



Captain's Update July 24th 2020

Dear Members,

I hope you are keeping well, enjoying the weather and taking the opportunity to get out on the golf course, it is in excellent condition and certainly for me, still incredibly challenging.

To help Marc and his team maintain the greens, we have recently acquired a Moisture Meter. This was purchased thanks to the very kind donations from Mrs Doreen Young (in memory of Jim, a past Captain of the Club) and from Andrew Walters (last year's Captain) in memory of his father (Mr Alan Walters). The Moisture Meter has already proved its worth in helping to detect a disease outbreak on one of the greens.

Whilst talking about the course, I should also mention that you will soon see on the side of the Halfway House, a container housing a defibrillator for emergency use. This has been purchased thanks to the fundraising organised by Jeannette Watkins which included a generous donation from Mr Tony Withnal (a past Captain), various donations from individuals and societies including the Nomads and a further generous donation from Mr John Critchley (a past Captain and for many years our Health and Safety Advisor). Details of emergency access to the Defibrillator will be sent out shortly.

Most of you will know by now that we are managing to operate an outside bar service and this seems to be working well. John Curtis and his team are operating within the confines of the Wales Government guidelines and thankfully the weather condition has allowed many to make use of it. We are still waiting for further guidelines on how we may be able to manage an indoor facility, but as yet this guidance has not become available and is due by 30th July. The most recent update advised that options for reopening will be considered from 3rd August if conditions allow. Regarding catering, we are still looking into what we may be able to offer when we can have staff working indoors in close proximity, again this is subject to guidelines being issued from the Wales Government. Please help John and his team by following the safety guidelines. I know they are all working well helping us to manage our 19th hole safely and they have also implemented a plan to have additional seating available to facilitate members during busier periods.

At a General Committee meeting this week, it was agreed that we should move towards getting back to some sort of normality regarding golf competitions. The decision was made to have the men's club competitions on a Saturday and the ladies' section will have their competitions on a Wednesday. Jeannette Watkins will co-ordinate this with the ladies and Barry and there will also be an integrated stableford competition running over Sunday and Monday.

For a trial period, the Saturday competition will be organised and managed by our Club Professional, Barry Thomas. For those members wishing to play at particular times in groups, please speak to Barry at least a week prior to the game, so that it may be considered. Once the system is in place, it would be the responsibility of the individual to remove their name if they do not intend to play. I should stress that this is a trial and if there are members that are unable to play in competitions, it will need to be reviewed. Any 7-day member wishing to play on a Saturday and not enter the competition will be able to do so after 3.30pm. The aim of the trial is to allow as many people as possible to play at their preferred times with their preferred playing partners. I would also ask that any member wishing to play in the competition and who does not regularly go out with playing partners, speak to Barry and ask him to arrange your game at a time to suit you.

It has become quite apparent lately that there is some confusion about what is safe and acceptable practice

when preparing to play in games and matches. The guidance regarding this is still quite clear:

- We should not turn up at the golf club more than 15 minutes prior to playing.
- We should not congregate on or around the first tee.
- Social distancing must always be maintained.
- When playing in groups, a draw should take place safely - balls in a hat is not safe practice.
- If a draw is taking place on the day of play, the organiser is responsible for ensuring that a list is passed to Barry, advising him of all the players and tee times so that Track and Trace can be maintained.

The revised list for competitions is:

23rd to 25th July Integrated Stableford

29th July Ladies Competition

1st August Men's Stableford

3rd August Ladies Competition

8th August Club Championship, Silver and Bronze Qualifier, 18 holes only best gross

15th August Millennium 1 st Rd

22nd August Eagle Trophy 1st RD

29th August Stableford

5th September Millennium 2nd RD

12th September Stableford

19th September Eagle 2nd Rd

26th September Stableford

3rd October Millennium 3rd Rd

A full list of ladies' competitions has already been circulated by email to the ladies' section.

Once the qualifying round has been played and the draw has been made, each competitor will be asked to submit three dates to the golf committee. We will attempt to match those dates and the time and date of play will then be booked on the tee sheet with space around the booking, to try and ensure free flow around the course.

Planned knockout round deadlines

1st Rd to be played by 15th August

2nd Rd to be played by 5th September

Final to be played by 19th September

Hopefully, we will still have enough summer left to make the most of our golfing. Please stay safe.

Kind Regards

Steve Parry
Club Captain