



# TEE TIMES NEWS BULLETIN

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## Tina's winter win and the rest of the recent results

AFTER TEN rounds played since early November in some pretty unpleasant and challenging weather, the ladies' winter league at West Berks came to a conclusion on Saturday February 22 when Tina Mulford held her nerve and her lead to take the title with an aggregate score of 178 from her best five scores. Jane Brackenbury was second on 166 and Gale McAuley third with 160.

Tina took an 11 point advantage over Jane into the final round, a lead that was going to take exceptional circumstances for Jane to overhaul playing off a handicap of seven. Not surprisingly, only the two possible winners ventured out on a wet and windy final round and Tina won on the day returning 32 points to increase her aggregate score by a single point. Well done Tina and congratulations to all those who braved the conditions throughout this dampest of winters.

### M4 Seniors make KO stages (again)

The West Berks' senior team, led by our men's captain, Rob Bridgeman, beat Donnington Grove 3-1 in the M4 Seniors Winter League on Monday February 24 and so guaranteed a place in the knockout stages of the competition for the sixth successive year. Well done to all concerned.

### Valentine Trophy a success second time around

The rearranged midweek mixed Valentine Trophy played in memory of Ian Bell took place on Tuesday February 25. Teams played in a stableford Am-Am format with the best two scores to count. The trophy was won by the team comprising: Colin Bell, Gale McAuley, Simone Diamond and Barry Francis with 74 points. Patrick Wilmore, Kevin Forder, Sandy Miller and Helen



Tina: reflecting on her victory or eyeing up the prizes?

Bell were a point behind in second place while Bob Fagg, Mike Denny and Carol Sparvell playing with a 'secret' partner took third spot with 71.

### Greg pips Chris in stableford

Only two intrepid warriors contested the men's midweek stableford on Wednesday February 26 but they served up some good fare with Greg Collins on 36 points winning from Chris Terrett by two shots.

### Jorge wins on Saturday

Storm Jorge (who prefers to be known as 'Horhay') swept in on Saturday and caused the first men's Saturday stableford of the season and the already rescheduled weekend Valentines Day comp to be cancelled. Thankfully, he had moved on to pastures new by Sunday so the first men's monthly medal went ahead as planned.

### March medal results

There were 79 competitors in the first men's monthly medal of the year on Sunday March 1 but due to a technical issue the ratified results were not available for this week's issue.

The result will be covered in full detail next week.



Valentine winners: Colin, Gale, Simone and Barry

**Many thanks to the Hopwood Ash Financial Planning Consultancy for printing this bulletin**

If you have any items or ideas for TTNB or you would like to receive a copy please email Dave Ware at: [dgw.ware@gmail.com](mailto:dgw.ware@gmail.com)

# WHS is on its way

AS EVERYBODY involved with golf knows, the World Handicapping System (WHS) comes into effect on November 1 2020 and by the end of the year the system will be operating worldwide.

Whatever your personal view on this initiative it will certainly mean significant changes to how our handicaps are calculated and applied. At West Berks our handicap secretaries are working on a programme of how best to educate members of the upcoming changes. One method that will certainly be used is through the pages of TTNB.

In the meantime, if you want more information the subject is dealt with in great detail on the England Golf website and members of WBGC handicap committee namely: Tony Dyet, Brian Reid and Kevin Wilkins will be delighted to help.

We carried an article in October (TTNB 105) and this may prove to be useful preliminary reading while the following notes provide a few examples of how things will change:

1. From November 1 2020, instead of having a playing handicap you will have a **'handicap index'** based on the average of the best eight scores out of the most recent 20 scores returned. Each night the WHS system will detect any new scores submitted that day and recalculate and publish all changes in the handicap index ready for the earliest of starters the following day. Your handicap index will be the only thing you will need to remember.

**Note:** Scores prior to July 2017 will not be considered and for those who do not have 20 scores since that date a sliding scale will apply.

2. Every affiliated golf course across the world will have a **'slope rating'** for each set of tees depending upon difficulty. Ratings start at 55 for the simplest of courses while the most difficult will be 155 with a par of 113.

3. Each time you play any course from whatever tees, your handicap index and the course slope rating to calculate your playing handicap. But there is no need for concern as no actual calculation will be required; it will be a simple matter of referring to a chart that will be prominently displayed at the club.

4. England Golf is actively encouraging all golfers to submit as many cards as possible during 2020 so the new handicap index will be accurate come November 1. However, rest assured, despite rumours to the contrary, there is no requirement for members to submit cards every time they play.

5. Under the new system the term 'supplementary' will be replaced with 'general play' but the rules remain the same and players will have to notify the club before playing and return the card afterwards. It will be possible to submit general play cards from any course in the world. However, the player will have to log into the handicap system at the away club to register before playing and again after the round to record the score. It cannot be done back at the home club.

This is not the whole story and some details may well change before November 1. Keep an eye on these pages for updates and please contact one of the competition secretaries or write to TTNB if you have any specific queries.

## Coming up in March at WBGC

Mon 2 M4 League v Sand Martins (A)  
 Tue 3 Ladies: Monthly Stableford  
 Wed 4 M4 League v Sandford Springs (A)  
 Thu 5 Men: Midweek Medal  
 Sat 7 Ladies: Monthly Medal  
 Sun 8 Men: Winter League Round 5  
 Tue 10 Men: Midweek Stableford  
 Ladies: Midweek Medal  
 Sat 14 Men: Stableford  
 Ladies: Spring Stableford  
 Men v Sonning GC (A)  
 Sun 15 Men & Ladies Fun Competition  
 Wed 18 Men: Midweek Stableford  
 Sat 21 Mixed: Chappell Cup  
 Sun 22 Men & Ladies Fun Competition  
 Mon 23 Men: Midweek Stableford  
 Tue 24 Mixed: Midweek Competition  
 Thu 26 Seniors: v Wrag Barn (H)  
 Sat 28 Men v Sandford Springs (A)  
 Men: Stableford  
 Sun 29 Men: Winter League Round 6

## 2020 Major and Open events at WBGC

### June

Sat 6 Mens' Pairs Open  
 Sat 20 Captains' Day  
 Sun 21 Men's Senior Championship  
 Sat 27 Club Championships Rd1  
 Sun 28 Club Championships Rd 2

### July

Thu 16 Kerridge Pro-Am  
 Sun 26 Mixed Open

### August

Tue 18 Ladies' Senior Championship  
 Sat 29 Ladies' Open

### September

Thu 3 Men's Senior Open  
 Sun 27 Captains' Charity Day