

County Card

8th April 2024

Hello All

Please see link below for details on how to download your County Card from the CUGC website

<https://www.cumbria-golf-union.org.uk/digitalcountycard>

Also attached "County Card Instructions".

Many thanks

Adam

Greens Update

28th March 2024

Dear Members,

Touch wood so far this year we have seen very little damage caused by the leatherjackets, there is still time for damage to occur but from what we have seen there is a massive improvement on this time last year with the greens in a much healthier state.

This I believe is due to the meticulous planning and tremendous work carried out by our greenstaff in September & October last year. The staff carried out aeration work and fescue overseeding in September then timed the leatherjacket Acelypryn application perfectly in October as per the latest expert advice.

Subject to weather conditions, the greenstaff will again start working on the greens week commencing Monday April the 8th following the same plan of aeration and fescue overseeding.

Please be patient as we carry out this essential work and during the recovery period. I have no doubt this year we can build on the improvements we all saw in the quality of the greens last season.

The requirement to play off fairway mats is removed as of April the 1st (Preferred Lies will then be in place until further notice) Full tees will be deployed for April 3rd.

On behalf of the greens team we wish you a very enjoyable and successful 2024 season.

Regards

Chairman of greens

Trolley Store

23rd February 2024

Hello All

We are in the process of renovating the Trolley Store at the back of the Clubhouse to make it more secure and bring some structure to how we operate that particular facility.

This includes putting some security measures in place on the entrance to the store and auditing who actually has a Trolley housed in there.

If you have a Trolley stored please either email Kirsty/Adam or leave a note behind the bar and they will place your name on the register. The price for safely storing your Trolley will be £10 per annum.

Once you have paid the storage fee Kirsty/Adam will issue you with a numbered "Trolley Tag" which you MUST place on your Trolley. This tag will be left behind the bar for you to pick up. You will also be given a Key FOB/Code to access the Trolley Store.

The Trolley Store will be locked on Friday 1st March and the only entry from then will be via this route. Any Trolleys without a tag will then be disposed of.

Many thanks

The Committee

Frost and Greens

28th November 2023

Hello All

With the temperatures dropping the last few days and not looking like they will be getting much above freezing in the coming days, we thought a quick reminder about frost damage would be appropriate at this time.

Winter greens will most probably be a factor in the coming days unless temperatures rise enough to thaw out the turf completely. In a white frost (frozen leaf), leaf blades can be damaged, and tissue cells are broken, which can significantly weaken or even kill the grass plant. This damage may not be evident immediately but in the following days and even months. This can lead to poor/ sparse turf conditions and increased disease pressure.

Even once a white frost has cleared, and the turf may look like it has thawed out, a hard frost (ground frost) can still be set in the turf at the surface or even inches below. As this frost thaws from the surface to the lower levels, there is potential for there to be 'root shear' damage to the turf. This is caused by traffic putting pressure on the turf at the surface and causing the frozen and unfrozen areas in the ground to move separately from each other, which will break any root structure that is in this zone. It is, therefore, important to avoid opening greens too early before a hard frost has completely disappeared. If we were to play on these hard frost greens, it could weaken the turf going into Spring when this damage would come to light. It is important to protect our greens during these usually infrequent cold snaps to ensure they arrive as healthy as possible into Spring.

We all know how good the greens have been and we want to continue this path so at times we must take measures to protect them, the greens team thank you for your patience.

Chairman of greens.

There are a couple of good videos by the USGA explaining these issues.

<https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/articles/2018/01/5-things-to-know--frost-delays.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liXz4yJZc1U>

Winter Course

28th November 2023

Dear Member

You may have noticed over the last few years / months / weeks that we have been putting a lot of work into our winter course. The reason for this is since the start of the World Handicap System we are no longer allowed to use winter handicaps. To come in line with the World Handicap System, and to allow our members to keep their handicap index up to date that best demonstrates their current playing ability, we must play from a rated set of tees.

We now have a rated Green Course (Yellow tee markers). Course rating 69.5, Par 71, Slope Index 123. This will allow our members to keep their handicap index up to date over the winter period.

We also have the Gents Red Course rating 68.5, Par 71, Slope Index 119 available for members to return scores for handicapping purposes.

Please mark "Green" or "Red" on the current scorecard to denote which tee you have played from before teeing off, this helps us when we close the competition.

Please note the above is subject to course conditions allowing the returning of acceptable scores for handicapping purposes.

Many thanks

Comps Team

Management Update

23rd October 2023

Dear Member,

The Club has received an offer from Adam to return, now that he is taking over the family farm, to be our Secretary/Financial Manager on a part-time paid basis to drive forward changes to bring us back to profitability. The Management Team met with Adam on Tuesday to discuss his offer and were pleased to recommend that Council endorse its recommendation that we should proceed with this. Council has duly agreed.

Adam will join us as Secretary/Treasurer, mirroring the role that Harry undertook for several years, and as Development Officer spearhead the remedial action needed to improve our financial position and develop and enhance our services and income streams. He will continue to support Kirsty in her key role as the Club's Operations Manager. Scott will continue as the key management contact with Guy and all aspects of course and greens will be addressed by them. Giselle as part-time Administrator, and fitting better with family commitments, will provide office support to Adam and Kirsty, and to Guy when necessary. Working together Adam and Giselle will ensure that the Club is contactable by members and public on a more consistent basis. Adam will start shortly.

Management Team.

EGM Presentation

28th September 2023

Dear Members

Thanks to all who attended and participated in the Extra General Meeting held to brief members (in confidence) on our current financial situation. The minutes of the meeting have been prepared and will be accessible soon by logging into the website as a member and going to Club/Council Matters/EGM Minutes.

Those members seated away from the screen and unable to read parts of the presentation, and those unable to attend can consult a reference copy available either from the bar or from the office.

Harry

Extra General Meeting

14th September 2023

Dear Member

Council and Management Team have been concerned since May about the effect that rampant inflation over the last year is having on our finances. We are not alone in this – most golf clubs are having to cope with similar issues. It was clear that we were going to have to do something about improving income and containing costs. We set up a working group to recommend remedial measures and they reported at the end of August. Council felt that it was important to brief members on how our costs have been affected and what we will be doing to improve the situation, and we felt that members would wish that to be done now rather than wait another two months to learn about the situation at the AGM.

An Extra General Meeting is being called to brief members and answer any concerns they may have. The meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th September at 7.00pm.

Stephen Sharpe
Captain

Greens Maintenance Underway

4th September 2023

Dear Members

I am writing this update on the morning of 4th September as the greenstaff started the autumn aeration and overseeding programme utilising our new dynacorer units taking 9mm cores to a depth of 2.5cm, this was followed by overseeding with fescue which was brushed into the holes. Work had to be paused to accommodate the seniors open on Tuesday the 5th and the Weds club competition before some further aeration work scheduled to be completed later in the week.

It really was a beautiful morning on the links and I took the opportunity to go down and see the work in motion and take a few pictures to share with you all in our upcoming Newsletter. Apologies to anyone who may have been affected by the work being carried out.

We really have enjoyed wonderful greens over the past few months which is testament to Guy and the greenstaff, it's a pity we have to disrupt this but we must carry out this essential work and this is the optimum time to do it. We must also get this work completed in advance of spraying Acelepryn to combat the leatherjacket grubs, you may have already noticed the crane fly in flight around some of our greens. As previously communicated peak flight is predicted around the 3rd week in September with a target Acelepryn spray date of the 20th October. This timing allows for the female crane fly to lay her eggs, hatch, and then interact with the Acelepryn product which paralyses them in the 1st & 2nd instar stage. Unfortunately, some will survive into adult stage which will cause damage to the

greens in the spring but we are doing everything we can to minimise this and try to provide good playing surfaces earlier in the season.

As we head into the end of the season I will be working with Guy to prioritise work for the winter programme which once completed we will communicate out, let's hope for a dryer winter than we experienced last year.

Regards
Scott
Chairman of greens

Essential Greens Maintenance

21st August 2023

Dear members

We hope you have been enjoying the excellent condition of the greens that Guy and his team have been working hard to provide. We believe that our new fine grass verticutter along with Guys greens programme have been a major influence in having greens of such high standard.

Our goal moving forward is to achieve this standard as early as possible then maintain for as long as we can throughout the season.

Unfortunately this means we do have to carry out some essential maintenance work which includes aeration and over-seeding with fescue. Over-seeding with fescue is part of a longer term plan to produce greens with a higher fescue percentage with the aim of promoting consistent and true putting surfaces along with good speed. We also need to get this work carried out and recover the greens before the crane fly lay eggs which unfortunately turn into the leatherjacket grubs that do so much damage to our greens in the spring.

We will be combating the leatherjackets by spraying acelypryn product approximately 1 month after the peak flight of the crane fly. This is currently giving us a predicted spray date of around October the 20th, this date and advice is taken from pest tracker which is provided by the manufacturer of acelypryn. Pest tracker collects data from all around the country to determine the peak flight of the crane fly, previous data and studies indicate the best results are achieved when the product is sprayed 1 month after the peak flight date.

This means we need to carry out essential aeration and over-seeding with minimal disruption and recovery time before this date. The spray date provided by pest tracker determines the optimum time to apply acelypryn to ensure the greatest impact which is when the grub is in the juvenile 1st & 2nd instar stage. Hopefully after application less grubs survive through winter to the adult stage and we can minimise damage to the greens in the spring allowing us to achieve good putting surfaces earlier in the season.

Weather permitting, we plan to start our maintenance work week beginning the 4th of September with hollow-coring utilising our new dynacorer units with 9mm tines at depth of 2.5cm. Fescue seed will be brushed into the holes which will then be filled with top dressing, verti-draining will then be carried out with 12mm solid tines to depth of approximately 20cm.

Please can we ask that you have patience while we carry out this essential maintenance work. Getting more fescue into the greens along with aeration work at the right time while combating the leatherjacket problem is essential in getting the greens to a high standard earlier in the season and maintaining that standard for as long as possible.

Chairman of greens

Management Arrangements Update

1st August 2023

Dear Members

This an update on our management arrangements following our earlier communication explaining we would be seeking a replacement for Giselle. We did advertise but it was clear that there was a better solution by making internal restructuring and investing in developing Kirsty our House Manager to act as Club Manager. Kirsty is excited at the challenge and the Management Team are very happy to be investing in our key member of staff. It will mean freeing Kirsty up from some of her current duties and broadening her responsibilities.

We were looking to find an Assistant Manager capable of undertaking much of Kirsty's House Manager duties and the solution has come from Kirsty and Giselle. Giselle has decided to stay with the Club and is looking forward to taking on the role of Assistant Manager. The Management Team are delighted to support this solution. Harry will support and mentor both girls until they settle in and feel established in their new roles. We look forward to introducing these new management arrangements towards the end of August.

Christine Graham
on behalf of
Management Team

Buggies

9th July 2023

Dear Members

We have just taken delivery of the 3rd and 4th of the new buggies with the lithium batteries. Like most things these days buggies have increased in price and on top of that ratchetting bank interest means it is more expensive for hire/lease agreements – buggies are 40% above the rates we paid back in 2018 with the old ones. These relentless inflationary pressures mean that we have had to take a hard look at our pricing. Council found that our buggy prices were the lowest in the county and at their July meeting agreed an increase to bring them more in line with other Cumbrian clubs. (£30/round visitors £25/round members, 10 tokens for £200 (reset back at £150 in September)). These new rates will apply from Monday. *Please remember our buggy policy requires approval from management before any personal buggies are allowed. Essentially only those currently authorised will have approval.*

Of course, it is not only with buggies that we see the effect of serious and continuing inflation: it is affecting every aspect of our business. We have set up a working group to review our situation and make recommendations for remedial action which we expect to put to the membership at an EGM in the coming months.

Harry
On behalf of
Seascale Golf Club Council

Competitions Beyond 2023 – Help!

5th July 2023

Dear Fellow Member

Seascale is a very active club as far as competitions and opens are concerned. We can only keep these competition and open omnibuses going if we have a few members willing to manage and administer them and the handicaps which underpin them – to act as the drivers if you like who know the rules and how to apply them. The job of the driver is less arduous than it was 10-15 years ago, and it is even possible to do much of it remotely. However, they don't just run themselves, and if we run out of drivers they will just have to stop. It is quite likely that Harry and Angus will be getting off the Opens Bus by the end of September, leaving only Gordon as the only driver in the Club for everything to do with competitions – he is currently incapacitated having just had his knee replaced. So, the situation is becoming precarious.

We have been ranting on about the need for new blood for more than a year, but we seem to be getting nowhere. We sent an email out to members who in the main live reasonably close to the Club, who participate and who we feel would not be best pleased if we ended up without a driver for the bus (apologies to them for another communication). Unfortunately, the response was rather poor. Council has asked that I contact all of the men playing in our competitions to try to rebuild a competitions/handicap team before we end up in a situation where we just won't be able to run our competitions.

Please do take this seriously and if you feel that you are able to help and be involved contact Harry or Gordon at seascalegolfclub@gmail.com who will be pleased to provide you with more background and information.

Thanks for your time.

Harry Paterson
On behalf of Council

Secretary/Administrator

28th June 2023

We are sorry to have to tell members that our Secretary Administrator, Giselle, has decided to leave us and return to her family well-being business of Juniper Baby Massage and Yoga. Giselle will continue with us until the end of August and will assist in any transition arrangements. The Management Team are sorry to lose someone who brought enthusiasm and professionalism to the position.

The vacancy notice below is going into the Indeed recruitment system advertising for a replacement. May we also through this communication call on any members or their friends who might be interested in the position to get in touch with Giselle or Harry who will be happy to provide more information.

from
Management Team

*Secretary/Administrator part-time – Seascale Golf Club
Seascale Golf Club is inviting applications to fill the post of Golf Club Secretary/Administrator, responsible for financial and personnel management. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, customer focussed and preferably having some understanding of golf and its traditions. Desirable qualities and experience: good administrative and customer service skills, attention to detail, good

team working, ability to work independently and demonstrate initiative, proficiency with Microsoft Office, database management skills. *

Adequate Insurance

23rd June 2023

Dear Members

Recently we have had incidents where members or visitors have damaged either property or residents' cars adjacent to the 18th hole due to wayward shots.

Of course, this is always an accident and never anything anyone intends to happen. A recent incident involved a neighbour's car being damaged by a wayward tee shot, the car was parked around the back of the houses adjacent the 18th hole. Due to the location of the dent unfortunately it could not be pulled out and the car required a full new bonnet at significant cost in excess of £1000. Fortunately, the member involved had their own insurance which covered the cost on this occasion.

As members of the club, we all have limited insurance cover through England Golf, this cover includes public liability for third party injury and public liability for third party property damage. However, it is important to note that property damage claims under £500 cannot be made and there is an excess charge of £500 for any claim made. Another important note is that there is no cover for theft or damage to golf equipment, there is however an option to upgrade your existing cover through England Golf to cover this.

Please can we ask that you consider purchasing your own comprehensive golf insurance such that you are not liable to excess charges or upgrading your existing limited cover through England Golf.

We have included a link to a provider named Golfcare and the link to England Golf where you can upgrade your existing cover. Golfcare have some good introductory discounts, 2 for 1 vouchers and free golf balls upon sign up, of course other providers are available for price comparison.

By having comprehensive golf insurance and reporting any damage to property or cars you will be supporting the club both financially and in maintaining our relationship with our neighbours.

Thank you in advance for considering.

Management team

<https://englandgolf.marshsport.co.uk/member-insurance-benefit>

<https://www.golfcare.co.uk/>

Bunker Etiquette

9th June 2023

Dear members

As you can see from the picture attached this is what greeted one of our members while playing the 5th hole in the competition on Weds the 7th June after he teed off at around 17.00.

As you can see, no attempt has been made to rake the bunker even though a rake is present. We are aware there are some bunkers without a rake at the moment and we have some additional rakes on order.

However this is no excuse. If in the short term a rake is not readily available, you will find one a short walk in the next bunker.

This is not an isolated event. Please have due consideration for your fellow members and leave the bunker in a condition you would expect to find it.

Should any member be observed not raking a bunker after play you should expect to be challenged and where appropriate further action may be taken.

Kind regards
Chairman of Greens



Results of Consultation on Opening up Bookings for competitions

5th June 2023

Dear Member

Following concerns about the opening-up time for Bookings into our Wednesday and Sunday competitions we carried out a members' consultation. For the last few years opening up of booking has been set at 7.00am seven days before a competition. Council discussed this issue at their last meeting and decided to let members state their preference. The email was sent to 462 gents. 52 replies were received (we assume the remainder were either satisfied with arrangements or not interested in voting). The results of the consultation are as follows:

7.00am on Sunday (status quo) votes 33 (63%)
6.00pm on Saturday votes 10 (19%)
7.00pm on Friday votes 5 (10%)
7.00pm on Wednesday votes 4 (8%)

There will therefore be no change in the current arrangements.

Harry Paterson
On behalf of SGC Council.

Seascale Golf Club Manager

1st May 2023

Dear Members

By mutual consent Alex Johnstone has agreed to withdraw from the position of Manager at Seascale Golf Club. The Directors and Management Team are sorry that things did not work out for Alex and the Club and wish to thank him for moving forward on some key projects under a difficult financial position. We know that Alex will continue to be an active member and contribute wherever he can to ensure the Club's future.

The Management Team

Ongoing Wet Weather

11th April 2023

Dear members

Unfortunately, we have more bad weather forecast for Tuesday and Wednesday next week. In line with our revised policy with regards to course closure, if we experience flooding again we may need to take measures to keep the course open and ensure the competition can run for those who wish to play.

If the flooding is extreme we may be forced to shut the 10th and have a temporary green on the 3rd and 9th. Unfortunately, we would need to keep these measures in place for the duration of the day as the rules of competition dictate. We are allowed to remove a hole from play and have a temporary green or two and still run a qualifying competition, instructions on how to enter your score will be by the signing in computers.

The Met office has released data that states we have experienced the wettest March in over 40 years and the third wettest since records started in 1839. On top of having an extremely wet winter this is contributing to the course conditions we are currently facing.

The course will only be shut if it is unsafe to play.

We thank you for your understanding at this difficult time.
Scott Mahaffy
Chairman of Greens

Course Closures

6/4/23

All

There have been a number of course closures recently due to the extreme wet weather, including this morning. On these occasions the course has typically been in no fit state to play and if play had been allowed damage or accidents/injury may have resulted. As we start the new season this weekend and with continued wet weather resulting in flooding of problematic areas the Chairman of Greens and Head Greenkeeper held a review of policy this morning

The approach will change as of tomorrow Friday the 7th April. When there is heavy rain resulting in potentially dangerous conditions the course will be closed, this is expected to be a rare event. Where there is flooding in discrete areas it may be necessary to take odd holes out of play or put the pin on a temporary green till any flooding subsides, the course will be open on these days.

It is recognised that course drainage is not as good as it once was and a plan will be prepared to address this going forward, starting next winter.

Alex Johnstone
Club Manager

Car Parking

18th March 2023

We have had a number of instances where there has been less than considerate parking on the bottom car park. People have been parking three deep at busy time and blocking other cars in.

Having had a look at the situation this morning and comparing against standards the most efficient use of the space is in fact to have a single row of cars against the dyke and a single row towards the greens shed with a double row of cars down the middle leaving space at either end for cars to move around. The preferred shape would be herring bone i.e. park at an angle.

I will look into marking the car park on a temporary basis to reflect this pattern.

In the meantime could members please park considerately and not block others in.

Thank you in anticipation

Alex Johnstone

No Smoking Policy

6th March 2023

Dear Members,

I am emailing on behalf of the Manager, with a reminder that we have a No Smoking policy in the clubhouse and this includes vaping.

Would members please adhere to this policy.

Thanks,

Giselle

Appointment of Part-time Manager

11th January 2023

Dear Members,

Following our advertising to the membership the post of Manager at Seascale Golf Club and a successful interview, we are pleased to announce that Alex Johnstone has been appointed to the position of Part-time Manager. He will work closely with the recently appointed Part-time Secretary/Administrator and with the respective Chairmen of House and Greens in delivering an

effective service for members, visitors and public. Alex will start in post on Monday 16th January.

The Management Team

Buggy Damage Again

9th January 2023

Dear Members,

I make no apology for bringing this to your attention.

COME ON YOU GUYS ARE YOU REAL!

Despite all of our communications about damage done by Buggies particularly when the ground is saturated we still have to put up with people who think our guidance, rules and cajoling is not meant for them.

Just who out of the few buggy drivers out on Saturday afternoon or Sunday decided to ruin the surrounds of the 2nd green when there is a road within yards and an astro turf track specifically placed to mitigate such damage. Trolley users need also to pay attention to the damage caused.

The attached photos tell the story. Is it too much to expect the culprit(s) to be man enough to apologise for their behaviour? You know who you are.

Harry Paterson
on behalf of very disappointed Greens Staff.

Manager/Manageress Seascale Golf Club

7th December 2022

Seascale Golf Club is looking for our next Manager/Manageress to take our viable business forward for the benefit of members, visitors, and the local community. Within our membership we believe there are people capable of doing just that and in a situation where they would enjoy the challenge and opportunity. If you are interested in this position please express your interest to the Secretary, Seascale Golf Club seascalegolfclub@gmail.com by 30th December 2022.

Harry Paterson
Honorary Secretary
On behalf of
SGC Council

DESIRABLE QUALITIES

- * Proven administrative ability
- * Interpersonal skills including an ability to maintain excellent relationships with the Council, staff, members, visitors, suppliers, contractors, and the general public. This includes an ability to deal with members or visitors transgressing the Club's rules.
- * Ability and enthusiasm to consolidate and develop the business.
- * Evidence of ability to get things done efficiently and finish tasks, particularly when many people are seeking your attention.
- * Knowledge of the use of computers, email, and software packages.
- * Consciousness of the need to minimise costs whilst ensuring a high-quality product is given.
- * Recognition that this is a hands-on job where much of the work has to be done by the job holder, whilst at the same time being able to delegate where appropriate.
- * Home within 20 miles of Seascale.

- * Good knowledge of the rules and etiquette of golf (preferably as a player).
- * Good numeracy and literacy.

Progress – Future Management Arrangements

24th November 2022

Dear Member,

As many of you will know, we advertised and have interviewed for a Part-time Secretary/Administrator to carry out some of the office- based tasks currently carried out by Adam with support from Harry when necessary. We are pleased to say that Giselle Nejady will be joining us to start training on 29th November, initially for about 10 hours per week – training extending into December and January. We hope that Kirsty, Sam and Giselle will form a good team and provide continuity as Adam and Harry move on.

Council and Management Team are agreed that we will still seek to appoint a Manager to take overall responsibility for the Club's affairs and we hope that will be someone with experience of our Club, who will be able to consolidate and develop the business.

We are also pleased to say that Guy Lawson has agreed to step up to the post of Head Greenkeeper with immediate effect. It may take some time for Guy to bed-in to his duties and members will have to get used to taking greens issues to Guy and the Chairman of Greens – and not to Adam from now on.

Adam has indicated that he would wish to formally finish on 21st December. He will, however, make himself available to continue training Giselle and the girls along with Harry into January and be available to troubleshoot issues.

The Management Team

Management

28th September 2022

Hello All

Last week at the Management Meeting and again yesterday evening at the meeting of the Council I stated my intention to step down from my role as manager of Seascale Golf Club.

I had announced in November 2020 that my long-term aim was to have finished by the time of my 50th birthday, but that vision has had to be brought forward as my personal situation requires the change to be made. I would have liked to have finished at this year's AGM but recognise that carrying on until 31st January will help the club get over the membership renewal exercise and allow just that bit longer for transition. Harry also wishes to (finally) complete his long-announced exit and will also finish by 31st January. Both of us will do as much as we can to ensure a smooth transition to the 'new management'.

I will obviously give 100% while this process is carried out and there will be no change in the professional manner that the Club is run throughout the staffing team.

There are 6 nominations available for Council at this year's AGM, hopefully the sections that want change can put their hands up and steer the ship responsibly in the direction they require.

Hope to see you all down here in the future, I intend to finally enjoy some Golf.

Many thanks to all the staff I have worked with over the last few years, they are a credit to the Club, and for all the support received from the vast majority of the membership.

Adam

Penalty Scores

9th August 2022

Hello All

During this season we have had a number of members entering club competitions and not returning their scorecard.

If a member indicates their intention to return a General Play Score by signing in on the PSI or MyEG App and they fail to return the score after receiving an email they automatically receive a Penalty Score.

If someone indicates their intention to return a Competition Score by signing in on the PSI and they fail to return the score they will receive a Penalty Score.

If the member can give a good reason for not returning the scorecard or can produce their scorecard the penalty score can be deleted from their handicap record.

Please see attached England Golf guidelines on Penalty Scores dated 9th December 2021

<https://www.Englandgolf.org/news-detail?newsarticleid=149>

Many thanks

Comp Team

Guest Green Fees

2nd August 2022

Hello All

Please take note of the rules around bringing a guest to play at Seascale and how to sign them in for a round.

* A member must book a time to play Golf with a guest through the bar on 019467 28202. The staff will put you on the BRS Tee Booking System and highlight a green fee is expected.

* The guest must pay their green fee before play.

* A member may book up to 3 guests to play with them on a particular day. The member must play with their guests.

Many thanks

Adam

Buggy Rules

20th July 2022

Hello All

I would like to ask all buggy users for some co-operation and remind them of some rules that we have at Seascale.

Please take note of the following -

- * Only use a buggy if you really need one. Buggy tyres are making burn marks in the fairways due to the drought and we would like to keep these to a minimum (see attached photo). These marks will take longer to recover when the rains come.
- * Keep buggies well away from tees and greens. Try and keep to the semi rough where possible.
- * Do not turn tightly with a buggy and do not drive up and down the rough looking for your ball.
- * Our four hire buggies can only be rented out once per day. If one has been out in the morning it cannot go out again in the afternoon. The staff are organised to put them on charge ready for the next day.
- * You must give at least 24 hours notice when booking a hire buggy.
- * You must not drink alcohol when driving a buggy.

Many thanks

Adam

Etiquette

16th May 2022

Hello All

I have received quite a few emails lately and had discussions in the bar regarding etiquette on the course. The greens staff also see many instances of poor form out on the Links and I know members are getting disgruntled about it. We are going over old ground here but please take note of the following -

- * Ensure bunkers are raked correctly after you have played your shot. This seems to be the worst example of bad etiquette at present. When we rake the bunkers on a Thursday morning they are in a shocking state with huge foot prints and swipe marks after a full Wednesday competition. I feel sorry for the late starters on a Wednesday. Unfortunately the greens staff need to rake the bunkers every morning at present, due to this problem, and this is diverting them from other jobs.
- * Take your litter home with you or use the bins. There are bins located on the 4th, 13th and 16th tees for you to use if you cannot take items home. A Council member recently filled two bin bags up on a course walk and on Saturday morning the greens staff picked up a Coke can and a banana skin from the middle of the 9th fairway.
- * Take note of the "No Buggies or Trolleys Past This Point" signs. We have been successful in reinstating grass coverage on many greens surrounds and walk off areas over the last couple of years.

Keeping wheels away from high traffic areas is one reason these parts of the course have recovered and now yield decent lies. I don't really want to put white lines out there again. Many thanks to the majority that have bought into this and helped the greens staff with their work.

* Replace your divots. We know crows pull some divots out of the ground looking for grubs, evidence of this is when the divot is located immediately next to the broken ground, but there are a lot of divots approx 5 metres ahead of where the shot has been taken. This is a sure sign that the golfer has simply walked on and not replaced the turf.

* Purchase range tokens from the bar. Staff and members have seen people walking off the car park and hitting a few balls that they see lying around. This is dangerous if someone is hitting balls from the designated hitting area (the white posts in front of the houses). You must come up to the bar and buy a token to use on the practice ground at present.

* Avoid slow play. We see a lot of backing up on the course and groups losing holes on the players in front. Please read the "Ready Golf" pointers printed on the scorecards and wave following groups through if necessary. This will be more important now the rough is starting to grow.

Obviously most members are obeying the rules but there are some that need to work on their course etiquette out there. I hope this information is helpful and shows frustrated members that we are aware of the issues.

Many thanks

Adam

Practice Ground Open

1st April 2022

Hello All

The Practice Ground will be open as usual from Monday

Anyone using the Practice Ground must purchase tokens from behind the bar and hit up the range from the white posts. For H&S you must not gather balls from the field or hit back towards the houses.

Many thanks

Adam

EGM – Solar Power Installation

9th March 2022

Dear Member

At the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held on Monday 7th March to consider the Proposal to Install Solar Power at Seascale Golf Club, the result of the ballot of those members attending was unanimously in favour of the proposal.

The minutes of the EGM are available on the Website/Members Hub/Council Matters/EGM.

Many thanks

Adam

Proposed Solar Power Installation - Notice of EGM

21st February 2022

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) has been called for Tuesday 7th March 2022 at 7.00pm in the Clubhouse.

Item 1. As required by Clause 30 of our Rules requiring approval from the membership for expenditure over £20,000, Council is seeking approval from the membership for a proposal to install solar electric power as a means of reducing the impact of rising electricity costs.

Additional Information

Members will be very aware of the rapidly rising cost of living and the crippling increases in energy tariffs that are imminent. We have flagged up at the AGM, in the Newsletter, and in Council minutes the likely effect on costs that the Club will be faced with. Our electricity bill is likely to go from £15,000 per annum to perhaps £35,000 according to suppliers. This has prompted us to look seriously at alternative energy supplies, and in particular solar power.

We are proposing to install about 150 solar panels on the green shed roofs, feeding the power produced to the clubhouse, which will potentially provide 25% of the electricity we need. This will be a significant investment of Club funds, but with the potential to recoup the money within 5-6 years and see continual yearly savings of about £10,000 – even more if tariffs continue upwards.

Over the last decade interest rates from savings have been practically zero, and the Club worked hard to protect its reserves by investing in the course and equipment from funds generated from our operations. Now, with inflation at 5% and rising and with little hope of relief from savings, the value of our reserves is at risk. We therefore need to make use of some of our reserves by investing in projects which help reduce our future operational costs. The solar power project helps achieve this with a potential payback equivalent to investing money at 7% interest per annum (figures not seen since the early 90's), and the borehole project has a similar payback, both helping the Club survive what could be a rocky decade ahead.

Council is grateful for the work done by Andrew Wallace and the solar project team in investigating and gaining information from suppliers and users. Council unanimously endorses the proposal and recommends that members give their agreement to the funding and installation of the solar power system at Seascale Golf Club

Adam Lamb
Manager
21st February 2022

Further detail on the project is contained in SGC Proposal to Install Solar Power which may be consulted in the Clubhouse.

Buggy Policy

24th January 2022

Hello All

I'm sure you have all seen the excessive damage caused to the course owing to the high number of buggies being used. I know many members are commenting on it and the greens staff are also growing disillusioned with the whole situation. We need to take action.

The architecture of the Links at Seascale Golf Club does not lend itself to the volume of traffic it now receives. Willie Campbell and George Lowe did not foresee a time when people would not carry clubs but we are now at an unsustainable level where no amount of laying astro turf, roping off and aerating will mitigate this issue. We feel we have always supported buggy users by purchasing and laying many hundreds of metres of astro turf and never banning buggies, even after severe rainfall and where many Clubs may have refused buggies for a certain period of time. We rope off and try to direct traffic to save the main summer playing surfaces but we are seeing damage from buggies which will not recover for the playing season.

We had 14 buggies out on Wednesday 12th January and this has become the norm for competition days. Pleas to buggy users to double up and to strictly follow the winter route have fallen on deaf ears. Myself, staff and members have witnessed multiple buggies in a fourball and a total disregard towards the simple winter route. This is leading to conflict and ill feeling between all parties involved.

Council have endorsed the our buggy policy (Website/Members Hub/Club/Rules and Constitution). This gives me, or available deputies, the power to ban buggies if we feel the course will suffer excessively from the amount of buggies we see booked into the days play or the users health and safety is compromised by taking a buggy out on the course in certain conditions.

It also states that private owners must present to the Council proof of insurance, this does not apply to members who hire Club owned buggies as they are covered under our policy.

All buggy users will find an Acknowledgement Form behind the bar. You MUST ask for yours and sign it before Saturday 5th February. Failure to sign the form before this date will lead to buggy privileges being withdrawn. Continued abuse of these privileges by failing to comply with the buggy policy will also lead to further action.

Many thanks

Adam Lamb and
Council of Seascale Golf Club

Borehole

23rd January 2022

Hello All

Geocore Ltd will be commencing work tomorrow on our borehole. If all goes to plan we will have a good source of water for our irrigation system and not have to rely on our present mains water feed.

The location will be to the left of the 7th fairway, immediately above the present irrigation water holding tanks which are near to the 16th green. There will be a fair bit of work going on around this area all week and Geocore will be transporting machinery to site periodically throughout. Please be mindful of this when playing any shots.

Many thanks

Adam

Covid 19

6th January 2022

Hello All

With cases rising rapidly in Copeland we thought we should put some extra precautions in place to protect our staff, members and visitors to our Clubhouse.

Please take note of the following -

- * Face masks to be worn at all times while standing/walking in the Clubhouse.
- * Sanitise hands regularly.
- * Observe the socially distanced "Bar Queue".
- * Only one person allowed in the "Bar Zone".
- * Be mindful of social distancing while using the PSI Touchscreens and sanitise accordingly.
- * Take note of the signage around the building.

Many thanks for your support during the last couple of years and for maintaining a safe environment within Seascale Golf Club.

Adam

Kitchen Hours

27th December 2021

Hello All

Firstly I hope you are having a great festive period.

Please note we will be closing the kitchen from 2nd January - 8th January, reopening on Sunday 9th January. The staff have had a very busy month or so and deserve a bit of a rest.

We will still have the Bar open within normal hours.

Many thanks

Adam

Table Bookings

10th December 2021

Hello All

Just a note to advise members on the protocol around ordering food in the Clubhouse.

If you are playing Golf then staff are aware of this through the booking sheet and can accommodate your food requirements between the hours of 11.00am - 4.00pm Wednesday - Saturday and 12.00pm - 4.00pm on Sunday. You simply order food for yourself or fourball at the bar when you enter the Clubhouse after your round.

If you require food for your family/guests it is essential, and indeed polite, to book a table in advance. It is unfair to put undue pressure on our staff and expect them to cater for larger numbers unexpectedly. This is especially important at busy times when they are serving tables that have booked in.

When we are "fully booked" this means we cannot physically cater for any extra guests on top of the golfers booked into the tee times and the tables reserved in advance on that particular day.

We are a busy Club and we like things to run smoothly but sometimes we need member co-operation to achieve this.

So in a nutshell, be nice to our staff and help them out by booking a table for any additional guests.

Many thanks

Adam

New Restrictions

30th November 2021

Hello All

There are some new rules regarding face coverings that come in force from today.

If you are using our premises as a pro shop (signing into a comp, buying a take away drink, picking up buggy keys etc) you must wear a face covering.

There is no requirement to wear a face covering in hospitality, so you don't need one if you are ordering drinks or food within the Clubhouse.

I know it's confusing.

Basically we would like you to wear a face covering if you're walking around the Clubhouse, if you're seated you can take it off.

Many thanks

Adam

Non Qualifiers/Mats Optional in Semi Rough

26th November 2021

Hello All

Please note we will be going to Non Qualifiers in our competitions from now and until further notice.

This means you can play from a Mat in the semi rough if you so wish.

Mats are compulsory on all fairways and optional in semi rough.

Please see attached Local Rule.

Many thanks

Adam

Practice Ground – Closed

19th November 2021

Hello All

The Practice Ground will be closed for winter from tomorrow morning.

You may still use your own balls and pick them up afterwards.

Many thanks.

Adam

BRS Tee Booking Vote

17th September 2021

Hello All

We asked you recently if you would like to retain the BRS Tee Booking or adopt a hybrid system.

The results are as follows -

- Retain a full tee booking system. 76 (78%)
- Introduce a hybrid system. 23 (22%)

This means that we will retain the present system.

We had three questions about what could they do on competition days when the day was booked out through HowDidIDo and BRS wasn't available, but they would like a social round. In this instance we would like members to look at the tee sheet through HowDidIDo and tee off after the last tee time booked in the comp. If you haven't got access to the tee sheet and would like a game after the last group tees off then please phone the bar and they will tell you when the final tee time is.

We had one question regarding going out after 7.00pm, when the booking slots end. For the few that would like to go out for a few holes after 7.00pm then no booking is necessary.

We also had two questions highlighting concern regarding people booking a tee but not showing up. We would remind members that booking a tee is a commitment to play at that time. This note is also stated on the booking page.

Many thanks for all your encouraging feedback on how we have handled the new members tee booking system throughout the pandemic. So much so that the majority would like to keep it.

Adam

Course Update

13th September 2021

Hello All

Just an update on what has been happening out on the course over the last few weeks.

Greens - We have continued to apply wetting agent, humic acid, fulvic acid and seaweed to the putting surfaces to aid their recovery from the Leatherjacket infestation earlier in the season. The greens are rolling superbly at a cutting height of 4mm and the sward is thick with the desirable Fescue species of grass. We aim to overseed and top dress all the greens after the last Trophy competition.

Tees - The tees suffered earlier in the year from the dry spell where we needed to prioritise the greens irrigation. We have since applied wetting agent and overseeded twice with the Vredo seeding machine. Combined with a bit more favourable weather they are responding well.

Fairways - Over the last three years we have implemented a big overseeding programme on the fairways. Since the drought of 2018 we have drilled 60 bags of seed into them and this week we have put another 23 bags of pure Fescue out there. Despite the dry summer our fairways have played remarkably well with a full coverage of grass. This investment is now paying off.

Leatherjackets - I went along to Silloth last week for an informal talk regarding Leatherjackets on golf courses. I was joined by the course managers of Silloth, Powfoot and Southerness along with Glen Kirby from Syngenta and Rob Ainscough from ICL. We discussed the monumental task that surrounds this issue and had a general talk about the life cycle and chemical control of the Crane Fly. What I have taken from the meeting is that we will try Acelypryn (the only chemical control available) again but apply it during higher rainfall than last year. The chemical needs a lot of water to flush it into the soil profile where it lingers and forms a barrier throughout the winter. The active ingredient can be up to 60% effective 4 months after application. The down side is that we can't penetrate that barrier by Aerating throughout the winter months with our larger machines. New trials by Syngenta have seen a breakdown of the chemical when you punch holes through the profile so we will apply Acelypryn after Autumn renovations. We can still micro tine and use the Air2G2 as these modes of action have no effect on the chemical layer. We will also apply Nematodes and do much more investigative sheeting work to see if we have a big problem, and then react.

The meeting was lengthy and informative and we all agreed on one thing. Hopefully a major televised golf competition is affected and Sky TV explains what the issues are.

Thanks for reading.

Adam.

Photo - Vredo overseeder



Competitions

3rd August 2021

Hello All

Please read the attached carefully.

We are basically back to normal when returning scores for comps so to avoid a DQ we need you to follow the rules.

Many thanks.

Competitions Team.

Course Handicap

- Under the WHS rules it is now compulsory to put your course handicap on your scorecard.
- Ideally we would have scorecards with boxes for Handicap Index, Course Handicap and Playing Handicap but until the current supply of cards is exhausted the attached card can act as a template for all members to use.
- If everyone puts their Handicap Index next to their name, puts their Course Handicap in the box marked H'cap, and their Playing Handicap in the box marked Strokes Rec'd then all current problems should be resolved.
- Each player's Handicap Index, Course Handicap and Playing Handicap are shown on the sign in screens for each competition.
- Please also remember to check the scorecard has been signed by the marker and player, you have ticked the box for tees played and entered your gross score for each hole completed.

Competition: Medal		Date xx/xx/xxxx		Time xx:xx		H'cap	Strokes Rec'd	Par	SSS	Course Rating	Slope Rating	X		
Player A:	A N OTHER		HI: 15.6		18	17	71	73	72.5	130				
Player B:							71	73	71.9	129	X			
Player C:							71	70	70.3	129				
Player D:							74	74	74.0	134				
Marker's Score	Hole	Yards	Yards	Yards	Par	S.I.	A	B	C	D	Points + - 0	Yards	Par	S.I.
5	1	317	317	304	4	6	5					288	4	9
6	2	340	340	315	4	16	5					310	4	14
5	3	405	405	392	4	2	5					396	5	11
4	4	322	322	301	4	18	4					291	4	8
3	5	183	183	168	3	8	3					143	3	17
8	6	536	486	467	5	10	6					425	5	3
6	7	588	558	551	5	14	6					466	5	6
4	8	194	194	199	3	12	4					146	3	16
7	9	391	391	366	4	4	5					353	4	1
48	OUT	3276	3196	3063	36		43					2818	37	
AVOID SLOW PLAY AT ALL TIMES!												ALWAYS REPAIR PITCH MARKS!		
4	10	142	142	127	3	13	4					129	3	12
7	11	468	468	451	4	3	5					447	5	4
5	12	393	393	360	4	5	5					352	4	7
4	13	216	216	193	3	7	4					161	3	15
6	14	474	474	439	5	15	6					419	5	5
5	15	332	312	299	4	17	5					238	4	18
7	16	471	471	434	4	1	5					443	5	2
5	17	344	344	329	4	11	5					292	4	13
4	18	334	334	327	4	9	4					322	4	10
47	IN	3174	3154	2959	35		43					2803	37	
48	OUT	3276	3196	3063	36		43					2818	37	
95	TOT	6450	6350	6022	71		86					5621	74	
Points												Handicap	17	
Par Result												Nett Score	69	
Marker's Signature..... A MATE												Player's Signature..... A N OTHER.....		
MEDICAL EMERGENCY PHONE: 999 / CLUBHOUSE: 019467 28202														

Competitions

20th July 2021

Hello All

Just a quick reminder that you all need to fill out scorecards correctly from now on , as previously communicated.

One little bit of confusion we have found is that you need to put your "Course Handicap" on your card. This is what you will see on the white board (Course/Slope Rating Table) outside the Clubhouse and on the Starters Hut where you convert your Handicap Index to Course Handicap.

Please insert your Course Handicap.

Many thanks

Adam

Clubhouse Restrictions

19th July 2021

Hello All

Today the country will see many restrictions easing in the hospitality sector. Although we believe this is great news we are still seeing infections of Covid 19 rise significantly in our local area.

To keep our staff/members safe and to try to prevent any loss of future service within the Club through illness or self isolation we would like you to take note of the following -

- * Continue to wear your face covering while walking around indoors.
- * Continue to observe the one-way system that has been in operation for some time.
- * Use the "Bar Queue" for any drinks/food orders. Only one person allowed in the taped off "Bar Zone". The perspex screen will remain in place.
- * Make use of the hand sanitiser provided.
- * If engaging any of our staff in conversation please be respectful and keep to 1 metre. Although many of the above are now not mandatory I would like to think that you will all use common sense when using our facilities. It is now up to us to help each other.

Many thanks

Adam

Lifting of Restrictions

14th July 2021

Hello All

Please take note of the changes to the Covid 19 restrictions for next week.

From Monday 19th July -

Flagpins - You may now remove the Flagpin from the hole cup. The wooden insert will be taken out.

Rakes - Rakes will now be introduced to the bunkers. You MUST play it as it lies and ensure the sand is raked properly after your stroke.

Scorecards - We will be reverting to the pre pandemic method of returning scores. Your completed scorecard MUST be filled out correctly (please see guidance in Summer Newsletter) and placed either in the black wooden box (if using the Competitions Room) or through the slot below the TV if you are inserting your score in the new PSI, located in the bar.

Casual Tee Booking - We will continue to enforce tee bookings for social tee times in the initial period after the restrictions are lifted. A survey will soon be put out to all members to gauge opinion and you will all have a vote in how we operate the tee sheet going forward.

Clubhouse - All restrictions will be lifted but we support the Government advice on wearing face masks while walking around our indoor facilities. We would also encourage you to continue using the hand sanitiser stations frequently.

Many thanks

Adam

Sorry No Catering This Sunday – Catering Only for Golfers

9th July 2021

Dear Members

As you are probably aware the prevalence of Coronavirus Delta variant has caused a huge upsurge in Covid cases around the country and around our county. As a consequence the volume of 'pings' to go into isolation has rocketed and hospitality venues are under severe strain. This has struck home here at Seascale where our cook must self-isolate, leaving only Kirsty as last person standing in the kitchen. With a busy day on Friday and Saturday, we will be unable to carry that through to providing a catering service on Sunday.

10/6/21 - Kirsty will be able to provide limited catering for our golfers only on Sunday from 11.00 to 16.00. There will be no 'Sunday dinners' as such to eat or take away this week - sorry.

We are sorry - some people may think it's all over – but it certainly isn't yet.

Harry

Could Do Better

22nd June 2021

At our most recent Council Meeting several issues were raised concerning conduct on and off the course. Adam had already flagged the need for all members to act responsibly and obey instructions. We should not have to bang the drum – but I will. The Code of Conduct outlined below has been produced to back up our standards and expectations, and is something that other clubs find the need to apply.

Missing Trolley

Our most recent unfortunate incident concerns the removal of a reasonably expensive electric trolley from the trolley store sometime between 12th and 19th June. It is not unknown for members to borrow and return other members trolleys, or even mistakenly take the wrong trolley – and if this is the case would the person responsible please return the trolley which is clearly labelled with the owners name. We would hate to think that this could be theft – so please beware.

Discarded Rubbish on the Course

Many members have raised concerns about the amount of rubbish discarded on the course and in certain locations around the course. During the Coronavirus emergency we have not been allowed put bins around the course and have repeatedly asked members to take their rubbish home with them and certainly not to leave it out on the course. It is quite clear that some members adopt a careless attitude to their waste – we all can follow the trail of the blue toffee wrapper culprit, the crisp muncher and chocolate bar kid. If you are doing it, please stop it – and if you see your partners doing it, please tell them to stop. It is your course – please respect it and our members.

Litter Pick

We will shortly be calling for volunteers to come forward and help on a special litter pick night, and it should not be long now before we can put the bins out again.

Divot Fill

We will also be calling for a work party to take part in a mass divot filling exercise – so please volunteer to help your Club.

Code of Conduct

Seascale Golf Club is committed to providing an environment that is free of discrimination, harassment and intimidation for members, employees, and guests.

Members, guests and visitors are all reminded that an acceptable standard of behaviour is expected in all areas of the Club and course, at all times and that upon payment of membership or green fees, all members, guests and visitors have given their consent to be bound by both the restrictions and penalties which may be imposed for any breach of the club's standards, or serious misconduct in failing to meet the standards set in the Code of Conduct.

The Coronavirus emergency has thrown up many examples of poor behaviour throughout the golfing community and has flagged up the need for golf clubs to have a 'Code of Conduct' to reinforce the reliance on 'etiquette'. Seascale Golf Club has had its share of what we should call misconduct over the last year or so, and consequently we have used a 'My-golf' template to produce a 'Seascale Code of Conduct' which outlines how we will deal with poor behaviour/misconduct in our club. Council has accepted the Code of Conduct which is accessible on the members' hub of the website under Club/Rules and Constitution.

We hope that we do not have to resort to exercising the Code of Conduct too often, but please be clear that our members expect us to be firm wherever we encounter behaviour that disrespects our Club, our staff, and our members.

Respectfully yours
Harry

Update on Club and Course Matters.

9th June 2021

Your Club is going through a sticky patch as our key player and Manager, Adam has succumbed to a heart condition which, though treatable, is proving very persistent. He is having to take time off and reduce his physical activity and stress. His loss over the next month just after he battled us through Coronavirus will be felt greatly, and we would ask all members to please be patient as we try with our depleted resources to meet your expectations on the course and in the clubhouse.

After saving our greens from the drought of 2020, Adam and his team gave us superb playing surfaces, and during the winter lockdowns the team continued to invest considerable effort to bring the greens on. Applications included wetting agent, seaweed and fulvic acid and they seemed to be coping well with the rainfall and the intense play. A low nitrogen feed was applied to all putting surfaces to help them recover, and a couple of the wetter greens were hollow cored to reduce thatch and aid water infiltration. Other treatments included a mix of Sulphate of Ammonium, Muriate of Potash, Urea and Seaweed'.

By the time of reopening after lockdown 2021 we fully expected good greens and a healthy links. However, we entered another difficult period with cold, dry conditions and no sign of any rain. The transition from Winter to Spring is notoriously difficult, and seemingly more difficult every year with climate change definitely a reality – and lurking beneath our greens and fairways was the perfect storm in the shape of a virtual plague of leatherjackets.

Keeping Members Informed

Adam's communications have brought the membership up to speed with the devastation the leatherjacket plague brings in its wake and the very difficult situation for greenkeepers who are fighting

this blight with no effective replacement to the banned go to solution of chlorpyrifos. So, what he has been warning us of for the best part of a year has, through no fault of our greens staff, struck us hard.

Remediation

The leatherjacket issue coupled with an excessively cold, dry and sunny April/May has seen growth on the greens severely affected. Top dressing would normally have resolved some of our issues, but this particular year grass recovery has been patchy. Before his illness Adam and Guy were looking to remediation which would include:

- Covering greens to 'bring up' leatherjackets as a test of current status. A test on the 12th this week showed few leatherjackets, but this may not be the case on other greens.
- Verti draining to break the top compacted crust. This can now proceed apace as the leatherjacket reach a more dormant state.
- Compressed air blasting to disrupt the deep compaction with our own Air2G2 unit. The machine, which we have invested £15k in, arrived this week and has already been used over most of our greens.
- Special 'Birkdale' top dressing and seeding. The 'Birkdale' mix is a blend of soil, sand and organics and this is currently awaiting delivery at a cost of £1.5k. The grass seed mix of 90% fescue to 10% bent is on its way at a cost of £1k
- Brushing in the top dressing and seed. A key part of the process will be carried out by a new speed brush £3k.
- Nematodes – First application on 31st May - Looking at another application in the autumn as a further measure of leatherjacket control.
- We will bring in soil specialists Aitkens for advice on soil quality.

Your support please

Yes, it is disappointing to see our greens not in the condition we have come to expect, but we hope that members do appreciate the efforts that have gone in to giving us great greens in the last couple of years, and that they do support us and our staff as we press on with the remediation programme.

We should expect our membership to understand our communications on this, and to be aware that the stress of this whole issue on greens staff is immense.

Harry Paterson

'Through adversity we become stronger. We learn nothing if it's plain sailing all the time.'
Message from Adam

Managing the Leatherjacket Challenge

17th May 2021

Hello All

Please watch the link below -

<https://www.bigga.org.uk/resource/managing-the-leatherjacket-challenge.html>

This is a webinar produced by BIGGA (British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association) with help from Glen Kirby, Manager of Syngenta. It has been conducted due to the serious nature of the challenge around the UK at present.

Syngenta are the producers of the only available chemical (Acelepryn) labelled to control Leatherjackets, you know that we sprayed this chemical on 28th September 2020 after much deliberation, advisement, planning and cost. We believe we applied at the optimum time, namely while the Crane Fly were on the wing, so that the chemical was in the root zone when the eggs were going to hatch. I'm glad that Glen now mentions that it's not a complete kill and Acelepryn can be used along with other control methods, this is not how it was marketed last season. I've heard many horror stories within the industry and from courses around the country. Unfortunately some courses have lost complete coverage of their putting surfaces and, in some cases, major damage on fairways. This has even led to Course Managers and Head Greenkeepers losing their jobs through no fault of their own, led by misguided and uneducated greens committees, or these extremely educated and valued people walking away from the industry because they can't handle the stress. I'm glad that we have communicated our own issues throughout this whole process and we have a strong committee to back the staff up. The majority of the membership have also been supportive. Trust me when I say we have had more damage than some but not nearly as much as some courses around the UK.

I would like to take Glen's "Solution Table" and explain what we have done at Seascale since last season and what we can improve on, along with a plan for the future.

Chemical - As mentioned we sprayed Acelepryn last September. This cost £1200 and only treated the greens. I have two issues with this chemical. Firstly I don't think it's strong enough to kill all of the Leatherjacket grubs within the soil profile and there are too many variables when planning to spray. Also Glen Kirby mentions that the grubs travel a lot searching for more roots to munch on, if this is the case then we would need to spray a larger area as the grubs would invade the greens from the approaches and fairways even after application.

Biological - We sprayed Chitosan on a monthly programme throughout Autumn and Winter. Chitosan is derived from the exoskeletons of deceased crustaceans, dredged from the sea bed. The theory is that Chitosan coats the roots and breaks down the teeth of the Leatherjacket grub while it's feeding. We have seen no benefit in this regard but we did see a drop in fungal activity throughout the mild winter (Chitosan also helps the plant guard against Fusarium disease, Take All patch etc). Our plan now is to try Nematodes. Nematodes are parasitic worms that when sprayed onto the surface of the green migrate through the soil, searching for a host. They seek out the Leatherjacket grub and kill them through bacteria, they then breed inside the carcass in huge numbers before setting off to find more prey. The Nematodes that we have purchased are specifically for Leatherjacket control. Again there are many variables when looking to apply the Nematodes. The spray tank must be completely clean, all filters need to be removed, they must be watered in, we must spray at night or early morning. We have been advised to spray now and then again in Autumn to build up enough immunity to control our numbers of Leatherjackets, they are also costly at approx £3000 per year. I can see a better outcome from Nematodes on the basis that if the Leatherjacket is moving around in the soil we have more chance to kill them with the Nematodes as opposed to Acelepryn. Again, much research and many referrals have been conducted lately on this matter.

A link to Bionema Ltd, we have been in contact with Dr Minshad Ansari -

<https://bionema.com/leatherjacket-qa-2/>

Monitoring - As communicated in January we were sheeting greens through lockdown to see if we could control the grubs this way. This is also a marker to monitor numbers in the soil. In hindsight it looks like this was the wrong time of year and gave us false hope that we wouldn't have an issue. We sheeted in the depths of winter when the grubs are too deep to emerge and the process was also conducted after a frost which would lead us to think their activity was decreased. We are learning all the time about these creatures and the plan would be to now monitor more regularly in November this year and early Spring next year, before we see any damage.

Mechanical - I have mentioned before that our major damage has been more evident on greens that we have tined through winter. This is either through solid tining on the verti drain or through hollow coring. In 2020 we had big issues with the grubs using the tine holes as little houses where they lay through the day and ventured up to the crown of the plant and feasted on any new growth through the night. This meant the holes would not heal up as they normally would. This winter we laid off the big verti drain tines but we needed to hollow core 7, 10, 14 and 16 as they were laying wet through a very damp December. These greens have seen a larger issue throughout Spring. No aeration will lead to even bigger problems however so we are looking into purchasing our own Air2G2 to take on the bulk of the aeration work. This machine injects compressed air into the root zone and breaks up any compaction, with no disturbance to the putting surface. We have seen no damage from the grubs through slit tining so our future winter aeration methods will be these two machines.

Cultural - As you have seen lately we have been sheeting some putting surfaces and collecting thousands of grubs when the plastic is removed. Unfortunately we have seen many grubs still present after this has been carried out so we can't envisage this practice being the way forward. It is also very labour intensive and disrupts play, albeit only one green per day. We see sheeting as a monitoring method only going forward.

Fertility and Biostimulants - We have increased our understanding on what our plant needs over the last few years. Previous regimes would keep the plant very hungry and this was fine when you could reach for a chemical that would kill off an infestation of Leatherjackets in one application. Over the last 4 years we have increased our applications of Seaweed, Humic Acid, Fulvic Acid, Nitrogen etc to give the plant the best chance of recovering from these factors. The pendulum has been swung in the Leatherjacket's favour this year with the cold, dry Spring but we are seeing an improvement in the sward and we can now look to dropping the height of cut and verti cutting the greens very soon. Unfortunately no amount of fertiliser will help if the temperatures are constantly in single figures.

Summing up - Rest assured there has been many early mornings and late nights fighting this problem within this golf club. This is a major challenge within the golf course industry and one we will continue to invest time and money into. I'm glad it is now getting mentioned in wider circles, the Daily Telegraph had a piece on Leatherjackets within Golf last week, and only hope the courses on the Open rota shout up and make enough noise soon to add more weight to the fact we need more reliable tools in our possession.

Lastly, another interesting article from Greenkeeper International Magazine -

<https://www.syngentaturf.co.uk/file/20906/download>

Many thanks

Adam

Clubhouse Reopening

14th May 2021

Hello All

I am pleased to announce that all remaining indoor facilities will be open from Monday 17th May, with relevant Government and England Golf restrictions.

Please note the following -

* Clubhouse opening times will be -

Monday - 8.00am

Tuesday - 8.00am

Wednesday - 7.30am

Thursday - 8.00am

Friday - 8.00am

Saturday - 8.00am

Sunday - 7.30am

* Kitchen opening times will be -

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Closed

Wednesday - 11.00am - 4.00pm

Thursday - 11.00am - 4.00pm

Friday - 11.00am - 4.00pm

Saturday - 11.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday - 11.00am - 4.00pm

* Clubhouse closure in the evening will be at House Manager's / Club Manager's discretion.

Government Rule of 6 Indoors in force.

* Table service only (unless you need a take away drink or snack where you must line up in the bar queue).

* When you enter the bar area there is a one way system, clockwise around the dance floor. This is clearly signed. Please find your seat and wait for a member of staff to take your order.

* To ensure a one way system when leaving the building exit via the fire exit.

* With limited capacity there will be no standing. You must have a seat.

* Toilets are strictly one in/one out with the upstairs toilets available if needed. Use the safe queue alongside the bar queue. If you are using the stairs please check they are clear before you proceed. No passing on the stairs and observe social distancing.

* We must record all customers who use our facilities as part of the Government's Track and Trace programme. Please use the NHS Covid App to register that you are on site, located as you come in the foyer. Gold Cards, HowDidIDo and the BRS Tee Booking are also useful tools to let us know you are on our premises.

* We are aiming for cashless transactions - Gold Cards and contactless payments where possible.

* Do not return empty glasses to the bar.

* Our staff will be working hard to clean down tables and chairs in between serving on the bar. Please respect this.

Sanitizer stations will be located around the building. You must use them regularly.

* Face coverings to be worn at all times while walking around the building. You can only take them off while seated.

* All England Golf's PlaySafe StaySafe guidelines previously communicated are still in operation. Link to the latest update below -

<https://www.EnglandGolf.org/download/a-framework-for-playing-golf/>

We have been in this situation before during 2020 where we carried out table service regulations very well. We all know what needs to be done regarding the "Rule of 6 Indoors" so please help everyone out by obeying the rules and keeping staff, guests and fellow members safe.

Many thanks

Adam

Competitions- Scorecards Not Returned / No Returns

11th May 2021

Hello All

Please see below. The main issue is that we need your score returned, most importantly in the computer but also in card form. If a score is not entered we cannot close the comp down. We should not be touching scorecards at present for four days -

Your Competition / Handicap Team needs your assistance with returning your scorecard in Club Competitions. We cannot close the competition until we have accounted for all the players signed into the competition against scorecards returned.

Missing scorecards give the team problems. We have to dredge through the cards to see if we can find it/them and call the individual to find out what happened to the scorecard. This is not Covid friendly. We also have a deadline to meet to get the competition report into the Whitehaven News.

Under the WHS your pre-registered score now needs to count towards your moving average of 20 scores. Therefore, if a player pre-registers a round he/she should enter the gross score into the PSI for all completed holes. The software will calculate the adjusted score for those holes not completed or started.

If the format of play does not allow a player to pick-up their ball before holing out, for example an individual gross score or net score stroke play competition, the player will be disqualified from the competition (NR) but not from returning an acceptable handicap score. The software will automatically calculate a score of a net double bogey to any hole that has not been completed and a net par for those not started.

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 That Has Been Started But Has Not Been 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.

Minimum Number Of Holes Played -

For a score to be acceptable as an 18-hole score at least 10 holes of the measured course must have been played. However if a player walks in off the course for whatever reason having played fewer than 10 holes they must still return their scorecard marked as above.

Your assistance is appreciated.

Competition / Handicap Team.

Practice Ground

7th May 2021

Hello All

The Practice Ground will be back to normal from Monday 17th May. Please note the rules for the Practice Ground, including Covid guidelines.

From Monday 17th May onwards -

* All tokens to be purchased from the bar on the day of your practice (3 token limit).

* All baskets will be kept behind the bar. You must take one for your practice and return it

immediately after. The staff can then ensure the baskets are sanitised for the next person.

* If you are practicing before a competition please leave enough time to return your basket to the bar before your tee off.

* Direction of play on the Practice Ground is from the white posts, located near to the houses, hitting up the field towards Sellafield. You must not hit from any other area.

* The new back putting green is still getting treatment. This will be a short game area with an approach and a greenside bunker. You may chip around this green but do not hit longer shots into it.

* Keep the Practice Ground tidy. Please note the ball machine porch is not a bin, nor is the starter hut or any of the greens sheds.

Up until Monday 17th May you must still use your own balls and pick them up afterwards.

Many thanks

Adam

Leatherjackets

20th April 2021

Hello All

Following on from the previous emails regarding Leatherjackets in the soil.

You may remember we carried out an experiment during lockdown which involved covering over the greens with a black silage sheet. This only brought a few to the surface but this may have been down to the fact that the grubs eat roots further down in the soil profile during winter. Evidence from last year suggested that the main damage is caused around April/May where the bigger grubs venture further to the surface to feed.

We had also recently noticed that the hollow core marks on 7th, 10th, 14th and 16th were not closing up as they should. This is because the grubs like to crawl up the walls of the tine holes and eat around the crown of the plant., decimating any new growth that these cultural practices usually encourage.

The staff covered the 7th green last night, after a good drenching with water and wetting agent, and we have literally seen hundreds on the surface after the sheet was rolled back. We double cut the green afterwards and spent a fair bit of time picking any up that was left. We have now covered the 14th green and will repeat the same system on all the hollow cored greens.

This now means that we must look at alternative aeration methods through the winter months as these tine holes are creating added problems in the Spring.

With no effective chemicals on the market after the withdrawal of Chlorpyrifos some years ago we must continue with this labour intensive procedure.

Please see attached photos.

Many thanks

Adam



Leatherjackets April 2021

Grubs from 7th green. Sheet ready for tonight on 14th green.

Greens Update

19th April 2021

Hello All

Just to let you know we have top dressed the greens today. Head Greenkeeper, Guy Lawson, had been holding off applying the material due to the dry and cold conditions. Unfortunately there is no rain in the forecast but we decided that we needed to carry out this essential maintenance anyway. We will not be able to cut the greens while the sand is lying on the surface but aim to roll for the Wednesday Medal.

The irrigation system is now up to full capacity, applying 3mm of water to the greens per night. This is also supplemented by hand watering through the day time, this will help to wash the sand in and help the high spots retain moisture. We aim for moisture readings between 20% - 25% in the soil profile.

Obviously these aren't great conditions for growing grass and it seems our Spring seasons are consistently poor. Any Poa Annua within the surface is not enjoying the cold and the dry, it is a shallow rooted annual which dies off now and doesn't regenerate until May when it seeds (you may see little white seed heads then). Fortunately our greens are predominately Fescue and can ride out these fluctuations in temperature and moisture much better.

All we can do is manage the different species of grass through this period and hope the April showers arrive.

Many thanks

Adam

Competitions Update

12th April 2021

Hello All

Please see below a few pointers before we start our competitions from this Wednesday -

- * Competition sign in and score entry will be in the Competitions Room.
- * One person per 2/3/4 ball to sign in and enter scores for the group (Please note by signing into the competition we need you to return your score).
- * Clean down PSI Touchscreen with spray provided after use.
- * Sanitize hands on entering and leaving the Competitions Room..
- * One scorecard for each group with one person nominated to write down all scores and sign card at the end of the round.
- * Verbal confirmation for each hole must take place with all agreed on each player's score for that hole.
- * Place scorecard in box located next to the PSI Touchscreen after entering scores.
We will not be checking scorecards for 4 days, and only as a last resort, so it's vitally important that all scores are returned and you enter the scores fully and correctly.
- * Our first competition on Wednesday 14th April is a multi tee competition. Ensure you press the correct tee that you are playing from when you sign in. Red, Yellow or White and tick the box on your scorecard.
- * Arrive in good time to ensure an orderly sign in/tee off process. Remember only 2 allowed in the Competitions Room at any one time.
- * Tee off on your time booked, not before or after.
- * Check for any Local Rules in place for the competition. Please note "No Preferred Lies"
- * Bunkers will be raked in the morning. Make best efforts to smooth the sand after your shot. Remember there are many players after you.
- * Do not congregate in the car parks after your round. Please stick to the rules so we can continue to enjoy our competitions safely.
- * * * PLEASE NOTE - Due to a technical issue with the World Handicap System adjustment calculations on the blue course in our Wednesday Multi Tee Stableford Competitions (red, yellow,

white & blue tees), the blue tee will not be in play until this issue is resolved. This does not affect our multi tee Medal competitions as the adjustment calculations are different.

Enjoy your Golf.
Your Competitions Team.

Updated Guidance – April 12th

9th April 2021

Hello All

In line with the updated review on the government's roadmap out of Lockdown, we at Seascale Golf Club are now permitted to reopen our outdoor social areas for outdoor hospitality from Monday 12th April.

Bar Service -

We will be open from 8.00am (7.30am on comp days) until we deem it appropriate to close the Clubhouse in the afternoon/evening, 7 days per week. Members must stay outside and wait for staff to come out to take your orders. You must all obey the two metre social distancing rules and the Rule of 6. You must not consume anything inside the Clubhouse and you must order / drink while seated. If we close earlier in the evening it will be due to poor weather, quiet booking sheet etc but will not be before 4.00pm.

Kitchen Service -

Catering will be available from Wednesday - Sunday 11.00am to 4.00pm. Again you must wait outside for a member of staff to come and take your order. You must order and eat while seated.

Take Away -

If you require food or drink to take away with you immediately please wait in turn, as before, in the socially distanced bar queue. This facility is strictly for take away only, for instance cans of soft drink or bar snacks to take on the course with you. Remember to take all your litter home.

Toilets -

The main toilets will be available whenever the Clubhouse is open. You must come in through the main entrance and leave the premises through the bar fire exit, obeying the one way system. Members must not linger indoors for any length of time. If the Clubhouse is closed the outside toilet will still be available.

Locker Room -

The locker rooms will reopen from Monday. Please minimise use as much as possible. The guidance permits storage of Clubs and encourages visits to these areas to be brief.

Face masks must be worn indoors at all times.

The regulations up until Monday April 12th are still to arrive ready for Golf, no congregating around the car parks, 1st tee or Clubhouse areas. Leave in an orderly fashion, safely and as soon as you possibly can. From Monday we would love to welcome you to enjoy a drink outside our Clubhouse. Please observe social distancing at all times.

This is one more step along the road, leading to a reopening of our indoor facilities on 17th May. Please be patient with staff as this is yet another new situation for us all. Also I urge you to be sensible around our outdoor areas, remember we have neighbours and you are representing Seascale Golf Club at all times.

Again, I point you to the link regarding England Golf's PlaySafe StaySafe guidelines all of which has been communicated to members on numerous occasions. This is the latest update -

<https://www.englandgolf.org/download/a-framework-for-playing-golf/>

Many thanks

Adam

Responsibilities

2nd April 2021

Dear Member

It's great to see you all out on the Links over the last few days. The lads got the course into immaculate condition for Monday morning, unfortunately many of the issues blighting Golf at present have been evident within our club and if these aren't nipped in the bud soon the condition of our course will deteriorate. Some of the etiquette witnessed by myself, the greens staff and fellow members this week have been extremely disappointing.

Please note ALL of the following. If a member is seen to be not adhering to the basic principles of being a good member of a Top 100 Golf Club they will be issued with one written warning and then asked to leave the Club. There is a long waiting list eager to take their place immediately.

* Repair all pitchmarks. There have been many many unrepaired marks over the first couple of days. The staff repaired hundreds on Wednesday morning, we won't be doing that again.

* Keep trolleys well away from greens and tees. Unfortunately we need to go out again with the white line paint to direct members around the course. Trolleys cause compaction to the turf and our approaches will not stand up to extra wear. We have seen Trolley marks on tees and between greenside bunkers.

*Keep buggies well away from greens and tees and stick to the Astro Turf paths. We will need to spray white liner paint on the turf yet again to direct buggies around the course. Buggies cause major compaction to the turf, if you feel that you MUST use a buggy and CANNOT play without one you

must be extremely sensible out there. Buggy marks are evident on many areas you know that you shouldn't be.

* Replace all divots after you have played your shot. Do not simply walk on without repairing your divot.

* Make good any marks left in bunkers. We know that there are no rakes but you must smooth out any marks after you have played your shot. We have been out raking bunkers every morning and the condition of them after one day's Golf is nothing short of a disgrace.

* Do not leave litter on any of our premises. We have seen members drop litter around the starters hut, in the greens shed and on the course. We have even seen empty beer cans in the shelters out on the course. Take all your litter home with you.

* Guests who have been booked in to play with members must be paid for before the round. Any members who have played with their guests over the first few days must ensure payment is made to Kirsty ASAP. Kirsty is available 11.00am - 1.00pm Mon - Fri, as previously communicated.

With over 200 playing Golf every day we have all got to do our bit to maintain the standard of YOUR course and Club.

Many thanks.

Adam
Management Team and Council
Seascale Golf Club

Reopening

24th March 2021

Hello All

Just to make a few points and answer some questions that have come my way over the last week or so.

* Fairway Mats will be OFF although you can play from a mat in social Golf if you like. Fairway Mats will not be allowed when the comps start on 14th April.

* Driving Range will be open. You still must use your own balls and pick them up afterwards until the dispenser is permitted for use.

* All indoor Clubhouse areas will be closed until April 12th. The outside toilet will be available from 29th March.

* Pre booking via BRS limited to 3 rounds per week. If you have reached your limit and there are spare slots on the day you may book extra slots. The extra rounds MUST only be booked on that day though.

* Do not tee off before 8.00am.

Arrive ready for Golf 15 minutes before your tee time.

* Putting Green to be used in order of play before teeing off on the 1st. No congregating around these areas.

* Avoid slow play at all times. Practice Ready Golf for when comps start up. Pointers are written on the scorecards.

* Kirsty will be available 11.00am - 1.00pm Mon - Fri to top your card up over the phone and deal with any queries.

* Buggies must be pre booked giving 48 hours notice. The buggy will be placed outside the front entrance on the morning of your round.

* Members can bring one guest. Please book through BRS and put "Guest With Member" in the booking slot.

* Payments for buggies or guest green fees can be paid over the phone with Kirsty on 019467 28202 (Option 1) Mon - Fri 11.00am - 1.00pm.

All England Golf's PlaySafe StaySafe guidelines, previously communicated, are still in force and can be found on the England Golf website.

Link -

<https://www.EnglandGolf.org/playsafe/>

Many thanks for all your support. Not far off getting back to normal now.

See you soon.

Adam

Seascale Golf Club Reopening - Monday 29th March

1st March 2021

Hello All

As you may have seen England Golf have now set out their own roadmap of how Golf can resume after the present Lockdown.

We will be reopening our course at 8.00am on Monday 29th March for social golf initially. Club Competitions will restart when indoor settings are permitted to reopen (Pro Shops, Locker Rooms etc) from Monday 12th April with the first Club Competition being the Wednesday Stableford on April 14th. Fourballs will be allowed straight away.

BRS Tee Bookings for Monday 29th March will be available to book 7 days prior to this date and bookings for the first Club Competition on Wednesday 14th April will be available to book via HowDidIDo, again 7 days before. All BRS and HowDidIDo bookings will continue to have a 7 day advanced booking limit as normal.

With the Clubhouse remaining closed until Monday 12th April you will be expected to arrive ready for Golf and follow all England Golf's Play Safe Stay Safe guidelines, all of which have been previously communicated to you and can be found on the England Golf website.

From Monday 12th April we will be permitted to open the old Pro Shop (new name for 2021 will be Competitions Room) and Locker Rooms to enable a safe return to competitive Golf. Any updates on Bar/Catering services will be mailed out before April 12th.

We have cancelled all visiting parties for April and will not be taking any more for May in order to prioritise members on the tee. Members are permitted to bring one guest to play as a visitor.

Buggies must be booked 48 hours in advance either through this email or phoning Kirsty on 019467 28202 (Option 1). The buggy will be placed outside the front door on the morning of your round.

Members are restricted to 3 rounds per week, until further notice, and the booking window will be Monday - Sunday.

For the period up until Monday 12th April we will have the outside toilet available to use. For those who aren't aware of it's location the toilet is near where the buggies usually park with it's door facing the top car park.

May I take this opportunity to thank all members for their support over these last two years. Without your subscriptions we wouldn't have been able to progress this winter's course improvement programme and have such a great Links waiting for your return. Hopefully we are now back for good.

Adam

<https://www.englandgolf.org/roadmap-for-the-return-to-golf-infographic/>

Return to Golf – 29th March 2021

23rd February 2021

Hello All

Just a note to say that more details will be sent to members over the coming days when it becomes clearer as to exactly how Golf will be returning.

What we do know is that won't be until Monday 29th March unfortunately.

England Golf and The All Party Parliamentary Group For Golf will be meeting tomorrow, Wednesday 24th February, to discuss the government's roadmap and will be setting new guidelines for how we

get back on the course.

We know that the course will be open at 8.00am on Monday 29th March but we must wait for directives on Clubhouses, Pro Shops, Lockers, Toilets etc. This may affect you in a number of ways, including competitions, so best to wait for the full details.

Thank you for your understanding and looking forward to opening again.

Adam

Children and Young People Safeguarding Policy & Procedures and Safeguarding Adults Policy

11th February 2021

Hello All

Please see our website Club/Safeguarding /Policies and procedures for "Seascale Golf Club Children and Young People Safeguarding Policy & Procedures" and "Seascale Golf Club Safeguarding Adults Policy" used as our evidence towards England Golf's SafeGolf accreditation.

Many thanks

Adam

Lockdown Jobs

8th February 2021

Hello All

Just a brief update on a few jobs that we have been on with during Lockdown. Pictures attached.

1. We have installed two new wooden doors on a couple of the Greens sheds. The old ones were rotten and unsightly, especially next to the putting green and 1st tee. We have also painted all four that are on show.

2. The increase in demand for our course over the last few years has seen a problem arise with car parking space. We are presently undertaking an extension which will see the rear putting green move to the existing chipping green and extra car parking space installed where the putting green was. The chipping green will become a short game practice area with a bunker, small approach and putting green all in one place. Our two young apprentices, Kurt Singleton and Will Fox, will use this project as evidence in their goal to become qualified Greenkeepers through ourselves and Myerscough College, Preston.

3. We have seen Seascale Golf Club named number 80 in the Golf World Top 100 Golf Courses In England 2021. Testament to a young Greenkeeping team who have progressed tremendously over the last year or so, through difficult conditions.

4. The 14th bunker has been filled in with a new greenside bunker in the pipeline for construction shortly. We felt the bunker added little to the hole and indeed created a "pinch-point" for traffic leading to the 15th fairway. This area has struggled for growth with the increased footfall and we are now presented with a wider area to cope with the demand on it. We have also installed an Astro Turf path leading to the 15th fairway as this was also an area of concern with heavy compaction causing turf deterioration and bad lies. The new greenside bunker will be less penal but add character to this straight forward Par 5.

5. Two greenside bunkers on 18th have been revetted with the third also to be refaced soon. We have used the turf from the putting green for this. This will greatly enhance the visual appearance as golfers walk to the first tee.

Hope you are all well.

Adam

Leatherjacket Experiment

2nd February 2021

Hello All

You may remember we had a Leatherjacket infestation on the greens last year. I wrote an email explaining the issues and the problem that is blighting golf courses all over the country since the withdrawal of the only reliable chemical to kill them, Chlorpyrifos.

There is a new chemical on the market called Acelypryn which is expensive, unproven and difficult to apply but after discussions with other local course managers we decided to give it a go. We applied the chemical in early October when the grubs are very small and are more susceptible to the active ingredient. The application was timed with rain forecast as water flow enables the chemical to move through the soil profile more readily and reach the target area.

Last week we decided to check for any grubs present in the greens using an old technique of covering the putting surfaces with a silage sheet. This mimics the dark evening hours when the grubs come to the surface to feed on the grass leaves, they do this as all their known predators are in bed.

We covered the first green last Saturday and returned Sunday to check for any signs. Only 13 Leatherjacket grubs were safely disposed of. We moved the sheet onto the 2nd, 16th and 14th over the next few days but we never found one grub on any green.

Don't get your hopes up too much as there could be some variants in the trial. For instance it was quite frosty so the conditions may prevent the grubs moving up to the surface. Also the grubs that were collected were quite small, this can tell us that they don't move very far until they get to a bigger size and in this case they will cause more damage. I believe last year they caused more damage through April and May so we need to keep this process going throughout the winter months.

But all in all a worthwhile experiment.

Please see the attached photos.

Hope you are all well.

Adam

Membership

26th January 2021

Hello All

The vast majority of members have now paid their subscriptions for 2021 and my thanks go to everyone for supporting your Club through these difficult times.

If you have not renewed for 2021 please either pay the required fees as soon as you possibly can, and at the latest before the end of February, or contact me via email to state that you wish to resign your place within the membership in order for me to contact people held on the waiting list. There are many on the list who are wishing to join asap. We aim to replenish our numbers, not add to them too much and a waiting list will be installed again in the Spring.

If you have not contacted me before Monday 1st March we will need to resign you and replace from the waiting list. We would prefer you to state your intentions sooner rather than later so we can get organised for reopening.

Members who are on either the Premium Credit or Orchard Finance direct debit schemes are presently in the process of getting sorted so no need to contact me.

Council agreed that incentives for renewing membership for 2021 included freezing the planned subscription increase and adding a 10% discount for all food, in addition to the 10% already received for drinks. Also please be assured we are pressing ahead with the winter course improvements with a near full strength Greenkeeping team so the Links are in their best shape for your return.

Many thanks for your understanding and hope to see you soon.

Adam

Winter Programme Progress

20th January 2021

Hello All

Hope you are all keeping well out there. I thought it would be a good time to update you on the improvements we are making on the course with the continuation of the Winter Programme during Lockdown.

The main task has been creating a new Astro Turf path from the 10th tee, going through the rough on the left hand side and finishing near the 11th comp tee. This will now see a path start on the top 9th plateau and extend right through to the 11th comp tee, by-passing the problem wet area towards the

back of the 9th green.

Unfortunately Storm Christoph has severely hampered progress this week with some flooding occurring down that way. Therefore we have decided to start work on the unsightly pot bunker at the back of the 18th green so as to limit damage on the waterlogged ground.

Alongside these tasks we have also applied a low nitrogen feed to all the greens to help them recover from the frosts that we experienced over the Christmas period. We have also hollow cored a couple of the wetter greens to remove thatch and aid water infiltration.

Hope to see you soon, I will keep the updates coming.

Keep safe.

Adam

Lockdown – Staffing

4th January 2021

Hello All

Just a note on how our staffing will shape up during lockdown.

Kirsty will still be working in the Clubhouse and available to answer calls 11.00am - 1.00pm Monday - Friday dealing with membership payments, bookings and any other queries you may have. Please contact 019467 28202 (Option 1) between these times if you need help with anything.

We will still have a near full complement of Greenkeepers continuing the winter programme and maintaining the course so it looks it's best for when we re-open. We have committed to improvements across the whole Links and we intend to get through the majority of the winter upgrade. Some of which has already been completed. I aim to post photos of the progress when I can.

I will also be working extensively and flexibly, both on the course and in the Clubhouse, and my best point of contact will be email seascalegolfclub@gmail.com. Emails will be monitored regularly.

These are challenging times yet again for your Club. We felt we had returned safely after the first lockdown and had produced a golf course to be proud of and an indoor setting which was both safe and welcoming. The staff were organised to provide an excellent service to all members, and we were all enjoying working, albeit adapting to the varying restrictions.

Thank you all for your continued support. As a Club we have relied on this throughout 2020 and we ask for your patience and understanding one last time before the vaccine slows the spread of this terrible virus and we can return to the Fairways once again.

Adam.

Golf Courses Must Close - Covid 19 Update

3rd January 2021

Hello All

The UK Government has announced a complete lockdown of England with immediate effect.

This means Seascale Golf Club must close the course, effective tonight. All tee times will therefore be cancelled until further notice.

We are all bitterly disappointed with this situation but we will return stronger yet again.

Please stay safe.

Adam