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REMINDER - OPEN FORUM TO DISCUSS MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGES

We informed Members earlier this year about our intention to review our Membership categories to help both retain existing Members and Recruit new ones. Some specific issues include:

- How to increase the number of women Members
- How to address "seniors" definitions and subscriptions having regard to changing demographics and eligibility for competitions.
- How to ensure "Honorary" membership status is fair and meaningful.

To help us consider these and other issues we are holding an open forum on Friday 28th April at 2.00pm in the club house. If you are interested please join us. If you are unable to get there but have views you would like us to consider please send them to the Secretary via email or letter prior to this date.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Full: 329 Full OAP: 163 Aged 19: 3 Aged 20: 1 Aged 21: 3
Aged 22-25: 20 Aged 26-28: 5 Country: 3 Hon Life: 55 Life: 8
Student: 5 Under18: 7 Under16: 14 Under11: 34
Non Playing: 31 Non Playing OAP: 77 Total: 758
Playing member numbers are down by 39. New members are currently joining at a steady rate (2ish per week)

NEW MEMBERS INCENTIVE

Earn extra money. Members are the lifeblood of our Club and the Committee are always looking at ways to encourage new members.

You can now earn **up to £66.50** (10% of the membership fee excluding the £25 loyalty card payment) for every new member you propose.

The rules are:

- new member must be a member for a minimum of 12 mths.
- incentive reward will be added to your loyalty card on completion of the 12 month period.
- membership can start at any time

So, do you have someone in your family, or a friend, a work colleague who may be interested?

New membership forms are available in the Clubhouse.



ONLINE TEE BOOKING

388 members have registered, leaving 231 members who are still eligible to do the same.

These screen shots show some reports from the system.

The member with the most booked rounds has totalled 26 in this period.

The only issues that have been raised with us are whether a member should be able to book in up to 12 players and some people not informing the Pro (when he is there) that they are present and going out to play.

From the office point of view the system appears to be working smoothly, if you have any suggestions as to improvements please get in touch with the office.

Any members still needing help with registration or using the system please get in touch with the office.

Bishop Auckland Golf Club - Tee Time Usage by Time and Date

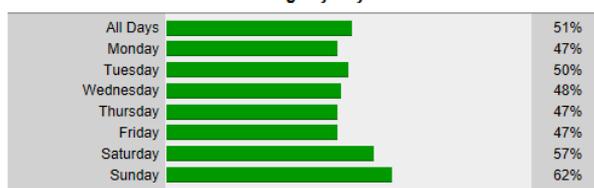
From: Wed 8 Mar 2017 To: Fri 21 Apr 2017

Reservation Types: All

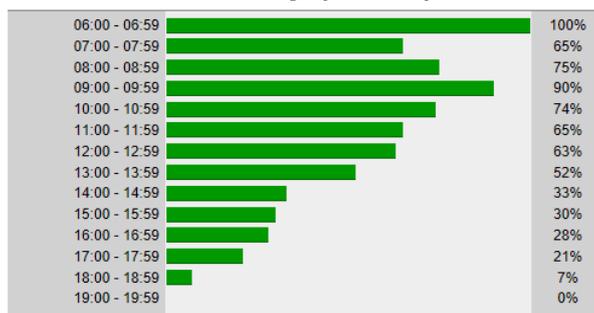
3204 tee times found, 1636 booked, 1568 free - All values are expressed as percentages.

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total
06:00 - 06:59	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	100
07:00 - 07:59	47	42	60	45	69	97	95	65
08:00 - 08:59	64	72	69	93	45	97	89	75
09:00 - 09:59	94	72	100	95	83	86	97	90
10:00 - 10:59	89	94	60	71	48	81	84	74
11:00 - 11:59	81	53	52	57	64	89	62	65
12:00 - 12:59	69	58	62	36	64	72	84	63
13:00 - 13:59	39	58	36	43	50	67	76	52
14:00 - 14:59	36	14	17	21	31	44	71	33
15:00 - 15:59	19	28	10	31	50	28	43	30
16:00 - 16:59	8	42	36	36	40	3	29	28
17:00 - 17:59	11	50	45	26	10	3	3	21
18:00 - 18:59	0	19	29	0	0	4	0	7
19:00 - 19:59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	47	50	48	47	47	57	62	51

Tee Time Usage by Day of Week



Tee Time Usage by Time of Day



Bishop Auckland Golf Club - Tee Time Usage by Reservation Type

From: Wed 8 Mar 2017 To: Fri 21 Apr 2017

3204 tee times found, 1636 booked, 1568 free.

Reservation Type	No. of Tee Times	Percent of Booked Times	Percent of All Times
Competition	294	18 %	9 %
Guest/Member	1	0 %	0 %
Member	1240	76 %	39 %
Reserved For Visitors	14	1 %	0 %
Society	12	1 %	0 %
Team	24	1 %	1 %
Visitor	51	3 %	2 %
Not Booked	1568	N / A	49 %
Total	3204		

Category	Balance	Payments	Deposit Request	Total	Services	Catering	Green Fees
O/S	£102.50	£1235.50	£0.00	£1338.00	£66.00	£0.00	£1272.00
Visitor	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Guest/Member	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Open Competition	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£12.00	£372.00	£850.00
Society	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Corporate	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£78.00	£372.00	£2122.00
TOTAL SELECTED RESERVATION TYPES	£102.50	£2469.50	£0.00	£2572.00	£78.00	£372.00	£2122.00



STROKE INDEXES

It was brought to the committee's attention about the stroke indexes and there have been numerous requests to change them. This was discussed and again the games committee suggested that a full review should be planned every 5 years due to tee furniture costs and additional score cards that would be required if these were to be changed. This must be a planned review, there is currently 2 years' worth of data and in 2020 a review should be planned and finances put in place to support any changes, e.g. tee furniture changes.

Any changes must be planned and the guide here shows what must be considered at the time of any changes.

<http://www.Englandgolf.org/page.aspx?sitesectionid=337>

NON QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS

England Golf is concerned about people playing away in non-qualifying competitions and winning prizes with inaccurate handicaps. They are therefore invoking clauses 4.5 and 8.12 of the Congu rules which require all players to report their scores from non-qualifying Society singles, 4BBB & team competitions played away from home.

They are also requesting that clubs running 4BBB & Team Opens return the top 5 scores from their events to the home clubs of these players. The Games committee has agreed to do this.

The results should be kept by the home club & if a person or persons keep coming near the top of the leader-board this indicates further investigation is required.

A form has been provided for players to report their away scores and there will be several copies placed on the Handicap notice-board. Information will be put on the web-site and in the next available newsletter.

CAPTAIN'S COURTESY ROUNDS

Each year a number of clubs in the area send the Captain a voucher for a courtesy 4ball.

Terry would like to offer these on a first come, first served basis to members at a cost of £40 to go towards his chosen charity. The vouchers will be offered in the newsletters over the coming months and are valid over the whole year. They are generally for weekdays only. More to follow when they become available.

Please request and pay at the Office.

Beamish Blackwell Grange Consett Crook
Dinsdale Spa George Washington Hobson
Houghton-Le-Spring Keswick
Roseberry Grange + a separate Footgolf voucher
Saltburn Tyneside



GREENS UPDATE

Welcome to our new head greenkeeper David Jobey who began his post on 27th March. On David's first day he began with the unenviable task of hollow tining the greens. This went well and we had several machines in on trial during this operation.

I am pleased to announce that the club have agreed to purchase the following items of greens machinery to assist in the on-going improvement program. Toro Pro Core, Counter Rotating Top Dressing Brush and Verti Slitter. This reflects a further £35,000 investment into the greens. Also following the kind donation of a member we are able to purchase Grooming Brushes to be fitted to our greens mower which will provide an improved cut.

We also welcome a new member to our team Joe Gibson, who is a replacement for Liam. We wish him well going forward.

On Tuesday 11th April we had the visit of Master Greenkeeper Gordon Irvine, who was very complementary about the condition of the course at this time of year.

“The course in general was in very good order for so early in the season. All works carried out have been to a very good standard with all essential maintenance works up to date. It is good to see a good level of presentation so early in the season. The good thing is this has not been to the expense of essential maintenance. Greens are in reasonably good order for this time of year. Quality of cut is high with a solid healthy turf cover.”

This is further evidence of all the good work that is being done by greenstaff over the last year benefitting the course. David Jobey is keen to improve further on this and with this in mind he is keen to meet members and explain what his plans are for the course and answer any questions members may have. We are holding a Meet the Head Greenkeeper meeting on Tuesday 2 May at 6.30 pm in the Small Lounge, everyone is welcome.

For members who use Facebook, David had set up a page called “Bishop Auckland Golf Club Greenkeepers” where he is updating what is happening on the course. Please follow his updates on Facebook or they are also being posted onto the Golf Club web site under Course and Head Greenkeeper.

Michael Grayson

Greens Chairman



HALFWAY HOUSE

We have been approached by a member requesting that they take over the running of the halfway house. Over the last couple of years other members have also expressed an interest. Having spoken to BMCC they do not have a problem with handing over the halfway house, they have offered their help to whoever takes it over.

We are now formally requesting expressions of interest from members who would like to take over the running of the halfway house. We would like to see this formalised ASAP.

Could expressions of interest be submitted to the office in writing by Monday 1 May. If there are any questions Andy Graham is available for a meeting at any reasonable time.

The following members are the latest **59 Club winners**:

25 March - C Coleman

1 April - J Sanderson

8 April - A Simpson

15 April - A Lomax

Courtesy 4 Balls on offer from the Lady Captain

Lady Captain, Marilyn Dexter has two courtesy 4 balls for sale for £30 each. These are at Heworth and Whitburn. The money raised will go towards the Lady Captain's Charity - the Butterwick Hospice. Please enquire at the office to purchase.



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