But we have to try and stay positive, this weather simply cannot last!

Peter taking part in the Hunstanton Christmas Day Swim.

