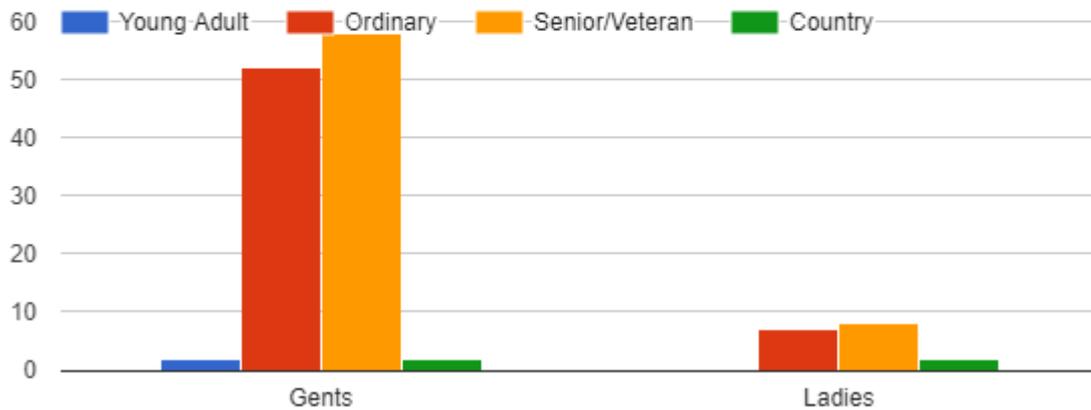


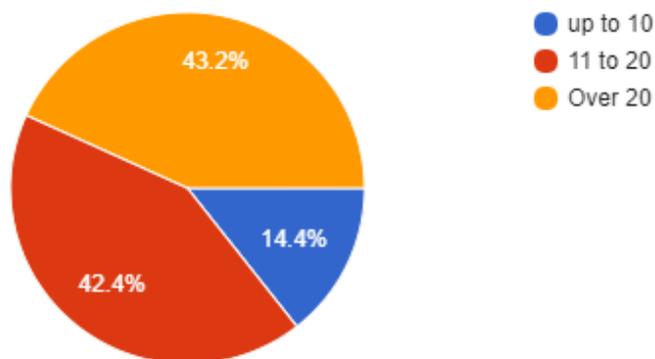
Bridge of Allan Golf Club Members Survey October 2017 – Collated Responses

1. Which membership category are you?

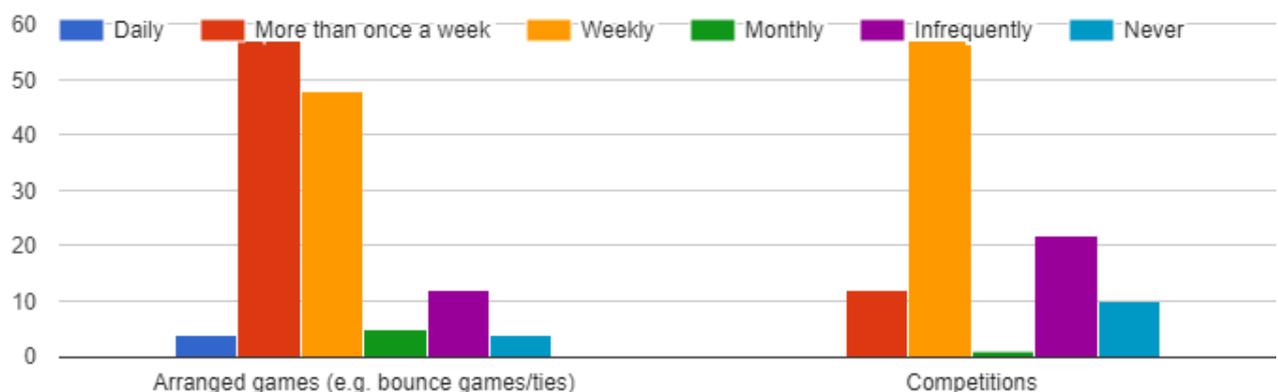


2. What handicap range are you in?

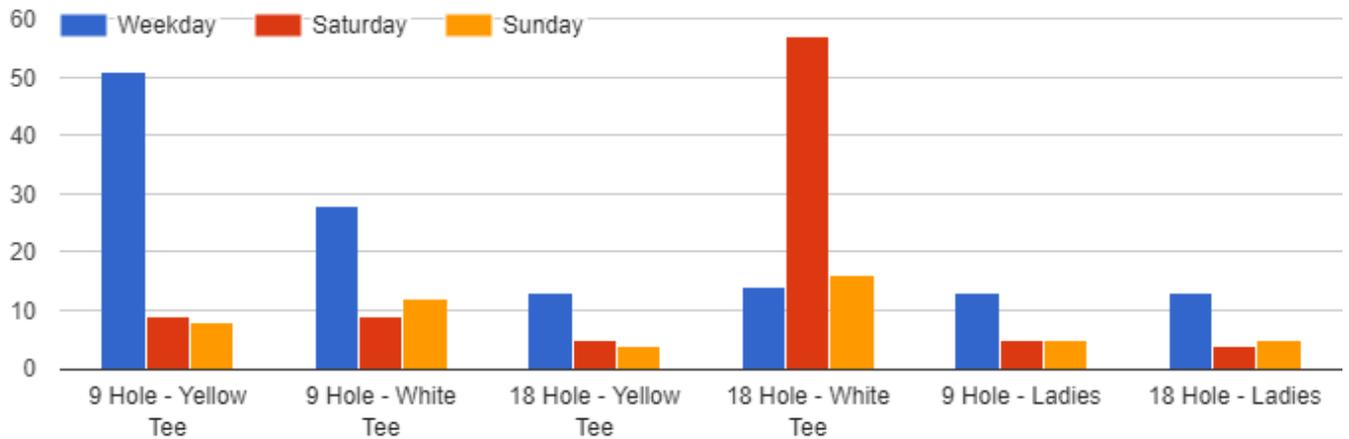
125 responses



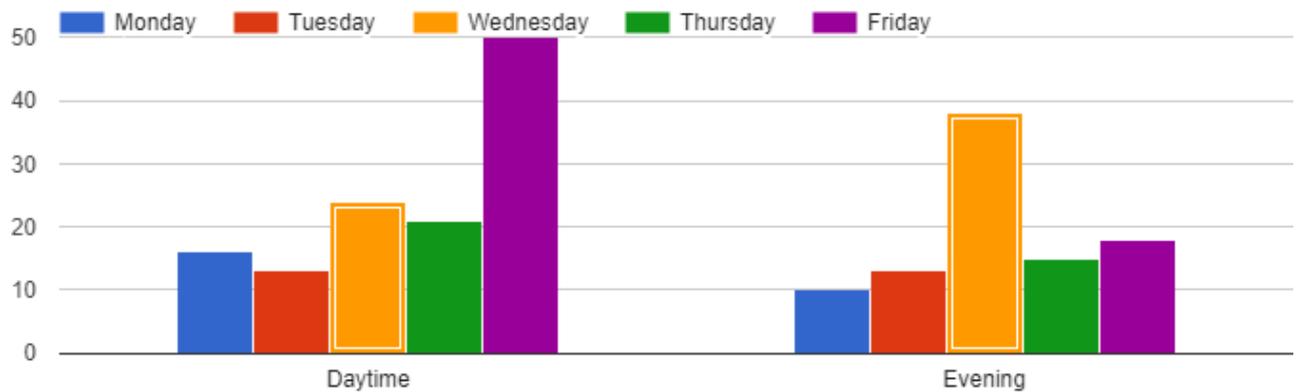
3. How often do you like to play?



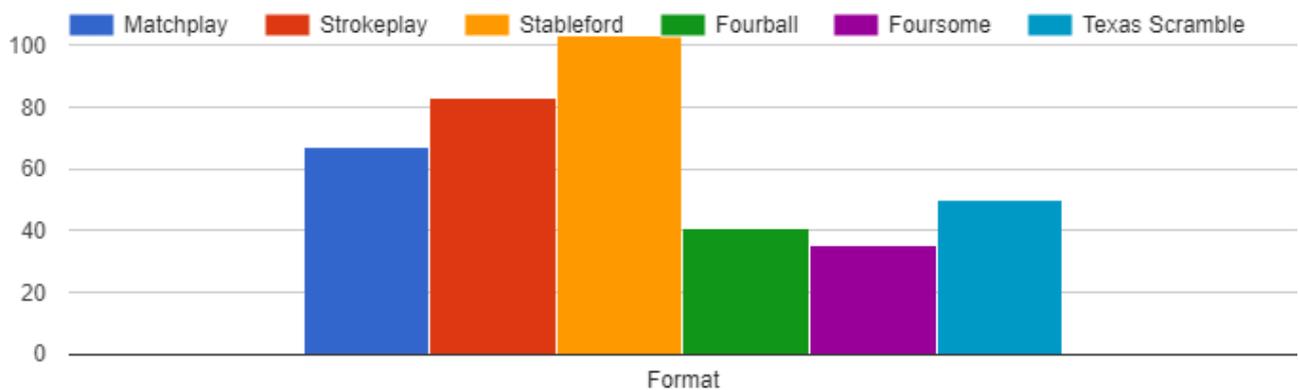
4. Which competitions do you prefer? Tick all that are relevant to you.



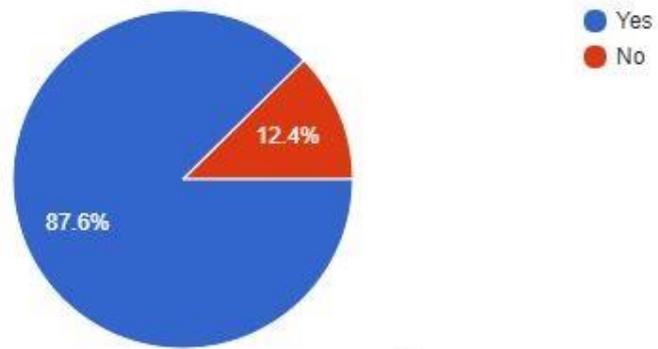
5. What weekday(s) do you prefer for competitions?



6. Which format(s) do you like to play? Tick all that are relevant to you.



7. As a result of reduced numbers playing in the Saturday Medal, it is proposed that the course be available to all members and visitors from 2pm. Is this an option that you would like to see?



8. The maximum annual fee that Bridge of Allan Golf Club currently charges is £360 (Ordinary Membership). Please comment if you think this is good value (or not)?

YES x 20

Great value for money

I think this is excellent value.

Not good value as the course is never prepared for medals (greens not cleared of dew and bunkers not raked) and nearby 18 hole courses are only £500 (Muckhart with 27 holes is £550).

very good

It's borderline, high compared to similar 9 hole courses locally, Muthill GC = £295, Comrie = £310, St Fillans £320

Excellent value x2

Currently I think it is good value.

Good value compared to surrounding courses in the area.

I consider the annual fee to be good value. I am aware that some other members compare the fee to other 9 hole courses only and consider it to be fairly high.

It is a very Challenging course, allowing commanding views - So Yes

Extremely good value

I think it is good value

Bordering on too expensive when you add in other fees during year.

Decent value. Comparable with alternative options offering more and better for more.

Would be a mistake to raise it any higher.

It is good value. Cheapest in area I think

I feel with competition from Brucefields, which has better practice facilities better restaurant opening times, full time on site golf pros, a golf shop, sports physio and two courses which are kept in better all round condition than Bridge of Allan due to the amount of staff they have working on them . I feel we must strive to get our membership the cheapest in the area with reductions after 3yrs same as Brucefields.

At £330 for Brucefields

And £360 for Bridge of Allan

They have the better product and it's better value.

If we continue to increase the price to counteract the falling money going in , it will then bring in the 18 hole perfectly maintained Braehead course at £530 new members offer with no joining fee as another possibility in the area and a course which can mostly be played 12 months a year , unlike BofA which at best can truly be played 8 months a year. Strive to get the price down and attract new members.

Plus £20 bar levy getting expensive gets to £400 I will leave and join 18 hole course

Fair value

yes good value for what is a beautiful course

Yes, good value x 14

Excellent value for money

Ok

Good value considering the easy access available to the course

I do think it is good value if you can play on Saturday without competing in a medal

I think it is excellent value. Personally I would like to see the fees raised slightly. This would provide a bit more money for the upkeep of the course i.e. part time greenkeeper.

Yes very good value x 5

Quite good value

we only play on a Sunday but this week there are 2 competitions on Sunday

Generally good value, especially compared to nearby courses. Course condition however, impacts on perception of value.

No. It is essentially half the fees for better courses such as Stirling and Dunblane but doesn't offer at least half the value, in terms of the quality of facilities, other perks e.g. reciprocal rights etc.

It is good value if the issues with the 3rd and 9th greens can be resolved.

As a Veteran member, I pay just under £200 and although I don't play in competitions and visit the course infrequently, I regard this as good value, considering the costs of keeping the course and its facilities in good order.

Excellent value x 2

I have absolutely no interest in playing competitions-I joined to play golf, and for this I think the club provides good value.

Not with the current green drainage issues

Very good competitive value

I think it's good value, considering it's a great course to play on.

Certainly should not be raised. We are losing members as it is due to course condition.

I think the current fees represent excellent value for money

Senior gents membership could be raised without losing many (or any) members

It's good value for me as I play regularly.

If playing more than twice a month, this is good value for money.

Good value but members only join because of the condition of the golf course and is the second factor in retaining a member. No 1 for me is the 'welcoming, friendly, and always there being someone to play with' ie being part of The Club.

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Personally, as a senior member, I feel I get good value for my membership. Other courses nearby may be cheaper, but I value the convenience.

Outstanding value. (as a veteran member I get even more value)

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Great value but only if we can resolve the problem with the downhill trend in the greens condition

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All memberships offer good value for money

Good value as the club is run prudently

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Yes but don't think it should go much higher, it's only 9 holes after all

Yes, when compared to other clubs

Reasonable value

Reasonable. If it goes above £400 that will be a threshold

Yes, especially with my forthcoming Senior discounts!

For Ordinary Membership, I believe this to be relatively good value

Only if it is used weekly

No

Fair value

Happy with fees.

Yes I think this is good value x 3

fair price - half the price of other local clubs (half the holes though)

A little on the high side for a nine hole course, but we need to keep the charges at this rate as volunteers don't come easy!

It feels like fair value.

Yes. I enjoy being able to play at off peak times without prior arrangement or having to book a tee time.

very good value considering the huge expenditure that the Club has

Yes but we need to ensure that fees do not rise to a level that will adversely affect membership retention and recruitment

Exceptional value

not

Excellent value - especially for seniors!

Don't like the bar levy automatically added to fees, as not playing very much due to work. Definitely have not had value for money the last two years. If the money stayed on the card for the following year then that would be better. I realise the reason was to ensure the clubhouse had good facilities and that it was used.

Yes very good value

As a member of over 20 years I have always considered membership to be good value. Now senior perhaps I am not best placed to comment on the max fee, but I still consider it good value.

yes I believe this is good value

If the course is in better condition yes

Good value, however it must remain competitive.

Yes, as long as no increases!

Good value but I am away six months of the year so would like to pay country membership fees.

Does not apply to me

Reasonable x 2

Amazing value

Disappointed this year when the golf course was on winter greens till April then winter greens on again October 29th I could understand if the course was covered in frost the last few years the winter has been mild so no excuse for winter greens unless heavy frost or greens under repair?

9. You will be aware of planned development on the 9th & 3rd greens, the Mgt Committee would welcome feedback on the course to assist planning for the next 5 years. What are the developments you would like to see? E.g. removal of trees, replacement of tee furniture etc.

6th hole teebox tree overhang removal;

I would like to see flatter tee areas some are not very level ,

I would like to see the club continue with the Coring Plans and also, in addition to the work be carried out at the 9th & 3rd, I'd like to see the 5th Green repaired and enlarged. Bunkers are also needing urgent attention or removed. Rough to left of 7th fairway should be cut to fairway length and bankings should not be cut with ride on mower. Reintroduction of Hand Mowers during wet weather spells to prevent damage to course. More attention to detail.

Removal trees at the hollow at the 7th

In my opinion trees should not be removed as we actually have very few trees on the actual course.

Non removal of any trees and more trees planted.

Better quality temporary greens, make them gur whilst not in play. Keep in good condition. This may need investment in workforce or volunteer responsibility.

Tess rolled to be flatter. Some added bunkers for fairways on the 3rd, 6th and 8th to make more difficult

Installation of alternative tees on each hole to alter the layout for 18 hole format - good example at Ballindalloch GC <http://www.ballindallochcastle golf.co.uk/>

Don't remove the trees in the hollow between the 7th and 8th fairways, it will make the boggy ground far worse. Concentrate on the quality of the greens. Nothing is more discouraging than putting on poor greens.

Additional fairway bunkers along 3rd.

Personally I can't understand why we are looking at removing trees, filling in bunkers etc, when there is more needed work carried out first i.e. paths, bankings and an eyesore approach to 5th hole. I still cannot understand why the gorse was removed from the 9th hole, when there was other much needed course work carried out, plus it has been a total mess all this season where the gorse was.

I don't think removal of trees is needed, but we need to cut away sections that encroach on our course i.e. 4th, 5th & 7 holes. I am also happy to do my bit to help the Club through these difficult times.

Clearing of/cutting back of trees on 7th before fairway - this would increase visibility from tee.

Maintenance in the bunkers - whilst sand is added annually, there is often a hard core immediately below this. Can be done to break up this hard surface?

Increased variety of tee locations between front and back nine. I am not sure what impacts this may have on the length/par etc of the course.

Levelling of teeing areas. We have decent sized teeing areas however many could do with modification to make them level. Improvement to bunkers; remove weeds growing in bunkers, address lining fabric where showing through sand, consistent level of sand in bunkers and replace rakes with something more robust (e.g. check out rakes at Kilspindie G.C.).

Programme of prioritised drainage improvements around the course.

Stone dyke remediation in a few prominent areas (e.g. the island at the 6th hole).

Routine trimming of banks around tees and practice putting green.

Please, no further removal of trees and shrubs. I think enough has been removed already.

As an ancient, a few more benches at tees would be appreciated

Not in favour of tree removal unless absolutely necessary. More ball cleaners at tee boxes.

9th: Leave Tee's and all hazards in place ;; 3rd : Leave all hazards in place, move Tee to temporary location for as long as takes {a full season ?} and work on drainage for Summer Tee ;; Greens for Both - Prepare a "Winter Green" for both, to approaching smaller, but still more like Summer Green standards, and then work on the existing Summer Greens for as long as it takes {a full season or more ?}. This may not be a popular move, but for the long term greater good Members should bear the inconvenience. It is a hilly course with Scottish weather, this problem will not go away.

Improvements to tee boxes and possible consideration of altered placements for a first nine and second nine. Continued development and improvement to greens across the whole course. Reworking and filling of bunkers - more sand!

Different tees for 2nd nine holes. Like the 1st is now.

Removal of heavy rough areas, plus planting of more trees and Repair of Most tee grounds. Generally make the course more play friendly to amateur golfers. Also , the grass needs cut more than it does at present, once a week , which often happens is not really acceptable.

Better quality tees, greens and bunkers. Alternative tees for men on second nine holes in medals/comps similar to women's alternatives.

Why not stick to the template that was approved several years ago. This also allowed for wet weather conditions and was in line with an Stri report. Why tamper with A GOOD TEMPLATE.

General condition of course could be better. Greens seem to get smaller and square which looks strange. Does the rough up the right side of second need to be so long. Been in groups in medals spending far too long looking in there for balls .

The condition of the Tees needs addressed, the condition of all bunkers needs addressed.

The placement of the steps at the 9th tee is dangerous, they should be as near to the road and bell as possible. As always drainage at and around the 5th, 7th. Go off the fairway by a few feet on the 7th to the left and your ball can be buried, never to be seen again.

Would like to see alternate tees for front and back 9 , new tee markers and sponsor signs

I'd just like to see anything getting done all talk no action same things being harped on about and no action no wonder you have lost members this year

Push back the out of bound markers at the back of the 3rd green.

drainage and general quality of greens has to be key issue to focus capex on

Happy the way it is.

Would like to see the first cut of rough a little shorter

Focus must be on the greens which in my opinion continue to deteriorate due to increased rainfall.

Cut back some trees, hole seven tree

I think the course is in Decent condition given we only have one greenkeeper

I do not know if anything is in place, but the 5th is looking a bit worse for wear. Also upkeep of the winter greens to make them on par, excuse the pun, with the summer greens, if we have to switch over then no change in performance should be experienced. Club house and "gardens" looking good, this should be expanded to the full course. I'm not meaning planting flowers but a general makeover would make a lasting impression on visitors and members alike. Is there any area that could be used as a practice driving range. Couple of side by side nets.

More sand in bunkers. Keep rough down round wall on 4th and 7th

No need to change.

Nothing other than redeveloping the greens

removal of trees from 7th tee looking to 8th fairway on the right

I'm happy with both holes. If the greens could be remedied, then the structure is good. The growth of the trees on the right side of the 3rd will make the hole more challenging and reward the more accurate drivers.

Bunkers need a lot of work all over the course

The course needs to be ready earlier in the season. It is unacceptable how long the greens take to become playable. Perhaps delaying the start of the season until the weather is more conducive to growth and then prolonging the season at the other end when the course is usually in better condition. Also the course needs to be tidier, in particular around the greens and tees. The area behind the third green needs to be addressed given how unreceptive that green can be in the middle of summer to mid iron approaches. The period when this was marked as O.B. clearly showed how the greens convenor/ committee/keeper don't fully understand the game and course design. The rough needs to be consistently around the course and should be kept as low as possible. The high grass between the second and sixth serves no purpose other than to slow down play. Stop removing hazards too. Golf is supposed to be a challenge but removing the bunkers and gorse bushes on the ninth hole reduces the challenge.

Improved drainage. More assistance for the green keeper.

I think it is essential to try and move away from coring the greens twice a year every year and filling with coarse sand. This has reduced the period in the year where the greens have been in top condition to just a few months. Are different coring methods possible? e.g. deep spikes without removing cores at least one of the two times the coring is done in the year and that would make a big difference to a lot of the members.

I would like to see the committee concentrate solely for the next year or foreseeable future in bringing the course up to a fully playable state. You refer to the state of the 9th and 3rd greens but I know that you are aware of and are working on the boggy state of the 5th and 7th greens and the 8th fairway under and around the birch trees.

I am pleased about the clearing of many of the gorse bushes. Two or three of us were involved in clearing the out-of-bounds area on the inside of the dog-leg on the 6th fairway and the number of balls found went well into double figures. Also, I think the reduction of the height of the rough grass between the 3rd and 4th fairways has made play much more enjoyable, (not so much time wasted searching for wayward balls), so thank you for that. I hope that this trend may continue in other areas of the course.

Remove some, if not all of the trees on the right hand side of the start of the 8th. Then get work done in that area to drain it so that balls do not plug in it from both 7th and 8th tees. Consider making the first a par 4.

Removal of some trees to the right of the start of the 8th fairway. Fill in the bunker to the rear of the 4th green, make it a grass bunker.

Ask the green-keeper what changes he would like to make to allow him to produce a course with which he is happy.

Happy to leave this to the experts.

The 7th green is now almost totally obscured by the tree. Tee markers could be 'updated' along with boxes.

Radical development of 5th & 7th greens also to improve drainage with the understanding that they may be out of play for some time

Reduction of the height of the stone wall or the introduction of additional gaps in the wall in front of the 4th green. This should reduce the likelihood of a player getting an injury climbing over the wall to get to the green.

Only just joined this year (July) so don't feel qualified to comment, although I think it's fine as it is.

Removal of trees RHS 8th, Replacement of tee signage, removal of wall dividing 7th tee - green

maintain integrity of holes while improving drainage

Proper drainage channel at front of 5th. New drain on 5th to be repaired and re-laid. Remove the O/B at rear of the 3rd. Drainage to be installed at perimeter of 6th green. Initiate a programme for resurfacing and levelling all the tees (one or two each winter). Tree trimming at the tees as many are overhung by branches. All grass areas around greens and aprons to be properly cut and maintained. Ensure the grass is properly cut on the slope at the 4th this is supposed to be part of the fairway. Some volunteer effort to tidy up the walls at the 4th not onerous work to professional standard just make it neater. Over the wall at the 1st it should be fairway except for approx 6 feet from the wall. Allow members with particular skills the opportunity to carry out work as has been done previously, this will save a lot of money rather than contracting out. Give very serious consideration to changing to a river sand for the hollow coring process, a spherical sand should allow for better drainage.

Be honest with the members when things are not right acknowledge and accept this and consider solutions. When people feel they are not being listened to they become frustrated and will move on. We as you know have lost a number of long service members recently and it has been for two reasons. 1. The course and more particularly the greens have been in the worst condition for many years. 2. When this is commented on some members have been told don't contact us with negative opinions, let's keep positive. No, let's be realistic and honest.

The course is mostly set up with hazards that affect higher handicappers, e.g. the bunker on the 3rd, the trees on the right on the 8th. This needs to be looked at in view of the number of older/ higher handicap players we have. Some of the tees need levelling.

We have drainage issues on many of the greens, once the 3rd and 9th greens have been addressed this winter one green a year should be targeted for improvement

Tee furniture is in poor condition and needs urgent replacement, it does not present a good impression to visitors

Continued work on 5th green, and removal of gully channel. Mature trees on right hand side of 5th could do with cutting back. Drainage beneath silver birches on 7th/ 8th.

Just to keep up with maintenance and renewal as necessary.

The course and clubhouse area are looking great now. All the hard work is appreciated. Great to see work being done on the greens-will take time but nice to be moving forward. Trees are good especially in soaking up water.

New Ladies tees great asset and the good new signage makes us look as if we have self-respect.

Broadening of the fairway on the 4th hole UP the hill. Good the long grass is now kept short but that fairway has narrowed. Similarly broadening of the fairway from the Ladies tee on the 6th, especially the bottleneck at the corner. This is a particular problem to visitors as it is blind.

Keeping the long grass down around the dyke on the 7th-it looks so much tidier and helps with the odd lost balls.

New swanky Visitor's box with access to course card. Often people come before 11 or out of summer.

As previously stated I do not agree with spending that amount of money on re-designing the 9th and 3rd greens, and that drainage would be a more cost effective solution.

I'm not convinced that we need to core twice a year; I think once would be sufficient, and this should be at the end of September to minimise the impact on members.

Reduction in the size of the trees which have to be cleared from the seventh tee would be welcomed, bringing the green into view again.

The trees at the right of the eighth fairway just off the tee are becoming more of an inconvenience also.

Trim fir trees on left hand side of 8th hole

I have no constructive suggestions.

New tee signage

3rd green should be re-instated to its former size with the necessary "re-build" carried out. The finances should be sought from appropriate bodies and the members.

Both greens will benefit from long/deep tines in hollow coring, prob 2x per season and members will need to find the funds. The green will benefit for new drainage and bunker could be retained if the bunker drainage is also re-doneif there is any drainage !

Re trees, a programme of cutting back towards the boundary is needed in several places but not necessarily removal.

Another expensive fix are the bunkers but consistency would mitigate a lot of work.

Course must always be prepared for the start of any competition, greens cut.

The course in general is in good condition apart from the greens. This is a big issue as this can make or break a course. I haven't wanted to take guests onto the course over the past season as the greens have been so poor, sorry for being so harsh but that's my feelings and compared to other courses in the area, I feel we are falling below what's required, which is a shame. Over the years I've always told people what a hidden gem B of A golf course was and loved playing it. I know the weather this year has been particularly bad but I feel the greens (most of them not just the 3rd & the 9th) have let the course down and have steadily gone downhill over the past two seasons and if this trend continues it would be the reason (the only reason) that I would seriously think about not re joining. Hopefully the proposed work to the greens will go a long way to solving the issues with the greens. B of A is a great course/club with a lot going for it and I hope that we can get the greens back to their best sooner rather than later.

More attention to detail eg better maintenance of green and bunker surrounds, teeing areas including artificially turfed steps, practice, clubhouse and car parking areas.

The most important thing for the Club is the course, so maintaining a good playing course is the no1 priority. Maintaining Clubhouse facilities also important.

Removal of the tree at the 3 winter green, with more trees planted between the third and fourth fairways.
The fourth winter green prepared to be used as a full green to give an alternative hole.
An alternative tee for the 6th hole.

trees overhanging onto the course 7th hole making it difficult for shorter hitters off the medal tee can they be trimmed and lopped . 4th tee overhanging branches trim back over boundary wall . 5th hole replace drain with proper drainage cover that allows balls to reach green and not get snagged up in the existing stones and uncut grass bordering the stones.

Would like to see the GUR adjacent to the 9th green landscaped, also the semi rough cut back to a level where you can see your ball. Can winter greens be better protected when not in play?

2 tee boxes for each hole

Removal of obstacles which severely detract from the enjoyment of playing and of achieving realistic scoring for the average golfer in particular, and not just having over the top difficulties for the sake of it. The first hole from the lower medal tee should be made a par 4, reflecting the actual scores of members. The very steep and dangerous path on the 5th needs to be made less hazardous.

happy as it is

Improve teeing ground at the first

Improved greens

Undecided

Tree in line with 7th green trimmed for visibility when driving (for safety of players in the hollow)

Improve tee boxes

None come to mind

Flatten the green on the 1st (it's too hard)

ball cleaners

Ensuring that all greens are playable and in good condition for the majority of the playing season. Drainage work needs to be improved in certain areas of the course to improve growth.

The trees are part of the course and should be kept if possible

Significant changes should be discussed with members at the AGM.

As a new member I am enjoying the course as it is.

I would like to see the fairway in front of the 6th tee widened and the grass in front of the wall on the 4th tee cut short.

flat teeing grounds, drainage issues fixed.

9th, drainage required as this green seems to be constantly waterlogged. 3rd, drainage again is a constant battle and this green has the same issues as the 9th, also would prefer to see a clearer area to the back of this green, it looks more like a rubbish dump than part of the course.

3rd green - remove OOB through the back.

Provision of occasional park benches on the course. E.g. beside the Millennium view cairn, by the ladies 4th tee

tee signs are old and tired so need replacing, trees have grown considerably over the years and have affected play - consider removal of some

Better winter greens

Sorry I have not been on the course this year

plant more trees

I think the course layout is excellent and the location of trees adds to the challenge.

First priority is maintaining the course to a high standard. Only change I'd suggest is different tees for first and second nine.

Trees on 7th need cut to allow players on the tee to see the group in front, so to know when safe to play.

Safety net along the tree line at the 8th hole.

Better winter greens

Removal of trees

Not aware of the planned developments but would welcome any alterations that would improve the experience.

Upgrade the Putting green. Remove all trees that limit the view of the course in front of the Clubhouse.

Introduction of 18 tees for competitions, new ones or yellow out and whites in something to change the layout. I thought when we had the two sets of steps at the front of the 9th tee, we removed the wrong set, the way it is at present encourages you to walk into the direction of incoming balls

No to removal of trees

Trim or remove some trees on the right before the 8th fairway.

Make an effort to maintain winter greens earlier in the year, where this does not impinge on normal summer play. e.g. 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th.

Landscape area of GUR on the left of the 9th green.

Changes welcomed.

Improvement to the winter greens.

Happy to leave this to the Greens Convener and Management Committee.

Removal of trees at 7th/8th holes

Continued improvements on greens. Greater emphasis on teeing areas to make them more attractive and welcoming - especially for visitors. Clearly defined and maintained semi-rough. Better path from 7th tee down the hill. Cut down overhanging branches where appropriate.

Improved green quality

shrubs bracken on slope of 7th

10.Scottish Golf: Please provide any comments you might have about these proposed changes (the Special General Meeting has now been postponed until March 2018):

£20 would be enough

50p per week is good value but would have to understand the changes and associated benefits more before agreeing to vote in favour.

A more proactive and engaged relationship can only be more beneficial

I am concerned about more than doubling the affiliation fee but if it is a one off to get things on a sound base then it is understandable

My personal view is that the Scottish Golf Union does 2 things--

1 - Most of its funds go to promote elite players and competitions, which I fully understand, but there needs to be a balance.

2 -My suggestion to this would be, why does part of the funding not come from the professional side of golf, as the exceptional amateur players will end up professional, and nothing is given back to grass roots from them.

I don't understand the full range of changes Scottish Golf are proposing but would prefer clubs to be able to retain a certain degree of autonomy about certain aspects of running their business.

developing young players is a priority

Not fully read and understood all changes proposed, am still really an "unsure", but have ticked as a tentative Yes

Cost increases will not filter through or help the majority of clubs or members who pay it. Constantly asking members to come up with more is poor practice in this climate.

Affiliation fee offers good value for money and is very favourable when compared with other governing bodies of sport. Club can benefit from engaging with Scottish Golf.

Elitist

More money less golf not fair for players everywhere what are the ideas make golf too expensive to play great news

No comment.

you all do a great job. Please keep it up. I am very much a social golfer with the kids and we all love the place.

Have concerns that SG is using funding from clubs for elite golfers when our club isn't benefiting and many members aren't interested in elite golf.

What help if any do we obtain from Scottish golf to increase numbers?

Why pay Scottish golf? Is it for a new set of blazers?

Don't know enough about the changes to comment

Not necessary

I would not increase the fees to £24

CRM system for tee booking is not essential for BofA GC.

I think they need to use their existing income more efficiently.

I'm not really experienced enough to comment yes or no on these but it looks to me as though there or too many separate and varied items in proposal No.1. They should be separated and discussed each on their own.

I can't answer this with a yes or no. I do not agree with all of the above but agree with others so I would be happy with whatever the committee decided.

I'd like the club to keep providing a neat, well-maintained course (as it is just now) that is easy to play - i.e. without cumbersome tee time booking. This ease is what attracted me to join.

I'm looking for recreational golf that is easy to access and the club is doing a good job of providing this.

positive change is good, change for change sake not so good.

There are too many unanswered questions in respect of benefits - value for money - effect on small clubs.

Happy to agree with those members who have looked more into the issues. I generally do not agree with national organisations taking money but would rather that any increases stay within the control of clubs and more directly then by members.

I would like to see the European Tour funding the development of talented golfers rather than golfers who play for their own pleasure

No obvious advantage to ordinary players.

Why does someone a member of two clubs have to pay twice?

I've selected NO above on the basis that the increased affiliation fees would be more than we pay for ClubV1. However, we need to take into account other savings (if any).

SG Ltd have a conflict in interests in supporting Clubs and attracting new golfers to the game where Clubs will ultimately benefit V funding "Elite" golfers. Clubs need to run the way the members see correct and not lose autonomy to a Central body.

Strengthens the game for the future

All of these changes are of very little or no benefit to BofA Golf Club.

Change the per capita levy to a percentage of membership and visitor income. Why should Clubs with 9 holes, low subscriptions and visitor incomes pay on the same per capita basis as Clubs with huge subscriptions and visitor incomes eg Trump Turnberry and Gleneagles?

They seem to have forgotten that golf in Scotland is about having a diverse set of private members' clubs, which meet the needs of their members. One size does not fit all. I can see no benefit in a unified tee booking system; more unification of gents and ladies golf bodies makes ladies' golf the poor relation, and will accelerate its decline. Small clubs like ours will probably lose out.

BofA currently has a membership database & a booking system. No value in doubling the affiliation fee. The savings made would outweigh the hassle. I would prefer to see SG work with clubs to make entrance fees compulsory & prohibit pay by month deals. These are short term measures which do not encourage member loyalty. I fully understand why clubs have had to go down this path but SG need to help them return to the ways their clubs used to be run.

Adding to the cost of golf will not make it easier to attract more players. You should be keeping costs down

Very against online booking systems for teetimes for both competitions and bounce games which members wish to play at short notice. Competition tee off times should always be handled such that players are randomly selected for each teeoff slot avoiding the situation where the same people play with the same people all of the time, as can happen when online/ telephone teetime booking is in place. Consideration must be given to increasing the playing enjoyment levels for members who do not wish to play in competitions and for whom handicaps are irrelevant. Easier access time must be made available for them.

no opinion

None

I think the affiliation increase is too high. I am also not in favour of charging international visitors a surcharge on green fees as it will act as a discouragement and could have an adverse effect on the Scottish Tourist Industry

Scottish golf club membership levels are declining rapidly. Further fee increases for new and current club members will only add to this decline.

Am wary of the all singing all dancing national booking system. What will be the backup if there is a massive malfunction?

SG seem to be totally unaware that golf clubs run their own business and have huge input from volunteers (particularly smaller clubs) who are unpaid of course - unlike SG!

Taking management of some functions over is prudent but these seem to be a 'power grab' that allows Scottish Golf potentially to dictate individual clubs' development. This may not take account of local circumstance and needs. I object in principle to paying increased and probably ever increasing subs for this. Would BofA have the same level of influence in determining direction of the game and strategic aims as St Andrews, Gleneagles or even Stirling golf clubs?

Could reduce membership

Due to the fact that the club doesn't suffer from serious congestion I think a tee booking system is unnecessary. I often play spontaneously and find that I am one of only 2 or 3 people on the course.

Would vote yes only if I felt the proposed changes allowed to make significant savings in other areas and if I felt SG were committed to supporting clubs like ours. Their support of the Park of Keir development leads me to suspect otherwise

Reduction in funding should not be made up from persons playing to plug the deficit. Membership in clubs have struggled for many years and this may mean more people may leave the game.

Don't know enough about question 10

Better winter greens

Don't know the details but would support the committee in their decision.

Yes to items 1, 2, 3 and 4, but no to 5 as a surcharge on green fee's may have an adverse effect on membership income.

More needs to be done and seen to be done centrally to urgently support Scottish golf clubs particularly the vast majority who are just breaking even. Those with larger turnovers are operating in a different golfing climate.

It's mainly about fees being increased and little about attracting new players. I'd like to see them do more in schools and reach kids who might not have a golf background

More players , of any background, gender , sport affiliation

Need to see more of the details to make a decision

Not sure there is a need for a CRM system given the growth of systems such as Howdidido, Teetimes etc. Would welcome increase in training especially for younger members.

No view until finalised

Putting on winter greens on when it's frosty?

Bridge of Allan Golf Club is supported by many volunteers who run the committee, run the Juniors & Ladies sections, assist with volunteering on the course, maintenance of the Clubhouse and in other areas. The club would not be able to function without this support and needs members to continue to make themselves available. Please detail below if you have skills/time available to assist the club now or in the future.

I am a country member living in Aberdeen. I will make myself available to the best of my ability and by late 2018 plan on living closer to the club at which time I will be much more available but please feel free to ask me for any help with anything.

I would like to help

Already on Management Committee

I already volunteer on the course and would happily continue to do so

Yes

I work full time and find it difficult to commit. Spare time is taken up with bowling club commitment and playing time.

I was volunteering for course maintenance, had to stop on health grounds

I have supported the Club for over 38 years now, like many others i have given many voluntary hours through good & difficult times. And will continue to do so, although some of the treatment and credit shown by certain members of our Club, i should probably have walked away by now.

Whilst I have a young family and work full time I remain keen to provide my support wherever this may be best utilised. At this time I would feel that this may be best suited for providing support in the maintenance of the course if needed over the winter/into the spring next year.

I would like to be involved in the running of the club. Unfortunately, the nature of my work limits the amount of time I would have to give to the club. I plan to retire in two years and would like to be involved in helping the club in some way from that point.

not at this moment in time

Happy to help with "grunt" work.

Sorry at this moment in time I'm tied up with other things.

I appreciate the time given by all club volunteers. I hope to be able to offer my assistance in years to come but cannot at this point in time.

A bit here and there often up helping mostly goes with a odd comment seems like the club is in a bubble and not profited from a good course this year as conditions and course worse most members have seen in 30 years why so BAD now lack of deep airing and sand drill work required on greens asap

I would be like to make myself available to assist but at the present my job is not giving me any scope of doing so but would like to in the future.

I work full time in Edinburgh and have 2 young children so I'm afraid I can't offer any time at present. Mt skill base is in commercial property so doubt it would help much anyway!!

None at the moment

Already a volunteer

Management skills, and time but age is now getting in the way with physical support

I travel with work so can't commit during the week. Consider a volunteer Saturday morning effort. More important than a winter medal

I do not have many skills but assisting with the maintenance of the course. Im good at picking up leaves and rubbish

No specific skills but on ladies committee.

Would like to help but no time or able to do so.

Not able to at present due to volunteer commitments in a sports club

If I still lived in Dunblane I would like to help. Very busy volunteering in Anstruther with Scottish Fishery Museum restoring historic boats..

Maybe in the future

Sorry, through work and family commitments I barely have time to play golf just now let alone volunteer for committee roles or greenkeeping duties.

Possibly assisting with course maintenance though I am not available Mon to Fri 9 to 5.30 due to work commitments.

As mentioned above, I helped with one on the clearances on the 7th fairway and would be willing and available to assist with this at other times.

Yes, I already do and will continue to do so.

Happy to continue on ladies committee.

Currently volunteer on Wednesdays when available

Happy to contribute to the running of B of A Golf Club, wherever I can

Organisational and administrative support on going

I will be happy to join members on Wednesdays if needed. The day I turned up this session it was cancelled and I had no way of being contacted.

Perhaps in future

I have volunteered with the club for several years

Possible assistance with maintenance, subject to bad back.

I aim to continue volunteering for course maintenance.

This is all really appreciated but hoping to have more time in the future.

I currently volunteer on the course.

Always try to be available to assist but still in full time employment and family commitments etc.

Seniority precludes me from taking an active part in that way

I intend to join the Wednesday group as a small contribution.

Already there

Always try to be available to assist but still in full time employment and family commitments etc.

Not at present but defiantly in the future.

Always try to be available to assist but still in full time employment and family commitments etc.

Not available due to old age and health concerns.

Lots of skills and willingness to contribute but lack of time makes it difficult.

I commend the Volunteers who give their time and dedication to BofA GC. I have little spare time due to my current job but look forward to the days when I can offer my assistance.

Always try to be available to assist but still in full time employment and family commitments etc.

Sorry no time due to work, family and boys football club duties

I have been a regular and enthusiastic participant in the Wednesday morning course maintenance area and will continue to do so in the future, and would recommend others to assist in this way too, as a significant level of extra man hours is beneficial to the Greens Convenor and Greenkeeping staff.

not available

I am committed to youth football coaching and currently could not commit to the juniors

Already assist course maintenance.

Not at present; perhaps in the future.

yes, whatever needed

I have no particular skills apart from common sense ! I am a new Veteran Member, retired and do have some available time to assist with voluntary work. I'm not sure whether the Club has a proposed programme to divot fairways but that is something I have done in the past and would be happy to get involved in.

unfortunately I have no spare time to play golf as it is.

Already a Wednesday volunteer.

Do not want committee membership but willing to assist on a ad hoc basis if required.

I am sorry but I don't have a lot of spare time as my husband is disabled but will help where I can.

unable to help due to work commitments (work away a lot)

Sorry, no skills and away too much mid week to assist! I have had my time on the committee and at the time found it difficult to commit to all that it entails.

I'm unable to volunteer at this time.

Am handy doing painting and gardening.

It is great to see many members give up their free time to support the club - willing to help with general tidying etc

I have skills that might be used to support the club but unfortunately, I cannot do so at this time.

Unfortunately at the moment I am overseas for over 6 months of the year, but would be happy to assist with one of task if available

Currently volunteering

Committed elsewhere

No

I currently work full time and have other commitments that take up my time, if advertised and I was available I could give up some of my time to the club, i admire all members who give up their own free time to help & better the club.

I have skills, but would prefer to volunteer on a Tuesday morning as Wednesday is a competition day.

Already assisting the Club

Depending on the commitment required / I often travel for work

not at the moment. Currently treasurer of the golf club

Yes but! I currently volunteer and help with some work on the course. I enjoy it and it works for me. However, can't always make it on a Wednesday. Would welcome some thought/discussion on an additional/ more flexible arrangement. For example, one individual - or group could take responsibility for some work (e.g. One specific teeing area, or clearing leaves in one area) and could do the work in their own free time. Stress this is not an alternative to the weekly volunteer but could perhaps mean a more flexible approach. Might also encourage others to become involved without having to commit to a specific day and/or time.

General tidying of areas around club house

Any other comments

I work as a joiner

Would be good to see members participate more in competitions and also use the Clubhouse facilities on a more regular basis.

To really improve our course needs investment in man power. It is impossible to achieve objectives with one greenkeeper and volunteers. Permanent part time assistant required.

I think it is good that people like yourselves, continue to try and help the Club get its buzz back. Currently we are going through a difficult period, but it's a great place to play Golf, and I hope we can bring the good times back.

To conclude I would to say -

1- The Club has a good Committee and many members who care.

2- We have a Bar Staff who are 2nd to none, I hope we can keep them.

3- Very difficult to try to explain this delicate issue in a brief line, as a member who plays regularly and hears all the positive & negative views from others. I know the Committee are aware of the problem, and many have tried to help throughout the season. But from what I see myself, and hear views of many members who have either left or having left the Club. I find it very awkward to say. Please accept all above comments in a purely personal and constructive manner.

Detailed communication to members about plans to address current issues and develop the club is vital. Often a vacuum if filled with opinion and rumour. This survey is a great idea. I look forward to hearing the views of other members and reading the development plan to sustain and improve our course.

Thank you for the opportunity to forward my views. Member engagement opportunities such as this are very positive and I would encourage you to continue to do so on a regular basis.

If everyone who actually replies to this survey played in medals on a regular basis, average medal must be circa 25 to 28 players, Then maybe there opinions would be slightly different

Stop talking start doing

No comment.

None at the moment

Hold a draw for 9 hole competitions, mix up normal playing groups, it might enhance numbers

Keep up the good work.

Since joining the club I have seen a lot of changes. I feel with the support of all club members the club should prosper and there should be no need for a small minority to contemplate selling the club to feather their back pockets. I realise that promoting the club should be a high priority, but with restraints of finances, the increase in annual fees could assist.

Hope you get the necessary help.

Thanks to all the existing committee members for the time they devote to the club.

One small comment about the payment of fees. In the past two seasons I have paid by BACS and would like to see that facility mentioned as a method of payment on the annual request form.

I think the club has done a great job keeping the course open with all the adverse weather throughout the summer, thank you.

I believe the management committee are doing a good job in challenging conditions, the weather this year has been particularly wet which has made it very difficult to present the course at its best at times, even so, the course has been open when many others have closed.

2pm on a Saturday is far too late to allow open access to the course. It is all far too rigid and we need more lateral thinking. The Gents medal could sometimes be on a Sunday with Saturday being used for Scrambles, Mixed or Invitations. There is not enough mixing between those who play in a Saturday medal and the other 200 or so members. With more mixing people might be more aware of what work is being done, what needs done and what skills people have. This would take time. We are attractive to visitors but need to find ways of making sure we are getting revenue

from this. Be good to become an Equal Opportunities Club, at least on paper, as young people and partners might be more tempted to join.

No x 2

The weather has changed to a wetter (volume on ground) and the Club can devise a programme to take water off the playing areas.

As a long standing member at BoA I have a loyalty to the Club, although it is no longer my Home Club and not where I tend to play County Competitions. However it offers me something different from other Clubs - the friendly informality; no tee booking required; just play 9 holes if your time available is short; good practice facilities for its relative size; fantastic environment and views; sensibly priced catering facilities.

The Committee do a fantastic job under difficult circumstances. Engaging with STRI to help advise on our course condition issues was the correct action. Keep up the excellent work I personally fully appreciate it.

I just wish I could play more

Unavailable due to distance

the Marketing has moved ahead really well in terms of website, email etc. But it would still be good to have a supply of (cheap) leaflets to spread around local hotels etc. to get some visitor income in. (I see visitors rather than members as the easiest way to increase income and improve the atmosphere, too)

the club should consider a pay and play for non members - encouraging locals to use the club and to see if they want to take up membership at later stages

I am very happy with the welcome and friendship shown to me as a new member.

The golf course has been in good condition considering the very wet weather we have had and the work to be done on the 9th green will make be a big improvement.

Thank you to all the committee for their contribution of time to the club.

I retain my membership to help support the club but at the moment very seldom get to play.

I think we could open up Saturdays far beyond the proposed "after 2pm" - potential revenue earner from visitors and may make our course more attractive to new members of working age but who are not solely focussed on competition golf.

None x 2

Non playing life member therefore no comments

Good club and atmosphere/I'm a new member and been made welcome by everyone. Thanks keep up the good work

The Ladies section deserve the highest praise for their work this year on painting the clubhouse, and the surrounding areas. It looks a lot better, and has really raised the image of the club. Would welcome further improvements in and around the clubhouse. Perhaps the volunteers could assist the ladies. One specific issue is that here is a sign at the road that says the clubhouse is open every day from 11.00. It isn't. A small thing but confusing for anyone passing.

There is a tendency to focus on the areas that need improvement and it seems that everyone has their own (strong) view. I think we need to put more emphasis on communication, and particularly communicating the positives. I thought the efforts by the greens convener last year were a big step forward. By calling a meeting, explaining what he was trying to do and giving everyone a chance to express their views, the whole process became more open, inclusive and productive, rather than a lot of moaning. A good example of keeping members informed - and involved.

Think we need to give more consideration to use of winter greens. Recognise there will be a range of views. I think the main greens need more protection, especially when wet and would support more widespread moving to winter greens - especially during the week, and using summer greens for competitions , e.g. Friday and weekend competitions.

Should dogs be allowed on the course ? I prefer that they are not.