

Association des Golfeurs du Mas Del Teil

Annual General Meeting Saturday 22nd January

Golf School Report

Reports of Events in 2010

Golf School

With 23 members during 2010, the Golf School remained dynamic throughout the season but also showed some weaknesses.

We had 3 groups representing the different age and ability of the players: Group Poucets (beginners or under the age of 11), Group Club (players without a handicap or of a handicap which doesn't permit them to play in regional competitions) and a Group MR (players permitted to compete at a regional level)

Group Poucets

Unlike other years, we have been unable to put forward a team for the regional competitions. Their involvement in this type of competition allows them to gain the basic skills and encourage them to participate in competitions.

We recognize their commitment (and that of the parents) for the friendly competitions with Montal. Unfortunately we have had some problems relating to the organization of transport for Regional competitions when it involves long distances.

Group Club

We've had problems getting them to participate in club competitions which happen on a Sunday (only 1 regular participant), although they have signed up for friendly competitions with Montal on the Saturday.

Group Mérite Régional

Once again they have had promising results at a regional level. 6 children participated in the three rounds of the *Mérite Régional* (Palmola, Tarbes and Ariège) with 2 winners (Marion Veysseyre for the *Benjamins* and Lucie Le Moal for the *Minimes*). These excellent results have allowed 4 children to qualify for the Mérite Inter Régional (Casteljaloux) and 2 children have qualified for the Championnats de France ( Florine Veysseyre in the under 13s and Marion Veysseyre who finished 2<sup>nd</sup> against Aquitaine).

Florine Veysseyre didn't make the final cut and finished in over 40<sup>th</sup> position . Marion did make the cut and was placed 11<sup>th</sup> , however when all the results were in she was placed 16<sup>th</sup> overall.

### Other Competitions:

Some children also played for the Souillac teams (Cap Elite and Cap 120). Marion Veysseyre participated in several grand prix including Les Internationaux de France at Palmola.

Florine Veysseyre participated in all the courses arranged by the Ligue Midi Pyrénées.

Marion Veysseyre joined the Pôle Espoir de Golf in Toulouse in September.

As in other years, we have organized various meetings with Montal. With the older ones, we have started a familiarization of the differing courses but have been hampered by the unforeseen winter weather.

October saw the opening of the Ecole de Golf website, which keeps children and parents informed.

<http://ecolegolf.sgcc.free.fr>

The Ecole de Golf would like to thank the Souillac Country Club for its help over the season (transport, lodging and meals) and not forgetting the parents who also helped out with transport.

### The Future

The Ecole de Golf will definitely face several problems on a regional level in 2011. Several children, owing to their school timetable, will be unable to attend as often and the younger children don't have the required handicap to participate at this level. On top of this, the Minime category will not be represented at a regional level (they will have to qualify in the grand prix). We will only have Florine Veysseyre in the under 13s (Marion having an obligatory qualification for the Inter-régions).

### Proposals

- We must make an effort with the Poucets to encourage them to participate in as many competitions (to create a 9 hole competition for the young players at every official sponsored or non-sponsored competition).
- Get the older players (with a suitable handicap) to participate in away competitions as a team to maintain motivation and to give them further experience.
- To create a women's regional team (urgent in terms of motivation and to exploit their potential).
- The organization of "mini-courses" (at least 1 day or more the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each holiday) at local golf courses.
- Have the means to produce quality young players: the infrastructure (chipping zone and putting green) and also training sessions (more individual tuition and ability to offer 2 training sessions a week if we want to see any progress).

A question which requires some thought:

- Should we help or youngsters to participate in the grands prix? There will be less participation in the MR so could we allocated some of this money for this sort of competition? (there are at least 3 children who would benefit from this help: Simon in the

grand prix 2<sup>nd</sup> series, Melanie in the women's and Marion in the regional and national grands prix.

2011 has started with 18 children enrolled in the Ecole de Golf: nine 9-10 year olds and nine 11-15 year olds. On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2010 we organized a ranking/handicap competition over 9 holes with the Ecole de Golf of Montal.

## **ACTIVITIES, COMMUNICATION AND COMPETITIONS**

### **The Golf Course:**

The responsibility for golf in general and for the golf course in particular is now under the responsibility of Tony JONES. The mission that has been entrusted to him is to provide a course of the highest possible quality within the limits of a reasonable budget.

The Club has called in a Consultant Green Keeper who has come several times to give ideas and advice to Jérôme.

Particular attention has been given to the improvement of the quality of the grass on the tees, greens and fairways by using a better fertilisation whilst economising on water.

A guide for the buggies has been put in place using rope barriers (done by Dave Cowie and Jim Shanks). It is not yet sufficiently respected by some people. Boards indicating the paths for the buggies will soon be put in place.

By necessity some tees have been roped off (again not respected enough by some) and will be done so again, especially in winter.

Mats at the tees will be put in place during the winter on the Par 3's.

The bunkers have been improved (sand changed and the edges have been repaired).

Particular attention has been given to the aeration of the greens and a new method will be implemented to reduce the frequency of this treatment during the year.

The sprinklers on the greens and the tees have been moved and some have been changed to improve watering and decrease the loss of water around the edges.

Since the first frosts the winter greens have been put in place and will stay there for as long as is necessary. Despite this some people continue to play on the greens. We remind you that each of us should report any misconduct to the Management (Tony): he will review the situation in the spring.

The 14<sup>th</sup> tee will be reconditioned during the winter.

Some trees near to green no 11 will be cut or pruned to allow a better access for “bogey” players.

All machinery will undergo a complete service before the next season and a new mower for the greens has been budgeted for.

The creation of a new water reserve (lake) is being studied.

The driving range boxes have been renovated (new roof, reinforced structure, wood treated by Daniel and several members), but at present it is not envisaged that the driving range will be moved elsewhere. Daniel is in the middle of a major cleaning operation.

There is a feasibility study to put into place a chipping zone by the football pitch to practice approach shots. A financial participation from the Association is planned as well as help from volunteers.

A storm protection system and the installation of water points are being studied as well as the repairs of certain access paths between the holes, especially between 8 and 9.

ALL SUGGESTIONS MAY BE ADDRESSED DIRECTLY TO TONY JONES OR TO A MEMBER OF THE GOLF COURSE COMMISSION.

#### Activities and Communication:

In partnership with the Souillac Country Club, we have tried to be in closer contact with you over the organisation of competitions by putting up notices and sending e- mails. However this does not seem to have been sufficient.

One “NEWSLETTER” has been written and sent to members. Whilst Monique O’LEARY, responsible for communication has said that she does not wish to continue in the post, we must congratulate her for her work and above all emphasize the difficulties in motivating members to come forward with information.

On this subject we have drawn up a questionnaire which has been sent to 200 members; only 25 have been filled in and returned, 12.5%. From it we have concluded that the great majority wish to keep a golf club at Souillac, are satisfied with the quality of the course, on the pricing, on the role of the Association as organizer of competitions and on the importance given to the success of the Golf School pupils. There are reservations over communication and the social life of the club. Added to this are criticisms concerning the Bar-Restaurant over the quality of its services (too irregular, service too slow,...)which has led to a loss of confidence and little by little to disaffection by the players. There can be no improvement in conviviality unless we can establish a real partnership with the Restaurant. Two association days have been successfully organized at the Club, one at the start of the season and one at its closed. The Association buffet at the close of the season saw close to

50 members participating. Other events have included friendly reciprocal visits to La Marterie , and several outing to Aubazine.

### **Organisation and competition results:**

This is run and organized by sporting commission. On this matter it must be remembered that while the prizes are being given out the actual results must be announced, and that if the winner has already been rewarded, we will move on to the next .

The Federation and the league of the Midi-Pyrénées have been approached to ask for a revision of the “slope”. We have gone from a slope of 125 to 128. Dissatisfied with the result we have renewed the operation and await the results.

The local rules have been reviewed and updated.

23 competition days were held at the Souillac golf club.

Taking into account both the week-end and week day competitions (senior circuits, AU.MI.LI, Limousin) , nearly 70 competition days were on offer to players of all categories.

TROPHEE 160 –CAP ELITE: 12 teams of 6 players. 3 days, one at SOUILLAC 17<sup>th</sup> April, ARIEGE 24<sup>th</sup> April, the final was at FLORENTIN 5<sup>th</sup> June. A good match with the team ending up 3<sup>rd</sup>.

TROPHEE 160 –CAP120: 9 teams of 8 players. 3 days. LES AGUILLONS 3<sup>rd</sup> April, MONTAL 24<sup>th</sup> April and the grand final at LANNEMEZAN 29<sup>th</sup> May where we finished 5<sup>th</sup>. 11 players including 5 from the Golf School participated.

### **LIMOUSIN – SENIORS**

**Championship:** The competition ( stroke play) was played from the white tees and at each meeting the strokes of the five best players from each team were added on. Eight teams took part.

The SOUILLAC team ended the season in fifth place, 5 strokes under BRIVE who were fourth.

The last two meetings were in the form of a federal competition – a foursome and 4 match-play. These two days were an excellent training session for federal competitions.

Here is the list of players who participated in the 2010 competition.

JONES Tony, COWIE David, EVANS John, ESCUDIE Joel, GUIGNARD Francis, DELPECH Michel, LE GOFF Jean-Claude, KNIGHT Bob, FAUGERES Claude and FAUGERES Bernard.

**Cup:** Played on Thursdays. 10 teams of 6 players per day. On the last day at LA PORCELAINE, the Souillac team came 1<sup>st</sup> in NET and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Brut. Bravo to the 10 players who participated: CHAMBON Daniel, BARTHELEMY Jean François, FRANCOIS Paul, SIRODOT Christian,

LEGRAND Daniel, COLLOT Bernard, LASSERRE Michel, DELCAYRE Liliane, MAZEAU Jean-Claude, LARNAUDIE André.

### SECOND DIVISION SENIORS

The competition took place over two days on the golf course at Toulouse SEILH. 8 teams.

First Day: Six players per team, stroke-play, starting from the white tees; the five best results were added.

The Souillac team made up of COWIE David, WILKINSON Robert, FAUGERES Bernard, EVANS John, GUIGNARD Francis et LE GOFF Jean-Claude were classed 4<sup>th</sup> behind LANNEMEZAN, TOULOUSE SEILH and FIAC.

Second Day: The first four teams played each other in the first division: first against fourth, third against second.

The two winners went into the first division.

The SOUILLAGAISE team was made up of:

In foursome, GUIGNARD Francis and DELPECH Michel. In Match-play: JONES Tony, COWIE David, EVANS John, and ESCUDIE Joel.

### **SOUILLAC BEAT LANNEMEZAN 3 to 2 and went up to the first division Midi-pyrénées**

**THIRD DIVISION MEN:** The 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> May the S.C.C first team played at ARIEGE for a place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division. After the first day Souillac was 8<sup>th</sup>. On the second day the club lost against MAZAMET to stay in the 3<sup>rd</sup> division.

This team also played INTERCLUBS INTER REGIONAL DE PROMOTION NATIONALE à GUJAN-MESTRAS 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Seniors tour to Midi-Pyrenees**

To have a chance of organising a stage of the senior tour at Souillac (which represents between 150-300 players) it was necessary to promote our club. A small group of players, whom I would like to thank, went out to play the Midi- Pyrénées courses. The conditions are as follows: 27€ green fee, one price regardless of course played, 2 men's series and 1 women's series. Handicaps: not more than 28.5 for the men and 30.5 for the women.

Souillac will host a stage of the senior tour 2011 on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of October

I would like to thank the following players, whose commitment and results have allowed the organization of such a competition:

Claude FAUGERES, David COWIE, Tony JONES, Francis GUIGNARD, Michel DELPECH, Jean-Claude LE GOFF, Paul FRANCOIS, Jean-Paul HARS and Bernard FAUGERES.

AU.MI.LI : Person in charge Alain DREGÉ

- PARTICIPATION: 35 players. It's not bad, but actually only 21 players participated in half the events, 8 players in 5 events and only 4 participated at all stages of the event. In spite of that it shows a slight increase in comparison to 2009.
- Brive, Aubazine and especially Montal sent many more teams, which means that our 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall is all the more remarkable, two places higher than in 2009.
- The most regular players had a problem finding a window of opportunity in November for the end of season meal, so it will now be in the spring, which will allow everyone to meet and prepare for the beginning of the 2011 competition.
- The representatives of each team will meet at Montal mid-February to finalise the 2011 competition; it will be useful if everyone puts forward suggestions to improve the event on a sporting level (what type of formula for example) and to make it generally more enjoyable for all concerned.
- Look into ways of attracting more senior players for this competition (10 -11 teams would be ideal) bearing in mind that the dates clash with more "official" events.

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We cannot end this report without thanking the Souillac Country Club for help in paying for travel expenses and the use of the "Traffic" for the players. We should do the utmost to keep a good friendly working relationship with the Souillac Country Club.

Finally, there was nearly 600€ paid to the association by the Souillac players who participated in the numerous team competitions. Members of The Ecole de Golf do not pay for association events .