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YOUR MONTHLY PPGC NEWSLETTER

**PPGC
NEWS**

MAY

2015

ISSUE 7

This Month's Competitions



WEDNESDAYS

- 06th Medal
- 13th Bonus Stableford
- 20th Presidents Cup/Trophy
- 27th Spring Cup

SATURDAYS

- 02nd S Misters Memorial
- 09th Ladies Ping / Mens EGU
- 16th Medal Daily Telegraph
- 23rd Vice Presidents Cup
- 30th Millenium Cup

To enter a competition after the closing date or to cancel your entry please **TEXT** (preferred) or phone the club mobile on :

07925 276 097

CLUB MATCHES

- 03rd Handicap League v Little Lakes (Home)
- 05th Seniors v Kingfisher (Home)
- 19th Seniors v Ravenmeadow (Home)
- 31st Handicap League v Bewdley Pines (Home)

Stimpmeter Explained

The **Stimpmeter** is a device used to measure the speed of a golf course putting green by applying a known force to a golf ball and measuring the distance travelled in feet. The ingenious device has gone through a few minor design changes over the years but the principle has remained virtually the same.



It was designed by golfer Edward S. Stimpson, Sr. in 1935. The Massachusetts State Amateur Champion and Harvard Golf Team Captain, Stimpson was a spectator at the 1935 U.S. Open at Oakmont where the winning score was 299 (+11). After witnessing a putt by a top professional (Gene Sarazen) roll off a green, Stimpson was convinced the greens were unreasonably fast, but wondered how he could prove it. He developed a simple low-tech device, made of wood, now known as the Stimpmeter, which is an angled track that, when tilted upwards to a certain angle (approx 20°), releases a ball under the force of

gravity at a known, repeatable velocity of 6.00ft/s (1.83m/s) so that when released onto the grass the distance it rolls on the green's surface can be measured.

The distance traveled by the ball in feet is the 'speed' of the putting green.

Six distances, three in each of two opposite directions, are averaged on a flat section of the putting green. The three balls in each direction must be within 8 inches (20cm) of each other for validation of the test. One problem is finding a near level surface on which to take the measurements. Many greens cannot be correctly measured as you cannot find an area where the measured distance or green speed in opposing directions is less than a foot, particularly when they are very fast requiring a very long level surface. A Newtonian formula, as derived and extensively tested by A. Douglas Brede, solves that problem. The formula eliminates the effect of the slope and provides a true green speed even on severely sloped greens.

Know Your Course?

Which hole is this?



Answer on Page 4

Golf Shop Members' Deals

Look out for Mark Woodward's special Members Deals on our website : Current Deal : 9 x GT Tour Grips (fitted) rrp £29.99 Members price **£23.99**. Srixon AD333 balls (12) rrp £30.00 Members price **£17.99**. Dry Joys Tour SL Golf Shoes rrp £89.99 Members Price **£59.99** limited stock. T&C's apply. (See website or Mark for more info)

Perdi Monthly Winners & Results



Wed 4th – Medal
John Hine net 67

Sat 7th – Mail On Sunday National Golf Club Classic (Mens) Rnd 2
Gudet Luce v PPGC won 3-2

Sat 7th Marie Curie/EGU
Tom Jenkins net 64

Wed 11th Stableford
Collis Fisher 37pts

Sat 14th Medal
Steve Williams net 63

Wed 18th Am/Am
Clive Instan, Geoff Jones, Steve Duggan & Geoff Nunney net 135

Sat 21st Par Competition
Brian Cash +4

Wed 25th Medal
Collis Fisher net 67

Sat 28th Summer League 1
Ed Nicklin net 62

Sat 28th Mail On Sunday National Golf Club Classic (Men) Rnd 3
Tewkesbury Park v PPGC Lost 4-1

As of April 1st our Competition Results and Club Match Results are being forwarded to Worcester News. As Mr. Editor doesn't take said newspaper he has no idea if or when they will be published so watch out

for your name in the local press folks!! Let me know peoples!!

Golfing Parlance?

Is it just me or do we golfers use the same 'commands' as dog walkers?



Most commonly heard around the course are : 'Down!', 'Run!', 'Sit!', 'Heel!', 'Go!', and of course 'Pick it up!' The latter is a little one-sided though!

Club Business etc On www

If anyone has suggestions, comments or questions regarding the smooth (or otherwise!) running of PPGC there is a page on our website, 'Members Links' where you can have your say by clicking on the 'Committee Link' feature. If however you don't want your message to be seen in this Members only area I have now included, on the same page, an email link directly to Website Admin. Please feel free to use this facility and Mr. Admin will ensure your words are passed on to the Committee as soon as possible.

Not on-line? Leave a message in an envelope addressed to PPGC Website Admin (Peter Brown) behind the bar and I will give your missive exactly the same attention as an email.

Also, since the end of March I have included another feature on the 'Members Links' page called 'Committee News Update' where our Club Secretary, Chris Williams, can post information straight to the website so as he comes across something worthy of a mention he can update everyone in real time. Only the Club Secretary can post new topics on this feature but anyone

should be able to reply to any of his posts.

GolfMark?

GolfMark is one of the things that the Committee has been assessing and looking in to. Some of you will have heard of GolfMark and some may not so here is a brief introduction to GolfMark for information:

GolfMark is a national accreditation that has been designed to support all golf clubs, however big or small to achieve distinct operating standards in four areas of a club's business activity :



Recruitment & Retention :

Supporting your club to attract new members and increase the participation of existing members.

Management & Sustainability :

Helping to develop your club through practical business planning.

Coaching & Competitions :

Enhancing coaching and playing opportunities at your club for all golfers.

Safeguarding :

Ensuring your club has appropriate policies and procedures in place.

Golf clubs are asked to meet a number of 'essential requirements' in the four areas which are a set of standards aligned to Sport England's Clubmark criteria and will be maintained annually by golf clubs through an annual action plan. Golf clubs will also be able to work towards 'High Performing areas' which will help to support their future development. By implementing these areas and accessing the appropriate guidance and support, this will help to enable those clubs who wish to become truly high performing.

Men's v Women's Swing

With loads of great golf now available to watch on TV I often choose to watch the LPGA and LET and just recently I heard a great quote from Peter Alliss that I thought was worthy of inclusion here, and I paraphrase :

“...the men's swing is a swing to marvel at. The women's swing is a swing to learn from....”

Watch more Ladies golf you higher handicappers, watch and learn!

Sheila Huggins Memorial Tree



20th April saw the planting of a Golden Weeping Willow in memory of a great friend of PPGC, Sheila Huggins (1955 - 2015). The tree is situated between the 3rd Tee and the 5th (Sheila's View) fairway in plain sight of Chez Huggins!

Sheila will be greatly missed by all at Perdi.

Mark & Move Ball On Green Tip



How many times have you been asked to move your ball on the green because it's on someone's line? How many times did you forget to replace your marker and therefore ball afterwards? We've all done it of that I'm sure!!

Here is a great little tip that I picked up from Mike Sanders whilst playing

with him recently – it's so obvious really but such a great tip :

When asked to move your marker simply turn the marker upside down then when you go to pick it up the fact that it's upside down will remind you that you moved it!!

Mind you, if your marker is the same on both sides...tough, you'll just have to remember to remember!!

Help I'm Bunkered.....Still!!

The majority of medium and high handicap golfers have an inherent fear of being trapped in a bunker. The thought processes seem to go out the window, the fear factor kicks in and you end up fluffing the shot!

They do say that a shot out of a bunker is actually easier to execute than a straight-forward pitch off the 'green stuff'; a sand explosion shot is just a controlled fat shot.

So here are some basics:

- 1 Take a wide stance so your setup feels stable.
- 2 Stay centered over the ball as you swing back.
- 3 Keeping your lower body firm, release the clubhead down and through the sand.
- 4 Make sure to hit the sand an inch or two behind the ball and accelerate to the finish.



To practice, push a tee down into the sand so only its top is exposed, and set a ball on it. Open your stance (aiming left of the target), then open the clubface (aiming at the target). Swing back and through, using the bottom of the club to dislodge the tee. The ball, tee and sand will come out together. Remember this tee image on the course.

But, what about the stance? Well, everyone will adopt a slightly different stance often determined by personal physical attributes and/or limitations, position of ball in the bunker etc. Generally the ball should be slightly forward in the stance and your weight favouring the forward foot.

Be confident, stay still, swing hard, follow through. Do not decelerate at contact! Let the sand lift the ball out with a nice gentle landing on the 'carpet' just inches from the hole!



We know Your Name But How Can We Contact You?

Your Committee is trying to put together a central 'database' of Members' Contact Details. The aim is to improve communications throughout the Club using the simplest and most cost effective means available; to that end email address and/or mobile phone number (for texts) would afford us the most favourable communication medium. Failing that, your land-line phone number would be better than nothing at all!!

We ask that Members either fill in the form on the main website ('Members' Contact Info' on 'Members' Links' Page) or by any other means you can i.e. written down and passed to a Committee Member etc. Your details will be secure. The more Members we can contact with competition update news, Club news, general business etc the better it will be for everyone.

Members' Contact Details are also useful for individuals to be able to

contact other Members when trying to arrange dates for 'Knock-out' competitions etc.

I know the form on our 'Members Contact Info' page looks a little daunting at first with having to add a randomly generated security code into the form but that's there to protect your email address from being accessed by outside 'agents'.

Please let us have your details as soon as possible so that we can better service your needs and requirements.

April's Committee Meeting In Brief

Please Note : It is important to state that the following issues were discussed but are still tentative and for information only until the Minutes Of The Meeting have been formally accepted and signed off this month.

Chris Williams will be chasing 1Life regarding the updating of the Honours Boards.

Chris Williams (with Barrie Hope & Peter Brown) is to arrange a meeting with 1Life regarding the Leisure Centre Development and how PPGC will fit into the scheme of things moving forward.

Chris is to speak with Mark Woodward regarding ways of working together in the future.

A collation of Member contact details is underway. The Committee feel that communication via email is the best way forward but realise that some Members do not have that facility so other means will also still be required for the minority.

Chris has requested that each Committee Member should produce one communication per month.

The issue of tee block positioning and hole positioning was raised and John Rudge will be speaking to the greenkeeping staff to highlight our concerns.

The question of non-PSI based competition formats (i.e. Am/Am) was raised. Chris Williams is to speak

with Club Systems about competition formats that can be supported by the PSI system with a view to enquiring whether some of the more 'unusual' formats can or will be made available in the future.

A discussion took place about whether the Out Of Bounds to the right of the 5th fairway should be added to the Local Rules. The Committee decided this was not required as the white posts clearly defined the OOB as per the R&A.

Chris is to review the defining of how to obtain a handicap; the process needs to be simple to encourage participation but 'secure' to avoid unrealistic handicaps being issued.

On the subject of the current divisional structure across the range of playing handicaps and the awarding of prize vouchers between the divisions, Barrie has completed some analysis over 25 competitions and it was concluded that no real pattern exists that benefits handicaps of a certain level. On that basis it was proposed that the two division system currently used would be abolished and prize vouchers will be rewarded, on a trial basis, to the top four places per competition. The Committee will review this issue after a few months trial.

For several reasons the so called 'Golden Pot' draw will be discontinued after the current term. However, the prize vouchers value will be increased from 40% to 50% (approx.) of the competition entry fees.

It was agreed that an open event will be included in the fixture programme this year, potentially in August (date to be confirmed). The format will be a Texas Scramble open to all and it is hoped that this may attract some potential new members. Some re-scheduling of the Competition Schedule will be required; Barrie Hope & Geoff Edge will confer to finalise and send for printing asap.

A long-overdue review of handicaps will be undertaken in due course with outcomes being communicated to impacted members.

It was agreed that a Handicap Subcommittee would be formed. The Committee will consist of Barrie Hope (Chair), Geoff Nunney, Mark Purser and Simeon Chapman.

It was also suggested that a disciplinary committee may need forming. This is likely to consist of the Handicap Secretary, Club Captain and Secretary.

It was agreed by the Committee that Joe Jackson should be co-opted as Social Secretary.

Know Your Course? The 7th



Rules Corner

Geoff Nunney asks :

Question 1.
A ball lies on a plastic bag, next to a bunker.....

Question 2.
A ball lies up against a rake, next to a bunker.....

...Both the plastic bag and the rake are considered moveable obstructions, the question is how do you proceed in each case?

Answers in Issue 8

Answers to Issue 6 Quiz :

Q1. The player incurs no penalty and the ball is "holed". (See definition of hole)

Q2. If the vehicle is readily movable it should be treated as a movable obstruction , Rule 24.1.

If the vehicle is not readily movable it should be treated as an immovable obstruction and the player is entitled to relief as provided in Rule 24-2b.