

**Seascale Golf Club
Newsletter
Spring 2021**



Ready for the Return to Golf



Team photo: l – r Guy Lawson, Kurt Singleton-Bagley, Kirsty Johnson, Will Fox, Adam Lamb and Kyle Brown (our new mechanic/greenkeeper)

The Seascale Golf Club Team are ready to welcome you back to golf on Monday 29th March, and as you will see, through some very trying times, they have worked hard to improve things for our members. Adam and Kirsty kept the club management going through November lockdown, restart, tier changes, and the long dark winter lockdown – the light at the end of the tunnel is now much brighter. Under Adam’s leadership and Guy’s supervision the Winter programme has been completed and surpassed – and hey, the grass is starting to grow again. We are sure that the membership shares our pride in the sterling efforts of the team, and it’s a big thankyou too to all our members who renewed their memberships with very little prompting, giving us the means to continue to provide a top-class club and links.

Coronavirus Response

We were just getting used to working under strict Coronavirus guidelines during October and managing quite well when we were plunged into the November lockdown. Our area was placed within the Tier 2

area of restrictions as we came out of lockdown on 2nd December. That meant a ban on mixing indoors, so members/customers had to sit on their own at a table or with people within their own household/support bubble, and table service had to be provided with drinks only supplied along with a 'substantial meal'. We staffed front of house as much as possible to deal with the many queries we receive, sort buggies, take payments and generally provide as much help as we could so that all members could simply enjoy their golf. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our full programme of Christmas Dinners, Steak Nights and Sunday Dinners, so lost a lot of business. Competitions restarted and all went well – apart from the few hiccups with introduction of the World Handicap System. Part-time flexible furlough meant that Kirsty and Sam were able to provide a reduced work pattern with all other clubhouse staff on furlough. We should record that Copeland again inspected our Covid compliance and passed us with flying colours. They also formally inspected the kitchen and renewed our 5-star status. Well done Kirsty.

We hopefully put out our Christmas opening times on 21st December, but had to cancel all of that as we suffered a Covid hit that caused us to close the Clubhouse from 23rd December. However, we were still able to entertain 4 balls and keep competitions going, until on 30th December we ended up as a Tier 4 area where play reverted to pairs only. Then on 3rd January the current national lockdown was declared where we were instructed that golf courses in England had to close for the foreseeable future.

That foreseeable future hopefully ends with the government's roadmap out of lockdown which sees the earliest date for return to golf as Monday 29th March. Outside, seated catering with coronavirus restrictions still in place will commence on 12th April at the earliest, and inside catering under similar restrictions on 17th May at the earliest. The final lifting of most restrictions is scheduled for 21st June at the earliest, but all this is subject to prevalence of the virus. Throughout this difficult period it should be noted that our communications with members has been exemplary with the crucial e:mails reaching members within a couple of hours of the announcements. Members have expressed their gratitude for this, and for a job well done.

So, we are back to social golf following all England Golf's Play Safe Stay Safe guidelines from 29th March with players expected to arrive ready for Golf (external toilet available), and then outside catering ready from 12th April (lockers and toilets available). The competition season kicks off on Wednesday 14th (fixtures lists on Howdidido and the club website). Clubhouse opens fully on 17th May but under restrictions – table-service, rule of six etc. We expect to be back to full staffing around the 17th May – but we will be trying to match staff resourcing with customer demand.

The March Budget announced a continuation of the Furlough Scheme to the end of September but with luck we should have all staff gainfully employed well before the scheme ends. It was announced that relief from business rates would continue but tapering off until September, and hospitality and leisure outlets would receive a 'business restart' grant – an extension of the grant support due to end in March.

Greens

The winter programme has carried on throughout Lockdown with Guy, Kurt and Will coping admirably throughout. The weather has disrupted some jobs out on the course, but the guys have retreated to the car park extension project whenever the rain has set in. Two greenside bunkers on 18th have been completely refaced and the bunker on 14th has been filled in and turfed over. The Astro Turf path from the bottom of the 9th gravel road to existing Astro around 9th green and onto the bridge leading to the 10th has also been completed.



We hired a Graden Linear Aerator which has removed a lot of organic matter from the thatch layer.



Side bunkers at 18th



14th bunker is no more

The putting green has now been lifted and 200 tonnes of gravel has been tipped in the car park, ready to be levelled out. We aim to fill the putting green with heavier gravel then put a light skim of finer material over the whole of the bottom car park to freshen it up. The material cost is £10/ton £3000 total.



Putting green converted to car park.

The apprentice Greenkeepers, Kurt Singleton and Will Fox, have been tasked with converting the old chipping green into a new putting green, complete with short game practice facilities. They will fill in one of the present practice bunkers and tidy up the remaining one, mow and maintain an approach area and also keep an area cut to fairway height.



No excuse now for buggy and trolley damage at 9th and 10th

The winter programme is almost complete with only the shell path on 8th to replace with Astro Turf. We have done some extra jobs that weren't on the programme, including refacing all three back bunkers around 18th and 15th fairway bunker. All projects have been carried out to a high standard and members will get a treat when they return.



Large bunker at 18th



Fairway bunker at 15th

Greenkeeping maintenance has also continued with Wetting Agent, Fulvic Acid, Seaweed and Potash applied to the greens and a mix of Sulphate of Ammonium, Muriate of Potash, Urea, Seaweed and Wetting Agent applied to the poorer fairways with the new Hardi sprayer. The greens have had another two applications of wetting agent, seaweed, fulvic acid, chitosan and various nutrients and are in good order. The fairways have had one more application of a similar mix and are showing good grass coverage. If the weather isn't too extreme either way we'll have a tremendous Links for the start of the season.



Treating the fairway with new sprayer at 16th



Treating the green at the 10th



New doors on greensheds



Getting to grips with our parking issues



Financial Situation

As we begin to see a way out of the Covid emergency we will be looking at our financial situation and how this might develop as we return to normalcy without government financial support and with all expenses having to be met from current income. Hopefully by mid-May we will pick up with our successful bar and catering enterprise and return that to 2019 levels, and our expenditure should be similar to the cost from April - September 2019. Staff costs will be a bit more due to additional greens staff and national minimum wage increases, but the crystal ball tells us that we will reach the end of our financial year in good shape.

Membership

Members have responded well, paying in a timely fashion, with only 20-odd resigning and another 20 likely to be resigned having not re-joined by the due date. By end of February 432 of last year's members had paid. We have replaced those who have resigned with 30 new members from the waiting list, so we have 462 members in total. Our adult male membership is 393 compared with 424 at end of last year.

Adam was being inundated with messages asking to join our Club. The waiting list was introduced to reduce problems with the booking system and mitigate impact on the course infrastructure from heavy use during the pandemic. Most of our new members look like they want to play competitions, which will put further strain on competition bookings. The waiting list has now been reviewed and reinstated. The situation will be reviewed later in the year, by which time we hope return to work will see demand for tee times reduce.

Welcome to new members who have joined us since our Summer Newsletter published in mid-May 2020.

<i>Tom</i>	<i>Allsworth</i>	<i>Liam</i>	<i>Campbell</i>	<i>Simon</i>	<i>Pollard</i>
<i>James</i>	<i>Arthur</i>	<i>Robert</i>	<i>Carr</i>	<i>Oscar</i>	<i>Rawlinson</i>
<i>Alastair</i>	<i>Barnes</i>	<i>Sylvia</i>	<i>Cheetham</i>	<i>Peter</i>	<i>Raynor</i>
<i>Mark</i>	<i>Bawden</i>	<i>Samuel</i>	<i>Curwen</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Reid</i>
<i>Darren</i>	<i>Bawden</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Curwen</i>	<i>George</i>	<i>Ross</i>
<i>Graham</i>	<i>Begbie</i>	<i>Karl</i>	<i>Drake</i>	<i>Tom</i>	<i>Smith</i>
<i>Cameron</i>	<i>Bell</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Evans</i>	<i>Connor</i>	<i>Smith</i>
<i>Martin</i>	<i>Bell</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Evans</i>	<i>Jack</i>	<i>Stainton</i>
<i>Gregg</i>	<i>Benbow</i>	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Farrer</i>	<i>Liam</i>	<i>Stamp</i>
<i>Brett</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Finnley</i>	<i>Finnley</i>	<i>Declan</i>	<i>Stamper</i>
<i>David</i>	<i>Birchall</i>	<i>Phillip</i>	<i>Haig</i>	<i>Mark</i>	<i>Stamper</i>
<i>Bobby</i>	<i>Borrowdale</i>	<i>Mark</i>	<i>Holdsworth</i>	<i>Louis</i>	<i>Stubbings</i>
<i>Michael</i>	<i>Boyles</i>	<i>Jaden</i>	<i>Jackson</i>	<i>Daniel</i>	<i>Telford</i>
<i>John Paul</i>	<i>Brocklebank</i>	<i>Carter</i>	<i>McCluskey</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Telford</i>
<i>Jill</i>	<i>Brocklehurst</i>	<i>Gary</i>	<i>McCulloch</i>	<i>James</i>	<i>Temple</i>
<i>Max</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Ricky</i>	<i>McGuinness</i>	<i>Norman</i>	<i>Thompson</i>
<i>David</i>	<i>Butler</i>	<i>Steven</i>	<i>Moore</i>	<i>Richard</i>	<i>Twiner</i>
<i>Nate</i>	<i>Campbell</i>	<i>Mike</i>	<i>Munro</i>	<i>Scott</i>	<i>Wright</i>
		<i>Zoe</i>	<i>O'Hanlon</i>		

Hadrian's Cycleway

We were approached in November by Sustrans who manage the Hadrian's Coastal Cycleway which has suffered serious erosion as it loops round the Natterjack reservation to go under the railway bridge at the River Calder. Council considered a request to divert the Cycleway onto the public right of way on the golf course side of the railway. After much consideration Council decided that the disruption and increase of use was not acceptable to members and consequently rejected the request at the end of January. We have heard no more from Sustrans, but we can report that the England Coastal Path which had intended using the Cycleway route, is currently being signposted and they are routing this through the edge of the Natterjack reservation, having created steps and a bridge for walkers. It seems possible that the cycleway could also go that way.

We have noticed that some cyclists have been using the golf course to avoid the damaged cycleway. Consequently 'No Bike' signs have been placed at entrances to the course on the seaward side.

Independent Golfers

England Golf are trying to push Clubs to accept Independent Golfers (IG). An IG will be a golfer who will not be a member of a Golf Club but will be able to obtain a handicap from a Club for approx £70 and payment of greenfees. The Club would be expected to manage the handicap index for the golfer. Against resistance from clubs, Englandgolf themselves intend to issue and manage handicaps directly to Independent Golfers charging them £40/year.

Seascale had strongly opposed this idea when it was first mooted about 2 years ago, and completed a questionnaire confirming our opposition, along with many County Unions and Golf Clubs. We believe that golfers should be members of a Golf Club and be proud to be a member, with all the benefits this entails. A handicap is important but often secondary to lovers of the game. England Golf believe IG's will eventually become members and it will bring new people into the game. However, we believe this is open to exploitation by nomadic golfers who obtain poorly monitored handicaps and go around cleaning up at Opens. Council was asked and agreed to endorse a proposal that Seascale Golf Club will not issue handicaps to Independent Golfers and will refuse entry to Club/Open Competitions.

News from your Competitions / Handicap Committee

Well it won't be too long before we are back out on the course playing some golf again. It's looking like we will be straight into a full fixture list once we do get back out playing pending any restrictions we may have.

The Club Knockouts are now live for booking via HowDidIdo (Members need to click on More at the top of the page then click on Knockouts to Enter) or via the Seascale Golf Club ClubV1 Members Hub, club, knockouts. The closing date for entries is now Friday 2nd April 18:00hrs.

Following on from our last Message from the Competitions / Handicap Committee. A few more points have come to light which may give members a better understanding of how the World Handicap System (WHS) works.

Target Score: Members have been asking how do I know if I have played to my handicap now that we no longer have the SSS / CSS ? Under the World Handicap System players now have a Target Score.

What is your Target Score?

A golfer will only play to their handicap about 20-25% of the time. Forget your average, or what you believe your current ability is. The World Handicap System is based on your demonstrated ability and consistency of scores. So what would your **best round** be on a certain set of tees, given your current Handicap Index? It's easy and fun to figure out, and it's called your **Target Score**.

The Target Scores is worked out as follows:

Course Rating + Course Handicap = Target Score

Handicap Index player 4.2 playing from the yellow tees:

Course Rating 70.3 + Course handicap 5 = 75.3 = Target Score 75.

Handicap Index player 4.2 playing from the white tees:

Course Rating 71.9 + Course handicap 5 = 76.9 = Target Score 77.

Handicap Index player 4.2 playing from the blue tees:

Course Rating 72.5 + Course handicap 5 = 77.5 = Target Score 78.

Score Differential: The chart below shows the Score Differential that will be applied to a player's handicap record after returning an Adjusted Gross Score under normal playing conditions. Playing Conditions Calculation = 0. This information may be useful when working out your new Handicap Index:

Adjusted Gross Score = Score Differential applied to Handicap Record						
Adjusted Gross Score	Gross	Playing Calculation	Conditions	Score Differential	Score Differential	Score Differential
68		0		-3.9	-3.4	-2

69	0	-3	-2.5	-1.1
70	0	-2.2	-1.7	-0.3
71	0	-1.3	-0.8	0.6
72	0	-0.4	0.1	1.5
73	0	0.4	1	2.4
74	0	1.3	1.8	3.2
75	0	2.2	2.7	4.1
76	0	3	3.6	5
77	0	3.9	4.5	5.9
78	0	4.8	5.3	6.7
79	0	5.6	6.2	7.6
80	0	6.5	7.1	8.5
81	0	7.4	8	9.4
82	0	8.3	8.8	10.2
83	0	9.1	9.7	11.1
84	0	10	10.6	12
85	0	10.9	11.5	12.9
86	0	11.7	12.4	13.8
87	0	12.6	13.2	14.6
88	0	13.5	14.1	15.5
89	0	14.3	15	16.4
90	0	15.2	15.9	17.3
91	0	16.1	16.7	18.1
92	0	16.9	17.6	19
93	0	17.8	18.5	19.9
94	0	18.7	19.4	20.8
95	0	19.6	20.2	21.6
96	0	20.4	21.1	22.5
97	0	21.3	22	23.4
98	0	22.2	22.9	24.3
99	0	23	23.7	25.1
100	0	23.9	24.6	26
101	0	24.8	25.5	26.9
102	0	25.6	26.4	27.8

103	0	26.5	27.2	28.6
104	0	27.4	28.1	29.5
105	0	28.2	29	30.4
106	0	29.1	29.9	31.3
107	0	30	30.7	32.1
108	0	30.8	31.6	33
109	0	31.7	32.5	33.9
110	0	32.6	33.4	34.8

Handicap Index change: We no longer publish handicap changes on the club notice board or have a file with all members handicaps. Members can view their Handicap Index on the PSI in the pros shop, the My England Golf app or on the Howdido website. When your Handicap Index changes you will receive an email with your new Handicap Index as shown below:

HowDidiDo - Handicap Change

Your new WHS Handicap Index is: 4.2

Below is your Course Handicap for each rated Course/set of tees at your home club

Course Name	Course Handicap
Seascale Golf Club Blue Card	5
Seascale Golf Club White Card	5
Seascale Golf Club Yellow Card	5
Front 9 Yellow	2
Back 9 Yellow	2

Please note this course handicap does not take into account any handicap allowance percentage or limit imposed either by your national federation or your club committee.

To find out more about these how your 'strokes allowed' are calculated and other WHS facts and figures, click [here](#)

Returning of Acceptable Scores for Handicap purposes:

Scores from all individual formats of stroke play (competition and recreational) are acceptable for handicap purposes, provided you:

1: **Pre-Registration** within GB&I players are required to pre-register their intent to submit a score in competition and general play for handicap purposes. Such pre-registration must be made:

- Before the player starts the round, and
- In the manner prescribed by the club where the score is being played.

Pre-Registration the PSI in the Pro Shop (now called Competition Room) is set up to accept competition and general play scores. Players need to **sign-in** (Entry on a tee booking sheet does not in itself satisfy this requirement) and return their score following the instructions on the PSI screen.

Making Good Progress



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
SEASCALE GOLF CLUB

has met the standards set by England Golf and share the mission of the SafeGolf partnership to:

SAFEGUARD THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, AS WELL AS ADULTS AT RISK, ensuring that all people have a fun, safe and positive experience in the sport of golf.

ISSUED: 23/02/2021 

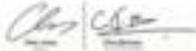
REVIEW DATE: 22/02/2022 **Jeremy Tomlinson**
Club Executive

 ENGLANDGOLF  SafeGolf www.safegolf.org



SEASCALE

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  **Golfer**




Committed to delivering a safe environment for golf

Club WELFARE officer

Is something worrying you?
Do you need someone to talk to?

Speak to your club welfare [officer](#)



Alternatively, you can speak to someone at
ChildLine 0800 1111
NSPCC 0808 800 5000
England Golf 01526 351851

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I am committed to ensuring all can enjoy the great game of Golf in a safe environment.

www.safegolf.org