

## **Seniors AGM 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

### **Captain's Report - Paul Doré reflections on the year**

#### **Committee**

It has been an interesting year for me and rewarding too. Although I didn't have a vice captain I received excellent support from the committee. We had good discussions on a range of topics over the year but we invariably reached a unanimous decision on the way forward. There are a number of examples of excellent works from the committee some of which I will come to later, but a good example is the rule of the week and quiz run by Roy Fulton and Stephen Painter that has improved our knowledge of the rules in a fun way.

I thank all the committee Mike Atkins, Steve Atkins, Peter Nicholls, Stephen Painter, David Scott, Roy Fulton for their fantastic support.

I would also like to thank those that stood in from time to time to help organise the roll ups particularly Bernie Harris, Ed Carpenter and Barry Muir. And also a special thank you to Bill Taunton for standing in as match captain for two matches this year. It's not just about the committee – it's about all of us joining in.

It is good to see so many sign up to serve on the committee this year. In fact, there are so many we need an election. I know that having an election will mean that some will be on the committee and some will not on this occasion but I hope that regardless of the result all will still help with the running of the section and will not be put off from nominating themselves next year.

And we have a nomination for Vice Captain too. But more of that later in the agenda.

#### **Inter-club matches**

One of the principle roles of the Captain is to organise and run the inter-club matches.

The results for last year are: won 9, lost 8, drawn 1. We used 43 players (same as last year), but the number that played 10 or more games fell. We also had more players that only played home games.

Overall, last year went well but it is still a mystery to me why we sometimes only get 12 sign up for each match. Many other clubs that we play regularly have to select their team of 12 from 20 applicants. What is different about Studley Wood? Observing players, even the ones that play "only if I am short", during the match and at the meal afterwards everyone is obviously have a thoroughly good time. Why are we so reluctant to have a good time? This year, we are trying a different format with one club to see if that helps. There will be no formal after match dinner. Rather it will be a quick meal in golf gear, announce the winner and go home. Personally it would not be my choice but the committee will have to gauge and act on the feedback. I really hope you will all support Steve this year by signing up for these matches. Please play an even number of home and away matches and please give him the challenge of selecting a team. From looking at the sheets on the noticeboard for the first

2 matches it looks very promising. I really hope that if you are not selected for some games you will still keep signing up.

### **Seniors roll-ups**

Roll ups have been very well supported with a good mix of individual and team games. We had an average of 30.2 participants each rollup compared with 26.1 last year. There have also been 25 seniors only qualifier opportunities plus 6 WL (only 4 of those Q). Also there were 12 club qualifiers (stableford). There were 20 seniors' non qualifier individual games (mainly stableford). So in total 63 individual games. There were 50 team games. We reduced the number of yellow ball games (down to 1) and introduced greensomes as well as playing a few games off the red tees in the winter. We had 9 Texas Scrambles, 9 Waltz, and 12 Alliance, 10 Bogey, and 6 Better Ball Pairs. So as I said I think we achieved a good mix of games

### **Charity Day**

The Charity day last June was well supported and a very enjoyable day. The amount raised for charity was less than last year, but still a very good amount of £781 so thank you for your support. Maybe this year the committee will run a putting competition that somebody might have a chance of winning.

### **Christmas Lunch**

Christmas lunch was nearly a white out. The golf had to be postponed but 70 turned up in bad road conditions for a very enjoyable lunch. Thank you to all that helped organise this event but special thanks to Mike Atkins for dealing with all the last minute changes. And also of course we had the entertainment from Jeremy (thank David Scott) and to our very own rock band (Andy Napier, Steve Atkins, Chris Tappin, Patrick Rooney). I am sure you all appreciate that some volunteer their services so that we all enjoy events even more.

The re-arranged Christmas golf better ball pairs match in late January was well supported with 60 participants.

### **Away Days/Tours**

Peter Nicholls arranged a sleep-over away day at Donnington Grove/Goring, and an away day at Harewood Downs. A Spring tour to Scotland and another excellent autumn tour to North Devon. Thank you to Peter for continuing to plan and organise great trips. I know many of you are looking forward to visiting North Wales. We also have a Spring away day planned at Harleyford. Other tours and away days are already being planned.

### **General**

The course has been in great condition this year and it is great to see some investment taking place to further improve the golf course. Bunkers are in better condition especially the one between 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, we now have more ball washers and some paths improved.

I would like to thank the Men's Captain Mike Lawton, and the Ladies Captain Loretta Tonna for their support during the year and the excellent fund raising work for their charities

Nystagmus Network, Helen and Douglas House and UCARE. And just to let you know that in previous years we presented charities directly with our contributions. But this year we thought it was simpler for all to add our contribution to the amount collected by the Men's and Ladies sections. The seniors' contribution is £781.

Once again thank you all for what has been a rewarding and interesting experience. I am sure you will afford Steve the same fantastic level of support you have given me.