



18th July 2013

THE CLARET CUP

Dear Golfers

Saturday 20th July 2013:

This week the Open Championship is being played at Muirfield near Edinburgh in Scotland. This Saturday the afternoon field will play the monthly medal with the ultimate prize being the Claret cup which will be awarded to the best nett of the day. The winner or champion golfer of the day last year was Keith Forde.

Francois De Lange initiated this tournament last year and it was a resounding success. In keeping with the initiatives started last year, prize giving will be on the 18th green with various activities designed to supplement the members golf experience.

Every hole has been assigned a title in keeping with the links tradition and the four par three's will play to the **identical yardages of some of the most famous holes in links golf.**

Hole 2 - 'HIGH' (IN), The 11th on the Old Course at St Andrews (EDEN)

Hole 4 - 'WEE DUNT', The 8th hole at Kingsbarns

Hole 12 - 'POSTAGE STAMP', The 8th hole at Royal Troon

Hole 15 - 'REDAN', The 15th hole of the west links at North Berwick

As a committee we hope that this can become a great day of gold and an appropriate way of paying homage to the greatest golf tournament of them all.

The scorecard will read: -

Hole 1 'BEGIN'
Hole 2 'HIGH'(IN)
Hole 3 'ORRDEAL'
Hole 4 'WEE DUNT'
Hole 5 'KILLIERANKIE'
Hole 6 'MAK SICAAR'
Hole 7 'FOXY'
Hole 8 'ALPS'
Hole 9 'END'

Hole 10 'LANG WHANG'
Hole 11 'LUCKY SLAP'
Hole 12 'POSTAGE STAMP'
Hole 13 'RISK AN HOPE'
Hole 14 'SOUTHWARD HO'
Hole 15 'REDAN'
Hole 16 'THE ROAD HOLE'
Hole 17 'HIMALAYAS'
Hole 18 'TOM MORRIS'

If you have not entered and are able to play I urge you to join us for a celebration of links golf and the Open Championship.

Yours in golf

Garth Davis
Golf Captain
DURBAN COUNTRY CLUB

Please find further information below.

RE: THE CLARET CUP

In order to commemorate the playing of the Open Championship at the Muirfield Links situated at Gullane along the East Lothian coast of Scotland we have in accordance with the Scottish tradition assigned names to our holes that in my view encapsulate the spirit of links golf and have where possible something in common with the holes at the “grand old lady”.

HOLE ONE - ‘BEGIN’ – Muirfield’s first hole

Par 4 - 447 yards

This is arguably the toughest opening hole at any of the Scottish courses on The Open Championship rota and this year will be even harder with the addition of a new bunker situated 300 yard out on the left-hand side of the fairway. Muirfield is situated at Gullane on the East Lothian coast of Scotland.

Although many links courses seem to present a gentle introduction to the round this is not the case at Muirfield and this is replicated at DCC where the opening hole is generally recognized as the toughest opening hole in the country.

Jack Nicklaus thinks it is "...as tough an opening hole as there is anywhere in championship golf.



HOLE TWO - “HIGH” (IN) the 11th hole on the Old Course of St Andrews, also known as Eden

Par 3 - 174 Yards (yardage listed is from the tees in use during the 2010 British Open.)

Eden or High is according to many writers and players the finest medium length one shotter in golf. While the fearsome Strath and even deeper Hill bunker to the left focus the attention. Even the great Bobby Jones had what he termed his most ‘inglorious failure’ when in the 1921 Open Championship, after taking four shots to extricate himself from ‘the cavernous Strath’ bunker, he picked up his ball and walked off the green.



The 11th tee and green are the highest points at St Andrews as is the 2nd tee at DCC, and with the cavernous bunker short and right of the green at DCC I can think of no more appropriate title for our famous second hole.

The Championship markers will be set to measure 174 yards to the centre of the green.

HOLE THREE - “ORRDEAL”

560 yards - Par 5

The 12th and beautiful signature hole of Kingsbarns. A 560 Yard par five that has the ocean as a hazard down the left hand side. The hole was named as such due to its length and the former landowners of the site upon which the course was crested namely the Orr family. Ranked as one of the most picturesque holes in golf.

A hole that does justice to our magnificent third hole.



HOLE FOUR – “Wee Dunt” - Kingsbarns Golf Links

Par 3 - 130 yards

“wee Dunt” or “small bump” is the 8th hole at Kingsbarns and is a short elevated par three with great views of the ocean and is a simple little hole requiring a short iron but beware the danger.

We replicate the length of the hole which shares our stroke index of 17 from the green tees of Kingsbarns namely approximately 130 yards to the flag from our new Blue tee. Beware the prevailing cross wind and the bunker brought into play by the wicked Captain’s pin placement.

As per their course stroke saver, A **Wee Dunt** or “small bump” shot may be enough to reach this green from the tee.



HOLE FIVE - “KILLIEKRANKIE”

570 yard par 5 stroke one of the Highlands Hill Links.

As per an avid golf writer “My favorite name of all may be Killiecrankie, which belongs to a 570-yard brute of a par five on the breathtaking Highlands Links. I can picture the nerve-rackingly narrow prospect from the tee, the demanding second shot and the severely sloping back-to-front green as if I played it only yesterday. How could Killiecrankie, a hole named after a long, narrow and historically significant pass in the Scottish Highlands, be anything but a killer?”

Welcome to the toughest hole at DCC, I cannot think of a more apt name for our stroke one.



HOLE SIX – “MAK SICAAR”

This may be translated to “MAKE SURE” and is found as Hole 2 of the Ailsa Turnberry course.

This hole is named "Make Sure" for a reason: poor shots will be punished with trouble lurking in almost every direction. Similarly an errant tee shot on six make a supposedly simple hole a lot more taxing, so make sure off the tee.



HOLE SEVEN - “FOXY” - Hole 14 at Royal Dornach

440 yards par 4

A tough hole Famous for its upturned saucer green which is reminiscent of many of the greens at Durban country club.

One of the most difficult greens to hit and to hold.



HOLE EIGHT – “ALPS” - Hole 17 at Prestwick golf club

Par 4 - 394 yards

When the National Golf Links was first conceived, all the leading golfers of Great Britain were asked to name the best holes in the world. They were almost unanimous in choosing the Alps at Prestwick as the best two-shot hole, just as most of them selected the Eden hole at St. Andrews as the best short hole.

The second shot at the Alps is blind from every point of view. Not only is the putting green invisible, but the very difficult cross bunker in front of the green is equally hidden from view. Perhaps that is why the hole is so fascinating. When the player hits his second shot across the summit of the saddle back hill called the Alps he is completely in doubt about the result. His ball may be on the green close to the hole, or it may have fallen just short of the green.

With the elevation of the green on the eighth hole, the steep dunes and the blindness of your approach shot I cannot think of a more appropriate name for this hole.



HOLE NINE - “END” Old Course, St Andrews/Service station DCC

Par 4 - 347 yards

No. 9 is named "End," and with the End Hole we've reached the end of the outward nine at The Old Course as we do at DCC.

The ninth is a par-4, pretty straightforward, and many pros - give the right wind - will try to drive the green. (This green, by the way, is one of only a handful on the links that is not a shared, double green. The ninth green is the End Hole's alone.)

This is also where the refreshment cart is parked for the hungry golfer, at DCC we can pop into the service station.



HOLE TEN - "LANG WHANG" - Hole 17 of the AILSA TURNBERRY LINKS

Par 5 - 558 Yards

A "Long Whack" is required to reach the fairway over the mounds, but be wary of the bunker on the right, as the contours of the fairway will gather shots towards it. The challenge of this hole doesn't end there.

A fitting name and description of the longest hole on the course at DCC.

Enjoy playing it off the tips today.



HOLE ELEVEN - “LUCKY SLAP” - Hole 15 of the Carnoustie Links

459 Yards – Par 4

As hard a par 4 as can be found anywhere in golf, this hole requires a long and accurate drive and then a powerful approach to the very well protected green. Into the wind the majority of golfers will not be able to get home in 2 and if a lay up is required it must be kept well away from the bunkers some 25 yards short of the green as getting out of these in one stroke is extremely difficult.

Caddie’s Tip

“Most exacting par four on the course”.

The comparisons with our 11th are pretty self evident.



HOLE TWELVE - "POSTAGE STAMP"

Par 3 - 123 yards

The 8th hole of the old course at Royal Troon.

Originally called "Ailsa" because there is a perfect view of the rocky islet of that name, from the tee. The smallness of the putting surface accounted for the current name when Willie Park writing in "Golf Illustrated" said, " A pitching surface skimmed down to the size of a Postage Stamp".

Much has been written about the famous eighth hole at Royal Troon, aptly named the "Postage Stamp".

There is no safe way to play this hole, the ball must find the green with the tee-shot. Many top players have come to grief at this the shortest hole in Open Championship golf.

Much like our Prince of Wales there is a premium on hitting the green, failure to do so can lead to big numbers very quickly.

Today we play the Prince of Wales as the Postage stamp at only 123 yards, simple enough but beware the pin placement.



View from the tee

HOLE THIRTEEN - "RISK-AN-HOPE"

Par 4 - 449 Yards

The 14th at the Ailsa Turnberry

The daunting name of this par 4 is well deserved.

Played off a forward tee this will give the longer hitter a chance to go for the green, risk and reward... hopefully!!!



HOLE FOURTEEN – “SOUTHWARD HO” - 12TH hole at Carnoustie

Par 4 - 479 yard par 4 or 5; 479 Yards – Par 5 – Stroke Index 9

Played as a par 5 from the back tees and a par 4 from the other tees, this hole again challenges the player with an intimidating drive, whins and gorse must be carried and there are ditches on both the right and left hand sides. Two massive fairway bunkers on the right hand side eat into the heart of the fairway and will catch any shot that cuts slightly to the right. The furthest north point at our golf course and it forever southwards back to home.



HOLE FIFTEEN - “REDAN”

190 yards – par 3

Redan holes are not at all uncommon in golf course architecture. In fact, many architecture aficionados would say that the Redan is the most-copied type of hole on golf courses around the world.

So, what is a redan hole? Well, there are redans, and there's THE Redan. *The Redan* is the original such hole; the 15th at the west links of North Berwick all others are imitators of that original. The imitation might be close to an exact copy, or simply be a hole designed with the same broad strokes.

Redan holes earn their reputations as "fortresses" by presenting a very stern test to the golfer. It's simply an extremely tough shot to keep the ball on the putting surface of a redan hole.

The fifteenth has for some time been the hardest par 3 to keep the ball on the green at DCC



HOLE SIXTEEN – “THE ROAD HOLE” - Hole 17 of the Old Course AT St Andrews

Par 4 - 455 yards

The Road Hole - is one of the best-known holes in golf. One reason is the fact that the road - visible on the extreme right of the photo above - is in play. A ball that bounds across the road might come to rest close to or up against the stone wall.

The green is very shallow, and the dangerous Road Bunker (a k a, Road Hole bunker) gobbles up poorly placed approaches. That bunker is sometimes also called "the Sands of Nakajima," after Japanese golfer Tommy Nakajima. Nakajima was in contention at the 1978 British Open until he hit into the Road bunker and needed four swings to get out of it.

The Road Hole is tough from start to finish. That start is a blind drive over the corner (and outbuildings) of the adjoining hotel property, with the best line keeping the ball close to the OB wall.



HOLE SEVENTEEN - “HIMALAYAS” - Prestwick Golf Club - Hole 5

Par 3 - 206 yards

A very long and difficult par 3

The hole is completely obscured by the ‘Himalayas’ in front of you. The daunting dunes reminds me of the dunes of our 17th, hence the name.



EIGHTEENTH HOLE - “TOM MORRIS” The eighteenth hole of the Old Course at St Andrews

Par 4 - 361 yards

It would be inappropriate not to pay homage to the most iconic walk in golf, beautiful and awe inspiring.

The home hole on The Old Course is straightforward - a huge fairway and a huge green. The sheer size of the green can cause problems, however, with many putts of unusual lengths possible. The hole starts with a drive over the Swilcan Burn, which the player crosses via the old stone Swilcan Bridge. With lots of roll, the hole is drivable - and has been for longer pros going back many years.

There are no bunkers on the 18th hole, but the fairway is crossed by a road - Granny Clark's Wynd - that is in use and in play. And in front of the green is the deeply undulating swale known as the Valley of Sin.

We underestimate the beauty of our last hole in particular with two iconic buildings in the distance.

