

# Devon Golf Captains

FOUNDED 1937



President, Fred Westaway  
Hon Secretary, Roy Smith

Captain, Lew Easter  
Vice Captain, Derek Reed

## Captains Newsletter January 2010



Happy New Year! I hope all of you got thoroughly tipsy if not completely “ratters” toasting in a new Decade!  
Best Wishes to all of your long suffering families (a lot of grovelling! as I want all of you fit ,well and available to give one final push in April and May).We have four more Interclub matches- the very important challenge against Vice Captains and an enjoyable game with the British Seniors. The details of these are published on our webpage.

Match results so far (without alerting the Golfing Gods) are going well, so we need just a little more effort to see us over the line.

I must say that my year as Captain has been one beautiful ride and I am not looking forward to the long downhill run after my demob!

However I am looking forward to our first interclub match against the Devon Juniors on Monday April 5<sup>th</sup> although I will probably see most of you at Saunton on Thurs 25<sup>TH</sup> Feb for Colin Maws’ “Do”

Kind regards to you all  
Lew

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## Rules Snippets

Did you know that.....? You can give "wrong information", and lose the hole, in Match Play without saying a word. This is because you are deemed to have given wrong information if you fail to inform your opponent "as soon as practicable" that you have incurred a penalty. And this applies even if you didn't yourself know that you had incurred a penalty! (Rule 9-2)

### Who Rules?

Gordon, Dave and Vince are competing in the May Medal, on the 6<sup>th</sup>, or possibly the 13<sup>th</sup>. Vince is a bit of a Rules expert.

1

After a lucky seven on the previous hole Gordon takes the honour and drives. Dave then says "Excuse me, old chap, I couldn't help noticing that back there on the green you tapped in and picked your ball out of the hole before it actually came to rest. The Rules say that a ball is 'holed' only when it is 'at rest within the circumference of the hole and all of it is below the level of the lip of the hole'. So you actually 'failed to hole out', and, as you didn't correct your mistake before driving on this hole, you are disqualified. It's all in Rule 3-2. What jolly bad luck!".

"Thank you for pointing that out Dave" says Gordon

"Hang on a bit", says Vince, "Our right honourable friend is wrong. The R&A has ruled that in this situation Gordon is deemed to have holed out. The words 'at rest' in the definition of 'holed' are there only to clarify that, if a ball falls below the lip of the hole *and then bounces out*, it is not holed.

2

After they have driven Dave is well off to the right while Gordon is bunkered on the left. Vince is straight, but on the fringe. This is usual. They complete the hole. As they leave the green Dave says to Gordon "Excuse me, old chap, I couldn't help noticing that before you played from the bunker back there you picked a spider off your ball. That's a two stroke penalty for touching a loose impediment in a hazard. What jolly bad luck!".

"Thank you for pointing that out Dave" says Gordon.

"However", continues Gordon, "the Rules say that a loose impediment is a natural object including 'worms, insects and the like'. And a spider is not an insect. It's an arachnid. It's not even 'like' an insect. Genetically it's closer to a haddock than to an insect. So a spider isn't a loose impediment. Still my honour I think."

"Hang on a bit", says Vince. "The R&A have ruled that on the golf course Bernard Darwin trumps Charles Darwin, and a spider is an honorary insect, and as such a loose impediment. Gordon did break Rule 13-4. So actually it's my honour."

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Hi there fellow Captains,

I expect you all have withdrawal symptoms by now, but at least the weather seems to be improving and within a couple of days we'll be back to normal.

During the past few weeks I've contacted several Past Captains from the East area golf clubs to enable us to set up a "REP" in each Devon club, so, if there is any Past Captain from the East area (excluding those captains I have already agreed with), who would like to take on the task and assist us in getting information to your captains, then please get in touch with me, either by phone 01884 253646. or email:- [dreed.fairway@gmail.com](mailto:dreed.fairway@gmail.com) you can also go on to our web-site [www.devongolfcaptains.org.uk](http://www.devongolfcaptains.org.uk) and send us your details, some captains have moved and we need your new addresses etc, so please contact either Roy Smith (Sec) Malcolm Jordain or myself and we will gladly steer you through the process.

Get your "BATS" sharpened ready for April 22nd, Capt's V Vice Capt's match at Dartmouth, will see you then, I'm sure it will be a great day.

Cheers for now  
Derek (Vice Capt)



We have had some wonderful characters as President of Devon Golf Captains not least of which Fred Westaway is a very good example. Fred's Presidents Day is to be held at Exeter Golf and Country Club on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

To download details and entry form go to [www.devongolfcaptains.org.uk](http://www.devongolfcaptains.org.uk) and follow the link from the **Tournaments Page**

## News of Members

### Tony Jeffs

I spoke with Tony Jeffs recently on the telephone. Tony, some of you may know, has suffered a dramatic illness over the past few months. I am pleased to report that he was very bright and positive and pleased to pass on his best wishes to you all.

Tony is still far from well and faces some difficult treatment in the near future, to his credit he asked me to not to report his situation negatively. I am sure you will join me in wishing him good luck and a speedy recovery to full health and back to golf soon. MJ.

### Alan Cooper

Hi Roy & Malcolm,

I spoke to Alan Cooper yesterday, he wishes to be remembered to you all, he's now getting on fine and is starting to play a little golf, but not yet ready for competitive games. He still wishes to be involved with us but has no PC, so all correspondence should be sent to his home address or I can give him any info. Derek Reed

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Gentlemen,

May I wish you all a very Happy New Year with plenty of good golf, once we get back on the course after the dreadful weather we have experienced at the start of 2010.

It is this time of year that I normally start thinking about Presidents Day in May, with the prospect of preparing to send out some 600+ entry forms, which involves running off some 2000+ A4 sheets, folding them and inserting into envelopes, sticking on labels and stamps and then off to the post office. Hopefully, this year, with invaluable help from Malcolm Jordain and Chris Morton, this is all to be done via e-mail and the touch of a few computer keys plus the added assistance from a few appointed Captains around the Devon Clubs.

In setting up a new web site, Malcolm and Chris have taken a great step forward for the Devon Captains and, once the results of their efforts become apparent, we will all realise that they deserve a massive vote of thanks, plus a few drinks at the bar.

Obviously, not all our members have access to e-mail, so we are asking that all members who are up to date with modern technology, to pass on the competition details to all their fellow Devon Captains at their Clubs.

As you all know, throughout the year, the DGCs play matches against 11 other County Club Captains, plus another 5 miscellaneous matches and those of you who play in these fixtures will appreciate how enjoyable these occasions are, not only with golf on some of the top courses in our region but also the resulting camaraderie with the other Captains they meet.

Since 1937, Devon Captains have enjoyed courtesy of the Devon courses that these matches have been played, as indeed have the Captains of all the other Counties we visit and we like to think that this is some recognition for the valuable services the Captains have given to their Clubs in their years of office.

Sadly, there is a move afoot with some Devon Clubs, to charge some form of fee for these matches, with a figure of around £10/£15 per player being suggested. As this fee would also include our visitors, the resulting extra expense would be 32 x the fee, making the occasion financially unmanageable, as we already pay the Clubs around the £ 700 mark for food and wine.

As our match Secretary, Henry Paget of Teignmouth, arranges these fixtures around the Devon Clubs so that each Club is only asked to accommodate a fixture every two/three years, requiring roughly a tee reservation of some 80/90 minutes, it is not asking a great deal.

These potential changes, possibly without your knowledge, are best considered in context with the "frequency of use chart" shown below.

Anyway, thanks for lending me your ear for all my problems, I hope to see most of you sometime during the coming year, preferably when I have a golf club in my hands, as I will now have more time for actually playing instead of pencil pushing.

Kind regards, Roy.

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CLUB	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Axe Cliff									
Bigbury	✓					✓			✓
Churston				✓			✓		
Dainton Park	✓					✓			✓
Dartmouth					✓				
Downes Crediton	.			✓			✓		
East Devon		✓					✓		
Elfordleigh	.			✓					
Exeter	✓	✓	✓				.		
Fingle Glen	.	.	.					.	✓
Holsworthy			✓			✓			
Honiton						✓		✓	
Ilfracombe			✓					✓	
Libbaton				✓				✓	
Okehampton	✓				✓			✓	
Padbrook Park								.	.
Portmore	.				.	✓			
Royal North Devon			✓			✓			✓
Saunton			✓			✓	.		.
Sidmouth					✓			✓	
Staddon Heights		✓						✓	
Stover		✓		✓			✓		✓
Tavistock				✓			✓		
Teignmouth		✓			✓		✓		✓
Teign Valley									
Thurlestone		✓				✓			.
Tiverton	✓		✓			✓			✓
Torquay	✓				✓				✓
Warren		✓			✓	.	✓		
Woodbury					✓			✓	
Wrangaton				✓				✓	
Yelverton			✓			.	✓		

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## ALL OUR YESTERDAYS.

Thanks to Mike Badcock for sending us this photograph of Devon Golf Captains gathered at Teignmouth Golf Club in 1958. Can anyone add any names to this venerable group? Incidentally this is a contemporary print and sent to us electronically. Any more old photographs for future editions please? MJ.



Yesterday Will Hendry & I visited Neil Ashworth who is now living at Doneraile Residential Home 24 College Road, Newton Abbot. Neil was Captain of Stover in 1951 and he ran the famous Madge Mellors restaurant & patisserie in Queen Street, Newton Abbot which had been started by his Mother & Father well before the Second World War. Before moving to Doneraile Neil lived in Brimley, Bovey Tracey and his bungalow was purchased by Roy Smith. Whilst we were visiting him I noticed a photograph on the wall in his room & found that it was of the Devon Golf Captains taken at Teignmouth in 1958. Neil is third from the right on the front row. He was delighted to see us as he has many happy memories of Stover & the Devon Golf Captains & he very kindly let me have the photo so that I could take a copy. May be some of our older members will recall the names of some of those that appear on it & I would be pleased to send any of them a copy if it would be of interest to them. As there is probably little in the way of any photographic record of the DGC I thought that I could not miss this opportunity.

Best Wishes

Mike Badcock. (Stover 1977)

I am sorry - I can only recognize one! Third from left in front row - H C (Clive) Freeman from Torquay GC. It is interesting to note that many would have served 2<sup>nd</sup> world war and some in the 1st!

John Hirst

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## Match Secretary

I thought I would like to give you an insight in to what I do as your match secretary.

From the 3 Year Fixture List now on the web site you will note that all our home venues are now arranged with our host Clubs right through to the end of 2011. This I always aim to do at least 18 months in advance, saves the problem of finding Clubs with free dates because their fixture list get filled very quickly these days. You will also note that my Fixture List shows dates when we expect to play our away matches this helps the other Counties & Societies we play to ensure we play each other in just about the same week year after year.

My principle is to never ask any of our Clubs to host a match more once every three year, this I believe may be an indication as to why we have always received courtesy of the course as well as a recognition by the Clubs of what you as Captains have done to develop and support amateur golf in our County. Sadly, I have to report than there is a possible change afoot in this respect, but ongoing discussion hopefully may resolve the situation. The one effect that it has had is that we will again be playing the South Wales Coastal Captains at Woodbury Park, in 2011, I'm sure that no one will be to disappointed, great course and they cater for us so well.

My other duty through the golfing season is to confirm the fixture with the Club & our visiting opponents some 2 to 3 weeks before the date of the match. At the same time I negotiate with the Club the cost of the catering which in recent years has been under £20 but recent indication are that I must expect to be dealing with figure up to £ 25 for our lunch & evening 3 course meal.

Enjoy the matches you may play for the Captains and I hope you find the venues I have chosen to your liking.

Henry Paget



Photo Jock Todd

Following on from Henrys' column, I am pleased to inform everyone that on January 20th, Henry was appointed Vice President of Devon County Golf Union. The picture shows President Geoff Rogers, another Devon Past Captain, welcoming Henry into office.

Henry has been associated with the County for over a decade, much of which he has served as Chairman of Competitions. Henry was Captain of Teignmouth GC in 1994 and served on committees over many years within the club. His wife Jan, also a golfer, I am sure will be very supportive during Henrys' period of office. Good luck Henry and congratulations from us all. MJ.

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## Captains Clothing

Just a reminder to anyone who wishes to order for 2010 season for a small charge Roy will post any item to you or you can order and collect at Presidents Day

Long sleeve sweater	38" to 50"	£34.00
Sleeveless "	Med. Large. XL. XXL	£32.00
Yellow DGC shirt	" " " "	£20.00
Blazer badge		£12.00
DGC baseball cap		£10.00
Ties (Green or Blue)		£10.00

All items are available from Roy usually ex. stock.

## DGC's Saunton

I trust everyone participating at Saunton on 25th Feb will have sent me their entries and monies as I hope to be sending start times out to everyone early Feb.

The field is FULL - sorry no more applications.

Happy New Year to all - I think the newsletter is a great communicator.

Best Wishes Colin Maw

## Editors' Footnote

Thank you gentlemen for receiving this newsletter and hopefully reading it. My thanks to all the contributors who make life a little easier to produce the newsletter.

My thanks also to Chris Morton without whom life would be much more difficult.

For those of us who are members of English Golf Captains entry can now be made via [www.englishgolfunion.org/englishgolfcaptains](http://www.englishgolfunion.org/englishgolfcaptains)

The County event is at Churston Golf Club on Thursday June 10<sup>th</sup> 2010.(to appear shortly)  
The Regional event is at Saunton Golf Club (East) on Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup> 2010.

I look forward to hearing from you at [info@devongolfcaptains.org.uk](mailto:info@devongolfcaptains.org.uk)

Malcolm Jordain