



Tee Talk BCGC Seniors 2025 #14

Chadder's Closing Chat

Wow! Where did the last 12 months go? It doesn't seem long since I was first introducing myself as Seniors Captain. Now here we are wrapping up everything. It's been an eventful year in the Seniors. Membership numbers are up, as are participation numbers on our regular Monday. But we always have room for more. So, if you haven't yet taken the plunge please come along. You'll find a warm welcome despite the current cold snap. Yes, we charge a tenner to join but you get a lot back in return in subsidised events.



I always enjoy handing out trophies and prizes (especially on the rare occasions I win something!). Pictured is my penultimate duty in that regard handing the Winter Golfer trophy to Kevin Sellwood who was Mr Bandit/Consistent over last winter's comps. Congratulations Kevin.

Talking, of bandits, after months on the run, the bandit trophy was recaptured and has been used to great effect this year. During my enforced absence, helping Eleanor recuperate, a couple of miscreants got away with it and missed the walk of shame. But fear not your names will be in the hat for Bandit of the Year!

The friendly matches have gone pretty well too (P18, W12, D1, L5). We used 43 players in total and managed full teams for every fixture which is great. My thanks to each and everyone of you for participating – I think the team matchplay game is one of the most enjoyable formats and I could certainly feel the sense of camaraderie that these occasions brought to us all. To those who haven't tried it yet it's a great value way to play other courses and an opportunity to show off how interesting our course is.

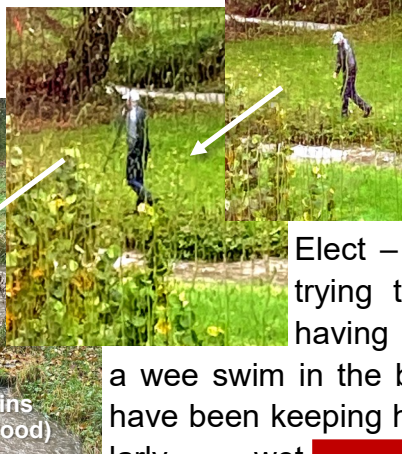
My final presentation duty will be to hand someone a Team Player of the year prize. But you will

have to wait until the Seniors Section AGM for that announcement. A reminder that the AGM is scheduled for 8th Dec. before we go out to play. Please come along.

Another highlight of the year for me was my Awayday at Castle Eden (one of our subsidised events). Cracking weather and course, great golf, fantastic atmosphere, all created by almost 2/3 of our total membership! That day will live long in my memory.



Photos by Kevins (Atkin and Sellwood)



The other pictures here are of (yes, I think I can say it!) our Senior Captain

Elect – Simon Gates. He's trying to control a misbehaving broly which fancied a wee swim in the beck when it should have been keeping him dry on a particularly wet

round! Simon, I hope you have better luck herding the cats for the friendlies next year! I wish you all the very best. I am sure the lads will support you as they have me!

My final words are of thanks to the Senior Committee for their help and support throughout the year. And thank you, dear readers, for enduring my witterings in Tee-talk. [Ed: who said we endured them?] Though Simon will take over this column, I will return with more Counsel in future editions (you don't get rid of me that easily!!).

Yours in Golf,

Chadders



STOP PRESS

KEVIN ATKIN GETS A HOLE IN ONE AT THE 11TH: A 9 IRON FOR 141 YARDS!



My golfing icons #3: Justin Rose

By David Hammond

A perfect English Rose. Well not in the context that we use it in day-to-day speech but more a dedicated ambassador for the game of golf off the course and a fierce competitor with a British Bulldog spirit on it. Justin is the third icon in my series.



So why is Justin so special to me as a golfer? He's what the word professional was invented for. The epitome of calmness with a steely resolve, especially on the green. One of the best approach players in the game with sublime putting skills. He connects with the fans, media and wider golfing fraternity with ease. He's so likeable, supporting of his fellow players and is the centre of entertainment when the team is out on the razz. A real team player.

The fact that Justin is still challenging for championships at the age of 45 is testament to his physical and mental conditioning. Born in South Africa, he moved to England when he was 5 when he took up the game. He broke 70 for the first time at the age of 11, was playing off a +3 handicap by 14 and then finished 4th in the 1998 Open playing as amateur at 17, holing out 50 yards away on the last from the rough. Wow, that's an impressive start to a golfing career.



Justin won his first and only major in 2013, winning the US Open. He's been in the playoffs for the Masters 2 times, losing this year to Rory McIlroy and in 2017 to Sergio Garcia. His consistent top 10 finishing in major tournaments has netted him career earnings close to \$60 million. He is mostly known for winning the Olympic Gold medal for Team United Kingdom in 2016. He was ranked No.1 in the World in 2018.

His performances in the Ryder Cup are legendary. Appearing in 7 competitions with a record of 16 wins in 33 matches. He's a hot favourite to be to be the next Captain of Europe.

Justin is married to former international gymnast Kate Phillips and splits his time between The Bahamas and London. They are both heavily involved in sustainable golf facilities and supporting young players in the game. Justin was awarded an MBE in 2017 for his services to golf. To me he's just the perfect English golfer, is Rosie. [Ed: Thanks for this series, David.](#)

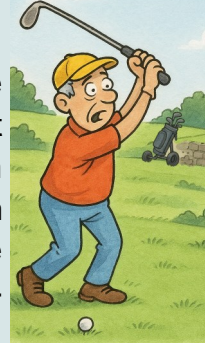


EVERYONE PITCH IN — A quick plea better than six feet past. Focus on eliminating three-putts by practising lag putting to all members: please repair pitch marks and replace divots. Aim to fix at least two pitch marks on every green — hole during practice strokes, trust your feel, and avoid second-guessing. It keeps the course in great condition and supports Alan and the team.

IF IT AIN'T UP, IT AIN'T IN — Yes, the ball won't drop if it doesn't reach the hole — but for most of us, two feet short is

New local rule 12.c

If a player on the 3rd green lose control of his trolley, so it 'streets' by the 4th tee and 12th fairway, to an 'andy position against the wall on the 11th, the penalty shall be a public humiliation. Mentioning no names.



A note from Bob Henderson...

Congratulations to Ray and John [[Ed: see TeeTalk 13](#)]. Well done Ed for an excellent update on the seniors section. It keeps us non-players up to date with the bandits. I hope to catch up for a chat and a cuppa soon.

Yours aye in friendship, Bob

The longest golf putt ever recorded

was achieved on a Concorde flight by Jose Maria Olazabal in 1999, during the Ryder Cup team's flight to the US. In mid air, he putted the length of the cabin (150ft) and the ball travelled an astounding 9.2 miles.



Submitted by Phil Hartley

200 Club's first draw saw ...

... the Senior Section add £134 to their bank account having won the first prize. Simon Elliott had come up with the idea and our first number, 65, was purchased. Simon then picked the pockets of the Senior Past Captains during their annual trophy competition to enable him to buy our second number, 46.

The win will be used to help subsidise our Christmas lunch on Monday 15th December. Numbers are still available for the remaining monthly draws. So if you do not yet have a number, act quick and help support the Golf Club.

Peter Holliday

As Gary Player said, "The more I practise, the luckier I get."

Happy Golfing!