LEGS Secretary's report 2026

We are at the end of another busy year of LEGS golf, during which 9 games have been played in addition to our enjoyable tour to Derbyshire. Andrew will be presenting a detailed review of our sporting success, or otherwise, in his report. My role has been helped immeasurably by the support of Colin and Andrew. I stepped into the role at relatively short notice when already committed to various dates and have therefore only been able to play at 6 games this year. Their help in sorting out cards and writing match reports is much appreciated.

Thank you also to the LEGS members for using the website to book in for games or apologising for their absence. This proves a significant help in knowing who is coming and who needs chasing whilst also ensuring that the right number of tee slots, buggies, egg baps etc are booked. It also allows me to sort out the draw of playing partners. I hope you all feel that you have had the opportunity to play with a variety of partners throughout the year. Andy Pohler's help in adding the appropriate sign-in page to the website and posting the match reports is as invaluable as ever and is much appreciated. Without his support my role would be significantly more difficult.

This year we have had only 4 guests playing with us. I hope that they have enjoyed their time with LEGS. It is with great pleasure that we welcome Hanif, who joined us after appearing as a guest at the Wellingborough game. The majority of recent members of LEGS have come through the guest route. The attendance of members at games has fallen over the last few years, for valid and understandable reasons, but this does make it more difficult to negotiate good prices for games when we have lower numbers. If you can consider inviting friends to come along to experience a LEGS game, hopefully they will then be interested in joining as a member.

The planned schedule of LEGS games in 2027 has now been circulated. If you put the dates in your and your partner's diaries now it may help protect the date and allow future attendance.

As we look to the future it has become clear that our succession planning has become more difficult. The role of Secretary has become more complicated and time consuming, particularly when dealing with our host clubs. Some clubs have expressed difficulty in dealing with our constantly changing secretaryship. To alleviate this problem and make the Secretary's role more straightforward, a new role of Fixture Secretary is proposed. This role will focus on the external relationships and event bookings, leaving the secretary to focus on the membership. It also leads us towards a position where we can offer our host clubs more continuity of contact and build on existing relationships – something that we already benefit from with a few clubs. Colin Oates has offered to take on this role and add it to his existing commitment to organising our annual tour.

Another area I would ask you to consider is our fundraising and the future of fines. Fundraising for the Captain's charity is an important part of LEGS, whilst being secondary to

the playing of golf. The significant sums we have raised over the years are used by Colin in his negotiations with clubs over their pricing. Hopefully they see our fundraising as something in line with their own outreach commitments and treat us kindly! I am wondering about our current system of fines. We have moved on from the days of putting pound coins into the pot for every infraction noted by the fines master to putting in a note and saying “I’m in” when called to account. Is this how we want to continue or should we raise funds in a different way? I would welcome your views.

The last time I came to an AGM in this role we were 3 months away from the outbreak of Covid and I spent most of 2020 cancelling the games I had arranged the previous year. If we face another global pandemic or another reason for a curtailed, you will know who to blame!

Tom Inskip 5th November 2026