



1955 - 2009

Society of Manchester & District Golf Captains

President :

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Dear Member,

Society 2009 Handbook

I trust that you all enjoyed a relaxing Christmas holiday and those intrepid idiots amongst us were able to avoid "frostbite" and could adequately control their "balls" on our frozen fairways. I am sure that like me, you found that bunker play and the high pitch shots to the green particularly brought new dimensions and interest to the game. If you decided to stay indoors you were probably wise. I have previously made reference to our past Season, so I will not bore you with further repetition here; now we are in 2009 with no current signs of "Global Warming", perhaps we can look forward to a better golfing climate this year, we surely deserve one. Whatever we have to endure, on behalf of the President, The Executive and myself I sincerely hope that 2009 will be kind to you and your family and you will continue to derive great satisfaction from your associations with "Golf". I particularly look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our AGM, this will be held after the Dinner and Presentation on our Founders' Day Meeting at Davenport GC on Tuesday 5th May. If you cannot play, do not forget that you are very welcome to join us for the Dinner, (use the Return Slip for Founders' Day in the Handbook), or just come along to the AGM. Your copy of the new Society Handbook for 2009 is enclosed with this letter, I would encourage you to return your Competition Entries as soon as possible to assist our "happy band of workers" to organise your events with maximum efficiency. Those of you who are up to controlling your PC's will have no doubt been looking at our website; www.manchestercaptains.co.uk and will have seen full details of our 2009 Programme and already downloaded their Entry Forms. Please make regular use of our website and do not hesitate to let us know your views, polite suggestions or any news items which may be of general interest to the Members of our Society.

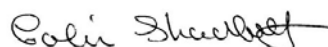
During their recent discussions, your Executive have given considerable thought as to how we might further develop the feeling of active involvement and participation in the large Society that we are proud to be Members of. As part of this programme, we are seeking to increase the size and schedule of our "Society Matches", in fact many Members have previously played and enjoyed the camaraderie of these Matches with our local compatriot Captains Groups. Any Members who would like to be considered for participation in this extended programme are asked to drop a line to Geoff Sable, indicating their interest. We are also very conscious that Club Captains in their year of Office face an increasing schedule of commitments at their Clubs, making it difficult to regularly join us and form ongoing

acquaintances with their colleagues during that year. To address this we are introducing a new fixture each September specifically for the Captains of the prior year, this inaugural day for the 2008 Captains will be at Worsley GC on the 17th September. The event will be a Singles Competition, invitations will be sent individually later in the year to the 2008 Captains in our Manchester District. We hope that this will give our newest Captains a special additional opportunity to get to know the Society and their "Year Colleagues" once the immediate pressures of Office have passed. Please encourage your 2008 Captain to join us on the very first occasion of what we hope will be a regular event, The President and I will donate a Trophy for this annual fixture.

One further new feature which we are introducing intends to address the difficulty which some of our Members have often commented upon, this concerns finding a Partner to join up with, for our normal Fourball Meetings. Not having the benefit of a Club Notice Board as a solution, we have brought the website into action as effectively an Electronic Notice Board, where Members can notify a desire to play in a particular event, other Members looking at this notice can then make contact. The relevant area of the website can be found via a link on the "Diary of Events" page, which opens a tabulation of Members seeking partners, where someone has indicated, please make direct contact with them. Should no one be listed, use the contact box to get your name posted. If you look at these pages now you will see some "Demo Entries", unfortunately I cannot guarantee that Tiger Woods will always be able to make himself available. Please make use of this facility but do not forget to advise us of any change to your availability.

From a personal point of view, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to you all for the support and encouragement which I have received during my year, it has been a great privilege to be the Captain of your Society. I look forward again to being a Past Captain and take this opportunity to wish Irvine, Dennis and the Team well, in looking after the affairs of the Society into the coming year. To you all, I know that whilst we may not always make it obvious, I am sure you will all in reality continue to get a great deal of enjoyment and satisfaction from this game of ours. In the now famous words of "Cum Golfing" - "Keep Swinging".

Yours sincerely,



*Colin Shadbolt.
Captain SMDGC*

