



# Golf News

## CAPTAIN'S DRIVE-IN



### Old Course Saturday 27 November

This Saturday will signify the start of our new Captains' year in office when Julian Taylor and Maggie Simkins 'Drive-In' at **1.00pm**. Many of you will have entered the competition on the day (for which there is further information below) but for those looking to come and support the new Captains on the day, the format is as follows:

**9.00am:** Registration for the Golf Competition in the Cedar Room where tea, coffee, juice and pastries will be served to welcome you prior to your round

**9.30am:** Welcome and the rules of the competition confirmed

**10.00am:** Shotgun start for the 9-hole competition will sound

**12.00–12.30pm:** Players to finalise their scorecards and drop them to Golf Reception as soon as possible after their round

**12.30pm:** Non-competition supporters are invited to join those who played at the Club

**1.00pm:** The Captains will arrive at the 1st tee with a welcome from the Chairman of Golf

**1.05pm: DRIVE TIME!**

**1.15pm:** Following the new Captains' drives, all members and guests are invited to move to the Cedar Room for a drinks and canapé reception. Please adhere to the Club dress code rules. Golfers will need to change their footwear as golf shoes are not permitted in the main clubhouse.

**1.30pm:** The new Captains will be introduced to the room to say a few words.

Other points of note for the day include an opportunity to make a donation to charity via a 'Guess the Drives Location' board located in Golf Reception. From today you will be able view an image of the 1st hole, select a square or squares and see if you can guess where Julian and Maggie will hit their drives. The nearest to each of them will win a bottle of bubbles to be presented at the reception. When making a donation we suggest £1.00 per square or £5.00 if you chose the car park or the driving range.

Please hand your donation to Golf Reception and inform them of which square(s) you have chosen.

I know I speak on behalf of the Captains when I say they are very much looking forward to the day and to sharing the experience with you all. See you on Saturday, and to confirm, the reception is open to all Pass Holders.

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## **CAPTAIN'S DRIVE IN COMPETITION**



### **Old Course Saturday 27 November**

Hole allocations for this 9-hole non-qualifying individual stableford competition can now be viewed on **Intelligent Golf**. As previously advertised, we have two competitions with a 1-9 hole loop and a 10-18 hole loop. The competition commences at **10.00am** with a shotgun start. Teams starting from a hole with an (a) next to it please tee off at **9.50am**.

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## **CORONATION COURSE WORKS**



Thank you to those who have recently contacted me to compliment the courses and the work the Greenkeepers are doing. It is lovely to hear of your enjoyment and appreciation of the efforts being made.

The above said, we are not resting on a good season of work and have more plans for improvements and repairs over the coming weeks and months, the most significant of which are the 1st and 7th tees on the Coronation Course.

We are well aware that the condition of the 7th tee is poor due to the tee being narrow and the majority of golfers standing in the same areas. I am pleased to report that in conjunction with a re-build of the 1st tee on the Coronation Course, the 7th tee will be repaired in the coming weeks with a view to widening the tee next year.

We will be enlarging the 1st tee on the Coronation Course, raising it just slightly and bringing the red tee in to the main tee complex. The work is currently scheduled for mid-December, but it could move to the New Year if supplies continue to be delayed. The small red tee, currently in situ off the front left of the main tee, will be removed, and the main tee will be enlarged forwards to provide a new, full-width tee for the red tee markers. The main tee will almost double in size to incorporate the red teeing area and provide more teeing options for all to help spread the wear.

In order to not waste the turf that is currently on the 1st tee, we will be turf cutting this out from the rear of the tee prior to the contractor work commencing. Some of this turf will be used to repair the 7th tee, whilst the rest, if suitable, will be used elsewhere on the courses for essential repairs. This will mean that for a period of time there will be GUR at the back of the tee that we will not be repairing until the re-build commences. We will, of course, move the tee markers from this area to a suitable location during this period.

Should you have any questions about the work, as always, please do not hesitate to drop me a line.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY SCORES OVER THE COMING MONTHS



A few weeks ago I wrote to you all explaining what will be happening in terms of course set up and complying with England Golf's rules for supplementary score submission. The full article on that topic can be found by [clicking here](#) but in short the information was the following:

**Monday to Friday:** all supplementary scores must use the yellow or red tees with white tees just being for general play.

**Saturday and Sunday:** all supplementary scores must be submitted having used the white or red tees with yellow tees being for general play.

The reason for the above is so we can rest teeing areas as needed during the winter months when the grass is not growing.

Moving on from this update, as many you will have seen, we received a communication from England Golf yesterday noting what will now happen should you register for a supplementary score but fail to either submit the card to reception, or to submit (and have it ratified) your score via the EG App.

The communication from England Golf can be viewed by [clicking here](#) but below is a brief summary of what this means for you.

The term 'penalty score' that will be added to your playing record should you fail to submit your score is defined in the England Golf rules as a score that could either increase or decrease your Handicap Index. The reason it is to increase or decrease is that some players could be deemed wanting to protect their handicap from reducing due to a match in the coming days for example or increasing due to qualification criteria for an event as another example.

What England Golf are now saying, and this is the change, is that their system will automatically assign either a very high or very low 'penalty' score to your record should you not submit your scores in a timely manner following your supplementary round. This penalty score will remain on your record unless you can justify to the Committee as to the reasons why and only at that stage, if they are satisfied, will it be reversed. In old handicap terms, this is like having an NR assigned to your record due to an incomplete round.

Now, although this is a rule change, you may of course have a justified reason for the non-submission. It may be that the card placed in the box gets lost or you have IT issues that you cannot overcome. Similarly, it is possible that your ratifying England Golf member does not actually have the App so is unable to authenticate your score. If any of these are the case for you, please come in to the office with said score as we are able to update this for you and enter and amend scores manually if presented with the information.

We are all continuing to learn as the WHS evolves, but hopefully the above is of use to try and simplify the process for you all. The important things to note are that you always register your round, either at Golf Reception or via the App, use the correct tees for the correlating days of the week and submit all cards once you have registered. Follow these three steps and you will have no problems at all.

**Philip Worthington**  
Director of Golf

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# Black Friday Sale

## Club Shop and Online Club Shop Friday 26 November

This Black Friday shop both in store and online with up to 50 per cent discount on selected gift items, including Club crested leather accessories, Temple Spa, Motoring merchandise, Under Armour sports clothing and confectionary. Home delivery is available on all items as well as click and collect from both clubhouses.

Please [click here](#) to visit the Online Club Shop.

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## PERSONALISED SCORECARD HOLDERS



## Woodcote Park, The Club Shop Available Now Until Friday 10 December

This Christmas, get the perfect gift for any golfer by personalising their very own Club scorecard holder with any name or phrase. Available in navy, black or tan for only £27.50 per holder.

For more information or to order contact the Club Shop at [proshop@royalautomobileclub.co.uk](mailto:proshop@royalautomobileclub.co.uk) or telephone **01372 229 248**.

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## **TAYLORMADE AND TITLEIST CHRISTMAS PROMOTIONS**

We currently have two promotions running in the Club Shop for TaylorMade and Titleist as outlined below.

### **TaylorMade Promotion**

- \* TP5X dozen logo, TP5 dozen logo, Tour Response dozen logo, Tour Response dozen yellow logo
- \* Consumers who purchase three dozen personalised (name/text only) TP5, TP5X or Tour Response Golf Balls at one time during the Program Period will receive one dozen of the same type of golf ball (personalised) at no charge
- \* Orders must be of the same ball type and contain the same name on all golf balls
  - \* Logos are not available under this promotion
  - \* Personalisation is restricted to one colour per four dozen order (black, red, blue or green)
  - \* Maximum of 17 characters per line including spaces and punctuation marks three lines per ball
  - \* No proof is provided so please ensure spelling is correct
    - \* 10-day lead time

### **Titleist Promotion**

- \* Minimum order one dozen
- \* Pro V1, Pro V1x, AVX and Tour Speed models only
  - \* Available in white and optic yellow
- \* Free single-pole personalisation on custom golf ball orders
- \* Any message on up to three lines (maximum of 17 characters per line using the house font only)
  - \* Upper case only
  - \* Black ink only
- \* Free Titleist ball marker with every dozen
  - \* 10-day lead time

**Please note:** both the above promotions by TaylorMade and Titleist are not available online and can only be purchased in the Club Shop. Orders need to be made by **Wednesday 1 December** to guarantee delivery in time for Christmas.

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As I ready myself for a Pro-Am week in the Palm Springs, California, I am reminded of how pivotal the short game is. I find it amazing that after all these years I feel

different on the course relative to on the practice ground. On the practice ground, even in front of many pupils, my execution of chip shots and pitch shots is at worst proficient. In practice, I can hit all the shots you would ever need to get the ball up and down from all sorts of different positions.

However, on the course with my Pro-Am team, if I miss the first green, my heart rate quickens and my mind begins to question my ability, technique and my club choice. So, what can be done to rectify this negativity? I am sure I am not the only one to go through this ordeal.

This is where good practice comes in. Trying to emulate the pressures on the course is vital if we are to overcome the negative thoughts. We need to find a method of practice which makes the shots we are playing consequential. The best way to create this environment is through games, the best of which I will outline below:

Firstly, my preferred form of practice is to mentally play my favourite course. This requires a little imagination but keeps your mind very active. It works by simply picturing the first hole and choosing the club you would hit for your opening tee shot. Once you have hit your shot decide how far that would leave you to the target. Pick an aim point and hit the club for that yardage. If it is a good shot and you are comfortable it would be on the green, turn and drop a ball on the putting green and putt out to a designated hole and record your score. If your second shot would have missed the green, play a chip shot onto the putting green, or a pitch/bunker shot onto the appropriate green. Then drop a ball onto the putting green and hole out. As your score accumulates so will the pressure to execute good shots and this should allow those feelings you have on the course to enter the body making the shots you are practising more realistic.

Secondly, another great game to practice is what I call 'twos'. Take your clubs and one ball around the putting green. The idea is to choose a hole as a target, drop the ball rather than place it and choose the appropriate club for the shot. The aim is to make two for each hole chosen. As you can imagine as you make twos the pressure will mount. Take a score card with you and play just 9 holes and get as close to 18 as you can. I recommend only playing the game once a week. By doing this there will always be a consequence to your practice and the emotions should closely mimic those that you have on the course in a competition. With this kind of practice, you should be able to manage them better and perform more consistently.

Have fun with your practice, just make sure its productive!

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