

“Q and A” with Mawgan Vater,

Hertfordshire – Member of the Women’s Elite Squad

Background

One of the many roles of a county is to nurture, support and develop talent from an early age, in the hope that they can reach their full potential, hopefully represent the county, maybe progress to earn international honours, but more importantly being involved and enjoying our great game of golf for a lifetime

Mawgan Vater is one of our many success stories and a wonderful role model to all she meets, a true ambassador for Hertfordshire Golf,

We sat down recently with Mawgan to discuss her background in golf, her interests and vision of how golf can continue to make great strides in Hertfordshire. She had just finished a long three days on County Match Duty and then straight to Ganton GC for the Women’s strokeplay championship

Sit back, relax and enjoy our conversation



Interview

Interviewer

- How long have you been involved in golf and with the County?

I started the game at 14, after having previously been a black belt in karate, I asked my Dad if I could just come and play some golf at East Herts Golf Club. My Dad was a handy 12

handicapper. I also have a younger brother who is trainee PGA golfer at Canons Brook GC near Harlow in Essex, a Henry Cotton designed course.



- What has been your timeline and journey with the county and of course initially where you started the game at East Herts and with your club Porters Park?

I spent most of my years in golf so far at East Herts Golf Club, becoming Junior Captain of both club and County. To be honest I did come to county golf quite late, making the elite team as an 18-year-old and getting involved in many County Match Weeks. We managed to win one in Essex a few years back. I moved to Porters Park a year ago where I now work as the Operations and Memberships Manager.



East Herts GC

- Following your education up to the age of 18 where did your dream and golf take you to?

Firstly, I had dreams of becoming an architect but following a gap year and seeing many of my peers going down the Golf America route I felt I had to give it a go. So, after a beneficial Gap Year of Amateur Golf and invaluable Customer Service experience in the Pro Shop, I headed to Jacksonville University In Florida. It really was not a difficult decision with its home club being the TPC Course at Sawgrass

Where I embarked on a Double Major in Business Administration, Sports Management / International Business. I returned to the UK having graduated in 2022.



From there I joined the LET, as a tournament administrator, working primarily on the Aramco Team Series. This afforded me the opportunity to work on outside the ropes projects, supporting players and scoring. I was fortunate to see the World, visiting places like China, Hong Kong, South Korea the USA and Europe

I did this for 3 wonderful years



- Where are you now with Golf, as a career and as a pastime?

In 2025 it was time to come home, and I started work at Porters Park



Porters Park GC

- What does your current role involve as Operations Manager at Porters Park?

Most days are varied, helping to organize society days, registration, scoring, planning the next weeks events. We are currently looking forward to hosting the prestigious Reid Trophy event (English U14 Open Stroke Play) where we hope there will be lots of local participation too.

- Tell us a little bit about the rigors of County Match Days and the Championship at Ganton

What a busy few weeks, with CMD's rolling into the English Amateur Stroke Play at Ganton GC. I picked up a hand injury midway through the event at St Ives, which was not ideal as I headed to Ganton. Thankfully I missed most of the challenging bunkers there in round 1 but round 2 saw me enter just too many and with an injured hand it made life a little tricky.



Ganton GC

- What has been your greatest achievement in golf to date?

It's so hard to pick just one, one of the most satisfying was in a college game when we needed a playoff with fading light. All that could be done was to decide the match via a "putt off", I managed to negotiate a 30 footer for the team, most satisfying!

Another one was during a County Practice session arranged by Aly Nedza our County Captain, was a challenge match with myself partnering Ellen Hume Vs Rebecca Earl and Honor Keilty. A trusty hybrid was needed by me to break the deadlock at the last!

- What are your next key commitments for the county? And of course, individually

The County scene quietens for now as we build and look forward to the next CMD's in Essex in 2027. Individually I am looking forward to hopefully qualifying for the knockout stages of the English Matchplay at Moor Park in July. Hopefully again lots of County participation there.



- What is one challenge that the County faces?

The fact that geographically we are stretched in all directions, it can easily be over an hour to get to clubs, and it could hinder us getting together.

- How best can you support the next wave of elite players in the County? There must be so many good practises you could advise them on

It's important to get to know everyone, mix with different people, and step outside your comfort zone. Playing at other clubs is a great way to make lasting friendships.

- What in your view is Hertfordshire's greatest strength?

We have fantastic team managers, that creates such a good team vibe, the best it has been for years. It's friendly but at the same time remains competitive

- What if any challenges do, we face?

Participation is so important we really do need more to just get involved at all age groups

- Other than golf, what are your other great life passions?

Quite normal things really, I enjoy running and have completed two half marathons. Seeing friends and socialising generally

- Who would be in your dream 4 Ball?

Would love to repeat the fourball with my Hertfordshire team mates again where I can show my hybrid skills again....

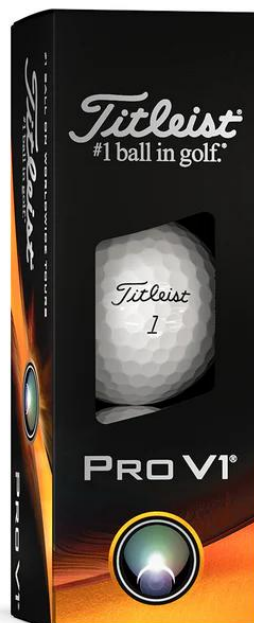
Alternatively, would be so much fun with the likes of Rory McIlroy, Charlie Hull and maybe Micheal McIntyre to keep us all amused

- Other than your home course, which course would you go back to and play again?

I go back year after year to an amateur event at the Berkshire, you really cannot beat a good heathland course

- What is your choice of golf ball and why?

Has to be a Pro V1, although I am being persuaded to try the Pro V1x variant



- What's the longest iron in your bag? And are there any clubs you would encourage the average golfer in Hertfordshire to consider?

My longest iron is my 5 iron, as mentioned I do favour the hybrid options

- How many wedges do you carry?

A standard configuration really of 60, 54, 48, and PW

- What's the last thing you watched on Netflix / Streamed

It was on Amazon Prime – "Every Year After!"



- Facebook / Twitter or Instagram?

It has to be Instagram.

- And finally, what would be your message to someone thinking about committing to county training, representing the county and maybe a career in golf??

My message would be simple: just go for it. The County has so much to offer, whatever your level. You'll make lifelong friends, and it could open doors for you in the future. What have you got to lose?

Interviewer: Thanks so much for your time Mawgan , I am sure you will inspire the current players to greater things and bring on those on the fringes to be real county assets

If you are interested in learning more about the county, check out the webpage

<https://www.hertfordshiregolf.org/>