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|  seniors Newsletter jANUARY 2018 |

**seniors committee membership**Keith Ashton – ChairmanBernard Humphries – SecretaryGerry Wareing – Match SkipperBob Siddle – Deputy Match SkipperKevin Chrimes - Competition Secretary David Butler – Competition Secretary (Designate) Ian Lockie – Match Skipper (Designate)Graham Ball – Events Manager**NEIL BURKE PRESENTATION**For those of you not present at the Christmas Lunch and Trophy Presentations, a presentation was also made to Neil in recognition of his contribution over many years. He has quite rightly decided to take a well-earned break and have some “me” time with his wife, family and friends. Both Neil and his wife Karen will now be able to choose when to take a weekend break at a swish hotel in Chester, courtesy of the Seniors Section.Winners of the Team Competition on the day were John Walter, James Stafford, Peter Hopkin and Brian Soper. Second were Stephen Hodson, Peter Lomas, David Butler and Roger Northover. Third placed were Chris Lakin, Mal Hardy, Brian Soper and Catherine Martin.Eagle eyed members will have noted that Brian appears twice – also as a “ghost” for a 3 man team!**SENIOR MAJOR WINNERS IN 2017**Notable achievements by David Butler in winning the Belfry Trophy and Graham Ball in being out in front on Captains Day. Maybe there’s hope for the rest of us yet, or maybe not!**NEW CONGU HANDICAP CATEGORIES** As you know (please refer to Competitions Newsletter 2018) on 1 January, CONGU introduced Category 5 and 6 Handicaps for both Men and Ladies, providing for a maximum handicap of 54 for all golfers.To simplify matters, as far as Seniors competitions are concerned, this means that handicaps will effectively range from 1 to 36 with the only other change being that the handicaps of Men can now exceed 28 in such competitions up to a maximum of 36. **WINTER SEASON 2018 – 18 HOLES START**We will be reverting to 18 Hole Competitions starting with the 2 Ball Texas Scramble newly scheduled for 12 February. Please note that in the event of continuing adverse conditions then we will, of course, continue with 12 Hole Competitions. **SENIORS MATCHES****Friendlies**Match Skipper Gerry has now arranged all but one of the friendly matches against five of our neighbouring golf clubs, as follows:Thursday 19 April v Lymm at HomeMonday 14 May v Warrington AwayWednesday 16 May v Wilmslow at Home Wednesday 6 June v Knutsford at HomeTuesday 19 June v Astbury AwayFriday 22 June v Lymm AwayFriday 17 August v Knutsford AwayFriday 24 August v Wilmslow AwayFriday 31 August v Astbury at Home The home match against Warrington is still to be arranged and we are waiting for Warrington to come back to us on this.Being friendlies, these matches are played in a relaxed manner and any senior male member is welcome to put his name forward for inclusion with the proviso that he is able to play in the corresponding club fixture be that home or away.The format is 4BBB matchplay and 16 players are required for the 8 pairs with the exception of Wilmslow where, at their request, only 12 will be needed for 6 pairs.Gerry will contact everybody nearer the time inviting nominees.**Manchester and District Golf Alliance (MDGA)**  We have once again entered a team into this prestigious knock out competition for 2018 which comprises a male team of 10 with 5 coming from within the handicap bracket of 1 to 15 and 5 from the 16 to 24 bracket.The first round has just been drawn by the MDGA pairing High Legh at Home to Dukinfield and we are now arranging the date for this match to be played which has to be before the end of March. Meals are not provided although we will provide tea or coffee and biscuits for home ties. Nominees will be invited shortly.**RAISING THE PROFILE OF THE SENIORS**Whilst the Seniors Section is a large and well-established feature of Clubactivity, your Committee is of the opinion that it is not as particularly well served as other sections of the Club with regard to publicity and information and maybe that is the fault of ourselves in not being pro-active. We hope to improve on this by making a start below: **Seniors Section on the HLPGC Website**Seniors appears to be the only Section that does not have a presence within the Members Section of the website, so we have already rectified that. Firstly, the 2018 Calendar for all Seniors Competitions during the year has been uploaded so that easy reference can be made. The 2018 Calendar for all other Competitions is also there for you to refer to.Secondly, starting with this issue, all Seniors Newsletters will be uploaded for reference purposes and for new members to catch up.You will also find anything of interest or importance arising in between Newsletters so have a look every so often.**Email address**In this respect, we have established an email address at seniors@highleghpark.com for members to contact us with observations, suggestions (clean please!) and also where you think that we may be able to help from time to time. Please remember that this is for Seniors to use for matters relating to seniors golf. In all other respects relating to general competitive play, please use Comps@Highleghpark.com Don’t forget that you can also post your general comments in the box adjoining the computer situated in the main bar and the Company will get back to you on these.For access to information on the Club website – click on “Members”, then click “Competitions, Committee and News”, and enter the password which is “wa160wa” (all in lower case with no spaces) and Click “GO” then scroll down to “Seniors News” etc. **LADIES/SENIORS COMPETITIONS 2018****Ducks and Drakes – Tuesday 6 March**This year the Ladies will organise this annual fun get together between the Ladies and the Senior Men so everybody is assured of a great fun day out. Teams will be drawn so as to ensure team equality so far as is possible and there will be a shotgun start (SGS) at 9.30am followed by lunch and any presentations. This is an early reminder for all you **Senior Men** to get the date in your diaries because, rest assured, the ladies will be out in force as usual so please don’t let the side down! The format of this get together will be notified nearer the date. **Ladies v Seniors – Wednesday 29 August**It’s the Mens turn to organise this year with a SGS at 9.30am followed by lunch and any presentations. Details to follow in due course.**Xmas Comp – Tuesday 4 December** We know that it’s way too early for everyone but the Ladies will be organising the festivities this year. **VETERANS’ TROPHY**This annual competition is open to seniors aged 75 or over and is held during the last week in August each year. This year it is scheduled for **Thursday, 30 August** with tees available to be booked on BRS as usual.It’s a Stableford Competition played off the Red and Yellow Tees and as well as the winner receiving the Trophy, there will also be 3 prizes for alternative Nearest the Pins and for the best outward 9 holes.**CONDITIONS OF COMPETITIONS**A timely reminder for everybody to familiarise themselves with the Conditions of Competitions regarding cancellations due to bad weather, etc. Access to the main website where these are set out is gained via the information included at the end of the “Raising the Profile of the Seniors” item above. **TATTON LEAGUE TEAM CAPTAIN**Hot off the press! Congratulations to Robert (Bob) Wood in taking over as Tatton League Captain for the coming season. The very best of luck from all seniors.Chairman on behalf of the Seniors Committee24 January 2018 |