

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY GOLF LTD - ANNUAL REPORT 2021

At the beginning of 2021 The Worcestershire Union of Golf Clubs became Worcestershire County Golf Ltd (WCG Ltd) with a new Board taking up the reins from the previous County Union Executive which had managed and supported county golf in Worcestershire with great commitment.

The first AGM of the newly formed company was held in April, at which the Directors of the Company were confirmed, including the new County President, Ian Rone. A highlight of the AGM was the election of Denis Hayes of Stourbridge Golf Club as an Honorary Life Member of WCG Ltd in recognition of his outstanding service to Worcestershire golf over many years and, more widely, his work with the R&A.

With the exception of the cancellation of the Boulton Salver club foursomes competition in May we enjoyed a full season of County championships, competitions and matches, although the Winter Knock Out finals at Blackwell in May were delayed until September and were subsequently played at Droitwich

At an individual level the winners of the county championship were: Kieron Austin, County Champion; Brian Heaps, Seniors Champion and Harrison Leaver, Boys' Champion; and Hugh Adams enjoyed international recognition by representing England at U16 level and being selected for the 2022 England Boys' squad.

The inter-county leagues played a full round of matches with some considerable success by our teams. The 1st team, Seniors and Boys U16's, won their leagues with the Seniors being unbeaten, a feat repeated by our Boys U14's team. Another notable achievement was our Boys Team winning the Severnside Trophy played at St Mellons Golf Club.

In September, Droitwich GC hosted the inaugural Peter Adams Trophy team event, held in memory of Peter who was an incredibly popular Worcestershire golfing personality. The event which won by Halesowen GC, with the event attracting the largest ever field for a County event (188 players).

At the WCG Ltd half yearly general meeting in October we wished Bill Thompson best wishes as he stood down from his position as Board Chairman. The Board would once again like to thank him for his involvement and commitment to Worcestershire over many years in a number of roles.

We also welcomed Ian Griffiths as our new County Secretary at the meeting in October, when we wished Stuart Pritchard every enjoyment of his retirement. Stuart's work over the past 8 years was key to the success of the County, both on and off the course and his diligence, hard work and support is much appreciated.

New team captains were confirmed for 2022: Kieron Austin (County Captain), Mark Dunkley (2nd Team Captain), Anthony Hill (Seniors Captain), Phillip Krone (U18's Captain), Mark Hewlett (U16's Captain) and Harry Evans (U14's Captain).

Social activities were still limited, and this caused the intended Presentation Evening to be cancelled. It is hoped that such an event can be held later in 2022 or early 2023 to celebrate the successes during 2022.

On a general note, the World Handicap System was operative through 2021 and with golf being able to be played following Covid restrictions, most will now have sufficient rounds posted to see how WHS will work on a personal level. WHS is not without its challenges and changes are possible going forward. We were able to assist and advise on WHS in response to multiple requests from most affiliated clubs. It has become clear that winter conditions limited the number of rounds that can be submitted.

The new 10 year course rating cycle commenced in 2021 with Fulford Heath the first club in Worcestershire to be fully re-rated. The new rating cycle will run until 2030 with most Worcestershire clubs being re-rated around 8-10 years after their initial rating.

The fixture schedule for 2022 has now been completed and our thanks go to all clubs that have agreed to host County events and matches this year. Details of fixtures are available on the County website.

106th County Championship	Hollywood GC	09-Jun-21
Gold Medal & Putter	Kieron Austin (Hagley)	
Silver Medal	Shaun Roberts (WGCC)	
Bronze Medal	Ben Woodward (WGCC)	
Philip Padmore (Nett)	Shaun Roberts (WGCC)	
Youth Champion	Harrison Leaver (WGCC)	
GD Carr	Phil Walsall (Droitwich)	
Thomson-James (A Teams)	Droitwich	
Jubilee Shield (B Teams)	Moseley	

72nd Worcestershire Open Championship	Kidderminster GC	13-Aug-21
Guy Bigwood Cup	Andy Jones (Redditch)	
Gold Medal (Leading Amateur)	Harrison Leaver (WGCC)	
The Union Tankard (Professionals)	Andy Jones (Redditch)	
The Secretaries Bowl (Amateurs)	Nathan Slater (Bewdley Pines)	

46th Worcestershire Matchplay Champs	Stourbridge GC	18-Jul-21
Winner - The Derek Greey Cup	Adam Norman (Moseley)	
Runner Up	Richard Sadler (Moseley)	

The Senior Matchplay Championship	Kings Norton GC	25-Aug-21
Winner - The Senior Matchplay Salver	Anthony Hill (Moseley) & Bill Thompson (Kings Norton)	Shared
Runner Up		

The Boys Matchplay Championship	Kings Norton GC	25-Aug-21
Winner - The John Fraser Cup	Cassius Blake (Kings Norton)	
Runner Up	Louie Stott (Bewdley Pines)	

The 3rd Redditch Trophy	Final played at Droitwich GC	26-Sep-21
Winners	Redditch B	
Runners Up	Dudley A	

The 48th Droitwich Shield	Final played at Droitwich GC	26-Sep-21
Winners	Worcester GCC A	
Runners Up	Moseley A	

The 18th Kidderminster Cup	Final played at Droitwich GC	26-Sep-21
Winners	Worcester GCC	
Runners Up	Moseley	

The 4th R&A Salver Knockout	Final played at Droitwich GC	26-Sep-21
Winners	Hagley A	
Runners Up	Fulford Heath B	

The 65th Boulton Salver	Not played	
Winners		
Runners Up		

The 75th Brandhall Gold Vase	Blackwell GC	09-Jul-21
Winners	Halesowen	
Best Individual Nett Score - EGU Salver	James Stenhouse (Halesowen)	

The Boys Championship	Hagley GC	27-Jul-21
Winner - Mansell Cup	Harrison Leaver (WGCC)	
Runner Up	Louie Stott (Bewdley Pines)	
Best Nett - Rigbey Cup	Louie Stott (Bewdley Pines)	
U16 Champion - Brian Peplow Trophy	Phil Krone (Kings Norton)	
U14 Winner - The Jim Gray Trophy	George Stephens (The Vale)	
Club Champions - Miram Salver	WGCC	

The 42nd Senior Championship	WGCC	14-Jun-21
Winner - Nevil Carroll Salver	Brian Heaps (WGCC)	
Runner Up	Nigel Cowley (WGCC)	
Best Nett - The Denis Hayes Salver	Nigel Cowley (WGCC)	

The 22nd Senior Fourball Champs	Bromsgrove GC	01-Jul-21
Winners - Wharrad Jugs	Steve Green (Rose Hill) & Bill Thompson (Kings Norton)	
Runners Up	Nigel Taylor (Redditch Kingfisher) & Shaun Thornhill (Kings Norton)	
Best Nett - Aberdovey Salvers	David Hunt & Ron McIntosh-Gibbs (Bransford)	

The 6th Club Team Handicap Tournament	Redditch GC	18-Aug-21
Team Winners - Dave McDermott Bowl	Redditch	
Individual Winner - Brenda Smith Cup	David Tustin (Redditch)	

The Worcs & Herefordshire Mixed Event		09-Sep-21
Winners - The Mixed Salver	Janice Kerr (Redditch) & Jon Cranton (Redditch)	
Runners Up	Ros Daws (Redditch) & John Dawes (Redditch)	

The Captain & Guest Invitational	Hagley GC	20-Sep-21
Winners	Robert Woodall (Dudley) & Shaun Messer (Dudley)	
Runners Up		

The Peter Adams Trophy	Droitwich GC	13-Sep-21
Winners	Halesowen GC	

The Presidents Shield (most 1st team pts)		
Winner	Jack Severn (Cleobury Mortimer)	

The Chandler Shield (most 2nd team pts)		
Winner	John Cullen (Redditch)	

The Bolton Shield (most Senior team pts)		
Winner	Ian Smith (WGCC)	

The Cunningham Trophy (most Boys team pts)		
Winner	Louie Stott (Bewdley Pines)	

The Bill Thompson Trophy (most U16 boys team pts)		
Winner	Mark Hewlett (Gaudet Luce)	

Worcestershire Boys Order of Merit		
Winner - John Moreton Trophy	Alexander Perry (Gaudet Luce)	

County Team Midland League Results	Winners	
1st Team	Captain Anthony Hill - Moseley GC	
v Derbyshire	Win 8 & 7	
v Nottinghamshire	Win 9.5 & 5.5	
v Shropshire & Herefordshire	Win 5.5 & 9.5	
v Staffordshire	Win 6.5 & 8.5	
v Warwickshire	Halved 7.5 & 7.5	

2nd Team	Captain Duncan Macpherson - Worcester G&CC	
v Derbyshire	Lost 9.5 & 5.5	
v Nottinghamshire	Lost 9 & 6	
v Shropshire & Herefordshire	Lost 6 & 9	
v Staffordshire	Won 10.5 & 4.5	
v Warwickshire	Lost 10 & 5	

Senior Team	Captain Bill Thompson - Kings Norton GC	
v Derbyshire	Won 13 & 5	
v Shropshire & Herefordshire	Won 8 & 10	
v Staffordshire	Won 14 & 4	
v Warwickshire	Won 8.5 & 9.5	

Boys Team	Captain Louie Stott - WorcesterG&CC	
v Derbyshire	Halved	
v Shropshire & Herefordshire	Won 6.5 & 8.5	
v Staffordshire	Won 9.5 & 5.5	
v Warwickshire	Lost 10 & 5	

Boys U16 Team	Captain James Ilsley - Stourbridge GC	
v Derbyshire	Won 6.5 & 8.5	
v Shropshire & Herefordshire	Won 10 & 5	
v Staffordshire	Lost 8 & 7	
v Warwickshire	Won 12.5 - 2.5	

Boys U14 Team	Captain Teddy Fee - Gaudet Luce GC	
v Derbyshire	Won 3 & 2	
v Shropshire & Herefordshire	Won 2.5 & 3.5	
v Staffordshire	Won 4 & 1	
v Warwickshire	Won 3 & 2	

Midland Group Qualifying for England Golf County Championship Finals		
Men	played at Birstall	10-Jul-21
4th place		
6 man team - Kieron Austin, Steven Lane, Adam Norman, Richard Sadler, Jack Severn, Nathan Slater		

Seniors	played at Peterborough Milton	04-Aug-21
8th place		
6 man team - Steve Green, Anthony Hill, Jim Leydon, Duncan MacPherson, Bill Thompson, Paul Newman		

Boys	played at The Leicestershire	17-Oct-21
3rd place		
6 man team - Cassius Blake, Thomas Blizzard, James Humphries, James Ilsley, Phillip Krone, Thomas Lennon		

Other Notable Achievements		
Sevenside Trophy	Won by Worcestershire Boys Team	