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CAPTAINS BLOG



Hello fellow members,

I want to start this months blog with a bit of back patting, since the last edition of our newsletter I have been privileged to play some local and more distant courses. As you do when a visitor at another course you compare it against your own course, and I must say our little gem stands shoulder to shoulder with, and in most cases far above them all. So I want to give the Greens team a big pat on the back for the hard

work preparing and presenting our course to such a high standard.

Congratulations also go to all of this years Match Play finalists who went head to head on Sunday the 20th with the weather glorious and the course in fabulous condition. As in our previous editions, a full listing of all competition winners will follow.

Saturday 19th Sept. was our first and most likely last open competition of the season, it was however a most successful day enjoyed by all who took part. On the day we received numerous complements from members and members guests on the course condition and the hospitality that followed their game. A big thank you to our Catering team for their continued support of this event, and to our committee members who ensured the smooth running and presentation of the whole event.

There is one more group of people who I must pay tribute to, all of you who donated items for the raffle, your generosity is unrivaled and resulted in the phenomenal sum of £1,100 being raised for this years club charity. Our running total for 'The Baby Bank Scotland' now stands at £1,850. Again, a full listing of winners will follow.

Finally, the changes made by the government on Tuesday the 22nd have resulted in only one change to the working operation of the club. The Bar will now have to close at 10 pm on Friday and Saturday nights.

As always, Observe the rules and Stay Safe

Malcolm

Club Captain



@golfcarluke



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youtube.com

COURSE UPDATE



Hi All,

Here we are approaching October and possibly on our way back into some sort of lockdown perhaps, hopefully the weather will be as good as it was in the first lockdown!!

September has been a better month as we have at last had a dry spell of weather and areas of the course that had not been getting cut, were able to be tidied. Over the last few weeks you may have noticed parts of the course that were not as tidy as usual, or as you would expect them to be, in August/September, at Carluke. This has been as a result of continued wet weather, having an accumulative effect on the whole course - greens have been soft, fairways have been soft and even muddy in places and the rough has been a no go area for weeks now. There is very little we can do to combat these conditions, if said conditions persist, and, it is only when we get a break in the

weather and get some dry days, that we can start to make improvements, and get the course back to the kind of condition it should be in at this time of year. We have had a really good dry spell now for the last couple of weeks, and the change in the course and improvements in conditions, are there for all to see. Please believe me when I say, no- one is more annoyed/upset, than your greenstaff, when the course is not as good as it should be. A lot of hard work and effort goes into producing a course that we and you, want to be proud of and when the ability to achieve that is taken out of your hands, usually because of weather, it is extremely frustrating- to say the least!! It has been nice to hear some positive comments and get some praise again over the last few days, after the large amounts of rainfall we have seen since mid July, made course maintenance increasingly difficult.



On the subject of course maintenance, as my good friend from the pro shop has stated, we got the greens good and then ripped them to bits again, lol. We took the decision to do a heavy scarification on the greens, removing a lot of unwanted organic matter from the top inch of the greens. We then overseeded and sanded the greens, and this should improve the surface drainage and firm them up a bit.

The greens have been brushed and rolled and are still running ok, hopefully some decent weather will allow us to get them back looking good, asap. We will still need to hollow core most of the greens but, depending on conditions, this may be held back until the Spring and we may just solid tine them, (spike) to keep the surfaces open through the Winter. Seems terrible to be talking about Winter but by the time you read my next lot of drivel, it will be nearly Closing Day!



Starting next month I think the Editor would like us to do a profile of each member of the greenstaff, to let those who don't know us so well, get to know us a bit better, and there may even be a picture of the staff member being profiled, one for the Ladies to look forward to. ha ha!!!

Finally I have attached some pictures of the work that was done this week showing, the machine in operation and the organic matter, (thatch) removed and on the trailer, (two greens worth, per trailer) .The final picture is of the sand dressing being applied.

Until next time, Andy and the boys.

LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW

54-HOLE STROKE PLAY - WINNERS

1ST September 2020



It is fair to say the Ladies Section did not have much luck this year with the weather, however after numerous postponements they finally managed to complete this years Championship.

Congratulations to all the Winners!

CHAMPIONSHIP CUP Scratch	Ladies Champion	Annyse Ewing	280
	Runner Up	Joan Anderson	282
MAULDSLIE CUP Scratch Bronze Division	Winner	Anne Sinclair	296
	Runner Up	Ann Gracie	311
SUNDAY LADIES CUP Handicap Silver Division	Winner	Julie Wright	231
	Runner Up	Annyse Ewing	235
FORREST KIRK TROPHY Handicap Bronze Division	Winner	Margaret Wright	232
	Runner Up	Anne Sinclair	233
COPPER KETTLE Handicap +36 Players	Winner	Elaine Bowman	251
	Runner Up	Kay Benson	252

LOCHLEVEN CUP (Played with 1st Rnd Championship)

Winner: Annyse Ewing

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM EXPLAINED

Welcome to our World Handicapping pages which we have put together to try and explain to our members about the significant changes that are being implemented on how handicaps will be maintained.

The World Handicap System is being introduced on the **2nd November 2020**. It is designed to welcome more players, to make golf easier to understand and to give all golfers a handicap which is portable all around the globe.

It will replace the 6 different systems currently used by over 15 million golfers in more than 80 countries.

It has been developed by The R&A and The United States Golf Association (USGA), supported by the world's handicapping authorities, including CONGU, which represents the four home countries of Great Britain and Ireland.

If you haven't already, I encourage you to sign up to the Scottish Golf Union app. More details can be found at the SGU website <https://scottishgolf.org> From the **2nd November** you can also track your handicap on the SGU WHS app.

The summary below provides an overview of the new system covering all the main elements and how they link together.

Best Regards

Jim Robertson - Handicap Convener

1. WORK ALREADY COMPLETE

To prepare for its introduction some work has already been completed in relation to our course:

- **COURSE RATING** – The course has been given a Course Rating which represents the difficulty of a course for a scratch golfer from each different tee (a bit like the old Standard Scratch rating)
- SGU Course Ratings are Whites 69.3, Yellows 68.2 and Reds 70.9
- **SLOPE RATING** – this rating represents the relative difficulty of a course for a bogey golfer as compared with a scratch golfer. In this context bogey means a 20 handicap for men and 24 for women. Slope rating has been done for each different tee.
- Slope rating will be higher on a course with long carries, narrow fairways and thick rough
- Slope Rating falls within a range of 55 and 155
- In GB & Ireland the average Slope rating is 125
- For Handicap purposes a Neutral Slope rating of 113 is used

SGU Slope Ratings For Carluke are :

- White tees – 123
- Yellow – 120
- Red – 126

2. WORK IN PROGRESS – HANDICAP INDEX

You currently have a playing handicap. Under the WHS you will have a Handicap Index.

This will be computed as the average of the best 8 of your last 20 qualifying scores posted since 1st January

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM EXPLAINED

2018. If you have not posted 20 qualifying scores since then a method similar to allocating a new handicap will be used.

From the start of next season I would encourage members to play in as many competitions as possible to attain an accurate Handicap Index once WHS system comes into operation.

Supplementary Scores

You Should pre-register your intention to submit a Supplementary Score **BEFORE** starting your round by informing the Pro Shop of your intention to submit a score.

On completion of your round place your signed scorecard (showing named marker) in the Pro Shop or alternatively in the box for Handicap in the Mauldslee lounge. Ensure that the scorecard is noted "Supplementary Score" showing the date, tee used and the name of the marker and signed by the player. If the premises are closed hand card in as detailed above at first opportunity.

Your Transition Handicap should be visible on PSI screens from October. From June to October the WHS will run in the background alongside Club systems.

Some test runs have indicated that in transition to the WHS your new Handicap Index is likely to be different from your current Playing Handicap e.g.

- **Currently 6 and below – maybe down by 1**
- **6 – 12 – maybe up or down by 1**
- **12 – 18 – maybe up by 1**
- **18 – 24 – up by 1 or 2**
- **24+ – up by 2 or 3**

(If ability has been declining then your Handicap Index will go up more than for steady players because currently handicaps have only increased by 0.1 each time).

PLEASE NOTE IF SUBMITTING A NON RETURN SCORE IN A COMPETITION IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU ENTER SCORES FOR HOLES YOU HAVE COMPLETED. FAILURE TO DO THIS WILL MEAN THAT YOUR HANDICAP HISTORY MAY NOT BE ACCURATE.

3. COURSE HANDICAP

So we have Slope Rating and a Handicap Index.

Your handicap on a specific day is calculated by reference to the particular course and tee that you are playing from.

Your Handicap Index is multiplied by the Slope Rating for the course tee being played and then divided by the Neutral Slope Rating of 113.

For example, if the Slope Rating of the White tees on a course was say 127, then if your Handicap Index is :

- **10.0 then $10 \times 127 \div 113 = 11.2$**
- **20.0 then $20 \times 127 \div 113 = 22.5$**
- **30.0 then $30 \times 127 \div 113 = 33.7$**

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM EXPLAINED

Good News! – charts will be available at each club and in the PSI software used on the club terminals. Please download the Scottish Golf WHS App which will also give course rating details. So, you will not need to do the calculation yourself.

N.B. It is your Handicap Index that must be recorded on your scorecard.

4. SUBMITTING SCORES

On completion of the round, as soon as possible on that day, you must post your scores electronically on the PSI of the club you played. If using phone Apps, scores must be posted before midnight. Your Handicap Index will be updated in the “Cloud” at 5 minutes past midnight. The reason for this is a ‘playing conditions calculation’ will be carried out at the end of each day. So, non-entry of scores could affect this calculation, meaning course could play lower or higher on average.

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO HANDICAP INDEX

We will no longer have a “ratcheting system” of handicap adjustment. Currently a good score results in a much bigger handicap adjustment than having a poor score. Also, a spell of poor form is rewarded by 0.1 increases in handicap. Under the WHS it will be very different up & down.

Your Handicap Index will be the average of your best 8 out of the last 20 Acceptable Scores (see 6. Below). It is recalculated when new scores are returned. There could be quite a swing.

Upward movement of Handicap Index within a defined period of time is CAPPED to limit the rate of increase during a period of poor form. (Soft and Hard cap).

For Handicap purposes, a high score at a hole is reduced to a net double bogey.

There can also be exceptional score adjustments after a very low score is returned.

6. ACCEPTABLE SCORES FOR HANDICAP PURPOSES

There are two categories :

1. **Competition Scores** – scores in all singles competition rounds of Individual Strokeplay (Medal & Stableford) played over a qualifying measured course from a particular tee

2. **General Play Scores** – scores in non-competition and social golf can be used but pre-registration is required. Like Supplementary Scores currently, you register your intention to submit a score for handicap purposes prior to commencement of the round. These can be played over 9 or 18 holes.

Team and Matchplay scores are currently excluded.

7. PLAYING HANDICAP

We have covered Course Handicaps and that calculation is done first by multiplying your Handicap Index by Slope rating and then dividing by 113.

You may then need to determine your Playing Handicap by restricting your Course Handicap dependent on the format of the competition.

WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM EXPLAINED

For example :

- 4 ball Matchplay the restriction is 90%
- Individual Strokeplay (Medal and Stableford) the restriction is 95%.

8. PLAYING CONDITIONS CALCULATION

This adjustment is made automatically by the software to take account of abnormal course or weather conditions. It looks at all the scores submitted on the course for that day and determines if the course or weather conditions on the day differed from “Normal” expected scores. This is a bit like the current CSS adjustment.

The adjustment will however be conservative in nature. In easy conditions it may adjust the gross score for the round by 1 or increase the gross by up to 3 in difficult conditions, which is exactly the same as the current CSS adjustment.

9. CHANGES THAT YOU WILL NOTICE

- No Standard Scratch
- No 0.1 handicap increases
- No Buffer Zones in determining handicap adjustment

10. FURTHER INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

Scottish Golf WHS website [CLICK HERE](#)

Again, can I re-iterate the Scottish Golf App will allow you to access all your handicap details and your Central Database of Handicaps (CDH) number. This will also allow you to download a Handicap Certificate should you wish to play in away competitions. If you do not see a CDH number please notify one of the handicap team.

11. IN CONCLUSION

Although the above details seem confusing hopefully with the help of the updated software things should run in a similar way to previous competitions with all calculations being carried out by the computer.

If you require any further assistance please don't hesitate to contact any member of the handicap team.

COMMITTEE: THANKS TO JIM & THE HANDICAP COMMITTEE FOR THEIR HARD WORK GETTING THE CLUB READY FOR THIS CHANGE. SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES LIKE THIS REQUIRE A LOT OF TIME AND EFFORT AND IT IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

SALEEM INVITATIONAL SCRAMBLE

Once again the Saleem Texas Scramble Invitational was a huge success and enjoyed by Members both on and off the golf course - great to see in such difficult times. Massive thanks to the Saleem family for their hard work and kindness which makes this day the success that it is every year. £1,100 was raised for our Captain's Charity, Baby Bank Scotland - a fantastic achievement and thank-you to everyone involved for taking part, buying raffle tickets and donating prizes.

Congratulations to all the Winners!

1st. C Merriweather, J Meikle J Curivan, 57.3

2nd. Phinshelwood A Hutton S Lafferty, 57.5

3rd. S Melvin A Campbell T Melvin, 58.7

4th. D Steele R Steele R McShane, 58.9

5th. K Ferguson F Young R McLean, 59.0

Nearest the pin: 8th - R. Weir. 16th - E. Mills

Magic 2's: J. Cleland, W. McConnell, K. Smith, J. Carnochan, R. Berry, D. Steele, B. Saleem

Raffle prizes: R. Fleming, P. Cruikshank, A. Alexander, S. Gould



MATCH PLAY FINALS



Congratulations to this years Match Play Winners!

Brooks Trophy - Craig MacNicol

Harvie of Brownlie - Steven MacFarlane

Seniors Trophy - Gordon Bell

Summer Cup - Callum Wilson

COMMITTEE TROPHY

Congratulations to Baber Saleem on winning the Committee Trophy this year.

Champion golfer AND he makes the best pakora in Lanarkshire?! What a talent...!



JACK VAN DE VELDE?



New 3rd Class Club Champion, Jack Hunter, took an unconventional approach in preparation for his final round of the Championship this year. A couple of days before he gave his clubs a good clean while playing the 12th! Whatever works Jack!

2020 OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALL FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES						3 Kirkstyle Trophy
4 Russell #6	5	6 18-hole Strokeplay, 9-hole stableford	7	8	9	10 Anderson Trophy (Stableford)
11 Dan Forrest Trophy (Mixed Greensome)	12	13 18-hole Stableford	14	15	16	17 John Kyle Salver (Stableford)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Bert Cutter Salver (Stableford)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Closing Day Scramble

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