



OLEGA ROUGH CUTS

News shorts for Oxfordshire's golfers

Autumn 2025

From our **President Christing Bishop**— As the final putts drop and the last scorecards are signed, we officially bring another county golf season to a close. It has been a year defined by competitive spirit, steady improvement, and the camaraderie that makes our golfing community so strong. With all finals now complete, we can look back with pride on a full slate of memorable events, impressive play, and great moments shared across our county courses.

This year's championship rounds delivered outstanding performances across every division. Players battled changing weather, tight leaderboards, and high-pressure situations with the kind of focus and sportsmanship that define county competition. Whether you competed for a title, played for enjoyment, or supported fellow golfers from the sidelines, you helped make this season a success.

All final results are now posted on the website, including full leaderboards, photos, and recaps from each event. We encourage everyone to take a look, revisit the highlights, and review the accomplishments of our players.

We would also like to thank everyone who signed up and supported county golf throughout the year. We are pleased to see an improvement in uptake across our events and programmes, but there is still room to grow. Encouraging more participation remains a priority, and we welcome any support in helping more players get involved next season.

Our final gathering of the year will be the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday, 23rd November 2025 at The Oxfordshire Golf Club at 10:30 am. We encourage all members to attend as we review the season, share updates for the year ahead, and continue shaping the future of county golf.

Until then, enjoy the off-season, stay warm, and keep your swing ready—another great season is just around the corner.

Bamberger Trophy

The Final match of the Bamberger Knockout Competition was played on 15th October 2025 at North Oxford Golf Club.

In their last month of operation, they provided us with a well presented, fitting course to challenge our finalists. Our thanks to Philip and his team for their hospitality.

Lynne Tattersall from Drayton Park, and Tamsin Naseem representing Frilford Heath, were the players to come through from the original 29 starters. This popular KO competition drew competitors from 16 different clubs and is always a club and county favourite.

The weather was ideal for golf and the match was extremely competitive. With constant to-ing and fro-ing throughout it eventually came down to the 18th hole before a result was achieved. Lynne clinched the trophy with the final putt of the match.

Congratulations to both players for reaching the final and playing it in such a good spirit.

Farewell to North Oxford Golf Club

It is with mixed emotions that we say farewell to **North Oxford Golf Club**, established in 1907. For over a century, this beautiful, mature parkland course has been a cherished part of our county's golfing heritage, hosting generations of golfers and fostering a strong community spirit.

While it is sad to see the course make way for housing, it is heartening to know that the club's **ladies have dispersed within Oxfordshire clubs**, continuing their love of the game and contributing their experience and enthusiasm to the wider county golfing community.

North Oxford Golf Club will be remembered not just for its outstanding course, but for the friendships, competitions, and memories it created over more than 100 years. We thank everyone who has been part of its story and wish all former members the very best in their new golfing homes.



Lynne (left) and Tamsin

From our **County to Captain Tracy Roberts**—single figure golfers are encouraged to join OLCGA squad training sessions. If pushing your golf further, connecting with like-minded individuals, and being considered for [competitive scratch matches](#) is for you, then please do get in touch.

An end of season squad session was held at Tadmarton Heath last month with more than a dozen players attending. We started with an in-door session meeting next season's Oxfordshire County Coach, Deana Rushworth (Witney Lakes). She gave us a flavour of what she has in store for us, and what we should be working on over the cold winter months (short-game, lag putting drills, and scratch matchplay all incorporated into a Winter Order of Merit), before we all moved outside for a competitive fourball match played from the 2026 County Match Week tee positions. It was a good opportunity for Deana to get to know the players' games, and

to offer her expertise on approaching the holes.

We finished the day with small presentations to this season's Par 18 League prize winners (Lara Murphy, winner and Sarah Clarke, most improved), a squad league played in and out of squad sessions, which focused exclusively on short-game – interestingly, both players saw reductions in their playing handicaps during the season, suggesting the focus on short-game was worth the effort. We also awarded second team colours to Sarah Hillas (Henley GC) and Nikki Halsall (Kirtlington) for recording 6 match wins in the Midland

South 2nd Team County League.

This year's playing squad included several new and returning faces to County golf. They have all proved excellent additions throwing themselves into training sessions, competitions and matches.

Next season, we will have more new faces joining the squad, including a few talented county juniors, as well as one or two other single figure golfers. If you know of anyone else who deserves an invite (single figures), and would relish playing County golf, please do let me know.

Golf Events for All – county competitions run through the playing season and there is something for every single one of our golfing members whatever their age or ability.

We had a full and successful calendar of events for 2025. Congratulations to all winners, thank you to our host clubs, volunteers, helpers and to all of you who took part. If you want a reminder, you can read the news stories on our [website](#).

The full set of 2026 dates for competitions and knockout finals will be released soon and will be visible on the [website](#) and your golf genius app. The draw for the knockouts will be announced at the AGM.

One key date to hold in your diary is the **2026 County Championship** event which will be held over three days at **The Wyckwood GC**. The Championships begin on 29th May with stroke play and are followed by match play knockout on the 30th and then finals on 31st May. There are three divisions: the main County Championship; the Mid-Silver Championship (handicaps from 12.5 to 20.5); and the Bronze Championship (handicaps from 20.6 to 35.5). These events will also incorporate the Junior and Senior Championships. ***We do ask that all clubs refrain from organizing their county Knockout matches on these three days to encourage as many golfers to take part as possible.***

What's in a name?

We held an Extraordinary General Meeting on 6th October 2025 to vote on the Association changing its status to a Limited Company. The primary reason for this change is to protect the Officers from any litigation, and the secondary reason is to facilitate an easy transition should we decide to merge with another similar organisation. The vote in favour of the motion to change was unanimous, and we have instructed a solicitor to act on our behalf.

We now must consider what we call ourselves. The County Executive are unanimously in favour of changing the name to **Oxfordshire Women's Golf Limited**, but this will **not be adopted until all members have had the opportunity to have their say**. Nothing will be finalised without full consultation, and members are invited to **feedback their views to any Officer**, who will ensure that all input is considered before a decision is made.

The proposed change from **"Ladies" to "Women"** reflects a move towards modern, inclusive, and professional terminology. "Women" is the standard term used across sports and professional organisations, and it avoids the historical connotations of "Ladies," which can imply etiquette, fragility, or patronising expectations. Using "Women" recognises the skill, athleticism, and achievements of our members, aligns with contemporary practice in golf governance, and ensures our association remains welcoming and relevant to all female golfers. Most importantly, it reflects who our players are today: **women who love the game, compete seriously and contribute to the vitality of our sport.**

Oxon County Juniors

Developing Junior Talent – OLCGA caters well for our junior members, from beginners through to more accomplished players, so if you know a keen young golfer who might benefit from being part of the programme, further details are [here](#).

The Girls Summer Meeting was held at Shrivenham in July – we had 4 of the lower handicap signed up for the main comp and 4 of the Development group who played 9 holes, followed by a putting competition. Thank you to everyone at Shrivenham Park who made the girls feel very welcome and they all enjoyed the day. Well done to the winners – Kirsty Soffe (Burford) won the 18 hole competition and Emma Cook (Henley) won the 9 hole event.

The Midland South Junior Championships was held at Temple in August, split into two divisions, the main medal competition over 36 holes, and an 18 hole stableford competition. The main trophy was won by Beth Gilmore of Beaconsfield but I am very pleased to report that Issy O'Neill (Drayton Park) won the best net prize for the 36 holes, and Sienna Fagen-Smith (Studley Wood) was runner up in the 18 hole stableford competition.

The last event of the calendar year for

the girls is the annual Nicola Sparks Trophy, which took place at Burford on 30th October. We had 5 girls playing the full course, and 5 playing 9 holes. Kirsty Soffe (Junior Captain) came back from University to play – this was her last event as Captain before handing on the baton to the new incumbent, Phoebe Simons for 2026. Burford again confirmed we had courtesy of the course for the girls, and the Nicola Sparks Fund continues to be able to cover the costs of the catering provided to the girls after play, which is fantastic.

The 18 hole trophy was won by Amelia Sambrook (Tadmarton) with a fantastic score of 41 points, the 9 hole trophy was won by Grace Garner (Kirtlington), and the 6 hole trophy was awarded to Elodie Goode (Kirtlington).

Turning to the Junior Academy, 2025 has been a successful year. We had 8 girls sign up for the Performance group this year, and 12 for the Development, of whom 7 are new to the Academy. This is a reflection of

the hard work done by Andy Taylor at Kirtlington in spreading the word to all the Juniors he coaches, and also by the clubs around the county to encourage girls to sign up.

The Development group has been so successful that a number of the girls are returning to play in the afternoons of the Performance group this Autumn, keeping the close knit group that has been formed by the girls from different clubs together until the Development Group sessions formally start again in April.



Amelia Sambrook receiving the Nicola Sparks trophy from County President Christine Bishop.

Results – keep up to date

with 2025 competition and match results on the news section of the OLCGA site.

The late summer months saw the conclusion of the County knock-out events. Congratulations to the winning teams of Studley Wood (Ann Starkey), Oxford Ladies (Captains), Frilford Heath (President's), and to Lynne Tattersall (Drayton Park) who was this year's Bamberger Trophy winner defeating Tamsin Naseem (Frilford Heath) on the 18th green.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, 23rd November
2025 at

The Oxfordshire Golf Club

10:30 am

County Roles – OLCGA is run by a small volunteer team who are committed to supporting and promoting women's and girls' golf. If you have skills your not using, talents, a bit of spare time, and want to support and influence the game in your County, then let us know you are there. If you are interested, why not have an informal conversation with the [County President](#) to find out more?

In celebration of women and girls
golf in Oxfordshire

OPEN TO ALL



COUNTY LUNCH

Friday, 20th March 2026
Frilford Heath Golf Club at 12:30
Oxford Road, Abingdon OX13 5NW

- 2 COURSE MENU -

Corn fed chicken, garlic, Olive & Rosemary
infused Mash, Provencal vegetables
or

Roast Jerusalem Artichokes with Balsamic & Thyme
Onions, Grilled Butternut Squash, Sauce Romesco (vg)

followed by:

Sticky Toffee Pudding, Caramel Sauce, Vanilla Ice
Cream

or

Crème Brulee, Short Bread Biscuits

Tea, Coffee & Infusions

- GUEST SPEAKER -

JENNY DENYER

Jenny, a former world top-8 squash player with a Ph.D. in Performance Psychology, brings 20+ years of executive coaching and consulting experience. She serves as a Non-Executive Director at England Golf and the Professional Squash Association.

A key contributor to the R&A's Women in Golf Leadership Programme and board sponsor of England Golf's Women's Leadership programme, Jenny will inspire us, 'the unstoppable rise of women's sport —how golf can seize the moment'.

Now is our time!

£35

per person

£32.50 for Frilford Members

To book your place go to our website
at **www.olcga.org.uk**