



Lymm Golf Club Fore-Um

Items of interest for Lymm Golf Club Members

CASC Community Amateur Sports Club

93 members attended the SGM on the 3rd November and 60 of them, or 65%, voted to seek CASC registration and amend the club rules in line with CASC requirements. Since the proposals required a two thirds majority to be carried the proposition was narrowly defeated and therefore Lymm will not be seeking to register as a CASC.

However, the size of the vote in favour was a huge change from when the matter was first discussed in 2008. Then there was a strong argument against CASC and an overwhelming majority against it. Since that time the facts of what CASC means for Lymm Golf Club have been thoroughly researched and were presented at the SGM by Peter Kent on behalf of the CASC Group. Thanks to Peter and the team for their hard work.

Lymm receives two awards

In the past month the club has been recognised with two national awards in recognition for our achievements both in the club house and out on the course.

Club House

The first was gained at the Club Awards 2011 organised by Club Mirror and sponsored by the likes of Nescafe, John Smiths, Marstons and Sky. Club Mirror is a magazine for the club hospitality trade and covers all kinds of catering establishment from a branch of the British Legion to a golf club like ours. Every year an awards dinner is held where clubs are recognised for their achievements in providing high class service and hospitality and this year our House Manager Karen was encouraged to enter our club house operation. After taking part in a long and detailed interview with the organisers Karen was informed that we would be shortlisted for the finals of the Golf Club of the Year award and that Karen would be entered in the Manager of the year award. Following the interview, and unknown to us, we had two secret visits from the judges who came along to see if House operation measured up to their exacting standards.

The ceremony took place on the 10th November at the Palace Hotel in Manchester which is a central UK location. This enabled representatives from 1100 clubs of all kinds to attend from all over Great Britain. It was hosted by John Inverdale. As far as golf clubs were concerned we were rubbing shoulders with the likes of Gleneagles and Royal Birkdale who had also entered. The golf club award was split into three classes depending on the size of the operation. We were judged in the middle group which is for clubs with a turnover between half a million and a million pounds and....we won!

This is the first award our club house has achieved and it is a great testament to Karen and her staff, as well as the House Committee which was chaired by Derek Medley, for the amazing amount of hard work which has been put into the operation over the past three years. Karen has asked that her thanks and appreciation are passed on to her staff, the committee and all those other behind the scenes helpers who have helped to gain the club this well deserved recognition. Fore-um, on behalf of the members, would like to add its thanks and congratulations to Karen and her team. A fantastic amount of work goes in to running the club house and the staff should be very proud of what they have achieved.

By the way the large golf club award went to Celtic Manor which apparently is somewhere in South Wales and the small club went to Dudsbury Hotel and Spa in Dorset. Although she did not win Karen also reached the last eight of the Manager of the year competition which is a great achievement in itself. Well done Karen!

Course

The second award the club has received was for our approach to the environment. The club is proud of its approach to environmental issues. This takes a variety of forms from the management of the plant and tree population, to the use of chemicals and encouragement of wildlife. A less well understood but integral part of our activities is the management of water and this work has been recognised by the 2011 Golf Environment Water Management award. The Golf Environment awards were started in 1997 with the aim of highlighting effective and sustainable projects being managed by golf courses across the UK.

In the awards feedback report the club was praised for the installation of the three new ponds and our approach to the management of waste water. Other activities which also received recognition included our overall approach to ecological management, the management of our rough grassland and trees and the way we handle composting and recycling.

Awards like this are the result of a lot of hard work over a long period of time. Congratulations must go to the golf committee and particularly to Stuart Yarwood and the green keeping team for this achievement and for their enthusiasm and knowledge which was also commended by the examiner. It is very encouraging to note that it is possible to continue to develop the quality of the course, which has been first class this year, alongside a pro-active and positive approach to environmental issues.

Safety

Golf is not normally seen as a hazardous sport but there are accidents which happen quite frequently, especially when it comes to slips and trips. Recently we have had a least two incidents of members slipping when walking up the sides of tees rather than using the steps. Also a lady tripped over a white hoop which had been moved and was not replaced in an upright position.

Members should be aware that this is a real issue. Slipping when you are young and flexible rarely results in an injury, but for many of our members a seemingly innocuous slip can cause real injury and often results in long term problems. Unfortunately healing and recovery times are proportional to age! Please be aware of these issues and do what you can to ensure your own safety and that of other members.

New Members' Evening

This will be held on the 28th of November. It is primarily for members who have joined this year, but if anyone who has joined in prior years feels they still haven't managed to take full advantage of membership they are also welcome. Please advise Andrew in the office if you are coming along.

