

# Balcarrick Golf Club

## Joint Club Hon. Secretary Report 2014

On behalf of Richie Walsh, Captain, please find below a brief report on the Joint Club activities for 2014.

### Election of Officers and Committee

The following members were elected as Officers and Committee at the AGM of the Club on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2013. The names of those proposed for Committee were listed by Richie Walsh, Vice Captain. All those nominated were elected.

Position	Name	No. of Meetings Attended
<b>President</b>	Gerry Mulholland	7
<b>Captain</b>	Richie Walsh	10
<b>Vice Captain</b>	Christy O'Driscoll	9
<b>Lady Captain</b>	Anne Dynes	10
<b>Lady Vice Captain</b>	Maureen McEvoy	10
<b>Hon Secretary</b>	Vincent Brereton	10
<b>Hon Treasurer</b>	Richard Caffrey	9
<b>Ex. Officio</b>	Ray Crilly	2
<b>Match and Handicap Sec.</b>	Seamus McDonnell	6
<b>Committee (Societies)</b>	James Daly	8
<b>Committee</b>	Dympna Kelly	4
<b>Committee (Clubhouse)</b>	Declan McEvoy	8
<b>Committee</b>	Sheila Crilly	4
<b>Committee</b>	Willie Killeen	5
<b>Committee</b>	Paul Burke	9
<i>10 Committee Meetings were held from January to the end of October 2014 (Incl.)</i>		

### Membership

The Captain and Committee take this opportunity to welcome all new members to Balcarrick Golf Club. The Club has always enjoyed a reputation for enjoyable golf in a friendly atmosphere.

Maintaining membership numbers remained difficult due to the economic climate. In response, a number of membership offers were introduced during the year.

### **Membership Numbers at the End October 2014:**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Ladies</b>
Ordinary	260	56
5 Day	91	17
Senior	60	4
Honorary	19	
Student	3	
Juvenile	30	
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>77</b>

22 members were granted leave of absence for 2014.

### **Finance**

The Club may show a small profit for the current financial year. This is due to the prudent management of accounts by Richard Caffrey, Hon. Treasurer. The Members, Captain and Committee offer their sincere thanks to Richard for his work and commitment to the position of Treasurer during the year.

The Committee introduced a number of membership recruitment drives during the year. As part of the recruitment drive, great effort is made to ensure that Balcarrick Golf Club maintains its reputation, as an attractive and challenging course.

The contribution made by members who offer their time to fund raise, for the Club, cannot be underestimated.

### **Golf**

Our Captain thanks Seamus McDonnell, Competition and Handicap Secretary, for his tireless work during the year. Seamus and his team, Gerry Dowling, Tom Mangan and Paul Burke work effectively to ensure that results are posted as quickly as possible after each competition.

Paul Burke deserves special mention for his work as Inter-Club Team Manager. Thanks also to the team managers and players who represented Balcarrick Golf Club, so well, in Inter Club events.

Many congratulations to the ladies who won the Ladies Fingal Seniors Trophy, beating Donabate in the final - a terrific achievement.

Hosting the DUGSA (Dublin United Golfing Societies Association) Annual Challenge Cup, in August this year, was a great honour for the Club. Despite inclement weather the day was a great success, due mainly to the work of Christy O'Driscoll, Vice Captain.

### **Course**

Martin Sheridan, Green Keeper, and his team deserve great credit for the excellent condition of the course. Despite the best efforts of our rabbit and crow population, the course is continually praised by members and visitors. The collaboration of Gerry Mulholland, Club President, and Martin ensures that the course is maintained to the highest standards.

### **Juniors & Juveniles**

Eoin Manning is this year's Junior Captain. The Junior/Juvenile Members are the lifeblood of the Club. Stephen Ennis, Club Professional, through his encouragement and coaching, is a great support to the juvenile membership. Balcarrick Golf Club thanks parents, sponsors and supporters for their commitment to juvenile activities.

Gavin Fitzmaurice was selected, this year, for the Leinster U18 panel - a great honour for Gavin and for the Club - many congratulations.

### **Pro Shop**

Stephen Ennis continues to provide a first class service to our members. The Club has a Professional and a pro-shop that it is proud of. It is the envy of other clubs in the area. Continued support from members will enable Stephen to maintain his high standards.

### **The Office**

Patricia Fennelly, Office Administrator, delivers exceptional service to members and the Committee. Her invaluable knowledge of the workings of the Club is vital to the efficient running of Balcarrick. I would like to thank Patricia for her help during my first year as Hon. Secretary. A special word of thanks to the volunteers who man the office on Patricia's days off and when required.

### **The Bar & Kitchen**

The bar and restaurant are important to the social life of the Club. The Committee regularly receive compliments from visiting teams, societies, and casual golfers on the quality and variety of the catering provided by Shane and his team.

### **The Clubhouse**

Improvements to the Clubhouse and its environs are on going. Apart from re-decorating the entrance hall, upgrading the photo display and plumbing repairs, a considerable upgrade to the electrical and security systems was also undertaken. Thank you to Declan and Richie for their work on the various projects. Thanks also to Sheila for her great work on the photo display and for organising the improvements to the entrance hall area. Richie would like to thank all those members who volunteer their time and assist in the maintenance of the Clubhouse.

A number of these activities depend on contributions from various fundraising groups - a huge thanks is due to those who organise fundraising events. Great credit is due to Pat and Clare Cluxton for their continued commitment and organisation of the 9 and Dine competitions - a valuable contribution to the funds.

Anne Dynes, Lady Captain, and her team worked tirelessly to enhance the appearance of the clubhouse and surrounds – many thanks, the results speak for themselves.

Philip Higgins updated the Club website – his time and considerable effort is much appreciated.

**Looking Forward**

The recession has placed financial constraints on all golf clubs. However, with limited resources Balcarrick Golf Club has maintained its course and clubhouse, in a condition that members can be proud of. For financial reasons some improvement projects have had to be put on hold. On a positive note it is planned, in the near future, to replace a number of on-course bridges. This is mainly due to the efforts of Christy O'Driscoll who applied, successfully, on behalf of the Club, for an interest free emergency funding loan from the GUI.

Retaining and increasing membership numbers remains an on-going goal of the Committee. The incoming Committee must continue to be pro-active and inventive in this regard.

**Finally**

All members are invited to attend the AGM. If you want your voice to be heard, on any matter, this is the forum to express your views.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Vincent Brereton

Hon. Secretary