

Growing the game in Bedfordshire

Summer is here and the golfing season is in full swing. Following our first newsletter, a number of clubs are now well into the GolfMark accreditation process, with John O'Gaunt being the latest club to gain accreditation. Case Studies from both Leighton Buzzard and Stockwood Park can now be found on our website (www.bedsgolfpartnership.com).

If your club hasn't yet started the process, there is no time like the present as England Golf Partnership has already hinted that the time may come when clubs without accreditation may be restricted in applying for, and receiving, development grants.

We will be issuing a separate Newsletter devoted solely to the GolfMark process in the near future which we hope will help and guide clubs towards achieving this accreditation.

OUR PARTNERS



team BEDS&LUTON is one of 49 County Sports Partnerships (CSP's) in England, each of which is targeted with actively contributing

to increasing participation and widening access to sport within their County in line with targets set by government. team BEDS&LUTON works with over 45 sports across the county, supporting clubs, coaches, volunteers, participants and organizations with one of the main roles being to support the National Governing Bodies of sports with local information, resources and networks.

For golf this entails working with the EGU, EWGA, PGA, the Golf Foundation and, of course, the County Golf Partnership.

For more information or if your club has yet to register with team BEDS&LUTON, please visit their website (www.teambedsandluton.co.uk).



The Golf Foundation is a charity committed to the sporting and social development of young children through golf, focusing on grass roots golf and

children from a wide range of backgrounds.

There are links with schools in Bedfordshire through seven School Sports Partnerships (SSP's) with most of the workshops and training programmes for teachers, volunteers, young leaders and future coaches delivered through these links.

Additionally links are established with clubs (currently only four in Bedfordshire - Leighton Buzzard, Tilsworth, Wyboston and Stockwood Park) so that there are opportunities for children to follow a pathway into club golf.

Tri-Golf and Golf Extreme initiatives are used to bring golf to schools both as part of the curriculum and via after school sessions. Most of the SSP's hold their own competitions during the year which, this year, culminate in a County Finals Day at Woburn Golf Club.

For more information on initiatives and workshops please visit www.golf-foundation.org or e-mail Katie Cooper on Katie@golf-foundation.org

CONGRATULATIONS



Although the mission of BCGP is to develop golf in Bedfordshire, we cannot pass by without comment on the fantastic performance of John O'Gaunt's Laura Collin in reaching the semi-final of the recent British Ladies Amateur Championship played in Wales

in early June. Laura was the only British player to reach this stage and she eventually narrowly lost to the top seed (and also the No.2 ranked amateur in the world).

Full details of her exploits can be found on the Bedfordshire Ladies County Association website (www.blcga.co.uk).

Well done indeed and let's hope that this drives young girls (and boys) in Bedfordshire to take up and progress their own golfing skills.

OUR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

We commented in the last Newsletter that we were in the throes of writing our Development Plan for submission to the England Golf Partnership. This is now in its final stages and will, we hope, be submitted to England Golf Partnership within the next few weeks.

Once this has been done and it has been accepted we will be in a position to understand our levels of grants and funding and be able to plan more succinctly on positive initiatives to help with developing golf in Bedfordshire.

WWW.BEDSGOLFPARTNERSHIP.COM



Are you one of the clubs or County based P.G.A. Professional golfers who has yet to establish a link with our website?

If the answer is "yes" we would repeat the request in our first newsletter by asking that you do so. It takes less than ten minutes to complete the task!

If, however, you have already done so – thank you for your help and co-operation.

Additionally, if you are a club that has already established a link with our website within your own website, thank you.

Full details of most current links can be found on our website (www.bedsgolfpartnership.com) and clicking on Club Status.