

**Seascale Golf Club
Newsletter
Summer 2021**



El Jefe is Back



It is great to see Adam getting back to work following a very stressful period for him and his family. Below he updates us on his situation.

I was hit with a heart infection called Pericarditis which causes palpitations and severe chest pains. I tried to work through the first fortnight, but the condition deteriorated to the point that I couldn't carry on. The hospital changed my medication and after a few weeks the new pills finally started to take effect and I have now turned a corner. My thanks go to Kirsty, Guy and their staff for working so hard in my absence. I know it hasn't been easy particularly with restrictions still in force and the pandemic still depriving us of staff from time to time through enforced self-isolation. Members of The Management Team, Council and Golf Club members have really stepped up and special praise must go to Harry who continues to put his hand up in times of need. Many thanks to all for the countless messages I have received in the last few weeks that have kept me going through some difficult times. With most of the restrictions lifting next week I'm looking forward to having the "crack" in and around the Clubhouse, something we've all missed through social distancing.

Progress on Greens

After the Leatherjacket infestation that blighted our putting surfaces throughout Spring, we engaged Matt Porter from Aitkens Ltd to help with a nutritional programme in my absence. Matt came up and walked the course with Head Greenkeeper Guy Lawson, Chairman of Greens Terry Conaghan and previous Chairman of Greens Robert Temple. He took soil samples and devised a tailor-made package to suit our needs, focussing initially on the recovery. I was kept informed throughout the process and we have given the thumbs up to the future nutritional plan. The early response from his products are positive and we can see an improvement already, even though the weather is not playing ball. Please note Matt is only helping with nutritional inputs, we are still implementing our own Greenkeeping philosophies as regards to Aeration etc. Matt was hugely impressed with our underlying soil structure, decades of sound Greenkeeping practices passed down through generations of staff from the late 70's. Alongside the programme we have verti-drained and overseeded the greens with a Fescue mix and this will be repeated in late Summer/Autumn.

All this work will, however, be in vain if we are blighted by another attack from the Leatherjacket grub over this winter, leading into Spring. As distributed through emails and newsletters to the membership continually over the course of the season, this is a major issue within the Golf industry. To help combat this problem we have applied one course of Nematodes already and another is planned for the Autumn. It is hoped that the Nematode will seek out the grubs and kill them, thus reducing their numbers to a level at which we can cope with their existence through our new nutritional programme. We will also monitor Leatherjacket numbers earlier this year, through sheeting, to see if we have another issue coming well before an attack makes it too late. We sheeted greens in January this year which in hindsight was the wrong time of year. We have learned that the grubs dive lower into the soil profile throughout the colder months, only to return to the rootzone in Spring to eat the roots. We aim to sheet in November when the grubs are much smaller, and the weather is mild. Hopefully, the Nematodes will do their job and their numbers will outweigh the grubs.



Guy sprays 17th with Amino Acids to help recovery.

Coronavirus Update

So, we returned to golf on Monday 29th March and the car park was full most of the week. Outside seated catering with coronavirus restrictions still in place commenced on 12th April, and for the most part this went well – as long as the weather was reasonable – but it was a difficult environment for catering/eating. We asked members to be respectful of other members, neighbours and public – a reminder to behave. Competitions recommenced on Wednesday 14th April and there were full fields once again. The Government’s return to indoor hospitality commenced on 17th May. Table service and social distancing arrangements with the rule of six are in place until the final lifting of most restrictions rescheduled for 19th July at the earliest – again all dependent on prevalence of the virus. The message now from government is most restrictions removed but remain cautious and personally responsible. Members received good communications on restart and keeping things safe and we are grateful to our members for biding by the restrictions that had to be imposed, and for showing patience and understanding.

We hope to have all staff who are available gainfully employed well before the furlough scheme ends in September, but we will be taking a gradual approach in our return to usual service. Unfortunately, our chef announced within a month of restart that he would not be returning, so we have had to modify our catering strategy to take account. Our current approach is to cater more for golfers, visitors and public, focusing on 11am to 4.00pm Wednesday to Sunday and offering a more basic and homely menu, concentrating on well-appreciated pub grub. Steak nights are not scheduled at the moment, and Sunday lunches are offered as part of our normal fare. (A Tethera advert for those two services was already in print before we lost our chef.) Kirsty is leading the catering team supported by Lynn and is currently looking to recruit another suitable cook in anticipation of full opening. We have had a very full Seniors Open, a large group with the British Mid-Amateur Tournament, several large visiting parties and our staff coped very well with busy days under coronavirus restrictions.

As we get closer to the removal of restrictions the virus is kicking off big time. Thankfully, very high numbers of people have vaccine protection and there is scope for those people to forego self -isolation but only when the government formally allows that. In the meantime, the hospitality industry is having to run the gauntlet of large numbers of staff forced into isolation – Wasdale and Eskdale eateries have either closed or severely restricted service. Seascale Golf Club is not immune to this, and we have had to withdraw service to match the staff we have available and prevent burn-out of those left standing. The potential for staff to be affected by the virus or to go into self-isolation is still there and this could impact our ability to provide service to our members.

On the plus side it looks as though all restrictions will be lifted on the golf course as of 19th July – so at least something will feel normal. Adam will be communicating our return to normalcy.

On-course Investment

Over the last nine months we have sought to invest in equipment that will see our course continually improve. Below are some of the key purchases that will be deployed as the season allows:



Air2G2 machine



Wiedenmann Terra Rake



Speed Brush being well-used.



Seven-box Ball Picker



John Deere Semi-rough Mower

Also in the next month or so we expect to invest in:

- Pro Seeder/Overseeder.
- Soil Shredder
- Possibly a Replacement Greens Iron.
- Replacement Tractor.

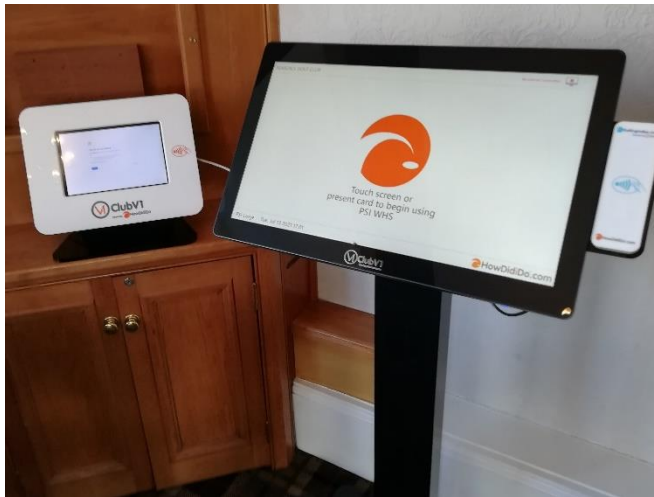
Juniors

Richard Leech from Whitehaven GC is now doing fortnightly Junior Coaching. These sessions are proving popular and anyone wishing to join in can get in touch with me via email. We are always on the lookout for volunteers to help with the Junior Section, as the restrictions ease we can get them back out on the course.



New PSIs

With the increase in numbers of entrants into our competitions and with a new handicapping system making it imperative that we have rapid reporting of scores, having reliable Player Score Input (PSI) equipment is even more important. Timed for our return to restriction-free competitions, we have purchased two new PSIs - a large 22" one located in the lounge, but on a plinth allowing it to be moved – and a smaller 10" tablet one which will probably be located in the inner foyer but can be moved wherever we require it. We hope this will eliminate the queuing experienced previously and speed the process for all.



Captain's Day

There has been a good response to Captain's Day with almost all of the 160 available places taken. This year's competition is arranged as:

1. Captains Day Saturday 24th July (Changed from Sunday 27 June at the Captains request).
2. Mixed tee Singles Stableford.
3. Ladies and Gents can enter.
3. Non Qualifier for Handicap purposes due to sometimes fun shots are included in the competition.
4. Yellow & Red Tees.
5. Handicap Limit 36 PH.
6. 1 Division.
7. Playing in 4 balls first tee time 08:00hrs last tee off time 14:30hrs (160 slots available for booking).
8. Competition goes live for booking on Saturday 17 July at 07:00hrs (Booking open as from now).
9. Entry fee £5

Golf Week Well Subscribed.

Golf Week Opens filled up quickly but there are still some places available – just check on BRS.

- Thursday 29th July Open Texas Scramble.
- Friday 30th July Kennedy Cup Open Mixed 4BBB
- Saturday 31st July Mens' Open Individual Stableford
- Sunday 1st August Mens' Open 4BBB

Important Scorecard Rules To Remember

Name: **John Smith** Handicap: **5** Date: **09/07/19**

HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out
PAR	5	4	4	4	4	5	3	4	4	37
SCORE	5	5	5	4	3	5	4	3	4	38

HOLE	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
PAR	3	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	4	35	72
SCORE	3	4	4	4	5	5	4	3	4	36	74

NET: **69**

Responsibilities:
 ● Committee
 ● Player
 ● Player and marker

Marker's Signature: _____
 Player's Signature: _____

DIAGRAM 3.3b: SCORECARD RESPONSIBILITIES IN HANDICAP STROKE PLAY

1. **Recording Handicap** – Recording the correct handicap on the card is solely your responsibility as the player. "Handicap" means the handicap for the course and tees being played, excluding any handicap allowances as set out within the Terms of the Competition. (Your Course Handicap)

2. **Marker's Responsibility** - Entering and Certifying Hole Scores on Scorecard. After each hole during the round, the marker should confirm with the player the number of strokes on that hole (including strokes made and penalty strokes) and enter that gross score on the scorecard.

Hole Not Started - There are various circumstances that may result in a round not being completed and some holes not being played. For example due to fading light or bad weather, player injury or illness etc. Players need to ensure that they clearly mark their card when a hole has not commenced. It is advised that NS (not started) or DNP (did not play) is entered on any hole that is not played.

Hole Started But Not Completed - A player must ensure that they mark on their card any hole that is not completed in a Stroke Play round. This can be by writing NR, a dash or zero for the hole but must be able to distinguish between this and a hole not played at all.

Hole	Par	SI	Gross	Nett	Hole	Par	SI	Gross	Nett
1	4	6	9	8	10	3	13	DNP	NR
2	4	16	5	5	11	4	3	DNP	NR
3	4	2	NR	NR	12	4	5	DNP	NR
4	4	18	4	4	13	3	7	DNP	NR
5	3	8	NR	NR	14	5	15	DNP	NR
6	5	10	NR	NR	15	4	17	DNP	NR
7	5	14	DNP	NR	16	4	1	DNP	NR
8	3	12	DNP	NR	17	4	11	DNP	NR
9	4	4	DNP	NR	18	4	9	DNP	NR
Out	36		NR	NR	In	35		NR	NR
					Total	71		NR	NR

Please note if your scorecard is marked incorrectly it can have an effect on your Handicap Index.

3. **Signatures** - The scorecard must be signed by you and your marker (or markers if another person has had to take over). If one or both of the required signatures are missing, you will be disqualified under Rule 3.3b.

4. **Returning the scorecard** - It is the player's responsibility to ensure that their scorecard is entered into the touch screen computer and the scorecard posted in the competition box. A player should submit

their score **as soon as possible on the day of play**, after completion of their round, and before midnight. A player's scorecard is officially returned to the committee when the player posts the scorecard in the competition box or hands the scorecard to a member of the competitions team. Once it has been returned, no alterations can then be made to the scorecard.

Please note it is what is recorded on the physical scorecard that is all-important, rather than what might be input in error into a computer.

Mixed Tee Competitions

The Competitions Team have received feedback that members are struggling with the Handicap Calculations when playing in our mixed tee competitions.

For a medal competition the adjustment is the difference in CR compared to the lowest rated set of tees (The red tees):

Medal	Course Rating	Slope Rating	Par	Adjustment
Men	68.5	119	71	0
Men	70.3	129	71	1.8
Men	71.9	129	71	3.4
Men	72.5	130	71	4

A member with a Handicap Index of 21.6 chooses to play the medal from the white tees:

Handicap Index: 21.6

Course Handicap: 25 (Used for handicapping purposes).

95% Allowance: 23.75

Adjustment white tee: 3.4

Playing Handicap: 27.15 rounded: 27 (Used for competition result purposes).

For a Stableford competition the adjustment is the points to 'Play to Handicap' = $36 - (CR - Par)$.

Stableford	Course Rating	Slope Rating	Par	Points to play to Handicap	Stroke Adjustment
Men	68.5	119	71	38	0
Men	70.3	129	71	37	1
Men	71.9	129	71	35	3
Men	72.5	130	71	34	4

A member with a Handicap Index of 21.6 chooses to play the stableford from the yellow tees:

Handicap Index: 21.6

Course Handicap: 25 (Used for handicapping purposes).

95% Allowance: 23.75

Adjustment yellow tee: 1

Playing Handicap: 24.75 rounded: 25 (Used for competition result purposes).

Competitions & Handicapping Team.