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Happy New Year to all members and here's hoping you have a very successful golfing year and make the most of the 125th year celebrations - Good luck and enjoyment to all taking part!!

If you have an anecdote you would like to share, an item of interest, photograph or a suggestion for inclusion in the eBulletin please submit by email at mpgmagwin21@sky.com

Mike Gould
Editor

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Despite the increased temperatures of recent days and the odd daffodil which can be seen raising its head, winter is still here and will no doubt disrupt our golf on numerous occasions before the clocks return to summertime. Please bear the following in mind when playing.

- The fact that the course has not been officially closed does not warrant that it is entirely fit for play.
- Players have a duty of care not to behave in a manner that may be dangerous or cause harm to other players.
- They also have a duty of care not to injure themselves by paying particular care and attention to the conditions.
- Please take extra care with regards to slipping on the wet and muddy ground – golf shoes will collect the mud on the soles rendering your spikes useless.
- Avoid walking up or down slopes and banks wherever possible – use the paths.
- Wooden sleeper edges will stay slippery and so do not walk on them.

Playing in such conditions can be dangerous – Players do so at their own risk!

Please note changes to Friday Bar closing times

Over the Winter/Spring period the Clubhouse (and Bar) will close on Fridays as per the normal weekday times, unless there is an event or pre-booked function. Below is the current list of dates when the bar will be closed earlier:

Friday 23rd January
Friday 30th January
Friday 6th February
Friday 13th February
Friday 20th February

Please check club website and main notice board for any changes to these dates

from the Club Captain



Social event after social event, I think I am turkeyed and mince pied out. I was invited to play in the Vets' Christmas Texas Scramble, which was a very good day; fun golf with Stuart Slater and the two Tonys followed by a full festive meal. Thank you to all the Vets for the invitation. It was quite a turn out as well - 99 played in the Texas Scramble and several more came for the lunch only. No-one told me about the Christmas tie competition but there were some wonderful examples of bad taste on show. Roger Corkhill won it with some strange cartoon characters ski-ing all over his tie. He immediately donated his winnings to the Captains' Charity, thank you Roger.

I am staggered by everyone's generosity with regard to the Charity. There were lottery draws at the Vets' Christmas lunch where the winnings were immediately donated to the Charity, there was a donation from the Vets Section and a whip round on the day which also helped the funds. Add to all of that the donations (fines) from the Ladies Christmas lunch the day before and more than £300 was added to the Charity fund. Thank you all.

The Christmas Draw Night was also a big success. Some excellent prizes thought through by the Social Committee. I particularly liked the idea of all the hair products, purchased by Simon Wills, and the Santa jumper, matching Les' jumper, won by Roger Corkhill (again). Forced to wear it immediately, Roger looked particularly fetching. I am glad that the winners of the hair products weren't also forced to wear them immediately. A break for another of Merryl and Dean's huge spreads and it was on to Malcolm's Pro shop draw. Finally, Phil's renditions of the Christmas carols on his clarinet topped off a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The next event was the Juniors' Christmas Texas Scramble. Unfortunately I was unable to join them due to a diary clash but five teams of four took part, each led by an adult, with Christian Bottomly, Max Byford, Jenny Myers and Liz Thorne running out the winners. Thanks to Liz, Linda Glynn, Derek Myers, Les Thorne and James Riches for taking part most of whom, apparently, got a golf lesson from the juniors.

Boxing Day saw the annual Captain versus Pro challenge on an extremely cold morning. When I looked outside at 7:30am I had my doubts as to whether many would turn up. I fully intended to wear my shorts for the golf, as I have done for the last 7 or 8 years, until I felt the temperature when loading my clubs into the car and decided to shelve them for this year. I was upstaged by Andrew and Les Thorne though who, over a hasty phone call, had agreed to go for it. It must have been a little chilly around the nether regions.

An excellent turn out, despite the weather, saw the Captain's team prevail 10½ to 9½ to retain the trophy which Malcolm had already "engraved" with

Terry Glynn
Club Captain



a piece of white card on an elastic band. Thanks to the Social Committee, yet again, for the mince pies and the, much needed, whisky mac.



Another excellent do on New Year's Eve was rather spoiled for me. I didn't have man flu, it was much more serious than that! I drank plenty of the wine, purely for medicinal purposes, but couldn't stretch much beyond that. Once again, thanks to the Social Committee for putting on the event.

Lastly, the weather on New Year's Day was a significant improvement on last year though still a little damp. This event is traditionally run by the Ladies and this year they decided that it would be a team competition, Captain's team versus Ladies Captain's team, better ball stableford, total points for each team. The Ladies Captain's team won by nearly 100 points. Strangely, it seems that there were a lot more pairs playing for their team! A big thank you goes to the Ladies Section, in particular Carol Roe, Linda Glynn and Lesley Martin, who not only organised and the ran the day but also made, heated and served the soup.

The small entrance fees at both of these festive roll-ups generated another £200 for the Captains' Charity.

I seem to have thanked the Social Committee every other paragraph this month and with good reason. They put a huge amount of time and effort into the festive activities, including the Christmas decorations in the Clubhouse. At the beginning of the month I was invited to help them put these up. I spent five hours but couldn't stay any longer. There was still plenty to be done and most of the committee were there helping. Thanks again to all of them for making December such an enjoyable month for everyone.



Carol Roe
Ladies' Captain

It seemed that no sooner was the AGM over that the Ladies Section was embarking on the 2015 golf match season. December as always proved to be a very busy period. The Ladies Section Committee had its first meeting following the AGM on 5th December. Everyone was able to attend and the business and actions of the Committee maintained continuity. The new members, Annie Beal, Mandy Overton and Lyn Travers were welcomed onto the Committee. There was an exciting atmosphere of enthusiasm and energy.

We played the first leg of the Winter Triple at Lee-on-the-Solent on the 8th December. Lee-on-the-Solent came first with 110 points, Alresford with 95 and Corhampton had 92. Interestingly, all three Ladies Captains were present to support their respective teams but unable to play due to injury and surgery. Foot, knee and back - sounds like a cue for a song! The next leg is scheduled to be played 26th January here at Alresford. Good luck, ladies!

On the 9th December, the Christmas Texas Scramble was played on a bright but very cold and frosty morning and the ladies were obliged to carry. Seventy-nine members took part from both the 1st and 10th tees. As you can see from the photograph, one of the teams made up of Esme Goodacre, Ruth Webb, Lyn Jones and Gunnel Berry, added to the merriment of the day by dressing up as reindeer.



Thank you for the laughter, ladies.

Unfortunately, I was unable to join them on the course but, of course, managed to welcome them back to the Clubhouse for lunch! After the golf and before lunch, we were entertained by the assistant professional, Philip Bryden, who played a selection of well known jazz and show tunes on his clarinet. Thank you, Philip, for a delightful addition to our

traditional Christmas format.

The players were joined by another 12 ladies for lunch, making 91 ladies in total. We had a traditional Christmas lunch of roast turkey and all the trimmings followed by Christmas pudding and fruit salad. Celia Batten led the carols on keyboard and, as usual, much pleasure and fun resulted from singing the Twelve days of Christmas. Thank you, Celia.

Fortunately, we had a lot of naughty ladies and Madame Vice collected £86.62 in fines to add to the Captains' Charity pot. We are still looking for the person who put in twopence!!

The section also used the occasion to announce the winners of the longer running competitions and the Turkey Trot 2014.

Prizes were awarded to:-

Summer Eclectic - Mary Rook

Par Tree - Gill Freemantle

Birdie Tree- Mary Rook

Turkey Trot:

Div.1 - Mandy Overton (38pts)

Div.2 - Victoria Mackintosh (36pts)

Div.3 - Jean Coveyduck (35pts)

On 9th December, I had the pleasure of being an honoured guest at the Vets' Texas Scramble lunch. Their Captain, Stuart Slater, expressed his wish, that is shared by all the captains, that we build a strong, open and working relationship across all sections in the club. I was very impressed by the splendid array of ties worn by the members and soon found out that this sartorial display was about taking part in a competition for the most outstanding tie. Those vets who were wearing a club tie - safe option one might think - were duly punished with a fine. At the end of a very enjoyable day there was a special presentation to Joe Kitchin who at almost 90 years old is the club's oldest playing member. He was awarded a certificate recognising his right to free lifetime membership and champagne to be drunk "when watching other members paying their annual subscription".

On Saturday 13th December, I joined many club members for the club Christmas Draw Night. There were lots and lots and lots of prizes to be won but I was not among the lucky winners. Shame and cue for sympathy! Boxing Day saw me joining in the fun after the Captain's Challenge. It was a very successful day with some 68 players and many more members coming just for the fun of it. However, December still had a lot to offer. This took the shape of the New Year's Eve dinner dance which was organised by the Social Committee. It was a joyful

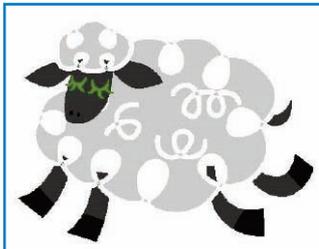
evening full of merriment and laughter. My only concern was that I had to be up early on New Year's Day for the club roll up which Linda Glynn, Ladies Vice-Captain and I in a moment of excess enthusiasm volunteered to organise.

The weather forecast was not very promising. I anxiously checked the BBC weather website daily for a week beforehand. Unfortunately, the forecast proved to be fairly accurate. The weather was rather miserable - grey and wet. Nevertheless, 40 people turned out to play. We raised £62 for the Captains' Charity. The format was 4BBB with the players being divided into two teams, the Club Captain's and the Ladies' Captain's. Needless to say, and without wishing to boast, the Ladies' Captain's team won. Congratulations to all those players who chose to take up my cause.

After play, there was a selection of homemade soups which had been carefully crafted by Linda Glynn, Lesley Martin and me. Thank you, Lesley and



Linda and may I add my compliments to those of the players who thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated your culinary wonders.



THE SHEEP ARE BACK ON THE COURSE!

All members are reminded that entry into the sheep enclosure is NOT permitted.

Members with pace makers must stay away from the electric fence.

If a ball is in the sheep enclosure, it MUST NOT be retrieved, and another ball must be substituted and dropped in accordance with Rule 25-1b. If it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in the sheep enclosure, the player may take relief, without penalty, as prescribed under Rule 25-1c.

THIS LOCAL RULE IS NOT OPTIONAL – ALL PLAYERS MUST TAKE NOTE.

a look at rules supplied by **Casie McDonald Wood**



Decision 19-2/6

Ball Deflected or Stopped by Player's Golf Cart Being Pulled by Opponent or Fellow-Competitor

Question: A player's ball strikes his own golf cart while it is being pulled by an opponent or a fellow-competitor. What is the ruling?

Answer on later page





Stuart Slater
Vets' Captain

As we enter 2015 I would like to wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year and hope that we will all have an exceptional year of golf.

We finished 2014 with a very successful Texas Scramble. The weather was fine except for a few light spots of rain at the tail end of the day. A total of 101 players took part and the results were very close. The eventual winners of the "front nine" - by a margin of just .4 of a stroke - were Bob Germon, Norman Sheen, Terry Lane and Barry Young, and the winners of the "back nine" were Steve Cowser, Eddie Martin, Eric Hughes and Brian Young. My congratulations to all the winners and my thanks to everyone who took part and in particular to those who helped organise the day.

We have a quiet start to 2015 with just two Wessex Winter League matches in January and the final two

in February. However, Roll Ups continue on Wednesday mornings so why not wrap up warm and enjoy a friendly game of golf whilst working off some of the excesses of Christmas and New Year!

Looking forward slightly - towards the end of February we will be posting the requests for players in our summer tournaments. In order to enter these you must be a fully paid up member of the Vets Section so, if you haven't already, I urge you to give your £5 to Ken Coburn, or to the bagman if you are taking part in the roll up, and then make sure you sign up for the tournaments.

There are still some opportunities left on the Bagman Volunteers List so please sign up (see Vets notice board) and in so doing secure your place in the Bagman Trophy Competition scheduled for later this year!

Burns Supper 2015

Saturday 24th January 7.00pm for 7.30pm

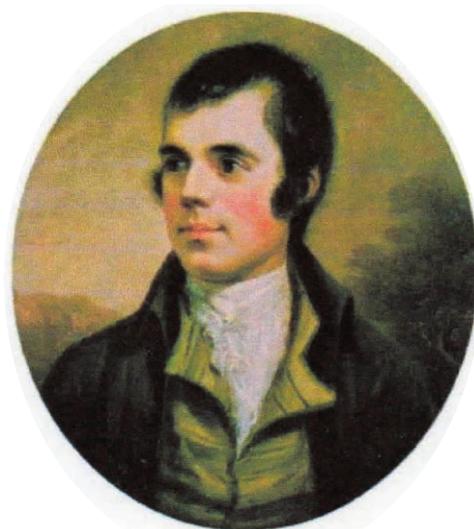
Now the Christmas and New Year celebrations are over, it's time to book up for the next big event of the 2015 ... the Burns Supper. This is an evening which can be enjoyed by everyone. There are many reasons for this ... the uniquely Scottish experience of good company with whisky, haggis, neeps (mashed swede) and tatties, and a light hearted appreciation of Scotland's Bard, and of course, the skirl of the bagpipes.

This year the principal speakers will be Ladies Captain Carol Roe who will propose the *Immortal Memory* and Immediate Past Captain Les Thorne will propose the *Toast to the Lassies*, and the reply will be given by Liz Petheram. George Clelland will 'perform' the *Address to the Haggis* in the time honoured fashion.

The cost of the evening will be £26 per person and includes the meal and a glass of your favourite tippie for the toasts after the meal. Please make sure you make your payment to the Office before the event.

Contact **John McIlree** or **George Clelland** for further information.

Dress: Black Tie



match committee report



Although there are no qualifying competitions until March the league phase of the winter leagues finishes 1st February. Immediately after the closing date for the leagues we have to sort out the knockout placings so unless the course is closed for any length of time, for instance because of snow, we cannot extend the closing date.

Just before Christmas the traditional Turkey Trots were held. Saturday was very cold resulting in a delay until we were off frost greens and onto full ones. As a result only 20 members competed and the scores were down, two 33's winning first prize. I was disappointed that of those 20, six cards were not returned; I can understand the frustration but remember that persistent non-return of your card risks having your handicap suspended, you have been warned! Sunday was better with 26 competing and a winning score of 39. The names of those winning vouchers from C. E. Evans are at the bottom of this report. You will notice that if scores are equal then the value of the vouchers are equal, I have not used "count-back" to separate them.

On the subject of count-backs, one of our members suggested that it may be worthwhile if I explained the different systems of separating scores that are equal. I must admit I am not very keen on count-backs and feel the best way is to play extra holes, for instance, to a sudden death as happened in the Club Championship last summer. However, while we can do this in the championships, in the majority of competitions this is just not feasible and so as stated in the club rules a count-back system is used. Taking Stableford scores, if they are equal over 18

holes, then the competitor with the better back nine score wins, if still equal then the better last 6, then the last 3, the last 2 and the last one. If the competition is a medal one then the count-back is a bit more complicated. The Club 2000 software gives us three options: gross, nett and fractional. The gross system is only relevant with scratch competitions and the only time this happens is in the Club Championships when extra holes are played to determine the winner. Appendix 1-10c states that if the last 9, last 6, last 3 holes scenario is used, one-half, one-third, one sixth, etc., of the handicaps "should" be deducted from the scores for those holes and CONGU says that the fractional allowances "should" not be rounded to a whole number. I have put the word should in quotes as this means it is a recommendation only. There is another option which is for the nett score for the holes could be used and although not the recommended option, it does have the advantage of giving much the same result as Stableford scoring and it is also recommended for "Bogey" competitions. I think this is something which is worth us discussing at our next Match Committee meeting.

One of the jobs which the Match Committee is obliged to do at the beginning of the year is to conduct the annual review of handicaps. While the competition software does give us a fair bit of information to help with this, I would be happy to receive any requests for upward or downward adjustments (supported by evidence) that any of you may have.

Peter Spreadbury
Match Secretary

Turkey Trot results

Saturday:

1st	Ben Unsworth & Kevin Lane	33pts
3rd	Mick Travers	32pts

Sunday:

1st	Jess Miles	39pts
2nd	Keith Cooper	37pts
3rd	Ed Howard & Charlie House	36pts

social scene



The two events in December were very well supported.

The first was the Christmas Raffle, which raised money to enable us to support other events throughout the year. Thanks to everyone for their support.

The second was the New Year's Eve dinner and disco, which was fully sold out.

Chris Chapman
Chair, Social Committee
cchapman1@btinternet.com





New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting during December and January so far: Michael Lane, James Clark and Ian Warner (5-day). We hope that your time at the club will be a long and enjoyable one for all of you.

May I remind all members that we are welcoming new membership enquiries for all categories? If you know any friends or acquaintances who are thinking of joining a club or changing clubs, please do your best to sell them the benefits of Alresford.

Membership Subscription Renewals

You should all have now received your 2015 subscription invoices.

Payment can be made in person by cash, cheque and credit/debit card. Members are also reminded that they can post cheques or make payments via the telephone. Any payment with Credit card will however incur a 2% charge. We are also accepting payment by direct bank transfer and details of this will be sent out with the subs.

REMINDER ~ ALL 5 AND 7 DAY MEMBERS* PAYING BEFORE 31st JANUARY WILL RECEIVE £50 CREDIT ON YOUR BAR CARD.

* This does not apply to any member who has had their subscriptions frozen at a previous year's amount.

If you intend not to rejoin – a telephone call or email to let us know is greatly appreciated. Simply to ignore your invoice and subsequent reminders just causes us extra work.



LOOKING FOR A WAY TO EASE THE BURDEN OF SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL EACH YEAR ?

Why not join the ADVANCE SUBSCRIPTIONS SCHEME for 2016? Choose any amount to pay over 10 months towards your subscription bill in 2016. Build up a credit on your account which is offset against your renewal bill due 1st January 2016. Pay as much or as little as you wish. Speak to the Office for more details and to receive an ADVANCE SUBS mandate form.

Club Roll Ups

Fancy a game in the week? All members are welcome to come along to the "club roll-up" on Wednesday mornings. The usual start time is 11am during the summer and 10.30am during the winter months all timings subject to any advanced tee reservations.

JANUARY

Wednesday 7th – 11.00am (due to golf society)

Wednesday 14th – 10.30am

Wednesday 21st – 10.30am

Wednesday 28th – 10.30am

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 4th – 10.30am

Wednesday 11th – 10.30am

Wednesday 18th – 10.30am

FACEBOOK – check out our new Facebook page



<https://www.facebook.com/alresfordgolfclub>

Make sure you "like" our Facebook page and you will link to it and get the regular pictures and updates on what's happening!

Let us take the strain after
Christmas
SUNDAY LUNCH CARVERY
Sunday 18th January
Book directly with Merry!

David Maskery
Club Secretary



Alresford Golf Club

125 Celebration Ball

Saturday 13th June

*Champagne Reception | 4 Course Dinner with wine |
Live Band & DJ*

Tickets **£60** per person, book a table with friends

Tickets on sale to members February 3rd
10:00am, 2 per member

Ticket numbers are limited!

Reserve list opens 3rd Feb with unsold tickets
available from March 3rd

Champagne and Cocktail Bar

Test your wine knowledge

Have a flutter in the Casino

Play on the **giant** scalextric

Be amazed by the magician

Dress: Black Tie or Lounge Suit | Carriages at 1am

news from the greens



Happy New Year everyone and I hope you are managing to get out on the course in spite of the cold and the short days.

The changeability of the weather has made it difficult on occasion to predict exactly when the greens are playable and when they are not. For the avoidance of doubt, the green keepers are primarily responsible for making the decisions regarding trolley bans and the use of temporary greens, not the professional staff. However, at the weekends if there is a trolley ban and the temporary greens are in play, the responsibility of removing these restrictions is delegated to the duty professional.

It is difficult to legislate for every climatic condition, so some common sense is required. Broadly however, the trolley bans will be lifted when surface frost has dissipated as outlined in the frost policy. The greens will remain closed unless:

- I. the surface frost on the 18th green has completely melted across the whole green, and
- II. there is no subterranean frozen ground, as evidenced by the ability to insert a tee or screwdriver easily into several points around the 18th green.

If these conditions are not met, the greens will remain closed and it is not at the option of the professional staff to override these parameters.

Key points to note this month are as follows:

- We have some problems with the 3rd and 10th greens, where we have a mild infestation of nematodes. These are tiny worms, which are always present in the soil at low levels, but the high rainfall in the autumn has caused these to proliferate – especially a particular species which attacks the roots. This issue should dissipate with the colder weather, but we will be putting a plan of action in place for the next 2-3 weeks with more regular aeration.

- The wet weather has also caused some sub surface oxygen starvation that has resulted in the return of the black layer, which necessitated the industrial levels of tining last spring. However, this time, it is not nearly so serious and the additional aeration as outlined above, should sort the problem.

- The leveling of the 18th tee is complete and the 3rd tee is underway. The rest of the winter programme as always, is dependent on the weather, but happily we should be back to a full staff complement at the end of the month.

Finally, the next greens forum will be from 12noon on Friday 10th April in the clubhouse bar. If you wish to discuss any specific issue in person, or even just turn up to hear what others are asking, this takes the form of an informal discussion with Steve Privett, myself and other members of the Greens Committee. We will do our best to answer any queries and consider any suggestions.

Harry Dhand

Chairman of Greens

greens@alresfordgolf.co.uk

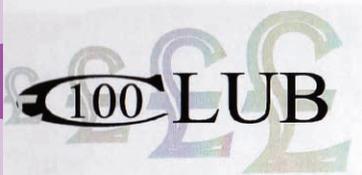
rule answer



Answer: Since the player is not sharing the cart with any other player, it remains his equipment even when it is being pulled by an opponent or a fellow-competitor (see Note 2 to the Definition of “Equipment”).

If the player was aware that his cart was being pulled by an opponent or a fellow-competitor, he incurs a penalty of one stroke and must play the ball as it lies – Rule 19-2. But if he was not aware, in equity (Rule 1-4), no penalty is incurred, and the ball must be played as it lies.





A Happy New Year to all 100 Club members. The winners of the 100 Club prize draw for January were:

£100 - Sally Willis

£32 - Viv Pain

£32 - Roy Terry

£50 - Mike Garton

£32 - Gareth Rees

£32 - Tonni Maxwell

Congratulations to this month's winners. The next draw will take place in the week beginning 2nd February ... look for the list of winners on the Secretary's notice board. I know many of you like to mark up your diary with significant dates at the beginning of the year, so the important one this year is Friday 7th August which is when we'll have the 100 Club Stableford and Evening Meal. Put it in your diary now as this the one not to be missed!

Not a member of the 100 Club?

The objective of the Alresford Golf Club 100 Club is to raise funds for projects and items requiring capital expenditure that will enhance the Golf Course and/or the Clubhouse. Such projects would generally be considered as 'extras' and not necessarily be within the Club budget. The 100 Club was launched in 1987 to raise funds to augment the Centenary celebrations of the Golf Club in 1990, but at the request of the members, the 100 Club has continued to raise funds for items such as the provision of patio furniture, the pneumatic shoe and trolley cleaner, and the Starter's Hut on the 1st tee.

If you're not a member of the 100 Club, you can become one for as little as £1 per month. Shares in the 100 Club are purchased for £1 per month and there is no limit on the number of shares which can be held. In general, most members have between 1 and 5 shares and pay by monthly direct debit, though it's also possible to pay quarterly or annually. Each share is allocated a number which is entered in the monthly draw. The top prize is £100, with a second prize of £50 and four other prizes of £32. For more information contact George Clelland on 01962735008 or george.clelland@btinternet.com or call in to the Secretary's office.

George Clelland



Dear Member

Alresford Golf Club would like to invite its members to save the date for a number of exciting events to take place over the week 10 to 16 June 2015 to celebrate the Club's 125th Anniversary.



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DISCLAIMER

The Editorial Team takes no responsibility for incorrect information received from Contributors.

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