



Kinsale Golf Club

Cumann Golf Cionn T-Sáile
Established 1912

KGC ON TOUR

ROBBIE WALSH - RECENTLY SELECTED ON IRISH U18 NATIONAL SQUA



Last month I was delighted to be selected for the Irish under 18 panel for the 2020 season. I feel like I have really progressed over the last 12 months and I am looking forward to the monthly coaching sessions in Carton House under the guidance of Neil Manchip (National Coach)

I have already attended two of these sessions and they have been fantastic. They cover everything from skills tests, track man sessions, strength and conditioning and even nutrition. In advance of each session, Neil keeps in contact with my coach, Ian Stafford to discuss all aspects of my game and what I need to work on each weekend.

Last weekend my second session took place. It began with my taxi driver (and psychologist) a.k.a. my Dad giving me a spin to Carton House, Kildare. The session began with a brief meeting to discuss our schedule for the weekend. I then headed straight out to the practice facilities. I had a wedge play lesson with Neil where I worked on various distances from 60 yards-120 yards. There are plenty of pro V1 practice balls for us to use which is cool! After lunch, I was fitted with Titleist for a new driver. We then had trackman sessions which gave us the chance to dial in our yardages and test these in some combine tests. My training for the day ended with a session with Robbie Cannon, our strength and conditioning coach who put me through my paces! After dinner, we had a Q&A session with former Walker Cup player and current professional, Paul McBride. He gave us a great insight about college golf in America and golf on the professional circuit.





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After breakfast on Sunday we played 18 holes on the Montgomery course. I shot a 1 under(71) but felt like I left a few shots out there. I'm not sure if I was reading the putts correctly, or

if it was the fact that I couldn't bend down to read them properly after the strength and conditioning exercises the day before! After lunch we some individual time with Neil before wrapping up a great weekend and beginning a 3-hour drive home.

Next week, I am heading to Malaga with the Darren Clarke Foundation. This is a rewards players who have won a provincial an U18 provincial title this year. I won the Connacht Boys this year and it is a great opportunity to get to play some golf with Darren and learn from some of his clinics. I know most of the other players on the trip so we should have great fun at night after golfing all day in the Malaga sunshine!

All the best,
Robbie





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JOHN MURPHY - RECENTLY SHOT
67, 66, 63 TO WIN THE
BEARCAT INVITATIONAL



The first 2 months of the semester have been chaotic. It's my final year in college, classes are getting pretty tough and I actually have to study for a change, which is not what I signed up for! Nonetheless, I'm still having a great time and enjoying the challenge. My days consist of waking up at 5 in the morning to go to the gym, followed by lectures at 8, then straight to lunch, then out to play golf for the rest of the day. I can't play golf on Thursdays this year because I have a 3-hour afternoon lecture. This gives me a day off from golf for the week, which isn't necessarily a bad thing sometimes.

In terms of tournament play, we've enjoyed some team success recently. We have finished 3rd, 3rd and 1st in our first 3 events of the year. There are about 13 or 14 teams play every event, so we're happy with how we're playing. We are currently ranked #5 in the country, which is the highest in

program history. Individually, I have thankfully been playing quite nicely too, finishing 9th, 13th and 1st in competitive fields. Aaron Ryan, son of the late Tony Ryan who was a great member of Kinsale Golf Club and is dearly missed, came out to watch us in the event we won, so it was nice to have a bit of local support. Aaron is working in Cincinnati, so it was great to catch up with him.

We have two events remaining, the first in Johnson City, Tennessee the last in Hawaii. I also have a lot of exams and assignments coming up, so I will try take care of that aspect of life before we leave. Unfortunately, there isn't too much interesting to report at the moment. We won't be able to do anything too fun or interesting until November hits and we get a break from golf. Until then, it's just the usual routine of golf, study and getting told that somebody you meet is a third Irish 13 times a day.



Looking forward to seeing everyone at Christmas!

John





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MARK HEALY - JUST
COMMENCED A SCHOLARSHIP IN
TUSCULUM UNIVERSITY



I left for Tusculum on the 13th of August without knowing what to expect. The lifestyle is completely different to anything we have at home. To any kid looking to go abroad to improve their game, this place is where you'll find out what needs to improve to get to the next level.

My weekly routine consists of class from 8 am to 1 pm. We have team lunch at 1:15 and are at the course by 2. Every practice session we do lasts 3-4 hours, and we have gym workouts after practice three days a week. Between that and balancing homework I don't get much free time midweek, but it definitely has made a massive difference to my golf.

Every weekend our coach has qualifying for us to see who'll make the top 5 for tournaments. I

managed to qualify for the team for the first event which was in Johnson City country club which was a grounding experience. I finished 12th individually with scores of 72-73. One of my teammates who ended up getting his first individual win. The second tournament was held in Bristol Country club which was my best week out of my fall semester. I finished 4th with scores of 70-70. What I'll famously be remembered for that week was my shank out of bounds on the 9th hole during the first round from the middle of the fairway in front my coach as I was leading the tournament by 2 at the time! My teammates appreciated that one more than myself looking back at it. I got my first taste of playing in the final group of a tournament that week which was a good experience in itself even though I didn't manage claim the victory on this occasion.

Our third tournament was held in Woodlake country club where again I managed to finish in the top 25. Our conference tournament will be held there next spring, so it was great for myself and the team to get a look at where we'll be playing our biggest tournament of the year come April.

I just finished up my last event of the fall semester in Morristown golf club which didn't go as well as I





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would have hoped. I finished 22nd however I learned a huge amount from playing four tournaments in five weeks. I have learned a huge amount after playing a full fall semester of golf and I know exactly what I need to improve on in the Spring.

Outside of golf I've decided to take a few different routes in my free time. I'm working with the Make a Wish Foundation and I have made visits to terminally ill children in Johnson city. Spending time with the kids there was a great way to give back to those less fortunate. It has helped me appreciate how lucky I am to be playing golf in America while getting my degree. I've involved myself in dodgeball tournaments and college fundraising to hopefully reach the goal of making a child's wish come

through in Spring. Although my time is limited, I feel giving a little bit of my time back has made me appreciate things more over here.



See you soon,

Mark

