

COVID19 WILL NOT STOP US - 150 JOIN CLUB



EVENTS were organised; a special logo designed and clothing and golf gear with the new motif ordered. 2020 was meant to be the year the Club celebrated its 125th anniversary. Unfortunately, this year will now be remembered for Covid19. Sadly, some members contracted the virus but luckily, so far, the outcomes are positive.

Let's remember the good things that have happened this year. When golf was allowed on May 13th, the course was in prime condition. Despite only half the manpower, the green staff managed to keep on top of the necessary work. With no one playing for seven weeks and good weather prevailing, the conditions for golf, when the course was opened, were perfect. Despite a dry summer, the course is still attracting good comments and we have been able to employ all the long-serving green staff. Many members volunteered to do a range of jobs. The numerous flower beds around the course have never looked so tidy. Over 150 new playing members joined the club. Out of those I have spoken with, all commented on the friendliness of members and the good condition of the course. I hope that they will re-join next year. If all Covid19 restrictions are removed - probably wishful thinking - we plan to hold drinks evenings for new members early next year.

Replacing the hut has not caused any inconvenience, as Covid19 restrictions meant it had to remain closed. Again, thanks to volunteers, the amount raised by members will be sufficient to fully furnish the refreshment area and landscape the outside areas. There have been delays in completing the work, but hopefully all will be done in the next month. Government aid has helped with the club's finances. Not having to pay the £60,000 rates bill was a big help as was the 'Eat Out to Help Out' scheme and reduction of VAT on food and soft drinks. The weather during spring and summer was memorably good and members were able to enjoy being outdoors. Work has started on improvements to the practise ground. This expense has been justified by the £10,000 grant from England Golf, a matching amount from the Board and use of the Government's bounce-backloan if necessary.

Covid19 statement and future developments

SINCE the outbreak of Covid19 and the subsequent restrictions imposed on the Club by Government legislation and directives the Board of Bush Hill Park Golf Club 1895 Ltd have met regularly to manage the Club.

The focus of discussion has been to manage the finance and cash-flow of the Club and to ensure we have a future after the Covid19 period of uncertainty.

As a member's club, subscriptions are the key to our future but the main concern during this period comes from the significant reduction of income from bar, catering and entertaining the loss of which has severely curtailed the services the Club has been able to offer members.

The Board have taken measures to utilise all relevant, available Government assistance to help with the current restrictions. However, the Club has strived to maintain the maximum resources deemed practical to preserve the condition of the golf course, so we can take immediate advantage of the facility and return to normality in the shortest time in the future.

To help the long-term viability of the Club the decision has been taken to proceed with the development of the practice ground with five new driving bays, an additional putting green and a three-hole short game area. This will be financed initially in part by a grant plus a contribution from the bounce-back loan.

The Board considers that at this time we have sufficient cash reserves to cover our costs in 2020/21 and with continued support of the members we are well placed to manage the current crisis and continue in business in the future.

There has been a problem reconciling the corporation tax our auditors have calculated. As soon as the accounts for Bush Hill Park Golf Club are audited you will be emailed a copy.

The improvements will provide sufficient practise areas to cater for all the women affiliate members, the beginners and, of course, all members. This winter will be difficult and I hope members will continue to

support this great club of ours. Let's hope the weather is kind and we have lots of dry days. Most importantly, I hope we all stay healthy.

PLAY SAFE, STAY SAFE

BILLIE NEWLAND

Course and clubhouse closed again

THE Government has imposed another lock-down and under the restrictions golf courses must be closed. Many members have signed the petition requesting golf courses be exempt from the list of venues required to close. England Golf and an All-Part Parliamentary Group for Golf challenged the government's reasons for the closure because people are being encouraged to take exercise and golf is a sport where social distancing is not a problem.

They have now conceded that there is no more that can be done to persuade the Government to alter its position to allow golf to continue during the lockdown and the Government position remains.

As a result, the course and clubhouse closed on Thursday 5th November but thankfully the furlough scheme will enable us to pay all the staff who cannot work because of lock-down.

The Prime Minister has said this lock-down will last until 3rd December. If the course does open before then, members must go home immediately after play. Dates for the Christmas celebrations are in the diary. If members book it must be on the understanding that Covid19 restrictions may force events to be cancelled.

Our Captains for 2020/2021



Iain Lanario

'Hello - I'm Iain'

As the new Club Captain I have been overwhelmed by the support and encouragement I have received from so many people. The choice to have Ted Rees as Vice Captain and Jon Copley as President, has already proved that both were exactly the right person for the job. I would like to thank them both for all their continued support thus far. Also, with the now past-Captain, Graham Evans experience and wisdom to call upon, I feel confident in my task ahead.

As Captain of Bush Hill Park Golf Club for 2020/21 it is going to be a very different experience from what I thought it would be just 12 months ago.

Real positives

Our out-going Captain Graham Evans had to deal with one of the wettest winters in many years, with course closures followed by the global pandemic, which at the time of writing is trying to make its return as the second wave gathers a head of steam. Amongst the chaos and disorder the pandemic has brought, there are some very real positives for our great club. Not least, membership numbers have

significantly increased since we have returned from lockdown. Many of those new members have joined because they find themselves with more time on their hands because their working situation has changed and I am aware that there are a number who are playing more golf as other sports are not yet able to take place.

I believe it is a key role of the Captain to try to engage with as many new members as possible over the coming months to help them to fully enjoy the experience of being a member of our club. Once they start to be involved in the competition side of golf and get to know more people around the club, and participate in the social side, I feel it will be a far better experience than what they had originally signed up for. This is where we all have a part to play in being welcoming to others and helpful where possible.

Members responding

As I look at our office and front of house team, it is quite amazing how well they can adapt. The rules regarding eating out, moving around the clubhouse, table sizes, waiting on tables, app ordering, mask wearing etc seem to change every couple of weeks and yet we are still able to enjoy so much the Club has to offer. It is not ideal but everyone involved is doing their best to make this work and the membership seems to be responding well, making adjustments as and when required.

We as a Club are trying to put on as many of the social events as possible, but we have to be aware that any event could be very different from what we are used to as the Covid19 rules change so fluidly.

Recently we have received a grant from England Golf and together with Club investment, the practice

facilities next to the first tee are being completely overhauled. Five covered hitting bays into seven metre driving nets with a chipping and pitching green beyond will really enhance the members experience and add to the club's existing portfolio of great facilities and will hopefully be fully open by Summer 2021.

So as I look ahead, what would I like to see ?

The Club to continue to flourish; for people to stay safe; for the membership to continue to grow, and where once again we have a waiting list.

With social distancing being the mantra of today, perhaps ours should be...

STANDING APART YET PULLING TOGETHER.

Happy golfing - stay safe

IAIN



Lesley Avent

'Hello - from Lesley'

WHEN I was first asked if I would fill in for the year as Women's Captain, I had to think for a while if this was what was best for the women's section. I'm still not sure if there wasn't someone else who could hold the reins for a year, but I am confident

that this committee of ours we can guide us through these unusual times.

The year ahead will no doubt present us all with new challenges and we will need to adapt from month to month. I am pleased to say that the women at Bush Hill Park are always willing to find a way to meet new situations. We are a 'can do' section.

Nicola working hard

In the coming months we are going to be working alongside Nicola in her drive to get more women playing golf. Our ultimate goal is to convince our affiliate women to join the main section. Nicola has worked extremely hard and has a large group of enthusiastic women. The structure of the affiliate programme is under review and I can say that it is all looking very positive.

We also need to attract more women who want to play at the weekend.

Fantastic charity

My charity for the year is Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. It truly is an amazing place, dealing with the real tragedy of terminally ill children. Despite the nature of its work, it is still a very happy and inspiring haven. I'd like to urge all of us to look beyond our immediate environment and find the compassion to help such a fantastic charity.

Hopefully, we will all be able to enjoy the calendar of events that we usually have. I will put in place an Away Day and an Overnighter, but currently this remains a fluid plan. Our diary is near completion and at this stage Pearson matches and five-a-side matches, along with friendly matches are all fixed. It just remains for me to wish everyone at Bush Hill Park Golf Club a healthy year ahead - and look after each other.

LESLEY



John Stradling

Rangers compete for the Memorial Cup Satisfaction for Martin Dunnett

ON Monday 26th October members of the Rangers team competed for the Memorial Cup (formerly the John Wilkins trophy) a stableford competition played from the yellow tees on full handicap.

Last year's winner, Jim Craggs put up a stout defence scoring a magnificent 22 points on the back nine but all in vain as his final score of 36 could not beat our new

champion, Martin Dunnett who came in with a very impressive 40 points beating Graham Edwards by two points. Martin came second to Jim last year so it must be with some satisfaction that he was able to go one better this time.

Looking forward

We look forward to playing the 2021 fixtures against the senior teams from other local golf clubs

and I invite all Bush Hill Park members who are over 55 to come along to our pre-season get-together on March 22nd next year. The Rangers play home and away matches against Aldenham, Arkley, Brookmans Park, Brickendon Grange, Chigwell, Crews Hill, Enfield, Finchley, Hadley Wood, North Middlesex, Old Fold Manor and West Essex.

JOHN STRADLING

Bush Hill Park Golf Club 1895 Limited AGM Thursday 1st October 2020

THE Club Captains and Directors have been duly appointed even though this year's AGM was held at a distance. We are still in need of a Treasurer so why not step into the counting house?

Election of Director (Marketing and Membership)

Following the on-line voting Nick Balnave received 57 votes, Mark Stevens' 48 votes for the position of Director (Membership and Marketing) and Nick Balnave is duly elected.

Election of Chairman

Billie Newland stood to be re-elected as Chairman and there being no other nominations, Billie Newland was duly elected.

Election of Treasurer

There being no nominations for the position of Treasurer there will be a casual vacancy and the Board are seeking to fill this role.

Men's Captain

Iain Lanario was nominated for the position of Men's Captain (proposed by Graham Evans and seconded by Ted Rees). There being no other nominations Iain Lanario was duly elected.

Women's Captain

Lesley Avent was nominated for the position of Women's Captain (proposed by Sue Evans and seconded by Rita Kapur). There being no other nominations Lesley Avent was duly elected.

Men's Vice-Captain

Ted Rees was nominated for the position of Men's Vice-Captain

(proposed by Iain Lanario and seconded by Graham Evans). There being no other nominations Ted Rees was duly elected.

Women's Vice-Captain

Sarah Rees was nominated for the position of Women's Vice-Captain (proposed by Hazel Goodyear and seconded by Lesley Avent). There being no other nominations Sarah Rees was duly elected.

Club Captain

As per the rules, 'The Club Captain will be either the Men's or Women's Captain and if both wish to offer themselves for the position a vote will be taken'. Only Iain Lanario wished to stand for the Club Captain at this year's AGM, and therefore, he was duly elected.

Election of Directors (Course, In-House and Property)

Mark Watts (Course), Ray Ripsher (In-House) and John Bottoms (Property) were nominated for re-election for the three vacant Director positions and there being no other nominations they were duly elected.

Appointment of Auditors

The Club's auditors also are appointed at the AGM and the proposal is to re-appoint Hillier Hopkins, the current Club auditors, at the forthcoming AGM. Following the online voting 93 members voted in favour to appoint Hillier Hopkins, one voted against and 13 members abstained therefore Hillier Hopkins were appointed as auditors.



Our past Captains bid 'Au Revoir'

It's au revoir from Graham

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. That's how my year as Captain looks on reflection. It started quietly enough in October 2019 with the AGM as I was elected Captain and looking forward to our 125th year anniversary, with lots of exciting projects in mind. On the Sunday was the Captains' Driver, a bogey competition which was won by Michael Stainton and Jon Copley. Next was the drive-in and I managed a moderate 206 yds but at least it was straight! This was followed by a lovely meal in the restaurant attended by many family and friends. On the 14th October Sue and I got married and went on honeymoon for three weeks in Tenerife. On our return we got into full Captains' mode as we were joint Captains. With the help of Stewart Judd, Jon Copley and Peter Smith, we managed to get a printed handbook funded and distributed, little did we know what was in store for us in the months ahead. Socially the club was functioning well. We were having a club night every Friday thanks to the influx of a large number social members, and a theme-night during the week.

The Christmas parties were a great success, as was New Years Eve. Unfortunately golf-wise we began to suffer. In January and February if it wasn't raining it was cold and windy and this continued until the middle of March. And we all know what happened next! On the 23rd March all golf clubs were closed until the 13 May due to Covid19 and we weren't allowed into the clubhouse until 4 July but without our own caterers. This enforced lockdown really impacted on our 125th anniversary celebrations which had to be postponed until later in the year and was finally held in August, encompassing the Charity Am-Am, Captain's Day, Lady Captain's Day and the Middlesex Mixed Open -

culminating in the Gents Invitation to the Ladies.

We are not out of the woods yet with Covid19, but as Boris says 'keep calm and carry on'. In conclusion I would like to thank all the members that have supported me throughout the year and raised a lot of money for my Charity The British Heart Foundation. Also to Danny, who played 125 holes in one day to raise money for my Charity. Thanks also to the 36 who came on my away day.

I wish Iain Lanario every success in his year and hope it is less stressful than mine!

GRAHAM

... and au revoir from Sue

MY year started on a high with the team of Sue Coates, Lucy Bidmead and Sharon Saunders winning the Lorna Peters Trophy at Highgate! The following week was my drive-in and it was nice to have so many of my family there to support me (including my Dad) something not many people of my age have the luxury of. On the 14 October after 32 years, Graham and I threw caution to the wind and got married, I know we rushed into it a bit but nothing ventured nothing gained! So all-in-all the omens were good. We plunged headlong into the Christmas and New Year festivities and then went on holiday again. Then disaster struck, or Covid19 to give it its correct name! Along with vast swathes of the world, lockdown ensued. Eventually we were allowed to reopen and then we had a mad rush trying to fit in all the golf events. I think we managed most of our main competitions and life took on a semblance of normality.

To say 'it was a year I won't forget' is the understatement of the year. I wish Lesley Avent a good year, I hope it's less problematic than the last year, although I don't think we've heard the last of the Covid19.

SUE

More women? Yes, of course!

WE have signed up to the England Golf's Women in Golf Charter, you'll see copies of it posted in the Club. What this means is that we are aiming to have more women, girls and families either playing or working in our Club. To achieve this we're developing a number of initiatives and using the expertise of our Pro Team, Danny and Nicola, and Lesley, our Women's Captain, to pull together a plan and measures. These include:

- a membership pathway for women and girls, including roll up sessions for complete beginners and a structured two-year Affiliate Programme leading to club membership;

- a schools' campaign to increase the number of Juniors, both boys and girls;
- encouraging women to become more involved in the running and decision making in the Club;
- and, reviewing our website to make sure that it's up to date, current and promotes a culture of inclusion.

These are just a few of the actions that we'll be doing. Assisting with them are Rita Kapur who will be helping the Affiliates and for the Juniors, Lucy Bidmead. Sue Agapiou will be our Charter Champion, reporting to the Management Committee and to England Golf on our Charter successes.

General Manager's Report

We are bouncing back ... but challenges are ahead

OUR bounce-back following the lockdown in March has continued but there are clearly ongoing challenges ahead for the Club as we start to re-grow and re-establish. The membership growth has been very positive, and our new members have embraced the club's culture and have been taking full advantage of the active competitions calendar and our 'scaled back' social scene.

In 2020 we have recruited over 160 new golfing members and 50 new social members, with the majority joining post lockdown. Many of these new members have joined in a younger age profile, which had previously been an issue for the club and in the past five months our playing members' average age has reduced by almost ten years, with the average age now at 55.

We have had to make some tough decisions to keep costs to a minimum and this is having an impact on the office and administrative resources, which we hope is not having too much impact on our service for our members. We have now recruited Michelle Hawkins as our new office manager, and this will certainly help us to get our heads back above water.

England Golf Grant

Coming out of the lockdown situation, the R&A provided a £2.5M grant to England Golf to assist golf club's regenerate, with clubs were invited to apply for some of this money. A maximum £10K grant was available for clubs who could best justify the need for the funding, with a large part of the criteria being about growing the game.

Our application was focussed on our women's affiliate programme and providing improved practice facilities to bring newcomers to golf and also provide improved practice facilities for our growing membership.

775 clubs applied with a total application value of over £7.2M, so clearly with only £2.5M available



the competition was high. Having invested considerable time and effort to submit a strong application, I was disappointed to receive an email stating that we were unsuccessful. However just two minutes after the first email, I received another stating that this was an error and that we had been awarded the full £10,000 grant. This grant will be supported with further investment from the club, utilising a bounce back loan that we secured during the lockdown period. Detail of the works is outlined in Graham and Mark's articles and works have now started.

Social (distancing)

Our decision to re-open the kitchen and bring Roy back was very well supported by our members and since the kitchen opened our drink sales have also seen positive growth. We have been trying to provide as much of a social offering as possible within the restrictions and members have generally felt that our large terrace and spacious clubhouse have provided a safe environment in this 'new norm'.

The club was touched by the virus for the first time (to my knowledge) last month and some members contracted the virus. Having also been in close contact with some of those infected, I also needed to self-isolate, although I had no symptoms. Danny subsequently also tested positive and Nicola and Toby were also forced to self-isolate, closing the shop for a few days. There were varying levels of symptoms but thankfully most were mild and are now back in full circulation and

others are well on the way to recovery.

Second Tier

As we moved into the tier 2 restrictions, we were working very hard to continue to be able to deliver our food and drink service and hopefully the additional restrictions will not last too long. The tier 2 restrictions placed significant pressure on food and drink side of the business and, with no additional Government support in tier 2, we asked for your continued support to help retain staff and keep these services available for our members.

A surprise (fourth) tier

On Saturday 31st October, a new tier 4 was announced or to be more accurate 'leaked', which effectively meant a new national lockdown, forcing all non-essential businesses to close until at least Wednesday 2nd December. A petition signed by over 250,000 was submitted together with an All-Party Parliamentary Group for Golf writing to the Prime Minister asking for golf courses to be exempt from the lockdown, highlighting the health benefits and ability to social distancing. Unfortunately, these attempts were unsuccessful, and we were forced to close the course and

clubhouse on Thursday 5th November.

2020 Celebrations

2020 was expected to be remembered for our 125th Anniversary celebrations but sadly COVID-19 put paid to most of that! However, there is still much that we can celebrate as a club. The club spirit has been amazing pre, during and post lockdown with countless examples of support for the club and for staff & members. We have responded and adapted on an almost daily basis to keep the club's activities going within an ever-changing set of guidelines. The club's competition calendar has taken place almost in full, with very few cancelled events, despite losing almost three months of the playing calendar. All honours boards will have been contested and in 2020 although we are unable to hold our annual prize giving at present. With reduced resources we have relied on many volunteers who have invested their own personal time to support the club and we are very grateful to you all. Hopefully, the winter will be mild and dry and that the current restrictions are short-lived so that we can continue to enjoy the course, the clubhouse facilities and reconsider our plans for some form of Christmas and New Year celebrations!

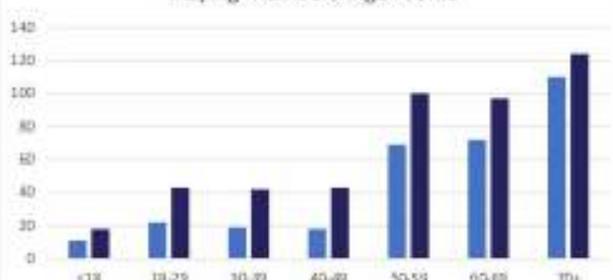
Best wishes

STEWART JUDD,
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Playing Members' Age Profile



The course



WORK has now started to create a new practice green and works will be ongoing throughout the winter concluding, and opening for play in June 2021.

Objectives

To create a practice green/warm up area located at the top of the practice ground adjacent to the 1st tee.

The green combined with the development of new practice bays will modernise our facility, and improve first impressions.

The green will be constructed as a two tier elevated green approximately 230 square metres in area, with an undulating finished surface.

Drainage and irrigation to be installed and linked to our existing system to allow automatic watering.

The green surface will consist of Annual Meadow and Bent grass species, which would replicate our native greens on the golf course.

Schedule 2020

September/ October: Subsoil brought to site and basic shape and levels established
November/ December: Drainage installed

Schedule 2021

January: Root zone applied and landscaped to agreed levels.
February: Irrigation installed by "Irrigation and Water".
February: Turf collar and surrounds.
March: Hollow core greens as part of our greens maintenance programme. Cores brought to site and levelled.
March – June Growing-in period.
June 2021 – Open for play.

General Course Maintenance

Greens

As growth slows and greens get softer so heights of cuts are raised to avoid scalping and stress to the turf. We have now raised the

height of cut to 4mm, further increase in height and frequency of cuts will be managed throughout the winter.

Greens maintenance week was completed earlier in the month, including aeration in the form of verti-draining followed by heavy sand dressing to fill the holes. This work is disruptive to the surfaces but vital to improve drainage, root development and reducing organic matter.

Tees

Tees cut once a week at a cutting height of 12mm.

This autumn the tees will be aerated, over-seeded and an autumn fertiliser applied. This work will secure that the tees are in good health during the winter months.

Fairways

The fairways have suffered again this year due to the hot dry conditions in August and September.

The lack of natural rainfall on non-irrigated heavy clay soils bakes the surfaces, causing die-back of the grass sward.

Natural repair to affected areas will occur during October, but we plan to assist this process by verti-draining all fairways to reduce compaction and help remove excess moisture.

Woodland management

The large Oak tree adjacent to the main drive is now, sadly, in decline and many large limbs are now visibly dead. There is a potential risk that these limbs could fall on cars, so we plan to hire a cherry-picker and make the tree safe by removing the dead areas.

The cherry-picker will also be used in reducing trees in front of the 17th tee where branches from many large trees are encroaching the view to the fairway.

The golf course has been very busy this summer with the influx of new members, increased number of green fees and the return of golf societies.

This does create a lot of wear and tear to the course, and makes the green staffs' work that much harder, in maintaining the course during busy periods.

Your cooperation would be appreciated if the 7.30am start time is observed to allow the green staff space to prepare the course in front of the members. This allows us to complete the course set-up quickly and efficiently without disrupting play. Thank you

GRAHAM CAREFORD



THE steady increase of new members is certainly a positive sign for the club, but with more junior and beginner coaching taking place, it highlights that we have to utilise our space for practising more efficiently. In recent club surveys our practise facilities have always received a low score, which shows there is an appetite among members for improvement.

The driving range has become problematic: it's unsafe to hit and pick up your own balls, range balls cannot be used unless we invest in an expensive ball washer to sanitise the balls, the nets after many repairs were taken down because they became dangerous. We have successfully applied for a grant from England Golf and coupled with our own investment intend to improve our practise facilities.

The range and net structure will be taken down and a five-bay, fully

netted hitting cage erected, with a cover supplied by the company Rangebay.

We are currently applying for planning permission and work will start as soon as it is received. Our greens' staff have already started constructing a large chipping/putting green and Graham our head greenkeeper will give more detail here, this will allow us to return the putting green at the front of the clubhouse to 'putting only', and group lessons can use the short game area behind the 1st tee when the course is busy.

After being furloughed, I am pleased to welcome back Neil, which takes our greens staff back to five, and I also congratulate them all on keeping the course in good condition when we were going through tough times. Graham is now looking to take on an apprentice to get us back up to six greens staff.

We are in the process of finalising our planned winter projects, which will include extending the 17th pond halfway up the left side of the green, which will enable us to use the spoil to bring the back tee on the 18th forward.

The back tee on the 18th is not often in play because it is small in size and growth is poor, extending it forward will encourage growth and give a larger area to play from. Enjoy the course.

MARK WATTS



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How does the World Handicap System work?

FOR golfers in England, calculating a new Handicap Index will be front of mind when adopting the WHS (World Handicap System). The process will begin in the same way throughout the world – by accurately measuring a player's golfing ability.

From this they will be provided an initial Handicap Index. After a player has achieved 20 scores, a 'fully developed' Handicap Index can be calculated to provide the most accurate representation of a player's ability.

To ensure a player has only one Handicap Index, the golfer will nominate a home club. The home club is determined by the player, but for practicality it is recommended this is where the player typically submits the most of their scores.

Understanding how course rating works

Golf Course Rating will be used to measure the playing difficulty of a golf course. It measures how many strokes a Scratch Golfer (a player who can play to a Course Handicap of zero on all rated golf courses) should take on any given course.

The rating does this by assessing two main types of challenges which, when combined, result in a common base from which to compare players' abilities:

- The playing length of the course
- The obstacles that a player will encounter (e.g. size of green and hazards)

Understanding how Slope Rating works

Slope Rating is the number which indicates the relative playing difficulty of a course for Bogey Golfers, compared to Scratch

Golfers. It is the difficulty comparison between a Bogey Golfer and a Scratch Golfer from the same set of tees.

The use of Slope allows a player's Handicap Index to be portable from course to course and country to country.

The Slope Rating is a key component in calculating the number of strokes each player receives to play a particular golf course. The higher the Slope Rating, the more additional strokes a Bogey Golfer will need to be able to play it.

Understanding your Handicap Index

Golfers will consider the Handicap Index to be the most important element of the WHS.

The Handicap Index will

- Measure the ability of a player
- Be portable from course to course
- Allow players to compete fairly and therefore promote inclusivity within the game

A Handicap Index is calculated from the best eight scores from the last 20 rounds.

A Soft Cap and Hard Cap will be implemented to limit any extreme movement of a player's Handicap Index within a 365-day period.

The Soft Cap will suppress movement by 50% after a 3.0 stroke increase over a player's Low Handicap Index. The Hard Cap will restrict upward movement on 5.0 strokes over the Low Handicap Index.

Restricting the extreme upward movement of a Handicap Index will ensure that a player's temporary loss of form does not cause the Handicap Index to move too far away from their actual ability.

How to work out a Course Handicap?

THE Course Handicap calculation is:

Handicap Index x (Slope Rating / 113) = Course Handicap.

But don't let this calculation concern you because working out a Course Handicap has been made simple.

England Golf has provided Course and Slope Rating tables to all clubs ahead of the new System launching in November. These Tables will be positioned in conspicuous locations around the

club to make them easy to find prior to beginning a round of golf. Golfers will simply have to choose the tees they are playing off that day, and cross reference their Handicap Index on the Course & Slope Rating table to ascertain their Course Handicap. It really is as simple as that - they're then ready to get out on the course and play!

The above information provides a simple introduction to what Course Handicap is and how it is calculated. However, please refer to the first page of resources from the Course Handicap section within the WHS toolkit and its accompanying timeline. We will be

positioning all relevant posters around the clubhouse for members to understand the concept.

Temporary (Winter) local rules

Until Further Notice Preferred Lies Rule (14.2)

When a player's ball lies in a part of the general area cut to fairway height or less, the player may take free relief once by placing the original ball or another

ball in and playing it from this relief area:

Reference Point: Spot of the original ball.

Size of Relief Area Measured from Reference Point: six inches from the reference point, but with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area: Must not be nearer the hole than the reference point, and must be in the general area.

In proceeding under this Local Rule, the player must choose a spot to place the ball and use the procedures for replacing a ball under Rules 14.2b(2) and 14.2e.

THE CAPTAIN'S COMMITTEE.

OCTOBER 2020



A History of Bush Hill Park Golf Club



David Dickinson has compiled this book from individual articles appearing in the Bush Telegraph regularly over recent years.

David said 'he was enthused to investigate and gained access to the vault, a claustrophobic cell situated in the men's locker room; the vault is protected by a heavy iron door, some six or seven inches thick and would not look out of place guarding the crown jewels. Inside I discovered a treasure trove of documents, books, trophies and pictures, and I have to admit to spending many happy hours sifting through this wealth of information. Eventually I found a number of dusty old minute books dating from 1908. Now I was hooked and so began the research that has occupied countless hours over the past six years.'

Copies are available from the office or bar staff at a small cost of just £5 with the money going to our Club's charities.



Bush Nationals play for three cups in one round

AS the Bush Nationals had not played any of their three cups during 2020 the decision was taken that on Tuesday 15 September they would play for all three on the same day. The format was the first six holes for the Navy Cup, the second six holes for the Army Cup and the final six holes for the RAF Cup.

Thirteen members played, resulting in the winner of the Navy Cup, Derek Collins; the Army Cup, Tony Thorley; the RAF Cup, Alan Sipton. A very pleasant lunch was held after the event and we thank Roy and Sonia for a tasty meal and impeccable service.

Sadly, due to Covid19 rules and regulations we have had to cancel our 2020 Annual Luncheon due to be held on 6 November.

Our Captain for 2021 will be Bryan Waterman, pictured here in his pre-National Service days. The President will be Bob Manchee and Philip Cobden takes over as Treasurer from Dave Turner. We thank Dave



for his work over recent years in keeping our finances in order and wish him well. Peter Smith remains as Secretary.

We have arranged a full fixture list for 2021 which will be our 34th season, let us hope that we can complete it with more success than 2020.



Old soldiers, sailors and airmen relax in the mess



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Our Club Captain and our Women's Captain drive-in



Iain Lanario, Club Captain, driving-in in style 268 yards down the middle (Iain will tell you it was into a gale force wind as well).



Lesley Avent, The Women's Captain, with a tail-wind and a run down-hill, she was stunned that somehow the ball went around 240 yards. Almost as far as the Club Captain!

Professional

Putt For Dough

Three areas to check

In this issue we will be looking at putter fittings, and the importance of having your putter adjusted to you. Over the past few months I have put in a vast amount of time and effort into putting, and more precisely putter fitting. This single club will be used around 36 times in every round, and yet it is the most under practiced and under developed area. Over the past few weeks I've carried out several putter fittings - most of these fittings have resulted in a change to pre shot routines, or a change in address position. However all of the fittings have resulted in a change to the length, loft or lie of the putter they are using. The effects of each area can dramatically alter the ball start line, and as a result change the ball speed and consistency. This time it may be the equipment and not just you!

Areas to look at

During a putter fitting we will assess three main areas;

- Alignment
- Start line
- Speed control

There are many others areas that we will look at, but these three will help you to hole more putts. During our assessment on alignment I would look at your ability to align the ball to your target, and your putter to the ball. This may seem like a simple task, but how often do you setup to the ball and say to yourself 'that line is wrong' or 'it's a little more or less than that'?

Next we look at your putter set up (lie angle and loft) - we're looking for the putter to match your setup position, not the other way round. This will affect your start line and alignment of strike which will directly change your distance control.

Once these two sections have been corrected we can look at the stroke and determine if the putter style is correct for your stroke. This is the final part of my assessment and will be followed by ways to practice, and how to best improve your putting.

Putter fittings take between 30 and 60 minutes, and are charged at £35 per fitting. We can test multiple putters if you have them, or we can fit you for a new putter to suit your stroke. If you would like any more information or to book a putter fitting, please contact the Professional Team.

DANNY HILL

Membership and Marketing

150 new playing members makes 480

THE past nine months have been an eventful time for all of us, and for the membership at Bush Hill Park it certainly has been a memorable one. We have welcomed 150 new playing members and 50 new Social members to the club this year. Of those 150 playing members, 67 were full playing members, 58 were lifestyle, 10 were Juniors and 15 were Affiliates. We understand that with the impact of Covid19, people have had more time to play golf and moving forward, we hope that those members who have joined this year will have the time to continue with their membership in the future. I would like to thank

Stewart and Judith for their efficient management of the new member enquiries, and to Nicola for all the work she has undertaken in coaching the Juniors and our Women affiliates. The club has a commitment to increase the number of women playing members, and the affiliate programme has proved to be a very successful route to encouraging women into golf. We now have 480 golfing members and we are nearing capacity on Saturdays. Despite these financially difficult times when our social programme is seriously curtailed, the club is committed to continue with its

improvements to the facilities offered to the membership. The development of the practise area will provide the members with a number of improved facilities. Five fully enclosed nets that are seven metres long enabling you to see the flight of your ball.

A new chipping and putting green with undulations. Eventually the area beyond the chipping and putting green will be turned into a short hole practise area incorporating the existing practise green. This will be a benefit for all members and will provide much needed additional practise facilities for our PGA professional coaches.

As always we are keen to improve our offering to the membership and if you have any ideas as to how this can be done, please contact Stewart or myself.

NICK BALNAVE, MARKETING AND MEMBERSHIP

2019/2020 Women's Trophy winners

LADIES CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Scratch
Jessica Brown

LADIES CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Handicap
Jessica Brown

SILVER SCRATCH

Lesley Avent
Runner-up: Lucy Bidmead

BRONZE SCRATCH

Lisa Martin
Runner-up: Tracey Ripsher

COPPER SCRATCH

Rita Kapur
Runner-up: Angela Balnave

SPRING CUP

Saskia Owen
Runner-up: Umar Annaradnam

CHINCHILLA CUP

Alison Towndrow
Runner-up: Sharon Saunders

JOHN SHAW BOWL

Roisin Margey

GRACE LAWRENCE CUP

Lucy Bidmead

WRIGHT CUP

Sarah Carver

ANGORA CUP

Chris Robertson

CASHMERE CUP

Angela Balnave

KAY STEELE TROPHY

Dawn Rose

BUSHGARDERS CUP

Dawn Rose

IRIS SUMNER 4BBB

Lesley Avent and Sharon Saunders

VICTORY CUP

Lisa Martin

CENTENARY SALVER

Roisin Margey

LISNEY TROPHY

Valerie Weaver

AUTUMN CUP

Rita Kapur

FOURSOMES SALVER

Umar Annaradnam and Sue Collins

BISQUE SALVER

Alison Towndrow
Runner-up: Lisa Martin

VETERANS CUP

Alison Towndrow
Runner-up: Di Williams

GEORGE LOW '32' CUP

Lisa Martin and Chris Robertson

GRANDMOTHERS CUP

Sarah Carver

SENIOR GRANDMOTHERS CUP

Pauline Platt

PAST AND PRESENT WOMEN CAPTAINS TROPHY

Sarah Carver

RAFFERTY CUP

Roisin Margey

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE CUP

Jenny Pizey

BUSINESS WOMEN CUP

Lucy Bidmead

FLAG

Lucy Bidmead

Middlesex Under 16's

THREE of our club juniors represented the Club in the 2020 Middlesex U16 Championship at Highgate Golf Club on Friday 30th October. The winner of the competition was Pranay Patel (24) of Pinner Hill Golf Club with a net 64. With a field of 48 for Bush Hill Park Saskia Owen (9) came fourth with a net 69. Jessica Brown (6) came 13th with a net 74 and Jack Bidmead (16) was 19th with a net 75. Creditable performances by our three juniors.



Saskia in action



Jessica in action.



Jack in action

Men's results

Details of the men's results will be published in the next issue of Bush Telegraph, hopefully early in the New Year.

200 Club - a volunteer needed

THE 200 Club provides funds for special projects. The club paid for the transference of trees from around the course to the area between the 9th and 10th fairways. This year's money is paying for landscaping by the new hut. Prize draws are done quarterly. A reminder to 200 club members, it's not too late to enter

the Andy Calley competition. Just inform the pro shop before you play that you want to enter and hand in your card at the end of your round. 1st and 2nd prizes go to the man and woman with the best stableford points. The club is limited to 200 members each paying £30 each year. Currently there are a few places available.

John Worroll ran the club for many years but has now retired so we need to find another willing person to take over the job. If you would like to volunteer please contact Stewart. To help the club, you can become a member for this year and a chance to win £500 in the next 2 draws by paying £20 – again see Stewart.

Bush Hill Park Golf Club 1985 Limited



John Copley
President



2020/2021 Board of Directors



Iain Lanario
Club Captain



Billie Newland
Chairman



Lesley Avent
Women's Captain



Nick Balnave
Marketing and
Membership



Ray Ripsher
Vice-Chairman



John Bottoms
Fabric



Mark Watts
Greens



Ted Rees
Vice Captain



Stewart Judd
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Sarah Rees
Women's Vice Captain