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TradLads Golf Society
October 2010

General

We have had a change in the structure of our year following the suggestion and organisation by Robert White of the "TRADLADS BIG WEEKEND AWAY".

It is intended and hoped that this can be an annual event with prize giving for the best golfer of the year, formal presentations of the Captains Cup and Secretary's Shield as well as anything else we can add (see suggestions for competitions in the 2010/11 section).

Photo opportunities will then be available to enhance the website.

The year will therefore run from October to October, depending on when we can arrange the weekend away.

On the subject of the website, many thanks again to Jim Allen for his work on this and also the changes he made which have improved the look and feel of the site and made it more user friendly.

Any ideas for further changes/additions will be welcome. Please also send any photos you wish to share to Jim so that they can be uploaded. *The site is, after all for all of us.*

It has been good to welcome new members to replace those who have emigrated / disappeared. In no particular order, Bob Jordan, Joe Butler and Roger Hinds, golfers of differing standards all bringing their own style to the society and who have contributed and embraced the spirit of the Tradlads.

There are some interesting, possibly difficult, times ahead with the proposed sale of Traditions. We are the only group that support the club all year round but, in return, we do get an excellent deal and considerable flexibility around tee times and numbers.

However, we cannot take liberties as they are a business and Penny's rant should be noted. I have also commented several times in the past on this. It cannot be too difficult to just call/ text Penny with your intentions.

Tradlads is a big part of many of our lives and it will be a shame if this is lost. It will not be easy to find somewhere else where we can all play together at prime time.

Interest in the Society has grown and we have regularly had 4 tee times at our reduced rates. If we are not going to use all of them it is only fair that we let the club have a time or two back to sell at full price and hopefully keep our costs down.

Particular thanks to Penny for all her work on the tee times and the charm offensive in maintaining relations with the club.

Finally, a mention for Robert Lloyd who entered the "Trilby Tour". This event was covered by Sky Sports. The qualifier was held at "The Oxfordshire" and Robert, "The Smiling Assassin who could not stop beaming all day" (Commentators quote) won through to the final which was held at "The Buckinghamshire". Sadly the story ended there but hopefully Robert will be back next year.



Finances

The balance of the account stood at £203.54 following the donation for drinks at the Dale Hill "TRADLADS BIG WEEKEND AWAY".

We have already paid for next year's internet subscription to host the website so the only major cost next year will be trophies and engraving. Hopefully playing numbers will remain strong and the weekly contribution from the swindle cash will add to the fund.

I hope we will then be able to make a significant contribution to the 2011 TRADLADS BIG WEEKEND AWAY from the account. This will, I believe, be a fairer distribution of club funds. Also, the more people that play regularly the faster the account will grow and this will reduce the cost of the weekend away.



Playing matters

Appearances:

As ever, this category was headed by the Lady Captain.

Where would we be without Posh Pen?

Where would Posh Pen be without a chauffeur?

It is great to see that Raj, before his move to Reading, and latterly Bob Jordan have covered whenever David Butler has been unavailable.

David himself made the second most appearances, probably feeling obliged to chauffeur Penny.

Lenny Stevens, having learnt to be a driving instructor (like we need more people on the roads or is he training future chauffeurs for Penny?) is back in the fold and we will hopefully see more of him in 2010/11.

New members Bob Jordan and Roger Hinds have become regulars down Pyrford way and will be expected to be further up the appearances chart next year.



Players	Rnds Played
Penny Clarke	35
David Butler	32
Robert Lloyd	27
Paul Barnett	26
Keith Orbell	25
Neil Smyth	24
Rajindra Singh	23
Derek Barnett	23
Mayhe Bernard	23
Kenny Kelly	22
Richie Murphy	22
Robert White	21
Peter Sealy	21
Andy Lewis	18
GT	17
Ferdi Junkere	16
Bob Jordan	13
Roger Hinds	11
Paddy Morrissey	11
Baldev Bahra	8
Joe Butler	8
Lenny Stevens	5

Money list

For so long this was looking like a David Butler pension plan but he was reined in, first by Dr. Raj and then by Keith the pro. A late rally saw him edge back ahead of Dr. Raj and Robert Lloyd's late push left him just £2 short of the runner up spot.

If top spot at Dale Hill had only been shared with one other instead of two Lloyd would have had the perfect answer to David's taunting.....

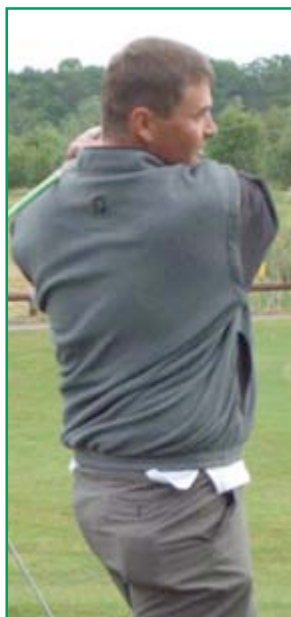
Keith Orbell's place at the top of the tree was largely based around his consistency in picking up fivers (37) as he had only one outright win and two first place shares to go with his 5 runners ups/shares of runner up.

Honours

Captain's Cup - Rajindra Singh
Secretary's Shield - Roger Hinds

So far no one has either won either of these trophies twice and no one has had their name on both of them, same year or not.

Players	Income
Penny Clarke	230
David Butler	380
Robert Lloyd	378
Paul Barnett	315
Keith Orbell	402
Neil Smyth	105
Rajindra Singh	370
Derek Barnett	250
Mayhe Bernard	107
Kenny Kelly	90
Richie Murphy	68
Robert White	130
Peter Sealy	245
Andy Lewis	88
GT	233
Ferdi Junkere	170
Bob Jordan	205
Roger Hinds	165
Paddy Morrissey	30
Baldev Bahra	5
Joe Butler	5
Lenny Stevens	5



Points

Partly because the leading money winner was not at Dale Hill and the prize giving would have been a bit hollow (receiving the award on behalf of.....) I tried introducing a points system which allocated points for a win/ runner up instead of purely cash based. This was because of the varying turnout through the year and to try and balance the win differential across those who support the society by playing throughout the year and not bias the prize to someone who plays only in warmer weather when the entry, and therefore the prize fund, is bigger.

I am not sure if this worked totally and would appreciate suggestions for next year.

Points/prize money? Both?

The only suggestion so far has come from Robert White who proposes that there is no maximum payout each week (a third place could still be paid if there are sufficient numbers). Swindle fivers would not count to the money list, only 1st/2nd/3rd place money.

A bigger prize would act as an incentive for more people to play regularly and those that do turn out all year round would still have more chance of winning 1st & 2nd place money.

Tradlads Points 2010																				
90 points shared for 1st & 2nd (60/30) Shared win = 90/# of winners. Runner Up shared = 30/# of r/ups																				
	David B	Raj	Rob L	Paul B	Del B	Peter	Penny	GT	Roger	Bob	Rob W	Bernie	Neil	Andy	Paddy	Richie	Lenny	Keith	Ferdi	Alan
Win r/u Points	60	60	60	30	30	30	30	60	60	60	60	10	45	30				45	60	
	45	60	60	60	60	45	45	60	60	30	30	30		10				60	60	
	45	60	10	60	45	60	10	30	45	30	30							30	60	
	60	60	30	60	30	45	30			30								10	30	
	45		15	15	15	60	30											15		
	30		30		30		30											15		
	10																			
	15																			
sub total Swindles to w33	310	240	205	225	210	240	175	150	165	150	120	40	45	40	0	0	0	175	210	
sub total W34	105	140	120	75	70	25	70	75	20	15	35	55	40	45	25	15	5	180	30	
sub total W34 Win	415	380	325	300	280	265	245	225	185	165	155	95	85	85	25	15	5	355	240	0
sub total Dale Hill Win	15												15							
sub total Dale Hill Swindle	25					5	60						5					5		
FIN AL Total	455	380	325	300	280	270	245	285	185	165	155	95	105	85	25	15	5	360	240	0
FIN AL Total	460	390	360	305	285	270	245	285	185	195	155	95	110	85	25	45	5	360	240	5

1st/2nd/3rd?

Eclectic

Six players under 60, eighteen in all under par. Is the course getting easier or is playing ability improving? I suspect a bit of both.

Special mention is due to GT for his ace at the 10th in week 31

Bob Jordan was the surprise. Despite averaging over £15 per week prize money for the period he has been a member, he was not able to break an eclectic par round. Holes 2, 9 & 17 all had his measure. Not a single par at these.



He has, though, only been playing off the white tees.

Final Eclectic				Hole Number																	
Players	Eclectic	Front 9	Back 9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Derek Barnett	56	28	28	3	4	2	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	4	3	3
Keith Orbell	56	28	28	3	4	2	4	4	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	4	3	3
Rajindra Singh	57	31	26	4	4	3	4	4	2	3	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	2	4	3	3
David Butler	58	27	31	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	3
Paul Barnett	59	30	29	4	4	2	4	4	2	3	4	3	2	3	4	4	4	2	4	3	3
Robert Lloyd	59	28	31	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	4	3	2	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	4
GT	61	32	29	4	4	2	4	5	3	3	4	3	1	3	4	4	3	2	4	4	4
Ferdi Junkere	62	31	31	4	3	2	4	4	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	2	4	3	4
Mayhe Bernard	62	30	32	3	4	2	4	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	4
Peter Sealy	63	31	32	3	3	2	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	2	4	4	4
Robert White	63	31	32	4	4	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	4
Neil Smyth	64	32	32	4	4	2	3	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	2	4	4	4
Penny Clarke	64	33	31	4	4	3	4	5	2	3	4	4	2	3	5	4	4	2	5	3	3
Andy Lewis	65	34	31	4	4	3	4	5	3	3	4	4	2	2	4	4	4	3	4	3	5
Roger Hinds	67	34	33	4	4	3	4	5	3	3	4	4	2	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	5
Kenny Kelly	70	36	34	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	5	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4
Lenny Stevens	70	36	34	3	4	3	5	5	3	5	4	4	3	5	5	4	4	3	3	3	4
Paddy Morrissey	70	35	35	4	4	3	3	5	3	4	4	5	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	5	5
Bob Jordan	71	36	35	3	5	3	4	5	3	4	4	5	3	4	5	4	4	3	4	5	3
Richie Murphy	75	39	36	5	5	3	5	5	4	4	4	4	2	4	4	4	5	2	5	5	5
Baldev Bahra	80	39	41	5	5	3	5	4	3	4	5	5	3	5	5	5	4	3	5	5	6

Handicap changes

This now enters the world of lies, damn lies and statistics. According to percentage changes, for the second year running, Keith Orbell was by this measure the worst performing golfer in the society as his handicap went up by 107.69%! So just how does the leading money winner and the joint leader on the eclectic scores find himself with the largest negative swing in handicap? Starting from a lower base is how.

-107.69% was an improvement on last year's figure of -550% though and emphasizes the point that a lower handicap is harder to play to regularly and the big 40+ points scores are even rarer. Last year he started even lower. His handicap is gradually aligning itself with his true playing handicap. Just because he is a teaching professional does not necessarily mean he is a scratch golfer.

This section is more beneficial for members to see how they have performed during the year from their rating at the start of the year to the handicap at the end of the season.

No one reached the cap of a maximum increase of 2.0 which is good but obviously dependent on the number of appearances. The majority of players, though, turned out 20 or more times.

Where there is some value in this section is to see the even split of increases and decreases which suggests that we have the handicapping method pretty fair.

Of the 20 "Regulars" 10 saw an increase and 10 saw reductions.

On that basis, the most improved player was Raj Singh whose handicap improved by 31.25% a big effort from a starting handicap of 8.

Handicap Changes			
Players	Final H/cp09	Current	% change
Keith Orbell	1.3	2.7	-107.69%
Mayhe Bernard	13.1	14.5	-10.69%
Paddy Morrissey	18.3	19.4	-6.01%
Andy Lewis	13.1	13.8	-5.34%
Kenny Kelly	24	25.1	-4.58%
Paul Barnett	9.9	10.3	-4.04%
Robert White	16.7	17.3	-3.59%
Neil Smyth	15.6	15.9	-1.92%
Lenny Stevens	12.2	12.4	-1.64%
Richie Murphy	28	28.2	-0.71%
Robert Lloyd	5.8	5.4	6.90%
Derek Barnett	8.6	7.7	10.47%
Bob Jordan	22	19.2	12.73%
Penny Clarke	19	16.3	14.21%
David Butler	11.3	9.4	16.81%
Peter Sealy	17	13.1	22.94%
Ferdi Junkere	11	8.2	25.45%
Roger Hinds	17	12.6	25.88%
GT	8.6	6.3	26.74%
Rajindra Singh	8	5.5	31.25%

Stroke indexes

The stroke index for each hole on the official card and the Tradlads performance was again quite marked. The introduction of the local rule on the 4th saw it gain some teeth but the second has proved toughest for the second year running.

With the second hole retaining top spot and with the 6th, such a tough par three off the whites, up to 3rd place can there be a tougher opening six holes in golf? Add in the 8th being S.I.4 on our list and you can see why most player's scores over the season improve on the back nine.

Hole Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Traditions S.I.	9	5	17	1	13	7	15	3	11	10	16	12	8	4	18	14	2	6
TradLads S.I. 2010	7	1	15	2	13	3	14	4	8	9	17	18	6	12	16	11	5	10
TradLads S.I. 2009	6	1	14	9	11	7	15	2	5	13	13	18	3	10	17	12	4	8



Weekly wins (inc. shares)

Peter Sealy and his nemesis, David Butler, led the way with five wins each, 4 of David's coming in consecutive weeks. David supported the wins with 4 runners up spots.

GT and Raj had 4 wins apiece but did not add any runners up prize money to the wins.

Robert Lloyd and Keith Orbell both had 3 wins and 5 runners up spots.

The ones to watch next year would appear to be Bob Jordan and Roger Hinds who each scored three wins and a runners up spot since joining the society.

The handicap rules may have captured Roger but Bob looks handily placed on his current mark.

Ferdi notched three wins early in the year but aside from these the top performer was Penny with two wins and 4 runners up spots.

Swindle prizes

Keith Orbell, as previously commented, led the way with 37.

Raj's 30 included, unsurprisingly 13 longest drives, of which 8 came at the 12th. David Butler racked up 27 and Robert Lloyd 25.

These four, together with Bernie were the only players to complete the grand slam of winning the prize at least once at each of the holes.

The 6th hole saw 9 weeks when the prize was not won, although a few of these would have been when the winter loop was being played. Penny won the 6th hole fiver seven times.

There is probably a sarcastic comment to be made about the ladies tee to be made here but that has all been done before. Perhaps more relevant would be to ask what on earth she was doing in the 9 weeks when it wasn't won!



Lowest winning medal score

Peter Sealy, 4th September, Week 31, Net 62 (attempting to take advantage of the tour amnesty).

It did not work! He blew up after the first day on tour.

62 is, I believe a Tradlads record so congratulations are due to Peter. A target for everyone. (The 62- not Peter)

The winning medal score was always at least 3 under par(68).

Highest winning medal score

Ferdinand Junkere, 10th March, Week 8, 44 points.

There were several scores of 40 or more but the lowest winning score was 33 points in week 3, the depths of winter. This was shared between Derek & Paul Barnett and Peter Sealy.

On two occasions 40 points was not enough to win. (Robert Lloyd 40 week 8 and Derek Barnett 41 in week 25)



Officers

I assume that Robert White is happy to retain his executive role as chairman and co-signatory to the account.

I am happy to continue as Secretary.

We have a vacancy for Captain. This involves very little work apart from perhaps presenting prizes.

I would nominate Penny Clarke for her continued support and efforts on behalf of Tradlads Golf Society.

This is seconded by Robert White.

Does anyone have any alternatives?



2010/2011

So we look forward to, hopefully, another year of fun, drama, good & bad golf and hopefully laughs.

The future of Traditions is uncertain at the moment and we will have to cross that bridge when we get to it. Hopefully we will be able to keep the society together.

More weekends away have been suggested following the success of Dale Hill. These will need commitment and arranging. Arranging is the easy (ish) part and we will not be able to guarantee the weather.

Competitions

How about a pairs competition?

What about an individual matchplay knockout?

If we can get these together we can make the prize giving at the "BIG WEEKEND" more meaningful and the weekend more of an event.

T- SHIRTS/ Other logoed items.

We always have a Tour shirt. Is there any interest in having Straightforward "Tradlads" logoed T-shirts/ Caps anything else? Cost will obviously depend on numbers and quality.

All ideas and suggestions for events etc. are welcome.



Tour & Big Weekend

A successful, enjoyable and eventful time was had by those who went to Turkey. Being all inclusive this proved to be fantastic value for money.

Robert White arranged an excellent weekend away at Dale Hill, the "TRADLADS BIG WEEKEND". Thanks again to Robert for his efforts there.

Andy Lewis has suggested a tour to Thailand in 2011 as an alternative. At the moment timings and costs are not known.

If we stay in Europe I would suggest Turkey again. The bank account is available for those who wish to make regular savings. If it is to be Turkey and all inclusive deals are still available I would expect the cost to be in the region of £1200, depending on courses played and how much golf is played. This is only a guess though. If you eat and drink at the hotel there are minimal additional costs. We found that eating and drinking at golf clubs is ridiculously expensive and made our way back to the hotels as soon as possible after the golf.

Extra costs were really only tips and buggies unless you left the hotel.

Either way, start saving for the deposit, as, for Turkey, I expect the deposit will be in the region of £350-£400 depending on the airline used and numbers. I only got away with a lower deposit last year because I did not have to pay for the flights in full upfront. It may be that, if we use a company that arranges flights as well as accommodation & golf, a lower deposit will be needed but this was not the case in the enquiries I made last year.

"BIG WEEKEND"



Note from the Chairman

Neil has prepared this report and given thanks to all those people that put in some extra effort that makes our society so much more enjoyable which is much appreciated.

The biggest thank you must go to Neil himself and his extraordinary dedication and organisational ability that makes our Society days so much fun and something that we all look forward to every week.





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