

# Junior Section

HANDBOOK 2023



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# 1. Welcome —

At The Millport Golf Club, we welcome school-aged girls and boys to our Junior Section and are confident that we have the commitment, expertise and facilities (including our fantastic practice range) to make Junior Membership very enjoyable and fulfilling. Whether a young person is just 'starting out' or has previous experience, our section will find a level at which they can succeed and progress their golf game.

Please take the time to read through the information contained within this booklet and please get in touch should you have any questions.

Thanks,

**Your Junior Team**



## 2. Value —

Within our Junior Section, we believe in a co-ordinated approach that allows us to SHARE the successes and positive experiences of young golfers.

The volunteer staff also believe that it's vital that we SHARE our time, resources and expertise for the betterment of our young members

### **S** SUCCESS

Juniors of all ages and stages will be able to achieve at a level suited to them. We will look to communicate/share these successes as widely as possible.

### **H** HONESTY

The game of golf relies on honesty more than most sports. This is an expectation for all our junior.

### **A** ACCESSIBILITY

We aim to be accessible to all school-aged boys and girls of all backgrounds. We will look to remove any barriers to accessing the wonderful game of golf. This includes offering a loan of equipment/free trials etc.

### **R** RESPECT

Golfers should show respect to the golf course, the rules and etiquette of golf. Respect should also be shown to fellow golfers and our volunteers.

### **E** ENJOYMENT

Golf is and should remain fun. Our coaching sessions are designed to make our young golfers want to return each week. Competitive Junior golfers should enjoy working to improve their handicap and their engagement in tournament golf.

### 3. Safeguarding —

The Millport Golf Club's Safeguarding Officer is Nettie Farquharson, having had years of experience within the Junior Section, latterly as Junior Convenor.

The club is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all children/young adults in its care. To this end, Nettie is responsible for the implementation and awareness of safeguarding policies and procedures within the organisation.

If you have any concerning issues regarding Safeguarding at the Club, Nettie can be contacted via mobile at 07531 547 669. Any safeguarding or wellbeing issues raised will be treated with strict confidentiality.

**All of our volunteers have been fully disclosed via the PVG scheme and have underwent/are undergoing Child Protection Training. Many of our coaches are also PGA certificated.**



**Nettie Farquharson**  
Safeguarding Officer

## 4. Meet the Team



### Alistair Forsyth

**Role:** PGA Professional

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

No 'claim' required. Formerly Scotland's No.1 Golfer. Was inside Top 100 in the world. Top 10 in a Major Championship. Current Scottish PGA Champ



### Kevin Summers

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

His long game is nearly as good as his pies!



### Mark Bowie

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

Nearly single figures, despite only playing a few year

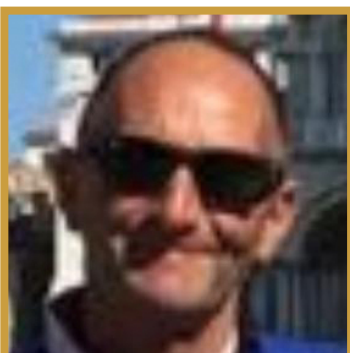


### David Bryceland

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

Single figured golfer and experienced golf coach



### Jim Cameron

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

Well versed in delivering Friday night sessions



## Nettie Farquharson

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

Life honorary member with almost 60 years service.



## Alan Finlayson

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

Has played off Plus One, also PGA qualified.



## Ruaridh McIntyre

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

Plays off 3 and current club captain.



## Barry O'Donnell

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

Previous Millport Open Winner



## Cameron Shaw

**Role:** Volunteer Coach

**Claim to 'golfing fame':**

PGA Qualified. Good for a scramble.

## 5. Information for Juniors —



### Junior Golf Season

Our Junior Golf Season runs throughout British Summer Time, starting when the clocks go forward in Spring and concluding when they go back in Autumn. There will be some engagements outwith these dates (Prize-giving, for example) but our weekly commitments will not run throughout winter because of limited daylight and because low temperatures can make golf unenjoyable for youngsters. However, we encourage our Junior members to continue to practise where possible throughout the winter and to access our course and facilities (see back page for more on 'Use of Facilities').



### Junior Section Categories

The Junior Section is separated into 2 distinct groups; a Development Group for our younger/less experienced golfers and a Competitive Group - those ready to have a handicap or play in regular competitions.





## Defining Each Group

To 'graduate' from one group to another, players will have to gain a handicap. Handicaps have become more accessible in recent years because it now extends to a maximum of 54 strokes.

Roughly speaking, golfers would need to be able to consistently go 'around the Fishery' in 45 shots or fewer to gain a handicap.

If we think your child is ready for this, we'll let you know. If you think your child may be ready, a coach can assess their abilities by taking them onto the course.

Please respect our final decision on this and understand that



## Uniform

Junior members of the Club (who pay their annual fee or commit to our subscription, see next page) will be given a Millport Golf Club cap upon joining. Please encourage Juniors to wear this to sessions whether possible.

## 6. Development Group —

Within this group, our coaches will focus on teaching the basics of golf; putting, chipping and ball-striking etc for golfers who are not quite ready for the demands of a competitive round of golf. The sessions will be fun-filled and coaches will use a number of teaching programmes, including MyPathway2Golf by Golphin.

We have invested money on indoor facilities. This means we are anticipating no cancellations due to adverse weather.

Therefore, we encourage a monthly subscription of £15 throughout the season. Considering our sessions are £4 each (on an ad-hoc basis) and there are some months with five Fridays, this will allow parents/carers to save money.

→ **Sort Code = 80-17-11**

→ **Account Number = 00447632**

So that we prepare our Development Group golfers for their next step in golf, we will hold a 'mini competition' on the last Friday night of every month. These achievements will be recognised at our annual Prize-giving.

A reminder of our session times are below.

**Every Friday, 6:30pm – 8pm**

N.B. We provide the youngsters with snacks and drinks so please remember to inform us of any dietary needs.

# Competitive Group \_\_\_\_\_

Within this group, golfers will play in at-least weekly competitions and will work towards improving their handicap. Players will also be encouraged to play in other competitions both at home and away. As we grow this sub-section, a fixture list will be devised and published to relevant player and parents/carers.



## 7. Join Us —

To join our Junior Section at Millport Golf Club, please contact our Club Secretary (Patricia) via email on [secretary@millportgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@millportgolfclub.co.uk). Membership costs just £50 but is free if youngsters attend Cumbrae Primary School or Largs Academy. Children/Grandchildren of caravan owners are also entitled to free membership upon presenting appropriate proof.



### **An added perk of membership**

For 2023, all of our Junior members will also be entitled to access the course/courses at Greenock Golf Club and are encouraged to participate in competitions at Greenock wherever possible. Please contact Barry O'Donnell, Mark Bowie or Cameron Shaw for more info.



### **Use of Facilities**

Junior members can make use of the Clubhouse and catering facilities (as per operating/licensing hours). Our club's Golf Shop can also cater for purchases, big and small. All junior members will get a 2023 bag tag and our Competitive Group will also have the option of a locker.



## Donations and sponsorship welcome

In previous seasons, our Junior Section benefitted from some kind monetary donations, which were put to good use as it allowed us to buy new equipment. If you would like to donate/ sponsor the Junior Section then please get in touch via email on [juniorconvenor@millportgolfclub.com](mailto:juniorconvenor@millportgolfclub.com). Please look out for fundraising initiatives as the season progresses.



## Practice, practice, practice

To progress at golf, it's essential that players practise in between formal sessions. With this in mind, it would be fantastic to see our youngsters up playing outwith our Monday and Sunday sessions. This said, the Junior Section volunteers accept no responsibility for the young people's H&S beyond our scheduled sessions.

