

Forrester Park Golf Club
Annual General Meeting 30/09/2020

COURSE COMMITTEE REPORT

The programme of regular Course Committee meetings has been severely affected by the Covid pandemic and none has taken place since the spring lockdown in March. The Return to Golf in July saw head greenkeeper Jeff working with a much depleted team and against a backdrop of financial uncertainty, coupled with understandably reduced resources.

Nevertheless, there were some benefits – the wet winter of 2019-20 saw the course under some strain from often relentless rain, so the enforced closure during the spring allowed a much needed respite. When play did resume, members were greeted with fine conditions, plush fairways and excellent greens.

The R&A guidelines for covid-compliant play saw a big increase in membership applications, but also in the measures required of the greenstaff to keep the course “covid-secure”. Aided by a number of volunteers, Jeff and his team have done sterling work in keeping our course in excellent condition, since clearly the virus has paid no heed to the usual amount of mowing, strimming and treatment necessary.

Looking ahead, November is due to see the introduction of the revised CONGU handicapping system, along with the Slope system for grading the difficulty of courses. It is expected that the Slope ratings will vary between the red, yellow and white tees, so more work for Jeff and his team to keep the course compliant!

With the onset of the winter months, members are respectfully reminded about the importance of repairing pitch-marks, keeping buggies and trolleys away from the green approaches and respecting any ropes and pathway restrictions put there by the greenstaff, for the protection of the course, and therefore everyone’s golfing enjoyment.

One change to the committee’s composition - Geoff Pettit stood down as VETS section representative, and is replaced by Trevor Macdonald – our thanks to Geoff for his time and participation in the work of the group and welcome to Trevor.

It is hoped that meetings can be restarted over the winter months, and members are invited to play an active part in making suggestions and recommendations for the committee’s discussion. All can be assured that every such contribution is actively examined and fed back through the Minutes that appear on the Men’s website.

Course Committee
September 2020