

SEASCALE GOLF CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2019/20



Standing: Adam, Chris and Stephen. Kneeling Will, Sam, Kirsty, Steph and Sue.

From us all at the Golf Club we'd like to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We have enjoyed looking after you this year and look forward to another successful year.

Captains' Charity Presentations

Well done to last year's captains Robert Temple and Fiona Kirkby in working with you all in raising a fantastic amount for their chosen charities – Meningitus and Cystic Fibrosis. Both organisations were absolutely delighted to receive cheques for £3000 each. The Junior Section also benefited with support for their funds, and we will soon have some new outside benches dedicated to Ian MacDonald (Macca) and Joe Linklater whose event organisers have helped raise funds over the past many years towards the Captain's charities



Captain Robert Temple makes a presentation to (left) Natalie Mossop representing Cystic Fibrosis Trust with nephew Harry Mossop, and Ladies Captain Fiona Kirby presents a cheque to Emma Bell representing Meningitis Research Foundation.

Seascale Makes History in the Region with its First Lady Club Captain



Club Captain 2020 Christine Graham



Ladies Captain 2020 Sara Scott

Getting Behind our Juniors in 2020

Bev New our enthusiastic Advanced PGA Coach comments that while watching SPOTY (Sports Personality of the Year) on Sunday it came across just how important parents and supporters are to all the sportsmen and women that go on to be successful. We need some unsung heroes to help out on a regular basis and create the learning environment that the juniors need to progress in golf on the course. Well-organised, fun, safe competitions to compliment the coaching that they are all turning up for. We certainly are lucky to have Bev fostering our juniors and we'd really like to see that extra level of support for Salli Pilcher and Jo Devonald who are trying so hard to keep Seascale on the map as far as Junior Golf is concerned. Hopefully in the not too distant future we will have a development officer appointed who can bring on our talent and see that they develop to their full potential. But in the meantime all you mums and dads can do a lot by getting involved and being enthusiastic. We are hoping that the coming year will see a major improvement in facilities for our Juniors.

Winter Programme on Course

It may be the middle of winter, but barring the weather there is a good level of participation on a course that is once again showing its resilience. Our green staff are out there in all conditions making things better for the coming year, but also improving things for our winter golfers. The winter programme of work is now well under way and should see us firing on all cylinders come the new season. Progress so far is as follows:

2nd Reface front left green side bunker – progressing.

4th Replace shell path from tee to fairway with Astro Turf – complete.

5th Reface front right and middle right green side bunkers – progressing.

6th Lay Astro Turf path on worn area to right of Ladies tee. Reface back right green side bunker – progressing.

10th Reface front left green side bunker – complete.

13th Reface left green side bunker – progressing.

14th Lay Astro Turf past the left hand side of competition tee, fencing off the worn area to the right. Re-turf worn area on right hand side of competition tee – waiting to resurface.

15th Re-turf yellow/white and blue tees and lay Astro Turf behind, running alongside railway tracks. Reface right green side bunker but move it slightly to the right. This will alleviate some damage to the walk on/off area from 15th green to 16th tee. – Ready for turf.

Alongside all these improvements we are also concentrating more on the following:

Applying wetting agent/seaweed to all fairways on a designated programme – complete.

Slit tining and verti draining all greens, tees and fairways - complete

Patching areas of worn turf with new – awaiting turf.

Continuing our Gorse Management Plan – spring programme.



... and at the 4th.



Re-faced bunker at 10th.



New Astro turf path at 4th.



New winter tees at 3rd.



'New' Tees Mower.



Over-seeding on 14th.



'New' Gator Utility Vehicle.

Alternative Solution

During the winter months we find that our Sunday Club Competitions become fully booked very quickly, sometimes within 20 minutes of becoming live. This causes a few problems when light is a factor and the latest members can tee off is 12.00pm. Demand is very high to play our wonderful course and we know some members are unable to book into these competitions.

We started to trial an alternative Saturday

competition for the team competitions from the start of December. This allows booking from 11.00am - 12.00pm on the Saturday via HowDidIDo or PSI Clubhouse.. This is the same competition as on Sunday although scores from the Saturday are not published until the competition closes. Experience so far shows that this competition extension has been reasonably successful.

However, members need to be aware that we cannot provide an alternative competition every Saturday. We have visiting parties, an Open every month, ladies comps, society golf etc already booked. We are listening to our members and looking at different scenarios to help you play competitive golf, but we also need to make time available for members who want a relaxed non-competitive game.

World Handicap System 2020

GET READY

The way that handicaps for golfers around the world are calculated is set to be transformed by a new system developed by The R&A and the USGA which will be introduced by the Home (CONGU) Unions on 2nd November 2020. Features of the World Handicap System (WHS) will include:

- A consistent handicap that is portable from course to course and country to country through worldwide use of a modified version of the Course and Slope Rating System that is already successfully used in the USA and much of Europe.
- An average-based calculation of a handicap, taken from the best eight out of the last 20 scores as shown in the 1st picture below, but with a safety mechanism to ensure that a player's handicap cannot increase by more than 5 shots during a 12 month period.
- A calculation that considers the impact that abnormal course and weather conditions might have on a player's performance each day.

- Handicap revisions processed on the day of playing, even if the competition results have not been processed.
- A limit of Net Double Bogey on the maximum score for a hole (for handicapping purposes only)
- A maximum handicap limit of 54, regardless of gender

Read more:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/ca/u/0/h/1up3fmxr577tx/?view=att&th=16e7d73e1af0a582&attid=0.1&disp=attd&safe=1&zw>

<https://www.whs.com/>

Thanks to Gordon Hennis for keeping us ahead of the game with these major changes in Golf.

News from the AGM

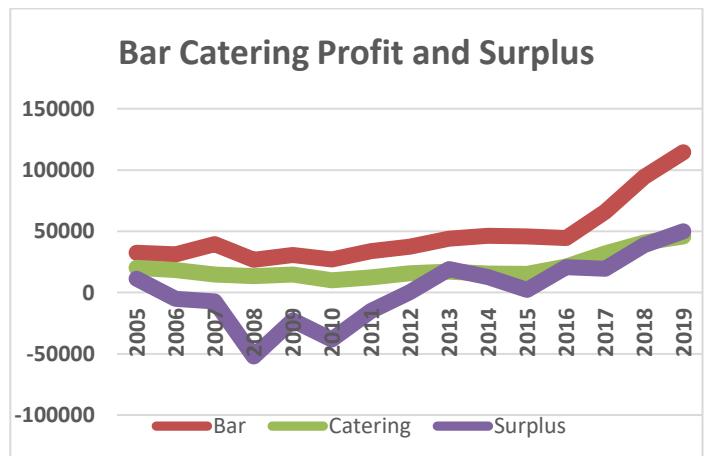
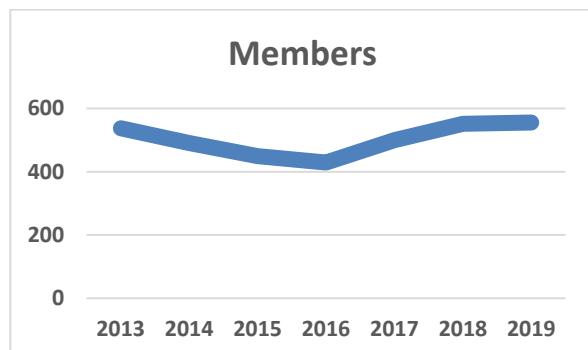
We had a reasonably well-attended AGM where members heard about our financial performance last year. It was another very successful year and the attached charts demonstrate that pretty well. The majority of members will have received a copy of the annual report either by e:mail or by picking up a printed version, but only those who attended the AGM will have had an explanation of why we have had to resort to increases in our subscriptions.

Council has maintained Annual Subscriptions at the same level for the last seven years. We have been able to do this largely through a proactive strategy of widening our customer base and turnover for catering and bar. We have also been helped by some windfall income from land sales, bequests and Vat rebates. Although we are in a good position financially, our liabilities have been increasing. Most strikingly our Clubhouse is starting to show its age, in particular with the roof and the electrics. Our course, through careful management, is now pride of the North West and we need to invest to maintain that position. All this has to be achieved against a

background of increased and increasing wages and prices. The following list is not exhaustive and estimates only tentative but it demonstrates the pressures we will be working under over the next five years:

Roof repairs and replacement	£100k
Electrical rewiring	£40k
Course equipment	£50k
IT system and maintenance	£30k
Driving Bays	£10k
Outside areas	£15k
Car parks	£30k
Wages national increases cf 2019	£25k +

A general increase in subscriptions will not cover those costs but we hope that members will see that they will be playing their part in supporting operations and investment in our Club.



Bonfire Night Success



The Seascale Golf Club Bonfire and Fireworks Display has grown bigger and bigger each year since it started back in 2014. Villagers and members of the public from far and wide are flocking to see the spectacle – and this year’s audience was probably over 3000 . A big thank you has to go to all who built the bonfire, set off the display, and acted as stewards, food and drinks caterers, car park attendants, and who shook the buckets for funds to make next year’s event equally as good.



Our new dining room is being well-used.

To the Winners the Spoils



Trophy-winners for the 2019 season following the Presentation in September.

Ho Ho Ho – He’s Here Again.

Thanks to all who helped make the Kids’ Christmas Party another success. Photographs are available – request from Seascalegolfclub@gmail.com.



Adam and family with you know who.