

Due to course maintenance at South Kyme, the October medals were put back to enable the course to recover before we put our handicaps on the line. Unfortunately the Sunday medal coincided with a Mixed Section away weekend and most of the ladies who would compete for the medal were on the away weekend; no-one else went out on the day. Due to other Club commitments and competitions, there wasn't time, or room, to reschedule the medal and so it was not played.

The October Tuesday medal went ahead as planned and Sue Annibal returned an excellent nett 70. As this was the only medal contested in October, the Order of Merit points were awarded on this single result with Sue taking maximum points.

For the first time, Penny Gilbert achieved Order of Merit points by coming 5th, a really encouraging result.

October is also the month when the ladies and Seniors team up to play a Texas Scramble. For the first time since I joined the Club several years ago, the number of ladies who signed up to play outnumbered the men – nine ladies and seven men combined to make up four foursballs. The scores across the Scramble were very close but, with a nett score of 62.1, the winning team was made up of Heather Dopierala, Shirley Westlake, Pete Zammit and Graeme Campbell.

The annual Halloween Fancy Dress competition was held on the 29th October and, once again, we were blessed with the weather. As always, there were some very inventive costumes and some very talented pumpkin carving. Taking the prize for the Best Pumpkin, Joan and Alan Cowie, who came as a witch and cat. The winners of the golf Stableford were Myra and David Le Sage who carded an excellent 43 points. (Can't remember who won the quiz!)

The Tuesday November medal was the next fixture in the calendar and this was won by Sue Annibal with a nett 73. The weather on the day of the Sunday medal was very wet but the course was open and play went ahead. Five ladies braved the elements but, although the course remained open, the rain became heavier and all the players decided to abandon the game and get dry. As with October, only one medal was completed and so the Order of Merit points were awarded in respect of this result. Penny was ecstatic, coming second and gaining more OOM points.

The Bring and Win competition was scheduled to be played on Sunday 27th November but a combination of it clashing with a Winter League fixture and only two ladies signing up for it, saw the competition rescheduled for Tuesday 29th November. The dreaded lurgy did for some and injury did for others but still, ten ladies took part. Due to winter greens being in use, the comp was changed to a non-qualifier, much to the delight of all present. Notwithstanding the bitterly cold day, there were plenty of good scores being carded, the top four all being decided on countback. However, with 30 points, the winner was Myra Le Sage.

The December medals were weather interrupted as fog caused the Tuesday medal to be abandoned and, due to other competitions held this month, there was no time to rearrange it. Thus, the only medal contested was the Sunday medal on the 4th December with six ladies taking part. The cold and rain took its toll with only three ladies completing the round and coming home seven shots clear of the nearest competitor, Joan Cowie deservedly took the honours with a nett 73, as well as maximum points on the Order of Merit.

The 9-hole competition and Christmas lunch were held on the 10th December on a very balmy day. Eight ladies took part in the Stableford with thirteen signing up for the lunch. Continuing her winning ways, Myra carded the best score with fifteen points with Sue Annibal a close second with 14 points.

A couple of weeks later (20th December) we held the 9-hole fun competition to be followed by mulled wine, sausage rolls and mince pies. Injury and illness reduced the numbers taking part but ten ladies played the Stableford on a crisp and bright day. The results were very close with the winner being decided on countback. Carding fifteen points, the winner was Helen Kirschner who got first dibs in the bag for her useless present. That wrapped up (no pun intended) all the competitions for 2016.

The end of the year also saw the presentation of the EGU award for the player who returned the best four nett scores against the course Standard Scratch throughout the year from January to December. With nett scores of +5, zero, -1 and +2 (an overall +6), the winner of the EGU Memento was Sue Annibal. These scores will be sent to England Golf and should Sue's scores be in the top 120 players for the Midlands North Region she will be eligible to compete in the Regional Finals later in the year. Good luck, Sue.

And so into the New Year. Heavy rain on the 2nd January saw the need to use temporary greens for the medal held on the 3rd and therefore, the competition became a non-qualifier. Nonetheless, eight ladies braved the cold, including Sue Roberts back from injury and rating to go (marching band and bunting much in evidence, joy throughout the land!!!). The result was very close with the top four scores being decided on countback. Coming home with a nett 74, honours went to Sue Annibal.

No such trouble for the Sunday medal which was held on the 8th in very mild conditions. Again, eight ladies took part and some excellent scores were posted. Playing to nett par, the winner carding a fabulous 72 was Jane Coleman. As this was the only qualifier, all the Order of Merit points were awarded from this medal.

The draw for the first round of the Daily Mail Foursomes was done on the 1st February and South Kyme have been drawn to play Woodhall Spa at home and the match must be played by Sunday 19th March 17. Our qualifying competition to determine which two ladies will represent us will be played on the 18th February.

Contrary to the weather forecast, the February Sunday medal was played in dank, mizzleley conditions for most of the front nine. Good scores were difficult to come by but the cold and lack of run on the ball didn't seem to bother Jenny Atherton, who carded the winning score of nett 75, just pipping Jane Barlow by a shot.