

# Men's Notes: Spring 2022



## Key dates for 2022

Before we all rush off to book our holidays here are some key dates for members to have in their diaries for the 2022 season.

**Captain Danny Hatton's prize** will be run over two Saturdays in July. The first round will be on July 9th and the second round will be on the following Saturday (16th).

Scores will be cumulative over the two rounds for those who qualify for day two and it will be a stableford event. There will also be a nine hole competition on day two for those players who don't qualify from day one.

Our Captain's dinner will be on the evening of the 16th and we are looking forward to a great night after the disappointment of missing out on the last two Captain's Nights due to "the unmentionable".

After the forced format changes of 2020 and 2021, which proved to be very popular, **President Neville Galloway's prize** will again be a qualifier event rather than going straight to match-play. This qualifier will

take place on Saturday April 23rd with the top sixty four players qualifying for the match-play rounds.

Similarly, the Glenavy mixed foursomes will also return in 2022 as a qualifier event ( 28th August) with eight couples to qualify for the match-play rounds.



In 2021 we unveiled the eloquently named " Parent/Child/ Grandparent/Grandchild Trophy". In it's inaugural year this was won by Pat and Conor

Gormley. This event will run again in 2022 on Sunday July 24th.

Other key dates:

Entries open for Father & Son and Carrinson Cup on March 4th.

Captains Danny and Amanda will have their drive in on March 17th. This will be followed by a shotgun start nine hole competition.

Spring Lamb fourball competition will be held on March 19th.

Our first medal is scheduled for May 7th.

The Frank Talbot fourball matchplay qualifier will be held on June 11th.

Our Open Week will run from Sunday 17th July to Friday 22nd.

Vice Captain John Byrne's Prize will take place on Saturday 13th August.

The Main Hamper will be played for on September 17th.

Happy golfing !!

## Men's Teams 2022

Believe it or not the 2022 teams campaign has already begun. Paul Keane is Teams Convenor for 2022 and he has been busy appointing managers for the season. There is a list of team managers on the notice board in the locker room. If you would like to represent your club on a team please contact the relevant manager, they are anxious to hear from you.

Our Fitzgibbon team are out for their first match against Killiney on February 6th, before facing Powerscourt the following

week. A break until March follows after which they will play Bray and Woodbrook on the 13th and 20th respectively.

Our Darcy Trophy team began their 2022 campaign in December when they earned a 3-3 draw away to Woodbrook. [\(Match report here\)](#). The competition resumes on February 20th with a home match V Old Conna and we have a second home match on March 6th against Druids heath. Our final round robin match will be away to Old Conna on March 27th.

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## Slow play



The main criticism levelled against slow players in The R&A's pace of play survey was that such players were not ready to play when it was their turn.

Being ready to play should be very easy. While taking care not to distract other players or compromise safety, all that is required is that a player should do the following while waiting for others to play:

*Walk efficiently to the ball putting their glove on in the process.*

*Assess the shot, including any calculation of distance the player wants to make, or line up the putt,*

and

*Make a decision on club selection.*

It is even more important that the first person in a group to play carries out these tasks promptly.

Considerable time will be saved during the course of a round if players do these things efficiently and non-intrusively while others are playing. The frustration comes when a player stands by their ball

## Course update

As part of our winter programme the area at the rear of the 5<sup>th</sup> green is being reshaped and expanded.

The front portion of the green is unplayable for most of the year and this area is being lifted and re-laid at the rear of the green, which will allow additional pin positions and thus spread the traffic on the green to reduce wear.

The 5<sup>th</sup> hole has been closed since

watching others in the group playing, and only when it is their turn do they begin to prepare for the shot.

Combined with an efficient pre-shot routine, the seconds that can be taken off each stroke by being ready to play can have a massively positive impact on the time it takes to play a round of golf.

*Four players each saving just 5 seconds per shot x 80 shots = 26 minutes off the round time.*

Golfers don't often accuse other golfers of being slow players without good reason. Telling another player that they are a slow player will often only occur after a considerable period of frustration. –Consequently, if you, on more than one occasion, have been told that you are a slow player it probably means that you are.

This does not make you a bad person, and it does not give someone the right to be impolite towards you, however, it does suggest that you should take immediate positive steps to do something about it so that the same accusation is not made again. Ask for advice from

the players you play with on what it is that they believe causes you to be slow. It should then be relatively easy for you to make some minor adjustments to the way you play golf which will make you a quicker player, and you are more likely to enjoy your golf without feeling the pressure of being scrutinised by your fellow players.

More key actions:

Watch your ball flight carefully so as to avoid looking for your ball 50 yards from where it landed.

Play a provisional ball if you think you may be in trouble and remember, you only have 3 mins to look for your ball !

When you get to the green, position your golf bag or buggy so that you can move efficiently and quickly to the next tee.

Mark score cards on the next tee. If you are first up, mark the card after playing your shot.

[This short Sky Sports video with Andrew Coltart is a great summary.](#)

*“Four players each saving just 5 seconds per shot by being ready to play when it's their turn x 80 shots = 26 minutes off the round time.”*

Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January while this work is taking place.

As a replacement, we are playing a temporary hole to the chipping green from a teeing area adjacent to the Proshop. This hole should be played first and scores should be entered on scorecards as the 5<sup>th</sup> hole, using the index applicable to the 5<sup>th</sup> hole. Golfers should then proceed to the 1<sup>st</sup> hole on the

scorecard as usual and continue their round.

Please note that the putting green and the chipping green in Pig's Hollow will be open as normal.

As you can imagine, this work is very weather dependant but it is hoped that the 5<sup>th</sup> will be back open for normal competitions during April.

## Respect for our course

Here is a photograph of very recent damage to the course. Someone decided it was OK to hit 15 practice shots into the 18<sup>th</sup> green. This



damage is on the fairway just beside the temporary green.

This type of behaviour is disrespectful to our green staff and fellow members.

### Bunkers

No doubt, we have all come across unraked bunkers left by earlier golfers. If a player in your group forgets to rake a bunker after their

shot, you could **politely** remind them, or rake it for them. Rakes are provided in every bunker, a sand iron is a very poor substitute !

Also please remember to repair pitch marks, carry a divot bag and, if practicing on the course remember that we are only permitted to play with a maximum of two golf balls.

## Reminders for 2022 qualifying—key points to note please

While we are still a fair bit away from qualifying golf at Greystones this year we would like to take this opportunity to remind players of important information when playing away courses and also when playing qualifying golf in Greystones once winter conditions are lifted.

### Casual Golf with Golf Ireland app.

When first launched, there certainly were technical issues with the Golf Ireland scoring app., however our understanding is that these have now been resolved.

It is important for all members who plan on using this app for casual scoring rounds to make sure they have the latest version on their phone and that location services are enabled.

Some people are *still* using the App to enter comps in Greystones even though they are already entered in the proshop. Please remember that **YOU NEVER USE THE GOLF IRELAND app** when playing in

Greystones G.C. competitions.

### Unattested Scores

We get a significant number of unattested scores reported to us every month on the WHS system. This creates a lot of unnecessary work for the committee. If members have an issue getting a score attested, please contact the Comps Committee rather than just abandoning it. Hopefully we will be able to resolve any issue or at least we will be able to provide feedback to Golf Ireland with any technical issues.

Members should be aware that for 2022 Golf Ireland have announced their intention to introduce sanctions for players who have unsatisfied rounds – we have no further information on what form this might take at this time.

### Please remember for *casual* counting rounds:

You **MUST** register your intention to record your score **BEFORE**

going onto the golf course to play.

You **MUST** have another GI registered player with you to confirm your score.

You **MUST** enter your score before you leave the course.

You **NEVER** use the GI app when playing a formal competition in Greystones.

GGC is a **NON-QUALIFYING** course for the winter (placing in the rough for example makes the course non-qualifying).



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## Golfer of the Year 2022

For 2021 we made some changes to the GOTY points system. While the changes implemented last year made for a very tight and exciting finish to the competition, feedback from members suggested some additional changes for the 2022 season might be worth trying.

For 2022 players can earn Golfer of the Year points in the following events.

Medals 1—7

Gold Medal final

Class Cup Winners

Captains Prize

President's Prize ( top 8 )

As was the case in 2021, the points awarded for the Captain's Prize will be 1.5 times those awarded for Medals. For 2022, the President's

Prize will also earn the top eight players 1.5 times Golfer of the Year points.

The Frank Talbot and Carrinson will not be included in the GOTY table for 2022.

Standings will be available on the club website ( members/club match-play formats and draws) during the year.

## Non-returns

We saw a significant number of NRs in 2021 which created a significant amount of unnecessary work for the Handicap Committee at annual review. To be fair, new WHS procedures for members and Covid restrictions didn't help. We have had a year of WHS at this stage so hopefully players are WHS ready for 2022 !

NR's affect the PCC of the course for everyone . It also affects the handicap of the player who NRs. If you don't return your singles quali-

fyng card your score is recorded as 18 nett double bogies i.e. a very high score on your WHS record.

This is also the case when a player walks in off the course and enters their score as 0 for any unplayed holes.

If you need to leave the course before finishing all the holes for any (good) reason, it is important to select DNP (DID NOT PLAY) rather than 0 when entering your score for the unplayed holes on the

score entry terminal or on How Did I Do.

NRs will continue to be monitored once the qualifying season begins again and timesheet sanctions may be applied if deemed necessary.

