



SEASON COMMENCES: Wednesday 3rd May, 2023

With two weeks to go before the 2023 season starts, we thought we would write to everyone who has either played before or expressed an interest in playing in the League. In accordance with the permissions granted by the Management Committee, we've listed below the format, rules etc. that will be applicable this year.

What are the important bits:

- We will get to play the league which will commence on Wednesday, 3rd May;
- This is a roll up competition, you turn up, enter the Pro Shop and add your name to the next available slot – please, no arranged games;
- All full and social members of the Royal Jersey Golf Club are welcome to play;
- If players do not have the requisite 20 cards to support their handicap, then they are welcome to play but cannot win the vouchers until they meet the 20 card rule;
- Entry into each week's competition commences at 2pm on the day until circa 4:45pm;
- Players can tee off from 3pm on either the 1st, 10th or 14th tees (as directed);
- We will dine together and hold a presentation at the end of the evening;
- We have a continuing sponsor – Ravenscroft Asset Management;
- We will issue Pro Shop vouchers to 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for both the Individual and Team competitions;
- We will give out a sleeve of balls for all Eagles and Birdie 2s on the Par threes;

- There will be a sleeve of balls for the nearest the Pin on the designated Par 3 that day;
- There will be draw at the end of the evening for those in attendance for four sleeves of balls; and
- At the end of the season, there will be prizes for the top placed league players, both individual and team.

To save you the joy of reading everything below, as stated above the season commences on Wednesday, 3rd May, we will play 14 rounds (with 8 counting) on consecutive Wednesdays and the League will conclude on the 2nd August. Weekly Prizes etc. will be given out at the end of the evening after dining and the Season's League Prizes will be given out on Wednesday 9th August. This will be done after the popular Scramble afternoon.



Sponsorship:

Ravenscroft asset managers successfully sponsored the League in 2021 and 2022 and they have confirmed that they will support the League again in 2023.

Costs:

As in 2021 and 2022, entry costs will be £15 to register in the League and £5 each week. Juniors are free.

Information (Website etc.):

All results and League rules will be recorded on our website. We encourage you to view this it as it records far more than the basic weekly results. Why? There have been comments and criticisms and these tables should ensure that good information is available.

<http://www.wednesdayleague.org.ie/default.htm>

Facebook:

We have a Facebook page – “Royal Jersey Wednesday League”. Please “LIKE” this page. We endeavour every week to take photos of all prize winners (and anything of potential interest). These will be posted on the Facebook page together with a simple summary of each week's results.

<https://www.facebook.com/Royal.Jersey.Wednesday.League>

(Similar information is sent to the JEP. Sadly, we don't see them publish many items about the League.)

The Committee and Organisers:

Committee – John Eddy and another, to be named shortly.

Web Manager – Chris Cole, who was part of the original Wednesday League, has set up and maintains the website. We will not see much of Chris as he took up the opportunity to move to La Moye Golf Club a few years ago to be near his home.

Spring Tour – Bob Bowden organises this successful trip every April.

League competitions:

As advised above, we had to write to the Management Committee of the Royal Jersey Golf Club and they have confirmed that we will be able to play the League again in 2023.

- The 2023 Wednesday League will be played over 14 weeks commencing on 3rd May and thereafter every Wednesday until the 2nd August.
- The best 8 rounds over these 14 weeks apply towards the League prizes. You don't need to commit to play at least 8 rounds as you can use the League to simply support/confirm your handicap index.
- The competition each week is a stableford format with the exception of the Texas Scramble, which is a medal round.

Please note that each evening round is a qualifying competition for handicap purposes. As a result, everyone taking part must (a) have a handicap index and (b) input their score into the PSI terminal

Handicaps:

We welcome all Full and Social members of the Royal Jersey Golf Club who possess a handicap. Unlike all other club competitions, if you do not have the required 20 cards in the PSI system, then you can play in the Wednesday League and accrue points. Vouchers will only be available to those players that meet the 20 card rule.



Matches:

We have a date in the diary for a match against the Ladies Section, scheduled for Thursday 3rd August.

There will also be one against the Junior Section on a date as yet to be confirmed.

Entry:

As in past years, the event is a roll up. The Management Committee has closed the course for the League competitions from 3pm. Anyone already on the course can finish their round. In previous years the Course Rangers had been given permission to allow us to use the first tee off from 2:30pm, however with the recent post Covid numbers the Management Committee feel that this is currently unnecessary.

Registration opens in the Pro shop at 2:00pm. There is no cut off for the last players but please note that a round should not take more than 3 hours 40 minutes (ideally less). The last players usually tee off before 5:15pm. Therefore, when you arrive at the club, pop into the Pro shop and they'll put you into the next group. The Course Rangers will direct everyone to the most appropriate tee to start their round to try and ensure everyone gets back before dark. The Management Committee has approved competitive rounds to commence from the 1st, 10th and 14th tees. We would encourage members to try and play with different people each week as this expands the fun of the evening. Arranged games / pairings are disliked.

Late starters; if you know you will be arriving after 4:30pm, please give the Pro Shop a call to notify them of your impending arrival. They can ensure that there are others available for you to join up with. The Pro Shop's telephone number is 01534 852234.

Teams:

We will continue the successful Team prize whereby the members of the 3 (or 2) ball have a chance of winning additional weekly and League prizes. We simply require ONE score on each hole, usually the first [best] one in the cup. Please note that if you are the scorer, you must complete the full details of the players on the card – names and handicaps – and ensure that two of you sign the card. We will also continue the policy whereby a 2 ball receives 3 extra stableford points on the Team card, most years at least one week is won by a two ball. (Please refer to the card completion notice on both the website and the Notice board.)

Social Members:

Social members are welcome and they will pay the normal member guest rate of £38.50. Please ensure that you have notified the Club Secretary of your handicap details so that he can input you into the Club's PSI records.

Guests:

We welcome any visitors to the island who are members of golf clubs. They need a CONGU handicap index and if not competitive then they can take part in the Team event without any issues. We cannot extend this invitation to members of other clubs on the island unless they are a Social member of the club. Guests do not need to pay the League registration fee, they simply pay the £5 entry fee and the member guest green fee (£38.50). (Please note that any guest that plays will have their efforts relayed to their home club secretary for handicap purposes.) See immediately above re PSI records.

The one exception to this island guest rule is the Scramble competition (see below). Members of the League may invite a member of another Jersey golf club to help make up a 4 ball so long as they hold a valid handicap index.

Juniors:

We will continue to welcome Juniors to play in the League. This gives them great exposure as to how to play the game, courtesy, etiquette etc. As they pay nothing to play, they are not eligible for any prize money. Before joining the League, they need to obtain sign off from the club's Head of the Junior Section. (Wherever possible, Juniors should not play together with the exception being the Texas.)

Points: (staying the same)

The Individual and Team Leagues will accrue each week on the current basis of 6 points (1st), 5 (2nd), 4 (3rd), 3 (top 3rd of field), 2 (middle third of field), and 1 (bottom third) and not the weekly stableford score. We will continue to record the individual stableford scores for information only. You will see that at the end of the season there has been little difference in the overall positions. As started in 2016, where a Junior comes in the first 3, we will also award a top point scores to the top 3 adult members of the League

No points are available if the player is either disqualified or no returns every hole.

Weekly Prizes:

Individual: Each week there will be vouchers for the 1st £40, 2nd. £25 and 3rd. £15 (sorry not for the Juniors – they don't pay to play.

(The club's Secretary has given us authority to review the cards at the end of play and this should hopefully avoid the embarrassment of awarding a prize only to ask for it back due to a technicality the following day.)

Team: Each week there will also be vouchers for the 1st Team (£15 each), 2nd Team (£10 each) and 3rd Team (£5 each). Note - if either Juniors win or a two ball wins a prize, they do not share either a voucher or the left over voucher.

Cards:

Please note that once your card is in the box, it is concluded.

(Despite some mutterings, we don't like disqualifying people. The most common fault: signatures AND don't forget to record your handicap index and slope adjusted handicap for the yellow tees.)

Birdie 2's:

We will continue to award a sleeve of balls to anyone obtaining a birdie 2 on one of the course's five Par 3s. These will be awarded at the end of the evening after dinner (or advised to the Pro Shop for collection, if we are not dining). If we are dining, anyone not in attendance will forfeit his sleeve. We will also award a sleeve for an Eagle (every year we witness one of two of these illusive birds.)

Nearest the Pin:

Every week one of the Par 3 holes will be selected as the hole on which you can win a sleeve of balls by hitting your tee shot nearer than anyone else that evening. As in the past there will be a small flag (or otherwise) on the green identifying where someone previous to your group has stopped. If you (or one of your team) is closer, please move the little flag and record your/their distance from the hole to your/their ball on the team card.

Golf Ball draw:

We will hold a draw for 4 sleeves of balls (a box) at the end of each week's meal. A draw will be made at the end of the evening based upon when players arrived in the Pro shop. Anyone not in attendance and winning at the time of the draw will forfeit his sleeve of balls and there will be a redraw.

Speed of Play:

We all want to get round as quickly as possible and into the clubhouse. For those that tee off later, we want them to enjoy the evening and get in so that we can make the announcements. Therefore, if you're not going to score on a hole, please pick up. Secondly, if you're having a terrible round, consider the other players behind you and keep up with those in front. (We appreciate that during the early part of the season the rough can be penal. If you think you are deep in the long rough, please consider a provisional ball.)

In previous years, the course has accommodated 87 players on one week with several weeks having more than 70 players out on the course. We do not recall any significant issues with delays on these evenings, so well done if you played on one of these days.

Dining:

At the time of writing, there is concern that the club's staffing may not be in situ to allow us to dine. It is however their sincere desire that the club will be able to provide us with the popular dining experience. What this space for more information.

Assuming that we will be dining together, a major part of the success of the League is the social side and the ability to meet other members of the League where we sit down at tables of either 9 or 12 places. It is a requirement that you make every effort to attend the dinner afterwards. (Please note that persistent non-diners will be ejected from the League.). Thankfully, the club lays on a fantastic choice at a very good price.

Dress Code:

On course – the policy of the club applies.

Dining (if we can) – smart casual. No need for ties or jackets, shirts can be long or short sleeve. (Tidy denim jeans are allowed.) That said, at the Texas Scramble dinner, jackets and ties can be worn, a number of League members like to wear their "Wednesday League" tie, which is available upon request.

As we started a number of years ago, to celebrate mid summer / longest day on Wednesday 21st June, we would encourage everyone dining to wear their most colourful / brightest / loudest shirt - i.e. either dig around in the back of your wardrobe or visit a charity shop.

Let's again see some colour in the club on that evening. (There will be a sleeve of balls for the "brightest", as selected by the club's staff on the evening.)

Evening announcements (when we are dining):

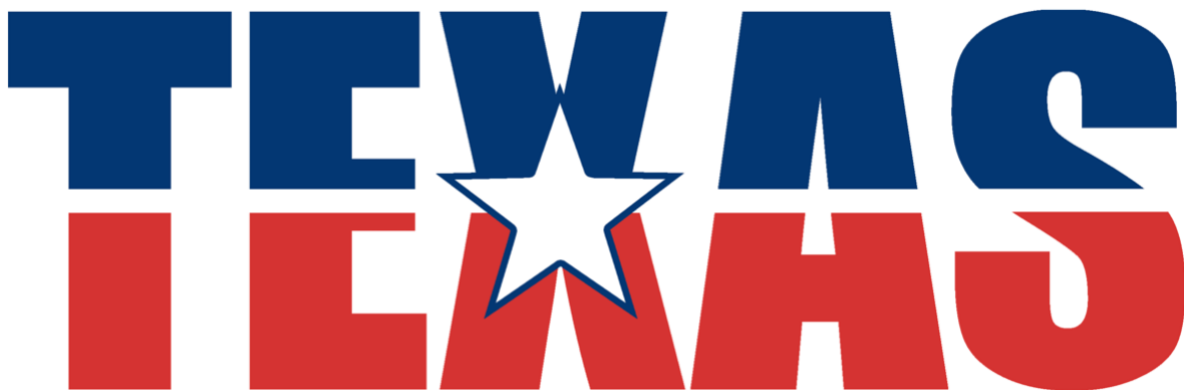
As in past years, we will endeavour to start all announcements either just before or soon after 9:15pm. In past years, the clubhouse was usually empty by 9:35pm. Therefore, if you're playing late, please come on up to the dining room as quickly as you can after completing your round.

Results:

We will post a summary late on the Wednesday evening to our Facebook page.

We will endeavour to get the results onto the website and the main reports on the clubhouse board as quickly as possible together with all of the other useful information. This is usually on the Thursday afternoon. If you haven't already done so, then we suggest you visit our website and look at the archives to see what we record.

Once dining, we will also try and take photos of the winners on the evening to post on Facebook as well as announcing the weekly successes on the same forum.



Scramble:

On the last evening of the season (9th August, this year), we will hold the popular Scramble competition (actually Florida verses Texas scramble). This will be for teams of four players where League members, who are full club members, can invite a guest. The "Florida" format is step aside (the ball selected cannot play that shot) and each player must record four drives – see rules on our website for more details. As in past years, we extend an invitation to the Ladies section to field teams. Due to calculating benefits etc., we need to ensure that all teams are single sex.

End of Season Prizes:

At the end of the season on the Scramble evening, we will award Season prizes to the top person in the combined, together with the first three individual and team leagues and the combined league with no person receiving more than one prize. This will mean that 7 players go home with something. (Note: in the event of a Junior winning a prize, he receives golf balls – sorry Dads). Should there be a tie for a position, we will continue to include 9 or even more rounds.

In addition to the above, there will also be the Gross and Net eclectic. The final result is based upon the individual's first round handicap. Please note that you need a score on every hole to get onto the table so it will be necessary to post a score.



Finally, there are two additional trophies. The "McGlynn-Altham" for the individual who does something he wish he hadn't and the "Teeth" for the individual who had the most to say, rightly or wrongly.

The winners of these trophies in 2022 were:

- Individual League – the "Gallichan Propeller": *. Joe Fernandes
- Individual Team League – the "Three Buddhas": Andy Conoops
- The Combined Leagues – the "Two Candlesticks": Joe Fernandes

- the "Net Eclectic Salver": Ron Kirk with a net 47
- the "Gross Eclectic Decanter": Julio Moniz with a net 61
- the "McGlyn-Altham": Paul Rebours
- the "Teeth": Joe Fernandes

Note: *. The Gallichan Propeller will in 2023 become the trophy for the Eclectic Gross as we have very generously been given an enormous cup that was last awarded over 20 years ago to Mike Russell on behalf of Zenith Trust Company. Both the company sponsoring this trophy and the competition have disappeared and this has not been replayed in the 21st century.



Wednesday League Tour:

This takes place next week (late April) where around 24 players go to the South East of the UK and enjoy three or four rounds of golf. This is organised by Bob Bowden.

Weather:

As in past years we have been graced with some fantastic evenings to play golf. There is usually at least one evening where damp conditions apply. Hopefully we will be blessed this year with 14 excellent golfing rounds.

Conclusion:

The Wednesday League has been successful in the past with around 150 players taking part every year and an average field over the season in excess of 60 players each Wednesday. The most was 87 one late May evening and there were no delays or late departures that day.

We therefore hope to see you over the summer and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come back to us.

Regards

The Committee and Organisers of the Ravenscroft Wednesday League

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