

## New photo boards in clubhouse



Thanks to generous donations from both the Brora Old Boys Society (BOBs) and the Ladies Section and a good deal of professional input on the content and design from Lesley Beaney the clubhouse now proudly displays a pictorial history stretching from its formation in 1891. A number of the BOBs are pictured with the finished Picture Boards.

Thanks also to Morag Sutherland and Angela MacBeath who have catalogued the fascinating and varied history and background to all of the various Trophies in the Cabinets.

Over the winter period a number of members have been busy assisting in projects such as redecoration and joinery works and the Committee would like to express their appreciation and encourage anyone who would like to help in any way to please contact the office or any committee member, it is after all the very essence of the club system.

## Back where we belong

Ten of the Brora twelve man squad who recaptured the Dornoch Firth League Trophy.

At the back Liam MacDonald and Roddy Cameron. Front left to right: John Sutherland, Graham Grant, Robin Wilson, James MacBeath holding the Targe, Calum Stewart, Jim Miller, Mike MacKintosh and Tony Gill.

Missing from the photograph are George Duncan and Jimmy Murray.



Results: Brora 19.5, Royal Dornoch 15.5, Invergordon 13, Golspie 11.5 and Tain 10.5.  
Congratulations in recording Brora's 17<sup>th</sup> win in 26 years but its first for 9 years.

Brora Golf Club  
Golf Road  
Brora  
Sutherland  
KW9 6QS – GB  
Tel: 01408 – 621417  
[www.brorigolfclub.co.uk](http://www.brorigolfclub.co.uk)  
[secretary@brorigolfclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@brorigolfclub.co.uk)

# Newsletter

Summer 2009

## HIGHLAND SPORTS CLUB OF THE YEAR



### In this issue:

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..... and of course, The Course

On behalf of Brora Golf Club, President Robert Powell accepts The Highland Sports Club of the Year award from Cllr. Margaret Paterson, Chairman of the Highland Sports Development Association who was accompanied by Joan Maxwell Chair of Ross-shire Sports Council and Campbell Port representing Sutherland Sports Council with Alistair Risk, Club Vice President and Junior Convenor.

## HandicapMaster

The club is pleased to announce that it has implemented a new handicapping and competition management system this season based on HandicapMaster© software. This system has enabled us to provide members with direct access to competition results, handicap histories and open competition draws. All members are encouraged to register with the website. This will enable you to keep abreast of regular news, competition results and information on forthcoming events both playing and social

[www.brorigolfclub.co.uk](http://www.brorigolfclub.co.uk)

## First international country members

Four golfers from Boston, Mass. USA became the first to join under the International Country Membership and received copies of Hugh Baillie's "Golf at the back of Beyond" from Club PGA Professional Brian Anderson. Pete DiCarlo, Marc Lowell, Scott Fitzgerald, Paul DiCarlo are seen receiving their Membership Bag Tags from Club President Robert Powell and Brian Anderson. They were all full of praise for the condition of the course and the welcome and friendship they received in the clubhouse and we hope to see them on many future visits.



Copies of the book which is a History of Brora Golf Club from its founding in 1891 are available from the Pro Shop or Clubhouse priced at £20.

## Junior Section



The Junior Section were successful in applying for and receiving a grant from SportScotland under the Awards for All programme of £8,571 for the purchase and erection of new practice nets, which are shown here, and the creation of an additional putting green.

This is a fitting reward for the many hours of voluntary work put in by a number of members who have received their Clubgolf Coaching Certificates and contribute both time and enthusiasm along with Club Professional Brian Anderson and encouragement from Willie Mackay the Clubgolf Development Manager.

The new practice facilities have been highlighted and thanks given to the volunteers who continue to take the juniors to new heights. In particular Calum Stewart who recently had the honour of Captaining the Scotland under 16 team in their Quadrangular Match against Wales, Ireland and Holland at Machynys Peninsula Golf Club in Wales. The Scotland team won this event with Calum being undefeated throughout. A great honour for Calum and also for Brora Golf Club.

Junior Convenor Alistair Risk has organised two exchange trips for a number of juniors during the summer, one to Bonmont Golf Club in Switzerland and another to Marseille Golf Club in France. Our thanks to long time members Lindsay Risk and Rosemary Bonnin for organising everything on their side, the club knows and appreciates how fortunate we are to have so many loyal and committed overseas members who contribute to the future in so many ways.

## Financial update

Six months into the club's financial year the Finance Committee are pleased to report a more optimistic trend in the club's finances with turnover increasing and overheads reducing thanks to some cost cutting measures and the willingness of all of the staff to work with more flexibility and some job sharing. The one remaining factor which it is as yet too early to predict is the summer green fee revenue, although initial indications are a little more positive and we can all only hope that this will continue and perhaps we will have the long hot summer which is being predicted.

Further details of the club's financial position are shown in the 2008 annual report which is available to members on the "Members' News" page of the website.

We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to the Debenture Scheme and they should all by now have received their Debenture Certificates. There is still room for further applications should anyone who has so far not taken up a debenture still wish to do so. There are also still a number of sponsorship opportunities including some Tee Sponsorships and a major competition sponsorship is available for the Brora Open Mixed Foursomes. Please contact the Secretary for further details.

## The course



Andrew Wilson, Alan Murray, Anthony Wakeman, Iain Wakeman and Snowy the dog.

Head Green Keeper Ian Wakeman is shown with the Greens Staff and the extensive range of equipment required to keep the course in the excellent condition it is in. Considering the time of year everyone has been delighted with the presentation and condition of the course and in particular the Greens and Tees.

Congratulations to you all and keep up the good work.