

**Balcarrick Golf Club**  
**Ladies AGM 15th November 2017**  
**Honorary Secretary's Report**

Good afternoon ladies, on behalf of Lady Captain Louise and our committee, I would like to welcome you to our 2017 AGM, and to present my report on the activities of the Ladies section of Balcarrick Golf Club.

The Officers and Ladies' committee members of 2017 were as follows:

Lady Captain	Louise Stirling
Lady Vice Captain	Bridie Johnston
Ex Officio	Teresa Ranson
Hon. Secretary	Laura O'Farrell
Hon. Treasurer	Sheila Rafter
Hon. Handicap Secretary/ Competition Secretary	Jacqueline Connolly
Committee Member	Paula McCaughan
Committee Member	Mary Murphy

**THE COMMITTEE:**

I think you will all agree that our Lady Captain did an amazing job this year. She demonstrated her organisational skills and also excelled at promoting the club.

Our Lady Vice Captain Bridie also did an outstanding job and provided invaluable support to the Lady Captain. We thank her for all her hard work and dedication. It's great that our Lady Captaincy will be in good hands next year.

Our Treasurer Sheila Rafter kept us all in line and did a great job. Thank you Sheila.

Our Competition & Handicap Secretary Jackie Connolly organised our competitions and liaised with ILGU re any problems with handicaps.

The Committee would not have operated so successfully without Committee Members, Paula McCaughan and Mary Murphy. Thank you both. I would also like to thank Ex Officio Teresa Ranson, who steps down after 8 years on the Committee. A huge thank you Teresa for all your hard work and dedication.

The Ladies Committee met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, and there were often extra meetings arranged to organise upcoming events.

### **The club was represented at the following ILGU meetings:**

- AGM: Saturday 28th January, attended by Lady Captain and Lady Vice Captain
- Hon Secretaries: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February (Morning) attended by Lady Vice Captain and Laura O'Farrell
- Competition/Handicap Secretaries: 25<sup>th</sup> February (Afternoon) attended by Lady Vice Captain and Jacqueline Connolly
- One Governing Body meeting. Lady Captain Louise attended this meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> July.
- AGM East Leinster Branch ILGU. 21<sup>st</sup> October attended by Lady Captain, Lady Vice Captain and Hon. Secretary.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR:**

Lady Captain Louise introduced a new Spring League Competition on the 21<sup>st</sup> January which was a great success.

The Captains' Drive-In took place Saturday 4th February which was a great day and was enjoyed by all. 135 played in the Competition while almost 200 attended the event. The Club also raised €230 for Premature Babies.

March brought the St. Patrick's Day Cup which was won by Mary Connor.

March was also the start of the ladies 8 week beginners programme (Get into Golf). It began on 29<sup>th</sup> March up to the 17<sup>th</sup> May.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> May we played the Ann McMullan Trophy competition. €105 was raised for charity.

The Australian Spoons Trophy was played on the 10<sup>th</sup> May in Balcarrick. This was won by Mary Murphy and Laura O'Farrell. The semi finals took place in Killeen Golf Club in August. I'm afraid Mary and Laura were washed off the golf course. The weather was atrocious.

Women's Golf Day was celebrated by the ladies in Balcarrick on Tuesday 6th June 2017. 30 ladies played a scramble despite the incredibly windy conditions. We all enjoyed ourselves but maybe more so when we got back to the clubhouse for tea and sandwiches and glass or two of prosecco, followed by the presentation of prizes to the winning team which was led by our own Pauline Dillon.

Our Open took place on 14<sup>th</sup> June which was sponsored by Stephen Ennis our golf professional. He donated lovely prizes. 23 teams played and we thank Stephen for his sponsorship. On the 18<sup>th</sup> June we hosted the ILGU quarter finals. On the 28<sup>th</sup> June we had our usual Summer Lunch organised as always by Brenda Hayes. It was a great day. Delicious food and great atmosphere. Thank you Brenda.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> July we held our Lady Captain's Day, this was a very successful event, 30 ladies played. The prizes were fantastic. Congratulations to the winners. Special congratulations to the overall winner Mary Murphy.

21st August took us to Glasson Golf Club, for Lady Captain's Away Day. The weather let us down but a great day and evening was had by all.

On 18<sup>th</sup> September we had the Maureen McEvoy Prize to Past Lady Captains and the Maureen McEvoy Prize to the Ladies.

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September we marked 25 years at Balcarrick as part of our 45 year history. This day was also a club fundraiser and was a resounding success. The event raised €1,300. This will defray the significant additional expenses being incurred by the club this year, mainly in respect of our security and storage at the machinery shed yard, which are a condition of our insurance renewal.

### **Inter Club Competitions:**

The Challenge Cup won their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> round and were beaten in the 4th round by Donabate in Knightsbrook. The Minor Cup were beaten in the first round by Westmanstown in Howth. The Intermediate Cup were beaten in the first round in Carton House against Carton House. The Junior Foursomes were beaten in the 1<sup>st</sup> round by Royal Tara. Revive Active won their first two matches and were beaten on the 3<sup>rd</sup> by Laytown/Bettystown. The Fingal Seniors played all five rounds but did not get any further.

Congratulations to all the ladies who took part in all the Inter Club competitions, and the Fingal Seniors and thanks to the ladies for putting their names forward.

Many thanks to the following managers who gave their time to organise teams, and attend the matches: Patsy McCarthy, Anne Byrne, Brenda Hayes, Dolores Murphy, Teresa Ranson, Patricia Daly, Aileen James and Mary Connor.

### **Major Prize Winners of the Club in 2017:**

The Competition Secretary will present her report in more detail, but special congratulations are due to the following:

- ❖ St. Patrick's Day Cup – Mary Connor
- ❖ Ann McMullan Trophy – Paula McCaughan
- ❖ Medal Winners: Marie McCormack, Sheila Crilly, Patricia Maguire, Anne Dynes, Jackie Connolly and Marlene Kennedy.
- ❖ Matchplay Winners: Singles Competition: Patricia Daly
- ❖ Mixed Matchplay Winners: Mary Connor and Martin Connor.
- ❖ Ladies Fourball Matchplay Winners: Mary Connor and Patricia Daly.
- ❖ Club Champion: Sinead Kearney

### **Acknowledgements:**

On behalf of the Lady Captain and Committee I would like to thank the following who sponsored competitions during the year.

Lady Captain Louise, Lady Vice Captain Bridie, Teresa Ranson, Anne Byrne, Patsy McCarthy, Mary Connor, Una Campbell, Stephen Ennis, Doris Kilroy, Grace Conway, Nina Tierney, Maura McConnell, Jackie Connolly, Mary Murphy, Laura O'Farrell, Brenda Hayes, Pauline Melinn, Claire Cluxton and Sheila Rafter. It was disappointing that the sponsorship, by Paula McCaughan, Anne Dynes and Kay McClean, of 3 prizes for the Singles Competition on 11<sup>th</sup> October, had to be postponed due to the low turnout on what became a reasonable day for golf after all. Also, thanks to Paula for her contribution to the Committee in particular for making up the hampers so professionally. Paula is stepping down and she will be sorely missed.

Also, we owe a great deal of gratitude to all the ladies who adopted a pot and those who shared the cost with others and also those who sponsored the hanging baskets. The club surroundings are greatly enhanced by their dedication and hard work, which is very time consuming.

Thanks to the ladies who did "buddy" to the CGI scheme ladies (Confederation of Golf in Ireland), you showed great dedication to the Ladies and your Club.

Many thanks to Patricia our Office Administrator, who greatly contributes to the smooth running of the Club. Martin Sheridan and his greenkeeping team, for keeping the course in such good order. Thanks also to Stephen Ennis our club Professional. I would also like to thank the Club Treasurer Neil Stirling for the trojan work he has done for our Club which has contributed significantly to the turnaround in the Club's finances. Last, but not least, Jacinta and her staff, Alice, Rachel, Josephine, and the kitchen team, (some of whom we don't see very much). We enjoy the good food and your good service. Thank you.

2017 like every other year has been a year of ups and downs, with challenges that we continue to tackle, but with the great support of our committee and our members I am optimistic for 2018. Thanks again to Louise for all her hard work and Bridie, we look forward to working with you next year.

Signed: Laura O'Farrell  
Hon Secretary