

# August Newsletter

## Junior Section

Despite the challenges imposed by COVID restrictions, the Junior section at Allendale Golf Club has remained almost fully operational.

It was impossible to offer the usual, early season taster sessions for pupils from Allendale Primary School or hold the regular, follow up workshops. However, once golf was playable, coaching for Junior members was immediately arranged. With Martin Forster unavailable to coach this season, the Club has been fortunate in acquiring the coaching services of Philip Waugh, the Professional at Brampton and Haltwhistle. Once again, we are able to offer these sessions free of charge thanks to a grant awarded by *Golf roots*.

At the same time, with thanks to the support of parents and family members who have been available to accompany the players on the course, junior competitions were organised to be played under slightly modified circumstances.

The Blue Tee competitions have been well attended and they have seen an encouraging range of winners - Luke Bloomer, James Martin-Dobson and Jack Thomson. Tom Clarke and his father Dan were the winners of the Russell Handcock Greensomes played off the adult tees.



Most recently, on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>, another social but always competitive Super 6s tournament was held with juniors partnering an adult family member in a foursomes format. James Martin-Dobson and his cousin Elis Martin-Jones won (and also the who's got the longest names comp.). Unfortunately, though, Government intervention meant there were no cream teas – let's hope it will back to normal next year!

We have also seen this season, Daniel Twizell emerging to play alongside Jake Reed in the Club's adult competitions with such remarkable success that his official CONGU handicap has already dropped from 27.6 to 17.5.

Inevitably, however, there have been some competition 'casualties', particularly among our regular Open events. The annual MKM Junior Open was cancelled as was the Northern Golf Tour. Daniel Twizell, Luke and Tom Bloomer, and James Martin-Dobson, who were to have played on the Golf Tour, have had their entries transferred to next year. Clearly, Allendale also missed out on its planned role as a Tour venue this year but we are pleased to say that we are already scheduled as a venue in next year's programme.

There are now only 3 more Junior competitions remaining before the end of the season:

- the Midsummer Greensomes (postponed from June)!
- the Junior Championships – off the red and blue tees; and
- the September Medal.

And, two more coaching sessions with Philip, on Tuesdays the 26<sup>th</sup> and September 1st, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Look forward to seeing you all out on the course.

*Valeria*