



# Ups & Downs

## Pyecombe G C

# Newsletter

March / April 2012

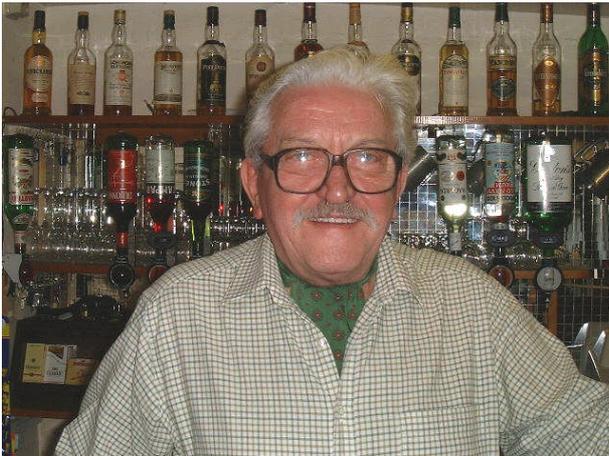
**No. 124**

**Editor Alf Bickham**

## CAPTAIN'S REPORT

With the excellent weather during March the golfing season is now in full swing but since the drought was confirmed it has not stopped raining. I have been playing five or six times a week, dodging the showers and much to the delight of my wife who is glad to get me away from the house.

The news that Norman Plummer had passed away brought sadness to the end of March.



**Norman Plummer (Nov1999 photo)**

Norman was a very popular and valued member of the bar staff. He always gave a warm and friendly welcome to anyone coming into the Clubhouse. It was an amazing fact that once he had met someone he always remembered their name. He will be much missed by all his many friends and members. His memory will live long at Pyecombe as we continue to play annually for the Trophy he presented to the Club.

The Sport Relief Events proved a great success and it is congratulations to Colin Kemp, Pat Plumstead, Neil Janes, Drew Bailey, Trevor Greenfield and caddy Mark Bailey for their efforts during the 24 hour golf session. (See Middy extracts on page 9) The Quiz Night was a very good evening with Quiz Master, Roy Aitken setting some very challenging questions (for me anyway). Well done to the winning team lead by Barbara Lawden with Nick Lawden, Ted and Viv Scalé and Don Hunt who generously donated their prize money to Sport Relief and the Captain's Charity.

We hosted the Mid Sussex Winter League Finals Day, although we were placed third in the winter league, we won the Team competition on the day, with Vice Captain Nick Lee, 41 points, Gary Hann, 44 points and overall winner on count back, David Cashmore, 44 points, well done to them and the rest of the Team. I must give my special thanks to the green staff, for providing an excellent course, the catering and bar staff for their food and service, Jason and Michael for their organisation, the starters and ladies who provided the refreshments on the course, all helping to make the day a resounding success.

The President will no-doubt take great delight in describing his Team's victory over my Team, on Good Friday, but it must be said .....

(Continued on next page)

### MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER

Leave in the Office with the Secretary or in an envelope in the foyer marked for the attention of Alf Bickham / Newsletter or send Alf an Email message to his Email address of: [alf@abickham.freemove.co.uk](mailto:alf@abickham.freemove.co.uk) or to make contact by telephone, call him at home, Tel. No. 01444.242101

## **CAPTAIN'S REPORT (Continued)**

.....that my partner, Vice Captain, Nick Lee and I soundly beat him and his partner, Jim Dossetter. On Easter Saturday the Club Team played the P@VIT Team, with some excellent golf being played by both Teams the very favourable format saw the Club Team home to a good victory. Unfortunately the weather prevented the Easter Monday Mixed Greensome Competition taking place.

The very enjoyable Tin Hat Trophy Supper Competition saw Colin Kemp's Southern Team beat my Northern Team and the Summer Champagne Supper Challenge got off to a good start, although it could have done with a few more participants. It is not too late to join in as

this competition continues throughout the summer combining golf, food and TV football. The next event is on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May when Chelsea play in the Champions League Final and continues with England in the European Championships.

Congratulations to the P@VIT Team for a very good victory at Singing Hills in the First Round of the Competition (See report to press page 3)

The Captain's Charity Challenge has started and runs throughout the summer, it is a fun eclectic competition played off each of the four different tees; see the notice boards for details.

*David Schwartz*

### **A Very Warm Welcome to Pyecombe Golf Club**

During March and April I have welcomed, and had the good fortune of playing golf with many of the following new members:-

Andy Duffy

Matt Humby

David Khor & Pia-Maria Khor

Vincent Elphick

Robert Williams

David & Samantha Wakefield

Peter Fernse

Alan Walker

welcomed back Neil Gow

Guy Goodwin

Brian Harris

If you meet them on the Course or in the Clubhouse I am sure you will make them most welcome. I hope they will enjoy our Course and facilities for a very long time.

**David Schwartz**

## **LADIES SECTION**

Another 2 months have gone by with what has been a rather busy time. Pyecombe hosted the Sussex County Inter Club Scratch knockout, over 3 days. 26 clubs took part from all over the county. Apart from the wind, rain and fog, the event was a huge success to the club, (See the report sent to the press for this event on page 6)

Aileen and Jo have just played at Cooden Beach in the County Championships, again over 3 hard days with wind and rain. The first day after 2 rounds both qualified. Aileen finally lost in the semi-finals, and Jo lost in the 4th round. Well done for doing so well representing Pyecombe.

Lucy Free was the winner of the Winter Knockout, Aileen Greenfield won the Val Mackay Medal,

Pyecombe Ladies section entered the National Coronation Foursomes competition on Tuesday 27th March. The winners, Pam Perry and Denise Daughton, will now represent the club at the regional finals to be played at Mannings Heath Golf Club on Tuesday 31st July.

Pyecombe Golf Club Ladies competed in the National Australian Spoons Competition on Tuesday 12th March. The competition is first played at club level, followed by regional finals later in the year. Winners of the club competition, Christine Muschamp and Irene Silander, will now represent Pyecombe GC at the regional final to be held at Woodcote Park Golf Club Surrey, on 2nd August.

(Continued on next page)

## LADIES SECTION (Continuation)

.Pyecombe Golf Club Ladies took part in the **National Ping 4BBB** competition on Tuesday 10th April. What started off as a sunny, pleasant, but cool morning very quickly became a bitterly cold, windy one which affected many of the scores in a negative way. Despite that the winners, Aileen Greenfield and Sarah Godfrey, came in with a very respectable score of 43 points. Hopefully Aileen and Sarah will now go on to represent Pyecombe Golf Club at either the Grand Final competition if their score is one of the top 60 in the country or at the Grand Plate Final competition if it is one of the next 72 top scores. Both competitions will be held later in the year at Gainsborough Golf Club in Lincolnshire.

Pyecombe have won the first round of the Maurice Fours against Willingdon. Well done Joanna Greenstreet and her team. They will either play Seddlescombe or Cooden in the next round. Finally Aileen and Jo won their first round match in the Daily Mail Foursomes against East Brighton, and will go through to the next round.

Pyecombe GC Ladies Section joined together with the Gents Vets Section for a very enjoyable **Texas Scramble** on Tuesday 24th April. At first many of us wondered why we were even venturing out on the course as it was freezing cold morning and the forecast was for heavy showers. The weather was kind to us however as the rain stayed away and even the sun eventually made an appearance, although it remained very cold. A nice warm fire and a super buffet lunch awaited us on arrival back at the club house. Another event with the Vets is to follow later in the year.

The final scores, all within 2 points of each other except from two teams, were not ones to shout about. The two winning teams were:-

**1st place**, Jan Hawes, Pat Dossetter, Geoff Webb & Reg Auchterlonnie with a score of 54.

**2nd place**, Joan Cullen, Rosemary Oliver, Joanna Greenstreet & Ted Whitbourne with 55 points.

As you can see, it has been a rather busy 2 months. Let's hope we have some better weather in the next 2 months.

*Janice Hawes* Lady Captain

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## **P@VIT : Singing Hills vs Pyecombe (Report sent to Press)**

Pyecombe ventured to Singing Hills in the first round of the P@VIT. As they were fielding two debutants, the morning foursomes was critical: an excellent performance by Andy Barnes and Matt Greenfield led to an emphatic 5 and 4 win. They were not the first to finish however, as the second pair out, Trevor Greenfield and Phil Hubble had already won their match 8 and 7!

Third-out Duncan Scott and Drew Bailey were never down, and eased away to a 5 and 4 win, while debutants Lee McNeill and Steve Daley faced some solid golf from South African pairing Darren Krug and Johan Van Nrikerk, losing 2 and 1.

The afternoon singles could have witnessed a major turn around, but determined performances throughout saw the team up early in every match. Had it not been for Lee McNeill's generous acceptance of a half, allowing players and caddies to retreat to the clubhouse in the face of an advancing storm, a whitewash might have occurred. A fantastic team victory with everybody on top of their game resulted in a 10.5- 1.5 team victory.

Pyecombe also boasted a 22 – 1 victory in the spectator count!

Well done, Pyecombe.

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## **The President Reflects**

Isn't it typical of our capricious weather? No sooner than a hosepipe ban is enforced than...well! Do you recall Burt Bacharach's memorable song in the film "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid"? ..... hopefully by the time you read this you won't need to hum or whistle "Raindrops keep falling on my head"!

Fortunately, the raindrops didn't fall on Good Friday when the ever popular President's v Captain's team challenge took place for the 18<sup>th</sup> year since being introduced by Ken Barnard. In all, 21 fourball matches took place in broadly handicap order.

Captain David had a look of quiet contentment on his face as, partnered by his Vice Captain Nick Lee, they posted the first win for their side after a close contest with yours truly and Jim Dossetter. A sign of good things to come perhaps? But, as the results started coming in, something was amiss.... the results were all going the wrong way! It would be a further 10 games before the Captain's team recorded their second win!

There was talk of a tide turning.... but to no avail, as the President's team eventually ran out handsome winners by 13-8! My grateful thanks to the President's men and ladies!

This meant that over the 18 years the results stand at:

Challenges halved	<b>5</b>	
Wins for the President's team	<b>11</b>	
Wins for the Captain's team	<b>2</b>	(Trevor Greenfield & Michael Price remain the only Winning Captains)

The recent wet weather is just what our course needed after a prolonged dry spell and no doubt Simon and his team will soon have Pyecombe looking in prime condition. Here's to enjoyable golfing in the summer months to come!

***Reg Auchterlonie***

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## **Clive Cargill Remembered**

Members will be sad to learn of the death of Clive Cargill.

Clive was a popular member of the club, and had much love for the game of golf. His cheery disposition brightened up many a four ball, and his swing thoughts and short game tips entertaining in themselves.

His short stature and compact swing meant that Clive was easily spotted on the course, and his bon homie and good humour will be missed by all those members who have had the pleasure of his company, at Pyecombe and on tour.

Clive's funeral was on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium,

The family made a request for no flowers but any donations to be given to the British Heart Foundation.

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## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Club is now half way through its financial year and more importantly the real golf season begins, well at least it will when the rain stops!

The weather over the winter period was kind and as a result our income from green fees was just ahead of that expected. The Management Committee has also been working hard to contain and reduce expenditure, particularly reviewing contacts. As a result we may be in position to balance at the end of the year.

In the office the Club is now paying most of our suppliers by BACS and sending remittances electronically. This reduces administrative time and reduces our need on an ever-increasing cost from our postal service.

The major concern the Management Committee has is the ability to authorise capital expenditure due to a shortage of finance. Year on Year the Club does not generate enough money from subscriptions for capital expenditure and investment. This is a major concern and a small group have been looking at ways money could be generated. The Captain has generously given over his charity day on the 4<sup>th</sup> June for Club fund raising. A number of initiatives will be launched on that day for the on-going process of fund raising and the various committees consider it is in all our interests that you would be able to help your Club. Notices are being posted around the Club House and I hope you will all take an interest. Fund raising will be for specific items so that you can see the benefits. The first item will be a Turf Iron for the greens. This item costs around £8000. The FOP has donated £2500. I'm sure that with your help we can obtain the remaining £5500.

The Management Committee has also looked at other future projects and until good financing is in place these projects will be shelved.

Our membership numbers are roughly in line with last year. The new membership options are proving of benefit and the Management Committee has agreed to push the Corporate Membership option as a way to further increase revenues.

During the next couple of months the Management Committee will be reviewing anticipated expenditure for next year with a view of setting a realistic subscription level for 2012/13.

This year Mid Sussex District Council has continued to provide rate relief and have indicated that this is likely to be withdrawn next year. If this concession is withdrawn it will add around £13500 to next year's expenditure and £27000 in subsequent years. Options to reduce this will be explored.

We have a great Club, unlike some courses within a 10-mile radius; which are just that – course to play. The Club is our strength and you are part of it and together we can make it even better.

Enjoy the summer's golf.

*Len North*

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## Sussex County Ladies' Inter-Club Scratch Foursomes (Report Sent to Press)

The **Sussex County Ladies' Inter-Club Scratch Foursomes** were held at Pyecombe on 11-13th April 2012. 26 clubs from all over the county sent their single-figure ladies to Pyecombe for this gruelling and enthralling three-day event. Thunder threatened to interrupt day two and fog on the morning of the last day delayed play by two hours, making for an even longer test. The course was in great condition for the county's top ladies.

The winners emerged as Rosie Hockey (hcp 6) & Katherine Russell (hcp 3) from Royal Ashdown, who beat East Brighton, Littlehampton and Bognor, before defeating West Sussex in the final. Stacey Rodger (0) and Clarissa Bushell (2) of West Sussex, strongly tipped in this event, overcame a distracting moment early in the competition when they were told on the 8th hole that they could not use caddies as planned. They went on to beat Rye, Willingdon and Pyecombe before losing in the final. Pyecombe's fancied local pairing, Aileen Greenfield (0) and Jo Galway (4) beat Chichester and old rivals Worthing, then lost to W Sussex. A team reshuffle to replace injured Jo Galway with fresh Alison Vermes then led to an emphatic victory against Bognor to take third place. Bognor's Heather Tidy (3) and Suzanne Taylor (6) had come within a putt of winning their semi-final against Royal Ashdown on the 18th, but the putt didn't drop and they had to play on till the 20th hole before being knocked out and finishing fourth.



Pyecombe's Jo & Aileen



Stacey Rodger (W Sussex) driving down 9<sup>th</sup>



Aileen Greenfield driving on 13th tee



Winners Rosie Hockey & Katherine Russell of Royal Ashdown with county officials

## HOUSE REPORT – MAY 2012

Just a short report, as we are half way through the club's year and as we start hopefully the best time for golf, to inform you that matters relating to the maintenance of the clubhouse continue to go well. By its nature the clubhouse, a development over the years from a single building with a wooden roof, is, as previous Heads of House will testify, a constant struggle to provide a base for the activities to support the playing of golf. But I hope you agree the clubhouse looks and performs well.

My main focus remains to ensure the clubhouse and its environs continue to function, as they have, for some years, in a safe, clean, tidy and functional manner. We employ a number of contractors on annual contracts to provide services such as cleaning, security (access, intruder detection, CCTV etc.), waste disposal, fire protection, pest control to mention the main ones, and these are kept under review and, thanks to help from Matt, are constantly managed.

We have however had a problem over the past months and cancelled a long standing contract for two of our main security contracts as a result of his failure to provide an adequate service. A new contractor is in place and any intruder should be warned that our alarm system has been enhanced and is now functioning correctly!! This change, whilst avoiding a serious impact on the budget based on the quote from the original contractor, has however incurred a smaller unbudgeted expenditure. One of the benefits, as the more observant of you will have noticed, is that we have discovered a facility I didn't know we had and the main doors are now programmed to be unlocked during the time the clubhouse is manned. The tell-tale to inform you of this is the green light on the swipe card access pad – if this is flashing, the door is unlocked. We hope this will improve the first impression for visitors.

Feedback on the new tables provided by the generous support of the Friends is positive. The option of round tables in the dining room has gone down well, whilst the traditional rectangular table configuration is still an option. There is mixed reaction to the new tables in the bar area. Terry Reilly tells me he can't reach his plate of sausage and chips when he is sitting on the bench seats. Don't worry Terry, arrangements are in hand to chop the legs down – the tables not yours.

I apologise for the problems that the inadequate markings in the car park are causing. The whole of the car park spaces will be relined by a contractor during the August week when the greens have their late summer treatment and the car park usage will be lowest. Until then may I ask you to park thoughtfully and for those of you with four wheel drive vehicles may I make a special plea to park in the field even though spaces may remain in the main car park. Funds are not available to upgrade the surface in the field and we are going to have to make do with what we have for the foreseeable future.

Overall then, I trust you feel the clubhouse meets your requirements. If it doesn't and you feel that attention is lacking or you have ideas for improvement then please contact me or the Captain.

Finally, a big thank you, on your behalf, to those members who provide help and support towards the maintenance and improvement of the clubhouse. The scope of their help covers electrics, carpets, plumbing/heating, decorating, gardening and general maintenance. If any member has special skills which they would like to offer please contact me – in particular the re-routing of the path at the front of the clubhouse leading to the pro-shop, what I would like to do is to dig up the concrete path which runs down and re-lay another with a reduced fall. Indeed if anyone fancies the job of Head of House when my stint is over please come and talk it over.

*Chris Openshaw*  
Head of House

## ON THE COURSE

Having only just recently returned from holiday on Arran, Scotland in our campervan, enjoying the company of Red Deer, Red Squirrels in abundance and Golden Eagles soaring high above the crag, it prompted me to think of my previous round at Pyecombe before we left for Arran.

Whilst playing with a new member with a far superior ornithological knowledge than myself, he pointed out a Red Kite flying above us, these rare birds almost extinct here at one time, down to one pair in the U.K. in the 1970's I believe, are now on the up, about 2000 pairs now nationwide, according to the RSPB. I have seen Buzzards and Kestrels regularly around the course, but never a Red Kite (red underside and deep forked tail identifies as shown). Keep your eyes peeled!



Earlier this week whilst playing the 11<sup>th</sup> I noticed two cock pheasants strutting aimlessly on the Skating Rink green whilst golfers from Tyrells Wood happily, or maybe unhappily putted less than ten feet away, a lovely sight, which leads nicely onto:-

My favourite golf survey by Syngenta, which I enjoy quoting, it states, "Outside of the actual playing area, the survey showed that a course that looks natural is the most important environmental aspect.

For over 70% of players, being able frequently to observe birds and wild life is highly important, with a similar number supporting environmental initiatives to be highly important. Indeed the aesthetics and environment of the course is second only to its design as the prime factor most likely to attract new players."

We should score highly in this area at Pyecombe, with our abundance of wildlife and a better natural environment would surely be difficult to find. I will be looking at initiatives we can take to support it more so in the future.

With the advent of the weekly update email newsletter, one of my grouches about on course communication to members has now been satisfied. Simon giving a brief account of activities of the week and also giving him a direct line of communication to the membership, if you are not receiving this please contact the office.

With the major spring aeration work behind us, verti draining and various greens 'Graden' scarified additionally, I was happy to see the greens returning to good playability quickly, hopefully enhanced by the trial of The Turf Iron. To that end I would ask everyone to support the fundraising day on the 4<sup>th</sup> June so that we may have our own, sooner, rather than later.

With the green staff running shorthanded at present the path works are slightly behind schedule, but we are getting there. Winter tees have been verti drained and will be tined, dressed and seeded, hopefully in a couple of weeks with an increase in temperature more associated with the month of May. The new seed we are trialling for the winter tees is a difficult germinator requiring warmer temperatures and we do not want it rotting in the ground in these particularly wet conditions at present. Happy Golfing.

**Gary Hann**  
Head of Green

Extract from Mid Sussex Times Report of 24 hour Golf Marathon at Pyecombe



Golfers who took part in the 24-hour marathon at Pyecombe Golf Club. Back from left: Pat Plumstead, Colin Kemp, Neil Janes. Front from left: Trevor Greenfield and Drew Bailey

## PGC – SOCIAL SCENE

No sooner the ink dries on the last “Ups and Downs” it’s time again to happily report for another. Warm March weather allowing unbroken use of the course created an unseasonal buzz in and around the clubhouse with many members prematurely coming out of hibernation. The first “Major” of the year is done, won by that popular young “Bubba” man, serving to get the juices flowing in our own “Golfing World” at PGC.

With lots happening on & off the course I’m pleased to report that Nigel & his hard working catering team served up a fabulous Mother’s Day menu which was well received by the patrons. Though well supported, like the “Valentines” lunch I would urge and recommend more members & their welcome guests to use our excellent dining facilities.

The “Sport Relief” 24hr Golf was blessed with great weather & some fantastic support. I would like to personally thank, Pat Plumsted, Neil Janes, Drew Bailey, Mark Bailey, Trevor Greenfield & all their back up teams, along with Barry Wood, Graham Farmer, Steve Wells & Matt Greenfield for placing the Glow sticks and Caddying, the late night bar staff & the early morning bar staff alike, not to mention the well fuelled Friday night supporters for making up an 11 Ball at one stage (you know who you are). Alan Davey, Cracker & their insomniac dogs gave great support in the early hours too. Thanks to Captain Dave for his “Spot the Ball” competition & Jason for his Golf Bag donation for raffling.



Huge thanks must go to Roy & Rosie Aitkin for organising a superb Quiz night, Roy’s virus enhanced sexy Scottish brogue easily made up for the faulty PA system. With the very clever & generous winners splitting their winnings between “Help for Heroes” and “Sport Relief” it all made for an entertaining evening with Bangers & mash served energetically by Tony Muzzell & his team.

Both the St Patricks & the St Georges celebrations suffered the worrying fate of cancellation due to lack of support. Feedback regarding these unfortunate cancellations will be useful in relation to future organising & promoting of these event types. [Colinkemp2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Colinkemp2000@yahoo.co.uk)

However, the “Tin Hat” fish & Chip supper competition between the NORTH & SOUTH Downs was an enjoyable experience and not just because us “Southern Softies” were victorious over Captain Dave’s “Northern lads & lasses.”

Round 1 of the (CSC) the Champagne Supper Challenge was won by the one and only Aileen with 37pts. For her trouble in beating the boys Aileen wins the Bubbly for the evening’s work along with the free invite to the September Gala. After a very tasty Curry for supper, the Boys cheered on Chelsea to an unexpected victory over Barcelona. All meaning that Round 2 of the CSC will take place on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> of May when Chelsea will take on Bayern Munich in the Champions league Final. We can expect a great atmosphere in the clubhouse so DON’T MISS that one.

### SOCIAL EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

- Beetle Drive - 5<sup>th</sup> May
- CSC Round 2 – 19<sup>th</sup> May (Chelsea v Barcelona)
- Comedy Night – May / June – date TBC
- PGC fund raising day – 4<sup>th</sup> June
- CSC Round 3 - 15<sup>th</sup> June (England v Sweden)

**PLEASE ENJOY YOUR PGC**

*Colin Kemp* – PGC Social Secretary

# JASON BOWEN

PGA PROFESSIONAL

## New products at Pyecombe Professional Shop

Most of our spring and summer clothing is now in. All we need now is the weather to wear it! This season we are stocking UKKO for men, Underarmour for Men, Glenmuir for Ladies and Lobster clothing for both Men and Ladies. Lobster is a Swedish company that provides some nice bright colours in lightweight fabrics. I have tried the trousers myself and have been extremely pleased with them. The Under Armour Summer collection comprises three new innovative technologies:



### Coldblack technology

Revolutionary coldblack technology makes dark colours act more like light colours, and light colours act like nothing else. It also has the benefit of protecting your skin from sun damage.



### Charged Cotton

The world's first performance cotton golf shirt that dries five times faster than standard cotton.

### Catalyst

**For the player who is Eco Conscious**

Each shirt is made completely from 4 recycled plastic bottles. Four way stretch movement and has exceptional moisture transport and UV protection.



### Golf Clubs

We are also stocking a wider range of clubs this season. We have over 70 clubs for you to try. Just pop into the shop, pick one up and give it a go. Don't forget we can order almost any product you like at internet competitive prices

## **COACHING CORNER: PERFECT YOUR PUTTING**

Putting is an area of the game where there is definitely more ways than one to get the ball in the hole! Just take a look at the Masters this year and you will have seen players with Broom handle putters, Belly putters, gripping the club left hand below right and using the claw grip to name just a few variations. I am definitely of the opinion that you should stick to whatever works best for you. However, whatever way you choose to hold the putter or address the putt, the one thing that should be consistent is how you approach each putt. It is essential that you get into a routine before every putt that helps you identify the correct line to hit the putt and gives you the confidence to roll the ball in the hole as often as possible. Here are four simple steps to improve your putting:

### **Read the putt as you approach**

This is an area of putting that is overlooked by many golfers. You can give yourself a good idea of how your putt is going to break as you walk towards the green by analyzing the breaks of slope and getting a general overview. Once you reach the front of the green try to identify the high and low point of the putting surface. This will give you a good perception of the general slope of the putt before you even get to the ball. Then when you stand behind the ball you'll already have a sense of what direction it breaks, before crouching down to get the precise line.

### **Line the ball up**

Marking a straight line on your golf ball is a very simple, yet extremely effective way of ensuring you aim the golf ball at the hole, or the point where you want to start the ball rolling towards. If you prefer not to mark your golf ball, then try what I do and line up the Manufacturers name instead.



### **Pre-putt routine**

It is very important that you have a pre-putt routine that does not change. Try to keep this as simple as possible. Once I have picked my line, I always take one practice stroke next to the ball, then aim my clubhead at the hole and put my feet in around the clubhead. Once set up, I take one look at the hole and simply focus on timing the putt. I try and keep to the same routine whether it is on the practice putting green or on the 18<sup>th</sup> green with a 6 foot putt to halve the match. You don't need to copy mine, make it personal to you but remember not to make it too complicated.

### **Practice**

Unfortunately there are no short cuts to developing your routine and perfecting your putting. One simple drill for practicing is to try and hole a specific number of putts from around a putter length without missing. Start with 25 putts and see if you can stick to the same routine each time. If you miss, start again. This will not only keep you focused but also put you under a bit of pressure as you get closer to your target. If you find 25 putts too easy, try 50 or even 100 but beware it can get a bit sore on the back!

***SPECIAL OFFER – ½ HOUR PUTTING LESSON  
ONLY £15 IN MAY (Available to Members only)***