

THE PITCH January 2020



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Captain's Update

Happy New Year to all club members.

The first edition of The Pitch in December generated some positive feedback. Hopefully this more regular communication with members will keep you more informed on what is happening at your club. If you have any comments, suggestions, etc please contact Neil Bain (neil@neilbain.co.uk) directly.

The main news since my December update is that Sandy and his team have been working hard on establishing the Driving Range and moving the 1st tee. Hopefully you will get a chance to try the Driving Range for yourself in January and see first-hand what a positive addition to the club this is.

Wishing you all good fortune on the course for 2020.



Drew Ramsay
Captain

EAST LOTHIAN CLUBS WINTER LEAGUE

The men's Winter League team continue their fine form in Division 2. After the festive break, the team had a fine 4-1 (home) win against Gifford. This leaves Haddington in 2nd place and a strong chance of promotion to League 1.

#	Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts
1	Longniddry	9	9	0	0	18
2	Haddington	7	6	1	0	12
3	Glen	8	4	4	0	8
4	Winterfield	6	3	3	0	6
5	Musselburgh Old	8	2	5	1	5
6	Gifford	8	1	6	1	3
7	Thorntree	8	1	7	0	2

January sees three away matches, two in the league against The Glen (12th) and Longniddry (26th) and one in the Cup against Musselburgh Old (19th).

Club News

Fees are to be confirmed and announced at the beginning of February. Of course, any early payment/part-payment is welcome but current memberships are valid until 31 March.

2019 Prize Giving will be in March – date to be confirmed.

2020 Fixtures are almost complete. These will be emailed to all members with hard copies available in the Pro Shop.

Ladies Section

The next Winter Competition is on 1st February at 12pm.

The first round of our Double Trouble foursome ties should have been completed by 5th January. Congratulations to those who have reached the next round which should be played by 16th February. Good luck to those involved!

Senior League Team

David Grant has volunteered to take on the role as Captain for the Senior League Team beginning 2020. We would also like to give thanks to Charlie Porteous and Robert Harvey who will be assisting David as he takes on his new role.

David would also like to make an appeal for players who wish to play in the team this coming year. Players must be 55+, and not currently be in full-time employment. If you are interested feel free to contact David personally, or let Scott/Ross know at the Pro Shop.

Course News

The photos below show the hard work being put in by our Head Greenkeeper Sandy Young and his team.

The Driving Range is now up and running ! **Note that for their own safety, members are prohibited from using the area as a practise ground during Pro Shop hours.** This was voted on and passed at an EGM last April. Volunteers are still being sought to operate the buggy and ball-collecting machine, which should take no more than an hour or so at the end of each day. The more volunteers we have the less frequently they will be required to perform so please either e-mail our Club Captain at ramsaydrew@outlook.com or see Scott or Ross in the pro shop. Thanks in advance for your support with this!

The new 1st tee is being developed as can be seen in the photo below.



Competition Results

Christmas Scramble Results – 23rd December 2019

- 1st - Steven Aitken, Mark McManus, Daniel Welsh & Alex Munro - 52.3
- 2nd - Peter Martin, Alex Watson, Scott Allan & Ricky Bryant - 54.4
- 3rd - Darren Hunter, John Draper, Arthur Draper & Scott Branley - 54.5
- 4th - Charlie Hogg, P. McGregor, G. Watson & D. Norton - 55



Clachandichter – 2nd January 2020

- 1st - Daniel Welsh - 45pts
- 2nd - Stephen Murphy - 41pts
- 3rd - Russell Fortune - 40pts (bih)

Scratch - Stephen Murphy - 74

- Nearest the Pin - 4th - Gary Peckham
- Nearest the Pin - 10th - Kevin Brown
- Nearest the Pin - 16th - Alex Munro



Winter Sweep

Winter Sweeps proving to be very successful. Leading points winner at end of March will be awarded the Trophy. Current Top10 at 31st December is:

Peter Meek 74
Alistair Mackinnon 69
Roddy Caddow 62
Des O'Sullivan 59
Gary Peckham 57
Owen Martin 54
Steven Aitken 51
Kevin Brown 45
John Thomson 41
Keith Watson 40

Fixtures

Gents Matchplay Competitions

Match play entry forms on the notice board in the Gent's locker room.

Midweek Stablefords (Gents and Ladies)

April mid-weeks will be 9-hole competitions.

October mid-weeks will be 9-hole competitions.

2020 Championship A & B qualifying (Gents)

Best two rounds from three qualifying medals

Sunday 17th May 2020

Sunday 24th May 2020

Sunday 07th June 2020

Top 16 to qualifying for knockout stages.

Championship week Sunday 14/06/2020 – Sunday 21/06/2020

1st round ties A & B to be played on Sunday afternoon 14th June 2020.

¼ Final ties A & B to be played on the Tuesday evening 16th June 2020.

Semi-final ties A & B to be played on the Thursday evening 18th June 2020.

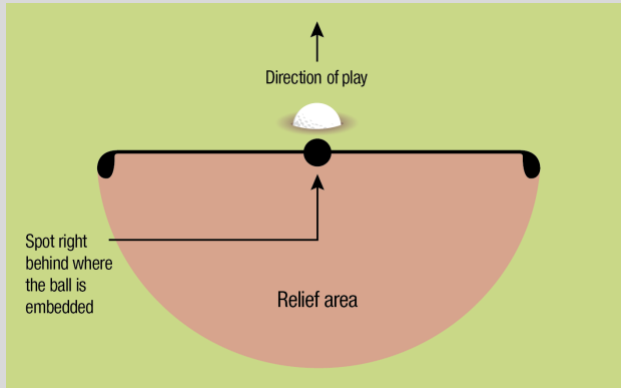
Finals 36 holes A & B to be played on Sunday morning 21st June 2020.

In the event of poor weather conditions on any day the ties maybe moved to the following day.

Rules of Golf – Relief for Embedded Ball

When a player's ball is *embedded* in the *general area* and relief is allowed under Rule 16.3a, the player may take free relief by dropping the original ball or another ball in this *relief area* (see Rule 14.3):

- **Reference Point:** The spot right behind where the ball is *embedded*.
- **Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point:** One club-length, **but** with these limits:
 - **Limits on Location of Relief Area:**
 - Must be in the *general area*, and
 - Must not be nearer the *hole* than the reference point.



Embedded Ball : When a player's ball is in its own pitch-mark made as a result of the player's previous stroke and where part of the ball is below the level of the ground. A ball does not necessarily have to touch soil to be *embedded* (for example, grass and loose impediments may be between the ball and the soil)

General Area : The area of the course that covers all of the course except for the other four defined areas: (1) the teeing area the player must play from in starting the hole he or she is playing, (2) all penalty areas, (3) all bunkers, and (4) the putting green of the hole the player is playing.