



Chairman's Blog – June 2020

Hi everyone, just a quick update on the ongoing work being carried out behind the scenes.

Neil is still keeping a tight grip on the club's finances. We will not have exact numbers of people not re-joining until early July.

We have however had 38 new members join during the lock down. A big thank you to Barry for taking the burden off the office staff.

Some staff are still on furlough and this will continue for the time being.

Updates on ongoing issues.

Some of the new signs are now fixed and the remaining ones will be soon.

Steve Denman has done a great job on fixing a new fence plus creating more space in the car park. He is also working round the club house, decorating in between his normal work. Thanks to the other members that have helped.

A new garage door was fitted for the buggies.

New doors and frames have been fitted to the half way hut after the damage by vandals.

Tee times.

There has been some healthy debate on the Forum and no doubt a lot more amongst Members about the merits of the Tee Time start sheets that we are currently running. I would stress that this is the only way that Golf has been allowed to recommence in England, and every club has the same restrictions from Public courses to the most elite. This is crucial for the safety of Members and Guests to ensure there is no contravening of Social Gathering directives etc. On the whole this has been well respected and accepted by Members who recognise that we are still in the midst of a Pandemic that is affecting the World in unprecedented ways.

Once we are able to return to some sort of normality by the Governing Bodies, then the Club can look at the pro's and cons of the start sheet. The Membership will be consulted before ANY decision is made on the future of how golf will be played at clubs like ours. We may have to work within these boundaries for some time if the R Rate continues to stay around or just under the 1 mark. The Board is asking Members to have patience and embrace the fact that we are playing golf which a month or so ago seemed a pipe dream.

To save numerous other debates and viewpoints on the Forum, we will stop posting these for the time being, as a full debate and survey will be taken very seriously by the club when the time is right, and it will be more appropriate to share your views at that time.

Competitions.

Members will be aware from previous communications that Competitions and Knockouts have not yet been resumed. Any competitions that have appeared on the system relate to pre-lockdown set up that

was programmed into the Competition Software back in January for the season. Don't worry if you have already inadvertently signed into one of these, as your card will be re-credited with the entry fee shortly.

With regard to going forward with resumption of competitive golf, there is a Golf & Greens Committee Meeting scheduled for Thursday evening and all aspects will be discussed and a plan to slowly return to Competitions will be agreed. Members will then be advised of how we are going to progress. New "sign-up" timescales for competitions will be opened on the Members Hub for members to enter the Competitions, and new revised Closing Dates agreed. We are trialling a new Score Entry process, as of course Scorecards cannot be submitted in paper format. Once testing has been completed, then full instructions will appear on both the Forum and be emailed to Members.

Take away service.

A lot of members have mentioned other clubs in the area are opening the bar to serve customers drinks. We have asked some clubs about this and one has admitted they are taking a chance.

As large fines are being imposed we will not jeopardise our licence.

We are preparing the bar to be ready for the take away service to be replaced by a more drinks friendly option, which we feel is going to be early July.

We will have to clean the bar, order beer, organize a staff rota along with getting the appropriate PPE.

Thanks everyone for their patience and support.

Stay safe.

Kind regards

Nick Phipps

Chairman