



Special points of interest:

- 32 County Golf Partnerships (CGPs) in place.
- £600,000 external funding has been accessed.
- 33 County Development Officers recruited.

County Golf Partnership News

MAY 2010

Welcome to the third EGU/EWGA County Golf Partnership (CGP) email newsletter that has been designed as a communication tool for partnerships to share information, ideas and best practice.

Partnership activity is expected to thrive during 2010, with CGPs in a position to make a real difference to golf development within their counties.

The EGU/EWGA would be pleased to receive any information from partnerships on the activities undertaken and wish all partnerships success over the coming months.

EGU/EWGA Golf Development Team

Hampshire Golf tees off its search for new Golf Stars!

As Ian Poulter and Lee Westwood battled to win The Masters golf championship in America, the Hampshire Golf Partnership completed a memorable sporting weekend with its opening 'Get into Golf Funshow' in Portsmouth Guildhall Square.

Free to all, the 2010 series of Get into Golf Funshows gives a taster of golf to potential golfers of all ages and skill levels. Portsmouth Golf Centre PGA Coaches James Blatch, David Eagan and Terry Rooney were on hand to help visitors in the basics of chipping, full swings and putting, in a friendly and cheerful atmosphere.

James Blatch said: "This was a great day for children and adults in the city who hadn't tried golf before. Our team was able to show them that under the right supervision you can pick up the basics quickly and, importantly, that golf can be for everyone, whatever your age, background or ability level."

The Portsmouth event was just the first in a countywide series of Funshows over the summer which will take in similar events in Southampton, Basingstoke, Aldershot, Gosport, Fareham, Horndean and more Portsmouth shows, including a spectacular two days of golf activity in the city during the weekend of the Ryder Cup match between Europe and the USA in early October. A full list of events throughout 2010 is available on www.hantsgolfpartnership.co.uk.

Those new players who achieve good scores at this series of events will win free coaching sessions at Portsmouth Golf Centre (both adults and children). James Blatch added: "We may find a new star of two, but the most important thing is to offer the opportunity to enjoy golf for many new players."

For more information please contact: Beverly Huke, Development Officer on 07973 307880

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Picture: Portsmouth Golf Centre Coaches Terry Rooney, James Blatch and David Egan celebrate another great strike by an up and coming young star!

Ladies Golf Coaching delivered by the Northants Community Golf Coach

County Development Officer, David Davis, recently met with Tammy Tushingham, from Macintyre Hudson accountants. Tammy runs events etc for business ladies in the Peterborough area.

4 ladies groups have been set up that will receive golf coaching for an hour a week. The sessions will run for 5 weeks each and be delivered by the Northamptonshire CGP community golf coach.

After the sessions the ladies will be invited to new member open days and encouraged to consider taking out memberships at the club.

The club recently ran a new members open day and offered free tuition on the day, 9 holes of golf, lunch and also the opportunity to sign up to a 6 week course of golf lessons.

These lessons are to be provided by the clubs professional free of charge. They are also offering new subscription packages to help recruit new members.

The Blue Tees Club—Supported by the Lincolnshire CGP

Lincoln Golf Centre has made great strides towards recruiting those often rare and elusive creatures - new lady golfers!

At a time when nationally women's membership is decreasing the Centre has enrolled 36 new women onto Head Professional Paul Logan's introductory courses. Paul is offering 6 week courses on Monday and Wednesday evenings and has devised an innovative scheme to encourage the new recruits to take their skills onto the golf course. The centre has set up the 'Blue Tees Club' which has been designed as a vehicle for getting new players out of the driving range and onto the golf course.

The club has designed and built a new set of tees (blue) that reduce the distance and difficulty of the Centre's golf course. Of course it is hoped that learning to play alongside other new players will greatly increase the fun element and help everyone to relax and enjoy the game.

The County Golf Partnership has been pleased to help out by loaning half sets of golf clubs that new players can use whilst they are members of the Blue Tee Club. Membership of the Club is free and entitles the members to discounted rounds of golf.

Article supplied by Shona Dickson
CDO - Lincolnshire Golf Partnership.



Pictured above are Paul Logan (Coach far left), Brian Logan (Center Manager far right) and some of Monday night's group.

Activity in Northamptonshire

David Davis and Martin Crowder (Golf Foundation) met with Natalie Lawrence the Partnership Development Manager for the Northampton area.

Natalie has agreed to fund the partnership £8,500 to deliver Tri-Golf coaching and GolfXtreme coaching for the next 18 months in the Northampton area. All the delivery will take place at local primary and secondary schools. Half of the coaching will be delivered by the partnerships community golf coach and the other half by the club professionals at a local golf club.

3 academy coaching assessment days recently took place at Silverstone, Brampton Heath and Oundle golf clubs. The events were well attended and the most promising juniors have been enrolled onto the academy coaching programme.

At the assessment day at Oundle a junior turned up who was recognised by the academy coach, as he had taught him at primary school a couple of years previously. After speaking to the junior he found out that he had decided to carry on playing golf and joined his local golf club, Priors Hall. Now 12 years old, he has a handicap of 18 and plays for the golf club junior team, demonstrating the link from school activity to club to membership.

Work of Volunteers Recognised in BB&O

A few of the BB&O Volunteer winners



Jim Robinson & Suzy
Smith



Jim Robinson &
Mike Stryka



Jim Robinson &
Gordon Jones

Without volunteers the Berks, Bucks & Oxon Golf Partnership would not have been able to have achieved the success which has seen it used as an example for other golf partnerships to follow.

Recognising the work of these volunteers BB&O Partnership Chairman John Low said: "They have made a significant contribution. All of what we have achieved does not just happen by itself. We rely on the commitment from an excellent pool of volunteers who give up their free time and many weekends to help us implement our programmes. We are always looking for help so any new recruits would be most welcome and appreciated."

In recognition of the commitment given by the volunteers, Jim Robinson, Chief Executive of the English Women's Golf Association presented them with county cards.

Volunteers receiving awards were:

Level 1 coaches

Merv Foulds, Sally Adams, Suzy Smith and Charles Deane. Avril Schmidt, Martin Dowzall, James Bromham, Anne Bridges, Sue Ashworth, Liz Morris and Paul Richardson were unable to attend.

Committee members representing the BB&O Union and the three county Ladies Associations –

Jayne Laurie (Chipping Norton), Maureen MacCaskill (Denham), Jan Hubrecht (Gerrards Cross), Helen Price (Maidenhead), Gordon Jones (Castle Royle), Mike Stryka (Hazlemere), Colin Gunney (BB&O GP press officer from The Club at Mapledurham), Anthea Winn (Royal Ascot) and Pauline Cameron (East Berkshire) were unable to attend.

Novice2Golfer Initiative to be Launched

A new golf development initiative aimed at bringing complete novices into the game has been given the green light by Warwickshire Golf.

The new 'Novice2Golfer' initiative is being launched to coincide with the start of the golf season and features a series of events staged by qualified PGA Professionals for adults and juniors including some dedicated sessions for women.

Group coaching sessions are to be held at golf facilities across Warwickshire throughout the Spring and Summer aimed at encouraging as many newcomers of all ages to give golf a go. The course of 5 hourly lessons covering all the basics and ending with a chance to get out on the course with the Professional costs only £25.00 and will have a maximum of 10 per group.

All equipment will be provided and anyone interested in taking part is advised to contact their nearest venue for more details and information.

There are now 24 clubs taking part in this initiative and details of these courses are available on our brand new website – www.warwickshiregolf.info. Have a look and read more about what we are up to in Warwickshire!

News from the Norfolk County Golf Partnership

Special Award for Golf Ambassador Students

The work of three students who took part in a programme launched last year by the BB&O Golf Partnership in conjunction with Buckinghamshire New University, has been recognised.

The BB&O Golf Partnership linked up with Bucks New University to launch a unique Golf Ambassadors Programme for their 2nd year students to provide students with real 'hands-on' experience in the golf industry and to provide the CGP with high quality sports management volunteers.

The programme was put together by Francisco Baeza (principal lecturer), Justine Lawrence (CDO) and Phil Beard (EGP Volunteer Mgr).

As a result of the pilot scheme in BB&O, the programme is now being launched nationwide.

Opportunities for groups of young people and adults with disabilities have been very well supported:

The Norwich East School Sports Partnership hosted a sports taster day for main stream primary school children with a variety of learning and physical disabilities. The event took place at the University of East Anglia with 32 children trying Tri-Golf for the first time along with badminton, archery, volleyball and table tennis.



In partnership with the Competition Managers' Team, 6 golf sessions were held at the University of East Anglia for children and young people from a number of Special Educational Needs schools. Mark Spooner, Professional at Glen Lodge Golf Club, Bawburgh, used a mixture of Tri-Golf and GolfXtreme

equipment to encourage the 19 children and young people to hone their newly acquired golf skills. It is hoped that some of the schools will think about taking part in their respective Partnership Tri-Golf festivals.

Golf was included in a programme of sports taster sessions organised by Active Norfolk's Disability Officer. The event took place at the Norwich Day Care Centre with about 20 adults taking part. Although the tasters were for adults and space was very limited, the partnership were able to use both Tri-Golf and GolfXtreme equipment to set up and rotate putting and chipping games for everyone to have a go – tables and chairs make very good targets and barriers!

Other Activity

2 more PESSYP agreements have been secured through the Golf Foundation with North Norfolk and West Norwich and Dereham School Sports Partnerships.

Golf has been one of the most popular and successful of Active Norfolk's GetBackInto programme with a total of 16 projects averaging 8 participants at each event. Golf will continue to feature in the Spring and Summer programmes across the county with a mixture of daytime and evening sessions, and some women only groups.

The Coach Academy Programme (CAP) is underway with 10 contracted coaches in place to deliver a mixture of individual and group sessions. Players have been identified through Sports Unlimited projects, school-club links and 2 assessment days. Coaches will liaise directly with players to arrange their individual and group sessions.

The second combined AGM and Club Forum included presentations on the Recruitment & Retention Toolkit and Volunteering. A toolkit was purchased by the Norfolk County Golf Partnership for every affiliated club and was distributed at the AGM/Forum.

For further details on the partnership visit: www.activenorfolk.org/norfolkgolf

CGP Websites

www.bedsgolffpartnership.com

www.bbogolffpartnership.com

www.cornwallgolffpartnership.org.uk

www.cumbriagolffpartnership.co.uk

www.derbyshiregolffpartnership.org

www.devongolffpartnership.org.uk

www.dorsetgolffpartnership.org.uk

www.durhamgolffpartnership.com

www.essexgolffpartnership.com

www.gloucestershiregolffpartnership.org

www.hantsgolffpartnership.co.uk

www.manxgolffpartnership.sportsoffice.liverpool.gov.uk

www.kentgolffpartnership.org.uk

www.lrcgp.org.uk

www.lincolnshiregolffpartnership.org

www.middlesexgolffpartnership.org.uk

www.northamptonshiregolff.org.uk

www.shropshireherefordshiregolffpartnership.co.uk

www.somersetgolffpartnership.org

www.suffolkgolffpartnership.co.uk

www.surreygolffpartnership.com

www.sussexgolffpartnership.org

www.wcgp.info

www.wcgu.org.uk

www.partnership.worcestershireamateurgolff.co.uk

Thank you to all County Golf Partnerships!

The England Golf Partnership (EGP) would like to thank all County Golf Partnerships for submitting their biannual reviews.

The EGP acknowledge that the level of paperwork and administration involved with CGP activity has been intense of late and this has been highlighted by many CGPs recently and therefore the EGP is making it a priority to examine how the administration process can be simplified in order for CGPs to focus on delivering activity.

The review forms have highlighted a number of positive activities and developments taking place at county level and the work of volunteers within partnerships is greatly appreciated and without this driving force of County Golf Partnerships the development of golf in England would not be progressing so rapidly.

Once again thank you for your continued support and hard work!!!

Media Assistance for County Golf Partnerships

Ben Evans is the new EGP Communications Officer and will support CGPs in their media communication and to promote good news stories and share them across all media, including the new EGP website project.

The role is part-time and he will be supported by 4 regional part-time officers and together they will offer advice, share knowledge, and collate good stories and examples of best practice that can be presented to the wider golf audience, used on our websites and shared internally.

During the coming weeks Ben will be completing an EGP strategy document for the year ahead which will expand on media opportunities and the communications framework. He will also be finishing a 'Media toolkit', which will hopefully assist each CGP with ideas for generating stories and tips for dealing with the press.

Ben can be contacted at benevangolf@yahoo.co.uk or telephone 01747 820384 or 07789 722853 (landline best in first instance).

Future Training Requirements

Following the introduction of the training schedule for CGP Chairmen and County Development Officers (CDOs) last year, the EGU/EWGA are currently looking to identify training requirements for 2010/2011.

To support this process, the EGU/EWGA would be pleased to hear from any Chairman, CDOs or Steering Group Members who have any suggestions for future training sessions.

Please email all suggestions, ideas and also feedback on the current schedule to development@englishgolfunion.org

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