

The Club at The World's Oldest Golf Course



Overview:

In September Musselburgh Old Course Golf Club (MOCGC), the Club at the World's Oldest Continuous Playing Golf Course, outsourced their Merchandise, event organisation/promotion and Associate Membership program to 1672 Golf Management Solutions Ltd.



This document aims to provide media with full information regarding the Club, Events, Associate Membership and the new partnership arrangements with 1672 Golf.

Please do not hesitate
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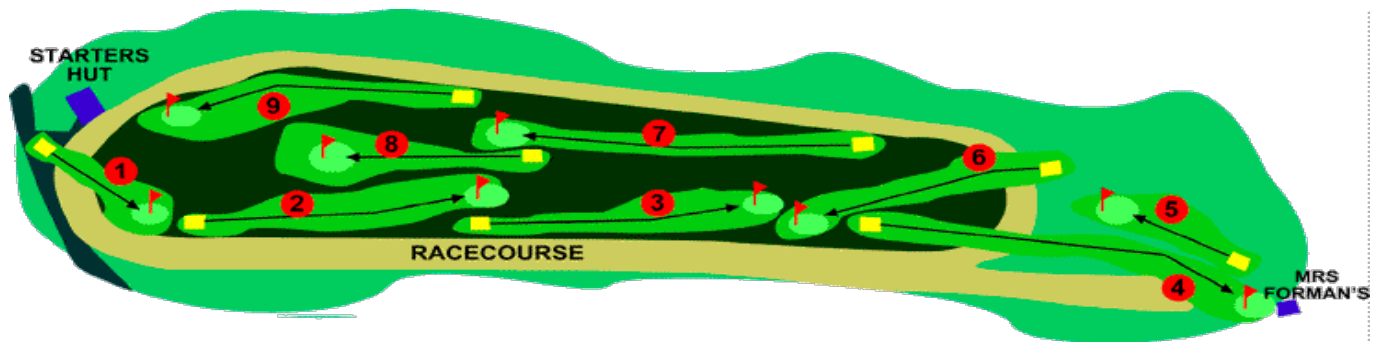
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Course/Club Historic Timeline

1567	Mary Queen of Scots is said to have played on the Old Course prior to her surrendering to the Confederate Lords
1603	James VI plays the course while visiting
1650	Oliver Cromwell sets up camp on the course
1672	Sir John Foulis of Ravelston, an Edinburgh Lawyer, loses £3.5.0 in a golf match at Musselburgh - Oldest record
1774	Society of Golfers played for Silver Cup
1788	Baillie John Cochran appointed Keeper Surveyor General of the Links
1811	First ever Women's Golf Competition played by local fisher wives
1829	First hole-cutting instrument in use on the course, made by Robert Gray, cost £1.00
1832	Improved to an 8-hole course
1836	The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers take up residence at Musselburgh. They utilize the racecourse grandstand as a clubhouse
1860	First Open Championship won by Willie Park Senior of Musselburgh at Prestwick
1870	Extended to a 9-hole course, the new hole being "Sea Hole," current No.5
1873	The Royal Burgess Golfing Society of Edinburgh builds their new clubhouse at 10 Links Place, Musselburgh, (now 10 Balcarres Road) and the clubhouse of MOCGC
1874	Mungo Park wins the first Open Championship to be played at the Musselburgh Old Course
1877	Open played at Musselburgh and won by Jamie Anderson
1880	Bob Ferguson wins the Open
1883	Willie Ferguson wins the Open
1886	David (Deacon) Brown wins the Open
1889	Willie Park Junior wins the Open
1891	The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers re-locates to Muirfield
1892	Town Council takes control of the course
1895	The Royal Burgess and The Bruntsfield Golfing Societies re-locate to their own courses
1898	Scottish Amateur Championship held at Musselburgh
1925	Royal Musselburgh Golf Club re-locates to Prestonpans
1937	Last Musselburgh Amateur Championship played at the course
1982	Musselburgh Old Course Golf Club is formed
1995	MOCGC acquires their present clubhouse, built for The Royal Burgess Golfing Society in 1873
2009	MOCGC Associate Membership program launched
2009	Awarded Guinness World Record for oldest surviving golf course in the world
2009	MOCGC partner with 1672 Golf Management Solutions Ltd. to raise the club profile, run the associate membership, organize/promote events and sell merchandise on behalf of the club

Course Overview



Course Information

The Musselburgh Old Course has 9 testing holes of total length 2874 yards, with a par and SSS of 34.

The course probably came into existence in the 12th or 13th century and was believed to be only 7 holes.

The Old Golf Course, is managed by Enjoy Leisure on behalf of East Lothian Council.

The Oldest Continuous Playing Course in the World

The Old Golf Course at Musselburgh Links just outside of Edinburgh, Scotland, is officially recognised as the oldest surviving golf course in the world by Guinness World Records. Historians uncovered the earliest record of golf being played on any surviving golf course from an Account Book of Sir John Foulis of Ravelston, an Edinburgh lawyer. The earliest game played on Musselburgh Links took place on 2 March 1672 where he documents "he lost at golfe at Musselburgh...£3.05.0." This documentary evidence was included in The Golf Book of East Lothian, published in 1896 and written by John Kerr, the minister of Dirleton.

Musselburgh has long been known affectionately as "The Cradle of Golf". Mary Queen of Scots is believed to have played the course in 1567; its origins however are probably in the twelfth or thirteenth century.

The first tournament for women was held on the course in 1811 and it was one of the three founding venues for The Open along with Prestwick and St Andrews, Musselburgh Old Course holding The Open six times between 1874 and 1889. Many of the golfing legends have played here, including Open Champions Willie Park Senior - winner of the first Open Championship in 1860 - Willie Park Junior, Tom Morris Senior, Tom Morris Junior, Willie Fernie, Mungo Park, Jamie Anderson, Bob Ferguson, David 'Deacon' Brown and J H Taylor.



Club Overview

Musselburgh Links Old Course, like St Andrews, is located on common land and under the care of the local authority. As St. Andrews flourished at the end of the nineteenth century and its story became widely known, Musselburgh Old Course's nine holes could not keep pace with the demands of golfers and new 18-hole courses, designed by the legendary James Braid were built nearby at Prestongrange and Monktonhall. It was inevitable as these became popular golfers would move away from the ancient links. At the end of the nineteenth century nearly sixty clubs and societies were known to play their golf here. Today, only Musselburgh Old Course Golf Club can call the 'World's Oldest Golf Course' home.

The journey the 'world's oldest course' has taken is fascinating and should be widely known by all lovers of golf. The journey produced a rich abundance of golfing history that is still savoured and appreciated today. The club promotes all the rich characters that made Musselburgh a place to be respected and admired. The club appreciate the essence of the era, the skill of the players, the craft of the caddies, the art of the club and ball makers who all plied their trade in what was a golfing mecca. It truly became 'The Cradle of Golf'.

Musselburgh Old Course Golf Club was formed by a group of local men who were determined the Cradle of Golf retain its prestige and be recognized for what it is, an important historical centre for golf. With this aim, the founders worked with East Lothian District Council, to continue the journey and confirm for all time Musselburgh's place in the history books. Now the opportunity has been widened for golfers all around the world to become aware of the Musselburgh story by becoming a member of the Club it's members are playing a part in the 'Cradle of Golf's' rise back to fame.



Associate Membership to The Club at The World's Oldest Golf Course

only £85

Associate Membership provides full access to the historic clubhouse for the Member and their guests, provides handicap administration if required, and the opportunity to play the world's oldest golf course.

Associate Members receive a prestigious wooden presentation box containing items, all of which bear the clubs crest:

A replica 'gutta-percha' golf ball

Leather membership bag tag

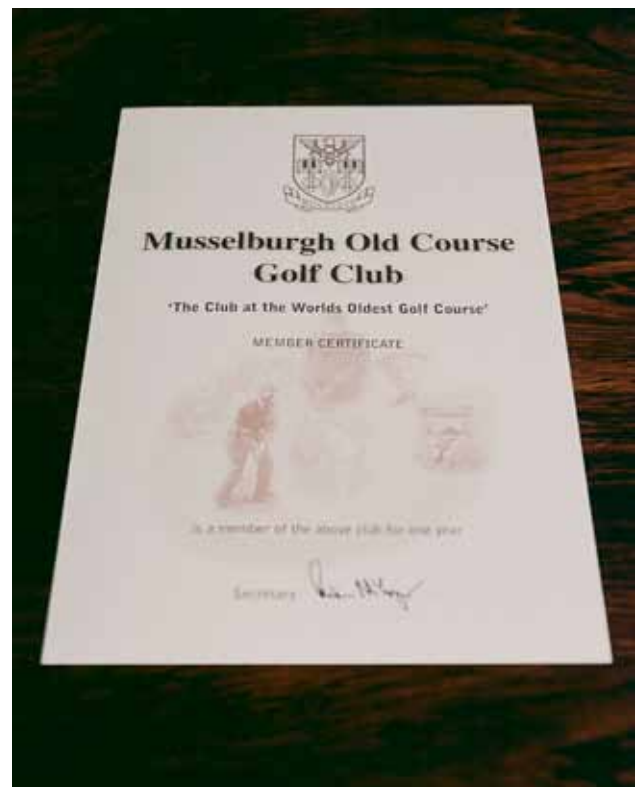
Leather keyring

Pitch mark repairer/ball marker

Certificate of membership

Golf discounts and special rates

A superb booklet on the legendary events of the past



Wear the Brand “World’s Oldest”

In addition to the Club’s Associate Membership program in 2008 the club also developed MOCGC Branded merchandise. Merchandise can currently be purchased through www.mocgcshop.com however a mail order catalogue is also available to download [here](#):

ADD LINK

A new site is currently under construction that will have a fully integrated shopping cart due to launch in early 2010.

The club only work with quality manufactures such as Glenmuir and Yob Golf merchandise is popular with full time and associate members and many find it makes an excellent gift.



