



BEDFORDSHIRE
COUNTY GOLF PARTNERSHIP

SUPPORTED BY
ENGLAND GOLF

Growing the game in Bedfordshire

BCGP NEWSLETTER WINTER 2010

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2010 and now that the snow has disappeared we trust that all our readers are safely back on the golf course. Despite the inactivity on the course, there is still a fair amount to comment on from off the course as well as a plea for assistance as we look for volunteers to help us.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



After a rigorous application and interview process, the County Golf Partnership is delighted to announce the appointment of Stephen Bigrave as its new County Development Officer.

Stephen, previously a past Captain of Three Locks Golf Club near Milton Keynes and

now an active member and current committee member at Leighton Buzzard Golf Club, took up his post on 1st February and in addition to this will also chair our Marketing & Communication sub-group.

Over the next weeks and months he will be contacting all the clubs in Bedfordshire with a view to seeing how we can work together including developing initiatives which will encourage people of all ages to play golf.

GOLF MARK: ITS NOW 5



Congratulations to Terry Gardner and his team at Mowsbury Golf Club who have recently become the fifth club in the County to receive GolfMark accreditation. Our target is to have six accredited

by the end of March (remember we only started with one accredited last February) and with nine other clubs currently working towards the achievement it would be great if at least one of them could get past the post before Easter. Additionally during 2010 we aim to try and get as many of the five clubs who have yet to start the accreditation process "off the blocks and running".

[Click here](#)
to contact Steve



Want to help grow golf in Bedfordshire?
Can you help on one of the BCGP Sub Groups?
[Click here to volunteer](#)

VOLUNTEERS AND SUB GROUPS



As you can see from the structural diagram at the bottom of this newsletter, we have now finalised the structure of the sub-groups that will support our Steering Group including the name of the Chair of each Group.

The make-up of the County Academy/ Schools Group is complete but we are still looking for volunteers to help us in the other groups. Information on the role of each group can be found on our website by [clicking here](#).

Specifically help is needed with educational links, marketing, maintaining our website and training & Volunteer Recruitment. We are currently developing roles for Volunteers and would welcome details of anybody willing to help with a particular skill set.

Further information on the role of Volunteers in Golf can also be found by clicking on "Links" and then scrolling down to "Volunteers" in the right hand column.

As we have stated before, without the help of volunteers the Steering Group cannot possibly achieve all its objectives. **We need your help** and anyone who would like further information or would even like to offer their services should contact any one member of the Steering Group (e-mail contact details are on the website under "Links / Partners").

EGU/ EWGA BIENNIAL QUESTIONNAIRE



The EGU/EWGA has recently issued to all affiliated clubs their biennial Golf Club Membership Questionnaire which is aimed at surveying all things golf at all golf clubs in England on both a national and "county by county" basis.

With Bedfordshire being such a small county it is important to get the full

picture on as broad a front as possible and we would actively urge all clubs to fully complete the questionnaire before the requested date of 2nd April 2010.

The questionnaire can either be completed on-line at www.gcmq2010.org or by submitting it somewhat more slowly via "snail mail". Completion on line will also give access to the responses from the 2008 survey which may well provide support or guidance in completing the 2010 document and automatically enter the club into a competition run by EGU/EWGA with a range of attractive prizes.

Finally, Clubs should also note that not all the questions may be relevant to their particular club and any that are not do not have to be completed.



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BCGP NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2009

COUNTY ACADEMY PRESENTATION



Despite widely publicising this to Clubs, Liaison Officers, PGA Professionals and others within the County, only 15 people attended the presentation at Bedford & County Golf Club on the National Club and Coaching Programme and its relevance and

benefit to Bedfordshire which was given by Fiona Brown, a PGA Professional and the Regional Coach & Development Officer for the East Region.

This was hugely disappointing as, with the current state of golf in the County and the existence of a number of Developmental Programmes within both the Union and The Association it had been hoped (based on initial responses) that the attendance level would have been at least twice that which actually occurred.

LEVEL 1 COACHES



To assist with training new junior golfers within the County, we are looking to develop and train a group of Level 1 Coaches. There is a cost for attendance on

the training courses but it may be possible to subsidise this from the BCGP training budgets.

Detailed information on what is involved in the training can be found on the PGA website www.pgainfo/NationalTrainingAcademy and clicking on "Coaching Golf".

FUNDING AND RESOURCES



The EGU has just published an updated version of its "Sources of Funding and Resources for Golf" brochure which gives a huge amount of detail about grant availability and training resources.

An electronic copy can be accessed on the EGU website (www.englishgolfunion.org) by clicking on "For Golf Clubs" and then on "Funding & Grants" and then the icon on the right hand side of the page.

GOLF EQUIPMENT



BCGP has recently taken delivery of a number of sets of Golf Equipment covering a broad range of ages which are available for hire to any person or group

wishing to organize and run taster sessions for beginners. The equipment includes 1x Tri-Golf set; 2 x Right Handed Junior sets (ages 6 to 8 and 9 to 11); 3 x Right Handed Men's half sets and 3 x Ladies' Right Handed half sets and is all stored at Stockwood Park Golf Club in Luton.

Details on how to hire any or all of this equipment can be found on our website www.bedsgolffpartnership.com or contact Matt Green, the Professional at Stockwood Park [Click here](#) to email Matt.

BCGP WORKFORCE STRUCTURE

