



Senior Men's Section - Captain's Newsletter March 2018

SMS Subscriptions. Once again, a strong reminder to all those who have yet to pay the £5 subscription that we ask for all SMS members. The section is in good health with 157 members but can only remain so with your support and to date, 126 members have paid. Please remember that you can only participate in SMS organised events **if you** have paid!

Work On The Course. You will be aware of all the work that has been undertaken by contractors to enhance many aspects of the course. The weather has delayed some of these projects and this has necessitated playing from 'shortened' holes. I ask you all to be patient and that you appreciate the work will have benefits in the long run.

The Season Begins - Almost! Due to inclement weather, the course was closed on Sunday 18 Mar, and after discussion with some colleagues and the club staff, I decided that the Lakeside Lodge Golf Club match due to be held on Monday 19 March should be cancelled. On reflection I consider that this was the correct decision as the wind chill factor on the morning in question made the playing conditions unpleasant to say the least.

Putting Out. Gentlemen, the game of golf is based on rules and honesty. I have to issue a reminder that, other than match play, it is a requirement to putt out in all SMS competitions, including those with temporary greens in play. There should be no 'gimmes'. Any player not adhering to this requirement will be automatically disqualified from the respective competition.

Diary Entries. Please note that, contrary to the club personal diary entries, there will be no 'roll-ups' on boarded competition days.

Ron's Rules. Q. A player's ball lies in snow in a bunker. Is the player permitted to lift the ball from the snow and drop it in the sand?

A. Yes. The player can drop the ball in the sand within one club length of the nearest point of relief, not nearer the hole, without penalty. This is the same option as for casual water. The player is of course entitled to play the ball as it lies but would not be permitted to remove the snow around the ball.

Happy Golfing

Mike Murray-Smith
SMS Captain