



Results update at WBGC

Better late than ...

Although our last issue was dated September 29 there remained an outstanding result prior to that and we can now confirm that Chris Brind won the midweek stableford on Friday September 25. His winning score of 35 points put him six shots clear of Graham Brindley while Dan Taylor was a further shot back in third place.

Scrambling in the sun

On Tuesday September 29 the ladies played a Texas Scramble with the team of Ann Brown, Aileen Summers, Rukshi Watson and Lyn Pell taking first place with a score of 72.1. The team comprising: Sandy Miller, Carol Sparvell and Sally Field followed them home on 78.2.

Jim upstages Dad

Jane Wilmore described the ladies Texas Scramble as a lovely day from both the golf and weather standpoints but it proved to be the last such day for a while. The men's midweek medal on the following day was played in wet and windy weather and this proved to be a comparatively mild overture to Storm Alex.

Jim Harris won the medal with a gross 99, net 74 and in doing so he beat his father, Graham, who shot gross 91, net 77 to beat Dave Ware on count-back to take second spot.

Alex has his say

Storm Alex then had a definitive say in proceedings and although, remarkably, the course stayed open throughout, the competition programme was decimated.

We lost the men's stableford and the ladies' monthly medal due to be played on Saturday while the men's October medal and the seniors' championship on Sunday were postponed until Sunday October 18.

Pudders at it again

After several days of torrential rain the weather cleared up overnight and the conditions were amazingly good underfoot for the seniors' monthly medal played on Monday October 5. Geoff Pudner came to the fore once again to

win with a gross 84 (just one more than his age) net 69. Geoff beat David Gentleman, who shot gross 80, into second place on count-back while Rob Griffiths, with gross 89, net 71 took third spot.

Rukshi's a winner

We welcomed a new winner at West Berks when Rukshi Watson, who joined the club at the end of August, won the ladies' October midweek stableford played on Tuesday.

It was a close call though with a three-way tie on 31 points with Ola Adams taking second place and Sandy Miller relegated into third spot on count-back.

All set for Gillas final

The second round of the ladies' Gillas Cup played on Saturday last was won by Gale McAuley with 33 points while Tina Mulford was second on 30 and Jane Brackenbury third with 26.

The final is to be played on Saturday October 17 and the title will be decided by the aggregate of the best scores in rounds one and two plus the final.

If the somewhat rudimentary mathematic skills of your editor are correct Pat Treacy and Ann Davies lead the field into the final with 40 points and they are followed by Gale McAuley on 36 and Tina Mulford and Georgie Seaman tied on 34. All will be revealed this coming Saturday.

Bob takes Friday prize

Bob Patten won the men's midweek stableford competition on Friday when he scored 41 points to beat Greg Collins into second place on count-back. Nick Jones was two points behind in third spot.

It's Chris on Saturday

The following day saw Chris Ward win the men's Saturday stableford with 37 points while recent winner Muz Mzouri was second with 37 points. Dan Hoskin



Geoff Pudner winning again

scored 36 points and beat George Clarke on count-back to take third place.

Air Ambulance win again

The team comprising: Terry Phelps, Lee Nicholson and Colin and Stuart Harrison won the Corbridge Air Ambulance Cup played yesterday with a score of 88 points in the Am-Am format competition.

Kevin Holland, Tony Atkins, Mark Charlton and Charles Dixon took second place with 87 points beating Dan Bowsher, Chris Prior, Christy Whelehan and Jack Findlater on count-back.

The weather was great and a good time was had by all while raising £560 for Thames Valley Air Ambulance. Well done to all who supported this annual event.

Rebook for Oct 18

All those wishing to play the Men's October medal and the Seniors' Championship postponed from Sunday October 4 to Sunday October 18, must book a start time for the new date in the pro-shop.

WHS – your editor’s viewpoint

FOR THE whole of 2020 we have been counting down the time to November 2 when WHS comes into effect. It is somewhat startling to realise that it’s now just three weeks away.

Hopefully, by January we will all be chatting away blithely about our handicap index, our varying playing handicap and relative course and slope ratings like old timers. Well let’s hope so.

My own thoughts hark back to 1982 when the last major change in the handicap system was implemented and the CONGU system as we know it came into effect. In many ways it was more dramatic than the changes we are about to experience. Basically, under the old system you got cut whenever you won anything, and I am convinced that the then handicap secretary, Peter Walsh, would knock off a shot if you walked into the club house smiling after a round.

It was obvious that the new system would benefit from the use of a computer and it was probably for that reason that Ron Hurst and I became joint handicap secretaries. Even this was a very one-sided affair however. I owned one of the early, small Apple computers that had far less computing power than today’s smallest mobile phone whereas Ron used a Cray supercomputer at work that was the size of a small street and probably did have the computing power of a small phone.

I do remember very well something that is denied to us today because of the wretched Covid-19 virus. One evening I gave a presentation to the members in the club complete with a state-of-the-art flip chart with coloured pens! A very convivial evening it was too although how I wish I had kept that flip-chart.

Good luck with WHS.

Dave Ware

*For all you need to know about WHS go to:
www.englandgolf.org/whs and/or
www.thewbgc.co.uk/world-handicapping-system*

On-line booking

ALTHOUGH the system has yet to go live, another fixture has been set up to allow you to test our new on-line booking system.

You can now go into HowDidiDo and book a tee time for August 30 2021. If you haven’t already tested the system you are advised to do so because now is the time to ensure that your personal data is set up correctly rather than wait for when the system goes live. It must be stressed that this is only a test and until advised otherwise you must still book all tee times through the pro-shop.

You will be able to phone

There is one more important thing to remember. Once the system is live, if at any time, and for whatever reason, you cannot get on-line to make a booking, you will always have the option of phoning the pro-shop.

Providing you are within the necessary time constraints, they will be able to book one tee time for up to four people on your behalf.

Congrats to Keith Hawton CBE

WE ARE delighted to announce that Keith Hawton, a long standing member of WBGC and a regular participator on Saturday afternoons in SAGGS, has been awarded a CBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list.

When he is not playing golf at West Berks, Professor Keith Hawton is Consultant Psychiatrist at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Oxford. He was awarded his CBE for services to Suicide Prevention.

Well done indeed Keith, congratulations from us all at WBGC.



Keith on a SAGGS tour to Scotland

October Fixture List

- Tue 13 Men: Midweek Stableford (W)
Seniors v Ladies: Chris Green Trophy
- Sat 17 Men: Stableford
Ladies: Gillas Cup Final
- Sun 18 Men: October medal
Men: Seniors’ Championship
- Tue 20 Ladies: Midweek Medal
- Wed 21 Men: Midweek Stableford (Y)
- Fri 23 O’Connell Cup
Seniors AGM
- Sat 24 Men: Stableford
- Sun 25 Men: Gillas Cup R1
- Mon 26 Men: Midweek Stableford (Y)
- Tue 27 Mixed: Midweek competition
- Sat 31 Men: Stableford
Ladies: Winter League

WHS Privacy Notice

A MEMBER Update was issued on October 2 2020 concerning a privacy notice from England Golf that explains how personal data of its members is collected.

You are urged to read this important information either in the Member Update or the EGU website.