

Staffordshire Union of Golf Clubs (SUGC)

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England Golf

Updates

England Golf's IMP Project (Increasing membership and participation) has started its second year. Funded by England Golf this project has been supported by a large proportion of Staffordshire affiliated golf clubs. Many clubs have joined in the **Golf Express** revolution aimed at 9 hole green fees and after work roll-ups, generating welcome revenue for golf clubs and in some cases new members. Business guru Karl Morris has visited several golf clubs and been able to advise on creating business plans to help the clubs plan for the future. Many clubs have attended the workshops that have been offered, in particular the workshops on marketing have proved very popular. Gareth Shaw the County Development Officer is available for those Staffordshire affiliated golf club not currently involved in IMP who wish to find out more about what is available to help them. Contact Gareth on g.shaw@englandgolf.org

Real-Time affiliation fee collection will begin in November 2016. Traditionally SUGC ask all affiliated golf clubs to submit their membership numbers on the 1st November each year. This will change to asking each club to submit their membership numbers two months after their subscription year starts. So if your club subscription year starts 1st April, 2017 the club will submit membership numbers on 1st June, 2017. SUGC will write to all clubs in a few months with full details of the new system.

Club Golfer Qualifying Rounds at Aston Wood GC, Swindon GC and Greenway Hall GC are filling up fast, so don't delay if you wish to enter.

County Championship entries are coming in for the Boys Championships at Sandwell Park GC on 31st May, which this year will also include

GOLF EXPRESS 
LAUNCH EVENTS

Kick-Start the Golfing Season
with *time for 9* at the following clubs:

- Friday 1st April - Trentham Park Golf Club
- Monday 4th April - Barlaston Golf Club
- Tuesday 5th April - The Chase Golf, Health and Spa
- Wednesday 6th April - Stone Golf Club
- Thursday 7th April - Uttoxeter Golf Club

9 Hole Competition
5:30pm 1st Tee Time

 **FREE** to Members at each club
Guests - £9.00

Bookings: g.shaw@englandgolf.org -or- at your golf club

qualification for The Telegraph Junior Golf Championship (see below)). The final of this event is in Portugal.



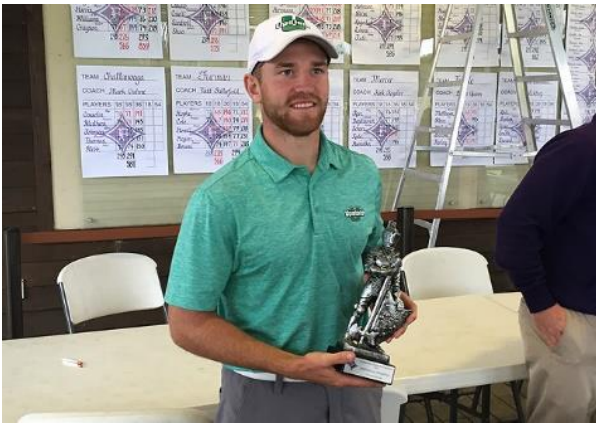
Staffs Amateur Championships at Ingestre Park GC on 4th June. Don't delay your entries as there are only 60 places in the event. The top 16 gross scores in both the boys and the mens Championships qualify for a free entry into their respective matchplay championships. Entry forms are available on www.staffsgolf.co.uk including on-line entries.

News

SUGC are launching a **new championship for junior boys** on the 4th August, 2016. This is the Staffordshire Short Course Championships, which will be played on Lichfield G & CC Par 3 course. The event will be open to any boy aged under 18 on the 1st January, 2016 who is a member of an affiliated Staffordshire golf club with an active CONGU handicap. Entry forms and conditions on entry are on www.staffsgolf.co.uk, Click on SUGC, Click on CHAMPIONSHIPS.



Robert Burlison (Enville GC) pictured far left finished 2nd in the U21 Bernard Darwin Salver held at Rye GC with a score of 285 (75,68,73,69).



Pictured left Ryan Cornfield (Enville GC) winner of the USA College tournament the Firman Intercollegiate with a 54 hole score of 203 -13 (70,64,69).



Pictured left Daniel Sutton (Walsall GC) who studies at Idaho University in USA who was recently voted the Big Sky Men's golfer of the week for a recent performance in the Desert Shootout College tournament in USA.



Hannah Golding (Brocton Hall GC) was recently awarded the Stafford Borough Most Improved Sports Performer of the Year Award at the Annual Awards for 2015.



Lord Stafford Charity Golf Day 24th June at South Staffs GC. Entry

forms on www.staffsgolf.co.uk

Interested in helping the course rating teams that have to undertake SS rating of all Staffs golf courses over the next few years in preparation for the new worldwide handicap system? Then get in touch with the editor for further information.

Dates for the diary

- 31st March/1st April Staffs Boys Four Counties Tournament at Broadway GC
- 3rd April Staffs Boys v Girls Annual match at Trentham GC
- 3rd April Staffs 1st Team v Leicestershire & Rutland at Great Barr GC
- 3rd April Staffs 2nd Team v Leicestershire & Rutland at Lutterworth GC
- 4th April Staffs U14 Boys v Derbyshire at Chevin GC
- 6th April Staffs Schools Boys and Girls Golf Trial at Trentham Park GC
- 17th April Staffs Men's Golf Trial at South Staffs GC
- 1st May Staffs Boys v North Wales Boys at Newcastle GC
- 7th May Whittington Trophy at Whittington Heath GC
- 8th May Staffs 1st team v Shropshire & Hereford at Enville GC
- 8th May Staffs 2nd team v Shropshire & Hereford at Telford GC
- 9th May Staffs Seniors v Derbyshire Seniors at South Staffs GC
- 11th May Staffs Membership Scheme Autumn Meeting at South Staffs GC
- 14th May Staffs Boys v Shropshire & Hereford at Wolstanton GC
- 16th May Staffs Seniors Loader Trophy at Whittington Heath GC
- 22nd May Trentham Punch Bowl at Trentham GC
- 22nd May Staffs U16 Boys v Warwickshire U16 Boys at Trentham GC
- 28th May Beau Desert Stag at Beau Desert GC
- 31st May Staffs Boys Championship at Sandwell Park GC
- 1st/2nd June Boys Midland 6 Qualifier at Kidderminster GC
- 3rd June Midland Schools Championship at Trentham Park GC
- 3rd June Staffs Amateur Pre-Qualifier at Ingestre Park GC
- 4th June Staffs Amateur Championship at Ingestre Park GC

For further details and entry forms see www.staffsgolf.co.uk

Club Features

The Mark Butler Golf Academy



The Mark Butler Golf Academy was formerly the Sedgeley Golf Centre and is close to Dudley on the edge of Staffordshire. The complex comprises of an excellent Nine hole golf course, shop, café and Driving range facilities. PGA Professionals Mark Butler and Adam Robinson have between them many years experience coaching and currently offer coaching to a wide range of people from juniors upwards. Many different coaching classes are available, from beginners, schools, ladies or maybe you just want to improve your current ability, there is something for all. Mark specialises in working with

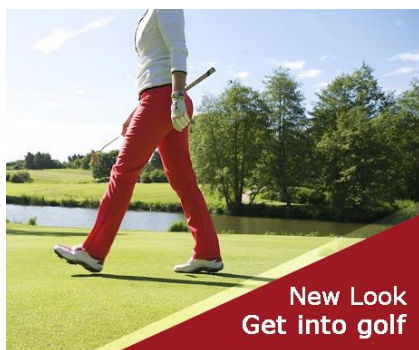
blind and disabled people such as the Halas Homes group picture right.



Mark also works closely with the Beacon Centre for the blind and is supported by England Golf on many worthwhile initiatives. One of these is the *The BeaconButler Challenge Cup 2016* to be held on Saturday 24th September 2016 and ties nicely into The Ryder Cup. ‘Europe’ and ‘America’ teams will be represented by visually impaired players, disabled players and sighted volunteer caddies selected from MBGA (Europe) and supporting clubs in Worcester & Hereford (America). The challenge cup will take place at MBGA followed by a Presentation evening at Beacon Centre for the Blind, Wolverhampton Road East, Wolverhampton. WV4 6AZ. **Want to be involved? The event needs sponsorship. Can you help or do you know anyone who would support this worthwhile cause? If so, please contact Annamarie Balram at the Beacon Centre on: abalram@beaconvision.org**

Soccergolf is a relatively new sport, this is where all you need is a football and is played like golf, but with no clubs, well worth a try. In the last twelve months Golf Express has been introduced here, this initiative by England Golf is about a quick round of golf, full details are on the clubs website. For more information on The Mark Butler Golf Academy see www.themarkbutlergolfacademy.co.uk

England Golf www.Englandgolf.org



Get into Golf centre’s continue to increase in number. These are facilities that run regular beginners golf classes. For more details see the England Golf website.

All 2016 England Golf Championship event entry details are on the website, but fill up fast, so don’t delay your entries. There is something for all abilities.

Several Business Growth Forums recently organised by England Golf were attended by 1500 people from 600 golf clubs. General reports indicate that the clubs that attended found the very useful. Now, all clubs have the opportunity to attend demand-led practical workshops, which are being organised over the next few months. These will cover topics highlighted by clubs during the forums, including marketing, customer service, revenue generation, recruitment and retention of members.

These workshops will be open to all clubs, not only those which attended the forums, but places will be limited. More information is available on the **Training and Education** page of the England Golf website or by visiting the **Golf Education Calendar**.

www.Englandgolf.org




DRAYTON PARK GOLF CLUB
SPEEDGOLF IS COMING



MIDLANDS GOLFERS
COME AND TRY SPEEDGOLF
THURSDAY 5 MAY 2016
TEE TIMES 4.30 PM – 7.00 PM
Places limited so book **NOW**

Golf but **FASTER!**
SPEEDGOLF SCORE = STROKES + TIME



<http://buytickets.at/britishspeedgolf>

Fancy a different format of golf?

REMINDER

Don't leave your entry to the following too late, closing dates for entry are in May, 2016

4th June Staffs Amateur Championships (max 60 places)

31st May Staffs Boys Championships (max 60 places)

6/7/14th June Club Golfer Qualifiers (max 84 places per qualifier)

For entry forms or on-line entry see:

www.staffsgolf.co.uk

