



PRIORS HALL GOLF COURSE

# NEWSLETTER

October 2024



## Welcome.

Welcome to the latest update from Priors Hall Golf Course. We can't believe the season is almost at its end as we wave good bye to a very busy summer. Here we will recap on what has been going on since our last newsletter in April and look at what will be happening this winter.

We also have exciting news so make sure you read on to the end for an announcement we know you are going to love!

Our newsletter is published twice a year; in the spring and autumn so if you have any feedback on the content or anything you would specifically like to see, please do let us know.

Enjoy - Priors Hall Golf Course



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Priors Hall Golf Course



PriorsHallGC



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# Summer Recap...

## THE COURSE.

We have had an exceptionally busy Summer here at Priors Hall Golf Course, with higher-than average footfall. The Green Keepers have been working hard to keep on top of the routine maintenance of the course. The tees and surrounds have been cut twice per week and the greens have been cut every day. The fairways have been cut weekly as the conditions are good. They have also had an ongoing battle with Leather Jacks, but more on that later...

The bunkers on 7th ,8th and 10th holes that were renovated last winter were in play from May. All other greenside bunkers have been topped up with additional 60 tons of new bunker sand to bring them in line with the new ones. Your support in maintaining the condition of them is appreciated by raking after entry and exit.

As mentioned, we have had a struggle with Leather Jacks on the greens, especially on greens 4, 5,6,12 and 18. Due to a very wet winter and a mild summer our greens have been the perfect home for these pests. Due to a change in law, chemicals can no longer be used during the summer months to remove them and so they have been eating the green from within in the soil which leaves depressions and holes in the greens. With moisture they make their way to the top of the green surfaces, then the crows and badgers damage the greens as they dig them out for food. The greenkeepers try to keep on top of replacing these with topdressing, additional to this the greens have been aerated monthly and verticut which helps with thatch levels to improve airflow to relieve compaction. Spraying began at the end of September which will hopefully reduce the problem. To help limit the damage on the greens, the Green Keepers have added an additional 300-400kg's of seed and 60 tones of top dressing to help level them out. This is on top of the usual amount for standard maintenance.

The Greenkeepers have worked extremely hard to keep the course in the best possible condition and you will see feedback on the course throughout.

**Upcoming Winter Plans.**  
Through this winter, the Green Keepers will be renovating more bunkers and tee boxes – we will keep you posted when we know more. Vertic draining will begin on all fairways in October. The leaves around the course will be removed soon, however we recommend playing with a yellow ball as this will be easier to find.



## VOLUNTEERS

As ever we would like to thank our amazing volunteers, Jammy, Malcolm, and Ann who work hard in maintaining and improving the golf course. Ann has done a fantastic job at maintaining the garden area around the putting green, and the flower beds in front of the club house. This summer Jammy and Malcolm planted more trees on the left-hand side of 2nd fairway as well as clearing the driveway up to the car park. More tree works will be taking place over the next few years to improve light and winds around the course to help improve the drainage.



# Summer Recap...

## PRIORS HALL GOLF

As already mentioned we have had a very busy summer! We made some positive changes to the tee sheet before the summer which saw us gain more tee times throughout our peak times.

We opened up the tee's from 7am weekdays and 6am at the weekends. We hope you have taken advantage of these and we are pleased to say when the sunrise dictates this will be a permanent change.

Sundays have had the tee time interval reduced to 7 minutes. This created more tee times at our peak time and after staff and members observations, filled the tee at times it was appearing empty. We have listened to feedback from members and staff and will be reducing the number of societies playing on Sunday mornings before 12noon in 2025.



### CLUB HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

Ongoing work to modernise the club house has continued and this summer has seen the refurbishment of the upstairs ladies toilets. We have installed new panelling, painted the whole room and a new floor which has already transformed the space. We will be wrapping the cubical doors and adding some golf related art work.

The mens toilets has had the panelling installed and next up will be painting and a new floor as well. We thank you for your paitence while this work is being completed.

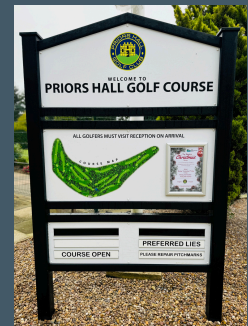
### COURSE MARSHALL.

This summer we introduced a Course Marshall. This was due to the user survey results, staff observations and conversations with golfers.

The Marshall was present on the 1st Tee to ensure everyone was playing to their tee time, had paid a relevant green fee and upon direction from the course marshall assisted in holding golfers back to reduce slow play.

The Course Marshall was there to check everyone was ok on the course, and assist in times of slow play and be readily available for any emergency's on the course.

We have listened to feedback and will be making some changes to this role for 2025 which we will share in the next newsletter.



### WELCOME BOARD.

We have installed a welcome board next to the flag pole at the entrance to the club house. This will have all the information relevant to the course on that day.

**CLUB HOUSE WINTER OPENING TIMES**

WEEKDAYS

OCTOBER: 0700-1700

NOVEMBER: 0700-1700

DECEMBER: 0700-1700

JANUARY- 0700-1700

FEBRUARY- 0700-1700

MARCH- 0700-1700

APRIL- 0700-1800

WEEKENDS

0700\*-1500

\*PLEASE NOTE OPENING TIMES WILL FOLLOW THE HOURS OF DAYLIGHT. PLEASE REFER TO BRS



### THE HAWTREE at Priors Hall Golf Course UNLIMITED BREAKFAST

Every Sunday 8am - 12noon

- Sausages
- Bacon
- Hash Browns
- Beans
- Eggs
- Toast

Unlimited tea and coffee  
£9.50 per person

## Catering...

TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT IS ON OFFER AT THE HAWTREE BAR & RESTAURANT...

### CHRISTMAS LUNCHES.

We are looking forward to hosting our Christmas Lunches again, choose from our updated menu and let Christmas begin with your fellow golfers! Bookings are now open so speak to a member of the team today!

\*please note season ticket discount is not applicable to Christmas Dinners\*

**The Hawtree Christmas Dinners**

Join us with family, friends or colleagues and enjoy a delicious Christmas lunch!

**Served**  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12-4pm  
Monday 2nd December - Friday 13th December

2 Courses £22      3 Courses £27

\*Pre booking required with £10pp deposit. Call 01603 260756 to book.

**The Hawtree Christmas Dinners Menu**

**Starter**  
Traditional Prawn Cocktail  
Brussels Pate  
Breaded Garlic Mushrooms

**Main Course**  
Traditional Roast Turkey  
Butternut Wellington

**Dessert**  
Christmas Pudding Loaf  
Sticky Toffee Pudding  
Chocolate Orange Tart  
Vanilla Cheesecake



SEASONAL AFTERNOON TEA  
£11 PER PERSON  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
12NOON - 4PM

**THE HAWTREE WINTER OPENING TIMES**

MONDAY: 0800-1600  
TUESDAY: 0800-1600  
WEDNESDAY: 0800-1700  
THURSDAY: 0800-1600  
FRIDAY: 0800-1700  
SATURDAY: 0900-1700  
SUNDAY: 0700-1700



### DRAGHT BEERS AND ALES.

We will shortly be introducing 2 new largers in the bar! Cruzcampo and Heineken 0.0 will be available on draught. We will be removing John Smiths from the draught pumps however other ales will be available in bottles.

Don't forget: Season Ticket holders now get 10% off drinks AND food in the bar and restaurant!

**HALLOWEEN PARTY**

non-stop Kids entertainment

WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER  
2-4 PM  
£10 PER CHILD  
BOOKINGS ONLY



# What's Happening...

## GOLF SHOP .

There's no such thing as bad weather; just bad clothing! So make sure you're dressed appropriately and stock up on essential items from our golf shop. We have everything you need from water proof clothing, woolly hats and winter golf clubs. We also stock winter wheels for your trolley's as well as umbrella holders for them rainy days!



We now stock the MOTOCADDY SE Ultra Lithium trolley. Featuring:

- Ultra 36 hole lithium battery
- USB charging point included
- High spec rubber wheels
- Digital display screen
- Easy fold down mechanism
- 1 year frame warranty
- 3 year battery warranty

£499



We have the NEW MOTOCADDY dry series trolley bag! Super-lightweight and waterproof, the new Dry-Series bag combines spacious pockets, an external umbrella sleeve, and the best zips on the market for smooth, snag free opening.

Get yours now for only £269.00!



# SALE SALE SALE SALE

We have a a small selection of sale items from Ping & Puma but once it's gone it's gone!

We will be putting a selection of golf balls on sale in the next few weeks so make sure to stock up and get them before they sell out.



Complimentary Club Regripping. Don't forget we can regrip your clubs for FREE when you purchase your grips from our shop! Simply pick from our wide selection of grips and we will fit them for you.

Please be aware the grips take 24 hours to set so please take this into consideration.

# Events...

WHATS BEEN GOING ON...



## MACMILLAN LONGEST DAY GOLF CHALLENGE.

July saw Greenkeeper Danny and three friends complete the Macmillan Longest Day Golf Challenge. The aim of this is complete 72 holes in one day to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. The lads set off around 5am and completed their 4 round by 7pm! They raised £893.75 for Macmillan which more than covers 2 Macmillan grants giving financial help when needed the most.

If you would like to give the challenge a go, please get in touch as we have limited availability.



## EASTER PARTY.

Good Friday we hosted our third, and arguably best Easter Party. We welcomed over 35 children and their families to experience entertainment provided by NON STOP KIDS, as well as our usual Easter egg hunt! Make sure you save the date for next year!



## CHAIRITY DAYS

In May we welcomed Northamptonshire Health Charity and in September we welcomed LAKELANDS Hospice who held charity fundraising golf days. Both days were a huge success raising vital funds for two very worthwhile local charities.



## SOCIETIES.

This year we have welcomed over 80 societies from April and many have already booked again for next year. If you are part of a society and want to book we suggest you do as early as possible so you don't miss out! Speak to a member of the team today.



# Adverse/Extreme Weather

## THIS REPLACES WINTER RESTRICTIONS

In periods of inclement weather, the Green Keepers will complete a daily course inspection in the afternoon and decide if any restrictions are required the following day. This will then be communicated to our season ticket holders, via BRS. There will also be a message on the tee sheet. The board by the flag pole will also be updated with any course restrictions please ensure you familiarise yourself with this. However, this is still subject to change at any time if required. This isn't just the playing surfaces but the area between holes too.

### BUGGYS.

We will endeavor to keep buggy's on the course as long as the course condition permits. The course will be assessed on a day by day, hole by hole basis so we can make the best decision for the safety of our golfers. Any restrictions will be inclusive of personal ride on's.

### WINTER MATS.

As we progress through winter we will be opening the winter mats, again as this happens we will communicate this to you. We will close the yellow and white tee's to avoid any damage to them and allow maintenance work through the winter months.

### TROLLEYS.

We ask that you use winter wheels on your push and electric trolleys to prevent damage to the course once the wet weather arrives. These wheels provide much better surface contact, allowing them to grip onto slippery surfaces and reducing tire marks on fairways more than standard or normal flat-wheeled trolleys would. If you are able to carry your clubs we encourage you to do so. We have put together a guide for the clubs you will need to be equipped with to avoid carrying a full set.

- Driver
- Putter
- 3 Iron
- 5 Iron
- 7 Iron
- 9 Iron
- Sand Wedge
- Pitching Wedge

All restrictions that are put in place throughout periods of adverse and extreme weather are there for the safety of our golfers and to protect the course throughout the cold and wet months so your understanding and compliance is greatly appreciated.



# Adverse/Extreme Weather Restrictions

A REMINDER OF RESTRICTIONS.

OPEN/CLOSED	No of holes	Restrictions
OPEN	1-18	Buggy's Permitted on Allocated Holes. Trolley's Permitted .
OPEN	1-18	No Buggy's. Trolley's Allowed (with Winter wheels) Carrying Preferred.
OPEN	1-18	No Buggy's/Trolley's. Carry Clubs.
OPEN	1-11	Buggy's on Allocated Holes. Trolley's Allowed. (with Winter Wheels) Carrying Preferred.
OPEN	1-11	No Buggy's. Carry Clubs.
COURSE CLOSED		No Golfers Permitted on the Course. Club House remains Open.
COURSE REOPEN		Subject to Applicable Restrictions

ALL THE TEAM AT PRIORS HALL GOLF COURSE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT