

## Captains Report November 2020

2020. Perhaps not the best year to choose to be Captain. I had hoped to offer you a varied and enjoyable rotation of courses in Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Rutland. I ended up having to cancel our planned trips to Wellingborough, St Neots, St Albans and Mid Herts. Not the best start to the year but I am aware some of our members have been significantly ill with coronavirus putting the frustration of cancelling booked games in perspective. I am delighted to understand that those who have been unwell are recovering and I hope they will be hale, hearty and back on the course in 2021.

LEGS has traditionally had its final game and AGM at Bedford and County in November. This meant that most society members only saw the course in grey, damp and muddy conditions. I had rescheduled our B&C meeting to the summer to show the course in a different light. I would like to thank the club for allowing us to be the first society to play the course after the relaxation of lockdown. 22 members joined me for my Captain's day on July 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a different day with social distancing and no nearest the pin etc. but at least we were able to play! The game was won in fine form by Nick Jones

I then left the country to enjoy my house in France. Boris then changed the rules again, so we extended our stay. That and the post return quarantine meant that I was unable join the 15 hardy souls who braved the rain at Knebworth. The worthy winner was the waterproof John Simpson. The tour at Greetham had to be cancelled as it was felt unwise, even if legal, to stay in a hotel as a group. To use up the deposits we had paid, a game was arranged at Greetham on 10<sup>th</sup> September. 11 members travelled north to see Bernard Henry start a very impressive run of form. Congratulations to him. I was released from quarantine on the morning of the game we had at Mt Pleasant, playing the 9 hole course for the last time before it reopens next year as an 18 hole course. Congratulations again to Bernard.

The last game we managed to play was a new course to LEGS, Old Fold Manor. This proved a challenging course and a number of members wished to return so that they could work out how to read the greens. Andy Pohler showed that his skills in running our website are equalled by his golfing skills, winning the final game we managed to play. I am not sure if any previous LEGS captain has only played 3 games in his Captain's year. I hope no one has to challenge this record.

November 2<sup>nd</sup> brought in the World Handicapping System for golf, closely followed by closure of all courses in the UK. The WHS opens a whole can of worms and the EGU has been singularly unhelpful in advising how it can be adapted to a society despite claiming that one aim of the new system is to increase participation. I have had a number of discussions with members about how we can adapt to this change. It was generally felt that the handicap adjustment process LEGS uses is helpful in distributing prizes and keeping a friendly society going. I therefore propose that the LEGS handicap a member has at the end of the season is kept for the start of the next season. A new member or guest shall start with the playing handicap they have at their home course on the yellow tees or their best assessment of their handicap if not a club member. A maximum starting handicap will remain 28 but repeated winners of the wooden spoon will retain their 1 shot additional handicap. The incoming captain and the handicap secretary will be happy to discuss and consider alternative proposals over our winter break.

LEGS is a golf society that also raises funds for charity. The traditional fines process for extorting donations for the Captain's charity has had to be suspended this year. However I have been really impressed by the generosity of our members and their ingenuity in fund raising. The lockdown quizzes hosted by Andrew Stevenson, the donations made when entering games as well as the contributions given along with apologies from those unable to play have combined to raise the fantastic sum of £2040 for The Stroke Association. This is a charity that has helped me and does great work throughout the country. Thank you for your generosity

I would like to finish by acknowledging support I have had this year. An often forgotten group are the club administrators. They have been most helpful and patient both when booking games, then rearranging them, rolling over deposits etc. It does make the life of the society easier. I must thank the excellent team I have had working with me this year, Bob, Jeff, Andrew and Andy have been always available and responsive when changes and decisions had to be made. We are lucky to have these members willing to put their time into the society. Thank you. Lastly, thank you to all of you. The society is made up of distinctive individuals who join together into a supportive and friendly group. I am fortunate to be one of you. Thank you for my year.

Tom Inskip

## **LEGS—GOLF—SOCIETY—SECRETARIES—REPORT—2020**

**Gentlemen, many thanks to you all for your support in this difficult year**

**Special thanks to the unseen heroes, Jeff Wood, Andrew Stevenson, and Andy Pohler for their invaluable help. Last but certainly not least, for our Captain, Dr Tom Inskip a fine leader.**

**If elected, i would look forward to 2021 as your Captain.**

**My chosen charity would be 'Children with Cancer UK'**

**Bob Broomhall**

### **LEGS - TREASURERS REPORT – 2020**

I am pleased that the accounts for our 2020 season have been circulated prior to our AGM and hopefully you all have a copy. I am most grateful to David Steel for once again auditing these on behalf of our members.

You will see that our membership remains strong with 28 members paying for their new club tie. We have taken the decision to write off the full cost of our new ties so that in future seasons any monies raised from sales will be recorded as income.

Although in this most difficult of years we were only able to play 6 matches, we still came out ahead on match day costs with a contribution of £191.00. The loss accounted for at Greetham is countered by the credit note we hold for this amount, so during the 2021 season the £98.00 will come back into club funds.

The wine prizes were purchased prior to the season commencing, so a majority of these will be rolled over for prizes next year. I would like to thank Tom for storing these in his cellar free of charge.

As agreed at the last AGM, the club now pays for trophy engraving, and on behalf of our winners I would like to thank Richard Ebbs for carrying out this role so efficiently.

In summary, I am pleased to report that as a society we remain in a strong financial position with our balance sheet strengthening at the end of this financial year by £506.00. With our secretary having already secured our matches and costing for next year, if we keep to a £50.00 match fee then once again we should come out on the plus side.

It will therefore be my recommendation at our AGM that we keep our match fee for the forthcoming season at £50.00 and return our subs to £20.00 following the 'year of the tie'.

Jeff Wood

11/11/2020

## Results Report – LEGS 2020 Season

The incredible LEGS 2020 Season was the second using the handicap system that was agreed at the 2018 AGM.

Using this formula continued over the reduced number of games to produce a diverse group of winners and try and fairly 'penalise' those that won.

### Summary Results

The table of results is as follows with the game at Greetham not being taken into account for the overall scores on the instructions of the Captain who stated ahead of the day that it was to be a casual day. However as agreed on the day by almost unanimously those present the handicap changes resulting from the day were reflected on the overall handicap position and subsequent matches.

LEGS 2020 Summary Results									
	Wellingborough	Verulum	St Neots	Greetham	Bedford & County	Knebworth	Mount Pleasant	Old Fold Manor	Bedford & County
<b>Winner</b>				Bernard Henry	Paul Jones	John Simpson	Bernard Henry	Andy Pohler	
<b>Runner Up</b>				John Simpson	Stephen Long	Alan Horn	Stephen Long	David Steel	
<b>Third</b>				Richard Sharpe/Graham Sheenan	Colin Oates	Andy Pohler	Mike Webb	Mike Webb	
<b>Wooden Spoon</b>				Mike Webb	Peter Sayers	Richard Sharp	Clive Haywood	Peter Sayers	

As you will see, we have had 4 different winners at the 4 games played and 9 members have managed to secure a bottle of Mr. Wood's fine wine for their efforts.

At the other end of the spectrum 3 people have walked off this year with the prized last place Wooden Spoon award but have gained shots on their handicap which has meant that they should have rarely been in the running for last or second last in as many games.

## Golfer of the Year

Overall results for 2020 were as tight as in previous years. Based on the Top 2 positions, Andy Pohler just comes out victorious with his one win and one third place, which just pipped Stephen Long with his two second places. If you are interested in your own position the full table is below:

						Top 2 Positions	
Number of	players	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total	Rank
Ken	Barber	6					
Ray	Beckman	8	11	11	14	19	14
Bob	Broomhall	7	11	13	15	18	13
Bob	Davy						
Paul	Davy						
Richard	Ebbs	5	7			12	11
Robert	Goodwin	4					
Ivor	Harris						
Clive	Haywood	8	13	16	18	21	17
Bernard	Henry	1	7	13	14	8	4
Alan	Horn	2	10	10	12	12	11
Tom	Inskip	4	6	7		10	5
Paul	Jones	5	5	10		10	5
Ron	Knox	14					
Charles	Lacey						
Martin	Lavansch	9					
Stephen	Long	2	2			4	1
Ian	McLuskie						
Colin	Oates	3	8	13	14	11	8
Andy	Pohler	1	3	10		4	1
Paul	Ralph						
Henry	Richardson	8	12	12		20	16
Peter	Sayers	16	17	20		33	20
Richard	Sharpe	4	15			19	14
Graham	Shennan	9	15			24	18
John	Simpson	1	9	12		10	5
Howard	Smith						
David	Steel	2	9	17		11	8
Andrew	Stevenson	5	6	9	15	11	8
Mike	Stockford						
Craig	Templeton						
Gerry	Van Lottum						
Nick	Vigor						
Mike	Webb	3	3	6	11	6	3
Jeff	Wood	7	17	19		24	18

## Most Improved Player

The most improved Golfer of the Year based upon handicap decrease was once again Bernard Henry who managed to reduce his handicap from 23 to 18. This is an almost 22% improvement. It should be noted that Bernard's handicap started the year at 23, one shot higher than last year's starting point. He probably would have ended the year playing off even less than 18 given the form that he was in and evidenced playing at Greetham too where he won with an excellent 40 points. Obviously, his handicap is still too high and a Biddenham factor needs to be built into the handicap cutting algorithm for 2021!

		2020	2020	Overall	Overall	Improvement Rank
		Handicap	End	Handicap	Handicap	
			Handicap	Improvement	Improvement	
Ken	Barber	18	18	0	0.0%	11
Ray	Beckman	24	24	0	0.0%	11
Bob	Broomhall	24	26	2	-8.3%	31
Bob	Davy	20	20	0	0.0%	11
Paul	Davy	3	3	0	0.0%	11
Richard	Ebbs	19	19	0	0.0%	11
Robert	Goodwin	20	20	0	0.0%	11
Ivor	Harris					
Clive	Haywood	12	13	1	-8.3%	31
Bernard	Henry	23	18	-5	21.7%	1
Alan	Horn	21	20	-1	4.8%	9
Tom	Inskip	16	16	0	0.0%	11
Paul	Jones	18	16	-2	11.1%	4
Ron	Knox	20	20	0	0.0%	11
Charles	Lacey	24	24	0	0.0%	11
Martin	Lavansch	22	22	0	0.0%	11
Stephen	Long	17	15	-2	11.8%	3
Ian	McLuskie	28	28	0	0.0%	11
Colin	Oates	12	11.5	-0.5	4.2%	10
Andy	Pohler	9	8	-1	11.1%	4
Paul	Ralph					
Henry	Richardson	23	23	0	0.0%	11
Peter	Sayers	28	29	1	-3.6%	30
Richard	Sharpe	21	21	0	0.0%	11
Graham	Shennan	27	25	-2	7.4%	7
John	Simpson	9	7.5	-1.5	16.7%	2
Howard	Smith	28	28	0	0.0%	11
David	Steel	21	19	-2	9.5%	6
Andrew	Stevenson	28	28	0	0.0%	11
Mike	Stockford	19	19	0	0.0%	11
Craig	Templeton	18	18	0	0.0%	11
Gerry	Van Lottum					
Nick	Vigor	21	21	0	0.0%	11
Mike	Webb	14	13	-1	7.1%	8
Jeff	Wood	28	28	0	0.0%	11

## Most Consistent Player

On both occasions that Stephen Long has played this year he has played to his handicap and achieved 36 points. He is the only player to achieve this excellent result and should be warmly congratulated for the achievement.

Full results are in the table below

		July	August	September	October		Total	Matches	Points	Average	Avg Pts
		Bedford & Cour	Knebworth	Mount Pleasant	Old Fold Manor		Points	Attended	Rank	Points	Rank
Ken	Barber	34	dnp	dnp	dnp		34	1	22	34.00	2
Ray	Beckman	33	12	28	22		95	4	6	23.75	16
Bob	Broomhall	33	14	27	18		92	4	8	23.00	19
Bob	Davy	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Paul	Davy	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Richard	Ebbs	34	dnp	34	dnp		68	2	15	34.00	2
Robert	Goodwin	31	17	dnp	dnp		48	2	19	24.00	15
Ivor	Harris	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Clive	Haywood	20	16	21	19		76	4	12	19.00	23
Bernard	Henry	26	16	40	19		101	4	3	25.25	11
Alan	Horn	27	17	29	24		97	4	5	24.25	14
Tom	Inskip	35	dnp	33	27		95	3	6	31.67	4
Paul	Jones	38	14	34	28		114	4	1	28.50	6
Ron	Knox	25	dnp	dnp	dnp		25	1	24	25.00	12
Charles	Lacey	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Martin	Lavansch	dnp	dnp	30	dnp		30	1	23	30.00	5
Stephen	Long	36	dnp	36	dnp		72	2	13	36.00	1
Ian	McLuskie	Retd	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Colin	Oates	35	12	27	26		100	4	4	25.00	12
Andy	Pohler	31	17	dnp	33		81	3	10	27.00	8
Paul	Ralph	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Henry	Richardson	dnp	14	31	19		64	3	16	21.33	21
Peter	Sayers	20	dnp	16	10		46	3	21	15.33	24
Richard	Sharpe	28	8	dnp	28		64	3	16	21.33	21
Graham	Shennan	23	dnp	dnp	24		47	2	20	23.50	17
John	Simpson	32	20	29	dnp		81	3	10	27.00	8
Howard	Smith	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
David	Steel	22	16	dnp	32		70	3	14	23.33	18
Andrew	Stevenson	22	17	22	27		88	4	9	22.00	20
Mike	Stockford	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Craig	Templeton	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Gerry	Van Lottum	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Nick	Vigor	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp		0	0	25		
Mike	Webb	30	17	35	28		110	4	2	27.50	7
Jeff	Wood	20	dnp	32	rh		52	2	18	26.00	10

## Overall Handicap Position

The overall handicap position, including Greetham is shown below.

Handicaps		2020	July	August	September	September	October	November	2020	Overall	Overall	Improvement
		Handicap	Bedford & County	Knebworth	Greetham	Mount Pleasant	Old Fold Manor	Bedford & County	End	Handicap	Handicap	Rank
			Handicap	Handicap	Handicap	Handicap	Handicap	Handicap	Handicap	Improvement	Improvement	Rank
Ken	Barber	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	0	0.0%	11
Ray	Beckman	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	0	0.0%	11
Bob	Broomhall	24	24	24	24	24	26	26	26	2	-8.3%	31
Bob	Davy	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	0	0.0%	11
Paul	Davy	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	0.0%	11
Richard	Ebbs	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	0	0.0%	11
Robert	Goodwin	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	0	0.0%	11
Ivor	Harris											
Clive	Haywood	12	12	12	12	12	13	13	13	1	-8.3%	31
Bernard	Henry	23	23	23	23	21	18	18	18	-5	21.7%	1
Alan	Horn	21	21	21	21	20	20	20	20	-1	4.8%	9
Tom	Inskip	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	0	0.0%	11
Paul	Jones	18	18	16	18	16	16	16	16	-2	11.1%	4
Ron	Knox	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	0	0.0%	11
Charles	Lacey	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	0	0.0%	11
Martin	Lavansch	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	0	0.0%	11
Stephen	Long	17	17	16	17	16	15	15	15	-2	11.8%	3
Ian	McLuskie	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	0	0.0%	11
Colin	Oates	12	12	11.5	12	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	-0.5	4.2%	10
Andy	Pohler	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	-1	11.1%	4
Paul	Ralph											
Henry	Richardson	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	0	0.0%	11
Peter	Sayers	28	28	29	28	29	28	29	29	1	-3.6%	30
Richard	Sharpe	21	21	21	21	22	21	21	21	0	0.0%	11
Graham	Shennan	27	27	27	27	26	25	25	25	-2	7.4%	7
John	Simpson	9	9	9	9	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	-1.5	16.7%	2
Howard	Smith	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	0	0.0%	11
David	Steel	21	21	21	21	21	21	19	19	-2	9.5%	6
Andrew	Stevenson	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	0	0.0%	11
Mike	Stockford	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	0	0.0%	11
Craig	Templeton	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	0	0.0%	11
Gerry	Van Lottum											
Nick	Vigor	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	0	0.0%	11
Mike	Webb	14	14	14	14	14	13.5	13	13	-1	7.1%	8
Jeff	Wood	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	0	0.0%	11

Key	
	First
	Second
	Third
	Last

This picture highlights the handicap that players would have been using for our final game had we been able to complete the year. I think that this highlights that a number (of us!) are playing at the right handicap level whereas a number of players are playing well at a level above their handicap and are therefore being cut. This is exactly what our friendly society handicap system is designed to do to ensure that everyone has a fair chance of winning something.

As a reminder, our current adjustments are as follows

Members handicap adjustments					
	Winner	Runner-up	3rd place	2nd Last	Wooden Spoon
0-9	-1	- ½	0	0	0.5
10-19	-2	-1	- ½	1	1
20-28	-3	-2	-1	1	2

Andrew Stevenson

November 2020