



NEWSLETTER

Hickleton Golf Club Monthly Newsletter

2021 Committee

President :-

Jeff Roden

Captain:-

John Little

Captain Elect:-

Ian Foster

Greens Chairman:-

Charles McAllister

Comp's Secretary:-

Dave Rees

Treasurer:-

Mark Ellis

Members :-

John Holmes

Steve Bridges

Piers Taverner

Jack Little

Andy Goddard

Ladies Representative:-

Angela Bowkett

Next Meeting:-

22nd March 2021



The Return to Golf

Are you looking forward to the return to golf?

It's only a week away now and, fingers crossed, we can stick to the Roadmap set out by the Government.

Here are a few key dates:-

29th March - The return of golf 4 balls.

12th April - Pro shop/competition golf returns. The bar can open for outside service.

17th May - The bar and indoor catering can re-open.

21st June - All restrictions will hopefully be removed.

Social distancing, washing your hands and face coverings are still required.

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"Meet Oliver".....

Oliver Whittaker - Accredited Mind Factor Coach

Oliver has been with us for 3 months now and most of you will have not met him yet. This is his first full time role in the golf industry after becoming a Mind Factor Accredited Performance Coach. Oliver is looking to turn Professional over the coming seasons and continue to improve his own game as well as his clients. He is from a successful golfing family including his mum, Penny Grice-Whittaker, who had 4 wins on the Ladies Tour including 1 Major Championship.



As a passionate golfer who has taken his handicap from 9 to scratch in just 3 years, he is looking forward to sharing his knowledge to help you improve your game and enjoy your golf more than ever before.

Oliver's Training / Accolade Summary

- Accredited Mind Factor Coach
- Foresight Peak Level 1

Contact Email: pro@hickletongolfclub.co.uk

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"In The Spotlight".....

Welcome Mrs Philippa Henery - Lady Captain 2020/21.

Philippa.....better known to all as 'Pip' has taken over the mantle of Lady Captain for the second time following her successful year as Lady Captain in 2017. She is married to David and they have 4 children, Nick, Sam, Debbie & Robbie.

Pip and was born in Bellshill, Scotland, where from the age of 11 she was taught to play golf by her father. She continued to play until she was 26 years old. In 1990 Pip moved south of the border to live in Maltby. She married David the following year and started a family. They eventually moved to Clayton in 2008 and the 'clan' all became members at Hickleton. Debbie particularly excelled and went on to play for Yorkshire. Pip hasn't yet won our Ladies Championship but she has been runner-up! She has also represented the Ladies Scratch, A & B Teams and loves competitive golf. She is pictured opposite with Debbie.



We asked Pip the following questions to get to know her a little more:-

- 1) What is your lowest Handicap? - **.9 handicap.**
- 2) Who is your favourite player? - **Phil Mickleson.**
- 3) Which is your favourite golf course you have played obviously other than Hickleton? - **West Course, La Manga.**
- 4) What other interests do you have? - **Gardening & Cooking.**
- 5) What is your favourite book? - **Any cook book.**
- 6) Which 3 celebrities would you invite to dinner? - **Robbie Williams, Tom Kitchen & Billy Connolly.**
- 7) Your Dream Fourball - **Chris Evans, Phil Mickleson & Tiger Woods.**

An interesting fact about Pip..... she was on a beach in Spain and someone asked if she was Judy Murray!

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CLUB PROJECTS

I'm sure most of you will have been wondering what has been going on at the Golf Club during lockdown. Well, those of you on social media will have already seen plenty of activity on the actual course, with clearing trees and opening drainage. The greenstaff will now be working on the aesthetics and preparation of the golf course ready for your return.

Other projects have been ongoing to improve the facilities for you at Hickleton. Both the Projects Team and Committee have worked very hard to get the facilities we need. For these projects to work effectively it had to be a bit of a 'domino effect'.

Here is the Plan:-

New Office

The new office is now located in the old competitions' office. We are lucky that Oliver's background in building has helped us achieve the end result. It's 95% finished and we will have more photographs when it is complete.



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CLUB PROJECTS

New Pro Shop

The Pro Shop can now move into the old office where I believe it was originally intended to be. Plans have been submitted and we are just waiting for the outcome before we can start pricing.

Many may ask why we need to move the Pro Shop and it is a valid question.

The benefits are it will become a bigger shop and therefore hold more stock resulting in a wider choice. The location becomes much better as it will be in the Clubhouse and become an integral part of the Hub. Security is increased as it will not be in a stand alone building.

The 'domino effect' will allow the old pro shop to then house the New Swing Studio for practice during the winter hours. There are many more benefits that certainly outweigh the negatives.



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CLUB PROJECTS

New Swing Studio

Most of you are wondering what a Swing Studio is?

We purchased state of the art equipment back in the summer, which some of you have had the privilege of using for club fittings, called a GCQUAD. It is the leading launch monitor in the world and tour players such as Rory and Bryson are just two of 100's on the PGA Tour using it. It does more than just work on the range it has software that will allow you to play golf indoors with your friends, nearest pin, longest drive challenges and much more.

The current pro shop is the perfect size and location to build the new Swing Studio. The roof would need lifting by a metre and then the current roof could be put back on. It will not need much work inside apart from removing a stud wall and popping a new one in.



The images above are of the Studio we built at Rotherham Golf Club to try and give you an idea of what it will look like inside.

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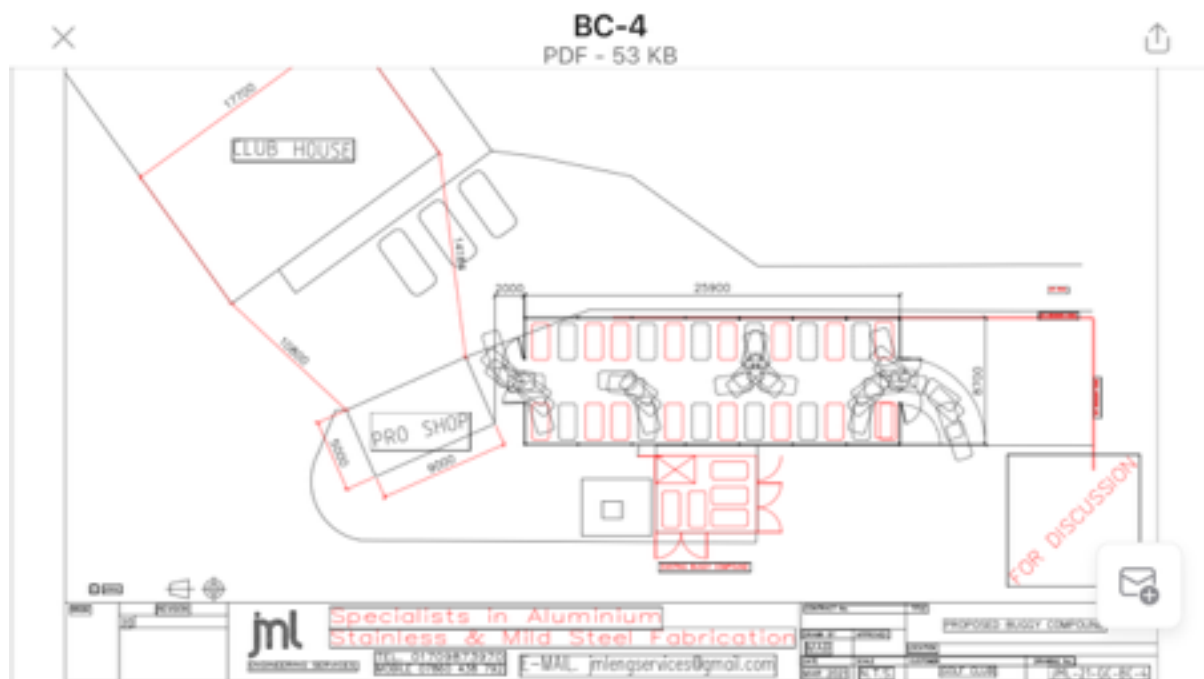
CLUB PROJECTS

New Buggy Compound

We've talked previously about erecting a building to house the current buggies while also gaining more space for more members to house their own buggies.

We have, therefore, looked at a few proposals over the past months and feel this is best option:-

Currently where the practice nets are located next to the pro shop there is already a concrete base. That could be developed as the plan below shows, to house 30 full size buggies. This would mean relocating the practice nets but their new position is still to be finalised.



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COURSE MANAGEMENT

Course Updates

The majority of the work carried out over the past month or so has been on drainage. Locating old drains and then extending them where needed together with the unblocking of other drains. This will obviously make a big difference during wet periods and throughout the winter months. It will be part of an ongoing plan over the coming years to check all drainage on the golf course, to see what is fine and what needs replacing.

The open ditch on the 1st hole that runs down the left side has been cleared. There were 6 drains that ran into it with 3 of the drains being cleared.



The drain on the 1st fairway, that has been there for years, was uncovered and Steve has now extended it to the pond so this should help the water getaway on the 1st fairway.



COURSE MANAGEMENT

Course Updates

New Winter Tees have been constructed on both the 6th and 7th Holes as seen in the photos below.



Steve and his Team will now work hard on preparing the golf course ready for your return to golf on 29th March.



COURSE MANAGEMENT

Helping Around the Course - What a great turn out!

What a great turn out it has been, with over 40 members volunteering to carry out all different types of jobs throughout the week. Thank you to everyone!

We have had them doing the following jobs and are sure you will see a big difference:-

Painting the Marker Posts / Marker Discs

Cleaning the Tee Boards

Painting Flag Poles

Staining Benches

Clearing twigs from under trees

Raking Bunkers

Jet Washing

Weeding Beds



It has been a great effort by all those involved and my guess is that everyone will really appreciate the work that has been done when we return to golf in just over a weeks time.

Here are a selection of photographs of the members in action, including our Club President Jeff Roden and Captain John Little.



COURSE MANAGEMENT

Helping Around the Course



Attention has also been given to weeding of the border around the putting green and the beds by both car parks.

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COURSE MANAGEMENT

Litter Picking:

The main road leading to the Club's entrance was an absolute disgrace with litter, so two teams of 3 volunteers were organised to go litter picking.

Below are a few photographs of before, during and after!



A total of 28 bags of rubbish were collected and I am sure you will all notice a huge difference all along Lidget Lane.

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New App:

No further update yet on the New App, The XPOS Caddie, which will allow you to buy and check your pro shop accounts similar to the Club V1 member's hub. We will inform you as soon as it available.

Follow us for updates on the following social outlets:-



Hickleton Golf Club or Hickleton members



@hickletongolfclub



@hickletongc

If anyone has any queries they would like answering during the current lockdown please send them to:- gm@hickletongolfclub.co.uk

Nb:- Please note the new Email Address and Instagram handle above.