



TEE TIMES NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 147

January 19 2021

Back in lockdown – for the last time?

So, we are back in lockdown for a third time. Somehow it seems a bit tougher than previously, as there is no predicted date as to when it may all end. Your editor takes no delight in reminding you of the competition that we ran during Lockdown 1 in which we asked readers to guess when we would be playing golf again. My forecast of September 1 was four months after the initial restart in early May and was viewed at the time as being grossly pessimistic. And here we are!

With the national situation so severe, even the clamouring of the golfing media demanding an immediate return of golf is

diminishing. Of course there is light at the end of the tunnel and we must hope that the vaccination programme will be as speedy and as effective as forecast.

In the meantime, look after yourselves and spare a thought for our competition secretaries. They had worked very hard to reshape our January and February competition programme so we could squeeze as much as possible out of having to play two-balls. All to no avail I'm afraid but that does not mean their efforts went unappreciated!

Results from 2020

The timing was such that we were not able to publish the midweek Turkey Trot results in our last issue of 2020. We are therefore pleased to report that Martin Rolls won the men's midweek Turkey Trot on Wednesday December 16 with a splendid 45 points. Pete Dye was second with 39 while Ray Freeman was a further shot back and beat Steven Haylor on count-back to take third spot.

Jane Brackenbury won the ladies midweek Turkey Trot played on Wednesday 16 December with 33 points. Renee Wheeler on 30 points claimed second spot while Sandy Miller was third on 29.

There was a remarkable three-way tie on 40 points in the men's and ladies singles Turkey Trot on Saturday December 19 with the result decided in the order of Steve Salter, John (Chopper) Harris and Dan Hoskin on count-back. Gale McAuley was the leading ladies with 33 points.

2021 Diaries

The WBGC 2021 diaries have been printed and are at the club and will be available for collection as soon as we are out of lockdown.

WBGC Who's Who in 2021

President	Gordon Munro	07710 270766
Officers:		
Chairman	Kevin Hopwood	07721 937642
Secretary	Sandy Miller	07974 231485
Treasurer	Nick Jones	07468 594737
Captains:		
Men's	Rob Bridgeman	07866 983060
Men's		
Vice-captain	TBC	
Ladies' Rep	Tina Mulford	07833 356236
Seniors'	Bob Ekins	07885 067391
Competitions:		
	Greg Collins	07983 430098
	Stuart Harrison	07879 476769
	Stuart Murphy	07808 917865
	Nigel Day	07774 228000
Handicaps:		
	Brian Reid	07768 192401
	Tony Dyet	07584 315145
Committee		
Members:		
	John Bennett	01635 46283
	Barrie Seaman	01635 522750

WBGC Welfare Officer

It is a requirement of English Golf that all affiliated clubs should appoint a welfare officer. This was covered in a Member Update issued on Tuesday January 12. If you would like more details on this voluntary position please see the information sheet attached to the update and/or visit the relevant pages on the EG website.

Story of the Week

Had a decorator in last week. Got chatting and it turns out he is a pilot on furlough from British Airways. I have to say he made a great job of the landing.

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- *What you are missing!*
- *Fink revisited*

What you are missing!



Pining for a game of golf? These pics of the greenkeeper's cottage and the clubhouse should cheer you up and make your fireside seem a trifle more attractive. OK this argument does not stand close scrutiny as these images are from February 2019 but the thought is well intended.



It's all in the mind

While the esteemed TTNB mind-coach, Fink Wright, is busy at his home in Florida imparting his vast knowledge to the good and great of the golfing world, we thought it would be a good idea to share some of his past advice that has appeared in these pages as far back as October 2011.

Dear Fink

I often play very well in the front nine but fall away on the back. Do you think that the fact that when I have had a good start I spend a lot of time on the latter part of the round composing my winning acceptance speech? I am very nervous of speaking in public and I want to make sure everything is spot on when my big moment arrives. - *TT, Lambourn.*

Dear TT, Please don't concern yourself; you have absolutely nothing to worry about. Best wishes, Fink

Dear Fink

I suffer from mood swings when I play golf. I hit a good shot and I am going to turn pro and then I hit a bad one and I am going to give up the game. Any suggestion as to how I can resolve this problem? *GUR Hungerford.*

Dear GUR, Firstly, take a good look at your card and give up the idea of turning pro. Secondly, think of all the decorating and gardening you would have to do if you were not playing golf. Then just relax and enjoy. Good luck with that, Fink

Dear Fink

I regularly play golf with a long-standing and celebrated member of this club. The problem is that he is an octogenarian and several years older than me yet regularly drives the ball some 50 or 60 yards further than my best drive. He does this with no apparent effort or understanding of the physical and mental distress that I am suffering in trying to keep up with him.

I know you advise not to take on-course problems home but my low confidence and lack of self esteem are affecting my personal life to an extent that my wife has taken up knitting. Please help.

Edward G. Rag, Canal Street, Newbury.

Dear Edward,

This is a truly unfortunate situation. Readers must remember that the drive is just one part of the game and can be offset with skills in other areas. However, having glanced at our previous correspondence I realise that this will be of scant consolation to you as your short game leaves so much to be desired. But, please, don't even think about giving up the game, you're far too old to take up knitting. Fink

Note: This letter was published in March 2018 and although it may not have occurred to you dear reader it may be written under a pseudonym. While not wishing to give away any secrets I can confirm that he is still at it and causing a similar effect. Nowadays it's known as the Thursday blues!

Dear Fink

The last thought I have when I strike a putt is to wonder on what side of the hole I am going to miss. Is this what is known as negative thinking? - *GBH, Grove.*

Dear GBH, Well it certainly isn't very positive! However, confidence must be built up slowly and cannot be rushed. I suggest you start by thinking along the lines of: "Wouldn't it be amazing if this went in?" and then work up from there. Good luck, Fink

Dear Fink

I have noticed that a number of accomplished golfers resort to playing one-handed when they experience trouble with chipping. I have tried this but it does not work for me. Is there another solution? - *AA, Wantage.*

Dear AA, Ever thought of snooker? Yours Fink