

Forrest Little Golf Club – Honorary Secretary's Report 2016

Drive in

We started the year with the Captains Drive in early January and both Vincent and Brid looked resplendent in their turn of the century golf outfits, as did our juvenile Captains Ciaran Gregan and Julie McCarthy. A packed clubhouse danced the afternoon and evening away entertained by the fabulous Long John Jump band and Joe Travers.

Council

The Council have met 12 times so far this year and comprised of Captain Vincent Collier, Lady Captain Brid Snow, Chairperson Barry Clifford, Honorary Secretary Padraic Robinson, Honorary Treasurer Gerry Healy, House and Grounds and Junior Golf Ray Gregan, Course and Greens Convenor Paul Keane, Membership & Marketing Theresa McMahan. Vice Captains Michael Denihan and Joyce Moran also attended Council meetings to ensure they were fully up to date before coming into office in December. Presidents Harry & Rita represented the club very well and have chosen to remain in office for a second year.

Catering

Tommy and his team have now completed their second year with us. They continue to provide fantastic food and service. Please continue to support our caterers as this facility is a very important asset to our club.

Events

The Events Committee chaired by Martine Denihan and Maria Robinson continued to provide us with some great nights during the year. You will regularly hear both ladies talking about golf as a lifestyle not just a game and we would once again thank you for your continued support of the Events Committee. Events help us to supplement the income of the club while providing entertainment for all members. Included in the remit of the Events Committee are The Captains Drive In, Valentines Night, St Patricks Day, Classic, Independence Day, Captains and Presidents Prize Nights, Family Team Event, Captains Dinners, Childrens Christmas Party and of course the regular Friday Nights during the summer months.

Inter-Club Teams

Team Ambassadors Tommy Dennis and Paul McGaley hosted a very informative meeting at the start of the year but despite the best efforts and the commitment of all involved we, unfortunately, returned no Pennants. Thank you to all the managers and players for representing the club.

Course & Grounds

We would like to thank Geoff Scott and his team for their continued commitment to Forrest Little. Members will be aware of the huge programme undertaken to refurbish our numerous bunkers. This is a two-year programme and we thank the members for their patience during this critical work which we are trying to complete in the most cost effective way. This year we had areas surrounding our greens which needed attention due to various varieties of unwanted grass growth. A lot of time was taken up on the greens and their surrounds with a more intense programme of top dressing and treatments than previous years. This focus will lead to a more consistent surface on our greens throughout the year.

Membership & Marketing

Our new website was launched earlier this year based on Wordpress platform. The work on the website was completed by Fran O' Prey on a voluntary basis with inputs from a team of members including Ciaran Cummins, Captain Vincent Collier and Theresa McMahon.

The Council are always looking for ways to attract new members and increase the profile of Forrest Little. Please feel free to pass your suggestions on to any member of Council.

Our Membership and Marketing representative on Council Theresa McMahon will make a full presentation at our AGM on 8th December, however, you may be interested in the following membership figures. Although we took in 41 new members in 2016 our overall membership reduced by 63. Please continue to promote Forrest Little to your friends and family and remember every member who refers a new full member who renews their subscription for a second year will receive €100 credit on their loyalty card in that second year.

Full membership 708 (2016)

Full Ordinary Members	340
Seniors and over 80's	192
Five Day Members	35
Lady Associate	7
Intermediate	11
Junior	29
Juvenile	44
Others	88

Cadet (23) Juvenile (48), Tuesday (8)
Oversees ((4), Country (2),
Captains (2) Honorary (2)
Fairway Credit (6)

Membership 2016 all categories

Members at the start of year	771
Resigned / Suspense	- 98
Deceased members	- 6
New members	+ 41
Total	708
Variance from last year	- 63

Bonds

The bond scheme has been running for a few years now and it has helped us cut back on the interest payments the club would otherwise have to pay the bank. As the rate is so poor on deposits at the moment you may consider taking out a bond or bonds and be entered into our draw that is done at the A.G.M.

Snooker

Our snooker team had a relatively slow start in their league, however, they fought hard to eventually earn a place in the final against Malahide. Unfortunately they were beaten in the final. Team manager Derek McCabe is always keen to attract new talent so if you have an interest in Snooker and you think you might also have some talent make yourself known to him. For more info go to the website click on "Our Club" scroll down to "Activities" & section under snooker.

Elite Golf

Julie McCarthy

Julie was announced as the Fingal sports star of the year of 2015 in February. Early in the year when competing in the French International Lady Junior U21 Championship Julie suffered tearing and bruising to her left wrist which left her in a cast for 6 weeks.

Just one week after getting her cast off Julie played in and won the Ulster Girls Championship. She then went on to win the Leinster Girls Championship, followed by her second Irish Girls Close Championship title at Kilkenny Golf Club. In July Julie also took the top spot at the Connacht Girls Championship.

In August, Julie was part of an historic, first time ever win for the Irish Girls Team at the Home International Matches at Conwy Golf Club, Wales.

Jack McDonnell

Jack won the Munster Youth's Championship and was runner-up in Lahinch in the Irish Inter Varsity Championships. Jack also represented Connaught in Inter-Provincial Competitions.

Ciaran Gregan

Our Juvenile Captain Ciaran Gregan won the Hilary final day in Royal Dublin shooting a 67 gross.

Finally

Thanks to all members who volunteered throughout the year in any way whether it be Council members, Committee members, sub-committee members and all those who volunteered in any way. Your contribution no matter how big or small is greatly appreciated. Special thanks go to the team involved in the vast visual improvements around 7th hole and also the team of gardeners who regularly attend to weed and tidy around the clubhouse.

Thanks to all of our employees who keep the club running on a day to day basis. Thanks also to our Secretary Manager Paddy Maguire for his service over the last 3 years and we wish him well in the future.

Regards

Padraic Robinson
Honorary Secretary