

Members Update March 26th 2021

From the Captain Evlyn Raistrick,

Firstly thank you for your continuing support of Craigielaw, the lockdown restrictions over 2020 and 2021 have taken their toll on us all but I am pleased that so many have renewed their membership subscriptions in 2020 and now 2021 and very positive news that the club has a substantial waiting list of prospective new members. Full Lockdowns and travel restrictions have been frustrating especially more recently for those that live out with East Lothian. I know many members have appreciated the discount applied for the first Lockdown last year and I know Derek will be making mention of what the Club intends to do for those members who could not get down to play this year. It has been difficult to balance the costs of running Craigielaw and provide some recompense for time lost.

Now that we can see an end to travel restrictions and all members can get down to play soon, it is good to note that at Craigielaw we continue to have a relatively small membership compared with other clubs and though with an expected high demand for tee times from the end of April, we should with the help of the pro shop be able to accommodate everyone with bookings - and to enjoy the golf course which has never looked better at this time of year.

With the return of golf for all of us we can begin to think about a fixture list of competitions and events. Sadly we will miss the Medal Winners Day on Saturday 27th March - this event was the first casualty of 2020 but we hope to combine these two events, to be known as the Trophy Winners Day and play as part of our 20th Anniversary celebrations later this year. Hopefully a full fixture list will be published soon including a return to Wednesday and Saturday medals with an Order of Merit and eclectic competition to be announced.

It has been a strange tenure as Captain but through this last year, I cannot praise Derek and his team enough - he's our first port of call, for all things Craigielaw and I can't begin to imagine how he has maintained his good humour and pleasant demeanour through it all - my grateful thanks to him, Jonathan, Craig and Cameron - and to Paul and the greenkeeping team.

I look forward to seeing everyone back and celebrating twenty years of a great club.

Evlyn

Easing of Lockdown Measures

Please note the following dates and the resulting changes to the operations at Craigielaw.

2nd April

The "stay at home" message becomes "stay local", some members have asked if this change allows those staying out with the East Lothian area to travel to Craigielaw again, unfortunately the restriction stays the same however instead of this being a rule it is now advice only. The course will be open however the clubhouse will remain closed apart from limited toilet facilities.

26th April

Travel around the country can resume and therefore members from out with the local area can travel to play and use the facilities at Craigielaw. The clubhouse will re-open that day with food and non-alcoholic drinks available indoors (4 people from 2 households only) and alcohol available outside (6 people from 3 households) in the courtyard and in the seating area beside the pro shop.

17th May

It is hoped by this point East Lothian will be moved to one of the lower tiers and restrictions will ease further. This date also marks the re-opening of our lodge accommodation. It is also hoped with the lowering of more restrictions we can look to hold some of our more sociable events.

Obviously these dates may be subject to change and we are waiting for the finer details on the various dates and we will circulate these as and when they are received.

Tee Times

As daylight is increasing we will now start the diary at weekends from 7am, tee times will go live the week before at 7am this will start from this weekend for next weekends (3rd April) bookings. Weekdays will remain at 8am.

With all members able to travel to the club from the 26th April and demand for times likely to be high we will be booking in some extra times each day, we would ask all members to book as usual using the online system, however if any member from out with East Lothian does not manage to secure a time they can call the pro shop 01875 870800 and staff will release these extra times on a first come first serve basis. It is hoped this will look after the majority of demand and make sure those members who have not been able to visit the club recently can secure a time.

Lost Playing Time

Now that travel is to be allowed again we are in a position to offer those members living out with East Lothian some recompense for lost playing time. This will take the form of a credit voucher that can be used against anything at the club e.g. food, pro shop, guests etc. Different categories of membership will receive different amounts of credit and I will be writing to each category next week to inform them of the amount and how to access the voucher. I understand how frustrating the last number of weeks have been and I hope this gesture goes some way to make amends.

Derek Scott
Manager
Craigielaw