

## **Studley Wood Golf Club 2020 Seniors Captain's Report**

Looking back at the previous Captain's reports just emphasises again how different this past year has been, thanks to Covid-19.

Our year got off to a flying start with the immediate onset of Covid restrictions, meaning that we never had the chance to meet inside the club for a roll up; putting a pound in the box, enjoying the chat and waiting with excitement and anticipation for when and with who we would play our golf. Nor could we meet afterwards to applaud/ abuse the winners of the prize money, or have a drink and something to eat within the comfort of the clubhouse. Remember all that?

In place of golf, we ran a fantasy golf tour competition and a quiz which brought a little light relief until we were able to play again.

We were locked down until May, when, like spring lambs, we were released onto the course again. It was in superb condition after all the care it had received while we were absent. Thank you to Ken, Baljit, plus Ian and all the green keepers for giving us such a magnificent course to play on everyday. Studley Wood really is a good place to be when we can be.

The season began initially with 2 balls playing 9 holes at a time, waiting for the return to 'normal'.

When that was evidently not going to happen, the committee worked together to develop a new 'virtual' roll up format and a new Singles Knockout competition, which proved very popular.

Thank you especially to Fitz and Tom for helping us manage all our games of golf throughout, with hours spent loading and amending the BRS system to book players in.

And afterwards, Craig and Loretta stood at the hatch in all weathers to serve us food and drink. Thank you both.

The summer was fine. The sun shone every day and we were able to run 36 events of which 16 were qualifiers, with an average turnout of 44.

We almost met our objective of running all the silverware competitions, thwarted in the end by the combination of bad weather and further lockdowns. Well done to all those who did win a trophy. We can look forward to the outcome of the Pairs Knockout Final, to be played for whenever it is possible for the finalists to do so.

At one point I thought that, because all our inter club matches had been cancelled, I would be able to boast that for the first time ever we hadn't lost a single match. However, with many thanks to Stephen Capaldi who managed to arrange a match for us at Donnington Grove, I have to sadly report that we did in fact lose *all* of our matches!

Despite leaving the committee, Peter Nicholls kindly agreed to organise our Tours and Away days last year. However, guess what! The Spring tour to Norfolk had to be postponed to 2021!

He did get two away days arranged, one at Burnham Beeches in September and the other at Wrag Barn in October. Both were very enjoyable golfing days out. Thank you, Peter.

A highlight of my year was the Charity Day in support of **Brain Tumour Research**. 80 players met on a very sunny day in September and with the fantastic help of Dave Drew we raised **£3169**. Thank you again for all of your support.

November saw the start of the WHS and the second lockdown, which gave Bob Clarke the opportunity to sort out the anomalies that arose with our new Handicap Indices. My thanks go to Bob for all his work on this.

Another tradition that we lost this year was the Christmas Golf and lunch, which was a great shame in itself, but then the alternative event also had to be cancelled because of bad weather, as had the planned Ladies vs Seniors match in October, which Martin Wilkinson had organised for us.

**At the end of this very strange year I very much need to thank all of the other committee members:**

**Terry Davies** for being the committee secretary, one of the roll up organisers and scorers and accepting the nomination to be Vice Captain 2021.

**Phil Chaundy**, for helping with the roll up organization.

**David Scott** for helping with the management of the trophies and for his contribution to the updating of the constitution and the rules for the Seniors Club Championships.

**Martin Wilkinson** for being the Treasurer!

**Dave Drew**, for his help with roll up management, for organising the charity day and keeping me on my toes!

**Bob Clarke**, as past Captain for all the help and advice he has given me during this year.

**Hans Menzel**, for his quiet but assuring support.

Finally last but very much not least, my huge thanks to **Stephen Capaldi** our Vice Captain who has unfailingly offered me his support, throughout the year in particular for his work on the Constitution, the Seniors Club Championships rules and organizing our matches for 2021. I am very grateful.

And so to 2021, knowing that Stephen will be a great Captain, I wish him well and also wish you all a much better golfing year to enjoy!

Thank you to you all for your support throughout.

**Stephen Painter**  
**Seniors Captain 2020**