

Honorary Secretary's Report 2016

The golfing year 2016 was slow to get up and running with playing numbers down due to the cold and wet weather we experienced during the first three months of the year, but as time progressed so did the attendances. Overall domestically competition entries are static and we ran more opens and finished the year with a healthy net surplus, unfortunately inter club teams didn't return any adult pennants.

More foursome competitions were added earlier in the year to allow teams to practice and prepare for inter club matches. The Open competitions on Mondays have proven to be hugely popular and add a significant amount to competitions revenue. The numbers playing on Wednesdays has remained steady with the evening times nearly always full. A huge thanks to the members who year after year sponsor the weekday and weekend events.

Men's Section Team Highlights 2016

First up in the year was our snooker team who put in a tremendous performance in the final of the 2016 North Dublin Snooker League in a very exciting match against Malahide but unfortunately came up short on a score of 2:3.

The Golfing calendar swung into gear in February when team Ambassadors Paul McGaley and Tommy Dennis presented plans and fixtures for the year to assembled team managers and the men's committee.

After a very promising start in all competitions we were once again caught short in the later stages of most competitions. To highlight a few our Senior Cup team lost out in Co. Louth in June. The Jimmy Bruen Shield was hosted by ourselves in June and we were leading qualifiers, but lost in the in Semi Final. The Junior Cup team got all the way to the final in May in Corrstown but narrowly lost out. The JB Carr team got to the North Dublin final in May but were beaten.

The early engagement and good communication has produced positive feedback from members' looking for opportunities to pull on a club jersey in 2016. We look forward to continuing the upward momentum in 2016.

To assist our Team Managers we would ask all those interested to simply insert your name on the desired team(s) sheet displayed on the board in the Pro Shop when they appear.

We are delighted to confirm that a significant number 2016 managers are committed to doing it again in 2017. However we are need more members willing to step up to the fun and challenge of managing an Inter Club Team in 2017.

So thanks to all the members who participated by representing or managing a Forrest Little team in 2016 and all the best for 2017.

Handicaps

The handicap committee was made up of handicap secretary Sean Hyland, and committee members Michael Timmons and Paddy McMahan.

I would like to thank all those on the committee for their efforts throughout the year.

We held a number of meetings during the year to deal with new and existing member's handicaps, reporting scores to the GUI and reports for the team captains. There was an ongoing review of member's handicaps and adjustments were made to players Handicaps where appropriate. The final review will be held in mid-November and sent to the GUI for their approval.

I would like to thank Paddy McMahan and his competition committee for all their help throughout the year. Paul Keane and his committee for the way the course was set up for qualifying competition and Ciaran Cummins for his help with IT.

Last year we indicated there was problems with a small number of players not returning their scores into the computer. As this causes problems for competitions and handicaps I ask all players to have consideration for the members who close these competitions. We contacted members in this regard

and thank those members who responded positively. Notices were displayed in clubhouse but unfortunately there are still a number of members who fail to return their score in qualifying competitions.

As this is Sean's last year as handicap secretary he would like to thank the members for the courtesy shown to him and the committee and congratulate all those who lost shots during the year. Once again thank you and Sean says he found the experience both enjoyable and rewarding. Well done Sean.

Competitions Report 2015

All competitions were well supported in general throughout the year. We started off the early part of the year with another very successful Winter League which again proved to be very popular with members, with success going to the H team captained by Simon Fitzpatrick. The success of this competition would not have been possible without the great work done by the competitions team and the captains of the teams who collated the scores on a Monday evenings. With the popularity of the winter league it was decided to extend the match play in 2017 and bring qualifying forward to November 2016. This has attracted 180 members split into 18 teams. The poor weather in December January February and March as with the previous year unfortunately resulted in several competitions being cancelled.

The cold weather also effected the numbers playing in competitions which went ahead. However, support for Midweek, Open Singles and Senior competitions were quite strong particularly during the summer months. Along with the bank holiday weekend Open events these competitions are significant for the Club, particularly in a very competitive environment. We are again extremely grateful to Brother International for their generous sponsorship of the annual Brothers Four ball. The event this year was their 43rd year of support for this popular event on our calendar which attracted a very large entry.

The sign in facility in the pro shop returned to working order earlier in the year with stickers being reintroduced, there has been some teething problems.

Congratulations again to our Captains Prize winner, Michael Donnelly, with a terrific 138 points total and to our Presidents Prize winner, Wesley Duffy with his superb 43 points score.

In August, we ran a 36 hole Senior & Junior Scratch Cup which was well supported by members and visitors alike. Well done to Luke O'Dwyer and Aaron Donnelly on their respective wins and we look forward to running this event again this year. We also ran our first seniors competition in the October medal which was well received and supported.

Many thanks are due to Vice Captain Michael Denihan, Frank McPhillips, Peter Duffy, John Donnelly, Mark Murphy, Padraic Robinson, Joe Greene, Sean Dunne, James Doyle, Sean Dooley, Tom Curran, Peter Murphy, Michael Kearney, Jason McDonagh, Myles McDonagh & Simon Fitzpatrick and to Sean Hyland & Michael Timmons on the handicap committee for the excellent job they have done in completing and posting results after each competition. We are very grateful to them for their hard work and dependability all year.

Thanks also to our Pro Tony, his wife Susan and all their staff for their administration of competitions through the Pro-shop

We are extremely grateful to the many members who continued to sponsor Wednesday competitions. Special thanks also to those groups of members who club together to sponsor a Wednesday. Frank McPhillips did all the hard work as always on Wednesday competitions organising prizes and cards. Wednesday evening invitational singles competition, which runs from April up to mid-September, still proves to be very popular with members & their guests mainly heading from work, and overall numbers playing golf in Forrest Little on Wednesdays has been steady.

Finally, congratulations to all the prize winners throughout the year. To those who failed to make the winners circle in 2016 we wish better them luck in 2017. A special thanks has to go to Pat & his team for a sterling job on competitions all year.

One additional note is a special thanks to Fran O'Prey whose invaluable assistance and web development skills helped us update our web site.

The main prize winners in 2016 were:

Captains Prize	Michael Donnelly (5) 138
Presidents Prize	Wesley Duffy (21) 43
Golfer of the year	Myles McDonagh (9)
Gross Golfer of the year	Luke O' Dwyer
Club Cup (Singles)	Myles McDonagh (9)
Club Four ball (Allshire)	Luke O' Dwyer (Scr) Andy Dennis (5)
Club Foursomes (Hamill)	Lee Duffy (6) Paddy Kelly (20)
Club Mixed	James Doyle (16) Donna Gregan (26)
Tony Judd Professional Prize	Kyle Fenlon (16) 41
Open Junior Scratch Cup	Aaron Donnelly 150
Open Senior Scratch Cup	Luke O' Dwyer 143
Open Intermediate Scratch Cup	Philip Newell 78
Senior Scratch Cup	Jamie Doyle 71
Junior Scratch Cup	Niall Keating 75
Intermediate Scratch Cup	Peter Nolan 82
Minor Scratch Cup	Brian Smyth 91
March Medal	John Crowe (7) 40
April Medal	Colum Slattery (12) 68
May Medal	Michael O' Toole (5) 68
June Medal	Eoin Ward (17) 66
July Medal	Christy Rickard (10) 68
August Medal	Paraic Whelan (4) 65
September Medal	Andy Crowe (15) 69
October Medal	Eddie Hand (14) 41
October Seniors Medal	Pat Ryan (21) 37
Grasshopper Cup	Pat Donnelly (19)
PGA Tankard	Dean Mulligan (15) 43
Vice Captains Prize	Pat Donnelly (19) 40

We need members to come forward and volunteer with the closing of competitions, at the moment only four or five members are doing it regularly where in the past up to twenty were rostered to do it. If interested and can spare a few hours a month contact Paddy McMahon (0868507207) or Peter Reilly (087 237 96 38).

Juveniles

Congratulations again to Aaron Donnelly on winning the Open Junior Scratch played at Forrest Little on Sunday 21st August. The competition played over 36 holes was played alongside the Senior Scratch Cup and Aaron produced a stunning second round of 72 to add to his morning score of 78 and claimed victory by 2 shots. The Scratch Cups attracted a large entry with 22 clubs represented with another home grown player and former Juvenile Luke O'Dwyer winning the Senior Event with 2 excellent scores of 71 & 72.

Forrest Little is very proud of all our cadets, juveniles and juniors. They add an energy and vibrancy to our club and we strive to nurture and help them grow both as golfers but more importantly as well rounded and grounded individuals. Regardless of golfing ability we respect and encourage all our young members. Weekly competitions were held on Sundays and during the summer months every Thursday and Friday mornings. Coaching is also provided so please watch our notice boards for details.

Renovations to the Juvenile Room have been completed, the room is open to all juveniles, who are expected to adhere to the code of conduct as set out. We trust all the boys and girls when not out practicing will enjoy a game of pool or two.

John Keogh has carried out fabulous work with the Juveniles and now finishes up on the men's committee after his three years done. I would like to thank John on behalf of all the members for the coaching, mentoring and encouragement he has provided to all our juvenile members.

General

What can we say about the work Ray Gregan and his team of volunteers accomplished in the early part of the year at the 7th tee box with the refreshed seating area, sleeper bordered plum shale and shrubbery to match. Their most recent work with removal of hedging at the rear of the 7th hole up to the 8th tee is equally impressive. Well done and a huge thank you to all involved.

We are grateful to Tony Judd and his staff for their assistance in running competitions, coaching members, his advice to teams, etc.

I would like to thank the course staff for their continued commitment to presenting the course at its best. There was plenty of praise provided about the course condition by all the visiting teams and the GUI when hosting the Jimmy Bruen Shield in June. Members are reminded to bring divot mix bags with them and encourage others to do so when playing and to repair pitch marks, divots and rake bunkers.

I would like to commend all members of the men's committee; President Harry Reilly, Captain Vincent Collier, Vice-Captain Michael Denihan, Competition's Secretary Paddy McMahon, Handicap Secretary Sean Hyland, Hon Treasurer, Gerry Healy, John Keogh Junior/Juvenile Representative, Paul McGaley and Tommy Dennis (Team Coordinators) all the members of the sub-committees for their hard work and commitment during 2016.

Peter Reilly
Honorary Secretary
Forrest Little Men's Club