

Competitions Newsletter

April 2017

Competitions

The Lumley Final took place on Saturday 1st April and the winners of the new format final were Jim Wharton and Richard Clements with 47 points. In second place were Peter Mozley & Bob Everett with 46 points and in third place Brian Mazzey and John Kitson with 41 Points. The Top Dog Winners were Gary Adams and Bernie Shaw who beat Bruce McNinch and Paul Harding in the final 2 and 1.

Captain Mike Westmoreland has asked if it is possible to have a qualifying competition every Thursday throughout the winter after the Eagle Final has been played on 10th August. We have decided that we will have an individual stableford “Thursday Prize Medal” throughout the year starting on Thursday 17th August. Entry will be through the online booking system in the same way that one would enter the Eagle qualifying rounds. The entry fee will be £2 paid to Andy in the shop. There will be no qualifying rounds and no final, the Thursday Prize Medal will be a series of individual competitions. Depending on the number of entries, prizes will be paid for first and second places. Should the competition be extremely popular then a third prize may be awarded. As this is a qualifying competition for handicaps play will be off the white tees until they are taken in for the winter after the Finals Day on Sunday 24th September. Following this date the competition will be off a measured yellow tee course. No prizes will be awarded at Presentation Night.

Handicap News

Recently, England Golf have enforced Clauses 4.5b and 8.12 of the CONGU UHS. This requires that everyone playing in a non-qualifying competition away from home must return their scores to their home club. It applies to all stroke play scores returned under competition conditions, including team events, played over a course for which the Union has allotted a Standard Scratch Score together with notification of the relevant SSS. The event itself must have been organised by a recognised body (an Open tournament by a Golf Club, a Golf Society, a works outing etc); you cannot just turn up at a golf club and return your score just because you have had a good round. If you go to Englandgolf.org/Handicapping & Rules/Handicapping/Returning of Non Qualifying Scores/Non Qualifying Scores Player Returns Form; there is a form you can download to report your scores

There has been no official response from Golf England about “Continuous Handicap Review”. So our interpretation is that there will be no changes for this year and clubs will be **“encouraged”** to fulfil their responsibility to have Continuous Handicap Review and Annual Review. We are keen to see every club applying the same handicapping rules. Should this not happen we will have an annual review only!

Competitions Committee

Competition Purse Fund

In June 2015 we reported that we wanted to move to a situation where we could use the online booking system to book into some competitions. In order to do this, members would have to set up a “competition purse” and keep it topped up so that entry fees could be taken from the pot when entering any competition. We abandoned our plans to introduce this system as the software (or the developer) was unable to take this from your bar card. It would have meant that each member would have to set up an additional account. We have again investigated the feasibility of setting up this system as we grow increasingly concerned about the amount of cash that is posted through the Committee Room door each week. We are going ahead with this proposal and members will have to set up a separate “competition purse”, this could be topped up by a simple online transaction using a debit card.

Please see the attached sheet which gives more information about the competition purse, how to set it up and how to operate it efficiently and effectively.

Lumley Cup

Congratulations to Jim Wharton and Richard Clements who won the Lumley Cup under the new format. You will remember that the knock out stage became difficult to organise as the Committee had to repeatedly repopulate the draw as qualifying finalists were unavailable for a four week period (play offs, quarter and semi finals and final). We had the same problem this year, on a much smaller scale, as qualifiers had only to be available for the final round. We would be interested to hear how members found the change to this competition.

Patrick Scott Order of Merit

In the Patrick Scott Order of Merit this season points will be awarded to the top eight players not fifteen as it has been in the past. Points will be awarded as follows, 1st 20, 2nd 14, 3rd 10, and so on 7, 5, 3, 2 & 1. Again we will review this at the end of the season.

Stableford / Nett Double Bogey Adjustment

Once again the season approaches and once again we would like to remind you of Stableford Adjustment

How many times in a medal round, after one or more poor holes, do you contemplate point one added to your handicap or even a no return? The purpose of the Stableford Adjustment is to place a limit on the maximum score that can be recorded at any hole in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential ability. This control is for *handicap purposes only and it will not affect your competition score*. It was introduced to lessen the impact of the occasional ‘bad’ score on a player's stroke play return and to reduce the incidence of ‘No Returns’ that can, on occasions, represent an undesirable proportion of the competition entry. In essence, the system turns your poor scores in a medal round, into a stableford score *for handicapping purposes*, reducing high scores on any holes to net two over par. The Stableford Adjustment is applied to all stroke play qualifying scores. So the next time you are 2 shots under your handicap on the 16th tee and then you take a ten, remember, that for handicap purposes only, you have dropped only 2 shots and your current handicap could be maintained or even lowered.