



WELCOME TO OUR 100TH EDITION!



NOMINATE NOW FOR THE ENGLAND GOLF AWARDS

Who are the people and organisations who make golf go with a swing? England Golf is searching for the heroes of the game to celebrate at its new-look Awards evening.

THE ENGLAND GOLF AWARDS WILL TAKE PLACE AT LORD'S CRICKET GROUND ON THURSDAY 16 MARCH, 2017 AND WILL BE A MUST-ATTEND EVENT ON THE SPORTING CALENDAR.

Influential guests from the sport and golf community will join England Golf to recognise all that's great about English golf, including achievements in the professional and amateur game and in grass roots development.

Tickets are now on sale for the black-tie event and nominations are invited for eight award categories:

- > **YOUNG AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE GOLF FOUNDATION**
- > **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**
- > **LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD**
- > **CLUB COACH OF THE YEAR**
- > **MOST WELCOMING GOLF CLUB SPONSORED BY AMERICAN GOLF**
- > **STRONGEST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
- > **GOLFMARK CLUB OF THE YEAR SPONSORED BY TAYLORMADE-ADIDAS GOLF**
- > **COUNTY OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY SPORTS MARKETING SURVEYS INC. WHO WILL GIVE THE WINNING COUNTY £6000 WORTH OF BESPOKE RESEARCH**

[CLICK HERE >](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS IS WEDNESDAY, 11 JANUARY, 2017.

A total of 20 awards will also be made on the night including the Rising Star Award, the Player of the Year, the Team of the Year and the Performance Coach of the Year.

The England Golf Awards will take place in the Nursery Pavilion at Lord's Cricket Ground and tickets cost £75 per person or £675 for a table for 10. Tickets include a drinks reception and a three-course dinner with wine. **[CLICK HERE >](#) TO BUY NOW.**

HOW TO GET AHEAD OF THE GAME

THE NEW GOLF SEASON WILL SOON BE UPON US. ARE YOU READY FOR IT?

You can get ahead of the game with some winter practice – and as a member of England Golf you have access to a video tutorial library supported by our official media partners, National Club Golfer and Lady Golfer.

When you register as an England Golf member a weekly golf lesson will be uploaded to your profile. The video library is also regularly updated with new golf tutorial videos helping you make the most of your round.

It's the place to go if you want to find out how to play Charley Hull's stinger shot, perfect your weight shift or learn how to make the most of your driving range sessions. For these and many other tips just login or register for the England Golf Member Benefit Programme.

The Member Benefit Programme is free to join. Everyone who registers or logs in is automatically entered in our free prize draws and can also take advantage of great offers and discounts from partners. Members also receive their unique CDH number and can track their handicap online.

TO FIND OUT MORE, TO LOG-IN OR REGISTER [CLICK HERE >](#)



VAGLIANO SESSION DATE FOR TEAM HOPEFULS

India Clyburn

Seven England golfers, who are all hopefuls for a place in the GB&I Vagliano Trophy team, have been invited to a pre-Christmas session at The Belfry with the captain and manager.

They are Emma Allen (Meon Valley), Lianna Bailey (Kirby Muxloe), Gemma Clews, (Delamere Forest), India Clyburn (Woodhall Spa), Alice Hewson (Berkhamsted), Sophie Lamb (Clitheroe) and Lizzie Prior (Burhill). Three Irish players have also been invited by the Ladies Golf Union: Maria Dunne, Leona Maguire and Olivia Mehaffey.

They'll join captain Elaine Farquharson-Black, who led GB&I to Curtis Cup victory in June, and team manager Helen Hewlett, for the two-day session on December 21 and 22.

The Vagliano Trophy and the companion junior match, both against Continental Europe, will be played at Circolo Golf Bogogno in Italy from 30 June - 1 July.

[> READ MORE](#)



FLORIDA START FOR WOMEN'S SQUAD

Sophie Lamb

The England women's squad will start their 2017 campaign on Florida's Orange Blossom Tour as part of a plan to increase their playing opportunities.

The full squad of Louisa Brunt (Royal Birkdale), Gemma Clews (Delamere Forest), Sophie Lamb (Clitheroe), Georgia Price (Bude and North Cornwall) and Olivia Winning (Rotherham) will play in the Harder Hall Invitational from January 4-7.

The tournament is one of five events which make up the Orange Blossom Tour and past champions include Charley Hull who won in 2012.

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JUST ACE

The latest winner of our prize draw for a hole in one is **ENID SMITH** who had her ace on the 113-yard 16th hole at Dunscair Golf Club, Lancashire. It was her first ace in 46 years of playing and she wins a dozen **TaylorMade** golf balls.

[CLICK HERE > TO ENTER](#)



SUPPORTING CLUBS

England Golf's support for clubs, through its county and national networks, encouraged over 135,000 people to try the game and over 9000 to become club members in just six months.

The figures are shown in the latest County Impact Report, which covers April-September 2016 and details the success of initiatives to grow the game and keep people playing.

England Golf Chief Executive NICK PINK said: **"Clubs are at the centre of everything we do and it's very satisfying for our county teams to work with them to achieve these results. Now, we all look forward to building on these successes and helping clubs to become even stronger."**

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MERGER GO-AHEAD

THE MERGER OF THE LADIES' GOLF UNION AND THE R&A WILL COME INTO EFFECT FROM 1 JANUARY 2017.

England Golf Chairman GRAHAM YATES welcomed the move:

"This is excellent news for golf and particularly for raising the profile of women's golf."

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CENTRE HIGHLIGHTS THE EXPRESS WAY TO PLAY

Mytime Active's Bromley Golf Centre in South London is leading the way for the national Golf Express campaign with a brand new look.

It's just become the first golf complex in the country to be branded as a Golf Express Centre, backing England Golf's campaign to promote 9-hole golf and shorter formats to busy people and show 'it's all the game in half the time.'

The tee markers, flags, and hole cups on the popular 9-hole course all bear the Golf Express logo, while there's banners and posters at the driving range and in the clubhouse.

The centre has also been featured in a Golf Express video in which players talk about their pleasure in 9-hole golf ([CLICK HERE](#) to view). **"9 holes is just enough to help me relax after work,"** said Valerian Busby. Sonja Arthur added: **"As someone new to the game it's a great way to build my confidence."**

[> READ MORE](#)

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE RULES?

TEST YOURSELF WITH THIS MONTH'S QUESTIONS

Q1. During a medal round, Wendy approaches her ball that lies in a bunker, and notices a half-eaten banana lying directly in front of her ball. There is no banana tree in the vicinity of the bunker or the golf course. Wendy removes the banana.

What is the ruling?

- A. Wendy incurs no penalty as the banana is deemed to be an obstruction.
- B. Wendy incurs a one stroke penalty only if her ball moves in the process of removing the banana.
- C. Wendy incurs a two stroke penalty for removing the banana.

Q2. Rachel's ball lies in the rough, touching a twig that lies in front of her ball. As she addresses her ball, Rachel moves the twig which in turn moves her ball. Rachel replaces her ball but fails to replace the twig.

What is the ruling in a stroke play competition?

- A. Rachel incurs a penalty of one stroke.
- B. Rachel incurs a penalty of two strokes.
- C. Rachel incurs a penalty of three strokes.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE RULES [CLICK HERE >](#) TO VISIT THE R&A WEBSITE

England Golf would like to thank its sponsors and partners:



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It's all on the England Golf website!

www.EnglandGolf.org



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