

Seniors Section Report

February 2017

I am writing this final Report in advance and in anticipation of the Seniors Section AGM, which is to be held on Tuesday Feb 21st. I therefore offer my apologies for absence this evening but in confidence that Paul Dore will be elected Seniors Captain for 2017-18 and he has kindly agreed to attend as his first such meeting.

Reflections on the 2016-17 Golfing Year.

Highlights include:

1. A record high average attendance at weekly Roll Ups.
2. Successful introduction of 2 new Roll Up game formats through the season.
3. Successful completion of all Inter Club matches, including team participation by over 40 individual members and the successful introduction of 2 new partner clubs for our team matches.
4. A record annual fund raising donation from the Seniors for our chosen charity of U-Care.
5. A record attendance at our Away Day at The Buckinghamshire.
6. Two fully subscribed and popular residential golf tours.
7. A record attendance at the Christmas Lunch Party.
8. A fully functional and regularly updated Seniors Noticeboard and Website.
9. All trophies and noticeboards up to date with current inscriptions of winners and post-holders.
10. Good financial health for the Seniors Section.

Recent activities.

Christmas Lunch.

This event was highly successful, with over 60 golfing participants on the day and sitting for an excellent lunch.

Tours and Away Days 2017.

Planning is well advanced for a Scotland trip in the spring and also for a short Berkshire Tour on April 23-24th. Two Away Days are also planned under the efficient leadership of Peter Nicholls.

Winter League

The Winter League is proceeding according to plan, with 4 of the six rounds now completed all with a good turnout. We are grateful to Steve Davis for dealing with the Handicap adjustments this tournament brings about. Bill Taunton kindly continues to lead the organisation of this popular annual event.

Champion of Champions Trophy.

This is scheduled in the Diary for March 28th, with the final Quarterly Challenge earlier that month.

AGM.

This has been brought forward to Feb 21st in order to facilitate a smooth transition from myself to the new Captain and committee, necessitated by my family emigration to New Zealand on Feb 27th. There are a number of proposals for consideration, including a Constitution amendment securing legitimacy for any election processes to the Committee in future years. We will also discuss a proposal to amend the qualifying criteria for entry into Seniors Club Championship, reflective of the advice and discussions that we have undertaken in Men's and General Committee this year and the response of the Seniors Committee, so there will be no surprise. We are aware that any resolution passed at our AGM needs to be ratified and agreed by these committees.

For the first time, we have formally invited Ken Heathcote to speak at our AGM on issues and developments of his choice regarding Studley Wood Golf Club. We anticipate this will include course development and with that in mind, the Seniors have conducted 2 experimental rounds, Teeing off from the Red Tee markers as a winter alternative to the overly used White Tee boxes. We have some interesting preferred options for the future stemming from this valuable experiment.

Finally, my sincere thanks to Neil and Bel, my fellow Captains and all committee members, but especially those dedicated guys on the Seniors Committee and other great helpers who have enabled those earlier reflections on 2016-17 to be so positive. I am also most appreciative of the active support of Ken, Bal, Fitz, Matt, Tom, Iveta and all the staff here.

Most pleasing of all has been the positive spirit generally pervading the Seniors Section in every aspect of our times together; naturally we have issues, problems come up, but it is all about the spirit in which they are dealt with. Studley Wood is without doubt the best Golf Club of which I have ever been a member; I shall treasure but also sadly miss my involvement here.

Peter Crook
Seniors Captain