

Competition programme to restart at West Berks

ON TUESDAY June 2 you should have received an email from the General Committee detailing the programme, arrangements and precautions required for the return of competitive golf at WBGC.

It is, by necessity, a long document that reflects the care, consideration and debate that has gone into finalising the necessary procedures and operating conditions. The requirement is to restart competitive golf while complying with government and EGU guidelines and providing maximum safety of our members.

There follows a brief summary highlighting the major points.

Advance notice

Notice of the timing and full details of the comps will be provided to members at least eight days before the competition date and will be advertised with a notice at the club and in TTNB.

The things you need to know

1. Book a tee time

Book a tee time for the comp in the normal way with the pro shop but please be aware that the pro shop will NOT enter you into the competition.

2. Arrive in time to enter the comp

It is recommended that you arrive approximately 30 minutes before your start time to enter the competition and liaise with playing partners.

Add your name to the booking sheet on the table in the hallway near the internal entrance to the pro shop.

Please maintain social distancing by working on a strict 'one-in, one-out' basis.

3. Add a stamp

Affix a competition stamp to your scorecard along with all other relevant information. Be aware that stamps will be available from the pro shop but only in books paid for electronically. The stamp machine will be in use but the pro shop will not provide change.

Those members who have competition credits as a result of stamps submitted for competitions that were cancelled may provide a card with no stamp but with competition credit annotated. The pro shop and the GC have a list of members with competition credits and these will be adjusted as they are used.

4. Mark your own card

Cards must not be exchanged. You can mark either your opponent's or your own card but please ensure that both players' scores are entered on both cards thus providing a cross check for those closing the competition.

5. Sign and return your card

After the competition, place your signed card in the competition box in the hallway of the clubhouse.

Additional information

At the moment competitions are restricted to non-qualifiers but the situation regarding qualifying competitions is under continual review. Watch this space!

Because the pro shop is not handling cash there will be no 'two-club' competition.

The £1 entry fee for the Liddiard will be waived for the time being.

During play EGU regs apply

Putting

Do not touch flagsticks or your opponents ball. You must hole out - there will be no 'gimme' putts.

Bunkers

Bunkers will be in play. Sand should be smoothed with the foot and club after a shot. In the event of a ball lying in a depression with the agreement of your playing partner it may be placed in the bunker within six inches and no nearer the hole. You are not allowed to smooth the sand before playing.

Enjoy your return to competitive golf but please remember your responsibilities and play safe.

Not getting emails?

If you, or you know of anyone who is not receiving emails and you would like to do so please advise either Sandy Miller (sandy.miller@live.co.uk) or Nick Jones (nickjones55@btinternet.com) of your email address so this can be added to the members mailing list.



Ace for Tina

THE LOCKDOWN lay off has obviously not harmed the game of TTNB poet extraordinaire, Tina Mulford.

Tina aced the eleventh on Sunday while playing with Geordie Duncan.

Congratulations to Tina and thanks to Geordie for the pic showing Tina social distancing the pin - no touching remember!

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Don Daszkiewicz

May 27 1947 - July 25 2020

SADLY, Don Daszkiewicz died on Monday May 25 at the age of 72.

He leaves his wife Dianne, three children, Clare, Marc and Colin and four grandchildren.

Don spent his early years in the REME as a motor vehicle engineer and ended his army career as an instructor at Arborfield.

While in the army he was attached to the Fusiliers, during which time he was appointed golf captain for the regiment when, very impressively, he played off a handicap of four.

After leaving the army Don worked locally in a garage in Newbury and when he retired in 2012 he became a member at WBGC.

He joined the elite group that tees off around 10:30 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. and Don normally enjoyed a sociable cup of coffee in the bar beforehand with other members of the group.

In recent years, despite being a very good golfer, Don had come to approach the game in his own unique manner where the normal laws of arithmetic and golf didn't always apply.

In addition, much to the amusement of his playing partners he could usually be relied on to provide unsolicited commentary and coaching advice.



But Don had a heart of gold and was always considerate and generous. He could unerringly be relied upon to know whose turn it was to buy drinks after the round - often saying it was his turn when it wasn't.

He had struggled in recent years with a hip problem, eventually having a hip replacement a couple of years ago. All through this discomfort he tried to play as much of a round as he could sometimes rejoining the group at the fourteenth, where he could often be found waiting on the bench with full commentary on the qualities of the groups ahead of us.

We will miss our good friend.

Andrew Kerr and Mike Moore

Booking conditions eased

TWO EMAILS have been issued by the GC over the past few days that announce a significant relaxation of the prevailing booking conditions with the result that from today (June 4) members may book seven days in advance:

- * In two, three and four balls at ten minute intervals.
- * As many times a week as they wish in accordance with their type of membership.
- * Up to a maximum of two tee times at once.

Please be aware. The regulations may have been relaxed but player vigilance must not be. Remember the guidelines: arrive no more than 15 minutes before your tee-time (30 mins for comps), no socialising after the round and please depart the golf course and car park as soon as possible after your round.

Obey the rules, play safe and stay well!

The planned start up

MEN'S

The match play competitions, Dowling, Seniors KO, Classic, and Walsh, will recommence immediately. The draw remains on the wall in the locker room with amended round completion dates.

Wed June 10: Liddiard nine-hole qualifier off yellow tees.

Sat June 13: Stableford off whites.

Sun June 14: Winter League R6 Multiplier, yellow tees. Substitutes will be allowed.

Mon June 15: Midweek stableford yellows.

Wed June 17: Liddiard nine-hole qualifier.

Sat June 20: Stableford off whites.

Please note that Captains' Day due on June 20 has been cancelled. It is planned and hoped that Captain's Charity day on Sunday September 27 will proceed as normal.

LADIES' programme

Gale McAuley reports that the ladies will be starting with a non-qualifying stableford on Saturday June 20 and it is hoped that another comp can be arranged for Saturday July 4 to ease everyone back into competitive mode. Information on the midweek competitions will be announced shortly.

Henceforward the plan is to follow the structure of competitions as listed in the diary as far as possible.

Liddiard reminder

IT SEEMS a long time ago that Simon Barrie won the final of the 2019 Liddiard Cup.

As a reminder the nine hole qualifier is played any time every Wednesday. This year there will be no entry fee for the qualifying rounds and no prize for the best card on any Wednesday. A card can be submitted for the first nine holes of a full round. The final is due to be played over 18 holes off the white tees later in the year.

The Herbie Sternberg trophy is awarded for the best five qualifying scores out of any number of qualifiers.

Rules special

Lockdown has initiated a new phrase in our ancient game: the 'Dom Cummings'.

It's a really long drive that goes out of bounds but does not carry a penalty.