

The Leicestershire Golf Club NEWSLETTER



March 2026

Welcome to the March 2026 Edition

President's Briefing

Ashwin Mistry, President TLGC

As the new golfing season approaches, it is great to enjoy brighter mornings and longer evenings around the club. Since our last communication there has been a lot of activity, and I would encourage members to attend the scheduled update meetings so you can hear developments first-hand.

Our financial stability remains paramount. Thank you once again to those members who have provided interest-free loans and those who paid subscriptions early to support our cash flow; without this support our position would have been extremely difficult.

The two biggest items on our agenda are the land sale and incorporation. The Morrisons application will be heard at the Leicester City Council Planning Committee on 25th March however, we are now aware that the Planning Officer has recommended REFUSAL. This is extremely disappointing after the enormous amount of effort expended by Morrisons and their team.

Can I please ask that you refrain from bombarding our General Manager with questions as this matter is being dealt with by our Land Committee.

We will attend the scheduled City Council Committee meeting to present our case but on the face of it, it appears to be an uphill struggle.

This will impact our club. The land sale is crucial to fund the club's essential water storage and irrigation infrastructure, as all clubs have been instructed by the Environment Agency to become self-sufficient in water.

On incorporation, thank you to those who attended the Rule 32 meetings; the Land Committee and General Committee are working hard to complete this process.

We are also exploring the introduction of Padel to broaden our offer and generate additional revenue, and we recognise there are differing views on this. Members will be kept updated as plans progress.

On the course, winter maintenance has been completed and the greens staff are working hard to deliver a great golfing experience. We recently received an informative presentation from our Head Greenkeeper, Mike Laheen, and while feedback on the course is regular and detailed, attendance at this event was lower than hoped; please do look out for future dates and attend where you can.

Societies and returning visitors are very pleased with the course and refurbished clubhouse, and we have received excellent reviews. We are attracting more societies and corporate groups, and new tee signs with external sponsors will be installed soon.

Investment in the course depends on our finances, and our course remains our greatest asset. We are reviewing our machinery fleet, with replacement costs rising, and plan to refresh plant and equipment later this year.

Refurbishment of the first floor is nearing completion, following the successful soft launch and Big Lunch event hosted by the IDOL Group. Taster menus are planned in April, ahead of a formal launch in May, and bookings for events are already growing.

Our former men's upper locker room has been transformed into The Bunker meeting room, largely through the hard work of senior members, who have also installed the exit from the new cleaning station. The Bunker is now used for committee meetings, bridge, the book club and supplier meetings, and is available to hire for board and company meetings via the General Manager.

Renewal season is fast approaching, and we ask members to pay subscriptions promptly to reduce the time and cost of chasing payments. We now enter a crucial period in the club's history, and with the loyalty and support of our members we look forward to the next chapter.

Winter League & Competitions

Winter League

- **Winners:** Aneu Sood & Dilesh Magdani with a 90% win rate over ten games.
- **Runners-up (tied):** Ben Ridgway & Nick Turner and Roger Corp & Chris Saul, each with an 88.98% win rate.

Recent Competition Winners

- **Cross Country Competition:** Luke Dobson & Finn Dobson with 22 points.
- **March Mixer 4BBB:** Mark Scarrett & Andy Kirk with 44 points.

Upcoming Competitions

- 4BBB (drawn partners) – Saturday 21st March
- March Waltz – Saturday 28th March
- April Medal – Saturday 4th April
- April Stableford – Saturday 11th April
- Freddie Beck Foursomes Medal & Diamond Jubilee Foursomes Qualifier – Saturday 18th April

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Captain's Briefing

Duncan Jones, Club Captain 2026

Saturday Competitions

The main season runs from 14th March to November, with competitions on almost every Saturday. Each month includes one individual Medal and one individual Stableford, alongside a variety of pairs and team formats.

Tee time booking opens on HowDidiDo at 6pm on the Friday eight days before each event. Whether you play most weekends or only occasionally, please ensure you play enough Medals and/or Stablefords to keep your WHS Index up to date.

Club Matches

The club plays several friendly matches against neighbouring clubs each year, open to all members regardless of age or handicap. Matches are a great way to meet fellow members and to play other courses without a green fee, usually with an informal meal afterwards.

Sign-up sheets will appear on the noticeboard five or six weeks before each match, and teams are selected to give as many members as possible the chance to represent the club.

Captain's Away Weekend

There are a few places left for the Captain's Away Weekend at The Oxfordshire on 21st and 22nd June. The cost is £249 per person, including dinner, bed and breakfast on Sunday, golf on Sunday and Monday, and sandwiches after golf on Monday. Please speak to Alice for details.

Captain's Charity 2026

The Captain's Charity this year is Young Leicestershire (Putting Young People First). The charity supports young people across Leicester and Leicestershire to feel safe, confident and ready for the future, championing youth work that changes lives and empowers young people to make a positive difference in their communities.

Please support the Captain and his chosen charity whenever you can throughout the year.



Ladies Section

Lucy Patterson, Lady President 2026

The Ladies Winter League concluded in February, with Lucy Patterson and Lucy Pover winning this year's trophy. The Ladies Privilege event on 26th February, organised by Rosie Black and Fran Howkins, was played over 15 holes (AM/AM format) and won by

Mark Scarrett, Marion Keene, David Johnson and Kay Moulden.

Beth Kalus and Sandra Burns represented TLGC in the first round of the Daily Mail Foursomes at

Glen Gorse, where they were narrowly beaten 2&1. On Monday 15th March, Mary O'Callaghan organised the start of season 9 hole Stableford and lunch, won by Carol Brookes with 18 points, with Reena Patel and Lucy Patterson tied second on 17 points.

Ladies Friendly matches begin with an away fixture at Lingdale on 2nd April, followed by a county handicap match at Cosby on 7th May and a home scratch match against Rothley on 18th May. The County Foursomes starts on 15th June away at Birstall, with TLGC having received a first-round bye.



Club Ecology & Sustainability

Our ecology and sustainability steering group has been active for a year, taking small but meaningful steps and exploring new projects with the club community. In 2026 we will continue to look at how we can enhance the club's natural environment and heritage.

There will be opportunities to join early-evening nature walks, see what is already happening on the course, and support greens staff with practical tasks. We will use our Ecology WhatsApp group to share updates and invite volunteers. Follow the QR code to join the group.

Spending time among trees and nature has proven wellbeing benefits, balancing time spent with electronic devices and the pressures of performance golf.



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Seniors Section

Philip Sell, Seniors Captain 2025

The Seniors have been busy preparing for the new season despite an exceptionally wet January, which contributed to the county's wettest winter on record since 1836. Documents, including the Seniors handbook, fixtures and information for new members, are available via the members' area of the club website and ClubV1.

The Seniors Winter League is ahead of schedule, with a completion date of 30th April 2026, though results may be finalised earlier if matches are completed.

The Seniors Winter Six is now complete. Only one game was cancelled due to inclement weather – the always popular three clubs and a putter - where ball retrievers were allowed, although many seniors were having them re-gripped during their training programme. The individual Stableford on 16th March was won by Pete Jolley with 36 points, and the team Stableford was won by Mehbs Kantharia, David Taylor and Graham Warwick with a score of 91 points.

This year's inter-club fixtures include several new matches, starting with three home games to showcase our course and clubhouse. The Spring Open on 28th May 2026 still has tee times available for members bringing guests, with a separate prize for the best team including two TLGC members.

Green Tee Competitions

To support players who prefer a shorter course, the Seniors Steering Committee has introduced a series of Green Tee competitions, open to all Seniors and Ladies.

- Green Tee AMAM - Monday 20th April
- Green Tee Stableford - Monday 1st June
- Green Tee 4BBB - Monday 6th July
- Green Tee Stableford - Monday 3rd August
- Green Tee AMAM - Monday 7th September

Social Events

Captains' Put-Out and Drive-In

Francis Lobe hosted the event marking the end of the captaincy year for Lucy Patterson, Amelie Tutt and Phil Sell, and the drive-ins of Duncan Jones (Club Captain) and Seva Johal (Junior Captain).

The Big Lunch

Members enjoyed an early experience of the new upper-floor restaurant at The Big Lunch, where Duncan Jones also introduced this year's charity.

Upcoming Bridge Events

- Bridge Supper - Thursday 26th March
- Spring Bridge Lunch - Monday 20th April

Sign-up sheets are on the general noticeboard outside the Bunker Room.

Junior Section

Junior Captain

On 8 March, Seva Johal drove in as our new Junior Captain, succeeding Amelie Tutt. We thank Amelie for her energetic year, during which she raised a significant amount for her charity and represented both the Juniors and Ladies with enthusiasm.

The junior calendar is underway, including an Adult/Junior foursomes competition on 15th March,



won by Eesha and Reena Patel with 37 points – fittingly on Mother's Day. League matches are scheduled, and there will be many junior club competitions throughout the year.



Several TLGC juniors are part of the county's Winter Training Schedule across U14, U16 and Academy squads, with six boys from TLGC invited to sessions at

Ullesthorpe, Northampton and Luffenham Heath. Junior organisers will continue to run fun events through the summer and on Sunday afternoons, subject to volunteer availability.

With clubhouse refurbishment ongoing, the annual junior presentation evening has been delayed but will be rescheduled once the upstairs area is fully open. Thank you to members and the club for supporting our junior programme, where we emphasise etiquette, sportsmanship and integrity in our future adult members.



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Welcome New Members

We have welcomed more than 90 new adult members since the start of last year, which is a fantastic milestone. Our focus now is helping every new member feel part of the club and its community, both on and off the course.

New Members Stableford

We have introduced a New Members Stableford on Sunday 22nd March, designed especially for those who are relatively new to the club. It is a relaxed way to meet other new members, get to know committee members, enjoy the course and, if you wish, submit a card for handicap.

- Open to all new members, with or without a handicap.
- With a handicap: book online as normal.
- Without a handicap: reply to this email or book via the Pro Shop and we will handle the rest.

Further similar events are planned for: Sunday 24th May 2026 and Sunday 25th October 2026.

Winter Golf Reminder

Please continue to use winter wheels and winter mats unless advised otherwise. Our fairways have held up well, but there is clear damage where players who are not using mats also fail to repair divots.

Fairway Divotting Parties - Volunteers Needed

At 9.00am on Monday 30th March and 5.30pm on Tuesday 31st March 2026, we're putting together a divotting party on each day to cover 9 holes for a few hours, meeting on the patio.

If you can attend either or both days, please the office know.

Some equipment will be supplied, but we suggest you bring a bucket or carrier bag, a trowel (in case there's not enough to go around), and a decent pair of gloves

Help the Greenkeepers - Stick Collection

Over winter, a lot of small branches and sticks accumulate on the course, and our greenkeeping team often have to stop and climb off machinery to move them to avoid damage.

If you see sticks on the fairways or in mowing lines and would like to help, please collect them and place them at the base of nearby trees.

This simple habit will save time for the greens staff, protect the machinery and help keep the course looking its best.

Competition & Handicap Update

The annual handicap review, required by the Rules of Handicapping, was carried out in November 2025 using World Handicap System reports, and affected members were contacted to confirm changes. In-year reviews will also continue, particularly where very low scores or serial wins occur early in the season.

If you achieve exceptionally low scores or multiple early-season wins, you may receive a proactive handicap reduction. Please ensure you only enter competitions where you can commit to playing.

Knock-out Competitions are now open for entry on ClubV1 (closing date: 31st March). Please arrange matches promptly and ensure they are played by the deadline; extensions are not permitted.

Players must make every effort to complete rounds once a competition or general play score is registered, except in serious circumstances such as lightning or medical emergencies. Failure to return a score will result in a penalty score being applied automatically by the WHS system, and incomplete medal rounds can still count for handicap.

The intention to standardise par across tee sets has been paused pending a decision on reversing the 9s, to avoid multiple scorecard changes.

Mixed Matches

Our 2026 Mixed Match programme is now confirmed, and a sign-up sheet is available in the foyer between The Bunker Room and the Gents' Locker Room. Please add your name and tick the fixtures you are available for, or simply tick dates against your name if it is already on the list.

These are always friendly, sociable fixtures and a great way to enjoy mixed golf.

Corporate Membership

A newly agreed TLGC Corporate Membership offers weekday (Monday - Friday) play for multiples of two named players. If this might suit your business, please contact the office for more information.

Contact Us

We value your feedback and are here to assist you with any questions or concerns. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with our club office or email us at members@theleicestershiregolfclub.co.uk

Thank you for being a part of the Leicestershire Golf Club community. We look forward to seeing you on the course!

Andy Rickett, Chair of Membership.