



SWANSTON LADIES' NEWSLETTER – **MAY 2018**

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We are all looking forward to getting into summer gear – casting off all the layers and fleeces. The “Susans” have been spotted back on the course, a sure sign that winter is over! (Sue Walker is a hardier breed, ‘cos she has played throughout!) As always, our unpredictable Scottish weather means we have to be prepared for all that Mother Nature throws at us. The postponed Luke’s Cup, the opening Club event for the year, eventually took place on Saturday 14th April but unfortunately not all who were originally going to take part were available to play that weekend. Our Ladies’ competitions throughout April were also affected by poor weather conditions, dates being switched or lack of entries. Congratulations to our winners as follows:

Sat 21st April – Medal – Andrea Johnstone (nett 75)

Sun 29th April – Coronation Foursomes – Andrea Johnstone & Elizabeth Anderson with 32 Stableford points.

Remember the Birdie Board! Muriel and Fiona each managed to score a Two in the Medal, both at Par 3’s, and therefore each achieved a Birdie, the first of the year.

There was a **Board meeting** on 3rd April which I attended; followed that same evening by a **Club Forum**, where Elizabeth was our sole representative. Nothing of major significance was raised – all mainly to do with the new Academy which is due to open early June. The Minutes of the Board meeting are available on Swanston website. The Ladies’ new 10th tee is not yet in use, so for the time being we drive from the Men’s tee. Work on replacing the steps to the 1st was held up due to the snow but we have been promised that this job will be completed before July. At the moment, the red tees at the 8th have been moved back a level, which is to allow the forward tee to recover from damage during the winter. The extra distance means it is difficult for some ladies to reach the fairway with their drive. However, the greenkeepers say the forward tee should be back in use by the time of our May Medal.

Swanston Ladies’ Committee met on 18th April, dealing mainly with forthcoming events. Our next meeting in May will concentrate on organisation for our Ladies’ Open.

The Janice Sutherland Trophy (photo at the end of Newsletter) was held on a very blustery day – trolleys blowing over, even away! Due to the conditions, the competition was played over the first 9 holes and down the 12th. The Senior Gents’ Captain’s team won the trophy (again!); and Annette was in the four with the best overall score (well done!). As always, a very friendly and enjoyable competition. The raffle in aid of the Eric Liddell Centre was well supported and the total raised on the day, including £1 per person to play, amounted to £164.00. It was good to see Louise Angus and Kay Cuthbertson, who joined us for this competition.

Some weeks ago, the **Conditions of Competition** for Swanston Ladies was e-mailed to you. Since then two points have been raised by members and the wording will be amended in the next version which has now been posted on the Noticeboard.

Para 7 should now read: It is the competitor’s responsibility to ensure she checks her current CONGU handicap before playing and that this is the figure written on her scorecard. A competitor will be disqualified if she plays off a higher handicap than that to which she is entitled. (Please read Rule 6-2 of CONGU Rules)

On page 5 – explanation of Flag Competition (Caerketton Trophy) – should read: Play until you have used all your shots. If with your final shot you outdistance other competitors, place the flag where your ball comes to rest after final shot.

(N.B. Just for clarification – should there be a draw, the players in contention will be instructed on the day by the Committee member overseeing the competition.)

Morison Millar: Please let me know **by e-mail or by adding your name to sheet on noticeboard in corridor** (I tend to forget if you just whisper in my ear!) if you will be available on Thursday 5th July (and Thurs 12th July) to assist with duties around the course and clubhouse. Indicate whether you can help all day or only morning or afternoon (or if you only have definite time slots available). Probably mid-June, a meeting will be arranged for all volunteers so duties/rotas can be explained. Your assistance will be appreciated.

The team of four Swanston Ladies will be decided very soon – and each may choose to have a caddie if they wish.

Elizabeth has circulated information on the chosen polo shirt (Green Lamb “Patsy” in green) for Swanston Ladies and we hope many of you will opt to purchase one. Swanston Ladies logo can be embroidered for you by our Chief Stitcher (Liz)! Those ladies playing in the team will have cost of their polo shirt refunded by the Club (so keep your receipts!)

In the second half of May (waiting until after frosts), I will purchase a large wooden planter, compost and plants – using some of the remaining Planting Fund. All hands to weeding appreciated – just take your fork and a rubbish bag whenever you have time. Concentrate on border above putting green (hopefully the stone dyke will soon be repaired); and the borders either side of the path leading from the car park.

Friendlys: The first Friendly of the year against Lochend Ladies took place at Swanston on Tuesday 1st May, a very blustery evening. We played over only 9 holes in view of the weather and Lochend Ladies, who played like regulars at Swanston and weren’t phased by blown over trollies, etc, won all three ties. We must do better! It was an enjoyable evening with a lovely meal in the Brasserie after the game.

Our second Friendly -v- Merchants is on Wednesday 9th May at Swanston, teeing off at 3pm over 18 holes. As I type, an extra player is still required for this competition so please let Nan or Elizabeth know if you can play. Looking ahead, we play Craigmillar Park at home on Wednesday 6th June.

The **Hareburn Trophy** – if you are taking part, have you arranged your first game? The first round has to be completed by end of May. Tell Elizabeth the result and pencil in result on chart on our noticeboard.

The Nine Hole Challenge – again, have you arranged your ties? First round to be completed by the end of June. Let Nan and Joan know the result.

Ladies Greensomes Open – Sunday 27th May: Sign up, sign up! If we don’t get sufficient numbers this year, we may be in danger of losing our Ladies Open altogether. Use it or lose it! As we have said in the past, please invite someone from another Club to partner you – think of all those ladies who used to be Swanston members. We will have another Raffle – raising funds for the Eric Liddell Centre – and donations will be appreciated nearer the time. Again, reception will be held in the Brasserie.

This month, we have our **Stableford Trophy** on Saturday 12th May; and in June, the **Summer Cup** is played on Saturday 2nd June (I will not be in Edinburgh for either competition, unfortunately). You will have seen the e-mail from the Club regarding the **Scottish Golf 9-hole Championship Stableford qualifier** on Sunday 20th May, so get your name down (with a partner- although you don’t play together, it seems!) if you want to take part. Our **June Medal** will be the first qualifier for the Club Championships.

Lady Captain’s Day is on Saturday 9th June and I hope as many of you as possible will take part (invitation will be issued later in May – theme still to be decided). The format will be the same as last year – Bingo, Bango, Bango over 12 holes, followed by “afternoon tea” in the Brasserie. I am hoping to arrange for a craft stall with items made by golfers/friends/family – the idea being to raise funds for Swanston Ladies (though we may split proceeds 50/50 with seller or charity – yet to work it all out). I know we have a number of members who create lovely things – it would be good if you would be willing to put a few things into the sale – nothing too large or expensive. Our non-crafty members - and hopefully other golfers and visitors to the Brasserie - can buy the goods! Please let me know if you would put items into the sale.

Our popular **Putting Competition** takes place on Friday 15 June early evening – more information nearer the time.

MAY:

Thurs 3rd May	9-hole Stableford
Sat 5th May	Stableford
Wed 9th May	Friendly -v- Merchants 3pm (H)
Sat 12th May	Stableford Trophy
Sat 19th May	Medal
Sun 20th May	SG 9-hole Stableford Championship qualifier
Sun 27th May	Ladies Greensomes Open
Thurs 31st May	Medal

JUNE:

Sat 2nd June	Summer Cup
Wed 6th June	Friendly -v- Craigmillar Park (H)
Sat 9th June	Lady Captain's Day
Fri 15th June	Putting Competition
Sun 17th June	Stableford
Thurs 21st June	9-hole Stableford
Sat 23rd June	Medal (CCQ1)
Thurs 28th June	Medal

We raised £164 for The Eric Liddell Centre

