

Captain's Quarterly Newsletter - January 2026

Firstly, A Happy new year to all! I hope this message finds you well and you are enjoying your winter golf.

As we move through to January, I'd like to take this opportunity to update you on recent club activity and highlight what's coming up.

A warm welcome to any new members who have joined in recent months, if any new member wishes to contact me about sweeps, team golf or an introduction to the club please feel free to reach out – contact details at the end of this newsletter.

Dates for your diary:

Captains Drive In – Sunday 29th March 2026

Captains Day - Sunday 19th July 2026 (Open Championship and World Cup Final Day). I'm planning some evening entertainment so please pencil this date in with your spouse's/partners, they are all welcome too.

Mags v Mackem's Ryder Cup – Saturday 5th September 2026

Captains Drive-Out - Sunday 18th October 2026

I encourage you all to get involved in these events whether in a playing or volunteering capacity, either would be greatly appreciated.

Ready Golf

Over the past couple months, it has been great to see strong participation across winter leagues and social golf. My thanks go to the green staff for continuing to get us out there on the course, whatever the weather. The standard of the course is still so high.

As the new season beckons, I encourage everyone to use the ready golf model, where it is safe to do so. Play when ready.

SMGC Men's Team

NDUGC have announced our 2nd division league fixtures for 2026 League fixtures:

5th May - Chester Le Street (A)

12th May - Boldon (H)

19th May – Heworth (H)

26th May – City of Newcastle (A)

2nd June – Crook (A)

9th June – Wearside (H)

16th June – Houghton (A)

23rd June – Chester Le Street (H)

30th June – Boldon (A)

7th July – Heworth (A)

14th July – City of Newcastle (H)

21st July – Crook (H)

28th July – Wearside (A)

4th August – Houghton (H)

A massive thanks to long-standing member, team player and our club champion Paul Davison for agreeing to support the men's team again this year by kitting us out for the campaign. We will wear the Ventilation Supplies branding proudly again this year, see more about Pauls company at www.ventilation-supplies.co.uk.

Watch out for the boys on the course if you are out and about, we would love to see as many supporters as possible on Tuesday nights, in particular our home games as we make a push to return to division 1.

Other Competitions:

Daily Mail Foursomes – Registered before 31st January deadline awaiting competitor confirmation and draw announcement

Inter-County Foursomes – Entry Confirmed. Awaiting draw.

Mixed Foursomes – Entry Confirmed. To take place in September 2026.

League Knock-Out – Draw will take place at the Captains and Vice Captains forum on 18th March 2026

Clark Cup – Entry confirmed – Awaiting draw.

Club Team Handicap Competition - Hosted by Heworth GC on Saturday 30th

May 5-Man Team Championship – Hosted by South Shields on Sunday 17th June

Fund Raising:

Fourball Vouchers: I have received some fantastic 4balls for some great clubs across the country. I will post these when I have a more complete list as I'm still awaiting replies from a few clubs. I will aim for the beginning of March for this.

In addition, many of you will know South Moor Golf Club is a member of the Alister MacKenzie Society and like me many members take pride in this heritage. Following on from captain Pauls lead last year, I will write to fellow Captains across the society to offer the chance of reciprocal 4 ball vouchers to enable our respective members a chance of playing other MacKenzie courses.

Captains Bunkers: these are in Play - £1 penalty, £2 if you stay in!! pay either via the QR code link (make sure you remove the Just Giving contribution) or via the collection box in the bar.

I've launched a just giving page below where I will be keeping the funds for this year's charity, which I have chosen as University Hospital North Durham Neonatal intensive care unit. If you would like to donate or my story, please follow the link below:

www.justgiving.com/page/captainleesmgc

Thank you once again for your support and for contributing to the friendly and welcoming culture of our club. I look forward to seeing you around the clubhouse and on the course.

If you have any questions or need me for anything, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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