

Members Liaison Committee

Meeting 21st February 2022

7.00pm in the Clubhouse

1. Present

J. Murdoch, E. Raistrick, C. Lannin, R. French, D. Mennie, I. Clark, D. Scott

Apologies

G. Dalziel, M. Andrews, J. Porteous

J. Murdoch opened the meeting and asked D. Scott for the course update.

2. Course

D. Scott informed the group that the winter work was progressing well with bunker renovation nearly complete, some of the ponds cleared and verti drain work completed. D. Scott reminded the group that play from members was still very high (up to 60% higher based on 2019 figures) and there was some wear and tear but green staff would move traffic as required. The 9th Fairway would be made GUR and a trial of the divot bags was also planned. D. Scott informed the group that the bags had a cost of £7 each and it was hoped that the bags would be returned after play to be filled and put back into circulation. D. Scott said that he thought this would not be the case and noted that the pro shop have to buy over 200 range baskets per year as some golfers take the baskets away with them. D. Scott also said that nearer the season there would be a members volunteer divot day. UPDATE The trial of the divot bags only lasted a couple of days as 30 bags were introduced and within 24 hours the number of bags in circulation had dropped to 6 and have still not need returned.

Further work on the 11th hole was planned for early spring and the trees at the 17th were being worked on and D. Scott said there was some returf work to be carried out, application of the herbicide Laser and application of fertilizer to be carried out on the run up to the season.

E. Raistrick spoke about the raking of bunkers. D. Scott said that rules around raking of bunkers had not changed it is likely that this will be changed as rules around the pandemic are relaxed but no guidance had been circulated from Scottish golf. UPDATE From 2nd April the local rule will be removed and raking of bunkers is expected of all players.

3. Clubhouse

D. Scott noted the start of the new head chef, Herve Willems and said that he and Vanessa were in the process of creating a new menu and also looking at food costs to reprice some of the items on the menu.

D. Scott informed the group that new furniture was being ordered, painting work was underway and some essential maintenance to the kitchen area, boiler room was being worked on. D. Scott noted that he was also looking at the windows in the lounge and restaurant which may need to be replaced or repaired to improve drafts.

Plans are being reviewed which may include an increase in size to the trolley shed opposite the main entrance to the clubhouse. Details of exactly how large the extension will be are to be determined, but once decided and work is started D. Scott will look to allocate space out to interested members.

4. Events and Handicaps

D. Scott confirmed that the final fixture list was on the website. R. French noted that it might be best to move the Thursday round of the Championship to the Wednesday to avoid a potential clash with the County Cup. D. Scott to look at this.

Championship Tees – D. Scott informed the group that there had not been any guidance from the governing bodies (Scottish Golf and R&A) on this matter. D. Scott did make an additional suggestion to those being considered that if a match had a male and female competitor then the match could be played from the Green Tees. After a wide discussion it was agreed that the terms of the event should stay the same until guidance is available from the governing bodies. D. Scott and J. Murdoch to inform J. Burgess of this decision.

C. Lannin & R. French asked for consideration to be given to a Seniors Championship, E. Raistrick said that the Ladies Championship could also be resurrected. There was a discussion about the merits of adding in these events to the calendar based around Craigielaw's integrated approach to events. D. Scott said that the events could be added into the calendar but some thought was needed on the overall format and he also asked for the MLC members to consider the wider implications of adding in such an event. D. Scott to look at format/date etc and report back.

E. Raistrick noted that if the qualifying event was not the same round as the main Championship event then it would have to be a medal that 5 day members could play in.

There was a discussion on the new Sweep days included in the 2022 season fixtures. D. Scott confirmed the event would be a non-counting round for handicap, tees used would vary at each event and there would be Scratch & Handicap Sweeps. Members could decide to play in the sweep or not and a group could be made up of those competing and some not, fourballs are allowed. Anyone wishing to make the score count for handicap would simply register this prior to play

J. Murdoch gave a summary of how volunteer recruitment was going for the Genesis Scottish Open and Womens British Open. J. Murdoch felt that more volunteers may be required. D. Scott said that information would be sent out with subscriptions and further details would be added to updates.

5. Members Communication

D. Scott went over the various ways the company communicates with the members to clarify what communication currently exists he added that there were options to add in text alerts or use HowDidIDo a bit more to communicate on certain topics.

D. Scott is reviewing the website with the web developer to update the members section in the hope that social media channels can be added to the members page.

6. MLC

J. Murdoch informed the MLC that he had now summarized the MLC Management schedule and this had all active points as well as archived items. It was hoped this was a quick and easy reference tool.

7. AOCB

R. French asked for consideration to be given to discount or a benefit on a members subscription based on significant successes in external events. D. Scott said he would present this to the owners for consideration but would look at this on a wider benefit scheme for successful members. D. Scott

did note that there would be an honor board placed in the clubhouse which would mark successes and that current and future success would always be considered for benefits but historically help had only been given to those looking to make a career in playing golf.

E. Raistrick asked for information on the members insurance policy. D. Scott confirmed that insurance cards would be in the pro shop to collect.

J. Murdoch closed the meeting.

Next Meeting dates

Mon 23rd May 7pm

Mon 22nd Aug 7pm

Sat 5th Nov 1pm

AGM Sat 5th Nov 2pm