



County Newsletter

JANUARY 2020

A Happy New Year to all our club members across the County. The extremely wet weather, for many of our courses, has meant a number of closures or restricted playing conditions and we're all hoping for a much drier spell over the coming months.

Looking back over 2019, the good news is that overall male membership numbers are largely the same as in 2018. However, junior membership numbers are still declining (by approximately 9% in 2019). 15 clubs have less than 10 juniors on their books and this is a worrying sign. Hagley GC lead the way with over 43 junior boys.

Two successful events have dominated the start of the year in the County.

1. The County Boys & Girls Combined Achievement Awards for 2019 – Sunday 5th January at Kings Norton GC

135 County Junior boys, girls, their families and County Officials attended this exciting inaugural event. Presentations of the 2019 trophies were given out by the respective County Presidents, **Mr David McGillivray** and **Mrs Judy Taylor**. An award voted for on the day by all the players themselves was given to **James Ilsley** (Stourbridge GC), to recognise his progress as one of the best team players and individual performers in 2019. Outstanding achievement awards were also given to **Hugh Adams** (Hagley GC) and **Hayden Sarfo** (Worcester G&CC) for their incredible golf in 2019. The conclusion of a very enjoyable afternoon was the announcement of the Boys' Team Captains for 2020. They are: **Harrison Leaver** U18s, (Gaudet Luce GC), **James Ilsley** U16s, (Stourbridge GC) and **Mark Hewlett** U14s, (Gaudet Luce GC).

2. The County Dinner – Friday 17th January at Kings Norton GC

175 attended this year. England Golf President, **Mrs Jenny Clink**, presented the WM League 2nd Team Champions Trophy to County 2nd Team Captain, **Duncan Macpherson** (Worcester G&CC) and also individual medals to his superb team. **Richard Sadler** (Moseley GC) was given a special award for being the first player in the history of the Union to play in 100 matches and gain 100 points for the 1st Team. **Hugh Adams** (Hagley GC) was recognised for his outstanding achievements in 2019, whilst **Luke Rogers** (Kidderminster GC, 1st Team President's Shield) and **Steve Bird** (Worcester G&CC, 2nd Team, Chandler Shield) won their respective team points awards for the 2019 season. **Tony Sanders** (Worcester G&CC) won the Bolton Shield for the most points won for the County Seniors Team.

COUNTY INCORPORATION DECISION REQUIRED!

The Union is proposing to become an incorporated body later this year. This will provide our members and clubs with a greater level of protection. We need all clubs represented at the next Council Meeting on Thursday 26th March at Bromsgrove GC, to hear more details.

THE WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM will be with us this November. The best advice to all members is to put as many cards in as you can this year so that your new handicap (the average of the best 8 of your last 20 scores) will be a true reflection of your game.

Please check our very informative website for all results, entry forms and match reports.

www.mens.worcestershireamateurgolf.co.uk

Bill Thompson

County Chairman and Past President