



Club AGM Section Reports 2018

Bridge Section Report

The Bridge Section has had a successful year and maintained good support and much interest with 100 playing members. The support for the individual sessions of bridge has been maintained with high attendance in particular on the club pairs evenings.

Four sessions of bridge are played each week. Experienced players are attending sessions on Monday and Tuesday evenings and together with the help of experienced players new and improving players are encouraged and brought forward on both Wednesday afternoons and Thursday evenings.

Bridge lessons are being held at the present time that were made available to any member of the Club. 12 club members elected to attend the lessons and it is hoped that the majority will join the Bridge Section in the future.

The financial position of the section is strong and Treasurer, Rita Brown, is greatly thanked for her sterling management of the accounts. Solid financial planning over the years has made sure that the Bridge Section has stayed up to date with the technological developments in the game.

The Bridge Section took part in a simultaneous pairs charity event run by the Devon Bridge Association and as a result a donation of £200 was given to the Devon Air Ambulance.

The Bridge Section runs a bridge team that competes in the East Devon Bridge League throughout the winter. Also congratulations go to all the winners of the section's competitions and not forgetting all the winners of each of the 4 weekly sessions.

Our Annual Dinner was held in October and the Christmas Party in December. Both events were well supported and enjoyed by all.

The Bridge Sections activities together with all the results can be accessed through the bridgewebs section of the clubs website.

Great thanks are given to Carol Horgan our Secretary and to all of the members of the Committee who work well as a team and give a lot of time to ensure the smooth running of the section.

Dick Taylor, Chairman.

Fitness Section Report

The section annual meeting was held in March 2018 in the newly re-opened Mews with a curry evening. We awarded the section Member of the year to the Wakley family for significant fitness engagement and enthusiastic participation in classes.

Equipment acquired for the gym includes a bluetooth wifi connection for the studio sound system, a set of foam jumping boxes, a set of holdall style 'sand bags' and a new 'tractor tyre' in the studio. Two Trixter bikes, which were very worn, have been withdrawn from the gym, allowing more space for the Concept 2 rowing trainers.

The gym staff continue to offer personal training and a wide range of classes, with some specialist external instructors. We bade farewell to Laura Salt who has left the gym staff and two new staff were appointed in the summer.

Gym membership had risen to 771 by December, 399 women and 372 men. Exercise classes are well attended, with revisions to the class timetable every three months. There are 44 classes per week with a total average attendance of around 400. Yoga and Spin have been popular over the last year, and there are now more Yoga classes. We can now run virtual exercise classes using the big screens in the studio.

We work to ensure that the gym remains safe and avoids overcrowding at peak times, following the reintroduction of daytime off-peak section membership. New gym members and class attenders complete a PAR-Q health questionnaire.

We plan to combine the section AGM with a curry evening in March 2019.

Rab Cross
Chairman, Fitness Committee

Ladies' Golf Section Report

I have had a great year which I have thoroughly enjoyed, but it has gone by so quickly. I have played with a lot of the Exeter ladies and met many from other clubs who I am sure I will play with in the future.

I was extremely pleased when the Still Cup team won their division, which yet again took them to the semi finals against East Devon. The ladies played some great golf but unfortunately it was not meant to be and we sadly lost. But my highlight of the year was presenting Lyndon with the Wooden Spoon which now hangs in the Sports Bar with a blue ribbon on it!

We have held some very successful Open events and each time around 120 ladies took the opportunity to play our course and many nice comments were received regarding it's layout and presentation.

We have had a steady stream of new ladies join our club, some who have played before at other clubs and really got into the section quickly, others who are just getting into the game. Hopefully with Darren's get into golf programme this will continue going forward.

I set in my own mind that I would like to achieve £3,000 to give towards our charity, the Exeter Neonatal Unit, but I am pleased to say that as a section we actually raised just over £3,500.

Thank you to the following for all their hard work and assistance this year:- John Parr and his team, Darren Everett and his Assistants, Lisa Newbery, Chris Jones and his team together with Adam Little and the Food and Beverage team.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Lyndon and his committee this year and of course my Vice Captain Ali. I wish Pete and Ali every success for next year!

Lyne Beevers
Ladies' Golf Captain

Men's Golf Section Report

It's been a full and varied year of golf and social events and a particularly busy one for me.

It's a difficult task for any Captain to make a significant impact given such a relatively short term in office, but I am delighted to have completed some of the goals I set out to achieve, for example a full review of many of the processes to improve the golf experience for members and visitors alike. In addition, by starting a movement towards a future of integration and inclusion throughout the golf section and the club as a whole.

Special thanks must go to everyone involved in my year who make up a team of hard working individuals willingly giving up their time for the benefit of the golf membership.

All staff of Exeter Golf and Country Club in their respective roles have worked extremely hard to maintain the standards of the club and play their part in improving the golf experience for our members.

Highlights of the year include further improvements to the 10th hole and a great new practice facility at the Topsham Golf Academy.

The appointment of Darren Everett as Director of Golf and the reintroduction of Course Marshals has been a hugely positive influence. I was delighted to have been part of the marshal's interview process and appointment.

Our team squad had great success in both the Parker Trophy and Palairet, as well the Victory Bowl and Lloyd Rowett Trophy.

Finally, our Captain's charity, the Neo Natal Unit at Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital will be benefitting from over £12,000 raised.

In conclusion, I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as Golf Captain and it has been an honour and pleasure to represent and to serve the club.

Lyndon Bent
Men's Golf Captain

Squash and Racketball Section Report

2018 has been another successful year for the Squash and Racketball section, with an increasing number of regular players (both male and female) and a junior section that's developing with pace – including the re-introduction of Saturday morning sessions. We have even added an additional (3rd) Racketball team!

Mike has also further developed his role within the South West as the leading player/coach, and EGCC is now very much seen as a centre for excellence both for adult and junior squash, holding County, Regional and National events at the club. Mike's Junior Camps attract kids from all over the South West and beyond and have been such a success that the Devon County Junior Teams are now approx 50% full from EGCC players.

The achievements at this club have been numerous in 2018 and include:

- Premier Squash Team – Devon Premier League and Devon Cup Double Winners (second year running)
- 1st Racketball Team – RU in the National Racketball Championships
- Mike Harris – PSA (pro tour) event winner recently, National Racketball Champion, County Champion
- Mike Gregory – National Masters Racketball Champion, Devon Masters Champion
- Ioan Sharpe (Jnr) – Wales U13 No1, Playing for Wales in Home internationals (4 caps), South West Regional Champion
- Devina Ghandi – County Champion and Devon U15 No1

2019 is looking like an exciting year again for the club, with the South West's first ever Women's Professional (PSA) tournament being held in March, attracting entries from some of the top players in the world. We also welcome the 2019 Professional (PSA) Men's event again in the summer, which last year was won by Commonwealth Games Semi Finalist and current World No 24 from Wales, Joel Makin. With lots of additional Junior, adult and club tournaments being run until next July, the section is always busy.

Jon Sharpe, Men's Squash Captain
Gael Salzmann, Ladies' Squash Captain

Tennis Section Report

The section, both seniors and juniors, continues to flourish under the much valued, enthusiastic leadership of James Temple and the tutelage of him and his group of coaches with more new teams being entered into both the Exeter and District men's and ladies and East Devon mixed leagues in both the Summer and Winter and only the one withdrawal of the Ladies 4th's in the Summer which we would hope to get back playing in due course. League wins and promotions were widespread among the sides and only a couple of relegations.

The internal club championships finals day was held on a gloriously sunny Sunday at the beginning of July with club coaches Emily Rushen and Dave Palmer taking the senior singles titles this year among a host of other competition events.

We remain grateful to our windbreak sponsors Charles Stanley (which also helped to provide us with new representative team kit again this year) and The Medical Eye Clinic. A third sponsorship, with Nexus Open Systems, has just been agreed. Social events throughout the year and two club quiz nights have also helped to raise monies to buy match balls to support the teams representing Exeter Golf and Country Club as well as those attending club sessions which continue to be very well supported, particularly on Thursday evenings, and also for this year's nominated captains' charity, St Petroc's.

As a section we aspire to also have new indoor playing facilities to enhance the tennis experience and continue to attract more members and to further develop on the club's successes and standing as a leading local sports club. We understand that this project has enthusiastic support from the Board within the broader plans for the club from within the funds realised from the sale of the old golf driving area and we will be keen to continue to work with others on how these can best be achieved.

Maurice Salzmann, Men's Tennis Captain
Di Horne, Ladies' Tennis Captain