



**ENGLISH
GOLF UNION**



Driving women's golf

GOLF DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

How can your officer help you?

- Best practice case studies
- Child protection & equity
- County Golf Partnerships
- Education & Careers
- Funding Opportunities
- GolfMark
- Junior specific issues
- Membership structures & fees
- Membership vacancies
- RangeMark
- Recruitment & Retention
- School club links

And much, much more

Inside this issue:

Recruitment & Retention Toolkit	2
Bedfordshire County Golf Partnership	2
County Development Conference	3
GolfMark Club of the Year Award	3
Golf Volunteer of the Year Awards	3
Suffolk County Development Officer	4
Sport England Grant	4

Your Regional Development Officer

Welcome to my May newsletter. First of all I would like to welcome any new readers and for those of you that are regular golf development followers or are already working with me around my region, I would like to thank you once again for your continued support and commitment to developing golf in your respective clubs and counties.

The number of proactive clubs, County Golf Partnerships, coaches, volunteers and other organisations I work with in the East region has been keeping me extremely busy over the last few months. I am lucky to be blessed with a large number of dedicated, enthusiastic individuals and development groups in the East and because of this a vast number of people from all ages and backgrounds are being introduced to golf and staying in our game. During this 'difficult' period it is vital this continues and it is great to see so many of you utilising the EGU/EWGA initiatives and the support we can offer.

I now have a full compliment of County Golf Partnerships in the East region with Bedfordshire recently coming on board and they certainly appear to be making up for lost time. The formation and development of these partnerships plus the knowledge and support of the ever increasing network of County Development Officers means some real development work is now taking place at a local level.

For those of you that I haven't had contact with already, I urge you to look at the various support and initiatives the EGU/EWGA can provide and either contact myself or your local County Golf Partnership or County Development Officer.

It just remains for me to wish you all a very successful golfing season and I look forward to seeing you on my travels around the East of England!



Supporting Counties & Clubs in the East:

- **Bedfordshire**
- **Cambridgeshire**
- **Essex**
- **Hertfordshire**
- **Middlesex**
- **Norfolk**
- **Suffolk**

Steven Peet
**EGU/EWGA Regional
Development Officer**

Tel: 01508 493061
Mobile: 07726 994154

Email:
stevenp@englishgolfunion.org

Club Coaching Grant 2009

A new Club Coaching Grant is available this year, which replaces the previous Free Golf Coaching and Junior Club Coaching Grant schemes.

The Grant offers up to £800 to clubs to support coaching sessions for adult and junior beginners and can also be used to subsidise promotional costs to market the sessions.

Clubs who have been awarded GolfMark will be entitled to the full £800 grant and a £400 grant will be available to other clubs – the first 350 to apply.

The new grant provides golf clubs with more flexibility in how the funding can be used. (adult and junior taster sessions being a priority) In addition the funding can now be used to provide activities that promote continued participation, possibly outside the golf clubs.

All golf clubs have been sent an application form, which can also be completed online at www.englishgolfunion.org/coachinggrant

Recruitment & Retention Toolkit for Golf Clubs

The EGU/EWGA Recruitment & Retention Toolkit is a flexible guide that contains ideas and best-practice examples that can be adapted to suit the needs of individual golf clubs.

The Toolkit has been designed to support golf clubs in developing processes and structures to ensure their membership remains healthy. Results from the 2008 Golf Club Membership Questionnaire has shown men's and women's membership decreasing and the Toolkit is an additional resource that compliments an existing range of initiatives already offered to clubs in England to help address this issue.

The Toolkit contains nine sections and is designed to be used and shared with both new and existing members. It contains valuable information to ensure that they enjoy their club experience from initial induction through to a structured coaching programme.

Additional resources included within

the Toolkit as part of the Welcome & Introduction section are a Welcome Booklet, Tee to Green introductory programme and Golf Rules & Etiquette pocket reminders.

All affiliated golf clubs have received a promotional flyer for the Toolkit, which is available to purchase from the EGU website shop for £15.00 a copy. Development Officers are available to visit any golf clubs looking for support in this area.

Further examples and case studies to be used with the Toolkit will also be available to view and download from the EGU's website at



Bedfordshire form a County Partnership

Bedfordshire was somewhat late when it came to setting up a County Golf Partnership.

However, progress has been rapid in the partnership's first 10 weeks of existence, with the two representatives elected from each of the partner organisations (BCGU, BLCGA and the PGA) working hard to catch up.

The application for funding was completed and approved promptly, a bank account opened and a website created. Lines of communication have now been

established with 50% of the clubs in the county, as well as a good working relationship with the County Sports Partnership, Team Beds & Luton.

Enquiries have started coming in through the website and golfers are being pointed towards the relevant information and resources.

The next stage is to create a 3 year development plan based on information gathered at forums held late last year and attended by representatives from nearly all of Bedfordshire's 23 clubs.



For everything golf in Bedfordshire, please visit www.bedsgolfpartnership.com

County Golf Development Conference

The EGU/EWGA hosted their second County Golf Development Conference at the National Golf Centre, Woodhall Spa on 24th & 25th February.

Delegates from County Golf Partnerships, Unions and Associations were invited to attend this exciting event which focused on Strategic Development and Implementation & Delivery.

A number of presenters spoke on both days, including Jennie Price (Chief Executive - Sport

England) and Pete Ackerley (England & Wales Cricket Board ECB).

Feedback from the Conference was positive with 100% of county delegates stating that the 2 days had been beneficial to their county as it had provided an opportunity to share best practice and network with other counties.

All presentations are available to download on the EGU website, click on 'About Us' and 'Info for Counties'.



Jennie Price—Sport England

Golf 'Volunteer of the Year' Awards 2009

Golf has paid tribute to the unsung heroes of the game at a special awards night during the County Golf Development Conference, to applaud a series of winners for their efforts at the grass roots level of the game.

Two headline awards of "Services to Golf (Male)" went to Jim Pocknell of Gillingham GC, Kent for more than 24 years involved in golf volunteering at club or county level within Kent and to Angela Caton of Pleasington GC Lancashire, for "Services to Golf (female)", for more than 20 years of volunteering in junior girls golf within Lancashire.

The award for "Services to County Development" went to Di Gritt of High Post GC, Wiltshire for her work over the past decade in Wiltshire girls and ladies golf. Di was instrumental in the development of the Wiltshire County Golf Partnership and was Chair for the first two years of the Partnership.

The Golf Development Award went to Dave Manson of Boston GC, Lincolnshire for his work as junior organiser at the club and



introducing golf to local schools in the area.

"Volunteer Coach of the Year" went to Kim Brusadelli of Aquarius GC, Kent for her efforts at taking golf into primary and secondary schools throughout the area. Qualified as a PGA Level 1 coach, Kim has worked with hundreds of youngsters both at her club and in the local community.

Encouraging young people to get involved is an important role of the EGP volunteers programme and 14 year old Danielle Kay of Tapton Park, Derbyshire received the Under 18 Volunteer of the Year award, while another Derbyshire golfer, 18 year old Robyn Furze received the 18-25 Volunteer of the Year for her work with the Bolsover and District School Sports Partnership.

GolfMark Club of the Year Award 2008

Tapton Park, Derbyshire has been awarded the prestigious GolfMark Club of the Year Award 2008.

The club held off some tough opposition for the honour but impressed judges with their programmes to encourage juniors into the game, working with schools and the local community within the Chesterfield area and beyond.

Runners up in the "Club of the Year" Awards were Aquarius, Kent for its work with both juniors and adults in a wide variety of coaching, competitive and social activities and Skipton, Yorkshire for its work in introducing golf to primary schools and a junior academy at the club.



John Barker—Chairman of Tapton Park Golf Club's Junior Section



Alastair Spink appointed Suffolk County Development Officer

Alastair Spink, one of Suffolk's most respected professionals, has been appointed County Development Officer for the Suffolk Golf Partnership.

Alastair represented Suffolk Men's County Amateur Team before becoming an assistant to Stephen Whymark at Ipswich Golf Club. He spent two years employed at Fynn Valley Golf Club before an appointment at Hintlesham Hall where he was Head Professional, Golf Manager and Director of Golf over a period of 17 years. He left Hintlesham after a change of ownership and has since been attached to Robin Mann's Felixstowe Golf Range where he will continue his coaching commitments. Spink will also continue as one of the Suffolk Golf Union junior academy coaches.

"My first goal will be to make contact with clubs to introduce myself and hopefully make an appointment to see them. I am keen to help them with GolfMark and other EGU/ EWGA initiatives and explain the new coaching grants available to them. We have a fantastic new website and I hope that Clubs will be able to use it as both a marketing tool as well as a source of valuable information."



"We are presently organising a Suffolk Golf Partnership AM/AM to be held at Halesworth Golf Club on the 22nd July and will be inviting all Suffolk clubs to enter a team. Ransomes Jacobsen have very kindly agreed

to sponsor the event with a trophy and we are hoping to make this an annual event within the County".

England Golf awarded £12.8 million Sport England Grant

England Golf has welcomed the award of a £12.8 million grant by Sport England which will be used to develop the sport over the next four years (2009-13).

The grant is a significant increase on the £8.2 million awarded for the previous period and together with club and coaching funding already secured means that more than £14 million will be available to support development programmes at every level of the game.

The funding will be used across key projects including developing support to the 29 County Golf Partnerships already in place and those being formed, together with the launch of new programmes aimed at increasing participation among key audiences such as women.

County Golf Partnerships are an initiative that have been introduced via England Golf's 'Whole Sport Plan' for golf and are an integral part of England Golf's vision to 'Grow the Game'.



England Golf
Growing The Game



EGU/EWGA Golf Development Team
The National Golf Centre
The Broadway
Woodhall Spa
Lincolnshire, LN10 6PU

Tel: 01526 354500
Email: development@englishgolfunion.org