



**2009 DUNFERMLINE BUILDING SOCIETY JUNIOR CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARDS  
FINALIST NOMINATIONS**

**DUNS GOLF CLUB, BERWICKSHIRE**

**Duns' 2008 achievements included:**

- To improve its practice facilities the junior management group submitted a bid to "Awards for All" in July 2008. A grant for £9445 was awarded and is being used to build a large new putting green, a deep bunker, a shallow bunker, a practice net and to purchase a TV/DVD player to show Etiquette and Rules of Golf to the juniors.
- To keep golf at the forefront of juniors' minds year round, winter sessions were organised using a golf driving range close to Duns. During these sessions a PGA Professional, a former Duns junior member, gave the juniors coaching with the volunteer coaches in attendance. The use of video equipment and other golfing aids was popular with the juniors and provided useful feedback for the volunteer coaches.
- Through the efforts of the clubgolf coaching programme many juniors have improved their skills, earned handicaps and now play in junior competitions. Some juniors have attained a sufficiently low handicap (18) to allow them to play in adult competitions.
- Duns voluntary coaches' work has been recognised by the Berwickshire Sports Council, who in October 2008, awarded them a Special Recognition Award.
- The challenge of having three coaches for as many as 40 children in a coaching session has been overcome by adult helpers assisting the volunteer coaches. The club will soon have a fourth qualified coach.

**KIRKINTILLOCH GOLF CLUB, EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE**

**Kirkintilloch's 2008 achievements included:**

Last April, Kirkintilloch Golf Club opened its doors to the first group of 26 clubgolf recruits after five club members had qualified as Level 1 Coaches. The club's move to start a clubgolf programme coincided with a surge of interest in golf in local primary schools, following over 1200 children across Dunbartonshire being introduced to golf through 'firstclubgolf' in primary schools in 2008. The club has since celebrated a number of achievements:

- Kirkintilloch has eight new junior members and expects to have as many as 40 children on this year's coaching course starting in April.

- To enhance lower handicap juniors who compete at team level, the club invested in coaching with a local PGA Pro.
- In conjunction with Dunbartonshire Golf Union, club juniors became involved in county coaching programme talent ID days, giving them the opportunity to meet players from different clubs and receive coaching from county coaches.
- The club now arranges around 30 competitions through the year for all juniors. In some, juniors play alongside adults in fun competitions. Lower handicap juniors are allowed to play in all adult stroke play competitions.
- The club has provided a practice area, on an unused part of the old the course, away from the main course and maintained by their greens staff. It has both short and long game areas, putting green and practice bunker.
- Through clubgolf the Club took children to Gleneagles and to The Carrick for a coaching clinic with Colin Montgomerie.
- One of the club's junior girls, Jordan Ferrie, won the 2008 Dunfermline Junior Masters. Rebecca Shaw, a new girl member for 2008, won a Ladies 9 Hole Competition at Hilton Park Golf Club.

#### **PALACERIGG GOLF CLUB, NORTH LANARKSHIRE**

##### **Palacerigg's 2008 achievements included:**

Palacerigg GC believes their partnership work has been key to the club's success. Their initial link was with the North Lanarkshire Golf Development Group (NLGDG - comprising representatives from North Lanarkshire Leisure Ltd, North Lanarkshire Council, clubgolf, the Lanarkshire Golf Association, golf clubs and schools across North Lanarkshire, Strathclyde Police and the three Sports Councils in North Lanarkshire) and the club is now going from strength to strength. Last year's achievements include:

- Forty children attended the club's come-and-try coaching session last March. A week later 30 children returned to the club for a sign-up. All 30 signed up as new members to the club's two-year coaching programme. Soon the club's junior membership stood at 42, and included six girls.
- With a new, enhanced membership the clubgolf Stage 1 coaching syllabus was delivered to the children. The testament to the coaches and the programme was a high attendance in a coaching season blighted by poor weather.
- Situated within a country park, Palacerigg is not an easy club to access. The club works with local schools to ensure youngsters can either use public transport or share private transport to reach the venue. Strathclyde Passenger Transport's "Dial-a-Bus", supports the NLGDG and clubgolf ethos that every child should be able to attend structured golf coaching, irrespective of their personal financial circumstances.
- A final piece of recognition was Palacerigg's selection as a regional venue for PGA coach education courses for the 2009 season.

## **POWFOOT GOLF CLUB, DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY**

### **Powfoot's 2008 achievements included:**

Over the past 12 months, Powfoot devised a programme to give juniors new opportunities to develop their talent, realise their potential and, for those that have high ambitions, support them in reaching local, district and international level. The club's achievements included:

- The club took in 20 new junior members. The club now has five full junior girls and 10 in its younger Chipper section.
- As a result of setting up the Chipper membership to encourage primary children, 16 of the group have joined as full members in 2009 and 35 new local beginners have joined to experience the game as Chippers.
- Overcoming the challenge of not having a resident Pro to coach the latter stages of the clubgolf programme, the club approached the Professional at Dumfries and County Golf Club. He was delighted to help and offered the support of his assistant. Now in a position to offer clubgolf coaching between Stages 1 and 3, the club engaged the assistant's services for two hours every Saturday morning for five months.
- A graduated fee system was put in place for the juniors, ranging from £30 a year for young members beginning the game up to £96 a year for children up the age of 18. Non handicap players pay £1 a week for coaching and £1 a week for competition. Handicap players pay £2 a week for competition.
- Driving range balls were made available free of charge to the volunteers, coaches and the assistant Pro for use by the juniors as well as juniors enjoying exclusive use of the driving range between 8 and 10am on Saturday mornings.

## **RANFURLY CASTLE GOLF CLUB, RENFREWSHIRE**

### **Ranfurlly Castle's 2008 achievements included:**

- Led by its Junior Convenor, Michael McCabe, 11 club members became qualified as volunteer coaches on the Level 1 course and rolled out clubgolf Stage 1 coaching to 8-12 year olds. To maintain continuity and interest the club's assistant professional, as part of his own training, led these children through the next stage of the programme.
- The club had identified its nine hole course as the ideal facility to make the game more accessible to the local community. Large improvements to the course were planned and club was prepared to make financial sacrifices to ensure it happened. A grant was awarded by the Lottery Fund in the sum of £25,000. This project is ongoing.
- The main course now has a measured Blue Tee course for those with handicap allowances in excess of 36, allowing juniors progressing through clubgolf coaching an opportunity to hone their skills.
- The club's junior boys beat title holders, Greenock GC in the final of The Junior Newton Shield, the area team championships for Renfrewshire Golf Union, a feat they last accomplished in

1994. The club feels this is a direct result of the clubgolf coaching given by its 12 Level 1 coaches and the club professional.

- Of the 31 boys selected for Renfrewshire Golf Union's 2008 coaching squads, six of them were from Ranfurly Castle Golf Club. Of the nine juniors selected for the SGU's 2008 Coaching Academy Squad, five are from Ranfurly Castle Golf Club.
- In 2008 the junior team secured a two year sponsorship deal with local business, Brookfield Electrical Group, which helped fund team kit and travel to competitions in the Renfrewshire area.

### **STRANRAER GOLF CLUB, DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY**

#### **Stranraer's 2008 achievements included:**

As part of its strategic planning for the last 12 months, Stranraer's junior section identified eight priorities. Among these included the aim of increasing the numbers of girls playing, improving performance and development amongst established junior players whilst sustaining and attracting children's interest in the game. In 2008 the club achieved the following:

- Increasing the number of girls in coaching from 12 in 2007 to 24 in 2008. Five children with disabilities became members and joined the coaching programme
- Twenty seven new juniors joined the club through clubgolf and 29 returned from 2007, resulting in over 100 under 18 year olds playing golf at Stranraer GC.
- Nineteen juniors progressed from clubgolf Stage 2 coaching to playing in competitions on the course. Between 50 and 55 juniors played 9, 12 or 18 holes on a regular basis. Others competed in local and regional competitions.
- By allocating funds to PGA Professional coaching, the club created a successful mechanism where its juniors were given free PGA coaching from a local professional during school holidays.
- Junior Convenors made regular contact with the local schools; 45 pupils played in the Schools competition (June); 'Community Sports Leader Award' provision continued to be put in place.