



16th October 2020

Dear Member,

Hope all members and family are well.

Clubhouse: The club has now been secured until we can open again. The locker rooms remain open for retrieval and storing of clubs. On competition days you will be able to access the bar and enter your score in the computer. You must though wear a face covering when entering the club.

Competitions: As explained previously on competition day you only need to let the Edinburgh Leisure starter know that you are entering the Lochend medal. They will record your name on the medal sheet. Your bar account will then be debited with your entry fee and sweep. Whilst the bar is closed there will be no scratch sweep only 2s and handicap.

Generally we will close the shutter in front of the bar entrance in the early evening. If you finish your round after this clearly mark this on your card with the time you came off the course and also either let a committee member know or email the secretary that you have done this. The scorecard box will be placed in the foyer once the shutter has come down. It does take a lot of time to check everything and update the systems after a competition and this will help to avoid any confusion.

Some of you have asked a valid question, what happens if we don't have enough money on your bar account? Don't worry if there is not enough on your account you will still be entered and you can bring your account back into credit once the club re-opens. However a committee member will be on hand from 11.00 until 1.00 on Sat 24th October for anybody who wishes to "top up" their account.

Gents Nov Medal: Last week we advised you that because of the new handicap system we were bringing this medal forward a week to the last Sat in October. However we have today received updated guidance from Scottish Golf that even on this date we cannot upload scores for handicap updates. Therefore there is no advantage in moving the November medal forward by a week. **The November medal will revert to the original advertised date of Sat 7th November and will be a non-counter for handicap.**

Winter League: The winter league, originally scheduled to commence on 1 Nov 2020, will now proceed on the 8th November. The format of the event has been changed to facilitate the booking system currently in use by Edinburgh Leisure. The league will not this year be a series of match-play ties!

This year it will involve four completely different formats repeated over several weekly cycles. The number of cycles will be dependent on entry numbers. These formats have been decided upon as it will negate the need for team captains to speak with their various counterparts to establish same tee times for two teams playing against each other. Instead a team will always play amongst themselves and the captain only has responsibility for his own player's times.

THE FORMAT

There will be four differing formats, these will be.

- 1 4 Player Texas Scramble
- 2 Stroke Play Stableford Format
- 3 Tri Am
- 4 Stroke Play

Details on how this will be managed and how points are to be allocated to establish league tables will be published on the website shortly.

As stated earlier these matches will be repeated in the same order for the duration of the winter league. Dependent on entry numbers, initial thoughts are they will be every two weeks with commencement on the 8th November

Closing date for entries will be Saturday 24th October and arrangements are being made to enable this process to take place during current restrictions. In the short term however should you wish to enter now this can be done by email to stuart.mathie@blueyonder.co.uk, details required are Team Captain, Team Members, and contact details of captain (mobile phone number) and whose bar account to be debited with £20 entry fee.

Last week I mentioned the new “World Handicapping System” and the Scottish Golf Website has further information which is worthwhile looking at. We are also going to start using new software for our competitions. More details on all of this over the next two weeks.

Finally thanks to everybody for adapting to all the changes we have had to make. The bar takings over the summer months were as good as last year’s so again thank you to members for using the bar and adhering to all the safety requirements. I also want to thank our bar staff who adapted to ensure members were looked after. Hopefully we will be open again soon.

Alex Ferguson
Captain
Lochend Golf Club