

Doncaster Golf Club Newsletter - February 2020



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View from the Chair.

The headline news this month is the appointment of our new professional.

Daniel Hood will be joining us from Richmond G.C. Daniel has been selected following a rigorous interview procedure involving numerous members. Daniel's mix of experience and energy gave us all the confidence that he will be a tremendous asset to the Club. His notice period means that there will be a gap between Graham finishing and Daniel starting but he will do his best to provide a level of service in the interim. I am sure that all members will be keen to support Daniel in his new position.

Work is also starting on clearing an area in preparation for new practice facilities and also the refurbishment of the entrance hall and upstairs corridor. Hopefully all this will be completed in time for the new playing season so that we can all enjoy what I hope will be a warm and dry summer.

Jon

A few words from Daniel Hood

First of all I'd like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Committee for appointing me as your new Head Professional. What an honour it truly is.

I really can't wait to get started and it is an exciting time for me personally.

I come with great experience working having worked at York GC and Fulford GC for 3 and 7 years respectively, before taking on my first role of Head professional at Richmond GC in May 2018.

I've learnt so much during my career under some top professionals and my dedication to still learn and give you the best possible service from a professional team are a high priority. I love the Clubs mission and passion to create an experience for all while visiting and playing DGC.

I have a passion for teaching. There is not only one way to swing a golf club. There are a number of ways based on what you can physically do.

To the Club Captains Ian & Kay, I look forward to working closely with you both and wish you all the very best for your year of captaincy.

Once again, I look forward to being your new Head Professional and working with you all very soon.



FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Please note that all staff have recently been trained in evacuation procedures, in the event of an emergency.

We thought it was a good opportunity to remind members what they should do, in the event of discovering a fire or the fire alarm sounding.

On discovering a fire, members should: -

- Activate the fire alarm via the nearest call point
- **NOT** tackle the fire, unless they feel confident to do so.
- Evacuate the building



On hearing the fire alarm, members should: -

- Must not ignore the fire bell or instructions and **ACT IMMEDIATELY**
- Follow whatever instructions are given to them by staff.
- Congregate at the **FIRE ASSMEBLY POINT**, which is in the car-park.



In the event of an evacuation, please: -

- Do not delay, collecting belongings etc.

Do not move vehicles, as this may block the route of emergency services.

Prize Vouchers

Notices have been posted to make members aware that Vouchers can currently be exchanged in the Professionals shop, however if Members wish to carry their prize over it will be saved and passed to the new professional when he is in post.

World Handicap System

A world handicap system is to be implemented on 2nd November 2020.

Presentations will be made to members in due course.

Recent Weather Conditions

The recent wet weather has been very challenging, creating severe difficulties for residents and businesses around the country. This has obviously impacted on our golf course, with an unusually high number of course closures and playing restrictions. We have had an unprecedented 70 mm of rain in February alone, with more rain due in the next week.

Roger and his team are doing their best to keep us playing but this situation will inevitably have led to some frustration for members. Playing restrictions are only ever used when considered necessary and are intended to protect the long term condition of our course.

Please give your support to our greens team as they struggle to manage this difficult period. Hopefully we can soon look forward to much better weather and an enjoyable golfing season.

Pace of Play

Members need to be aware that during Official Competitions ie Monday Stableford, Glasby Medal and the Rabbits Competitions (when completing a card) will be played as two balls or 3 balls only.

Order of Play Winter Foursomes - Holes Closed

Following discussion with R&A Rules Officials it was confirmed that if a hole is taken out of play for maintenance, then the player who played from the tee on the previous holes must not play from the next tee.

Monday Stableford 9 Hole Option

A nine hole Monday Stableford Competition will be reintroduced for Gents for the new season.

Initially it will be played on holes 1 to 9, however, members will eventually have the option to play either holes 1 to 9 or holes 10 to 18 at a date to be determined by the Golf Sub Committee.

R&A Rules Quiz

Can you answer the following questions correctly?

1. A Player finds here ball by stepping on it in thick rough after searching for it for 2 minutes, causing it to move. What is the ruling?
 - a) The player gets a penalty of one stroke and must place the ball on the estimated spot. If the ball was under the growing grass it must be replaced under that grass.
 - b) There is not penalty and the player must place the ball on the estimated spot. If the ball was under the growing grass it must be replaced under that grass.
 - c) There is no penalty and the player must drop the ball as near as possible to the estimated spot.
2. Loose impediments may not be removed with the back of a golf club.
 - a) False
 - b) True
3. In stroke play, a ball is “in play” as soon as the player has made a stroke from inside the teeing area.
 - a) False
 - b) True
24. On the putting green, a player marks and lifts her ball. After replacing it, a strong gust of wind cause the ball to move. The player must replace her ball on the original spot.
 - a) False
 - b) True

How did you do?

Turn to the back page for the answers.

Temporary Water (formerly Casual Water) – Local Rule J2

A player is in breach of Rule 8.1 if they remove temporary water on the line of play, without the Committee's permission.

However, a Committee may adopt a policy that clarifies what actions are considered appropriate for a Committee member, someone designated by the Committee (for example, a member of the maintenance staff), or players, to remove temporary water on the putting green.

In view of the above we have agreed the following Local Rule:-

J-2 Removal of Temporary Water

If a player's ball lies on the putting green and there is interference by temporary water on the line of putt, the player may:-

- Take free relief under Rule 16.1d (nearest point of relief)
- Squeegee/sweep across the line of play and 2 feet beyond the hole, using a squeegee where provided - but a putter or towel cannot be used.
- Have the line of play squeegeed

We take this opportunity to remind players of the following rules:-

- Sand and loose soil are only loose impediments on the putting green.
- Dew, frost and water are not loose impediments.
- Snow and natural ice (other than frost) are either loose impediments or, when on the ground, temporary water, at your option.

Relief for Ball in Temporary Water on the Putting Green

If your ball is on the putting green and there is interference by an abnormal course condition, you may take free relief by placing the original ball or another ball as shown in Diagram 16.1d.

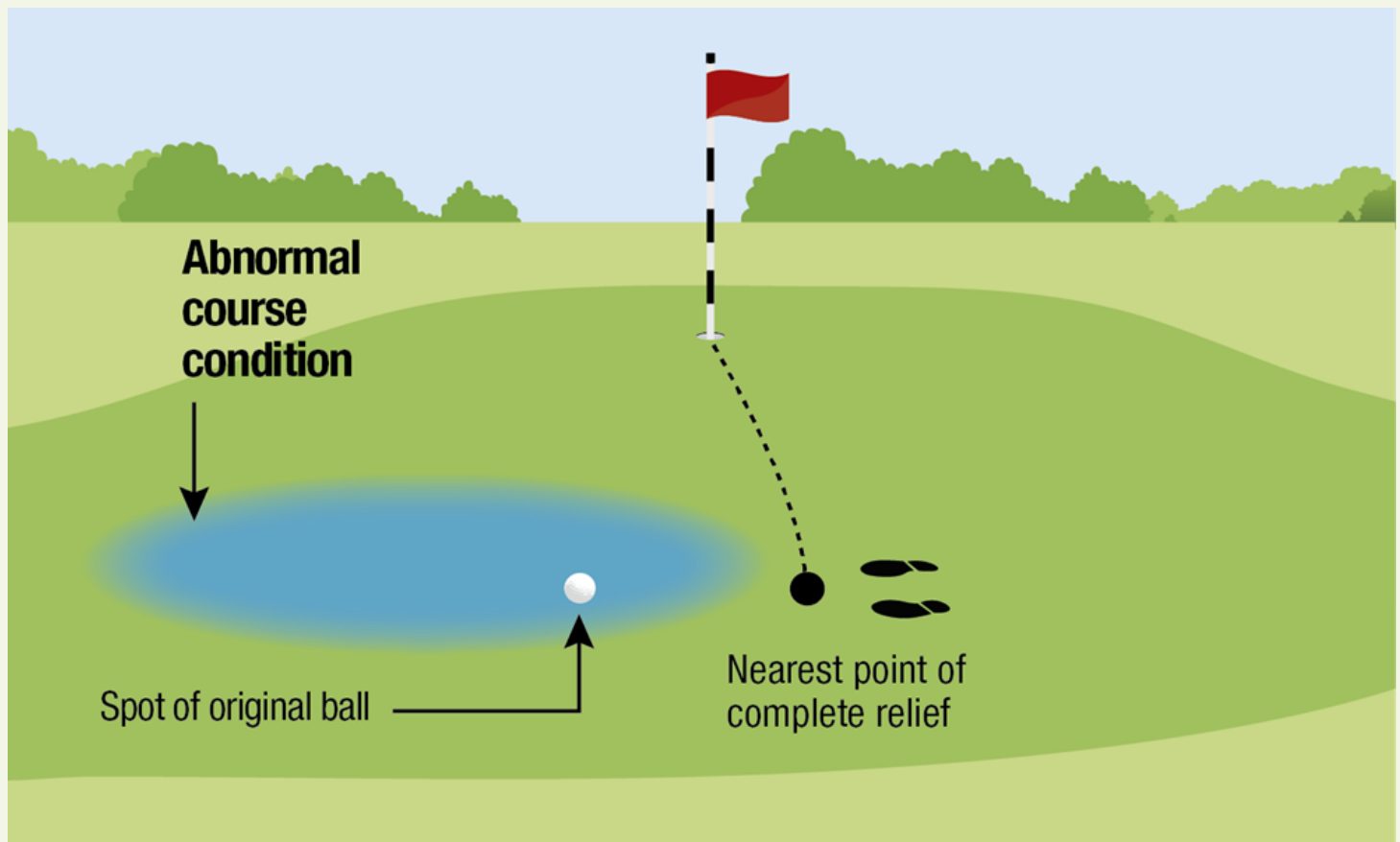


DIAGRAM 16.1d: FREE RELIEF FROM ABNORMAL COURSE CONDITION ON PUTTING GREEN

See Below for the Relief Options.

The diagram assumes the player is *left-handed*. When a ball is on the putting green and there is interference by an abnormal course condition, free relief may be taken by placing a ball on the spot of the nearest point of complete relief.

Reference Point: The nearest point of complete relief.

Size of Relief Area: Ball must be placed on the spot of the nearest point of complete relief.

Limits on Relief Area: The nearest point of complete relief must be either:

- On the putting green, or
- In the general area.

Player Notes:

- When taking relief, you must take complete relief from all interference by the abnormal course condition.
- If there is no such nearest point of complete relief, you may still take this free relief by using the point of maximum available relief as the reference point, which must be either on the putting green or in the general area.

Captain's Charities

Past Captains Allan Beaumont & Carole O'Neill met with Lindsey Richards a representative from St Johns Hospice, Doncaster to pass over a cheque for £2566.65 being half of the amount which was raised by generous members in 2019.

St John's Hospice was Carole's chosen charity in memory of her late husband Patrick. Patrick was a keen golfer and former member of the club and had used the care of the hospice.

Allan had chosen Parkinson's UK as his charity and they have received the same amount.

Thank you everyone for your donations and continuing to make a difference for these charities.



Annie's Salver

Don't forget to sign up for Annie's Salver 1 if you wish to enter this popular competition which is on Saturday 21st March.

The competition is open to both male and female players.

Teams will tee off from 11.30 onwards, sandwiches will be provided after the event.

The competition is free to enter but donations for raffle prizes are required and will be gratefully received.

Captain Ian Hughes invited DonMentia his chosen charity for 2020, to the Club to explain how he would be raising funds for them this year.

Lady Captain Kay Vickers has chosen The Sick Children's Trust for her Charity.



Charity Car Park Space

Ticket are now available for the Captain's Charity Car Park Space, tickets are £2 each and available from Lady Captain Kay, Pro Shop or behind the Bar.

The draw will be made after the Easter Mixed Competition on Monday 13th April.

Beetle Drive

The ladies held their first social event of the year on Thursday 6th February with a Beetle Drive. Thirty five ladies took part, noisily competing to draw their beetles!

After twelve games and much hilarity, the overall winner was Julie Horncastle, with Joan Hammond coming a close second.

The evening raised £152 towards the Captain's Charities.

Coffee Morning

The next event is the Coffee Morning on Thursday 5th March 10 am till 12 noon.

Tickets are £2 each to include tea, coffee & biscuits, everyone is welcome tickets available from Ladies Committee Members.

Golfer of the Year Trophy

The winner will be decided by an Order of Merit, derived from placings in all Major Stroke Play competitions and the Captains Prize.

Points will be awarded in each of the Stroke Play competitions on a sliding scale, with the winner receiving 20 points, the Runner Up 19 points and so on to 20th position.

Where a tie occurs all players tied will receive equal points i.e. 2 players tied for 2nd place each receive 19 points, with the 4th placed players receiving 18 points each and so on.

The exception to the above formula will be The Captains Prize, where points will be awarded from the round of the last 32 to the Final, which will be worth 20 points to the winner, 16 points to the runner up, 14 points to the losing semi-finalist, 12 points to the losers in the last eight, 10 points to the losers in the last sixteen and 8 points to the losers in the last thirty two.

The qualifying competitions will be:-

5 Hann Smith qualifying rounds and the Final	The Captains Prize
The Woodhouse Trophy	The Nettleton Trophy
The Watt Trophy	The Annual Medal
The Bessacarr Medal	The Annual Bogey
The Clayton DeWandre	

Divisional Prizes

Currently we provide Divisional Prizes in all 5 rounds of the Hann-Smith, the Bessacarr Medal, Annual Medal and Clayton DeWandre competitions, the divisions being <12, 13-20 and 21-36. However, the Woodhouse Trophy (W) is <8. The Nettleton Trophy (N) is 9-14 and the Watt Trophy (Wt) is 15>.

It has been decided that since handicaps in the DGC competitions have increased to a new maximum of 36, that all the divisional prizes should be as follows:-

Division 1 < 9

Division 2 10 - 19

Division 3 20 >

R&A Rules Quiz Answers

1. Correct Answer B

There is no penalty if a player loses her ball to move while trying to find or identify it. If the ball is moved during the search, the ball must be replaced on its original spot (which if not known must be estimated) (Rule 7.4)

2. Correct Answer A

Loose impediments can be removed in any way, (such as by using a hand or foot or a club or other equipment - see (Rule 15.1A).

3. Correct Answer B

See the definition of In Play. (Rule 14.4)

4. Correct Answer B

If a ball on the putting green moves after it has been lifted and replaced, the ball must be replaced on its original spot (Rule 9.3)