



Gents Section Report for AGM 2021

With a slow start again due to very poor weather the winter leg of our 2020/21 season unfortunately resulted in several of our regular winter competitions being cancelled. It was into late February before we could get back onto the course and on with our full complement of fixtures.

Spring came and the weather greatly improved and fortunately this continued throughout the season where we were truly blessed with very favourable weather and playing conditions. The dry weather spoiled us with fast greens and scorched fairways, conditions more often seen much nearer the coast.

Thanks to the comprehensive instruction and explanation memos from our M&H volunteers the implementation of the new WHS was relatively simple. Like all new systems there are bound to be teething problems, but we were quickly up and running and understanding the system and how it monitors our scores and updates our handicaps.

This year saw a very much new and improved clubhouse for our members to enjoy owing to an extensive refurbishment which I'm sure you all agree is a huge improvement.

I was delighted to see our section grow in size again from previous year. Competition and "casual" rounds grew accordingly and resulted in all three courses being busy but manageable and they all played well and held up brilliantly. The burgeoning carpark was however at capacity several times this year and will require a clever solution to be found if our club continues to grow.

Congratulations must go to all our competition winners, runners up and players generally, between us we managed to play Over 3000 competitive rounds of golf, record over 220 Magic 2's and one rare Ace! There were many notable results, too many to name here and so a copy of each competition winners and runners up is attached.

I'm delighted to confirm that the gents section made two charity donations this year. The Cancer charity Maggie's received a donation from us of £196 from the field of players competing for the Drumburn Cup and Save the Children Charity £118 after we played for the Save the Children Salver.

Team News

Bells Trophy Team (Captained by Peter Martin)



My foray into Bells trophy was played on the side of a mountain at Bishopshire golf. For those of you who have not played it home advantage is an understatement to say the least.

We came up a little short in first and only outing in the Bells but the whole team enjoyed the experience and the views.

The difficulty in the Bells trophy is the requirement to have golfers from certain handicap sections so any help for next year would be appreciated.

With a year under my belt all be a brief one I feel more confident going forward.

All the best for 2022”

Caledonian League (Captained by Dave Izatt / Iain Gwynne)

“Muckhart Golf Club “Cally” League Team has had another successful year. 10 matches played, 5 home and 5 away. The team won 4 out of the 5 home games and got a draw away against Leven. A convincing win (5-1) in the last game of the season at home saw the team consolidate a mid-table place and guaranteed place in the same Division for next season along with Thornton. The following clubs will join us: Dunfermline, Canmore, Balumbie and Grange & Broughty (Monifeith). Long-time Captain Dave Izatt has handed over the reins to Iain Gwynne who would like to say, new players are always welcome, and he hopes to see some new representation from the club membership in 2022.”

Scratch league, County Team Championships, Coronation Trophy and Stroyan Trophy

(Captained by Ian Dryden)

“At the start of the 2021 golf season, Perth & Kinross held its annual Champion of Champions event hosted by Blairgowrie Golf Club. Muckhart was represented by James Barrett (our club champion 2020) and Alex Turlik (Perth & Kinross Gents Matchplay Champion 2020). Both acquitted themselves well at this early season event finishing the 36-hole Strokeplay event in 7th & 9th place respectively.

May saw the hosting of the Gents Stroyan Trophy (Foursomes) hosted by Comrie Golf Club. Muckhart was represented by Neil MacDonald and Dave McGinival who finished a creditable third (losing out to King James on BIH for second position) with winners being Blairgowrie.

May also saw the Gents Scratch League commence. Unfortunately, Muckhart were unable to progress beyond their league group stage this season although many matches were closely fought with the margin in most matches being a fine line between a win/loss. However a notable highlight was Luke Volland making a winning debut appearance and helping Muckhart record an away win at Strathmore Golf Club.

In early July, Muckhart was represented at the Perth & Kinross Gents Team



Championships(Strokeplay) by its "young team" of Lewis Seath, Alex Turlik and Luke Volland who finished a very respectable 5th out of the 15 clubs who participated.

The final event of the season saw our gents team lose away to a strong Auchterarder team in the Coronation Trophy (Team Foursomes) in the first round. Thanks to everyone who represented Muckhart in our scratch team events and roll-on season 2022”

Ochil league, Captained by Jack Wallace

“The Ochil league was started by long standing Muckhart member Andrew Dougall in 1959 and over the years has raised money for local charities in the Ochil Hills area. Andrew Crichton and I took over the running of the league in 2013/14 and did manage to win the trophy in 2017 the first time since 1983.

2021 season was not a successful one, despite most of our players from 2017 still playing in the league. The honours went to Dunning Golf Club with Muckhart languishing in 9th place out of 10 teams.

Regarding observations going forward we have suggested an increase in match fees for next season to increase our charity donations. We raised £1080 this season and hope that next season that figure will be around £2700. This should be ratified at our AGM in January.

Up until around 2011 the league ran charity competitions such as The John Stark Trophy, The Lunan Cup, The Ruthven Towers Cup and a Greensome competition.

By the time Andy and I got involved most of these competitions were no longer running. We did manage to run the John Stark Trophy in our first year but as golf membership fell and competition entries declined along with club revenues it was the end of the road.

Now that golf is going through a bit of a revival it would be nice to think some of these competitions could be brought back. It will be hard to get clubs to donate a day for this. It is also a lot of work both for the club and the organisers.

If Muckhart wish to put up a free day I would certainly be interested in talking about it.

Our average donation is around £200 at the moment and there are a lot of charities out there that even this small sum can make a difference.”

Finally, I would like to extend a very sincere thanks to all of the many gents section and member volunteers who give up their time to help around the club in 2021. Whether it be on the course, in the clubhouse, M&H, Board members or our Team Captains.

Thanks also to our Greens staff of Paul, William, Sandy, Euan, Alistair and seasonal staff who continue to do an amazing job, to Stewart and his catering team, all our



friendly bar staff and a special thanks to Steve, Scott and Rory in the Proshop for all there help and assistance throughout the year.

Scott Marshall
Gents Captain