

SENIOR CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER



BRAMPTON PARK
GOLF CLUB

February 2020

SHARE THE LOVE

A huge response to the Senior's Interclub Match survey—80 respondents provided wide ranging views which your committee will review. With match participation in 2019 confined to just 35 of our 150 members, we were keen to understand member's attitudes to these fixtures and see if there are any actions we can take to widen their appeal.

From the survey results, two immediate actions became apparent. Firstly, the need to provide better information as to what is involved, particularly for newer members. Secondly, for home matches at least, we will look at ways of fixing the meal times to assist in minimising the post-match wait. I did note concerns that people were not balancing their bids for home versus away matches. I can advise that examination of the 2019 participation reveals no members posting a significant imbalance of away versus home matches. Derek will remain vigilant in 2020 however. It is disappointing for some that the maximum handicap of 28 excludes them from matches, but this limit is imposed upon us by all participating clubs who frequently remind us of this rule. A summary of the survey results is attached. All the comments will be viewed and discussed. Let's broaden the base and share the love for these very social, very friendly matches.

THE SMS MASTERS

Proposed from the floor by John Bennett at the AGM, your SMS committee is pleased to confirm that the competition, its format, entry qualifying conditions and Honours Board status have now been approved by the Men's Captain and committee. Thanks are extended to John for proposing and offering to sponsor the competition. I will take great pleasure in presenting the splendid trophy he has provided, to the eventual winner.

It will be run late September in parallel with a Friday Roll-up and will be contested by winners and runners up in a selection of the year's SMS-sponsored competitions. Details will be circulated by Derek Sincock and also found in the Competition Rules book available in the bar and on the club web site.

MEDICAL INFORMATION PACKS

Derek Sincock advises that a new proforma and additional yellow bag tags have been placed in the plastic "pockets" on the SMS noticeboard. The proformas have been updated to reflect the current year, all other information remaining the same. He asks that you take time to review your personal information and check that your bag tag is still on your golf bag. For the benefit of new members who may be unaware, these proformas are provided for Seniors to carry in their golf bags so that their medical details are readily available in the event of an emergency. For further information, contact Derek Sincock in the first instance.

SENIORS' SECTION CHARITY

The charity fund got off to a good start with the auction of a

Powakaddy electric trolley, donated by a club member. Many thanks to all those who placed a bid and in particular Alan Gray for his winning bid of £90.



ECLECTIC COMPETITION 2020

Ross Starkey has kindly offered to assist the committee by running the Eclectic this year. He writes, "The time is rapidly approaching for the start of this year's Eclectic Competition. A sign-up sheet will be going up mid Feb on the SMS notice board in the men's changing room. Entry fee is only £4 for a fun competition that runs spring to autumn. A copy of the rules will also be posted for your perusal but basically, the aim is to get as many birdies (and the odd eagle will help too) as you can." He also urges you all to have a go this year and knock him off his perch for this competition! But as he is administering it, that seems highly unlikely!

ANNUAL SUBS

Annual subs are due from January 1st and must be paid before participating in any SMS activity. They remain at a very modest £5. Not only is it good value, but as Special Correspondent Stuart Blackburn has discovered, according to the Times Newspaper, playing golf once a month in later years has been proven to add 10 years extra to average life expectancy.

MATCH COLOURS

The pro shop will be submitting the orders that have been placed for shirts and sweaters with the new club logo next Friday. So hurry if you still want to get kitted out.

Phil Rogers - Senior Men's Captain 2020

Ron's Remarkable Rule Revelation of the month

Each month, Ron Cowper a qualified EGU club rules official, offers a clarification or explanation of a particular rule of golf.

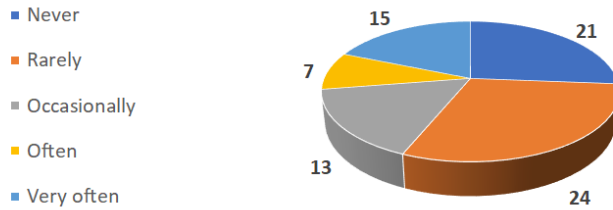
This month: **ORIGINAL BALL FOUND AFTER PLAYING PROVISIONAL PAST SPOT WHERE ORIGINAL BALL WAS ESTIMATED TO BE**

Q. A player strikes a ball on the 14th into the trees. Believing that the ball might be lost, the player plays a provisional ball. Unable to find the original ball, the player plays the provisional from a spot nearer the hole than where the original ball was estimated to be. The player goes forward and finds the original ball. Which ball is in play?

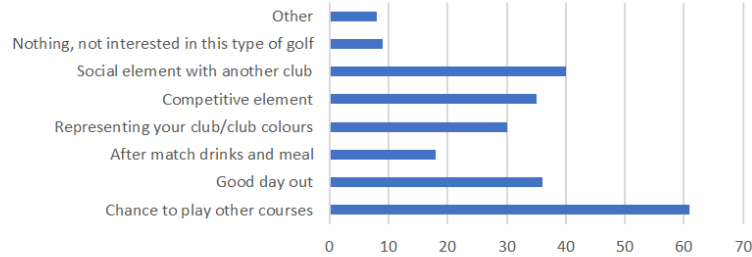
A. The provisional ball is now in play as it was played from a spot nearer the hole than where the original ball was estimated to be. The original ball must be abandoned.

RESULTS OF SENIOR MEN'S INTERCLUB MATCH PARTICIPATION SURVEY

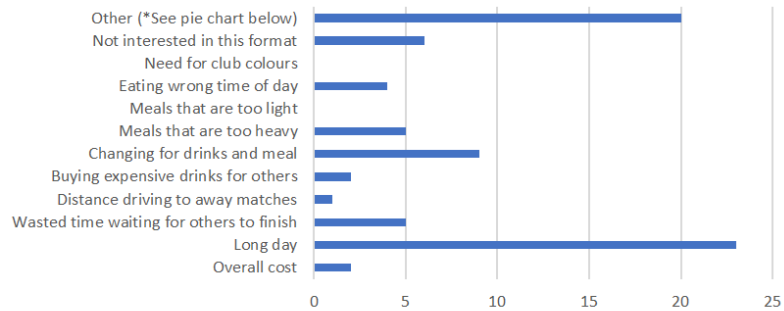
HOW OFTEN DO YOU PLAY IN SENIOR MEN'S MATCHES?



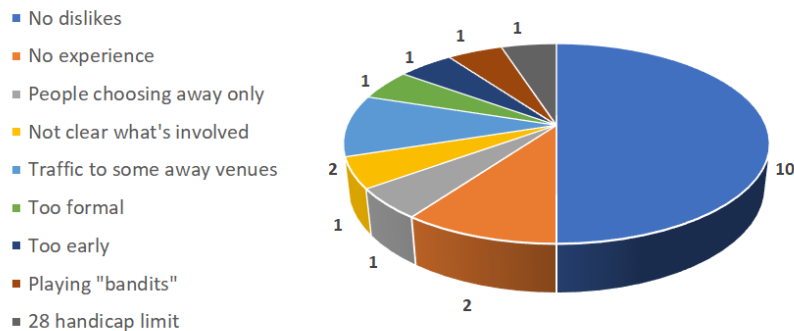
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT MATCHES?



WHAT DO YOU DISLIKE ABOUT MATCHES



"OTHER" CATEGORY DISLIKES ABOUT MATCHES



GENERAL COMMENTS ON SENIOR MEN'S INTERCLUB MATCHES

(SUMMARISED AND LISTED IN ORDER OF MOST TO LEAST FREQUENT)

Enjoy & support the format - important element of golf year	MOST FREQUENT COMMENTS
Chance to play friendly competitive golf with other seniors	
Time consuming and too formal and costly post-match	
Adds variety to the game + playing with new people	
Confusion about cost, rules, etiquette and selection	
Not good enough and also not wanting to let partner down	
Not able to participate due to age/health limitations	
Can become repetitive without new clubs to play	
Chance to showcase club and also generate income	
Can be difficult to commit a month ahead	
People bid for away but avoid home matches	
High handicapper exclusion	
Early morning travel problems to away matches	
Dislike the need to balance home and away match bids	
	LEAST FREQUENT COMMENTS