



The Moreton Grange Golf Society

Newsletter - June 2007

Welcome to the June issue of the Newsletter.

Society Match Day

The second semi-official Society Day of the Summer 2007 Season saw members of the Society travel to Pryors Hayes on another glorious sunny day. The Society have visited this particular course before, though most memories are of cold wet conditions; not the best conditions for golf, it has to be said. I seem to remember that conditions were so 'bad' underfoot that we had to play fairway shots off tees. Anyway this time around conditions were much better, the sun was out, and they had even changed the course around just to vary the direction of play.

Over the days play there was some very variable golf played, with most members playing some good holes, followed by some bad holes. I know my ball in particular loved the rough; if I didn't hit the rough with the tee shot, the ball made a good effort to go in with the second shot. Must remember to buy some of those 'Fairway Only' balls that others seem to have acquired.

Now Pryors Hayes it has to be said is out in the country, with not many houses around. But that didn't stop our ever so Environmentally aware Vice Captain trying to ensure that he didn't disturb anyone's Sunday morning lie in. How he was going to achieve this was to play some of his shots using clubs with mufflers (a.k.a. head covers) still on. This very thoughtful attitude however didn't last long, as he was reminded that "it doesn't matter how quiet you are Tom, the locals will be woken up anyway by the shots of 'Four' resounding around the course when others tee shots go adrift".

This being an un-official Society Day (arranged at last minute as a result of the Scottish Trip being cancelled - well actually it wasn't cancelled but was attended by only one Society member, our illustrious Treasurer. The fact that the Treasurer was the only one able to find the funds for the trip North of the Border is purely a coincidence (honestly, it is) – anyway I digress. This being an unofficial Society Day it was decided to drop the [Stapleford Competition](#) and go for a 'best total score over 6 randomly picked holes having discarded the 6 hardest (lowest SI) holes' competition. Once we had worked out what we were actually doing, and calculated the result, Dave O'Rorke lost out in second place to James Arathoon as the Winner, largely as a result of his Impressive Two's win, which also picked him up a substantial amount of cash.



Needless to say the Societies run of luck with cameras continued, with Alan 'I can get pictures off my camera' Bennett forgetting where he put it, so unfortunately the many shots that should have been taken of the winners collecting prizes and the like did not actually get taken (but they would have been good). So for yet another month Peter was heard to mutter (more loudly this time) "at least we know where my camera is and the pictures would have been taken, even if we can't get them out".

Other results from the Day were:-

The Longest Drive was driven by Dave 'At Last' Worrton, beating Alan 'My Name on Something' Bennett

, and

The nearest Nearest-the-Pin ball was positioned by Steve 'Best shot of the day' Dickinson who edged out Steve 'I'm the man' Crayford and Peter '1st par of day' Smythe.



E mail addresses

In order to try and ensure that you get as much useless information as possible, such as this newsletter and Minutes of the Committee meetings please can we take advantage of that new medium, e-mail. As e-mail addresses are notoriously difficult to remember (after all, which sad bast!!ds send e-mails to themselves) in order to streamline this process **please please please please please** send an e-mail to the following address

alan.bennett@edmund-nuttall.co.uk

Partners for the Summer Season

With the second match of the Summer season it was another chance for those players who chose their Partner to see if they'd made the right choice; for those players who had had their partner thrust upon them (so as to speak) it was another chance to see whether they should bother turning up for the rest of the season.

Whilst of course it is still early in the Season after the second match the pairings of James 'Twos' Arathoon / Steve 'Pin High' Dickinson have hit the lead with 52 points, closely followed by Neil McNay / Carl Hayhurst in second with 50 points. Last years winners Graham Coupe / Gary Cooper are sitting comfortably in third place with 49 points, along with Dave O'Rorke / Dave 'Hit them long' Worrton and Andy Harvey / Steve 'not Crawford' Crayford.

Summer KnockOut

With some members not able to make the next match, some took advantage of the day to play their second round Knockout matches. Again by and large they were all close run things, and the winners now have a rest bite, not having to complete the next round until the end of July. The results of the matches are as per the attached sheet, and it should be noted that the remaining matches are to be played by the end of June 2007, apart from Dave Evans and Ian Grierson who actually have till the end of last may. Main problem in getting them together is that Dave keeps going to Spain or Florida etc to play the match, and Ian's passport has run out. It is rumoured that they are going to get their clubs and balls out in the departure lounge at Manchester Airport, and try to get a round in before they are both arrested for playing with their clubs and balls in a public place.

Society Summer Handicaps

No news is good news. Handicaps as they were



The Dictionary of Golf

In an attempt to continue to widen the golf knowledge base of the average member of the Society beyond that picked up from certain very loud and vocal elder members of the Society, we continue with the Dictionary of Golf.

During your average game of golf you get to hit a lot of different shots, some of which are actually intentional. Here follows some of those shots which we all hit, but unintentionally.

Approach shot;- a shot which, if it had not caught the lip of the bunker and dropped back into the sand, would have rolled across the green and gone into the water.

Back Spin;- reverse spin imparted to a golf ball that causes it to 'back up' on a green after landing, created by the solid contact of the clubface with the back of the ball, or the presence of a bunker, a water hazard or a steep slope directly below the hole.

Backswing;- a distinct and pronounced turn of the hips and shoulders that moves the club away from the ball, usually followed by a shot that produces a distinct and pronounced turn of the stomach.

Chip and run;- a low approach shot in which a ball is hit in the air about one-third of the way to the pin and then permitted to roll the remaining twelve thirds of the distance to the hole.

Chip Shot;- a delicate run-up shot with a flat trajectory that gets a player into position for one or more missed putts.

Combacker;- slang term for a putt that ends up a foot short of the hole after the 'flybyer' ran four feet past it, but before the 'edgeburner' lips out on the low side of the cup.

Draw;- term commonly used by golfers to describe a snap hooked ball they were actually able to find.

Fade;- term commonly used by golfers to describe a widely sliced ball that some how managed to stay in bounds.

Hook & Slice;- to hit a shot that for a right-hander curves sharply left (hook) or right (slice) respectively. Players who do one or the other consistently should consider changing the way they stand, grip the club or make their swing. Players who do both should consider changing the way they spend their weekends.

Lay-Up;- a shot which would have stopped safely short of a hazard, a line of trees, a ravine, a water hazard or any other trouble on a hole if you hadn't used a nice easy swing that knocked the ball 30 yards farther that you ever hit that club in your life.

Pitch;- a lofted shot that flies over a hazard between the ball and the hole and into a bunker on the other side of the green

The Monthly Golfing Joke's

Men and women golfers

One morning, a foursome of men were waiting at the men's tee, while another foursome of ladies were hitting from the ladies' tee. The ladies were really taking their sweet time. Finally, when the last woman was ready to hit the ball, she hacked it about ten feet, then went over to the ball and hacked it another ten feet or so.

She looked up at the men, who are watching, and said apologetically, "I guess all those f***ing lessons I took this winter didn't help." One of the men immediately replied, "Now, you see that is your problem. You should have taken 'golf lessons' instead."

Old golfers 2

"How was your golf game, dear?" asked Maurie's wife, Martha.

"Well, I was hitting pretty well, but my eyesight has gotten so bad that I couldn't see where the ball went."

"But you're seventy-five years old, Maurie!" admonished his wife. "Why don't you take my brother Enzo along?"

"But he's eighty-five and doesn't even play golf anymore," protested Maurie.

"But he's got perfect eyesight. He could watch your ball," Martha pointed out.

The next day, Maurie teed off with Enzo looking on. Maurie swung, and the ball disappeared down the middle of the fairway. "Do you see it?" asked Maurie. "Yup," Enzo answered.

"Well, where is it?" yelled Maurie, peering off into the distance. After a brief pause, Enzo replied, "I forgot."

[Names have of course been changed to protect the innocent](#)

The Golf Academy - An Ongoing Teach-in -

The Teacher is on Half term this month so no lessons available at present.

No charge for these gems from the Moreton Grange Golf Academy.

Rule(s) of the Month - Abnormal Ground Conditions

It's a matter of fact that quite often you will come across your ball somewhere on the course during a game of golf and will say "it will be jolly difficult to play that ball from there" or words to that effect. Never fear, there are of course rules to help you.

Generally you must '*play the ball as it lies*', unless its:-

- a) in a water hazard,
- b) its deemed to be unplayable,
- c) it be in abnormal ground,
- d) if to play the ball you will have to stand in abnormal ground,
- e) if on the putting green the abnormal ground lies between your ball and the hole.

Unfortunately under (a) and (b) you can gain relief, but at the cost of an additional stroke. So, lets hope you can gain relief under (c), (d) and (e) as they won't cost you a stroke. So what's Abnormal Ground?

The Rules describe it as '*any casual water, ground under repair, or hole, castor runway on the course made by a burrowing animal, reptile or bird*'. Lets concentrate on the first two.

'*Ground Under Repair*' is easy, its generally marked in great big white letters on the ground, and the limits marked with a white line. So unless your blind, or dyslexic I suppose, it should be obvious. The way to create this if you don't like the lie of your ball is easy, take a white spray marker can with you on your golf, hide it down your trousers and if you don't like your lie, then casually spray the ground whilst saying loudly 'look at that spotted eagle up there in the sky'. Remember to say it loudly as the can gives out paint with a hissing sound; it will also help if you fart as the paint generally smells. So that's that one sorted.

That brings us to '*casual water*'. This is simply any water that shouldn't be there, ie is not marked by red or yellow stakes. Again, this one's easy to create, take copious amounts of water with you on your golf, hide a piece of hose pipe down your trousers and if you don't like your lie, then casually pour the water down the hose pipe on to the ground whilst saying loudly 'look at that spotted eagle up there in the sky'. Remember to say it loudly as the water tends to give out a trickling sound; it won't necessarily help if you fart but it all adds to the effect. So that's that one sorted as well.



So, your in Abnormal Ground, what can you do about it ?

- (i) if your ball is any where on the course apart from a bunker or the putting green, you may *lift the ball and drop it without penalty within one club length of, and not nearer the hole than, the nearest point of relief*. The *nearest point of relief* is the position closest to your ball (before you move it of course) which is just outside the extent of the abnormal ground, and also no nearer the hole than your original ball position.
- (ii) If your ball is in a bunker then it can be *dropped as in (i) above, except that the nearest point of relief must be in the bunker, and the ball must be dropped in the bunker*. **If the bunker is full of water, or to play the ball you would still have to stand in water, then tough, you must still drop the ball in the bunker**, but *in a position which affords maximum available relief from the condition*.
- (iii) If the bunker is full of water, then you are allowed to drop your ball, ***under penalty of one stroke, outside the bunker keeping the point where the ball lay directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the bunker the ball may be dropped***.
- (iv) If your ball is on the putting green the *player must lift the ball and place it without penalty at the nearest point of relief, but not nearer the hole*. This Nearest Point of relief may be off the putting green.

So that's that sorted, if you don't like your lie, create your own abnormal ground and then get relief as above. However, because those Masters on High are an untrusting lot, there are of course **Exceptions** to the above. A player may not take relief if:-

- (a) *it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a stroke because of interference by anything other than an Abnormal Ground condition*, ie your balls tight up against a wall or similar
- (b) *interference by an Abnormal Ground condition would only occur through the use of an unnecessarily abnormal stance, swing or direction of play*. If you can't stand 6 foot away from and / or 4 foot in front of your ball, stretch out with your club at 30 deg to the ground and declare "see, I'm standing in abnormal ground". If you try this one, the penalty is to get to move your ball a further 2 inches away from you and then play your ball using the same stance as you've just tried to get away with.



Next Society Day Out

The next Society match, the Fourth of the Summer Season, is at Hawkstone Park Golf Course on the 29th July 2007, 0800 tee off, arrive 0700 for bacon butties etc, Stapleford Competition format.

The following Society match, the Fifth of the Summer Season, is at Denbeigh Golf Course, on the 19th August 2007, 1030 tee off, arrive 0930 for bacon butties, meal included, £48 all in, Stapleford Competition format

GRANGE GOLF SOCIETY
SUMMER SEASON 2007 KNOCKOUT

