

# GALGORM TIMES

## CHANGING TIMES

Galgorm sets the standard



### COURSE CHANGES

Upgrade programme finalises at one of the best parklands in the country

### TOPTRACER RANGE

Popular addition to the world class Academy facilities at Galgorm



### CLUB SUCCESS

Enjoying a vibrant membership and club success on the course





LUXURY HOTELS  
SPA DESTINATIONS  
& CITY CENTRE  
RESTAURANTS

• GALGORM

• THE RABBIT  
HOTEL & RETREAT  
• THE OLD INN

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# WELCOME

**W**elcome to the eighth edition of the Galgorm Times where we are delighted to showcase the latest developments across the estate and to highlight the exciting year ahead. The theme for this year is **Changing Times** and it couldn't be more fitting. We are living in a world where everything is changing at pace and the current economic and global climate impacts us all. Thankfully we still have plenty of good news here at Galgorm.

As many members will know, we are putting the finishing touches on our three-year multi-million course development programme and the championship Castle Course has never looked better. We highlight all the key changes in the last three years.

It will be another exciting summer of tournament golf with the ISPS HANDA World Invitational, and the brand-new NI Swing Series, including the NI Open here at Galgorm.

We have welcomed members' feedback through the survey and by speaking to individuals. This has greatly helped us set out our vision for the future. We have achieved so much and there is much more still to come at Galgorm.

Enjoy the latest edition of your Galgorm Times.

**Gary Henry**

Managing Director, Galgorm Castle

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## LADY CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

# HAZEL CUNNING

**M**y Captain's year reflections bring lots of joy, but also sorrow. We lost our first Captain and Lady President when Jessie Hughes passed away suddenly at the end of the year. Our Mince Pie Day Charity, run in Jessie's memory, brought in almost £900. What generous lady members we have!

A huge positive was my superb Lady Captain's Day with the worthy winner being Kara Watt. A 1am dip in the hot tub of a Shepherd's Hut at Galgorm Resort finished the evening off in style. I really appreciate the help and support this year given by Galgorm, especially Naomi Taylor for her organisation and patience. I was also blessed to have a great committee and officers who made life so much easier.

I could be wrong, but in the club's 25th year, I lay claim to being the only Lady Captain to have four members score holes-in-one in one year. Well

done Patricia Gardiner, Roisin Gillen, Kathleen Russell and Julie Murray. Congratulations also to our Honorary Secretary, Jackie Neill, for her award for 25 years outstanding service to the club – a well-deserved accolade.

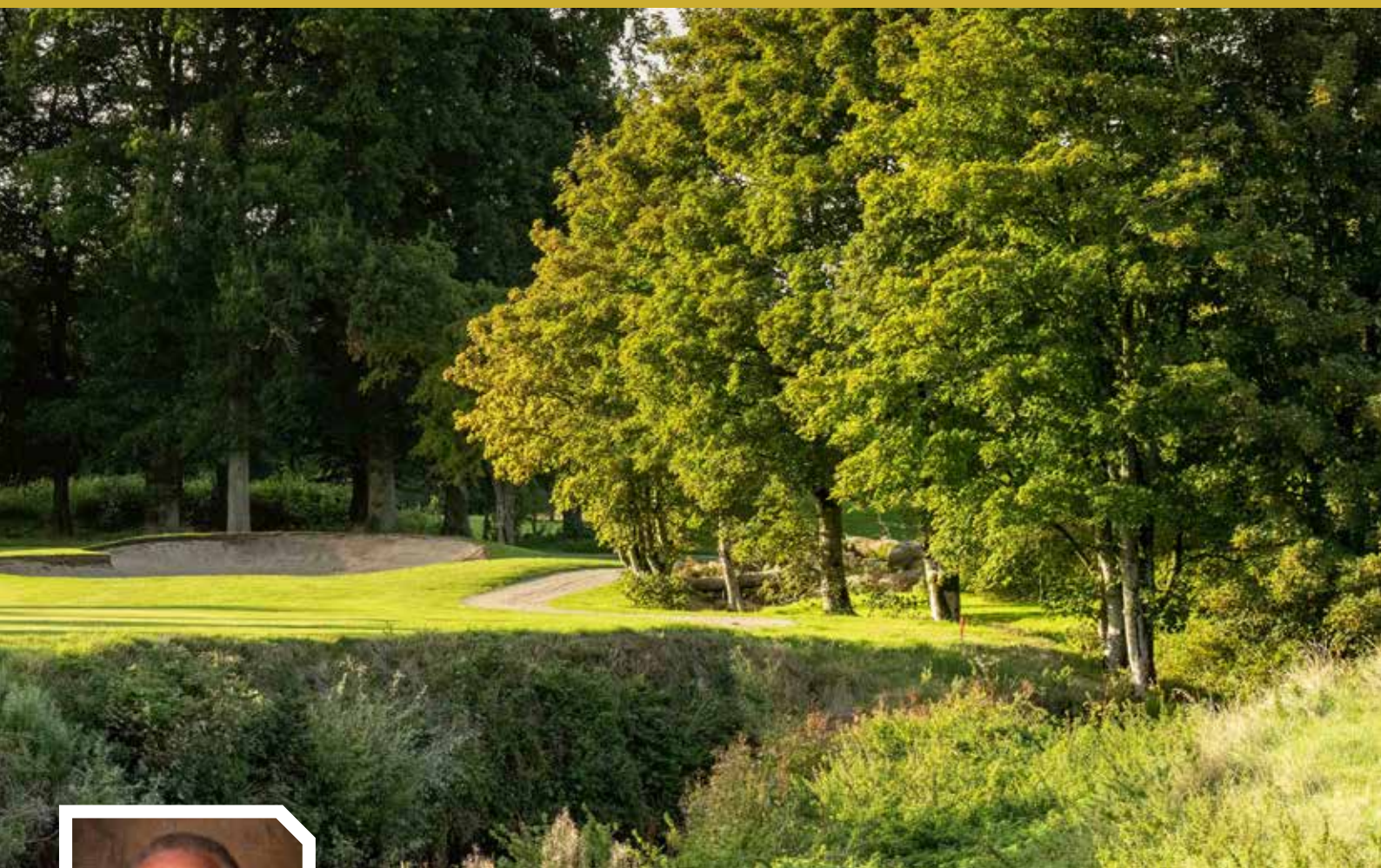
I continued my role as assistant organiser of the Volunteers at the ISPS Handa World Invitational. Thanks to members and non-members who work so hard during the tournament. As they say in Ireland, "the craic was mighty!" I also had the honour of being involved in the disabled golf competitions and, all I can say is, I was humbled by the experience.

I wish the incoming Captain, Trisha Blaney, a successful and enjoyable year.

**Hazel Cunning**

*Lady Captain, Galgorm Castle Golf Club*





## CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

# DAVY MILLAR

**It was a privilege to be Captain of Galgorm Castle Golf Club for our 25th Anniversary Year. I was ably assisted by my team of Office Bearers and Committee Members, and I would like to thank them all for their support.**

It was great to see our club enter so many Golf Ireland interclub competitions. Special mention to Rod Lennox's squad, who reached the Barton Shield final at Tramore GC. I was proud to support Trevor Fletcher's Fred Daly team at the Regional Final at Moyola GC. Many thanks to all the team captains.

I hope everyone enjoyed my Captain's Day which was very special for me personally. My Captain's Dinner at Galgorm Hotel was a wonderful night, which I really enjoyed sharing with friends and family. We also organised a very successful 25th Anniversary Golf Day and Christmas Bonanza Day. We were delighted to raise significant monies this year for local charities and I would like to thank all the members

and sponsors for their generosity.

Thanks to Gary Henry and his team for their assistance throughout my Captaincy. They organised a very enjoyable new event, the Founders Day, for all the original Galgorm members. Course Manager, Rodney McKay, and his team do a superb job keeping the course in wonderful condition. The changes in recent years are remarkable, and the ongoing enhancements will add more golfing challenges in 2023.

The ISPS HANDA World Invitational was another huge success. It was especially good to hear all the complimentary comments about our course from the tour and professionals.

I have really enjoyed my year as your Captain and wish Brian Watt and his Committee every success in 2023.

**Davy Millar**

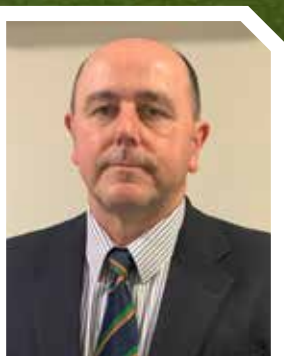
*Captain, Galgorm Castle Golf Club*



# GALGORM

## Changing with the times

*In a world where everything is changing at pace, we sit down with Gary Henry to assess what impact the current economic and global climate is having on Galgorm where fortunately plenty of good news stories continue to emerge at the Ballymena venue*



INTERVIEW WITH

## GARY HENRY

**G**algorm Castle is one of the most progressive tournament, golf and leisure venues anywhere in the country, and despite such challenging times for businesses and households of all kinds, the renowned Ballymena venue continues to navigate today's difficult waters.

There are massive changes taking place on a global scale, and this impacts businesses

everywhere, including here at Galgorm. The micro/macro economic pressures are very real, yet as company we continue to invest in our product to maintain the standards we have here at Galgorm and want to deliver for both members and visitors.

Members will recognise we are coming to the end of a multi-million three-year investment



programme to the Championship Course. This is a game changer for Galgorm as we constantly improve the course, the strategic challenge and playability for golfers of all ability. The work will not stop - and the list goes on - but for now we can step back and appreciate the progress that has been made over the last three years.

We are fortunate to have a vibrant membership at Galgorm and this is a crucial part of the overall business at Galgorm. Your time and feedback from surveys and conversations has been invaluable as we look ahead and drive forward the vision for Galgorm.

## IN FOCUS: KEY COURSE CHANGES

Longstanding members will know the course improvements we've made year-on-year over the last 20 years. In the last three years we've undergone a major upgrade (see pages 12-15 for full details). Here, I wish to highlight some recent key changes where we've tapped into Galgorm's natural resources such as the rivers and lakes.

### HOLE 9

The approach has always been a drainage concern, which helped speed up the process of creating the new water feature. When the work was being carried out, we discovered a spring which confirmed that we were never going to be able to fix the original drainage issue. The ninth is now one of the most attractive holes on the course. It is also playable for everyone, not just professionals in tournament week. That is why we created fairway up the right side of the new lake for shorter hitter to take an alternative route.

### HOLE 11

After major clearing behind the tees, the mature trees are now a focal point. The riverbank was completely reshaped so the river can be seen from every tee. Two new tees were built, one for tournaments and another for members with new risk reward options, while the hole remains completely playable for shorter hitters too.

### HOLE 12

We extended the tee back for more options.

### HOLE 13

New tee introduces play 'down the river'. New bunkers also make it a genuinely challenging hole, both off the tee and the approach. There is a reason this hole is index one and should be respected. However, further clearing on the left helps if avoiding the river right. A great hole, very challenging but also very strategic.

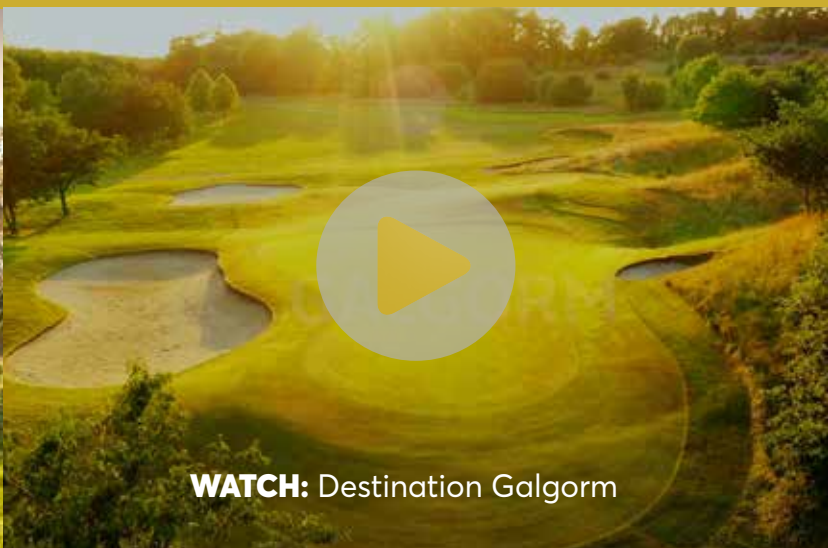
### HOLE 14

New teeing areas provide different angles, plus the new boulder wall and extended green combine to really enhance this picturesque par three.

### HOLE 1

Last project is new teeing ground beyond the path to start softening the dogleg. This will also help slow play. Changes to the first green are also planned.





**WATCH:** Destination Galgorm

## MEMBER SCENE

It's hard to believe the challenges of covid were only two short years ago. The pandemic had a considerable impact on all walks of life and business. In our wee bubble, it also made golf very popular. With more and more people working from home these days, and greater flexibility with their time, it means more people are playing golf now.

We must also factor what is going on in the world - the Ukraine war especially - and the real impact it is having on the cost of living. As a business, our costs have gone through the roof, down to seemingly simple things like fertiliser for the course is either unavailable or prices have soared.

For these reasons and more, we have highlighted what we are doing and hopefully clearly explained why we are doing things. The members' survey last year was extremely helpful. We appreciated everyone's help and feedback and this has helped shaped our future vision and strategy. We plan to have more member surveys in the future as the feedback is invaluable.

## MEMBERSHIP

In an ideal world, every member would like an empty golf course in perfect condition to play whenever they wish. We know that's not possible, so we try to find the balance to give members as much chance to enjoy all the facilities, but also make membership economically attractive. In the survey we asked if members would prefer to have fewer members and pay more. To our surprise, over 30 per cent of members said they would.

We always try to give members as much availability to play as possible. And unlike other venues, we have not raised fees significantly despite current inflationary pressures. We enjoy a vibrant membership at Galgorm, which is something we want to protect and grow. The truth is a strong membership also provides vital funds from things like competitions entries which helps fund the members' side of the business.

## CLUB SUCCESS

Galgorm also has some very strong players who represent the club at elite championship level across Great Britain & Ireland and globally. It's very encouraging to have a new crop of promising players emerging from our junior section. In late-summer, three of our young members will head across the pond to begin golf scholarships in the United States; Josh Hill will attend the University of South Alabama, Kaeden Anderson will attend Hawkeye Community College (Iowa) and Tara Lavery will attend Lindsey Wilson College (Kentucky).

## GREEN FEES & BENCHMARKING

Membership at Galgorm is almost full in the main categories with capacity in other categories. A stronger membership means less reliance on visitor green fee revenue. Green fees remain crucial to the business, but our strategy has been to raise green fee rates over the years rather than increase visitor numbers, which helps take pressure off tee times. That said there is only a certain rate we can aspire to as a parkland course in Northern Ireland.

Even though we are a modern, proprietary club, we still benchmark ourselves in the very top tier of parkland golf in this country, and alongside more traditional venues such as Malone, Belvoir and Royal Belfast. For example, overseas visitors will pay £120 green fees at Galgorm.

Put simply, we need a strong, vibrant club to pay the bills and maintain the standards we have here at Galgorm, yet we are conscious of not driving too many visitors to Galgorm to the detriment of our members.

## TEE-TIME INTERVALS

Ideally, we'd run with tee times 12-15 minutes apart, but that would mean less tee-times at the weekend. We've maintained eight-minute intervals at weekends and midweek is normally 10 minutes apart. Again, feedback from the member survey was invaluable. To run 12-minute intervals is great for speed of play but it would also mean less people getting to play. It is a balancing act.



## LEAD-IN TIMES

Bookings tee times online was an evolution that was coming before covid. Covid simply sped up the process as embrace technology for many parts of the business. Most members are happy to book online. We need to have all our facilities and activities available online where possible so that users can access, no matter what part of the world they are in. Most members were also happy with the five-day lead-in time booking option. This. Has been proven to be the optimum time with less wastage.

## ECONOMIC CLIMATE

Like all golf clubs across the country, we are being hit hard in these economically challenging times. Costs are soaring, big costs are manpower, energy, fuel, increases of 300 per cent in some cases. All materials and requirements for the golf course, particularly fertiliser. And inflation has hit everyone - golf is no different.

## OFF COURSE INVESTMENT

We continue to invest in projects, both on and off the course. We bought a new machine that picks up leaves more efficiently in the Autumn and allows Rodney and his team to take leaves off the course. Those leaves also get turned into compost in an environmentally friendly process.

The Barn at the clubhouse has been an exciting new addition. This continues to evolve with more food offerings becoming available all the time. Keep an eye for new food offerings at The Barn.

Car parking around the clubhouse has become very busy, so we're currently redesigning the area to make it safer and more user-friendly. This space will be mainly used for drop-offs and disabled parking.

We're also looking to add a new air compressor shoe cleaner near the 18th green so golfers. Can clean their shoes before getting back to the car park.

And finally, the Pro Shop is undergoing a refurbishment by keeping the same theme as The Barn with reclaimed wood. Most members will know Toptracer Technology

now powers the range at Galgorm, which has been a popular addition. (See pages 16-17 for more details).

## QUASHING THE RUMOUR

A rumour has been doing the rounds, suggesting all the recent course projects are being funded by the European Tour. For clarity, I can tell you this is not the case. The ongoing work to the course is being paid for by the company as part of the evolution of the overall estate. Sadly, the Tour don't contribute - which would have been nice!

## EXCITING TIMES AHEAD

We will have further exciting plans to announce in due course as we continue to work with our partners at The Resort with news about developing the castle. Further details to follow.

In more great news, Gracehill Village next door to Galgorm is also seeking to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site, another exciting development for the area that will bring greater global focus to the Galgorm area.

# FIXTURE HIGHLIGHTS 2023

### CAPTAIN'S DAY – MR BRIAN WATT

Saturday 17th June 2023

### LADY CAPTAIN'S DAY – MS PATRICIA BLANEY

Friday 30th June 2023

### OPEN STABLEFORDS

Monday 29th May

Friday 7th July

Monday 28th August

### FOUNDERS' CUP

Tuesday 10th October

### NI OPEN

Tuesday 20th June – Thursday 22nd June

### ISPS HANDA WORLD INVITATIONAL

Monday 14th – Sunday 20th August

### AWAY DAYS

Ladies Away Day – Thursday 10th August

Men's Away Day – Saturday 12th August

## NEW: The Barn at Galgorm





# TaylorMade STEALTH 2

*The new TaylorMade Stealth 2 range of golf drivers, fairways, rescues and irons are all about forgiveness, or as TM says "FARGIVENESS"- the Stealth 2 series is ready to give your 2023 game a serious upgrade*

**B**ook your STEALTH 2 Custom Fit today - our resident Custom Fitting Expert and PGA Professional Barrie McGoldrick gives us the key info on the Stealth2 range below.

## DRIVERS: THREE WAYS TO GO FAR!

- STEALTH 2 PLUS The least forgiving of the driver models, the Plus is aimed at the better player.
- STEALTH 2 The Stealth 2 will suit a variety of players who favour mid-spin, mid-launch and a slight draw-bias.
- STEALTH 2 HD It's the most stable and forgiving driver in the family, perfect for higher handicappers or game-improvers.



**FAIRWAYS:** *Like cheating. Launch the ball with ease off the deck or from a tee!*

- STEALTH 2 PLUS Aimed at the better player the adjustable technology makes it an option for most players.
- STEALTH 2 With a neutral ball flight, suitable for most levels of player.

- STEALTH 2 HD Oversized (200cc) head combined with low Centre of Gravity offers increased confidence and playability for golfers of every skill level.



## RESCUES: Distance. Forgiveness. Playability.

- STEALTH 2 PLUS Lends itself to enhanced shot-making and will appeal to the better player.
- STEALTH 2 The standard model that will fit most players' needs.
- STEALTH 2 HD The larger profile and draw-bias makes these great for game-improvers or mid-high handicappers.

## IRONS: EXPECT BETTER SHOTS MORE OFTEN

### STEALTH HD IRONS

With an ultra-low Centre of Gravity, you can expect easier launch and playability in the long irons, and optimised trajectory and spin in the scoring clubs.

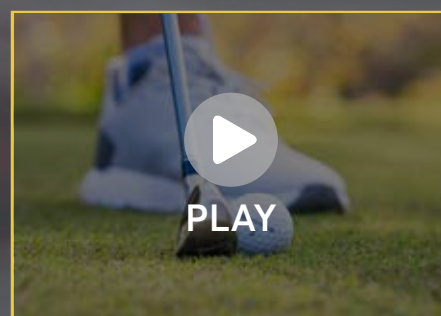
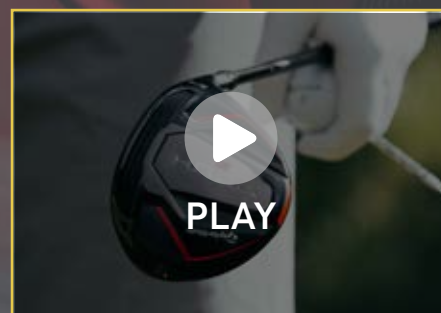
### P700 SERIES IRONS

- P790 For the golfer who wants



a bit of everything: distance, forgiveness, a premium solid feel, playability, controllability and looks.

- P770 A slightly shorter blade length than the P790 with a thinner top line which will frame the ball nicely at address with less offset.
- P7MC For the consistent ball striker offering a hint of forgiveness
- P7MB For the 'best ball-strikers in the world' who demand control and precision for shot-making.





# STEP OUT IN STYLE IN 2023

Our Pro Shop stocks golf's leading brands and our team will be happy to get you up and running in time for the new season.

## SHOES

**FootJoy** remains the 'No.1 shoe in Golf' and their 2023 line up is as strong as ever; the FJ Premieres are probably the classiest shoe in golf and the FJ Pro SL remains the most popular spikeless shoe on the market.



**Under Armour** continue to grow in the footwear market and we'll have the UA HOVR Tour SL, UA HOVR Fade 2 SL and the UA Charged Draw 2 in store.



**adidas** remain a strong force in footwear and the excellent adidas Tour 360 XT/SL will be a strong seller again along with the ZG23 and Code Chaos.



**NEW FOR 2023**, we'll be stocking a fantastic range of shoes from Duca del Cosma - Handcrafted Italian design for on and off the golf course.



## CLOTHES

The 2023 Spring/Summer lines will be dropping throughout March with the latest from Under Armour, FootJoy, Galvin Green and Ping in store.

## PRO PICKS

**Trousers:** The FootJoy Performance Trousers were very popular last year and are back in navy, grey and black.

**Polo Shirt:** For a top-quality classic crested shirt the best pick is the Massimo from Galvin Green.

**Midlayer:** Hard to choose a favourite with Under Armour, Galvin Green, FootJoy and Ping offering such great midlayers!

**Sweater:** FootJoy offer an excellent range of classic knitwear available all-year round.

**Jacket:** Invest in the best with Galvin Green.

## BALLS

In premium balls, the market-leader Titleist ProV1/X and its rival TaylorMade TP5/X will be in stock. We'll also be stocking new balls from both Titleist and TaylorMade at varying price points.







ON COURSE PROJECTS

# WORLD CLASS

## Championship Course

**Northern Ireland's premier tournament venue nears completion of a three year multi-million investment programme to the championship Castle Course**

**F**ollowing a decade of investment in tournament golf, Galgorm has established itself as an internationally acclaimed tournament venue having hosted over 15 professional tournaments on some of the game's leading tours: the DP World Tour, European Challenge Tour, LPGA Tour, Ladies European Tour and the Clutch Pro Tour.

It also remains one of the most vibrant member clubs in the country with membership typically running at capacity and Galgorm Castle producing players at elite level and representing strongly in Golf Ireland team competitions each year.

The Galgorm golfing evolution continues at pace

as the three-year multi million investment programme to the championship Castle Course will complete in the coming weeks. Major works to the course will rubberstamp Galgorm's reputation as one of Ireland's best championship parklands.

The course now measures over 7,300 yards from the championship tees but has an extensive range of tee complexes to suit golfers of every level.

Hosting tournament golf since 2010, Galgorm has been the perennial home of the Northern Ireland Open for over 10 years, was host of the 2020 Dubai Duty Free Irish Open and is the current home of the ISPS HANDA World Invitational.



# HIGH FIVE

## Notable changes in course redevelopment programme

Before



During work



### HOLE 9 (513 yards Par 4)

The largest project in the early part of 2022 was the redesign of the lake to the left of the 9th fairway. The lake was extended by approximately 100 yards towards the green and the ground level on the tee box side of the lake was lowered, making the water more visible from the teeing areas. A large mounding area was constructed at the far side of the lake, which has reduced the size of the landing zone for the longer hitters.

During work



### HOLE 11 (485 yards Par 4)

We completed a major tree clearance project in the teeing areas to construct two new tee boxes on the bank of the River Maine, creating an exciting new dynamic to the tee shot for amateurs and professionals on this strong par-4. A new bunker has been introduced to the left of the fairway on the corner of the dogleg, while the existing large bunker left of the green has been redesigned into a complex of three smaller bunkers.



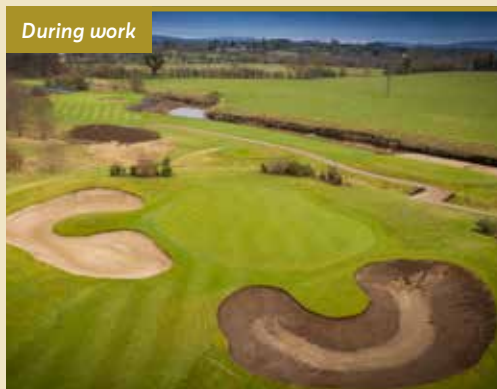
Before



## HOLE 13 (446 yards Par 4)

The championship tee box has been moved back and raised out towards the river, adding length to this challenging par 4, while the white, green and red tee boxes have also been extended across to the edge of the riverbank. Along the right side of the early part of the hole, the previous steep bank has been re-contoured to create a gentler and more natural slope. Two fairway bunkers have been added to the left of the fairway (the first, larger bunker sited where an old tree previously stood before being struck down by lightning) and a new bunker has been introduced to right of the green.

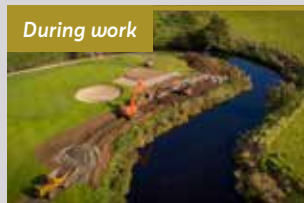
During work



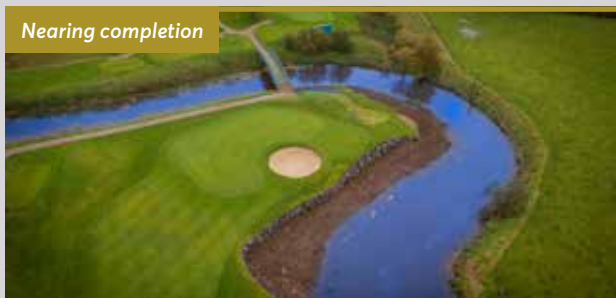
Before



During work



Nearing completion



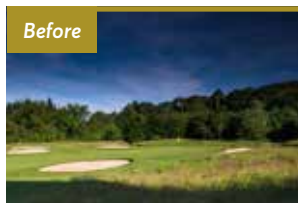
## HOLE 14 (177 yards Par 3)

At the green, a boulder wall along the riverbank has been built, creating an exciting new visual impact. The green has been enlarged to wrap around the bunker, creating dramatic new pin positions to the right of the bunker with new mounding introduced to the rear of the extended portion of green. A new tee box to the left of the current championship tee box has created an alternative angle and on a good day, Slemish Mountain is visible from this new teeing area. The green tee box has been extended towards the River Braid, enhancing the visual on the tee shot for all levels of golfers.

## HOLE 18 (555 yards Par 5)

The signature project back in 2020/21 was at the par five 18th where a brand-new concept at the closing hole has been a game changer. This project kick-started the three-year course development plan and took things to a whole new level. The 555-yard par five was completely altered with a brand-new water feature and stadium-like mounding around the green complex to create a truly world class finishing hole. Just like the dramatic 18th at Wentworth, this has made the 18th at Galgorm one of the most exciting finishing holes in Irish golf. It is the ideal risk/reward hole and is a wonderful closing hole, not only for tournament golf but for members too.

Before



During work



Work complete





# CHRONOLOGY OF THREE-YEAR MULTI-MILLION DEVELOPMENT OF CHAMPIONSHIP CASTLE COURSE AT GALGORM

HOLE 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade of first tee area including extension of putting green, additional hedging and landscaping</li> <li>• Reshaped fairway and approach</li> <li>• Red tee box extended to accommodate several tee markers</li> <li>• Dead trees removed running along the path that runs across the hole</li> <li>• Easing the challenge of the opening tee shot</li> </ul>	(2020/21)
		(2020/21)
HOLE 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New greenside bunker added rear-left</li> </ul>	(2020/21)
HOLE 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New fairway bunker – left corner of dogleg</li> </ul>	(2021/22)
HOLE 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New greenside bunker</li> <li>• Green extended front-left portion</li> <li>• New blue tee box</li> <li>• Clearance of woodland/marsh area left of green</li> </ul>	(2020/21)
		(2021/22)
HOLE 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of woodland area to the right of the ditch</li> <li>• Extension of white and blue tees, finished with sleeper walls</li> </ul>	(2019/20) (2020/21)
HOLE 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New greenside bunker and reshaping of area to right down to lake</li> <li>• New stone bridge to left of green</li> </ul>	(2020/21) (2021/22)
HOLE 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New greenside bunker – rear</li> <li>• Upgrade tee complex with blue and reds extended, finished with sleeper walls</li> <li>• New general play tee box – to the right of existing tee boxes</li> </ul>	(2020/21)
		(2021/22)
HOLE 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New blue tee box - shared with hole 10 green tee</li> <li>• Left greenside bunker reshaped</li> <li>• New right greenside bunker with mounding</li> <li>• New pathway along right hand side of hole</li> </ul>	(2020/21)
		(2021/22)
HOLE 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New tee box for general play – to the right of existing tee boxes</li> <li>• Lake to left of fairway redesigned – moved closer to fairway and extended further up the hole</li> <li>• New mounding to the left of fairway – creating a tunnel effect</li> <li>• Significant woodland management along the right side of the hole from fairway to green</li> <li>• Enlarged the lake nearer the green - now flows out into what was the fairway</li> <li>• Bridge constructed for all traffic across the lake.</li> <li>• Boulder wall in the face of the lake facing the direction of play.</li> </ul>	(2020/21) (2021/22)
		(2022/23)
HOLE 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New ditch running across fairway 130yds from green</li> <li>• New greenside bunker to rear</li> <li>• Green re-designed and moved slightly to the right</li> <li>• Significant vegetation clearance to left of approach</li> <li>• New Himalayas tee box</li> <li>• New blue tee box</li> </ul>	(2019/20)
		(2020/21) (2021/22)
HOLE 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New blue tee box</li> <li>• White tee box re-built and raised</li> <li>• Major tree clearance in teeing area</li> <li>• Two new tee boxes constructed on the bank of the River Maine</li> <li>• New fairway bunker constructed on left corner of dogleg</li> <li>• Fairway reshaped</li> <li>• Greenside bunker redesigned into a complex of three smaller bunkers</li> </ul>	(2019/20)
		(2022/23)
HOLE 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Left hand bunker reshaped</li> </ul>	(2019/20)
HOLE 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenside bunker reshaped – wraps round front-left of green</li> <li>• New championship tee box constructed and raised above existing teeing areas</li> <li>• White and green/red tee boxes extended/raised across to edge of riverbank</li> <li>• Two new fairway bunkers added to left hand side</li> <li>• Fairway reshaped</li> <li>• New greenside introduced to right along with mounding complex</li> </ul>	(2019/20) (2022/23)
HOLE 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New tee box constructed to left of championship tee box</li> <li>• Green tee box extended out onto riverbank</li> <li>• Boulder wall constructed along riverbank in front of green</li> <li>• Green enlarged to wrap around bunker</li> </ul>	(2022/23)
HOLE 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greenside bunker complex re-designed – two bunkers integrated</li> <li>• New greenside bunker – front left</li> <li>• New blue tee box - adjacent to 14 green</li> </ul>	(2019/20)
		(2021/22)
HOLE 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New blue tee box</li> <li>• Two new fairway bunkers</li> </ul>	(2019/20) (2021/22)
HOLE 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New fairway bunker</li> <li>• Reshaped greenside bunker</li> </ul>	(2021/22)
HOLE 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New fairway bunker - left hand side</li> <li>• Redesign of green/approach – new water feature</li> </ul>	(2020/21)





# GALGORM ACADEMY

## Golfing Centre of Excellence

**T**optracer technology is the latest introduction to the ever-expanding offering at Galgorm where the Academy has become one of Northern Ireland's leading Centre's of Excellence in golf.

Galgorm is already the Northern Irish home for the renowned Dave Pelz Scoring School where one of game's best short game coaches and his team run residential clinics through the year.

Galgorm has a team of PGA professionals and coaches ready to help golfers of all levels with their game. The Gareth Maybin Academy is also located at Galgorm where the former DP World Tour player coaches is clients.

Away from the championship Castle Course, the golfing facilities really are second to none, and members and visitors are welcome to use them. From beginners

to elite level golfers, Galgorm and the Academy is the perfect place to work on your game.

### NEW! GALGORM TOPTRACER RANGE

Most golfers will be familiar with Toptracer from televised global golf coverage. Toptracer technology is used on PGA Tour and DP World Tour coverage to track the shots of the game's best players.

The Galgorm Toptracer Range is one of only a handful of venues in Northern Ireland that has this technology. Toptracer is transforming the everyday driving range experience, where guests of all ages and ability can play a variety of fun and skill-based games. They can compete against friends, see their shot trace, and receive instant data on interactive game screens in the dedicated bays.

"We are delighted to partner with Toptracer and for Galgorm to become the latest Toptracer Range in this part of the world," explained Ross Oliver, Director of Golf at Galgorm. "Toptracer technology brings the range experience to a whole new level and it's great that we can roll it out here at Galgorm to complement the other top-class facilities we have on site.

[CLICK FOR MORE](#)

### DAVE PELZ SCHOOL AT GALGORM

In 2022, the Dave Pelz Scoring Game School set up at Galgorm. The American short game guru has coached





# GALGORM ACADEMY FACILITIES

- Toptracer Range
- Dave Pelz Short Game School
- Gareth Maybin Golf
- Galgorm PGA Coaching Ticket
- Covered Bays at Range
- Interactive Technology
- Trackman Technology
- Tour Standard Practice Putting Area
- Six-hole Par-3 Course
- Short Game Area
- Himalayas Putting Green

the likes of Phil Mickelson and has been one of the game's leading exponents of the short game and putting for decades. Pelz says 11 of the professionals he has worked with over the years have won 18 Majors between them. His passion for this part of the game has helped thousands of golfers improve their game.

Now golfers here can book one day clinics or three-day schools at Galgorm as the Dave Pelz coaching team help golfers with their short game.

[CLICK FOR MORE](#)

## GARETH MAYBIN GOLF

Former DP World Tour player Gareth Maybin turned to coaching after stepping away from tour and a life on the road. He set up his coaching ticket at Galgorm several years ago and currently coaches golfers of all ability. Maybin has a wealth of experience from his time competing on tour and uses this expertise in his coaching methods.

## GALGORM COACHING TEAM

The team of Galgorm PGA Professionals headed up by Director of Golf Ross Oliver have been helping members and visitors for years at the Galgorm Academy. Professionals like Barrie McGoldrick specialises in custom fitting and through using the latest technology will help improve your game. Alistair McDiarmid is another long-standing member of the PGA team and looks after the Junior Programme at Galgorm among other coaching roles.

Galgorm is a dedicated TaylorMade Select Fit Custom Fitting Centre too where the team will help you find the individual equipment to suit you. With Trackman launch monitor you will get all the data and feedback you need.

[CLICK FOR MORE](#)

# THE PGA TEAM

*Galgorm enjoys some of the best practice facilities in the country and we have a group of coaches to match, so there's no excuse, let us help improve your game!*

## ROSS OLIVER - DIRECTOR OF GOLF



Galgorm Director of Golf Ross Oliver and the PGA team take you through the latest trends for the 2023 season. The Pro Shop carries all the latest brands, while the coaching team are on hand to help improve your game.

## BARRIE McGOLDRICK



Members will be most familiar with PGA Professional Barrie McGoldrick, a friendly face at the Pro Shop. Barrie's passion is coaching players of all levels. He is a custom fitting and equipment technology expert and is a TrackMan certified instructor.

## ALISTAIR McDIARMID



Alistair McDiarmid (PGA Professional) has been at Galgorm since opening in 1997 and continues to provide lessons to our members and visitors whilst co-ordinating our Junior Academy classes throughout the year. Alistair remains active on the PGA Northern Branch circuit.

## GARETH MAYBIN



Former European Tour player Gareth Maybin joined Galgorm in 2017 and applies his vast knowledge and experience of 'life on tour' to help his clients reach their goals. Gareth's dedicated studio is adjacent to the range and is equipped with a TrackMan launch monitor and large screens for full analysis.



## 2022 ISPS HANDA WORLD INVITATIONAL:

Sweden's Maja Stark plays to the 18th green on her way to winning the women's title



TOURNAMENT VENUE

# GALGORM IS MADE FOR TOURNAMENT GOLF

Galgorm needs little introduction when it comes to hosting high profile tournaments as the leading players and tours from around the world arrive to compete at the Ballymena venue each year

**B**y the summer of 2023 Galgorm will have hosted or been part of no less than 18 professional tournaments since the first Northern Ireland Open took place back in 2010. Add to this Galgorm's involvement in 14 Ulster Strokeplay Championships and the 2006 Ulster Youths back in the early days, and it's easy to see why Galgorm has gained a global reputation as 'Northern Ireland's Premier Tournament Venue'.

This year will see the return of the ISPS HANDA World Invitational from August 17-20, while the NI Open will take place from June 20-22 as the highlight of an exciting new NI Swing Series, a real festival of golf for Northern Ireland this summer. Local favourite Dermot McElroy will be looking to defend the title he won so convincingly in 2022.

When the World Invitational rolls into town it will be the fourth staging of this unique men's and





women's event with a \$3 million prize purse and an event tri-sanctioned by the DP World Tour, LPGA Tour, and the Ladies European Tour (LET). Few will forget the dramatic scenes as Sweden's Maja Stark kept her nerve coming down the stretch in 2022 to claim the women's title, while Scotland's Ewen Ferguson was in the form of his life to win the men's title as coverage was broadcast around the world.

Galgorm also has the distinction of being a host venue of the Irish Open (2020) when it became the only parkland in Northern Ireland to stage the national championship when played as part of the DP World Tour (formerly the European Tour). American John Catlin was a sensational winner that year.

Galgorm is putting the finishing touches to the multi-million three-year course development project, and this has greatly enhanced the championship Castle Course as a tournament venue, while also retaining its integrity and playability for golfers of all levels.



# TOURNAMENT GOLF WITH GALGORM

## ISPS HANDA WORLD INVITATIONAL

- 2023 August 17-20, 2023 | Host Galgorm
- 2022 Maja Stark (Swe) -20  
Ewen Ferguson (Sco) -12
- 2021 Pajaree Anannarukarn (Tha) -16  
Daniel Gavins (Eng) -13
- 2019 Stephanie Meadow (Nir) -11  
Jack Senior (Eng) -11

## DUBAI DUTY FREE IRISH OPEN

- 2020 John Catlin (USA) -10

## NORTHERN IRELAND OPEN

- 2023: June 20-22 | Galgorm
- 2022: Dermot McElroy. (Nir) -8
- 2021: John Murphy\* (Ire) -5
- 2020: Tyler Koivisto (USA) -13
- 2018: Calum Hill (Sco) -19
- 2017: Robin Sciort-Siegrist (Fra) -
- 2016: Ryan Fox (Nzl) -19
- 2015: Clément Sordet (Fra) -17
- 2014: Joakim Lagergren (Swe) -13
- 2013: Daan Huizing (Nld) -13
- 2012: Paul Reed (Eng) -12
- 2011: Chris Hanson (Eng) -14
- 2010: James Hepworth (Eng) -15

(\* played at Cairndhu)

## ULSTER MEN'S & WOMEN'S STROKEPLAY

- 2023 TBC
- 2022 Jack Hearn (Tramore) 201  
Aideen Walsh (Lahinch) 214
- 2021 Robert Moran\* (Castle) 218  
Aideen Walsh\* (Lahinch)
- 2019 Colm Campbell (Warrernpoint) 284  
Jessica Ross (Clandeboyne) 296
- 2018 Ronan Mullarney (Galway) 133
- 2017 Colin Fairweather (Knock) 146
- 2016 Jamie Fletcher (Warrenpoint) 141
- 2015 Tiarnan McLarnon (Massereene) 137
- 2014 Aaron Grant (Dundalk) 140
- 2013 Dermot McElroy (Ballymena) 277
- 2012 Cormac Sharvin (Ardglass) 215
- 2011 Ciaran Molloy (Ardee) 280
- 2010 Reeve Whitson (Mourne) 143
- 2009 Simon McConnell (Ballyclare) 69

(\*Played at Royal County Down)

## ULSTER YOUTHS

- 2006 Gareth Shaw (Lurgan) 287





EVENTS IN 2023

# EXCITING SUMMER OF GOLF AHEAD

***Galgorm is gearing up for another exciting summer of tournament golf where members and visitors alike will get the chance to be part of and witness some of the best players from the men's and women's game compete here in Northern Ireland***

**T**he ISPS HANDA World Invitational presented by AVIV Clinics will return for the fourth staging of this celebrated tri-sanctioned event between the DP World Tour, LPGA Tour, and Ladies European Tour (LET). The \$3 million event will be broadcast around the world and will once more place Galgorm - and all that is golf about golf in Northern Ireland - in the global shop window.

Once more Galgorm will be the primary venue for the

World Invitational and spectators can look forward to more dramatic scenes like we had in 2022! The smiling Swede Maja Stark was a popular winner of the women's title in 2022 after her 20-under winning aggregate. Scotland's Ewen Ferguson played sensational golf all wee to win the men's title on 12 under.

Tournament week in 2023 takes place from August 17-20 when many of the leading players from the men's and women's game will compete at the same venues at the same time and for the same prize money.

Players will notice key strategic changes to the course in 2023 as the final touches take place in the three-year course development programme. The significant changes are the new lake in front of the ninth green and the major work carried out at holes 11, 13 and 14 along the riverbank. The course upgrades will provide a wonderful new strategic challenge for the professional but also leave a legacy for amateur players as new tee and green complexes will serve golfers of all ability.





## NI OPEN HIGHLIGHT OF NEW NI SWING SERIES

An exciting festival of tournament golf has been confirmed for June when the brand-new NI Swing will see three professional events take place at key venues across Northern Ireland over a 10-day period.

As part of the new NI Swing, the NI Open at Galgorm (June 20-22) will be the showcase event for the new initiative, which is part of the Mizuno Next Generation Series. A total prize fund of £165,000 will be available across three high profile events where men and women professional can compete, while amateurs will also get the chance to tee it up in dedicated pro-ams.

Clandeboyne Golf Club will kick things off with the NI Masters (June 14-16) before a NI Swing Pro-am

takes place at Cairndhu Golf Club on Sunday June 18.

Attentions will then turn to Galgorm for the £100,000 NI Open presented by Modest! Golf Management from June 20-22 in a 54-hole stroke play event. This will be the 13th staging of the NI Open, a truly homegrown event that started out at Galgorm in 2010. Since then, high profile winners have included New Zealand's Ryan Fox (2016), a Rolex Series winner and recently crowned 2022 Player of the Year on the DP World Tour after picking up the Seve Ballesteros Award.

Local favourite Dermot McElroy is the defending champion after his dominant win in 2022.

Galgorm really is gearing up for another exciting summer of high-quality golf and members will have plenty of opportunities to get involved and be part of the story during tournament weeks.











# A Taste of Galgorm Collection

A unique collection of hotels with award-winning spas, a golf club and 2 city centre restaurants, we offer amazing places to rest, meet and dine.

Our destinations have something different to offer you, from ultimate relaxation and wellbeing retreats to adventurous and outdoorsy country escapes. Our delicious foodie experiences lie at the heart of what we do, with dining to suit any occasion.

When you're not indulging your taste buds, there is a wealth of experiences to discover and enjoy in our hotels, each perfectly situated to explore the region's most renowned attractions and world class golf courses.

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## **GALGORM, COUNTY ANTRIM**

Switch off, disconnect, and rest your head in luxury at Galgorm, County Antrim. Set within 380 acres of lush parkland with the spectacular River Maine flowing through the estate, Galgorm Resort has a truly unique setting. Boasting world-class hospitality and unrivalled spa, accommodation and golf facilities, the renowned Galgorm is the jewel in Northern Ireland's hospitality crown.

## **THE RABBIT HOTEL & RETREAT, COUNTY ANTRIM**

Burrowed lakeside in the heart of Templepatrick, County Antrim in Northern Ireland, The Rabbit Hotel & Retreat is an idyllic haven, a quirky laid-back home from home with a show-stopping open-air spa that exudes a mix of sophisticated luxury and Bohemian glam. Grab a bite noon to night in The Restaurant, promising fresh, innovative and seasonally led menus with a warm welcome.

## **THE OLD INN, COUNTY DOWN**

Nestled in the charming village of Crawfordsburn in beautiful County Down, The Old Inn offers the perfect rural retreat. Embodying a playful blend of the old with the new, the local with the worldly, the hotel is bursting with character. From cosy firelit corners and elegant interiors to gourmet dining and the exclusive, luxurious Treetop Spa, perched above Crawfordsburn Country Park.

With luxurious bedrooms individually decorated to their own traditional style, a quintessentially comfy laid-back 1614 Bar and The Restaurant guaranteeing delicious dining from seasonal menus that marry homely classics with modern dining, The Old Inn is home to time-honoured hospitality.

## **FRATELLI BELFAST**

Ristorante, Pizzeria & Bar, Fratelli oozes rustic Italian charm with a contemporary edge. Perfectly positioned on Great Victoria Street, we promise a family friendly informal environment where the focus is on simple yet quality cookery and a warm welcome.

Menus boast inspiring Italian cuisine with the freshest pasta, finest pizza, delicious cocktails, handcrafted mini desserts and much more. Make it a family day out with the kids as they get creative and build their own pizza before enjoying a mini bambinocino whilst reading the story of the three little boars. Elevate your evening with drinks on the 2nd floor terrace as you take in the hustle and bustle of the city, paired perfectly with cocktails and cicchetti to while away the hours with friends.

## **PARISIEN, BELFAST**

Taking prime position in Belfast city centre with unrivalled views of City Hall, Parisien is your cosmopolitan destination made for relishing the moment. With a chic yet comfortable ambience and style in abundance, gather with friends for a leisurely lunch, celebrate life's milestones with family or host your private event or wedding with loved ones. For summer evenings, the 2nd floor terrace is Belfast's most sought-after spot for sipping cocktails and soaking up the city vibes.

So, what are you waiting for? Our collection is full of places perfectly located to fill your Spring with fresh adventure.





GALGORM MEMBERSHIP

# MEMBER BENEFITS ACROSS GALGORM



**M**embership at Galgorm offers an outstanding golf course, excellent practice facilities and a bustling bar and restaurant in the Castle Kitchen + Bar plus The Barn, a new addition at the Galgorm clubhouse in 2022.

But being a member at Galgorm offers so much more than this. Read on to find out about the many additional benefits of being a member at Galgorm...

## THE GALGORM COLLECTION

Your **Galgorm Perks** card provides discounts throughout all Galgorm Collection of properties and venues outlined above. From luxury hotels and spa destinations to city centre restaurants and boutique hotels, the Galgorm Perks card has you covered. An exclusive offering for Galgorm members to enjoy,

- 10% off food and beverages in bars and restaurants
- 10% off spa treatments and packages - Galgorm
- £25.00 off best available accommodation rates

**To book, please contact property direct.**

**Galgorm Perks cards available to collect via Pro Shop.**

**(Standard T&Cs apply, bookings subject to availability)**







## CLOSER TO HOME LOUGH ERNE

If you're seeking an escape closer to home, we also enjoy a reciprocal arrangement with Lough Erne so Galgorm members can enjoy a game on the Faldo course for £35.

## DISCOUNTED GOLF GLOBALLY

As a Galgorm member, you'll be able to avail of discounted golf across the globe...

### LINKS2GOLFNETWORK

We have partnered with **Links2Golf International** as one of its prestigious Reciprocal Clubs.

Your membership provides you with access to 700+ signature golf clubs in North America, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and 53 other countries.

Take Advantage of significantly reduced green fees at all Network Clubs. See full list of Network Clubs via this link: [www.links2golf.com/en/members](http://www.links2golf.com/en/members)

Members of Reciprocal Clubs may utilise their benefits for up to four rounds of golf per 30-day period. At clubs more than 150km away from your home club, we recommend you use the easy online request system: [www.links2golf.com/en/booking](http://www.links2golf.com/en/booking)

### LA MANGA CLUB

If there is one sport that distinguishes La Manga Club as one of the best sports resort in the world, it would have to be golf! The resort is home to three 18-hole courses, suitable for all levels of players.

We are delighted to have a reciprocal agreement with the world-famous La Manga Club, which means our members benefit from a heavily reduced green fee rate. Galgorm members can play at La Manga for €87 (reduced from €228).

**Please contact reservations exclusively via [golf@lamangacub.com](mailto:golf@lamangacub.com). Members must produce a current membership card and letter of introduction from Galgorm to avail of this rate.**



La Manga Club in Spain





# GALGORM

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