

Studley Wood Seniors' Committee

Meeting held at 2:00pm on 29th September 2020 at Studley Wood

Action Points

In attendance: Stephen Painter (SP), Bob Clarke (BC), Martin Wilkinson (MW), David Scott (DS), Stephen Capaldi (SC), Terry Davies (TD)

	Subject/Discussion Points	Action
1.	Apologies: Dave Drew (DD), Hans Menzel (HM) and Phil Chaundy (PC).	
2.	Minutes: the previous minutes of the 25 th August meeting were agreed. These had been posted on the Seniors webpage	
3.	Matters arising: matters arising from the last meeting were either dealt with or included as agenda items for this meeting.	
4.	<p>Treasurers Report: MW was able to report that despite heavy usage the seniors bank account free monies stood at £1,000, with a further committed payment of c£20 to be deducted in respect of the senior's website. Overall, this resulted in a slight deficit compared to the £1,072 free monies available at the same period last year.</p> <p>The above sum excluded any anticipated income from the forthcoming Winter League competition. MW advised that as at 28th September 10 players had paid their entry fee of £5 in respect of this competition.</p> <p>Vouchers for the Summer Singles KO were in the process of being issued. A resulting holding of £50 worth of vouchers would be retained for future use.</p> <p>In respect of the Senior Captains Charity day on 10th September MW was able to confirm that £2,519 had been deposited in the bank. A further £155 was to be paid in respect of a silent auction bid and £330 in cheques also needed to be deposited. The overall total raised for Brain Tumour Research would be the noteworthy sum of £3,004. The content of the 'guess the coins in a jar' competition would also go to the charity in due course.</p> <p>BC confirmed the process used to allocate winnings for Silverware competitions once entry fees had been deducted from membership cards. The whole of the 15% retention (for the senior's funds) were currently loaded onto his membership card prior to the funds being transferred to MW. He invited volunteers to help share out the monies onto different cards. DS and SC volunteered themselves in this regard.</p> <p>MW would circulate a half year Financial Statement in due course.</p> <p>SP offered a vote of thanks to MW for his continued input to managing the senior's financial matters.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">DS/BC/SC</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MW</p>

<p>5.</p>	<p>Competitions</p> <p>1. Sign in and score entry: TD reported that for the 24th September qualifying Stableford only 12 players had signed in on the evening prior to the event. It was clarified that it was the players responsibility to sign in for qualifying events, prior to playing. This being no different to what was required of them prior to the pandemic. Sign in could be achieved via HDID, ClubV1 app or the touch screen which was now operational in the clubhouse or by asking the individual on the registration desk to do so on their behalf.</p> <p>Whilst all 40 remaining players for the 24th had been signed in by TD, using information on BRS, it was recognised that simply being on BRS did not guarantee players turning up on the day. In those circumstances a signed in player not actually showing up to play in a qualifying event would potentially have a Nil Return and see an increase in handicap.</p> <p>It was noted that the clubhouse was closed on the 24th September when the first few groups had started their rounds (prior to 7:30) and this may have hampered some from signing in.</p> <p>In direct contrast however, TD was pleased to confirm that the majority of the 52 players on the day had entered their own scores after the event. This was a significantly positive move.</p> <p>BC was able to advise that lack of signing in was also an issue for the Men's section and they were taking a tougher stance on this issue. However, he confirmed that the CONGU rules did not provide for the disqualification of players simply because they did not sign in.</p> <p>SP would continue to take the opportunity in any communications to remind and encourage players to sign in and enter scores.</p> <p>2. To qualify or not qualify: discussion arose on the merits or not of having non-qualifying singles competitions and what potentially motivated individuals to not partake in qualifiers. Over the last few years, the various seniors' committees had pushed for increases to the number of seniors qualifying competitions which had progressively risen to around 24 a year. It was viewed that into the immediate future, under the World Handicap System, players will be further encouraged to play qualifiers in order to retain their handicap index.</p> <p>In conclusion, it was agreed that the committee change all non-qualifying singles competitions planned for October and November to qualifying competitions i.e. converting the following to qualifying events:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20th October Stableford 27th October Stableford 19th November Stableford and 26th November Stableford</p>	<p>SP</p>
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BC was concerned that over the coming months we may bump into an issue with the Silver course being classed as too short for handicap purposes and hence having to revert to non-qualifier status on the day. He was able to confirm that the three courses at Studley had been assessed for the purposes of the World Handicap System, which would deliver a men's Slope Rating and Course Rating for the Bronze course.

From December we could make use of the Bronze course for roll ups.

SP will take the opportunity to discuss and clarify the situation with the head greenkeeper in terms of what the winter temporary green policy will be.

SP

3. **Playing programme:** the playing programmes for October and November were agreed as follows and will be published shortly.

SP

October

1	Quarterly Challenge 3 (M)	Q
6	Winter League RD 1	Q
8	Alliance	NQ
13	Euro Pro Course Closed	
15	Euro Pro Course Closed	
20	Stableford	Q
21	Ladies vs Seniors	
22	*Waltz	NQ
27	Stableford	Q
29	Seniors Memorial (M)	Q

November

3	Stableford	Q
5	Winter League RD 2	Q
10	Club Poppy Medal	Q
12	Bogey Singles	NQ
17	Waltz – off G/S/B tees	NQ
19	Stableford	Q
24	Bonus Ball	NQ
26	Stableford	Q

* changed from Bogey Singles

Given the high demand for tee times, the club had recently provided the facility for roll ups to start half an hour earlier at 7:30am. This enabled a maximum of 16 tee times to 10:00 am i.e. 64 players for each roll up.

MW suggested that the winter start times would need to be addressed given the AGM decision to have a winter first tee time of 8.45. The earliest mid-winter tee times are likely to be 8:10am in the current circumstances.

6. **Slow play:** TD advised that for the Jeremy Potter trophy he had been frustrated at the fact that the round had taken 4 hour and 40-minutes. MW recognised this having played in the competition and advised that

	<p>even at the weekends now it was getting difficult to complete rounds in under 4 hours and 5 minutes. The emphasis currently was on maximising 4 balls on the course, whereas pre-Covid the emphasis was on 3 balls. This could explain some of the slower play. DS questioned whether the 10-minute start times were impacting the overall length of time taken.</p> <p>DS further reminded the committee of the commitment they had made to set an example, namely that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>members of the committee should not play in the same group and</i> • <i>if the group they were playing in fell a hole behind the group in front, they would advise the group that they were to let the group behind through (assuming the group behind were clearly being held up)</i> <p>The pace of play was seen to be hindered when:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Players filled cards in on the green, rather than on the next tee Trolleys/bags were not left at the exit point for the next tee In stableford events players insisting on playing out even if they can't score Players not ready to play their next shot Ready golf not being practised</p> <p>SP would remind all of the top ten tips included on the senior's website for avoiding slow play.</p>	SP
7.	<p>Trophies: DS had accessed the Quarterly Challenge Trophy and found that two of the name strips were missing. One strip had already been ordered by the club and was to be stuck back on following return. DS would in October ask the various winners of senior's silverware trophies to return them for engraving.</p> <p>SP confirmed that he intended to present some of the silverware winners with their trophies imminently.</p> <p>It was agreed that future Quarterly Challenge winners would not have their names added to the trophy.</p>	SP
8.	<p>Senior Club Championship 2021: SC outlined the content of a paper he had circulated which sought to provide a future solution to the anomalous situation that had arisen at this year's Senior Club Championship in respect of the over 70's prize. The best gross score prize for the over 70's had been introduced to offer an incentive to older members to play, and this year had been won by BC, who on the day was awarded the trophy. However, BC's score was also the third best gross score in the overall competition and the following day the club conferred on him that placing and associated prize monies. This had therefore resulted in Russel Matthews, who had the next best over 70's gross score, missing out on the over 70's trophy although he was awarded the prize monies for it.</p> <p>Of the four options considered, the overall view of the committee was</p>	

	<p>that option 4 be adopted - leading to the introduction of an over 70's net prize in place of the over 70's gross prize. It was felt that a greater pool of potential winners would be captured through this move and with a rewriting of the rules, greater clarity would be gained for the future with respect to Trophy and prize monies allocation.</p> <p>It was agreed that in the future the rules should be changed so that there was no limit to the number of trophies a player could win at this championship, but only one financial prize could be won. The financial prize applicable in the event of a multiple trophy winner, would be that associated with the highest ranked competition, which were deemed to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Overall Gross b. Overall Net and c. Over 70's Net <p>Given that this is a Club competition not a Seniors competition, any such proposal would now need the approval of the Men's Committee and the Seniors AGM. SC would draft up the associated rules in readiness for being considered by the appropriate committees/meetings.</p>	SC
9.	<p>AOB</p> <p>1. New Handicap System: BC was preparing another newsletter regarding the new handicap system that would shortly be circulated. He confirmed that the slope indices had been measured for the three Studley courses and they were awaiting the outcome.</p> <p>The new system would be operational from 2nd November 2020. From 5th October 2020 the old and new handicap systems would be run in parallel by England Golf, and that by the end of October players would be able to access the data held by England Golf regarding both their handicap and handicap index.</p> <p>To clarify how the new system operated BC outlined that the club would display a chart (handicap calculation conversion table) either in the club house and/or the starters hut, which would confirm the Slope Rating and Course Rating for the specific course to be played and thus enable players to determine the number of strokes they would receive. The Handicap Index is to be portable from course to course and country to country.</p> <p>2. Winter League: whilst players had been asked to pay their entry fee prior to the first round, on 6th October, DS sought clarity regarding the situation pertaining if an individual had not paid their entry fee by that date - namely would they be allowed to participate in the first round or any subsequent rounds?</p> <p>MW explained that the current rules allowed for an individual to participate in the first round even if they had not paid their entry fee. However, if they had subsequently not paid their entry fee by the day prior to the second round, in this case the 4th November, their first-round score would be voided. Once they had paid their entry</p>	BC

	<p>fee, they could participate in later rounds if they chose.</p> <p>As there were c40 new seniors' members, with little if any knowledge of how the Winter League operated, SP would issue an explanatory note to this effect.</p> <p>3. Ladies v Seniors: MW confirmed that this event would take place on 21st October 2020, with the tee times to be confirmed as either an 8:00am or 9:00am start. This would be a better ball competition off full handicap, with a pair of seniors playing with a pair of ladies. Each team would consist of 20 players and MW currently had 6 seniors as reserves.</p> <p>On the day, participants would be required to pay £2. There would be six prizes available, including: leading pair, leading men, leading ladies and take the form of a vase trophy and bottles of champagne.</p> <p>4. Medical emergencies: TD enquired if anyone had any feedback on how the recent actual medical emergency had been dealt with, given that this topic had been an agenda item at the previous meeting. Whilst no one present had any direct experience of the medical emergency, SC clarified that this issue had been raised at a recent General Committee meeting. The outcome was that the following process was identified as being the correct approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are encouraged to take their mobiles (in silent mode) onto the course • In an emergency, they should contact the emergency services directly • They should secondarily advise the club of the emergency • One of the three designated staff first aiders would use a designated buggy to tend to the individual on the course as appropriate • A staff member would advise the emergency services on arrival of the whereabouts of the individual <p>An issue with the club telephone system not routing itself to a staff member free to pick up the call had been addressed and all calls should now be answered, rather than go through to voicemail.</p> <p>SP would advise seniors of the procedure to follow.</p> <p>5. Alliance rules: there had been some confusion regarding the rules applied to the Alliance event of today's date. Taking into account the discussion at the AGM and today's experiences, it was agreed to simplify the rules such that all groups would play off full handicap. Thereafter 6 points would be added to any 3 balls score.</p> <p>SP to advise seniors of this amendment and change the current rules on the website.</p>	<p>SP</p> <p>MW</p> <p>SP</p> <p>SP</p>
10.	<p>Date of next meeting: The date of the next meeting was provisionally set as Thursday 5th November.</p>	<p>SP</p>

