



# Mile End News Update

## Members' Committee Newsletter

### March 2014

#### AMERICAN DREAM TEAM



Joining me on a Pro-Am in America were Keith Evans, Mike Chesworth and Ken Hayman. We had two fantastic weeks away starting our trip in Scottsdale Arizona, playing some amazing courses including Gray Hawk, Fire Rock, Quintero, We-Ko-Pal and finishing on TPC Scottsdale.

In a field of 12 teams, we performed well, finishing 5th. Some other teams had played the event 17 times and this was our first effort. Some of the greens were particularly challenging, running between 12-14 on the Stimp Meter.

Following a 350 mile road trip to Las Vegas, we played in, and for a time lead, the Rio Seco event opening with a round of -15 which had never been done before. Rio Seco is where the famous Butch Harmon teaches. After the second day, playing at The Pimm, we were leaders going into the last day at Sun Mountain. Unfortunately we had a very average day there and were nowhere near the winning score of -17. We had a fantastic couple of weeks away with one or two drinks in the famous Diamond Lounge (free bar!!!!)

**James Davies**

#### SHOP OFFERS

**Cleveland XL Drivers  
were £219 now £109  
with 6 free Srixon balls of  
your choice**

**Cobra Amp Cell Driver  
was £219 now £149**

**Buy a driver get a fairway/  
hybrid at half price**

#### NEW FAIRWAY MOWER



Greenstaff have taken delivery of a new £46k machine for keeping our fairways nice and trim. Pictured above is the new Ransomes Fairway 305 machine with Greenstaff (l/r) Ian Beckett, Tom Jones and Wayne Murphy.

## Suspension of competition ban (trial period)

The Committee believes that we need to take the issue of members failing to attend for competitions very seriously. This causes difficulties for scheduled playing partners, the shop staff and in team competitions seriously affects other members of your team. We think that it may be time for a different way of dealing with this problem.

For a 10 month trial period starting 1 March 2014, the penalty for failing to turn up for a stroke-play competition will be changed from a ban to a **2 shot penalty** to be applied on the next\* individual competition the member plays in.

### Guidance notes:

- Names of players failing to attend will be published on the competitions board. Check with the shop/competitions chair if you are unsure.
- It will be the responsibility of the player concerned to clearly mark on their next individual strokeplay competition card that a **2 shot penalty** applies **and to reduce their handicap by 2 shots** for that competition before handing their card in. Players failing to follow this procedure will be disqualified from that competition.
- Players who correctly apply this penalty and then record a winning score will be eligible to win prizes/awards for that competition.
- A player who feels they had a **genuine and unavoidable reason** for failing to attend **and who notified the shop** on the day of the missed competition that they would not be attending, can appeal to the competitions chair **before they next play a competition** to ask for their special circumstances to be considered and, if appropriate, for the penalty to be revoked.
- \* If the next individual competition the player enters falls within 14 days of the missed competition the player may carry forward the 2 shot penalty to the next competition after this period.

If a player repeatedly fails to attend, the committee reserves the right to impose a competition ban.

### Gordon Jamieson—Competitions Chair

## England Golf tinker with handicaps

Since 2010 all members of all golf clubs affiliated to England Golf have had to submit at least three scores per year from club competitions in order to have an 'active handicap'. Those that failed to submit at least three cards have been regarded as having an 'inactive handicap', which has carried penalties such as prevention from entering some competitions and restrictions on prizes. England Golf said this was the fairest way to ensure that golfers' handicaps were a true reflection of their ability, but one in ten golf club managers reported that they had lost members purely as a result of the system preventing golfers from entering events that require an active handicap to participate in. Part of the problem was that many of the golfers and clubs incorrectly thought their handicaps were invalid because they were labelled 'inactive'. England Golf has therefore agreed that the word 'inactive' is too unpopular, and will change the system so that, from March 1, golfers who have submitted at least 3 cards will have a 'competition handicap' based on the Scottish and Welsh systems and this will be signified by using a 'c' notation. Previously having an 'i' against your name meant you couldn't enter competitions. Now not having a 'c' means exactly the same. You couldn't make it up!!

### **Yellow Ball Competition:**

Winners: Colin Amyes, Kieran Parry, Dylan Jones  
R/U: Jaz Heer, Janice Turner, Mike Randal

### **Texas Team Scramble:**

Winners: S Jones, J.Whitehouse, Mike Jones  
R/U: Ricky Burke, Kev Jones, Phil Griffiths

### **Winter Multiplier:**

Winners: Steve Shum, Jeremy Rose, Darren Griffiths  
R/U: Darren Roberts, Trevor Rowlands, Peter Donaway

## Important announcement

It is possible that any Mile End member who has spent the past couple of weeks shipwrecked or in a coma may not have heard about the Hole-in-One scored by Trevor Rowlands recently at Prestatyn Golf Club. Trevor apologises for not being able to describe this feat to you personally but this has not been for want of trying. This was his fifth 'ace'. Well done Trevor.